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

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2006

ESTABLISHED 1891

ISSUE NO. 12



WHAT'S THAT?? — The accumulation of rain water has been an unfamiliar sight in Motley County for several months. The much welcomed rainfall received this past weekend totaled 2 1/2 inches in some areas of the county. This photo shows water running in the creek through the Matador City Park. This was the first rainfall of significant measure since October.

Comptroller Strayhorn reports more than 15% increase in State and Local Sales Tax revenues

(Austin) — Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn announced on Friday, March 10, that state sales tax revenue in February totaled \$1.54 billion, up 15.2 percent compared to February 2005.

"Our Texas economy and our sales tax collections continue to show healthy growth," Strayhorn said. "For the last

three months, sales tax growth has been in double digits."

Strayhorn delivered \$375.7 million in March sales tax payments to Texas cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, a 15.5 percent increase compared to March 2005. So far this calendar year, local sales tax allocations are up 16.6 percent compared to

the first three months of 2005.

State sales tax revenue for February, and March payments made to local governments, represent sales that occurred in January.

Comptroller Strayhorn sent March sales tax payments of \$255.4 million to Texas cities, up 15.3 percent compared to March 2005. Calendar year-to-date, city sales tax allocations are running 14.9 percent higher than last year. Texas counties received sales tax payments of

continued on page 7

American Legion meeting set for March 27th

The regular monthly meeting of the American Legion and Auxiliary is scheduled for Monday, March 27, at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center in Matador. Final plans will be made for the refurbishing of crosses at county cemeteries in preparation for Memorial Day activities. An update on the Vial of Life Project and scheduling of future events related to this project will be an important part of the program. Applications for Boys State and Girls State will be reviewed. All members are urged to attend.

Thornberry applauds USDA move to help farmers and ranchers

Motley County farmers eligible for relief

(Amarillo) — Congressman Mac Thornberry (TX-13) is pleased that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) have waived the haying and grazing fee on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage in 25 counties in the 13th Congressional District. Producers whose pastures and/or hay production were severely damaged by the wildfires last week will not be subject to a reduction in their CRP rental fee if they decide to hay or graze their CRP acreage. The waiver also applies to those within the 25 counties with CRP who wish to donate the haying or grazing to an affected producer.

The counties included in this relief are: Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Childress, Collingsworth, Cottle, Dallam, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Motley,

Ochiltree, Oldham, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, and Wheeler.

"Hopefully the fee waiver will immediately provide greater use of CRP acreage within these counties to help with the urgent livestock feed needs across the area," Thornberry said.

Subject to local authority and oversight, the USDA waiver will also apply to controlled burns or similar measures on CRP acreage within the 25 counties. Approval for burning, haying, grazing or any modifications to existing CRP cover will be authorized by the county FSA office on a case-by-case basis after consulting with local officials. Producers should check with their local FSA office for further details.

Even though an earlier request in January by Thornberry and the Texas Farm Service Agency to permit emergency

haying and grazing of CRP across the entire state was granted, the magnitude of the Texas Panhandle wildfires prompted Thornberry to push for the fee waiver and other measures.

"I still believe it makes sense to apply the fee waiver wherever there have been extensive wildfires across the state and will continue to urge USDA to do so," Thornberry said. Thornberry has also drafted legislation which would provide compensation for livestock lost in the wildfires as well as cost-share assistance for fence repair. If passed, the legislation would cover losses in 2005 or 2006.

"Wildfires are just as destructive as hurricanes and these folks should have the same options available to them as those affected by Katrina and Rita," Thornberry said.

Roaring Springs City Council meets

Water rates will increase

The Roaring Springs City Council met in regular session March 13. Attending the meeting were Mayor Corky Marshall, Mayor Pro-tem, Alex Crowder, council members Gary Simpson, Patricia Green, Timmy Brooks and Kelly Keltz, water manager Robert Osborn, and City Secretary Zella Palmer.

Minutes and financial statements were approved; bills were approved to be paid as presented.

Council voted to pay \$600.00 as the annual Library donation.

Council discussed purchasing or renting a generator for emergency purposes at the water wells and sewer plant. This was tabled until the next meeting, so that the cost can be researched.

Rebecca Stanley, representing Grant Works, met March 10, with Mayor Marshall and fire department volunteers, to discuss a possible grant, for a new emergency siren and equipment for the fire department. Ms. Stanley will meet with the Council at the April 10 regular

council meeting to discuss the grant.

One bid was received for the old Fire Department building. The Council declined the bid.

Council discussed raising water, landfill and sewer rates. Due to cost increase in supplies and electricity, the city must increase rates. Council voted to increase rates by 25% to be effective July 1, 2006.

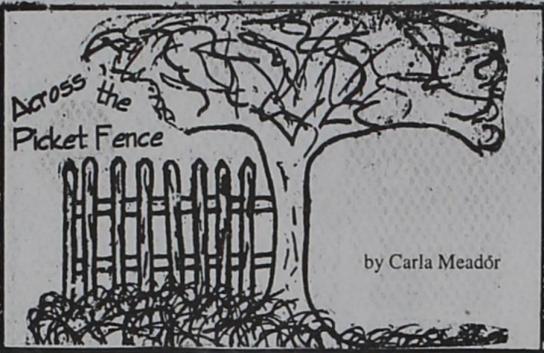
The Council voted to purchase a new office computer and software.



