

# MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"

50¢

Photo by Johnny Davenport, Dec. 18, 1958, Cow Hollow Tank, Matador Ranch

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2006

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION  
Texas Tech University  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

ESTABLISHED 1891

ISSUE NO. 4

## Boondocker Motorcycle Club will hold race in Matador

The Boondocker motorcycle club of Lubbock will be in Matador, March 4-5. The club will race on Sunday, March 5, after Church. The race will consist of a 4 to 6 mile route, which will begin at the Fire Hall.

This event should bring many visitors to Motley County.

The Motley County Chamber of Commerce is encouraging individuals, clubs and organizations to join the fun by holding fundraisers, such as food booths, etc.

Anyone wanting to take advantage of this opportunity are asked to send a representative to the Chamber of Commerce meeting Tuesday, February 7, at 5:30 p.m. in the Library, so plans can be coordinated.

Chamber president, Annette Hollingsworth, is encouraging everyone to get to work to provide the club and visitors to the county with a good time, so they will come back next year.



ENDURO RACE — The West Texas Boondockers Club, based in Lubbock, will hold an Enduro Race in Matador, March 5. Pictured here are participants starting the course for a race. In the summer, many club members come to Motley County and enjoy racing events at their base camp here at the Seigler Ranch near Northfield. (Boondocker's website photo)

## Matador native to retire from Wall Street Journal

from the Amarillo Globe-News

Dow Jones & Co., publisher of The Wall Street Journal, named chief operating officer Richard Zannino to become its new CEO, succeeding Peter Kann, who will remain as chairman until 2007. The company's shares rose sharply on the news.

The company also announced that Wall Street Jour-

nal publisher Karen Elliott House, who is Kann's wife, will retire from the company by mutual agreement. House, like Kann, had a long career as a journalist at the Journal.

House, who is a Matador native, will stay on for a transition period of several months, but her position will likely evolve to include more oversight of the company's growing online operations, Zannino said in an interview.

Zannino said he would be working with the company's board in the coming weeks to further define that role.

"In a world where readers are viewing The Wall Street Journal more as a franchise and less as a channel of distribution, one could envision a different structure that may or may not have a stand-alone print publisher," Zannino said.

## Perry declares statewide drought disaster Requests USDA Assistance for 254 counties

Austin — Gov. Rick Perry declared a disaster last week in all 254 Texas counties due to severe drought conditions, and requested that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency provide disaster relief assistance for Texas farms and ranches that have suffered economic and physical losses as a result.

Last week's action builds upon Perry's ongoing efforts to secure drought assistance for Texas farms and ranches. Since early summer, Perry has requested assistance for 113 drought-affected counties on behalf of local officials. To date, the USDA has approved 54 of those requests. Perry asked that the USDA expedite all pending requests, and also ap-

prove all remaining Texas counties for assistance.

"Our farmers and ranches have been suffering from extremely dry conditions, as well as devastating wildfires," Perry said. "I am asking the USDA to help all farmers and ranchers in Texas who have been affected so they can recover."

If Perry's statewide request is approved, qualified farm operators in all Texas counties will be eligible for low-interest emergency loans from the USDA's Farm Service Agency. Producers can borrow up to 100 percent of actual production for physical losses, or a maximum of \$500,000. The agency also offers additional programs, such as technical assistance, to eligible farmers.

On Dec. 26, Perry declared a statewide disaster due to the threat of wildfires caused by extremely dry weather conditions. On Jan. 11, President Bush approved Perry's request for a statewide Presidential Disaster Declaration, making Texans whose homes and property were destroyed or damaged by wildfires eligible to receive individual assistance, and local jurisdictions that have been fighting the costly fires will be eligible for public assistance.

Dry conditions are expected to continue in the coming weeks and months. For a list of Texas counties that already have been approved for USDA assistance or counties that currently have a pending assistance request, please visit Governor Perry's website at [www.governor.state.us](http://www.governor.state.us).

## Motley County students will celebrate 100th day of school

Motley County students will celebrate the 100th day of school, January 26.

According to Principal, Marilyn Hicks, "Students are encouraged to come up with a creative way to wear 100 of something to school."

A prize will be presented to the most original.

## Methodist Church will host Brisket Meal Sunday as fund-raiser

The Methodist Church in Matador will host a fund raiser Sunday, January 29, to support Bailey Davenport as she participates in Spirit Wind this next summer. A Brisket meal will begin at 12:00 noon and is provided by friends of Bailey. Bailey is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Winfield Davenport.

Spirit Wind is a Methodist Youth Choir supported by Methodist Churches in this area. This summer the group will travel to the Northeast and do a singing tour in and around Boston, MA, New York, NY, Washington, D.C. and Hershey, PA for two weeks. They will also have a two week tour in this area before they head to the northeast.

## Kids' Praise set for Feb. 1

It's Kid's Praise time again! All children in the community, three years old through 6th grade, are invited to Kids' Praise on Wednesday, February 1, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m., at the First Baptist Church, Matador. There will be games, songs, crafts, a Bible story, food and fun for all.

Kids' Praise is a monthly event sponsored by Women on Mission of the church's WMU.

## Motley County ISD Elementary awarded Science Grant

Kathy Gillespie, a Rural Systemic Initiative Cohort One Leadership Fellow, presented a grant proposal and participated in training January 21-22 in San Antonio. The workshop was part of the Rural Systemic Initiatives' Leadership Fellows Academy which is a National Science Foundation-funded program that focuses on improving math and science education.

Mrs. Gillespie prepared a grant proposal seeking to improve elementary science instruction via laboratory investi-

## Motorists urged to "Keep your butts in the car"

Childress — Nearly all wildfires are intentionally or carelessly set. Precautions should be taken to prevent fires from starting. Avoid activity that could start a fire, such as outdoor welding and tossing out lit cigarettes. Keep in mind that area wide burn bans are in effect.

"The scant rainfall, strong winds and low humidity are maintaining the high fire danger. Tossing a smoldering cigarette on our Texas highways could ignite a wildfire and endanger lives and property," said Darwin Lankford, Childress District Director of Operations.

It is also against the law to toss any kind of litter on Texas Highways. You can be fined up to \$500 if a law enforcement officer catches you littering. Repeat the act and you could face a fine of up to \$2,000 and up to 180 days in jail.

Each year 140 million cigarette butts are tossed out on Texas highways, and cigarette butts are considered litter. The state spent over \$36 million last year to cleanup highway litter. Contractors pick up litter on 90 percent of state maintained highways and adopt-a-highway volunteers pick up the remaining 10 percent.

Every piece of litter counts.

gations and activities at Motley County ISD. Additionally, since MCISD is a part of the Reading First Grant, Mrs. Gillespie included a literature connection in her proposal.

The proposal was accepted by the LFA project coordinators and funded for \$1000. Mrs. Gillespie is very excited about the project and feels that it will enhance the science education of all elementary students. She is looking forward to incorporating the aspects of the grant in the spring of this school year and into the future.

If you lined up all the cigarette butts tossed on Texas highways each year, you would have a line of litter going from Beaumont to El Paso six times. It takes up to TEN YEARS for a cigarette butt to biodegrade.

Personal involvement has proven to be the best way to keep our Texas Highways clean. Acting responsibly will help to prevent deadly wildfires.

For more information contact Barbara Seal, Public Information Officer at 940-937-7145.

## Valentine fund-raiser to benefit Library annex building

February is the month of hearts and flowers and Valentines. This year, during February, the Motley County Library Board is sponsoring a "Buy a Valentine for the Library" fund raiser which will benefit the renovation of the Library Annex.

continued on page 2

## 2005 Newsmaking Headlines

continued from last week

April 21, 2005:

Early Voting now in progress for May Election

70-Mile Garage Sale set for

May 7

Operation Clean-Up Continues

April 28, 2005:

Motley County 4-H mem-

bers participated in Operation

Clean-up

Roaring Springs School Re-

union set for June 17-18

May 5, 2005:

Voters will decide outcome

of School Board, Matador City

council elections Saturday

MC Senior awarded scholar-

ship to Clarendon College ...

"Brittany Moore, a senior at Motley County ISD and the 18-year-old daughter of Kyle and Jeannie Moore of Matador, recently signed a basketball scholarship with Clarendon College."

MC Golfer headed to state ...

"Motley County High School

golfer, Chance Bingham, is headed to State Competition."

Cowboy Camp meeting to be held in Roaring Springs

May 12, 2005:

Increased enforcement of

safety belt laws start this month

Motley County residents

meet for National Day of Prayer

Highway 70 Garage Sale held Saturday

May 19, 2005:

American Legion plans Mem-

orial Day celebration

Fiamond Bluegrass Festival held

May 26, 2005:

MC Graduates to receive

diplomas

City of Matador awarded

grant ... "The City of Matador

will receive a \$250,000 grant,

with a matching fund of \$12,500

from the Texas Community De-

velopment Fund. The grant will

be used to improve the City's

water system."

June 2, 2005:

Fourth Scheduled Clean-Up

Day set for Saturday

Memorial Day Service held in Roaring Springs

Record number of rabies cases reported in Texas

Drenching rains fell in Matador and the area dropping 2-3 inches around the county.

June 9, 2005:

Motley County farmers planting crops after May storms and rain

School Board meets in Called Meeting ... "School Board voted to employ Dr. Tom Alvis as the interim superintendent for Motley County ISD."

