



Matador Ranch headquarters, pictured in background, with a scenic view of ranchland and cattle, south of Matador.

photo by Carla Meador

MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

50¢

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2005

ESTABLISHED 1891

ISSUE NO. 37

Motley County Commissioners meet in regular court session

Motley County Commissioners Court met Monday, September 12 for their regular court session. Members of the court present were County Judge Ed D. Smith; Commissioners, Ronnie Davis, Pct. 1, Donnie Turner, Pct. 2, Franklin Jameson, Pct. 3, and Russell Alexander, Pct. 4; County Clerk Kate Hurt. Also in attendance were County Attorney Tom Edwards and Sheriff Jim Meador. Judge Smith called the meeting to order and Commissioner Jameson gave the invocation.

Mrs. Hurt read the minutes from the previous meeting. Outstanding bills were reviewed and approved for payment. Re-

ports by the Treasurer, Tax Collector, Justice of the Peace, Library and County Agent were approved.

Judge Smith introduced to the Court Jackie Schneider representing Sharp Image Energy Inc. Mr. Schneider informed the Court that Sharp Energy is another company interested in working with the county to acquire easement on county roads and ditches to build the pipeline in Motley County that will connect to an existing line north of Floydada.

County Treasurer, Eva Barkley, presented to the court the new State Travel Reimbursement price set by Texas Government Code Ann. 660.043.

County Attorney, Tom Edwards, requested the court to consider if there is anything the County can do to aid in the relief efforts on the Gulf Coast.

Judge Smith presented for the court's approval a request to forgive the interest and penalty on four lots in Matador. Mid-State Homes agreed to pay the delinquent tax and deed the lots to Market Matador if the interest and penalty are waived. Judge Smith, Commissioners

Davis and Alexander voted in favor of the request. Commissioners Jameson and Turner voted against. The request passed by a 3-2 vote.

Matador City Council meets Tax rate ordinance adopted

The Matador City Council met Thursday, September 8 with council members Pat Seigler, Bert Darsey, Jim Watson and Shane Jones in attendance. Chuck Ream was absent. Also in attendance were Mayor Paul Westbrook, Superintendent Steve Barton, City Secretary Debra Scott and Yellowhouse representative, Phil Brewer.

Mayor Westbrook called the meeting to order.

An open forum was held at 6:00 p.m. for citizens to discuss the proposed 2005 tax rate. No one was present to participate in this forum.

At 6:30 Mayor Westbrook closed the open forum and proceeded with the scheduled City Council Meeting.

Mayor Westbrook introduced Phil Brewer from Yellowhouse Machinery. Mr. Brewer presented Council with several options for payment of a backhoe cab that was delivered to the City in August, 2004. The Council feels that the cab

that was delivered was not what was ordered and asked that Mr. Brewer furnish Council with a signed purchase order for the cab enclosure kit. Council then tabled the matter until further information is obtained. Mr. Brewer then presented Council with a repair bill on the landfill dozer.

Mayor Westbrook had checked with the County on the road Mr. Clower inquired about at the last Council meeting. The road is in city limits. Two council members have driven the road and do not feel that the condition is as bad as described, so major repair is not needed, but the road will be graded when possible.

Chuck Ream joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

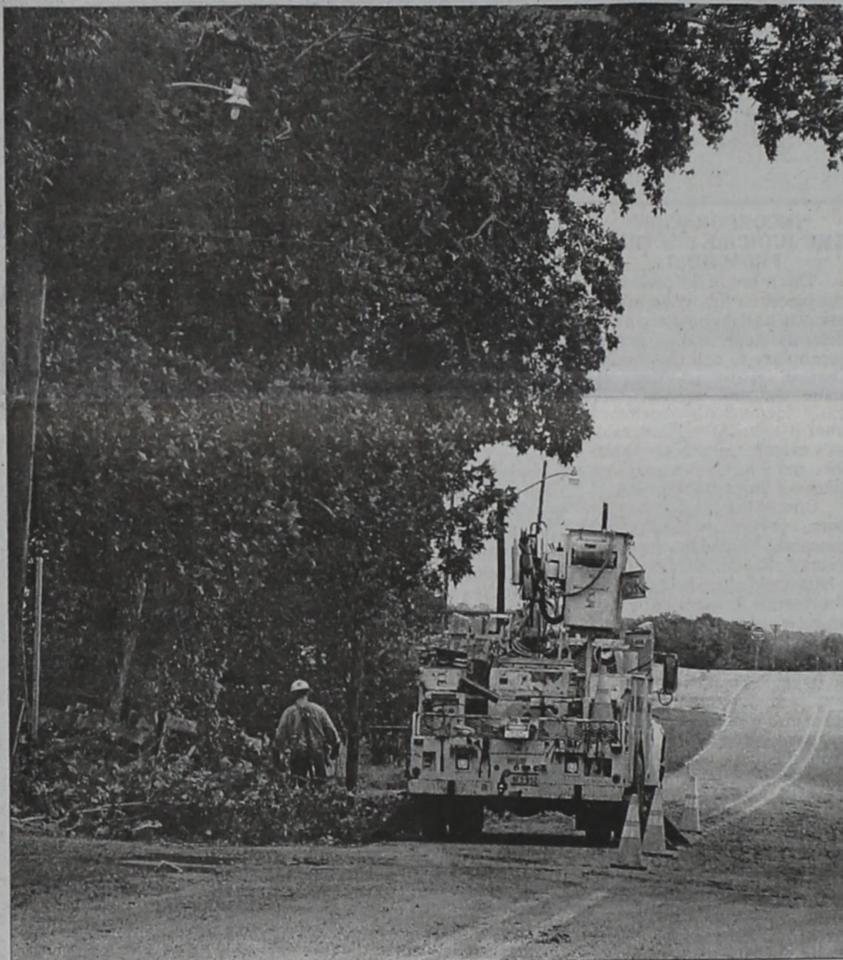
Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. Bill were reviewed and approved.

Council approved an ordinance adopting the tax rate for 2005 as proposed at .3698 per \$100 valuation.

Mayor Westbrook signed the ordinance adopting the National Incident Management System, which was approved at the previous council meeting.

Superintendent Barton reported that after 3 weeks of repair the wells are in good shape. Additional gauges were installed to monitor the pumps. He picked up the tarp for the landfill, and the overhead door for the city barn, Wednesday, and hoped to get the door installed before starting the water lines to the Nursing Home. Additional clean-up will be done around the city when the employees have the free time available. The tractor used for plowing has required excessive repairs this year to keep it in operation.

Councilman Pat Seigler asked that the deputy's salary be put back on the agenda for the October meeting. Bert Darsey requested an ordinance be considered for additional stop signs at Lariat and Bundy.



AFTER THE STORM — Kenneth Marshall, AEP employee of Matador, works to clean branches from the roadway in Roaring Springs. Branches breaking from the large cottonwood trees covered the roadway Sunday night, 6 ft. high and closing the road. A storm blew through Roaring Springs Sunday night, with very high winds and flooding rains. Reports range from 2.5 to over 4 inches of rainfall.

September sales tax payments distributed to local governments

(Austin) — Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn announced Monday that the state collected \$1.49 billion in sales tax in August, up 4.4 percent compared to a year ago. And when the state's 2005 fiscal year ended August 31, sales tax collections were 5.8 percent higher than in FY 04, contributing to a \$1.2 billion revenue surplus for fiscal 2005.

September 2, after closing the books on the last biennium, Strayhorn asked the governor to convene a three-day special session of the Legislature to appropriate the necessary funds to assist Texas education, security, health care and human service providers who are helping Hurricane Katrina evacuees.

"While we can count on the federal government to do what it can in Texas, the feds are not going to pay for us to hire more police, and they are not going to pay for us to bring in more teachers to educate the thousands of new children enrolling in our already stretched local schools.

"The need is here. The resources are here. We need to act now to provide relief to our Texas communities," Strayhorn said.

Strayhorn delivered \$358 million in September sales tax payments to local governments, a 9.3 percent increase compared to September 2004. So far this calendar year, local sales tax allocations are up 7.5 percent compared to the same period in 2004. September's sales tax allocations include local sales taxes collected in July and reported to the Comptroller in August.