The Four Winds Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Program recently presented the Motley County ISD with a donation of ten new Dell all-in-one printers. Superintendent Randy Brown accepted the printers from Natural Resources Conservation Service, District Conservationist, James Gillespie. Ted Davey, who is the Motley County representative to Four Winds RC&D was not present when the printers arrived, but was on official duty in Austin. Ted and James arranged for the printers through a 100% grant. Ted is very active with the RC&D and has completed several good local projects through RC&D.



NEW RESIDENTS WELCOMED — Motley County Chamber of Commerce President, Annette Hollinsworth, joined other Chamber members and Motley County residents in welcoming newcomers to the County with a reception at the Library, Tuesday evening. Pictured at back, left to right, are new residents, Darney Lewis, (Mrs. Hollinsworth) and Ronnie Pope; in front are Sabra, Braden and Sydney Pope. Mrs. Pope was unable to attend due to illness. Mr. Pope is employed at TxDOT in Matador. Mr. Lewis and the Popes moved to Motley County from Brownwood.



Motley County farmers welcomed the much needed rainfall received this past weekend. We all were happy to see the wet stuff. Thank God for the blessing.

Earlyne Jameson, our Flomot correspondent, received the following from Roaring Springs reader, Lea Peacock, who thought Mrs. Jameson might like to have it for her OVERHEARD feature. It was a little long for that, so she shared it with me to print here.

Farmer's Will
Last Will and Testament of a Farmer
I leave:
To my wife — My overdraft at the bank. Maybe she can explain it.
To my son — Equity on my car. Now he'll have to go to work to meet the payments.
To my banker — My soul. He has the mortgage on it anyway.
To my neighbor — My clown suit. He'll need it if he con-

tinues to farm as he has in the past.

To FmHA — My unpaid bills. They took some real chances on me and I want to do something for them.

To ASCS — My grain bin. I was planning to let them take it next year anyway.

To the farm adviser — 50 bushels of corn to see if he can hit the high market. I never did.

To SCS — My farm plan. Maybe they can understand it.

To my undertaker — A special request. I want six implement and fertilizer dealers for my pallbearers. They are used to carrying me.

To the weatherman — Rain, sleet, snow for the funeral, please. No sense in having good weather now.

To the gravedigger — Don't bother. The hole I am in should be deep enough.

To the monument maker — Set up a jig for the epitaph. "Here lies a farmer who has now properly assumed all of his obligations."

Motley County Chamber News & Views

by Marie-Louise Liebe-Harkort

Consider:

Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

— Marcel Proust

The Boondockers have come and gone, so it is only appropriate to review the event and express our thanks to those who did so much to make this such a successful day.

The medical teams were on hand for the duration, but happily, they only had to swing into action a couple of times to deal with some bumps and scrapes - nothing major, thankfully. We are grateful for their services.

The sheriff and the law enforcement team were on the scene, but all went peacefully. We thank them for the extra effort they made.

The course was good, and made for an exciting ride. Local people manned the barriers all around, and we appreciate their service.

With 154 registered riders, there were an estimated 450 people in town, enjoying the day and feasting on the foods offered at the concessions stands. With such a crowd, it is indeed worthy of note that the clean-up crew found they had very little to do.

There are so many more who contributed to making this

a successful event that they cannot all be named in this column. But the goodies donated to the Hackberry Creek Care Center concessions stand were so numerous that they could not all be sold, so to show our appreciation for what so many groups had done, those treats still there at the end of the day were given to these groups as a sign of gratitude.

The success of the day can be measured in dollar terms, too, as the visitors, though their stay was short, contributed greatly to the local economy. Back of the envelope calculations lead to the conclusion that several thousand dollars flowed in, and we are grateful for that, too.

The Chamber of Commerce will soon have a hefty check in hand, since the profits from the registration fees are given back to the community. This money will be divided among the non-profit groups that worked so hard to make this an enjoyable day for locals and visitors alike. It is satisfying that we can back up our words of thanks with something tangible.

And the future? Well, it seems that we made a good impression, and that it will be voted on by the Boondockers board to return next year, so that this will have been the 1st Annual Motley County Grand Prix.



Mr. and Mrs. Leo Faulkner

Couple celebrates 53rd Wedding Anniversary

1952, Spur, Texas, after a ball game, a car load of Turkey boys driving down the road spotted a group of Matador girls walking. One of the boys leaned out the window and yelled to one of the girls, "Hey Red, how about you and me getting married!" So began a love story. Leo Kuehn Faulkner and Wanda Louise McMahan were married March 19, 1953, in Whiteflat, Texas. Leo (Kuehn to the family) had joined the U.S. Navy thus taking his new bride and himself away from home. They lived in New London, Conn. and various towns in Texas and California. Soon their family grew to three then four with the births of their two daughters, Ronda and Lisa. Later in life a son, Brian, came to live with them. Through joys and sorrows their love and marriage grew stronger and became an example to their children, family and friends. As time went by, Kuehn retired from the Navy. The two now had a grown child with a child of her own. The couple left with their two younger children and returned to Texas, first living in Plainview, then on to Bonham. After years of happiness on "The Homeport" and "Old Glory" they made their way home to Matador, ending their 50-year journey. All roads do lead home! Now they have three children, two sons-in-law, nine grandchildren, six great grandchildren and one on the way. They attend Matador First Baptist Church and enjoy sitting on their front porch thanking God for His faithfulness, love and grace. So when you see them on the porch enjoying home, feel free to give a wave, you'll get one in return.