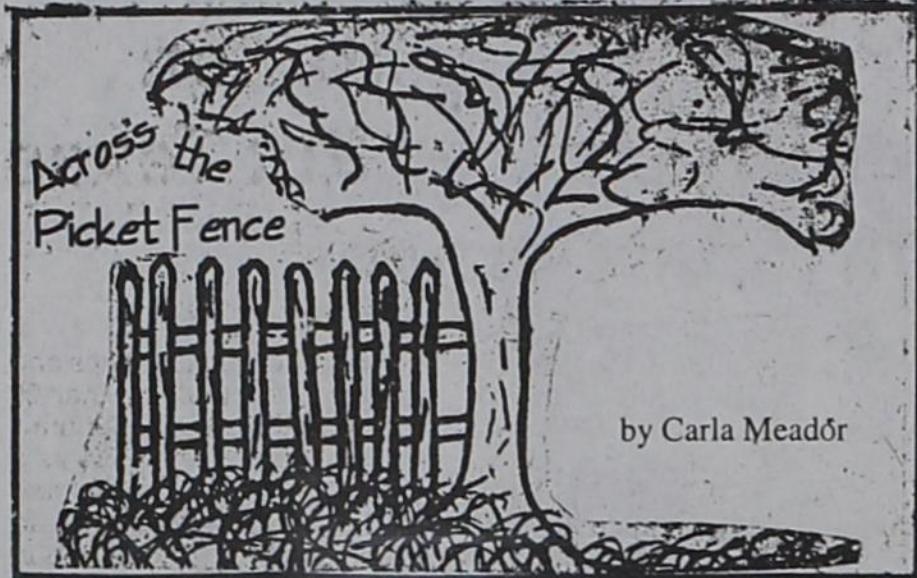
Summer Softball season in full swing.

Roaring Springs exes to meet for School Reunion

Motley woman to cele-

brate 100th birthday ... "Saturday, June 19, will mark a very important day in the life of a longtime Matador resident.

continued on page 3



by Carla Meador

Being the wife and mother of law enforcement officers, I can attest to each and every one of the following listed below. Usually when someone does something wrong, or someone's child breaks the law, it somehow becomes the fault of the Sheriff. I will tell you that law enforcement officials take a lot of gripes and very little thanks. They work long, long hours, with little pay and little appreciation.

Some of you may read this and think I'm just on a soapbox, but I truly hope most who read this will realize and appreciate the things cops "take."

**A COP ON THE TAKE!**

First he takes .... the oath. Now look at what else he takes:

He takes ... it in stride when people call him pig.

He takes ... his lousy pay check realizing he'll never be rich.

He takes ... a second job sometimes to make ends meet and support his family.

He takes ... time to stop and talk to children.

He takes ... your verbal abuse while giving you a ticket you really deserved.

He takes ... on creeps you would be afraid to even look at.

He takes ... time away from his family to keep you safe.

He takes ... your injured child to the hospital.

He takes ... the graveyard shift without complaint because it's his turn.

He takes ... his life into his hands daily.

**Library Valentines**

from page 1

We hope everyone will take part in this event by purchasing a Valentine at the library. This Valentine will have your name on it and will be displayed on a large red heart in the library window. We will gratefully accept any donation from pennies to dollars.

Beginning February 1, we invite you to come to the Library and help us with our building project by purchasing a Valentine for the Library. Have you ever bought a Valentine for a building? Well, now's your chance to show your appreciation and support for the Motley County Library.

**Self's Corner**

304 MAIN ST., - TURKEY, TEXAS

**BUY - SELL - OR TRADE  
WESTERN TACK**806-423-1085 - Store  
806-423-1402 - Home

ANTIQUES &amp; GIFTS

**Calico Treasures**

**Antiques & Collectibles  
Gifts, Fabrics  
& Custom Framing**

**NEW YEAR - NEW ARRIVALS**

806-347-2003 ~ 1103 MAIN ST. MATADOR

**Accepting the Promise**

While He was on this earth our Lord made us several promises and one of them was: "I have come that you may have life and have it more abundantly. (John 10:10). There is a promise, Yes, we are alive but we are living the abundant life? Remember, it is promised to us. To help answer the question here are some suggestions that might help.

1. Let's begin by putting the Beatitudes to work in our lives. In Matthew 5:1-12 we find successful living principles for all ages.

2. From God's Word learn about our Saviour and His will for our lives.

3. We have been created for a purpose. Our purpose is revealed to us in the Bible.

4. Let's admit that this life has its burdens. Job 14:1 tells us of shortage of days and filled with troubles.

5. Acknowledge that God is faithful when He has promised that "all things work together for the good of them who love the Lord." Romans 8:28.

6. Why not just accept what Jesus promised? The abundant life in John 10:10.

There are many promises in the Bible. We have touched only one of them. Let's develop an attitude based on the promise and live for Jesus.

**ROARING SPRINGS  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

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

**Library Notes**

by Suzanne Abbott, Librarian



Upcoming events at the Library:

1. Thursday, February 2, 4:00 p.m., Friends of the Library meeting.

2. Month of February — Buy a Valentine for the Library — Fund Raiser for renovating the new building.

3. Bulb Exchange, Library Annex, Saturday, February 11, 10:00 a.m., Eric Lewis, County Agent, speaking about planting bulbs.

4. March (date to be announced) The Motley County Library's "Hug of Bears."

We appreciate the memorial donation received last week. We thank Rosemary Bloodworth Anderson for her donation in memory of Lola Pohl.

We thank all those who came to the book discussion Tuesday night. We especially thank our two presenters, Marisue Powell and PK Green.

We also thank those ladies who have volunteered to keep the library open on Monday's during January. They are June Moss, Marihelen Wason, PK Green, Ruby McGuire and Georgia Witcher.

New books in the library include *Every Breath You Take* by Judith McNaught, *The Cat Who Dropped a Bombshell* by Lillian Braun, *Death Dance* by Linda Fairstein, *Hostage* by W.E.B. Griffin, *Just Rewards* by Barbara Taylor Bradford and *Nothing but Trouble* by Michael McGarrity.

**Arts & Crafts news**

By Winifred Darsay

The Motley County Arts and Crafts Club inaugurated the New Year with an outstanding program on painting wooden panels. It was paramount in design.

Nova Dale Turner was the instructor for the class and taught the members the fine art of using acrylic paint on wood. It was a delightful lesson; the subject was two attractive squirrels on an aged tree trunk with flowers, shrubs and trees in the background. The results were pleasing and fun to paint.

The club welcomed a new member, Jane King, who recently moved to Matador from the King Ranch in the northern part of the County.

The club dined at the noon

hour with the Senior Citizens and enjoyed the good food.

Club president conducted a brief business meeting at 10:00 a.m. Usual business was attended and work began shortly afterwards.

Members present were Joy Archer, Dorothy Knight, Vee Gordon, Linda Ruhl, Linda Aumiller, Lorene Lancaster, Jane King and Winifred Darsay.

Jo Trammell, assisted by Joyce Meredith, will teach a watercolor class for the February 6th meeting.

Supplies for watercolor will be needed including brushes, palette, stylers, transfer paper, paper towels, can, etc. See you there!

**Local Red Hat club enjoys recent meeting**

by Joan Patton

Last Thursday at 2:00 p.m. the "Red Hatters" met at the library. Seven were in attendance, Joyce Campbell, Suzanne Abbott, Dorothy Knight, Marihelen Wason, Evelyn Garrison and Norma Marrs. Work was done on the scrap book and cards were sent

out to sick members.

"A Valentine party is being planned for the residents of the Floydada Nursing Home for Feb. 14. Come and take part in this activity, your participation is welcome.

This is a fun group and the next meeting will be February 16 at the Library.

**"Now this is what the Lord Almighty says:  
'Give careful thought to your ways.'**

Haggai 1:5



Carla Christian &amp; Dallas Oldham

**Engagement Announced**

Carla Jean Christian of McKinney and Dallas Clinton Oldham of Houston are happy to announce their engagement and approaching marriage. Carla is the daughter of Barbara Christian and the late Ronnie Christian of Sanger, formerly of Matador. Dallas is the son of Rita Oldham and the late Harold Oldham of Hamilton. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Motley County High School and Texas Tech University. She is an executive with Target Corporation. The prospective groom is a graduate of San Marcos High School, Texas Tech University and the University of Texas. He is a tax consultant with Ernst & Young. The couple will marry March 18 at the Little Chapel-in-the-Woods on the campus of Texas Women's University in Denton. Following a wedding trip to St. Thomas, they will make their home in Dallas.

**Bulb exchange at the Library will give gardeners a chance for new flowers**

The Friends of the Motley County Library is hosting a bulb exchange on Saturday, February 11 at 10:00 a.m. in the Library Annex (if it's cold, in the Library). Eric Lewis, our County Agent, will speak about the different kinds of bulbs, how to plant them and what kind of soil is needed. After the program, we will have a bulb exchange. If you have bulbs that you would like to trade for a different kind, this event is for you. If you didn't save any bulbs to exchange, you are invited to at-

tend because there is sure to be an excess of bulbs and you can go home with some potential beautiful flowers for your yard.

There is no charge for this event. There will be coffee and tea and maybe some cookies. You will have the opportunity to check out some of the library's books on how to raise flowering plants from bulbs and to ask Mr. Lewis questions. Also, we will have some hand-outs about planting bulbs. We hope to see everyone on February 11, 10:00 a.m., at the Library Annex.