Strayhorn sent September sales tax allocations of \$244.6 million to Texas cities, up 10 percent compared to September, 2004. Calendar year-to-date, city sales tax rebates are running 7.8 percent higher than last year. Texas counties received September sales tax allocations of \$20.6 million, up 6.4 percent compared to a year ago. Calendar year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are 8.6 percent higher than last year.

Another \$10 million went to 99 special purpose taxing districts around the state, an increase of 10.5 percent compared to a year ago. So far this calendar year, sales tax allocations to special purpose districts are up 12.1 percent compared to 2004. Ten Texas transit systems received \$82.7 million in September sales tax payments, up 8.2 percent compared to a year ago. Year-to-date, transit sales tax revenues are up 5.9 percent.

Matador, with a rate of 2.000%, received a net payment this period of \$4,638.25, compared to \$4,431.89 at this time last year, a 4.65% change. A total of \$42,071.26 has been paid for 2005, compared to \$38,822.38 in 2004, an 8.36% change.

Roaring Springs, with a rate of 2.000%, received a net payment of \$1,274.36, compared to \$623.84 at this time last year, a 104.27% change. A total of \$27,154.10 has been received for 2005, compared to \$25,262.34 at this time in 2004, a 7.48% change.

The Comptroller's next local sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, October 14.

AEP sends employees to Louisiana

Corpus Christi — On August 29, AEP Texas sent 151 employees and company contractors from throughout its service area to assist with power restoration efforts in Mississippi and Louisiana in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

One hundred-five employees and contractors are assisting Southern Company in Mississippi. An additional 46 employees and contractors are assisting Energy in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

"AEP Texas sends its resources to aid other electric utilities as part of a mutual assistance agreement," said Charles Patton, AEP Texas president and chief operating officer. "When AEP Texas is hit by a major storm, these utilities

will, in turn, send crews to help us out."

The following is a breakdown of personnel assisting during the first two-week rotation and their work locations. After this group returns home, others will be taking their place to continue the restoration efforts.

Abilene District (which includes employees from Abilene, Stamford, Haskell, Cisco, Vernon, Clarendon and Shamrock): 20 employees.

Corpus Christi District (which includes employees from Corpus Christi, Aransas Pass, Beeville, Sinton, Kenedy, Victoria and El Campo): 22 employees.

San Angelo District (which includes San Angelo, Marfa and McCamey): 17 employees.

San Benito District (Pharr,

Harlingen, San Benito): 12 employees.

Contract Crews: 12 company contractors.

Tree Trimming: 22 tree trimmers.

Additional Personnel: 25 additional AEP Texas employees from Corpus Christi, Victoria, San Benito, Laredo, Uvalde, Harlingen and Pharr; 11 additional tree trimmers; 10 AEP Texas damage assessors.

AEP Texas, a unit of American Electric Power, delivers electricity to 850,000 homes, businesses and industries in south and west Texas. AEP Texas provides regulated energy delivery service to consumers, regardless of which Retail Electric Provider they choose. The region headquarters is in Corpus Christi.



I have very limited space this week and very limited thoughts roaming around in my brain. Well, I shouldn't say that. My brain is a ramble of thoughts and ideas all the time - even when I'm trying to sleep. I'm constantly thinking of ways to do the paper better, neat pictures to take, all the numerous things I have to do and am behind on, things I want to do in my house and yard, Christmas presents to make, ramble, ramble, ramble, on and on. Sometimes I drive myself crazy.

With all the worry-flurry of everything I need to do, I get blocked when it comes to writing this column. It's not that I don't have anything to say, it's just that my column seems to be the last thing I get around to and wind up trying to hurry through it on Wednesday morning before I have to leave to get the paper printed.

Throughout the week, I sometimes have inspiring ideas and will go through the entire column in my head. And it's usually while I'm in the middle of

"Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him."

Psalm 33: 1

Proof of the Truth

by Tom Edwards

"INCORPORATION" THE JUDICIAL DOCTRINE FROM HELL!

This is one of the most difficult pieces for this writer to pen, because he does not have a sufficiently clean and extensive vocabulary to call the stupid, absurd, irrational, illogical, insane, obscene, corrupt, evil, goofy "Incorporation Doctrine" what it actually is. That said, let's examine, and begin to put the previously mentioned pieces of the puzzle together.

One is tempted to assign pure, corrupt, evil-motivated conspiracy behind the Supreme Court's 1925 decision in *Gitlow v. New York*, which held that the Fourteenth Amendment's due process clause "incorporates" the first amendment as finding upon the States, but that would be wrong. It was an unimportant case that nobody remembers, and the Court's opinion was written by a less-than-intelligent Justice who succumbed to vacuous mental ramblings in the netherworld of relativistic thinking. "Incorporation" wasn't even necessary, to the case outcome, so perhaps a kinder and more accurate characterization of the effect of the holding is as a classic example of the operation of the "Law of unintended or unforeseen consequences," or Murphy's Law.

Nevertheless, while nobody remembers *Gitlow*, the "Incorporation Doctrine" has become firmly entrenched in Supreme Court jurisprudence as later

working in the yard or really involved in something else. The passing thought of "get some paper and write this down before you forget it" goes through my head. And I'll think I surely won't forget it, but guess what!

So, here it is, Wednesday morning, I'm in a big hurry to get the paper finished and trying to write my column again. Oh well, life goes on...

People are always telling me to stop and smell the roses. I wish I had time! If you're like me, I hope you will not follow my steps and that you will take the time to smell the roses and even pick a few.

Johnny Morris will speak at Assembly of God Church

Johnny Morris of Afton will be the guest speaker at the First Assembly of God Church, 910 Bundy, Matador, Sunday, September 18.

Mr. Morris will speak at the 11:00 a.m. morning service and the 6:00 p.m. evening service.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Library Notes



by Suzanne Abbott, Librarian

We appreciate the donation sent by Lindy Stafford in memory of Furman Vinson. Donations such as this make a lasting memorial to special people and help keep the library's collection up-to-date.

About Libraries: Libraries are changing and dynamic places - at the forefront of the information age. Libraries are places of opportunities - a part of the American Dream, a place for education and life-long learning.

Libraries bring you the world - whether from a book or from the Internet. The library is a community gathering place. There are 117,000 libraries in the United States.

It takes nearly 400,000 people to make these libraries for you every day. And, right now, all across America librarians are working to support the ruined and damaged libraries that suffered from the hurricane Katrina.

Annual Bazaar on agenda at Do Gooders' club meeting

On the agenda at the Do Gooders' Club meeting Tuesday afternoon, September 6, at the Community Center in Flomot, were plans for their annual Bazaar.

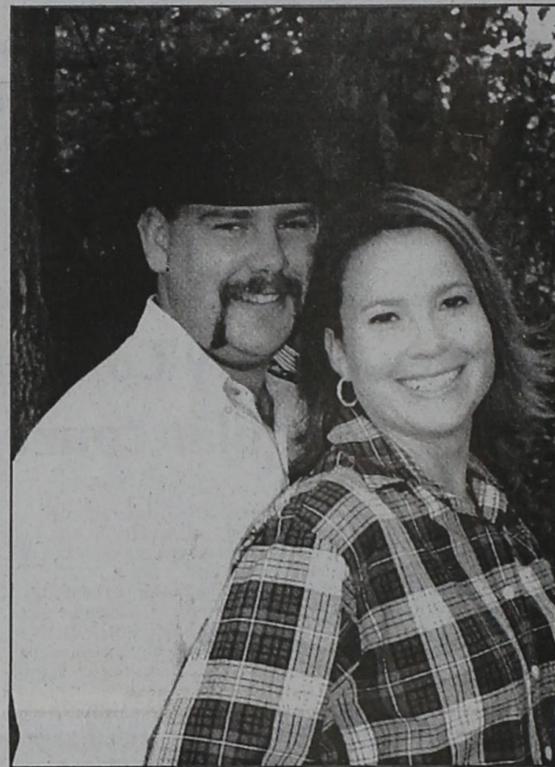
Mrs. Mary Jo Calvert conducted the business meeting. Mrs. Alma Shorter read the minutes of the previous club meeting that were approved. Members voted to have the Bazaar Saturday, November 12 at the Community Center. They worked on announcement posters that will be put on display at different locations. They then worked on their king sized 9 Patch Bazaar quilt that features stars at corners and around the



MR. AND MRS. TRUITT READ on their wedding day and 50 years later

50th Anniversary Celebrated

Truitt Read and Chelsea Young were united in marriage on September 11, 1955, at the Methodist Church in Alpine, Texas. They celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary over the Labor Day weekend. A fish fry and swim party was hosted by their children at the Roaring Springs Ranch. Children and grandchildren are: Debbie and Malcom Terry and children, Chris, Brandon and Adam of Liberty Hill, Texas; Scott and Sally Read and Crystal and Jade of Casper, Wyoming; and Vic Read of Blanco Canyon, Texas.