Dad & Mom — we want to say HAPPY 53rd ANNIVERSARY! May God continue to bless you in the years to come. We praise our Lord for giving us you for parents.

With much love, your family.

Breast Cancer Screening will be available at Motley County Clinic

The Don and Sybil Harrington Cancer Center Comprehensive Breast Center will conduct a Breast Cancer Screening Clinic at Motley County Clinic, 1224 Main, in Matador on April 12, 2006.

Breast cancer affects one in eight women. The key to winning the battle against cancer is early detection by having an

annual breast exam, mammogram and performing a breast self-exam each month.

Funding is available through the Texas Department of Health for Texas residents who qualify for assistance. All exams are done by appointment only.

Call (806) 356-1905 or 1-800-377-4673 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

St. Patrick's Green of Ireland welcomed at Do Gooders' Club

Dry blowing winds escorted members of the Do Gooders' Club to the Community Center in Flomot Wednesday afternoon, March 8. With lack of rain and a dry landscape, they were appreciative of being greeted by the beautiful Green of Ireland in observance of St. Patrick's Day inside the Center.

Hostesses, Mrs. Leona Degan and Mrs. Connie Franks presided at a table laid with a white cloth with a profusion of sparkling shamrocks. The centerpiece was a cascading English ivy pot plant in a basket. They served refreshments of cheese crackers, chips, nuts and a delicious fruit pizza with iced tea and coffee in green ap-

pointments. The napkins were inscribed with "Happy St. Patrick's Day."

Mrs. Erma Washington was pleased her name was drawn for the hostess gift that was the centerpiece ivy plant.

Mrs. Mary Jo Calvert conducted the short business session. The club now have four new tables to make a total of eight needed tables. On the agenda, they discussed new lights and new kitchen and bathroom floors for the Center.

Those attending were Messdames Alma Shorter, Geneva Martin, Mary Jo Calvert, Leona Degan, Connie Franks, Erma Washington, Anna Beth Clay and Barbara Payne. Guest was Mrs. Barbara Jones.

Wearin' of the Green at March El Progresso club meeting

by Beverly Vinson

El Progresso club members were presented with a "stick-on" Shamrock in honor of St. Patrick's Day, which will be celebrated March 17, when they gathered at the library room for their March 9 meeting.

The meeting was called to order by club president, JoAnn Dickson. She presented Jim Watson, a member of the Hackberry Creek Care Center board. Mr. Watson told of the hows, whys and whatever has been going on with the construction of the Center. He gave the specifications that were needed to obtain what the county is needing, the size of the rooms, what it will take to make it comfortable and an up-to-date care center for those desiring or needing such a facility. Concrete was being

poured as we met and next on the list is wooden framework, then it will really look like everything is moving forward. Questions and comments were heard and a most interesting program it was.

Refreshments were served from a green covered table with green punch, mints and delicious Italian Cream Cake. It was brought to the attention of the Club that all members should be present on April 13 in the home of Winifred Darsey to discuss the future of the club and other business.

Those attending were Billie Koon, Dorothy Day, Beverly Vinson, JoAnn Dickson, Lucretia Campbell and Winifred Darsey.

Please come April 13 for this important meeting.

Library Notes

by Suzanne Abbott, Librarian



We appreciate the donations that the library received last week. We thank Pup and Earle Price for their donation in memory of E.A. Day. We also thank Vaden and Carol Hays for their donation in memory of E.A. Day. We appreciate the donation from Lucretia Campbell in memory of E.A. Day, Cleo Watson and Lula Swim.

Work is progressing in the Annex. Alex Crowder, Joel Spray and Kenneth Abbott have closed the openings between Calico Treasures and the Annex. We appreciate the hard work of these three gentlemen. We also thank Alex and Jo Crowder for donating the 170 blocks to fill the openings in the walls. We also thank Jack and Steve Smith for their help with this project. We appreciate their work and kindness and patience.

New books in the library include a colorful book called **Papercraft Weekend Workbook**. It has some interesting projects that you scrap-bookers might enjoy. Also new in the library is **Cell** by Stephen King, **Deep Blue** by Tom Morrissey and **Leonardo's Swans** by Karen Essex. We have new books arriving weekly so come in and check out some books for your enjoyment.

During the month of March the Library presents a "Hug of Bears." Don't forget to bring your favorite Teddy Bear for a visit. Upcoming events at the library include "Tomato Plants and Pecan Trees," a horticultural seminar by Eric Lewis, and a book discussion on The Apostle Paul. Call the library to put your name on the waiting list for this thought-provoking book. Dates have not been set for either event. We'll let you know in this column.

If you haven't paid your Friends of the Library dues for 2006, you are invited to come by the library to pay them. Or you can mail your dues to the library. We need all our Friends.

Arts & Crafts

by Winifred Darsey

Motley County Arts & Crafts Club very much enjoyed its painting class, using oil for its media, at the Senior Center, March 13.