**First Baptist Church will host Ladies' Luncheon**

All women of the area are reminded to bring their friends to the upcoming Ladies' Salad Luncheon to be held at First Baptist Church, Matador, on Saturday, February 4, at 12:00 noon.

Special guests Virginia Taylor of South Plains will share a slide presentation on wildflowers of Texas. Women who attended last year's luncheon will remember her dramatic inter-

pretation of the life of Mary Magdalene.

The meal, hosted by Women on Mission of the church's WMU, will be a salad luncheon.

Guests who would like to bring a salad are encouraged to do so,

but this is not required. Also,

women attending as a group are asked to bring one salad for every two or three women in the group.

For more information, all Doris Moore (347-2875)

**Shop at HOME First!****Valentine Brag Pages**

To be printed in the February 9th issue

**Show off your Special Valentine**

Or Write a Special Poem, Letter, etc.

Mail your picture and details (Name, age, etc.)  
to the Motley County Tribune

P.O. Box 490, Matador, TX 79244

Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you

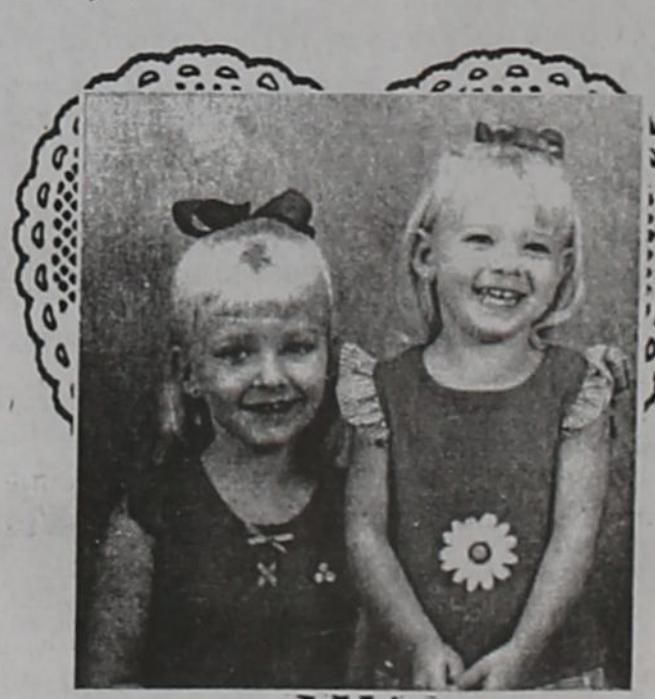
would like to have your picture returned

Email to motleytribune@yahoo.com  
or Bring by the Tribune office

Deadline is Friday, Feb. 3

Only \$12.00 for Single Heart or \$20.00 for Double Heart

For more information call 347-2400



Natalie &amp; Emily Jameson

Natalie, 6, and Emily, 3, are the daughters of Jeremy and Darika Jameson of Matador; Granddaughters of Cindy Carthel, Darrell & Linda Dudley, Franklin & Susan Jameson; Great-granddaughters of Dorothy Carthel, Marge Payne, and Dorothy Nichols.

Valentine's Day, February 14th

## Electric Cooperative offers scholarships

Lubbock -- Scholarship deadlines are drawing near and South Plains Electric Cooperative, your local Touchstone Energy cooperative, doesn't want anyone to miss an opportunity.

The Operation Round Up Board of Directors approved awarding a minimum of 20 scholarships at \$1,000 each for the 2006-2007 school year, payable \$500 for each of two semesters. This scholarship is for entering freshmen who are seeking a college, university or technical school education. You are eligible if you are currently a senior in high school or enrolling

in college for the first time, and are a member, spouse of a member, child or stepchild of a member or child whose legal guardian is a member of the Cooperative and a participant in Operation Round Up. Students must possess the qualities of honor, integrity, thrift, good moral character and a sincere desire to achieve their educational goals. The Selection Committee evaluates each student on grades, community and school activities, awards and honors, educational goals and financial need. Deadline for applications is March 1, 2006.

Two other scholarships are also available to children of electric cooperative members. The Golden Spread Electric Cooperative Directors Memorial Scholarship and the Texas Rural Electric Women's Association Scholarship give students two additional scholarship opportunities, just because their families are members of an electric cooperative. It's just another way South Plains Electric Cooperative looks out for its members.

All scholarship applications can be downloaded in PDF format at [www.SPEC.coop](http://www.SPEC.coop). They

are also available by calling Cheryl Wampler at (806) 775-7856 or email at [cwampler@SPEC.coop](mailto:cwampler@SPEC.coop).

South Plains Electric Cooperative serves about 45,000 connected meters in Childress, Cottle, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Foard, Garza, Hale, Hall, Hardeman, Hockley, Kent, King, Lubbock, Lamb, Lynn, Motley and Stonewall counties. When you see Touchstone Energy, you know this is a locally owned, community-minded, electric cooperative providing high standards of service for customers large and small.

## Vehicle Registration campaign to "Put Texas In Your Corner"

Austin -- "Put Texas In Your Corner" is the theme of a new public awareness campaign sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation and county tax assessor-collectors throughout the state to encourage Texans to register their vehicles on time.

Owners' Texans' failure to register approximately 720,000 vehicles each year as required costs the state at least \$43.2 million annually. The two-year media campaign will remind Texans and newcomers to "check the date, love your state" through television and radio announcements, outdoor signs, posters, brochures, and bumper stickers. The campaign will be promoted at truck and auto shows, sports and community events.

"The objective of the campaign is to connect the sense of pride each Texan has in our state with the responsibility to comply with the registration laws which contribute to a safe transportation system," said Ric Williamson, chairman of the Texas Transportation Commission.

Statewide focus groups and surveys reveal that less than 20 percent of Texas residents know registration fees are used as a funding source for building and maintaining state roads and highways. When participants in the research were informed that annual registration fees resulted in better roads, support for keeping registration current increased.

"Transportation projects serving all Texans rely in part on vehicle registration fees," said Rebecca Davio, Director of TxDOT's Vehicle Titles and Registration Division.

TxDOT believes the campaign message to "Put Texas in Your Corner" is positive, while indicating the importance of a valid registration sticker in the corner of your vehicle windshield, or in the corner of your motorcycle or trailer license plate.

"Putting Texas In Your Corner" speaks to pride in Texas and your community," Davio said. "TxDOT and the tax assessor-collector offices are here to assist all vehicle owners with easy and efficient registration."

## 2005 headlines in review

continued from page 1

Mrs. Iris Blevins will celebrate her 100th birthday with a party to be held at the Matador Church of Christ."

State and Local sales tax revenues rise June 23, 2005.

New Superintendent hired ... "School board voted to hire Randy Brown on a two-year contract."

Over 500 attend Roaring Springs School Reunion ... "Over 500 Roaring Springs ex-students, teachers and friends gathered Saturday, June 18, at the Community Center to celebrate homecoming." June 30, 2005.

Bob's Oil Well exterior work shines ... "The newly finished exterior and brilliant white paint of Bob's Oil Well now shines just as brightly as the lights on the historic derrick."

Lawnmower Race, Pull will bring new excitement to July 4th Celebration in Roaring Springs July 14, 2005:

Area Crops in stress from Summer heat

Friends of Mike Porter to hold benefit at Spur

Sen. Duncan named to best list by Texas Monthly magazine

New law stiffens penalty for providing booze to kids July 21, 2005:

Week-long Kids' Camp will kick off Monday

Three accidents in 4-day span on Motley County highways

Conrad Day of Matador wins Pre-Kid All Around Boy at Jr. Rodeo July 28, 2005:

Bankers, LaEsperanza lawsuit settled ... "A lawsuit filed by Bankers Petroleum against its partner, LaEsperanza and Nancy Lois Shockey, earlier this month in the 110th District Court, Floyd County, has been settled."

Motley County Library awarded Grant ... "The Tocker Foundation joins with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Texas A&M Press to benefit the Motley County Library."

August 4, 2005:

Kids' Camp kids celebrate last day of Camp with fun day

Low July rain totals leave Motley County needing moisture

Kittie Campbell awarded 2005 Koch Scholarship

Thornberry says high fuel prices will not change immediately

August 11, 2005:

Apollo Energy meets with Commissioners; 6 miles of pipeline possibility for Motley County ... "Dwayne Sneed, representing Apollo Energy Operating Co. met with Motley County Commissioners Monday, August 8, to inform them of

the company's tentative plans to install a pipeline in Motley County. Mr. Sneed said the plan is to tie into an existing line north of Floydada. He said there would be an estimated six miles of pipeline in Motley County."