Talon Cruse & Christie Dubois

Couple announces Engagement

Christie Dubois of Floydada and Talon Cruse of Flomot would like to announce their engagement. Christie is the daughter of Craig and Gail Dubois of Floydada and the granddaughter of Bill and Wanda Dubois of Jewett and Curtis Poteet of Floydada. Talon is the son of Donnie and Judy Cruse of Flomot. He is the great-grandson of Donna Browning of Rising Star and the grandson of Mary Pitts of Lovington, NM and Tommie Jo Cruse of Flomot. The couple are planning an October wedding.

TEE TIME

by Judy



Ladies Play Day, Thursday, September 8, was for Low Putts. Playing 18 holes were Louise, Geneva, Jean H., Judy C., and Virginia. Judy C won with 23 putts.

Playing 9 holes that afternoon were Judy R., Nell, Frances, Marihelen, Tommye and Tempie. Judy R. and Frances tied with 17 putts each. Winning first place in the Tuesday scramble, September 6, was Alan, Darrell and Louise with a score of 30. Second place,

with a score of 31, was Conway, Brandon, Aaron and Jim.

Others playing were Billy H., Freida, Cody, Mike H.

No one won closest to pin on #6. There will be a carry over until Tuesday.

CONGRATULATIONS TIMMY! On September 4, Timmy Brooks hit a hole in one on #3 using his trusty 5 Iron. Witnesses to this event were Christian Brooks, Britt Simpson and James Adams.

MOTLEY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS & VIEWS

By Marie-Louise Liebe-Harkort



Consider:

Whenever you are to do a thing, though it can never be known but to yourself, ask yourself how you would act were all the world looking at you, and act accordingly.

- Thomas Jefferson

Well, maybe not the whole world is looking at you, but Motley County is, when you set off to come to the Chamber of Commerce meeting, which is scheduled for next Tuesday, September 20, at 5:30 p.m. in the Library.

And we need you to come and help, because we will continue with the planning of the banquet, which will be held on Saturday, October 22nd.

Last month, the Chamber meeting was devoted primarily to working out the basics of the banquet, the date, the caterers, and the entertainment. Now we have to finalize everything.

And, please don't forget that you have only until Monday, September 19, to get your nominations to the Chamber. So much has been done by so many individuals for the benefit of the county that it is hard to decide

on just one Woman of the Year, one Man of the Year, and one Business of the Year, so your nominations are important.

You can make your nominations known by giving them to any Chamber board member, calling the Chamber office at 347-2968 and leaving a message, or dropping slips of paper with the nominations in the boxes placed around the community for them. The boxes are at the Variety Store, New to You, the Senior Citizens' Center and the Bank.

Remember, the Woman of the Year and the Man of the Year awards go to individuals who have volunteered their time and effort without reward, not to employees who have done a particularly good job. The employers keep an eye out for that sort of thing by their employees, and show their gratitude for it in their own way. Your nominations should include a brief mention of why you think the person or persons are deserving of the award, since their good deeds may not be widely known.

So, get your nominations in before it is too late for your voice to be heard.

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MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

Made for Another World



We read in II Corinthians 5 that we as Christians have an identity crisis. We find ourselves inhabiting a worldly, physical body with all of its imperfections and limitations. We know, somewhere in the back of our minds, that our time on this earth is limited. And we also know that there is more to this life than what is seen with the eye.

It was C.S. Lewis who said, "If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world."

The fact is that God made us for something more than just this earth...something much better than this earth. In reading II Corinthians 5 we find that our God "prepared us for his very purpose," i.e. to inhabit a "home not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." Since we are a people who have a marvelous inheritance waiting for us in heaven, shouldn't we be a people of purpose. A "purposed people" who are seeking to be well pleasing unto God. Why not join me in worship this Lord's day as we examine God's eternal purpose for us?

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

BIBLE STUDY, 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP, 9:00 A.M.

Co-op Connectionssm Card

Join our new member benefits initiative - the Co-op Connections program.

This program gives you the opportunity to offer our cooperative members valuable discounts.

In exchange for your participation, we promote your business and discount offers to our members at no cost to you! We have 24,000 members locally and 17 million nationally in conjunction with other Touchstone Energy® cooperatives.

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For complete details, contact
Kay Hagins at
(806) 271-3311



South Plains Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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School Menu

MONDAY, SEPT. 19

Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Fish Stick, Macaroni & Cheese, California Blend, Hush Puppy, Fruit, Milk.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 20

Breakfast: Biscuit, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, or Cereal, Toast, Applesauce, Milk.
Lunch: Sliced Turkey Sandwich, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Potato Chips, Chocolate Brownie, Milk.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21

Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Salisbury Steak, Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Corn, Biscuit, Fruit, Milk.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 22

Breakfast: Pancake, Sausage, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Frito Pie, Salad, Crackers, Orange Slices, Milk.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 23

Breakfast: Egg & Cheese Omelet, Bacon, or Cereal, Toast, Pears, Milk.
Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, Creamed Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Honey, Milk.

Cheerleaders selling reserved stadium seats

The Motley County Varsity Cheerleaders are selling reserved stadium seats for football games. The cost is \$10 per seat. For more information contact Rebekah Jameson, Cheerleader Sponsor, at 347-2676 or after 4:00 p.m. at 347-2473.



Motley County J.S.D.

A Note from the Office ...



By Marilyn Hicks

Last night at the Motley County Parent's Club, we discussed meeting ways that parents wanted us to educate students about sexually transmitted diseases. There is an increased number of cases of STD's in the curriculum. Jan Jones is the chairperson of our Health Advisory Committee and is coordinating that effort. There will be a session for the parents prior to the presentation to students. Our primary target is the junior high population beginning with the sixth grade. A program called "Worth the Wait" is also being provided to us as a result of Mrs. Jones going to an abstinence workshop this summer. Gail Ream, a member of the District Site-Based Decision Making Team,

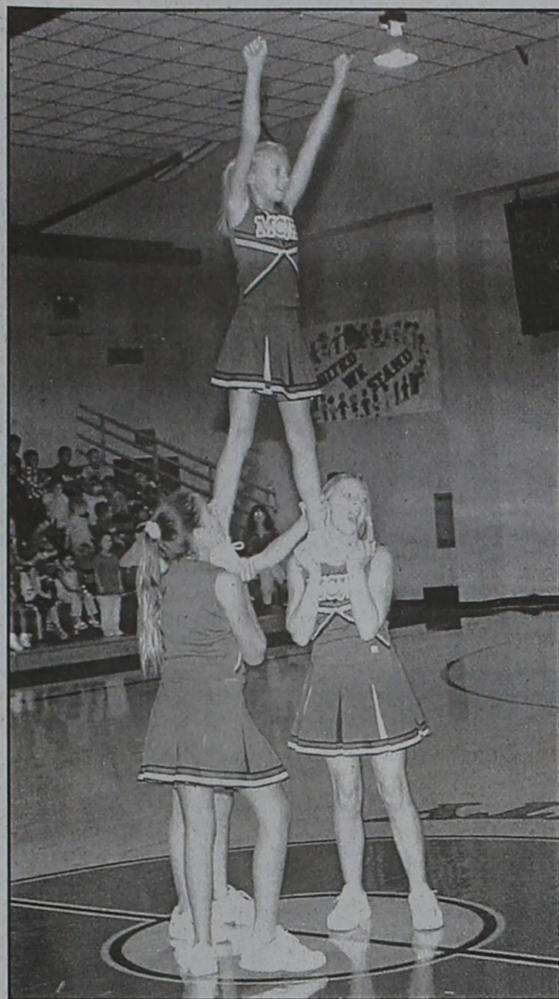
as well as a local health care professional, presented suggestions and served as a resource during the meeting.