Lorene Lancaster was instructor and taught a very enjoyable lesson on oil painting.

The picture was striking and very picturesque, with a red barn for the focal point with blue sky, a few clouds, trees, flowers, grass and some birds in flight, the results were pleasing to behold.

Joy Archer, Club President, presided over a business meeting. The plans for next year's "yearbook" are still underway.

The club dined at noon with Senior Citizens on Baked Chicken, black-eyed peas, brussel sprouts, cornbread, and cherry cobbler. It was very delicious and plentiful.

Members present were Vee Gordon, Joy Archer, Nova Dale Turner, Jane King, Linda Aumiller, Dorothy Knight, Lorene Lancaster, Joyce Meredith, Jo Trammel and Winifred Darsey.

Joy Archer will teach a class on paper mache birdhouses for April. See you there!

"It's Really A Great Life"



Why should we allow the Devil to make our lives miserable? We can live in this life and find happiness. Jesus said that He came that we "may have life and have it abundantly." Why then should we feel any lack? God has said that He will "supply all our needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Why should we fear? The Power of the Universe, the "Logos," The Eternal Word, has given us not a spirit of fear but one of power, peace and love. Why accept defeat? The Bible says that our God will always lead us in triumph. Why would we feel worthless? Christ counts each one of us as great treasure.

Christianity is really a great life. Our faith grows stronger, our hope has never been calmer, our friends are dear to us and our associations are sweeter. We anticipate with the rains, the bud, the blossom and the beauty that our place in this world has to offer. As Christians, we sleep soundly, dream sweetly and rejoice with every sunrise. It is delightful to love and to be loved and to do what it is that opportunity provides. What people say does not bother and there is an expectation of eternity in our hearts. Yes, it is really a great life!

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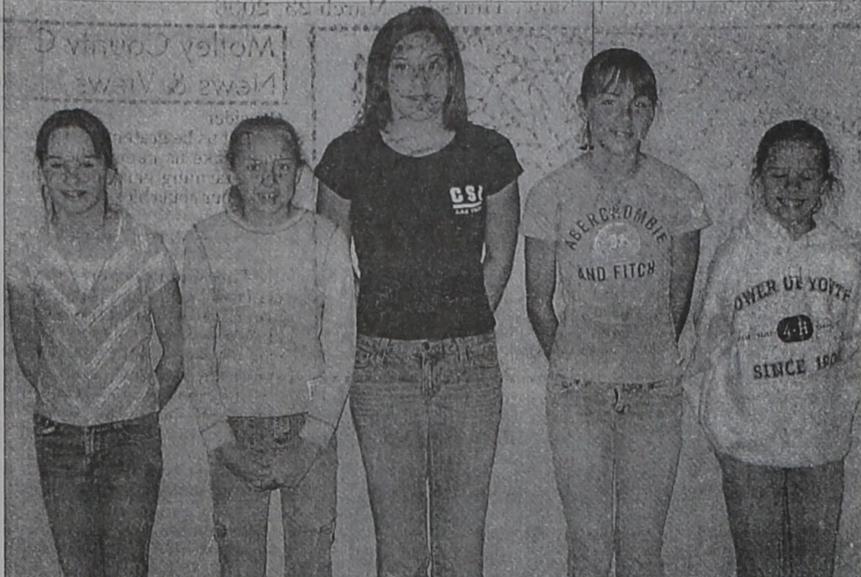
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HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS — 2006-07 Motley County ISD Varsity Cheerleaders, pictured at back left to right, Chicagra Brown, Shane'a Russell, Christy Smith (Head Cheerleader), Courtney Alexander and Mylissa Gilmore; (front) Savannah Rose and Mascot Karrie Valdez.



JR. HIGH CHEERLEADERS — Motley County Jr. High Cheerleaders for 2006-07 are pictured left to right, Sabra Pope, Leanne Jameson, Alyx Smith, Kyla Simpson and Lexie Osborn.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Motley County Cheerleaders selected for 2006-2007

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The Motley County ISD gymnasium was filled with highly spirited girls on Friday, March 10, practicing cheers, dance movements and mascot routines. In nervous anticipation, each girl awaited her turn to tryout for a coveted spot on next year's Junior High and Varsity Cheerleading Squads. The candidates performed a chant,

a dance and a cheer and were judged on poise, spirit, tumbling ability, dance techniques and sharpness of motions.

The judges reported that it was difficult selecting the squad members because all of the candidates were talented and showed so much spirit in their tryouts. Finally, at the end of the school day the new squad mem-

bers were announced. The Junior High Squad for 2006-07 will consist of 8th graders Leanne Jameson, Kyla Simpson and Alyx Smith; 7th grader, Lexie Osborn; and 6th grader, Sabra Pope. The Varsity High School Squad will consist of Senior Chicagra Brown, Juniors Mylissa Gilmore, Savanna Rose and Christy Smith (Head Cheer-

leader), Sophomores Courtney Alexander and Shane'a Russell. The new Motley County Mascot will be Junior Karrie Valdez.

This is a very enthusiastic and talented group of young ladies and we look forward to watching them cheer for our Motley County Mavericks and Matadors next year.