Motley County School back in session

Senate continues school finance battle August 18, 2005:

School's back in session; New superintendent impressed with MCISD

Four candidates vying for Rodeo Queen crown August 25, 2005:

82nd Annual Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion LaEsperanza Oil & Gas, LLC moves forward in its major lease acquisition September 1, 2005:

Kyla Simpson crowned 2005 Rodeo Queen

Russell Alexander didn't 'Beat Peat' during Turtle Race

Budget approved at school board meeting September 8, 2005:

Gas conservation urged

Motley County Salvation Army accepting donations for Hurricane victims

Lighthouse Electric Co-op sends help to Louisiana September 15, 2005:

September sales tax payments distributed to local governments

AEP sends employees to Louisiana

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

September 22, 2005:

County Fair only a few weeks away

Nominations for Man, Woman, Business of the Year accepted until October 3

Senate passes Pledge of Allegiance resolution ... "A day after a federal judge ruled that children in public schools may not recite the Pledge of Allegiance, the United States Senate unanimously passed a resolution expressing their support for the Pledge and disapproval of the court's decision in Newdow, et al. vs. The Congress of the United States of America, et al. U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas), an original co-sponsor of the resolution is "not the final word on this issue which will no doubt be back in front of the Supreme Court."

September 29, 2005:

Report says Motley County ISD in good financial shape

Local DPS Trooper, Game Warden on patrol in hurricane stricken area

43rd Annual Northfield Homecoming Celebration to be held Saturday October 6, 2005:

Motley County qualifies for 2006 SIA tax credit

Motley County accident sends two Amarillo residents to hospital

Mother Nature good to Motley County in September October 13, 2005:

Oil Companies meet with County Commissioners ... "Russell Henzler, representing Bankers Petroleum (US) Inc. met with Motley County Commissioners, Monday, October 10, to present Bankers' interest in laying pipeline in Motley County."

Dwayne Sneed, representing Apollo Energy also met with the Court for the second time to request approval to lay pipeline in Motley County."

RCHA Cutting to be held at Matador Ranch; local cowboys will compete for chance to advance to Nationals

Texas Marriage Proposition on November 8 ballot October 20, 2005:

Afternoon dedication of Bob's Oil Well will begin sentimental journey at annual Chamber Banquet

American Legion Fall Convention dedicated to Jerry Green October 27, 2005:

Special Awards presented at Annual Motley County Chamber Banquet ... "Carolyn Ewing was recognized as Woman of the Year; Tommie Keith received a plaque for the Extra Mile Award; Ken Abbott was named Man of the Year; Frances Taylor and Tina Brooks also received Extra Mile Awards."

Bob's Oil Well Dedicated Chicago Brown crowned 2005 Homecoming Queen November 3, 2005:

Vera Mitchell, longtime Roaring Springs resident, celebrates 102nd birthday

Charles Gwinn brings in first bale of cotton ginned at the Red Ball Gin in Roaring Springs

Two Motley County Seniors nominated for High School Heisman award November 10, 2005:

Motador Mayor submits resignation ... "Motador Mayor Paul Westbrook submitted his resignation as Mayor and member of the 4B tax board at a called meeting, Saturday, November 5."

Veterans will be honored at school

Motley County voters say yes to Proposition 2 (Marriage amendment) November 17, 2005:

Community Thanksgiving Services to be held in Roaring Springs and Matador

Michael Crowley recognized during Pentagon Ceremony November 24, 2005:

Motador residents meet with City Council to express concerns over Mayor's resignation ... "Several Motador residents met with City Council members at their regular meet-

ing, Thursday, November 10, to express concerns regarding the resignation of Mayor Paul Westbrook

DPS urges Thanksgiving travelers to slow down, buckle up and drive sober December 1, 2005:

Santa Claus is coming to town

Mayor's resignation tabled until December meeting

Local student selected to Wrangler High School All-Star Rodeo Team

Higginbotham Bartlett in Matador closes doors December 8, 2005:

Bob's Oil Well will receive new crown ... "Ron Bailey received word from Laura Greenwood of the Conoco Phillips Company that a new Conoco sign is being made for the Bob's Oil Well Derrick."

Motley County rolls to record cotton crop

U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry seeks re-election for 13th District

December 15, 2005:

Councilman submits resignation, Mayor's position now vacant

Motley County ISD Board of Trustees approve WADA Contract

Candidates begin filing for March primaries December 22, 2005:

Merry Christmas!

Big sweepstakes win brings early Christmas for Northfield family

Groundbreaking ceremonies held for Hackberry Creek Care Center

Motley County students score higher on average across the state

For quality and selections, shop right here at home...

## GRAHAM SUPPLY

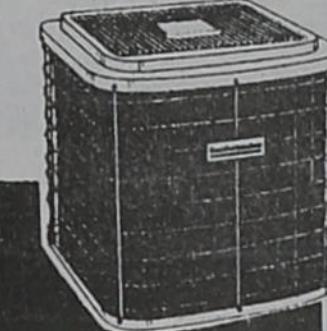
Your Hometown Headquarters for Furniture, Appliances, Gift Items, Artwork, Dishes, Flooring, Gardening & Fencing Supplies, Tools, Hunting Supplies, and much more!

Downtown Roaring Springs

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Psalm 33:1

## Dr. Henry Endorses Francis for District Judge

Dr. Jack Henry graduated high school in Floydada, Texas. Dr. Henry was the team doctor for the San Antonio Spurs. He has served on the faculty of Texas Tech University and currently takes care of the Red Raider Football Team and other athletes. Dr. Henry has helped many of our local injured youngsters, our elderly and everyone in between.

In support of Tempie for District Judge, Dr. Henry sent the following:

"Please accept this as my letter of recommendation for Tempie Francis in the upcoming election.

I know Tempie and her family who are good friends of mine. They are hard-working people with Christian Ethics and a West Texas background. In fact, Vann Francis played on a State Championship team in high school.

Tempie understands the problems inherent to our area. She is honest, hardworking, and pays close attention to fine detail. Tempie has an excellent educational background which has allowed her to be an asset as a local attorney.

I know Tempie very well. I would highly recommend her as your choice for District Judge of the 110th Judicial District.

Tempie T. Francis would do a good job for the Citizens and it would be a personal complement to me if you would choose to vote for her.

Respectively,  
Jack Henry, M.D.

Pd. Pol. Adv. by the Friends and Supporters of Tempie Francis for District Judge, P.O. Box 128, Floydada, TX 79235  
Mitch Probasco, Treasurer

## Motley County Chamber News & Views

Consider:

John Lennon's guitar, that he had when he met Paul McCartney, had a plaque from his Aunt Minnie that read: "Remember, you'll never earn your living by it."

\*\*\*\*\*

Need money?

A money-making opportunity is coming to town, so if you want some, you better start getting your act together.

The Boondockers are coming to Matador, and will be here on the weekend of March 4th and 5th. The main event will be a motorcycle race on Sunday, the 5th, after Church, on a 4 to 6 mile route that will begin at the Fire Hall and be laid out on Saturday, March 4th. People will begin arriving on the 4th.

This event will bring ever so many visitors to our county, families looking for a weekend of fun and entertainment. When

Spur hosted the group, they had 150 motorcycle riders, with families, in the town. Quitoque has also had a Boondocker race.

This is a wonderful chance for clubs, organizations and individuals to join in the fun, and earn some money at the same time. Anyone with a basket of breakfast burritos wandering around Matador on Sunday morning will not get very far with those burritos, as they will be bought up in a flash. Cold drinks will be needed. What about offering Krispy Kream doughnuts and coffee for sale, to help out with group project funding? Or a raffle? What about mementos from Motley County - some craft workers could make lots of things and set up a stand to offer them for sale. There are some real expert homemade ice cream makers around - maybe they could raise funds for their other activities.

Given the opportunity this one-day event provides, it is to be hoped that local restaurants and maybe some of the shops will open up to give the visitors the chance for some dining or shopping, so that they can have fun and we can profit.

Groups wanting to take advantage of this opportunity are asked to send a representative to the Chamber of Commerce meeting on Tuesday, February 7, at 5:30 p.m., in the Library, so all the plans can be coordinated. It would be a pity if everyone showed up selling breakfast burritos and no one had any hot or cold drinks. Individuals wanting to do something on their own initiative should also attend, just so everything can be planned to go smoothly.

Let's get to work to provide these visitors with a good time, so they will come back each year.

## Proof of the Truth

by Tom Edwards

### BRIGHTENING UP!

After three dismal pieces on the nation's future and its "dumbing down," let's brighten it up. As a finish to those articles, let's not forget that God is still in charge, and the longer He delays the end the more souls there will be in Heaven and upon the "new earth." That's a good thing. It's His timing.

To you Californians who've tuned into this column, many thanks for your kind comments and letters. They've been much appreciated.

To you late-arriving Oregonians (is the legislature really reading this stuff?), a short refresher may be in order. This Column is devoted to Christian Apologetics and related matters. As a group, there are probably no more "dumbed down" folks than the average unthinking Christian who knows nei-

ther what he believes nor why, thus divorcing faith from reason, when in fact, Christianity is the only completely logical and reasonable Faith on the planet. Apologetics seeks to remedy this. The study is not an option. Indeed, we are commanded to know apologetics (I Peter 3:15)

An "Apologetic" is NOT an apology in the sense of "I'm sorry" to anybody for anything! The term comes from the Greek word "apologia," as used in I Peter 3:15, which translates as "answer," "reasoned answer," or "defense," in English. An "apologetic" then, is the defense, vindication, or proof of the truth of a matter. Christian apologetics is just that - the defense vindication, and proof of the truth of the core essentials of the Christian Faith. It is not only faith strengthening and preserving, but also a powerful evangelical tool, as Peter recog-

nizes, and besides, it's a whole lot of fun - dive in. The world has good questions and (surprise) we've got good answers, if we'll just learn them. The practice is literally as old as Creation. It was used by God (Isa. 1:18; Job 38).