The parent's club is busy collecting labels, coupons, and organizing recognition for perfect attendance. They are a valuable resource.

We are only a week away from six weeks tests. If your child hasn't shared progress or grades with you, it is certainly time to ask. The elementary students have daily planners that have assignments and notes from the teachers. There is also a place for parents to write notes and to sign each day. Please do that each evening as a part of the homework routine.

Whether your child is a beginning reader or a senior in high school, please make sure that he/she reads everyday.

SUPPORT THE MATADORS!



TEAM SPIRIT — Motley County Jr. High Cheerleaders, Leanne Jameson, top, Lexie Guerrero, Alyx Smith and Lexie Osborn, in back but not visible, at last week's Pep Rally.

photo by Walter Taylor

KEEP MOTLEY COUNTY CLEAN!

Now accepting
Fall & Winter Consignments



New to You

Downtown Matador ~ 806-347-2388



JR. HIGH PEP RALLY — MC Jr. High Cheerleaders and Football team at last week's Pep Rally.

photo by Walter Taylor

Go Matadors
& Mavericks!

★ MC Shining Star ★ September Student of the Month



Ashlee Green

Motley County's September Student of the Month is Ashlee Green. She is a Senior a MC ISD and the 17-year-old daughter of Billy and Cindy Green of Matador. Throughout her high school career, Ashlee has been actively involved in basketball, track, tennis, FCCLA, and National Honor Society. She has also received awards including Best All Around Student, Honorable Mention in Basketball, Academic All-State and Academic All-District. She was also crowned Homecoming Queen for the 2004-05 school year. During her spare time, Ashlee enjoys hanging out with friends and playing basketball. After graduation, she plans to pursue a career in Radiology or Physical Therapy.

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'90 CHRYSLER LEBARON \$995
RED, #C916B

'96 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE \$4,995
ONLY 83K MILES TAN #C887B

'98 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN \$4,995
GREEN, #P3471A

'99 SATURN SL2 \$5,995
TAN, #C917A

'00 BUICK CENTURY \$6,497
GREEN, #P3454A

'01 DODGE RAM 1500 QUAD CAB \$12,995
WHITE, #T23587A

'04 FORD MUSTANG \$13,539
BLUE, #T2298A

'04 DODGE STRATUS \$13,927
WHITE, #P3475

'03 DODGE DURANGO \$13,995
SILVER, #P3476

'03 DODGE RAM 1500 RC \$14,995
ONLY 38K MILES GRAPHITE, #P347

'03 NISSAN ALTIMA \$15,759
ONLY 38K MILES SILVER #P3474

'02 DODGE RAM 1500 QUAD CAB \$16,359
ONLY 58K MILES, TAN, #P3479

'04 FORD FREESTAR VAN \$16,759
BLUE, #P3478

'03 DODGE DAKOTA QUAD CAB \$16,995
ONLY 22K MILES, WHITE, #T244A

'05 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN \$17,559
BUTANE BLUE, #P3472

'05 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE \$17,559
SILVER, #P3481

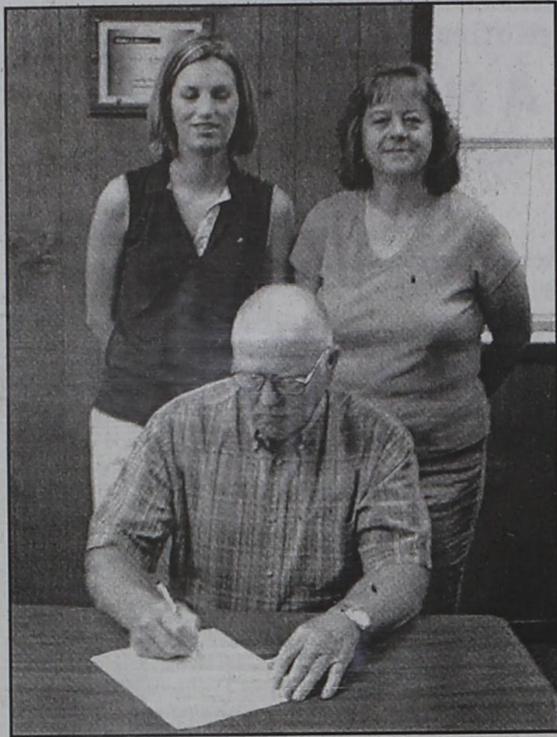
'04 CHEVROLET IMPALA LS \$17,595
LEATHER SUNROOF, WHITE, #P3487

'03 FORD F-150 QUAD CAB \$18,995
ONLY 22K MILES, RED, #T2316A

'05 DODGE RAM 1500 QUAD CAB \$19,995
SILVER, #P3484

'04 DODGE RAM 1500 QUAD CAB \$21,753
LARAMIE BLACK, #P3483

'05 DODGE RAM 1500 QUAD CAB \$21,995
BLACK, #P3480



Chesle Rains and Melane Parson, members of the Windmill Chapter of the NSDAR, are pictured here with Matador Mayor Paul Westbrook as he signs a proclamation declaring the week of September 17-23 as Constitution Week.

PROCLAMATION

Whereas: The Constitution of the United States of America, the guardian of our liberties, embodies the principles of limited government in a Republic dedicated to rule by law; and

Whereas: September 17, 2005, marks the two hundred eighteenth anniversary of the framing of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

Whereas: It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary, and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate it; and

Whereas: Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week,

Now, Therefore, I Paul Westbrook, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Matador, in the State of Texas do hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through 23 as CONSTITUTION WEEK

and ask the citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this 13 day of September of the year of our Lord two thousand and five.

Signed: Paul Westbrook

Pokey the Clown Rodeo winners announced

Little cowboys and cowgirls had the chance to experience a taste of a real rodeo at the Pokey the Clown Rodeo held during Old Settlers, Saturday, August 27.

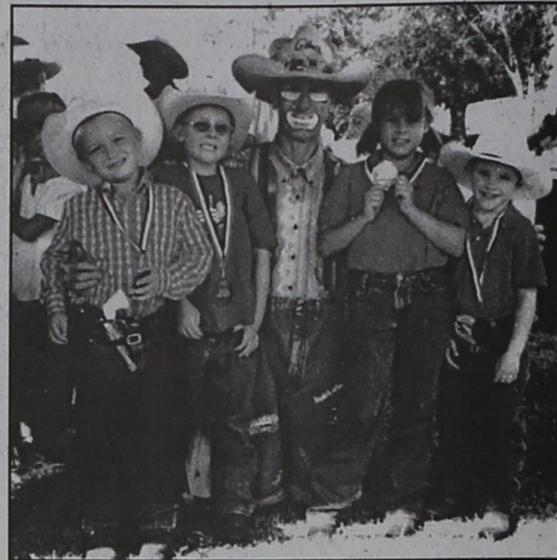
The Senior winning team has the opportunity to compete at the World Ranch Rodeo to be held November 12 at the Amarillo Civic Center at 11:30 a.m.

The winning PeeWee team, the Tri-County Ranch, coached by Dana Wright of Paducah, consisted of Hayden Wright, the five year old son of Frank and Dana Wright; Blaine Ellis, 7, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Ellis of Clarendon; Taylor Perryman, 7, daughter of Darryl and Dee Perryman of Clarendon; and Brody Rankin, 5, son of Ryan and Lacey Rankin of Roaring

Springs. They competed against seven teams, ages 4-7, riding stick horses and worked wooden animals. The team had to work together in order to pull the extremely heavy wooden cow.

The winning Junior team, Ralph's Little Rascals, was sponsored by Ralph Powell and coached by Susie Adams. Team members were Kaylee Adams, Guthrie; Dusty White, Guthrie; Cara Hurt, Guthrie; and Carli Maxwell, of Paducah.

The winning Senior Team, sponsored by the W.B. Cattle Co. and coached by Trudi White of Spur, consisted of Brandon White, Spur; Landon White, Spur; Tee Bateman, Spur; and Bubba Bateman, Dickens.