Fun Friday activity, March 10th, for MC Jr. High Students consisted of designing and building kites. It was a perfect day for flying kites with the gusty winds blowing. All of the students did a great job with the assistance of Mr. Gleghorn, pictured far right, and Mrs. Jones (not pictured).

American Legion will sponsor local students to Girls, Boys State

American Legion Post 337 and the Auxiliary of Matador are now conducting a search for area boys and girls that are interested in attending Boys State and Girls State. Boys State will be held from June 3-9 in Austin at the University of Texas campus. Girls State will be held from June 13-20 in Seguin on the campus of Texas Lutheran University. The local American Legion Post will sponsor only one boy and one girl so please apply as soon as possible.

To be eligible, students must be successfully completing their junior year, have at least one semester of high school remaining, be recommended by their school officials, have parents/guardians' permission to attend, seek election or appointment to an office at State, and be chosen by the sponsoring American Legion post.

To be selected candidates must demonstrate a sincere desire to attend, have strong leadership abilities, outstanding scholastic achievement, good character, competitive spirit and the ability to work with others.

Candidates for appointment must agree to participate in the program full time. Delegates must plan arrival no later than the scheduled registration and departure no earlier than scheduled dismissal. Late arrivals, early departures, and excused absences from the program are not allowed.

Boys and Girls State were developed from two concepts. First, we should offer our youths a better perspective of the practical operation of government. Second, the individual is an integral part and commensurately responsible for the character and success of their government. Student citizens "learn by doing" instead of classroom lectures and textbooks.

If you are interested and meet the qualifications, please contact any Legion or Auxiliary member or C.W. Moore, Commander, at 347-2999 to obtain the application form and schedule an interview.

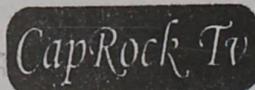
★ MC Shining Star ★ March Student of the Month



Savannah Dae Rose

Savannah is a Sophomore at Motley County I.S.D. She is the daughter of Lisa Rose and the late Kenny Rose. Savannah has strived throughout her school years to get all A's. She is a perfectionist and a hard worker. She enjoys participating in Cheerleading, Basketball, Golf and Track. She enjoys hanging out with her friends and having fun. Savannah says, "I feel very honored to be Student of the Month."

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Motley Crew, County Cloggers, (back left to right) Daphne Meredith, Debbie Martin, Debi Gardner, instructor; (middle) Mildred Sowell, Dorothy Farmer; and Donalda Letkeman in front. The group welcomes anyone to join.

Thousands of Volunteers pitch in for State's largest clean-up event Annual Don't Mess with Texas Trash-off celebrates litter prevention campaign's 20th Anniversary

(Childress) -- Drivers will see something different along Texas roadways April 1, when approximately 200,000 volunteers around the state participate in the annual Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off - one of the nation's largest one-day clean-up events. In Motley County, the Adopt-a-Highway (AAH) groups that have volunteered to participate in the Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off are Matador Lions Club.

Trash-Off will launch a spring and summer filled with special events and contests commemorating the 20th anniversary of Don't Mess with Texas. The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is a partnership between Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). The public is invited to participate by signing up online at www.ktb.org or by contacting your local TxDOT district office at www.texasaah.org to adopt a stretch of highway.

"When you see thousands of volunteers coming together on one day to help keep Texas beautiful, it's truly inspiring," said TxDOT Travel Division Director Doris Howdeshell. "There's so much to celebrate

this year as the Don't Mess with Texas campaign turns 20, and Trash-Off is certainly one of the things we are most proud of."

"People who volunteer for Trash-Off are often surprised by how the experience moves them," said KTB President Lynn Lantrip. "It's such an eye-opening experience. You see the type of litter people are tossing on our roadways or in our parks, and you become even more determined to keep our state clean. Usually people will volunteer again the following year because they feel so good about what they're doing. Of course, we couldn't do it without our volunteers."

In January, TxDOT debuted the new "Real Texans Don't Lit-

ter" television public service announcements (PSA) as a springboard for the Don't Mess with Texas 20th Anniversary. The PSAs feature some of Texas' most recognized celebrities including Lance Armstrong, Erykah Badu, Ray Benson, Jennifer Love Hewitt, Julius Jones, Los Lonely Boys, Matthew McConaughey, Chuck Norris, Janine Turner, Owen Wilson and Lee Ann Womack.

In addition to the media campaign, TxDOT is sponsoring a "Real Texans Don't Litter" Cleanup Contest, challenging "Real Texans" to volunteer at one of the 25 cleanups around the state. The locations will be unveiled the day of Trash-Off, April 1, and the events will take place between May

and mid-August. Visit www.DontMessWithTexas20.org on April 1 for exciting news and additional information.

The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off began in 1986 to encourage the public to refrain from littering for one designated day. Each year, approximately 830 million pieces of litter accumulate on Texas' roadways and today, litter pickup costs taxpayers approximately \$36 million annually. Paid contractors clean 90 percent of these roadways, with groups such as Adopt-a-Highway doing the rest.

Southwest Airlines, McDonald's and the AT&T Cotton Bowl are proud sponsors of the Don't Mess with Texas 20th anniversary.

Fun and exercise offered at newly established dance group

When Donalda Letkeman left Matador last Spring for her trip home to Canada, she never thought about Matador having a clogging group in January, 2006.