That said, we're going to shift gears in the next few months and consider the age of the earth and universe. How many of you believe or were taught that the earth and universe are billions of years old? Would you be surprised to learn that most scientific evidence today, indicates that's not true!

This isn't essential Christian doctrine; it's just plain interesting. An old English cleric, calculated creation to have occurred in 4004 B.C., making the earth a little over 6000 years old. Guess what? He may have been right! We'll see.



Kathy Groves received a Citation type rating (CE-500) on January 5, 2006. She holds a commercial pilot airman certificate with multi-engine and instrument ratings. A pilot and member of the Santa Clara Valley 99s since 1971, Kathy has logged more than 2300 hours including 700 hours of jet time. She and her husband, Pat, provide flight crews, usually themselves, to a select group of jet owners in Silicon Valley. Their Palo Alto based Diamond Star is also flown by their daughters, Kelly and Courtney. Pat and Kathy visit Motley County every two months to look after their land and visit his mother, Rita Groves in Roaring Springs. They enjoy resting at the local Traveler's Inn.



## SUPPORT THE MATADORS!

### Message from Chairman, Adrain Helms

I'm an Aggie supporting a Red Raider.

WHY?

1. Tempie Francis is a Christian.
  2. Tempie is a local attorney and has a record we can support
  3. Tempie has a record of protecting children.
- You can elect the person you KNOW
  - You can CHOOSE our next District Judge.
  - You CAN make a difference.



There will be a different Judge.  
But different doesn't have to be "new".

You know Tempie and like her because she's an old friend to everyone and someone we can trust. Tempie will follow the law and there's no fear in having a judge we can predict. That's all you can ask a judge to do. Let's stick with what we know and

Elect

Tempie T. Francis

for Judge  
Republican Primary

Please join us in electing Tempie Francis for District Judge. You can go to the Courthouse in your county beginning February 21st and ask for a ballot with Tempie's name even if you have always voted in the Democrat Primary. Primary Election is March 7th.

Pd. Pol. Adv. by the Friends and Supporters of Tempie Francis for District Judge,  
PO. Box 128, Floydada, TX 79235, Mitch Probasco, Treasurer

## Thornberry previews 2006 Congressional agenda

In a news conference held Friday, January 20, in Amarillo, Congressman Mac Thornberry (TX-13) outlined several significant issues to be considered in Congress this year.

### Prevent Tax Hike

Thornberry said experience shows that Congress's efforts in recent years to stimulate the economy by reducing the tax burden on the American people have paid off. More than 4.5 million new jobs have been created since May of 2003 when the President signed the tax legislation known as the "Jobs & Growth Act." The number of Americans who own homes is at an all-time high, manufacturing activity has increased for 31 consecutive months, and real after-tax income per person has climbed by 7 percent since 2001.

"The best thing Congress can do for the economy is to allow people to keep more of the money they earn so they can spend it on their families' needs instead of sending it off to the government," Thornberry said. "It is also important to give people some certainty and stability so they can plan."

Unless action is taken by Congress this year:

- Many middle income Americans will face a tax increase through the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). Failure to extend the higher AMT exemptions will affect 19 million taxpayers in 2006.

- Texas residents will lose the right to deduct state and local sales taxes from their federal income taxes.

- "Above the line" deductions for higher education expenses and out-of-pocket teacher classroom expenses will not be allowed. (Above the line deductions can be claimed without having to itemize deductions.)

- Marginal oil and gas well producers will lose full benefit of "percentage depletion deductions."

- Lower income workers contributing to retirement accounts will not be allowed the "saver's tax credit."

- Taxes on capital gains and dividends will increase.

Thornberry is also hopeful that this year Congress will address the need for a major overhaul of the federal tax system to make it simpler and fairer.

### Energy

Last year, Congress passed a major energy bill that promotes greater domestic development of many forms of energy including oil and gas, ethanol, wind, and nuclear. But, Congressman Thornberry says even more must be done to make our country less reliant on foreign energy. He supports allowing oil and gas production in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), encouraging construction of new refineries in the U.S. through regulatory relief and other measures, and funding research into new forms of energy and into more efficient use of existing energy sources.

### Border Security and Immigration

Much work is needed this year on two issues Thornberry believes are directly related - border security and immigration.

The House began to address the issue of strengthening border security by passing a bill to hire additional border agents,

improve technology and physical barriers along the border, and end the "catch and release" program by requiring all illegal immigrants apprehended at U.S. borders to be detained until their removal from the country.

"The safety of our nation is dependent upon us doing a better job of controlling who or what crosses our borders," Thornberry said.

As for immigration policy, Thornberry believes a guest worker program should be considered, but he is opposed to granting illegal aliens amnesty.

"It may be true that Congress reflects the country good and bad but there should be a higher standard for those entrusted to represent the American people," said Thornberry.

### Committee Assignments

Thornberry said he looks forward to continuing work in his committee assignments.

He is a member of the House Armed Services Committee, which oversees all matters related to the nation's defense including the defense budget, military operations, personnel training and weapons procurement. Thornberry also serves on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, where he chairs the Subcommittee on Oversight.

Thornberry is also serving on the Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina, which is expected to issue a report on its findings in February.

### Global War on Terror

"Because Iraq is the central front in the war on terror, success there is critical to our national security," said Thornberry. "Our folks have done an incredible job, and we must give them all the support they need."

"Amazing progress has been made over the past year in getting Iraq back up on its feet. 2006 will be a critical year as the

first permanent elected government takes office and we turn more security responsibilities over to them," Thornberry added.

The 13th Congressional District plays a significant role in our nation's defense through the presence of facilities such as Sheppard Air Force Base, Bell Helicopter, and the Pantex plant.

Thornberry believes Sheppard has a solid foundation for future growth because of the base's excellent facilities and strong community support.

"I will continue working with the Air Force and our community leaders to ensure that Sheppard remains a strong, vibrant contributor to our country's security," said Thornberry.

Thornberry is also committed to making sure that essential programs at Bell Helicopter and Pantex stay on track. Bell Helicopter is home to production of the V-22 Osprey, upgrading of the H-1 helicopter, and also plays a key role in building the new Presidential helicopter. Pantex is the only facility for assembly and disassembly within our nation's nuclear weapons complex.

### Lobby Reform

As recent news has made abundantly clear, there is an urgent need for lobby reform in Washington.

The effort to develop reform measures is already underway in the House. Action is expected soon after lawmakers return to Capitol Hill.

"We should look for common sense reforms that make it less likely someone will abuse the system," Thornberry said.

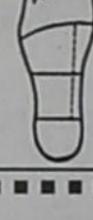
Among items expected to be considered are:

- A ban on privately funded travel.
- Further restrictions on lobbying by former members and staff.

- A ban on former members, convicted of a felony from receiving a Congressional pension.

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## Joining in Support of Tempie Francis

We are so proud of our "Friends and Supporters" and encourage anyone to send their thoughts. Here are a few endorsements we recently received.

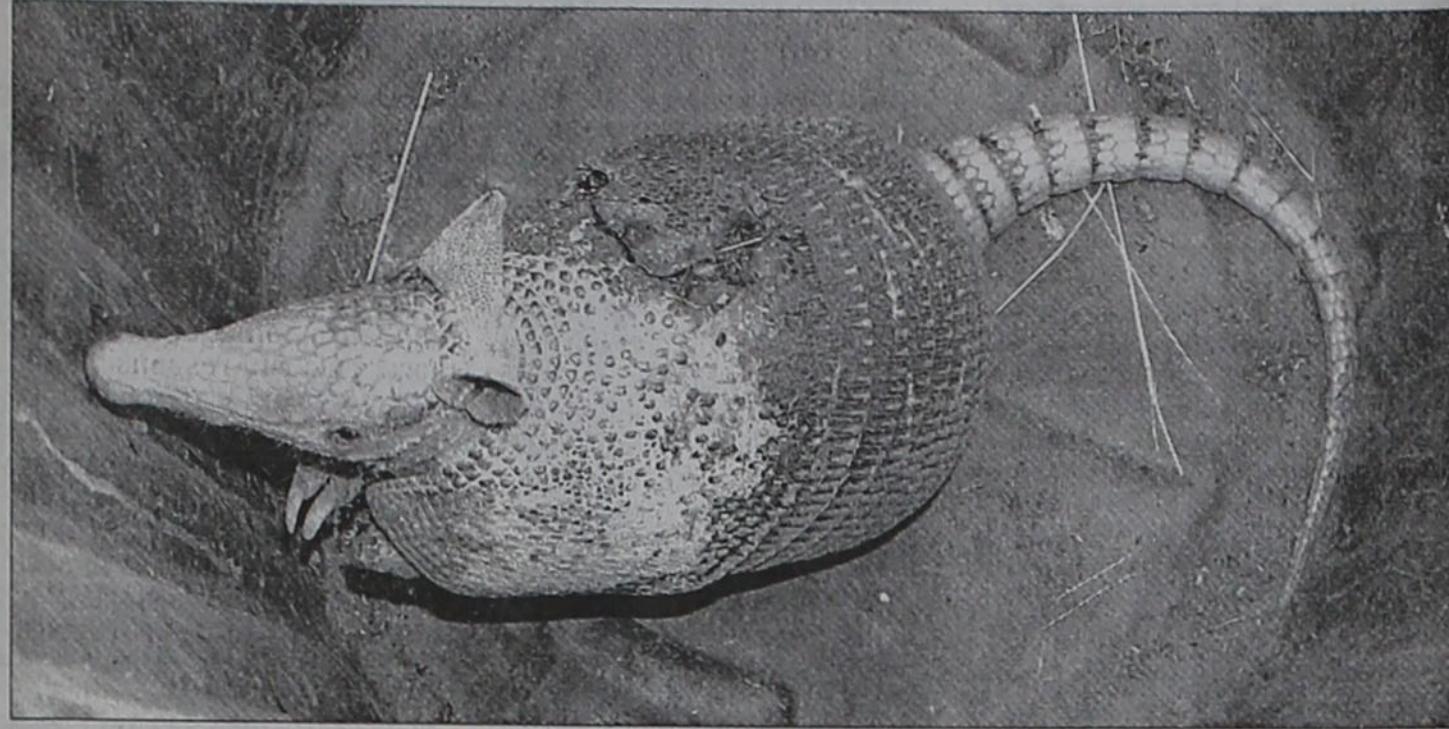
"I have known Tempie Francis for several years and she has always displayed a good attitude and is a very resilient person. I have seen her demonstrate great spirit. In every situation in which I have encountered her, Tempie has always conducted herself as a Christian." Michael G. Crowley, Sr., Minister, Matador Church of Christ.