POKEY THE CLOWN RODEO WINNERS — PEE WEE DIVISION: Left to right, Hayden Wright, Blaine Ellis, Pokey the Clown, Taylor Perryman, and Brody Rankin.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I appreciated Mr. Crowley's reference to "the Lord's Day" in his column last week. This is a phrase we don't hear very often any more, and we are worse off for it.

For those of us that still regard the Ten Commandments, we know that the fourth says "remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." Most of the early Christians considered Sunday the "Christian Sabbath," but these days we seem to be much wiser than the early Christians. A century ago the great preachers such as Charles Spurgeon were preaching and writing against profaning the Sabbath, but this is unusual to here now. As with any of the commandments of the Lord, ignoring this one is a sin.

We are told in the New Testament, "forsake not the assembling of yourselves together." Church service is a very important part of a Christian's week, but the Lord's Day last longer than from nine to twelve, and there are others ways to "keep it holy." This is a day to be set aside for prayer, reading God's Word, visiting the sick, etc...If we observed this day as we should no Christian could say, "I don't have time to read my Bible."

Over one hundred years ago Elder John C. Ryle from London wrote that England and the USA enjoyed their prosperity because as a nation they observed the Lord's Day. He went on to say that as we begin to seek other things on this day such as work or worldly entertainment, the nations will see a large decline in godliness. We can see that this has proven to be true. Recently our nation witnessed a huge act of God, but we hear very little mention of Him. The events taking place in our world ought to fill the churches and bring us to our knees in prayer. Solomon said that the wise re-

ceive instruction from what they see. We don't seem to grow in wisdom anymore, we just want to be entertained and comfortable.

The Lord's Day is a blessing, not a burden. The Lord said it was "made for man." Our souls are more important than money or entertainment, so we should take advantage of the fact that we have a day set aside for the good of our souls.

I hope that there are some that haven't been to church in a long time who join Mr. Crowley in observing the Lord's Day by attending his church or someone else's this weekend.

"A Sabbath well spent brings a week of content, and strength for the toils of the morrow. But a Sabbath profaned, whatever may be gained, is a certain forerunner of sorrow."

John Bird



JUNIOR TEAM WINNERS at the Pokey the Clown Rodeo were Dusty White, Kaylee Adams, Cara Hurt and Carli Maxwell, not identified in order, are pictured here with Pokey and their sponsor, Ralph Powell.

Shop at HOME First!

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN A WATER QUALITY PERMIT RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0010111001

APPLICATION. City of Matador, P.O. Box 367, Matador, Texas, 79244-0367, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew wastewater disposal Permit No. WQ0010111001 to authorize the disposal of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 60,000 gallons per day via evaporation. The domestic wastewater treatment facility and disposal site are located approximately 1.8 miles northwest of the intersection of U.S. Highways 62 and 70 and Farm-to-Market Road 1380 and approximately 1.8 miles southwest of the intersection of Farm-to-Market Roads 1380 and 94 in Motley County, Texas. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on August 8, 2005. The permit application is available for viewing and copying at Matador City Hall, 706 Dundee, Matador, Texas.

The TCEQ executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After completion of the technical review, the TCEQ will issue a Notice of Application and preliminary Decision.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. The TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

Written public comments or requests for public meeting must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE. After technical review of the application is complete, the executive director will prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the countywide mailing list or the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. The response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who requested to be on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the executive director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. The TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

MAILING LIST. In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific application; (2) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (3) the permanent mailing list for a specific county. Clearly specify which mailing list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific application.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from City of Matador at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Steve Barton, Water Superintendent at 806-347-2255.

Issued: September 2, 2005.

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OPEN HOUSE — Roy Hobbs, left, President of the Matador Branch, First National Bank, Seymour, is pictured here with Ken Young, local artist, who displayed his artwork at the bank during their Open House last Friday. The bank, formerly the First State Bank, recently merged with the First National Bank of Seymour.

Friends & Customers,

Thank you so much for making our Open House such a great success. We would especially like to thank Ken Young for displaying his photography and art work. We are extremely fortunate to have a professional of his caliber to be a part of our communities.

Again, we appreciate your attendance and being a part of our celebrating the merger of the First State Bank and the First National Bank of Seymour, which we think, will enable us to offer our customers a broader range of banking products and services.

Thanks again,
Officers and Employees of
Matador Branch
FNB - Seymour

Motley County hosts District FFA Meeting

Motley County School hosted a Greenbelt District FFA meeting on September 6. Approximately 100 FFA members and teachers from the rolling plains region attended the meeting, which was the first district function of the 2005-06 school year.

The FFA members were introduced to the District FFA officers and members of the various schools through a variety of activities. Many of these activities were designed to motivate the students, increase their awareness of the leadership opportunities offered by the FFA, and to promote agriculture.

The Advisors conducted business related to the FFA that included amending the rules that govern the number of voting delegates each chapter may have at district functions, finalizing a district calendar and deciding on a place and time for the Greenbelt District Banquet.

Also in attendance for the meeting were Dusty Moore representing CEV of Lubbock, Dr. Matt Baker of Texas Tech University, and David Harris of Fresh Country Fund raising.

The Motley County FFA Chapter wishes to thank Mr. Brown and Mrs. Hicks for opening our school to these guests and making them feel welcome. Also thanks to Fresh Country Fund Raiser and David Harris for their help in providing refreshments for the members and advisors, and to Judy Cooper and Susan Dunlap for the delicious desserts provided for the advisors.

DPS announces new Texas Ranger Chief, Assistant Chief

A new Texas Ranger chief and assistant chief have been named by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Capt. Ray Coffman has been named chief of the Texas Rangers and Capt. Jim Miller has been named assistant chief. Coffman replaces Senior Ranger Capt. Earl Pearson, who retired as of August 31.

"I am confident that Capt. Coffman will do an excellent job of guiding the Texas Rangers," said Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., director of Texas Dept. of Public Safety.

Coffman, who will hold the rank of Senior Ranger Captain, had been assistant chief of the Rangers since May 2004. Coffman has been with the DPS for more than 29 years, serving as a Highway Patrol trooper and DPS Narcotics lieutenant. He promoted to the Rangers in 1986 and promoted to Ranger lieutenant in 1996. In 2001, he promoted to Ranger Captain in San Antonio's Co. D. Coffman is a native of McAllen.

"I am truly honored to be considered for this position. I appreciate the Director having enough confidence in me to allow me the opportunity to lead the Texas Rangers. I will miss my good friend and mentor Chief Earl Pearson, but look forward to the new challenges ahead," Chief Coffman said.

Miller, now the assistant chief of the Rangers, became Captain of Company C in Lubbock in 2002. He transferred to Company A in Houston in 2004. Miller has been with DPS since 1975. He was a Driver License trooper, then a Highway Patrol trooper. He promoted to Ranger sergeant in 1987. In 1997, he promoted to Ranger lieutenant. In 2002, Miller was promoted to Captain. Miller is a native of Woodville.



STORM DAMAGE — This carport, belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Don Stuckey in Roaring Springs, was blown over and badly damaged during a storm Sunday night.

Storm Damage in Roaring Springs



STORM MESS — The backyard of Margie Payne in Roaring Springs was a mess after Sunday night's storm. Big branches were torn from the huge trees in her beautiful yard.

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Afterword by Mike Gibson

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News around the County

Roaring Springs News

by Lula Swim

ATTENTION ROARING SPRINGS RESIDENTS!
Out-of-town subscribers are requesting more RS news. If you have news to report, please contact Lula Swim at 348-7926 or the Tribune office at 347-2400.

WESLEYAN GUILD MEETS

The Roaring Springs Wesleyan Guild opened the season after they had recessed for the summer, with a meeting in the home of Lula Swim, Wednesday afternoon, September 7. Debbie Martin was in charge. Pearl Patten gave the devotional, "My Neighbors and Me." Chelsea Read reported about the speech by Rep. Bruce Parks, "Past, Present and Future of the Plainview District."

Those attending, in addition to those already mentioned, were Jo Etta Bumgardner, Callie Giesecke, and new member Jane King.

The attendance of the House of Faith meeting on Wednesday afternoon, September 7 was down with only four children and one dog. Diane Carter gave the Bible story and others helping were Alex and Jo Crowder, Walter and Jo Trammel and Steve Byrd.

Mrs. Sammie Phillips drove Lula Swim to Plainview, Friday. She is receiving shots to build up her blood.