Back in Manitoba, Canada, last Summer, Donalda and husband, Dennis worked the Information booth at the local Fair and Rodeo.

"There was a group of Cloggers that afternoon, and as soon as I saw the fun they were having, I knew I wanted to learn," Donalda said.

She joined a group in a nearby town and had a few lessons, five cue sheets and a music tape when she and Dennis left for their trip back to Texas in the Fall.

She realized that to keep up with her dancing she would have to have a teacher.

After visiting with friend, Daphne Meredith, about her desire to dance, she found that Daphne, too, had a desire to learn to dance.

The two decided there were probably others in Motley County who would like to learn

the artful dance of Clogging, so they established a group.

Donalda contacted the Texas Clogging Council to find a teacher. They directed her to Debi Gardner of McAadoo.

Mrs. Gardner met with a small group January 16 and the dancing began.

The Motley Crew, County Cloggers is a small group with big fun. The group consists of three generations, mother, daughter and grandmother, a mother and son, and Donalda. They meet each Monday night at 6:30 in the Multi-purpose room at School. They welcome new members and encourage anyone with a desire to have fun, get some exercise, and learn to dance to join the fun.

The small cost is only \$3.00 per lesson. Children are welcome, but anyone younger than 12 must be accompanied by a guardian. The group also invites people from other counties to join the fun.

For more information contact Donalda Letkeman at 347-2059 or Daphne Meredith at 348-7528.

Vial of Life Project update

Program will be presented Friday at Senior Center

The Vial of Life Project sponsored by the local American Legion and Auxiliary is underway. C.W. Moore, Commander of American Legion Post 337, gave a presentation for the Roaring Springs Lions Club on March 2. P.K. Green of the local Auxiliary unit did a presentation for the Roaring Springs Volunteers meeting on March 14. The project information was well received and members at both meetings took additional copies of the forms and vials for their neighbors and friends.

Members of the Legion and Auxiliary will be at the Matador Senior Citizens Center on Friday, March 24, during lunch hours to discuss the program, give out the forms and vials, and assist local citizens in filling out the forms. Anyone interested in participating in this free program is encouraged to attend.

If you or your organization would like to schedule a presentation, please contact C.W. Moore at 347-2999 or any other Legion or Auxiliary member.



SPRING IS HERE — The pretty white blooms on this wild plum bush were twinkling in the sunshine last week as Spring drew near. The first official day of the new season was Monday, March 20, but temperatures pointed more toward Winter weather, dropping into the 20's Monday and Tuesday night. The weatherman is predicting warmer temperatures by the end of the week.

a note to Motley County

by Sandra Moody

This week I got a new stove. It's a nice one, too. It is all black with a slick ceramic top. It has digital controls on the back panel. It is self-cleaning, and to top it all off, the light bulb inside the oven even seems to work! If I still have your attention, I would like to write about one of my favorite things, and I am willing to bet, your's too. That "thing" would be food. Not just any kind of food though, but the food that triggers memories; that smell or taste that brings back a certain time in your life or a treasured experience.

Needless to say, after the oven was installed and we had all finished playing with the bells and whistles, my thoughts turned to the first thing I would bake in the oven. Should I make some of Mom's bar-b-que brisket? After all, there is nothing like the smell of slow roasted meat filling the air. Or maybe, I thought, I could make Aunt Wanda's red velvet cake. Then my thoughts suddenly turned to my grandmother's potato salad. No, she never cooked it in the oven, but while I was reminiscing about food, I thought I should include all my all-time favorites. There is still some conversation in my family as to what the ingredients were. We all agreed on one thing though, it was the best potato salad around.

Family recipes are often some of the favorite foods we have made so many items that we do not need to read the recipes. Other times, they have been passed on from mothers, mother-in-laws, aunts, and grandmothers. Are your family recipes filed in a box, tucked between the pages of a cookbook or in a kitchen drawer? Do you

have written copies of these recipes to pass on to your own children and grandchildren? If not, do them a favor and write them down. Give them just a small "taste" of their family heritage. Family recipes are

more than just a list of ingredients and directions for cooking something that tastes good. They are a gift from past generations and an important part of family history.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I hope this will be encouraging to someone.

The Word of God: "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul." By looking at the translations given in the margin of the KJV, this can be read as "The word of the Lord is perfect, restoring, or refreshing the soul." Even among professing Christians today it is hard to find many that believe God's word is perfect. We find things that take place in the church that seem to go against the instructions of the apostles, and it is justified by saying, "that was written for a different time and culture." Another common thing to hear today is, "that verse was misinterpreted by the original translators."

Paul told Timothy that "all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable." (2 Tim. 3:16). If God inspired all scripture for the good of His people, doesn't it follow that He would protect it and preserve it? Also, would His laws and words change with the times? Malachi 3:6 says, "I am the Lord, I change not," therefore, His word, laws and instructions for the church do not change. David said the word is perfect, Solomon said, "every word of God is pure." (Prov. 30:5), and Christ said man shall live by "every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." (Matt.

4:4).

In Psalm 19, David goes on to tell us more about God's word. He says it "restores the soul." It is as necessary for the life of a soul as food is for the body. Job said "I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food." (23:12)

Verse 8 tells us that God's commandments "enlighten" the eyes. They shed light on sin, error, and unbelief. In another place David tells us that God's words are a lamp to his feet, and a light to his path. He also says they are "more to be desired than gold," and "sweeter than honey."