"I endorse Tempie T. Francis for District Judge. She is a community leader. Tempie has always made herself available to all of our children and families. I personally know that there are times when Tempie has worked all day and then stayed up half the night working because a child needed her legal help. Tempie is an attorney you can count on to give accurate legal advice and would be a judge who would follow the law. We can trust Tempie to always look at what would be in the best interest of the children. Please join me in electing Tempie Francis for District Judge." Gayle Ream, P.A., Motley County Clinic

"I am a retired Minister of the United Methodist Church, a true believer in Jesus Christ. I attest to have known Tempie since she was just a child and verify she is a very good person, and a Christian. I also believe she would be a fair and honest judge." Rev. Dale G. Cotton

"What is important from a school administrator's standpoint is protecting school kids from abuse. Tempie Francis is very honest, fair minded and she's not afraid to make the tough decisions when it gets down to the nitty gritty." Don Bridges, Educator and Mediator

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Mitch Probasco, Treasurer



This armadillo was captured in the front yard of Tony and Sherry Rose. A previous injury visible on the creature's back displays the fact that the animal's outer covering is not hard. There have been many reports of armadillos in Motley County recently. This was a lucky lizard, as the Roses took it to the country and released it.

## Matador VFD Actions & Happenings

by James Gillespie

by James Gillespie

January 9th marked the first meeting of 2006 for the Matador VFD and as prescribed in the by laws of the department election of officers for the coming year were held. Election of each office was hotly contested and much oratory was provided by members seeking the office. In the end a slate of officers was elected to serve the community for the year 2006. Officers were elected as follows:

Craig Turner, President; Les Woolsey, Vice President; Fire Chief, Rodney Williams; 1st Asst. Chief, Brent Marshall; 2nd Asst. Chief, Craig Turner; Secretary-Treasurer, James Gillespie; Asst. Secretary-Treasurer, Bobby Barton; Training Officer, Lee Jones; Tail Twister, Steve Barton; Asst. Tail Twister, Bert Darsey; Reporter, James Gillespie; Fire Marshal, Lee Jones; and Asst. Fire Marshal, Brian Marshall.

### FIRE CALLS

On Thursday, January 9th the department received a report from a local citizen that a fire was in progress west of Matador. The original report

was four miles west. As it turns out the fire had started on the Ag Farm just west of the city limits. At the time of the call, the weather was extremely favorable for the fire to spread fast and large, as the winds were high and humidity was low. The home of Carolyn and Gary Lancaster was in the direct path of the fire. However, due to the close proximity of the fire to town and the fast response by the fire department the fire was soon contained and danger to the Lancaster home diminished.

Since the weather conditions were so unfavorable the department spent the next five hours "cooling off" all the hot spots and making sure the fire would not rekindle during the night or next day. Due to the location and the potential for spread of fire, the department called in the assistance of Motley County Commissioners Ronald Davis and Franklin Jameson sent expert motor grader drivers Richard Thomas and David Taylor to the scene.

Assistance was also received from the Texas Department of Transportation and local law enforcement and DPS.

## A Note to Motley County

by Sandra Moody

You may notice that I talk a lot about my family. I would like to expand a little on that. One of the wisest women I have ever known came to me disguised as a grandmother. Some of you might recognize her by the name of Violet Eva (Lee) McMahan, but to me she was known simply as "Nannie." She was one of the most beautiful women I have ever known, both physically and mentally. It has been several years since her passing, but I can still remember the immeasurable amount of love and knowledge she imparted to me. I can also remember the many life lessons she taught. I cannot begin to express the lasting impact that her levelheaded words, selfless actions and advice had on those around her.

Even though my grandmother has left this world, she continues to exist through her wit, deeds and counsel. The relationship between my grandmother and me was a special one. It was one of teaching. She taught me practical skills, family history and tradition that will go beyond time and continue from generation to generation. It is also of her giving love selflessly and from her heart. We spent countless evenings in our rocking chairs on the front porch, I passing on my vast amount of knowledge regarding present day pop culture, and she attempting to instill in me the significance of music, gardening, domesticity, thriftiness and family. I often use these same skills today.

In looking back on the home my grandmother created, I am aware of the beginnings of the love I have inherited. The tenderness and affection that she possessed, stems from her upbringing in the far reaches of Motley County where she called home. I only hope that I can pass this same love and knowledge on to the generation that is to follow.

## Leapin' Lizards, Armadillos are everywhere!

Once never seen in this part of Texas, Armadillos are making a big showing in Motley County. A few years ago the funny looking creatures were mostly seen in the eastern part of the state and usually as road kill. But, it seems the lizards are on the move and have migrated to this part of the state. Reports indicate that the big lizards are making themselves seen all over Motley County.

There are 20 species of armadillos, grouped in nine genera and distributed through America from Argentina to the southeastern corner of the United States.

The best-known is the nine-banded armadillo that ranges northwards from South America into Kansas and Missouri in the United States. It has been studied in detail because it is of economic importance, eating eggs, undermining buildings, and starting erosion on the one hand, but on the other it kills undesirable insects and snakes.

Although the armadillos seem to be declining, and everything points to this, one species is actively extending its range. This is the nine-banded armadillo. In 1880 it lived little farther north than the Lower Rio Grande Valley on the borders of the United States and Mexico. By 1905 it had moved into the western half of Texas as far as the Colorado River. Since then it has moved across to Kansas and Missouri. It has occasionally been found in New Mexico and Oklahoma but has not become firmly established.

Why this sudden burst of life should have occurred is not

known. There is little sign that the nine-banded armadillo is enjoying special freedom from enemies, abundance of food or a rapid rate of breeding. Rather the reverse is true. Usually a zoological group, like an individual, reaches a peak of development, then declines. There are, however, one or two examples from the fossil record suggesting that groups may take on a new lease of life.

Armadillos are really unique animals. Usually, they are not a problem for people, but occasionally they can be a major pest in suburban and agricultural areas. What is one to do to get the 'dillos to leave their gardens and lawns alone? In their voracious search for insects and grubs to eat, armadillos can dig up quite a bit of land in a night. This large edentate has very strong legs and claws for tearing apart termite mounds - they also come in handy when rooting around for food in a farmer's field!

So, what can be done about these marauding mammals? Unfortunately, not a whole lot. Capturing the armadillo is one option, and it has worked for some people. You can either net the critter if you see it, or you could try a live trap baited with earthworms. (Put the worms in a nylon stocking; this will let the smell out without letting the worms escape!) However, the best solution is not to relocate the bothersome animals. Armadillos are not strongly territorial, and the one you are removing today could be the one who was digging up someone else's yard the day before. They just kind of wander about looking for food, so action taken against one particular animal will just create an opening for another to wander on it.

Bluegrass music will be featured at Dickens Co. Sr. Citizens Jamboree

The North Dickens County Senior Citizens invite you out to the Little 'd' Jamboree on Saturday, January 28, for an evening of entertainment.

Buddy and Tina Wright will be the featured entertainers with their Bluegrass music.

If you would like to entertain at the upcoming Jamboree's please contact Vonda Brendle at 623-5520 for information.

The Dickens Sr. Citizens encourage you to come out and be a part of something good in a small town on Saturday night. Concession opens at 6:00 p.m., music begins at 7:00 p.m.

The best solution (and the most expensive) is a stout fence to keep the armadillos out. If you take this route, make sure the fence is extended a foot or more into the ground, or the 'dillos might just burrow under it. A less expensive method is to simply make the areas they dig in smell bad to the armadillo. Placing mothballs around the areas you most want to protect can keep pesky burrowers away; they have sensitive noses, and they don't like the smell at all. Pepper your whole lawn with them might be a bit drastic, but they might help you save your flower garden. If you have

Armadillos are used in leprosy research (Hansen's disease) because their body temperatures are low enough for them to contract the most virulent form of the disease. Some female armadillos being used for research have given birth to young long after they were captured - up to two years afterwards, in some cases. These "virgin births" are a result of the female's ability to delay implantation of the fertilized egg during times of stress. This reproductive tactic is one reason why the 'dillos are so good at colonizing new areas.