Mrs. Dorothy Lee visited Mr. and Mrs. Bob Goodnight in Floydada last week.

Hanna Alexander visited in the home of her dad and family, Mr. and

Mrs. Russell Alexander and Jaci over the weekend.

There were 13 ladies in attendance at the Bible Study Monday morning at the home of Fredia Burns in Matador. Most of the study was on Faith and several Bible scriptures were used. Fredia offered prayer for healing. Ashley Washington gave the closing prayer.

WARREN FAMILY REUNION

The Warren Family Reunion was held August 27 at the Brooks Ranch near Roaring Springs. Those attending and enjoying the food and visiting were Modean Warren Brooks, LaRue Warren Brooks, Betty Warren Bearden and Cindy of Quitaque; Connie Bearden, Scarlett and Cody Crayser of McKinney; Max, Dana, Kelsey and Bryce Bearden, Chad, Erin, Levi and Harley Brooks, all of Ropesville; Shawn, Penny, Kamrin and Slayden Varnell of Portales, NM; Shirley and Sonny Watson, Newell, LaRae, Slayden and Neely Watson, Kevin, Terry, Shane, Reagan, Chris, Amy Rainwater and friend, Gabe, Shannon Neitch, all of Ralls; Keitha, Aston and Alec Estes, Robyn and Bryce Hutson of Idalou; Jerri Poff and daughter, Jessi of Dallas; Stanley and Cinda Brooks of Austin; Keith Brooks and John Baptiste of Del Rio; Timmy, Tina and Mattie Brooks, Bobby and Carolyn Fletcher of Roaring Springs; Pat Warren of Matador and son Joe Don Warren who was called back to College Station where he serves as a fireman, to go to the Gulf Coast to aid in the search and rescue of Hurricane Katrina victims.

Everyone enjoyed visiting and reminiscing and hope to make the reunion an annual affair.

Matador News

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Williams were in Lubbock, Sunday to celebrate the birthday of their daughter, Kristi Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Risser and her mother, Mrs. Frances Dixon returned home Wednesday from a seven day visit in Salem, Oregon with daughter and family, Kobbi and Brian Blair and two year old daughter, Journey. Their other daughter,

Kaci Risser of Plainview joined them in Oregon on Thursday September 1 to visit.

Rodney Williams accompanied his father, Pete Williams to Lubbock Tuesday and they visited overnight with his daughter and family, Lindsey and Randy Westbrook and son, Andrew. Pete had an endoscopy Wednesday morning.

Helping Hands send aid to victims of Hurricane Katrina

Recently members of the Roaring Springs Full Gospel Church, as well as members of the community, made "health kits" for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. These kits contained a wash cloth, a hand towel, one tube of toothpaste, a toothbrush, a large bar of soap, a comb, nail clippers, and six band-aids, all wrapped up and placed in a Zip-lock bag. After short notice, their efforts ended up producing about 4 kits and

\$360 toward this cause. The items were shipped to UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) for them to distribute as needed. A big thank you goes out to everyone who contributed.

"Give, and it will be given to you, a good measure pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Luke 6:38

A NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to thank everyone for their help following my surgery at the end of May. And for all the cards, prayers, visits and food for the past few months. Covenant Home Health, Motley County Senior Citizens and all those who never said no when Keith needed to go shopping or to the post office or to Mass. And last of all thanks to Tony Gonzalez for being a faithful out of town driver.

Joan Patton

I would like to thank the Volunteer Fire Department who checked on my wife Sunday evening. I am very thankful for the folks back home who look out for people.

Peter D. Nance
HSE Supervisor-Geologist
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Flomot News

by Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD
I find that it is not the circumstances in which we are placed, but the spirit in which we face them that constitutes our comfort.

A heavy rainfall of 2.77 inches Sunday night in Flomot and 2.10 inches in Whiteflat with electric outage was reported. Thankful no hail was reported.

Judy and Lynn Stark visited during the Labor Day holidays in Amarillo with his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Stark and children, Molly and Audie.

Mrs. Tim Kendall and sons, Jere and Jacob visited from Friday until Sunday in Clyde with her grandmother, Mrs. Oddie Gray. They celebrated the birthday of her aunt, Shirley Gray.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin met Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Moss of Anson in Plainview, Friday and enjoyed Varnell of Portales, NM; Shirley and Sonny Watson, Newell, LaRae, Slayden and Neely Watson, Kevin, Terry, Shane, Reagan, Chris, Amy Rainwater and friend, Gabe, Shannon Neitch, all of Ralls; Keitha, Aston and Alec Estes, Robyn and Bryce Hutson of Idalou; Jerri Poff and daughter, Jessi of Dallas; Stanley and Cinda Brooks of Austin; Keith Brooks and John Baptiste of Del Rio; Timmy, Tina and Mattie Brooks, Bobby and Carolyn Fletcher of Roaring Springs; Pat Warren of Matador and son Joe Don Warren who was called back to College Station where he serves as a fireman, to go to the Gulf Coast to aid in the search and rescue of Hurricane Katrina victims.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Sperry, Savannah, Blayne, Gage and Cash visited in Lubbock, Sunday with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Pool.

Mrs. Nada Starkey is wearing a

brace on her back after suffering a fractured back.

Derrick Cruse, student at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, visited the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Cruse. He enjoyed the Two Man Scramble golf tournament in Roaring Springs, Sunday.

Mrs. Leona Degan met daughter and husband, Sheila and Jerry Gilbert of Jacksonville, Alabama, at the Lubbock Airport Monday morning and accompanied them here to visit. Mr. Gilbert's mother, Mrs. Christeen Gilbert of Graham, former resident of Flomot and Quitaque, passed away Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Sperry were in Plainview, Monday for a medical check up of baby son, Cash.

Snakes are on the move! Caution is advised when outside. Donnie Turner and Orville Lee reported killing extra large rattlesnakes this past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay visited Thursday afternoon in Plainview with son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clay, Tanner, Kelsey and Sarah.

Home is in the Heart of Texas

by B. Terry Keltz

Note: Mr. Keltz is the President of the Brady National Bank in Brady, Texas. He is a graduate of Matador High School and the son of June Keltz Levell and the late Bennie Keltz of Matador.

Mr. Keltz wrote this article about his moving to Brady. It appeared in the *Brady Standard-Herald*.

I often hear the question, "What brought you to Brady and Brady National Bank?" If there isn't enough time to tell the whole story I usually respond with "Trees and Kim King." If that statement sparks some interest in the eyes of the person asking, I offer to tell the complete story. I am certain there are more profound stories that have evolved throughout the 100 year history of the Bank regarding past presidents; however, this one is unique because the characters are both Kim and me.

It was in the fall of 1984. A sharp cold north wind carrying particles of cotton lint and dust swept down the street that separated the bank in Lockney from the parking lot of the town's rural hospital where I stood. The dirt blowing from the barren Texas plains seemed to boost my anxiety about my recent decision to accept the position of administrator of the small hospital. The job was my first management level position after completing graduate school. About two hours before I had felt confident that I could handle just about any challenge the business world could hand me. That confidence was quickly diminishing as I analyzed the information I had just been given by the hospital's controller. Only two weeks into the new job and I learned that the organization was financially unstable, a condition that was previously unknown by the board of directors as well. The financial problem was severe enough that I had to seek financing to fund payroll and other current operating expenses.

As I walked across the street toward the bank my apprehension grew more intense as I realized that I did not know anyone in the bank and even worse, I didn't have a plan for revitalizing the hospital. A friendly bank employee greeted me as I entered the bank and asked if she could help me. I told her I was the new hospital administrator in town and needed to talk with a loan officer. She pointed toward a near office and said, "Well, we have a new guy in town also and his name is Kim King."

After disclosing all I knew about the hospital's dilemma, Kim stated that he would be willing to loan the needed funds, but then came the dreaded question. He needed to know that my plans were for turning the financially distressed rural facility around. I must have looked confused at that point because Kim then said, "What I mean is how are you going to pay this back?" Needless to say my plan began to develop at that moment.