If we had been blessed with an all wise worldly father who left us a letter with perfect instructions for life, we would be fools not to read it. The child of God has that very thing from a heavenly Father. During other times and in different places the only Bibles Christians had were those that they secretly copied down and kept hidden for fear of death. They would memorize all of what they had so they could pass it on to someone else. Now we all have a few, but most are never opened. God has greatly blessed us with His word. We should show our thankfulness by reading it, learning it, believing that it means what it says, and striving to live according to it. May He then add His blessings.

John Bird

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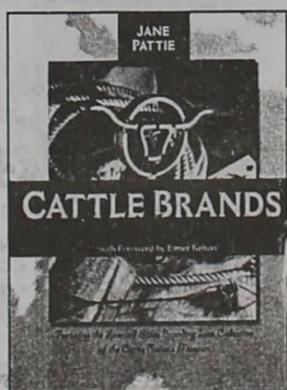
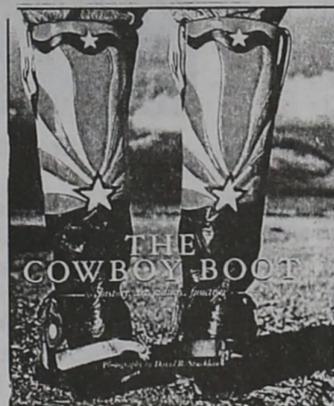
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World Class Rural Health Institute to open at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Lubbock -- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center announced recently the establishment of the F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural Health, which will be a world class initiative to study health care issues and challenges in rural areas.

The new institute will build upon the current rural health projects and resources of the Health Sciences Center, adding new components such as student service learning, community-based research and a visiting scholars program.

While the Health Sciences Center has long been recognized as a leader in rural health issues, the creation of the Institute for Rural Health will elevate the institution's profile to a national and international level.

Funding for new programs associated with the institute is through a gift from F. Marie Hall of Big Spring. Ms. Hall, a supporter of the Health Sciences Center, has provided several previous substantial gifts including funding for a recreational center for students and a chairperson position dedicated to rural health.

Patti Patterson, M.D., vice president of Rural and Community Health, will serve as the first director of the newly created institute. According to Patterson, some of the greatest rural health challenges in the country are here in West Texas.

"Texas Tech is perfectly situated to study these issues and develop real world workable solutions," Patterson said. "This new institute will allow us to do so."

The student service learning component of the new institute will promote and encourage students to add community service to their academic pur-

suits. Patterson said this effort will produce more community-minded health professionals and better prepare them for a successful career in a rural setting.

Community-based research, education and service projects also will be a component of the new institute which will serve to foster better communications and interaction between the world of health academia and rural communities of West Texas. Research projects will focus on what directly impacts citizens and their communities.

Another component will be the visiting scholars program, which will bring in accom-

plished academic professionals with rural health experiences from other parts of the country and world. Their collective expertise focused on West Texas issues can assist in developing better solutions to rural health challenges.

M. Roy Wilson, M.D., M.S., president of the Health Sciences Center, said while the institution has tremendous resources, the help and support of visionaries such as Marie Hall will give the Health Sciences Center a boost to the next level.

"Ms. Hall has a true insider view about rural health issues in West Texas. Her father was a rural West Texas physician," Wilson said. "We are pleased

that her vision and support have led to the creation of this new institute."

Ms. Hall said it honors her to know that this institute will provide vision and compassion needed to inspire future healers for rural areas.

"It gives me great joy to have the opportunity to help establish this institute," Ms. Hall said. "Under the leadership of Dr. David Smith, former Texas Tech chancellor and former president of the Health Sciences Center, along with Dr. Patti Patterson, Texas Tech has made rural health issues a priority. I am very grateful that I can ensure the priority remains strong."



Betty Moore and granddaughters, Pennington and McAllister Moore, visited the Library's "Hug of Bears" last week.

CHIP, Medicaid provide quality care for low-income children

Austin -- Good deals are hard to come by. If you're raising children who don't have health insurance, Children's Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) may be one of those good deals you've been looking for.

"These programs are designed to meet the needs of low-income Texas families who cannot afford health insurance for their children," says Texas Health and Human Services Executive Commissioner Albert Hawkins. "Parents want their children to have access to quality medical care. Children's Medicaid and CHIP make that goal a reality for many families struggling to make ends meet."

The two programs provide coverage for children in families who earn up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level. That's \$38,700 a year for a family of four.

A family's enrollment fees for CHIP are based on income and range from no fee to \$50 every six months. That's quite the bargain when the average cost of private health insurance for Texas families exceeds \$900 per month.

Children's Medicaid and CHIP currently provide coverage to one out of every three children in Texas, cover pre-existing conditions and offer a choice of doctors. Services include doctor visits, immunizations, hospital care, surgery, X-rays, physical, speech and occupational

therapies, prescription drugs, vision services, emergency services and transplants.

Families don't need to determine which program they may qualify for. Once an application is submitted, the state will review the information to see if the family qualifies for either CHIP or Children's Medicaid.