In Texas and Louisiana, wild armadillos are testing positive for Hansen's disease and may have transmitted the disease to people that touched them. Try not to touch any wild animals, and wash very well if you do.

## NOTE OF THANKS

To the best people we know,

Thank you to the ladies of the Matador churches. You were so kind to feed all the family and friends that attended Mom's funeral, Decima Green. We know we will never be able to get around to all of you, but we appreciate every bowl or plate of food brought. Matador has always been a town to help their own and we love and thank each and everyone. God bless all the ladies and the men that helped.

Jack Green  
Elwanda & Gordon Simmons  
Chris & Don Snodgrass  
Jim & Donna Green  
Tom & Julie Green  
and all the grandchildren

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## News around the County

### Roaring Springs News

By Lula Swim

J.T. and Imogene Swim visited Lula in Covenant Hospital on Wednesday, January 18. On Thursday, Lula was moved to Garrison House Rehab Center on 4th Street. The Swims visited Lula on Friday and again on Sunday.

#### WESLEYAN GUILD MEETS

The Wesleyan Guild met Wednesday, January 18 at 3:00 p.m. in the home of Billie Stuckey with eight members present. They were Pearl Patten, Callie Giesecke, Lee Peacock, Debbie Martin, Donald Letkeman, Chelsea Read, Jane King and the hostess Billie Stuckey.

Debbie Martin called the meeting to order and Pearl Patten gave the opening prayer. Callie Giesecke read the minutes which were approved as read.

There was no old business, and a summer project was discussed.

Chelsea gave the devotion, "Who Are You?" She also led the lesson from the booklet, "Who Are The People Called Methodist?" Since the lesson was on the topic, "The Role of Women," a video on the life of Suzanne Wesley was also shown.

Closing prayer was by Donald Letkeman.

### Matador News

Barbara and Jimmy West of Amarillo and Betty and Melton Rudder of Hereford visited Geraldine and Ellis Key Saturday afternoon after attending the funeral of Mrs. Decima Green. Visiting Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Key was grandson, Scott Fulton of Amarillo.

Mrs. Beatrice Smith was honored at the Methodist Church Sunday morning services for all the years she supported and was a member of the church. She is moving

to an assisting living residence in Amarillo. Attending the services with her were sons and wives, the Rev. and Mrs. Glendale Smith (he is Chaplain at Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo) and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Smith of Abilene.

Mrs. Mary Meason was moved from Crosbyton Hospital Saturday to Crosbyton Nursing Center. Her address is 222 North Farmer St., Crosbyton, Texas 79322.

Those attending were his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay of Flomot, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bailey of Lubbock and Freddie Edwards of Amarillo; Jan Matthews of Petersburg, Tammy and Wesley Stafford, Conner and Collin of Sweetwater, Mrs. Lori Kleibrink and Karlee of Clifton, Mrs. Tina Carson, Ryleigh, Walker and Parker of Turkey, Mrs. Geneva Martin of Flomot, Laney and Caden Edwards of his home and his friends.

#### ATTEND BIRTHDAY PARTY

Mrs. B. Rogers and son, Donnie Rogers were in Abilene, Friday to celebrate the second birthday of great grandson and great nephew, Jake Abernathy. The fun filled party was in the home of his parents, Jeff and Shawna Abernathy. His decorated cake had a large lion's head. The children attending went outside to camping tents wearing a lion's head and had their pictures taken. They pretended they were in an African jungle.

Other special guests attending were his grandparents, Donna Sue and Stanley Degan of Kalgary, cousins, Kyler and Kason Degan of Crosbyton, aunt and children, Mrs. Shay McDaniel, Seth and Luke of Lubbock.

Mr. and Mrs. Lance Barclay, Colton and Kayla of Lubbock and Mr. and Mrs. Ty Barclay and Tylee of Matador visited last weekend with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Barclay.

Johnnie Starkey visited last week in Ralls with brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. L.T. Starkey.

Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse visited last weekend in Rising Star with her mother, Mrs. Dona Browning and brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. E.J.

Browning. She also visited in Cisco with daughter and husband, Deidra and Larry Clifton.

Mr. and Mrs. James Gwinn, Fannin and Danielle visited in Lubbock, Saturday in the home of his sister, Ms. Aly Gwinn. Other guests were Michelle and Mark Jeffers of San Marcos, Mrs. Sarah Hurt and Annie of Lubbock.

Weekend visitors of Connie and Coy Franks were Amy and Cory Franks, Madison and Hudson, Cary Franks and Anissa Hucker of Lubbock and Cara Franks of Flomot.

Mrs. Marilee Cooper of Borger visited Saturday and Sunday with her father, Wilburn Martin. His granddaughter, Lindsay Martin of Amarillo, who was en route home after attending to business in Lubbock, visited him Sunday night and Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Degan of Calgary visited Sunday with her mother, Mrs. B. Rogers and brother, Donnie Rogers.

Justin and Christopher Calvert of Amarillo visited the weekend with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Calvert and uncle, Glen Calvert. They killed seven wild hogs of every color Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross were in Lubbock Tuesday and Wednesday for medical appointments. They visited overnight Tuesday with daughter and husband, Elisa and Stan Wigley.

Harry Gray of Fort Worth visited Friday and Saturday with daughter and family, Melissa and Tim Kendall, Jere and Jacob. He accompanied home his wife, Mrs. Marsha Gray who had visited here the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter met in Lubbock, Saturday, their daughters and families, Christi and Dwain Miam, Emily and Haley of Petersburg and Keri and Kevon Sehon and Brian of Ropesville and enjoyed visiting and entertainment.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay visited in Panhandle Monday night with son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clay, Tanner, Kelsey and Sarah. They enjoyed attending Kelsey's basketball game.

The Rev. Nathan Mulder of South Plains was honored on his birthday following the church services Sunday night at the Flomot Baptist Church.

### PRAY FOR RAIN!

## OBITUARIES

### Decima Green

Funeral services for Decima Edna Green, 88, of Matador were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, January 21, 2005, at the First United Methodist Church in Matador with the Rev. Winfield Davenport officiating. Interment was in the East Mound Cemetery under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

Mrs. Green passed away Thursday evening, January 19, 2005, at the Floydada Rehab and Care Center. Decima was born on August 8, 1917, to Merritt F. Faulkner and Christie Mae Butler Faulkner in Archer City, Texas. She was a homemaker and a member of the First United Methodist Church of Matador.

She married J.C. "Jack" Green on December 22, 1935. Mr. and Mrs. Green were longtime residents of Matador before moving to New Deal in 1999. She had been a resident of the Floydada Rehab and Care Center for the past 6 months.

She is survived by her husband and two sons, Jim and wife Donna Green of Shallowater and Tom and wife Penny of Midland; two daughters, Elwanda and husband Gordon Simmons of Shallowater and Christene and husband Don Snodgrass of Lubbock; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by four brothers, Forrest, Harold and Merritt Faulkner and R.T. Hammersley; one sister, Melba Clark.

The family suggest memorials to the Floydada Rehab and Care Center Alzheimer's unit or the First United Methodist Church of Matador.

Pallbearers were Larry Simmons, Gary Simmons, Brian Green, Casey Green, Corey Green and Rodney Williams.



### Lizzie Lou Bridge

Lizzie Lou Bridge, 89, departed this earthly life to be with her Lord on Jan. 19, 2005, in Lubbock. Graveside services were held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 22, at the Afton Cemetery. Officiating was Harold Abney of First Baptist Church in Afton. Arrangements were under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

Mrs. Bridge was a longtime resident of Dickens County prior to moving to an assisted living center in Lubbock about 2 1/2 years ago. She was the wife of Lenard Clements. He preceded her in death on January of 1966. She was a homemaker and a member of the Afton Baptist Church.

She is survived by one son, Jerry Clements and wife Debra of Lubbock; one daughter, Janet Etheridge and husband Wayland of Muleshoe; one brother, Dee Baxter of Durby, KS; three sisters, Nora Barnett of Portland, Edith England of Plainview, and Della Jackson of Katy; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by 7 brothers and sisters: Paul, Sid, Johnny, Leo, Doris, Lena, and Anna.

The family suggests memorials to the Afton Baptist Church.

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# Protect pastures from wildfires

A Texas Cooperative Extension range expert said pastures need protection now from wildfire.

Dr. Wayne Hanselka, Extension range specialist in Corpus Christi, said high temperatures, low humidity, high winds and moderate to extreme drought prevail across much of the state.

All that is needed to touch off this lethal mix is an ignition source - a cigarette or a spark from a welder, power lines or a catalytic converter, he said.

"Over the years, land managers have tended to neglect protective measures on the land," Hanselka said. "Precautionary measures, such as fire guards, particularly in more fire-prone areas, aren't as common as they should be. However, it's never too late to install measures designed to protect pastures and facilities from this very real threat."

The most common protection against wildfire is fire guards around and through pastures, he said. The guards form a break that keeps fuel from a fire. A fire guard can help keep fire in or out of a pasture, or keep it contained within smaller blocks of land. The fire lines need to be wide enough to slow the fire and keep it contained, he added.

"Fire guards may take several forms and several types may be used together," Hanselka said. "The more permanent types are done mechanically, often with a disc, a blade or a low. Grasses are removed or turned under the soil so that bare soil is exposed. Any grasses occurring on the line could form a 'bridge' that allows fire to creep across the line."