The financial assistance from the bank gave us the needed time to implement a plan that began a successful recovery period for the hospital and in due time the loan was paid in full. I became friends with Kim and his family and soon discovered we had a great deal in common except for the fact that I had never eaten cabrito. At the invitation of Kim I made my first trip to Brady and attended the World Championship Barbeque Goat Cook-Off. I



Terry Keltz and Kim King

was very impressed with the town and its friendly people and remember being amazed at the vast number of trees that decorated the landscape.

Shortly after my first trip to Brady, I received a call from the Chamber of Commerce in Brady offering me a prestigious spot on the jading team for the Cook-Off. I reluctantly accepted knowing that I was unfamiliar with the flavor of goat meat but liked the idea of being obligated to return to Brady each year for the festivities under the canopy of trees in Richard's Memorial Park. During one of those earlier trips I began to hope that I might some day have the opportunity to live and work in Brady. That opportunity became a reality in September of 2000 when I left the flat "Plains of Texas" and came to the "Heart of Texas."

OBITUARIES

Christeen Merrell Gilbert

Christeen Merrell Gilbert, 86, of Flomot, died Sunday, September 11 in Graham, Texas.

She was born on July 10, 1919, in Grey Mule, Texas to the late Levi Alfred and Rosa Lee (Barker) Merrell. She was a lifelong resident of Flomot. She married D.M. "Ikie" Gilbert on February 4, 1940, in Floydada, Texas. He preceded her in death on September 16, 2003. She was a loving mother and wonderful homemaker. She enjoyed her many years of participation as a member of the Flomot Home Demonstration Club. Christeen was also a member of the First Baptist Church of Quitaque.

Survivors include a son, Jerry Gilbert and wife Sheila of Jacksonville, AL; two daughters, Judy and husband Leland Heiskell of Pottsboro, Texas, Kathy and husband Neal Blanton of Graham; a sister, Juanita and husband J.V. Welch of Amarillo; six grandchildren, Jeremy Gilbert and wife Amy, Gary Gilbert, Christi Heiskell, Lance Heiskell, Loren Blanton,



Chris Blanton; two great-grandchildren, Caitlin and Alex Gilbert.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 13, at First Baptist Church in Quitaque with Reverend Jeff Addison officiating. Burial was in Flomot Cemetery under the direction of Moore-Rose-White Funeral Home of Floydada.

The family suggests memorials be made to Flomot Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 43, Flomot, TX 79234.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS SPECIAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8, 2005

PROPOSITION 1 (HJR 54)

HJR 54 would create a Texas rail relocation and improvement fund in the state treasury and would authorize grants of state revenue and issuance of public debt to relocate, rehabilitate, and expand privately and publicly owned passenger and freight rail facilities and to construct railroad underpasses and overpasses.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment creating the Texas rail relocation and improvement fund and authorizing grants of money and issuance of obligations for financing the relocation, rehabilitation, and expansion of rail facilities."

PROPOSITION 2 (HJR 6)

HJR 6 would provide that marriage in Texas is solely the union of a man and woman, and that the state and its political subdivisions could not create or recognize any legal status identical to or similar to marriage, including such legal status relationships created outside of Texas.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing that marriage in this state consists only of the union of one man and one woman and prohibiting this state or a political subdivision of this state from creating or recognizing any legal status identical or similar to marriage."

PROPOSITION 3 (HJR 80)

HJR 80 would provide that local economic development program loans or grants (other than debts secured by a pledge of ad valorem taxes or financed by the issuance of any bonds or other obligations payable from ad valorem taxes) do not constitute or create debt. Any provision of state constitutional law that may prohibit or limit the authority of a political subdivision of the state to incur debt does not apply to those loans or grants.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment clarifying that certain economic development programs do not constitute a debt."

PROPOSITION 4 (SJR 17)

SJR 17 would authorize a district judge to deny reinstatement of bail or new bail to a person accused of a felony, if the person's bail had been revoked or forfeited as a result of the person's violation of a condition of release related to the safety of a victim of the alleged offense or to the safety of the community.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the denial of bail to a criminal defendant who violates a condition of the defendant's release pending trial."

PROPOSITION 5 (SJR 21)

SJR 21 would authorize the Legislature to exempt commercial loans from state usury laws that set maximum interest rates. "Commercial loans" are loans made primarily for business, commercial, investment, agricultural, or similar purposes and not primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment allowing the legislature to define rates of interest for commercial loans."

PROPOSITION 6 (HJR 87)

HJR 87 would increase the size of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct from eleven to thirteen members by increasing from four to five the number of public members and by adding a constitutional county court judge. The additions would ensure that the commission has an odd number of members, which is required by another provision of the state constitution.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to include one additional public member and a constitutional county court judge in the membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct."

PROPOSITION 7 (SJR 7)

SJR 7 would authorize new options for reverse mortgage agreements for senior homeowners allowing them to draw advances at unscheduled intervals, if and when needed, and only in the

amounts needed, during the loan term. These are in addition to options that would allow a lump sum payment after settlement or regular periodic, predetermined equal amounts over a term of years or the lifetime of the homeowner. Additionally, SJR 7 would: (1) prohibit the agreement from requiring the use of a credit card, debit card or similar device to obtain an advance; (2) prohibit the charge or collection of a transaction fee solely in connection with any debit or advance, after the time the extension of credit is established; and (3) prohibit the lender or holder from unilaterally amending the extension of credit.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing line-of-credit advances under a reverse mortgage."

PROPOSITION 8 (SJR 40)

SJR 40 would clear individual land titles by relinquishing and releasing all claims of state ownership interests, including mineral interests, in two local areas, namely, a roughly 4,600 acre area located roughly 14 miles southeast of Gilmer, Texas, and a separate 900 acre area located north of Tyler, Texas.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for the clearing of land titles by relinquishing and releasing any state claim to sovereign ownership or title to interest in certain land in Upshur County and in Smith County."

PROPOSITION 9 (HJR 79)

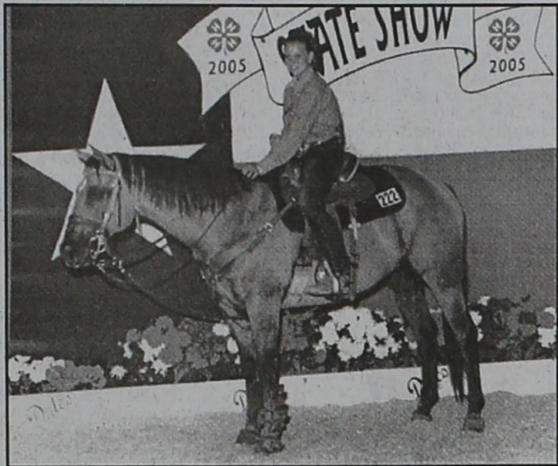
HJR 79 would authorize the Legislature to provide staggered six year terms of office for board members serving on regional mobility authorities, with no more than one-third of the board positions being appointed every two years.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for a six-year term for a board member of a regional mobility authority."

Published by Secretary of State Roger Williams, www.sos.state.tx.us, 1.800.252.8683.



Motley County 4-H member, Colton Russell, right, with team members, Holley Hurt and Amanda Browning.



Motley County 4-H member, Shane'a Russell, at the State Horse Show.

Local 4-H members compete at State Horse Show

The 43rd Texas State 4-H Horse Show was held in Abilene, Texas July 23-30, 2005. Competing from the Motley County 4-H Club were Colton and Shane'a Russell. Colton and his horse, Miss Joy Sheik competed in the cutting on the 23rd, and finished in 13th place with scores of 129 in the first go and 137 in the second go. On Monday the 24th, they competed in the working cow horse and had the 9th highest score on the cow work with a 139.5 but their dry work was not high enough to help them finish in the top 15. On Tuesday, July 25, Colton and Miss Joy competed in Team Penning along with his partners Holley Hurt of King County and Amanda Browning of Childress County. The kids advanced to the finals penning six head. In the final go the kids penned their last 3 head of cattle in a time of 44.0 seconds to be named Reserve Champions.

Colton also competed in the 3-year-old Stock Horse on Tuesday and Wednesday. He and his 3-year-old Coon finished third on Tuesday and second on Wednesday and third overall in the State. Shane'a and her horse, Tequila, competed in the Team Penning with her partners Kelsey Stokes and Rita Day of Dickens County 4-H. The girls penned their first 3 head in 1.16.24 to make it to semi-finals where they had tough luck and drew a Charolais that was not about to be penned. On Thursday, July 27, Shane'a and Tequila competed in the poles where they were 1.5 seconds of the comeback time for the finals, and on Friday, they competed in the barrels and stakes but had some wet top ground and lost their footing in both events. These 4-H'ers have done a great job.

Hurricane fallout could cost area producers millions

Amarillo -- The destructive waves of Hurricane Katrina haven't subsided. Rising natural gas prices and the closing of ports in New Orleans are affecting corn and cattle producers in Texas and across the nation, one Texas Cooperative Extension expert said. The price of natural gas has risen \$2-\$3 per thousand cubic feet since the hurricane, adding more than \$5 million to the expenses of raising corn under irrigation in the High Plains, said Dr. Steve Amosson, Extension economist here.

It takes approximately 20,000 cubic feet (20 mcf) of natural gas per acre to irrigate corn, Amosson said. While the crop is well on its way to maturity, about 20 percent of the water still must be applied before the estimated 650,000 acres are harvested, he said.

The natural gas price jump occurred because Gulf production accounts for about 20 percent of the nation's supply, and that percentage has been reduced by about 40 percent, Amosson said. Market speculators also are adding to the run up on natural gas prices, he said.

This added cost will be compounded at harvest time when producers must pay higher fuel for their combines, trucks and tractors needed to get the grain from the field to the elevator, Amosson said.

And adding insult to injury are the current corn prices, which remain unstable as the industry waits to see whether export traffic will resume on a timely basis, he said. Corn prices are already below the loan rate.

New Orleans handles a vast majority of the corn exports, Amosson said, "so we have to wait and see if export sales are hurt."

He said corn prices had already dropped from \$2.70 per bushel at planting time to about \$2.15-\$2.22 per bushel on the Chicago Board of Trade, after crop estimates were released in late July.

The price could keep going down if the U.S. Department of Agriculture's projected production comes out in the 10.3 billion bushel range. This would indicate a surplus in the market at a time when exports might be slowed by hurricane destruction, Amosson said.

"This whole thing is going to put producers in a real financial bind," he said. "They can't quit the crop at this point, but if they have not done some forward pricing, it's going to be very difficult for them to cover just the out-of-pocket costs."

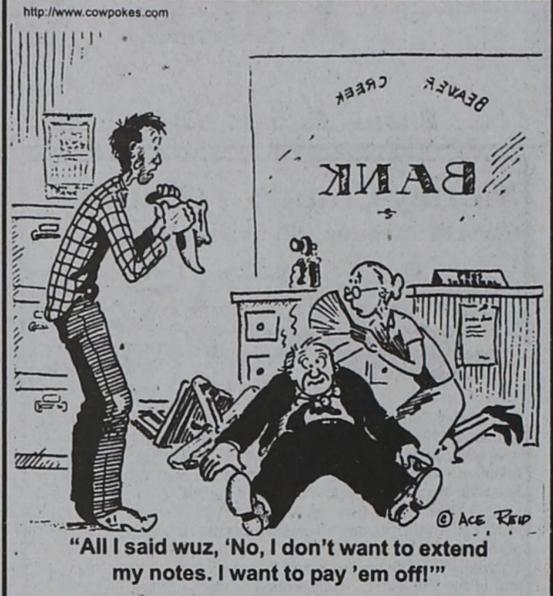
On the cattle side of the marketplace, lower corn prices will help with profitability in the short term because it makes the cost of gain cheaper, Amosson said.

In the long run, though, this could end up costing cattle producers.

Cattle on feed are currently losing money. With cheaper feed available, cattlemen have the tendency to feed the cattle longer and try to lower the cost of gain, he said.

This results in heavier animals coming out of the feedlots and more tonnage of beef on the market, which could in turn depress fed cattle prices, Amosson said.

COW POKES® By Ace Reid



"All I said wuz, 'No, I don't want to extend my notes. I want to pay 'em off!'"

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Oil & Gas Update

By Tom Musser

Floyd County: Patterson-UTI Drilling Rig #494 moved onto the BASA Resources Inc., L.N. Johnson Lease Well #1 on Wednesday, September 7, 2005 and has begun drilling. This is an experienced rig and crew. Rig #494 drilled the D.M. Cogdell, Jr. Estate Well #10-01, the Echols Well #1, and the M. Bursleson Ranch Well #1. Mr. Richard R. King, King Consultant, Lubbock, is supervising the drilling operations for BASA Resources, Inc. Mr. King has prior experience in drilling wells in Floyd County. He drilled the Southport Exploration Dorrell Well #1 in 1985 and the Staley Operating Crump #1 in 1987.

Floyd County: BASA Resources, Inc. has staked a new location on the B.M. Smitherman Lease located in the South half of Section 15, Block D-2. This location is 4 miles Southeast of South Plains. From Highway 207, East on FM Road 97 for two miles, North on County Road 189 for two and a half miles, location is on the East side of the county road.

Floyd County: FieldPoint Petroleum Corporation on September 8, 2005 announced they would be filing their second drilling permit in the Palo Duro Basin. FieldPoint Corporation filed its first drilling permit under the name of Bass Petroleum, Inc.

Vintage Petroleum, Inc. On Thursday September 8, 2005, Charles C. Stephenson, Jr. CEO of Vintage

Petroleum, Inc. made a thirty minute presentation to the Lehman Brothers CEO Energy/Power Conference. The presentation is available on the Vintage Petroleum, Inc. Website: <http://www.vintagepetroleum.com> Both the Echols and the Bursleson Wells are discussed in the presentation. In addition Vintage Petroleum stated they will be considering drilling a horizontal well next year in the Palo Duro Basin.

Motley County: The Vintage Petroleum, Inc. Echols Lease Well #1 continues pumping off of frac fluid with gas volumes increasing. The well was fraced in two stages. The upper stage has flowed back and been swabbed back. Currently working on swabbing back the lower stage. Vintage Petroleum, Inc. has NOT released volume numbers, but they have expressed their optimism of the Echols Well #1.

Motley County: The Vintage Petroleum, Inc. M. Bursleson Ranch Lease Well #1 is scheduled to be fraced within two weeks. The initial Vintage Petroleum, Inc. statement on the M. Bursleson Ranch Well #1 is the shale zone is thicker and has a higher percentage of organic content than what was found in the Echols Well #1.

Motley County: The Tyner Texas Operating Company, R.G. Stephens Lease Well #1 has been drilled to a total depth of 10,000 feet.

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LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST

Motley County Tribune Weather Sept. 15, 2005

7-Day Forecast	In-Depth Forecast	Moon Phases
Thursday Partly Cloudy High: 86 Low: 64	Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms, high temperature of 86°, humidity of 49% and an overnight low of 64°. The record high temperature for today is 102° set in 1965. The record low is 43° set in 1961.	Full 9/17
Friday Partly Cloudy High: 87 Low: 63		Last 9/25
Saturday Mostly Sunny High: 88 Low: 64		New 10/3
Sunday Partly Cloudy High: 88 Low: 66		First 10/10
Monday Partly Cloudy High: 86 Low: 65		
Tuesday Partly Cloudy High: 83 Low: 62		
Wednesday Mostly Sunny High: 85 Low: 64		

Last Week's Local Almanac				
Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip
Sunday	91	64	89/65	0.00"
Monday	91	65	89/65	0.00"
Tuesday	94	66	89/65	0.00"
Wednesday	92	63	89/64	0.00"
Thursday	90	62	88/64	0.00"
Friday	92	59	88/64	0.00"
Saturday	93	66	88/63	0.00"

Weather History	Sun & Moon Times
Sept. 15, 1752 - A great hurricane produced a tide along the South Carolina coast that came close to inundating downtown Charleston. However, just before the tide reached the city, a shift in the wind caused the water level to drop five feet in 10 minutes.	Sunrise today 7:26 a.m. Sunset tonight 7:50 p.m. Moonrise today 6:43 p.m. Moonset today 4:22 a.m.

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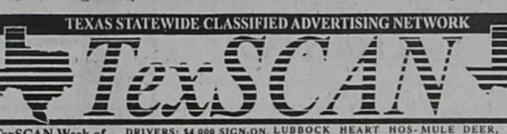
Carla M. Meador ~ Publisher & Editor



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