These fire guards need to be at least three times as wide as the adjacent vegetation is tall (3 ft. high grasses = 9-10 feet or more of fire guard). A flame front should approach the guard, lay down over it, and not touch the far side of the guard."

Temporary guards can be constructed by mowing excess fuel, he said. The remaining stubble will still burn, but not with the intensity or rate of spread supported by higher fuel loads. A strip is mowed around a pasture with a disced or bladed line next to it. Another strip is mowed to eliminate tall grasses from the plowed strip.

"Another combination is to use two lines - mechanical, wet lines using water, and/or chemical lines (a super phosphate slurry) - at an appropriate distance apart," he said. "The space in between is then burned out. This effectively removes any fuel for a distance away from the perimeter of the pasture. It is effective for season-long protection. Of course, the burning of these 'blacklines', should be done when conditions allow them to be safely burned. Widths vary with the kind and amount of fuel present. Black lines should be at least 100 feet wide in grasslands with oak or mesquite brush. In volatile brush such as cedars, the blackline probably should be at least 500 feet wide."

Fire guards provide an added bonus, Hanselka said, by doubling as food plots for wildlife or forage for livestock. Discarded fire guards can be fertilized and planted to cool-season annual grasses and forbs, he added. The green vegetation will not burn and provides food for a variety of wildlife species.

Many fire guard options are available, so each landowner must decide on the type and design that best fits his situation, Hanselka said.

Information on protecting property from wildfire is available from Extension agents and specialists.

"As drought conditions worsen, now is the time to protect our rangeland pastures and facilities before it's too late," Hanselka said.

## FARM SERVICE

### AGENCY NEWS

by John Bird, Motley County CED

#### SIGNING COTTON LDP AND LOAN APPLICATIONS

Before making a trip to the office to sign cotton LDP or loan applications, please find out what it is you need to sign and then call to let us know you are coming. It is very helpful for you to know what it is you need to sign, or at least what it is you want to do. Calling ahead will help to make sure that the proper person is here to help you, and that we have prepared everything in advance so that you don't have to wait as long.

#### RAIN REQUESTS

Some people have requested that we make it rain. I wish we could, but for now we can't. Around the county there are some places that sure look like a desert. Some of them are supposed to be wheat fields. In looking at the drought monitor maps for the week of January 17, Motley County is at a one which is "moderate." The monitor goes up to a four which is "exceptional." You generally have to be at a two for a certain things such as emergency grazing of CRP come into play. As far as the requests for rain go, I would suggest "skipping the middle man" and going right to the source.

#### SELLING CRP?

Please be aware that when you sell land that is in CRP (Conservation Reserve Program), you are taking a big risk. A new owner has 60 days to sign a new contract after being notified by our office. If the new owner does not respond or chooses not to sign the contract, all of the previous payments will have to be refunded by you (the original owner), as your name is the one on the ten year contract. Please make sure that you have protected yourself from this happening before you sell land in CRP.

#### USDA APPROVES EMERGENCY CRP HAYING GRAZING FOR TEXAS

In continuing response to this year's widespread drought, the Farm Service Agency announced approval for emergency haying and grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage in Texas.

Texas continues to experience severe drought conditions

and a severe shortage of forage. The authorization of emergency CRP haying and grazing will provide forage for livestock and help producers in areas most severely impacted by these drought conditions reducing the potential need to liquidate herds.

Emergency haying of CRP is authorized until May 1, 2006, and emergency grazing is authorized until June 1, 2006. Producers must file a request to hay or graze CRP acreage and visit the Natural Resources Conservation Service to obtain a modified conservation plan prior to haying or grazing the acreage.

CRP annual rental payments will be reduced 25 percent times the number of acres actually hayed or grazed times the per acre annual rental payment. Other restrictions and limitations also apply.

CRP participants who do not own or lease livestock may rent or lease the haying and grazing privilege to an eligible livestock producer located in an approved county.

CRP offers annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource-conserving cover on eligible land. USDA will monitor producers to ensure the land is hayed or grazed without damaging conservation covers.

USDA offers additional programs to assist drought-stricken producers, including emergency farm loans, the emergency conservation program and the non-insured crop disaster assistance program. For more information and eligibility requirements, producers should contact the local FSA office or visit FSA's website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

"Behold, the husbandman (farmer) waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient..." James 5:7

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By Ace Reid

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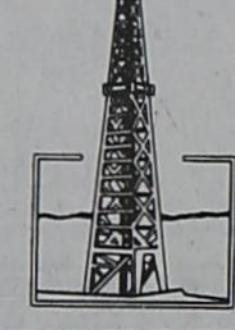
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## Oil & Gas Update



By Tom Musser

FLOYD COUNTY: Apollo Energy Operating Co. LP, W.D. Miller lease well #1, pumping and evaluating.

Apollo Energy Operating Co. L.P., Seretha Watson lease

well #1 has been perforated and is awaiting fracing.

Bankers Petroleum (US) Inc., Mizner lease well #1 drilling ahead as of Monday, January 23, at a depth of 7500 ft.

## Prescribed Burn Workshop to be held at the Matador Wildlife management

Fire plays an important role in most ecosystems and effectively suppresses woody vegetation while encouraging grass and forb growth beneficial to livestock and wildlife. The Matador Wildlife Management Area will be hosting a workshop on prescribed burning on Monday, February 6. The workshop will be held at the Matador WMA located approximately 8 miles north of Paducah or 22 miles south of Childress on Highway 83 and 2.5 miles west on FM 3256.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. and topics for the day will include: fire management in the rolling plains, prescribed burning and vegetative responses, planning a burn, seasonal effects of burning on woody and herbaceous vegeta-

tion, using fire as a tool to manage quail habitat, Texas Parks and Wildlife technical assistance program, and the new panhandle prescribed burning association. There will also be a field tour and demonstration, if conditions permit. The workshop will end at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Participants are asked to pre-register by January 30, 2006, by calling Justin Nash, Cottle County Extension Agent at 806-492-3151 or Kory Perlichek, Matador WMA at 806-492-3405. Cost of the workshop is \$15 per person, which includes refreshments, lunch, and other materials. Participants can also earn 3 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) by attending the workshop.

## PRAY FOR RAIN!

### LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST

Motley County Tribune Weather

Jan. 26, 2006

#### 7-Day Forecast

	Thursday	Partly Cloudy	High: 55 Low: 35
	Friday	Mostly Sunny	High: 60 Low: 31
	Saturday	Mostly Sunny	High: 59 Low: 30
	Sunday	Mostly Sunny	High: 59 Low: 32
	Monday	Mostly Sunny	High: 60 Low: 33
	Tuesday	Partly Cloudy	High: 62 Low: 38
	Wednesday	Partly Cloudy	High: 58 Low: 36

#### In-Depth Forecast

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a slight chance of rain, high temperature of 55°, humidity of 62% and an overnight low of 35°. The record high temperature for today is 80° set in 1975. Friday, skies will be mostly sunny with a high temperature of 60°.

#### Moon Phases

New 1/29	First 2/5	Full 2/12	Last 2/21

#### Last Week's Local Almanac

Day Sunday	High 77	Low 44	Normals 52/26	Precip 0.00"
Monday	58	34	52/26	0.00"
Tuesday	58	27	52/27	0.00"
Wednesday	76	35	52/27	0.00"
Thursday	72	39	52/27	0.00"
Friday	59	33	52/27	0.00"
Saturday	52	24	52/27	0.00"

#### Weather History

Jan. 26, 1983 - The California coast was battered by a storm that produced record high tides, 32-foot waves and mudslides causing millions of dollars in damage. The storm then moved east and dumped four feet of snow on Lake Tahoe.

#### Precipitation

Normal precipitation ..... 0.12"

Departure from normal ..... -0.12"

Average temperature ..... 49.1°

Average normal temperature ..... 39.4°

Departure from normal ..... +9.7°

Data as reported from Childress, Texas

#### Sun & Moon Times

Sunrise today ..... 7:44 a.m.

Sunset tonight ..... 6:08 p.m.

Moonrise today ..... 5:16 a.m.

Moonset today ..... 2:48 p.m.

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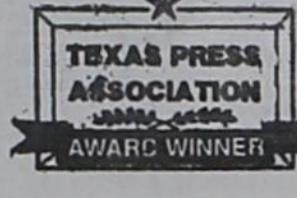
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## Motley County Tribune

Carla M. Meador ~ Publisher & Editor



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## WORD of GOD

Jesus said Repent!

Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

Revelation 3:3

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE: Gerald and Penny Pipkin residence, 1610 Main St., price reduced. Owner financing available. Four bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, basement, central AC, fireplace, hardwood floors, large lot, detached garage. Call 806-687-6116 or 543-1342.

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1tp-4

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## NOTICE

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Motley County ISD intends to seek a waiver required by the Texas Education Agency to begin school on August 15, 2006. A public hearing concerning the waiver will be held in conjunction with the February 13, 2006 Motley County ISD school board meeting. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Motley County ISD board room, located at 1600 Bundy Street, Matador, TX. All interested persons are encouraged to attend and express their opinions.

2tc-5

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in attending WEIGHT WATCHERS in the Dickens area, please call Vonda Brendle and add your name to the list. Call 623-5520 or 294-5499.

1tc-4

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