To start an application or get more information on Children's Medicaid or CHIP, call 800-647-6558. Assistance is available in English and Spanish from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Central Time Monday through Friday.



Ronda Miller, right, representing Wylie LP, was presented with a plant as a new business welcome at Tuesday night's Chamber of Commerce meeting. Making the presentation was Chamber president, Annette Hollinsworth. Wylie company recently purchased Marshall Brother's Propane.

April Turkey Jamboree should be sure-fire winner

Well, if the two inches of rain isn't enough to put everyone in a good mood, the news that a Jamboree is planned for April 1 certainly is. Three new acts are lined up, plus a performance by the Turkey Gems, a talent showcase and, once again, a delicious meal planned for the benefit of a great cause.

The musical portion of the evening will begin at 7 p.m., with a performance by E.J. Brown of Rising Star, backed by the Turkey Gems. Word of mouth says that E.J. puts on a great

show. Jesse Turner and band, from Matador, will be next on stage. Jesse is known for his excellent bluegrass performances, and is an audience favorite wherever he plays.

Be sure to come early, because beginning at 6 p.m. refreshments are being served for the benefit of Maurice Fuston's American Cancer Society Relay for Life team. Mrs. Fuston will serve Mexican Stack, plus dessert and a drink for \$5.

A door prize of \$25 will be awarded to an audience member selected by a drawing. A prize of \$50 will be awarded by audience vote to the most popular act of the evening.

The Turkey Jamboree is held every first Saturday night of the month at the Bob Wills Gymnasium. Admission is always free!

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An Invitation

Floydada ... ever the Pioneer
is the theme for the 2006
Floydada Chamber of Commerce
and Agriculture Banquet.

Lou Burleson, The History Teller,
will be the speaker presenting
"Mollie Bailey, The Circus Queen
of the Southwest"

The Banquet will be held April 10
at the Floyd County Friends Unity Center
(Intersection of US Hwy. 70 & FM 786)

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purchased from any Chamber director
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Drawing To Be Held
Wednesday, April 5, 2006
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- Myrt Wilder, 293-1219 or 291-8400
- Pam Shannon, United Farm Industries, 293-5103
- Alicia Hernandez, American State Bank, 293-3888
- Doris Washington, HCSB, 293-3635
- Dr. Tori Marnell, Tulia, 995-2202
- Kelly Prayor, City Bank-Lockney, 652-3355 or 652-2131
- Karron Smith, Dimmitt, 647-1066
- Randy West, ADM, 293-1331
- And J.W. Hamby, Nelda Laney, Bob Sears, Sherrie Wall, Candace Woods

Easter is right around the corner... April 16th!

and the **EASTER BUNNY** has been leaving his goodies at **Matador Variety**

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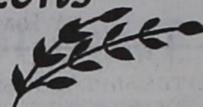
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News around the County

Senior Citizens Notes

By Tommye Keith, Director



The Center has received memorials in memory of Cleo Watson from Vee and Harold Gordon, C.D. and Evelyn Garrison, Ronald and Kay Bailey and June Moss. Memorials received in memory of Art Green have been from Vee and Harold Gordon, Ronald and Kay Bailey and Marion Woodruff. Memorials in memory of E.A. Day have been from Tom and Deanie Edwards, Marguerite Edwards, Ronald and Kay Bailey, June and Stanley Levell, June Moss, Eva and Tex Barkley, Joel and Debra Spray, Billy, Cindy, Annie, Ashlee, Aaron and Randa Green, Leo and Joyce Archer, El Progreso Study Club, Marion Woodruff and Motley County Arts and Crafts. James Fish gave a memorial in memory of Bill Knight. Dan Barton gave a memorial in memory of Brother Jack Boggs. Margie Foster donated in memory of Art Green a freezer tote bag, pot holders and a spoon. Once again we thank you all so very much.

Lula Jones from Panhandle sent an encouraging note and a donation in honor of Roy and Frances Hobbs. Thank you Lula and they are pretty good kids.

When the Boondockers came to town we had the opportunity to meet and greet most of them, very nice and friendly, hope they come back to see us. We had a fund raiser going on at the Center and the bathrooms available.

We have new air conditioning and heating units going in the Center. This is Monday morning and they are going to start today. Now this is exciting news considering the equipment is about 21 years old. This is happening through a grant from AEP.

The Senior Citizens is open Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. til 3:00 p.m. Y'all come out and join us. See ya at the Center!

Roaring Springs News

by Monta Marshall

WOMEN SUPPORT YOUTH

Members of the Roaring Springs Wesleyan Service Guild met March 15, 2006, at the home of Secretary Callie Giesecke in Matador. President Debbie Martin directed the business meeting. The Guild's Love Gift for Youth was designated for Bailey Davenport and her work with Spirit Wind, the Youth Choir of The United Methodist Church in North West Texas Conference.

Donalda Letkeman gave the devotional entitled "Letting Others Help." Teacher, Chelsea Read, gave a program on the Lenten season which covered the history of Ash Wednesday and the cultural celebrations in the United States, Europe and South America, as well as the Christian significance of preparing for Easter.

Others attending were Joy Beeson, Jane H. King, Pearl Patten, and Lea Peacock.

The Guild will next meet April 5 at 3:00 p.m. Chelsea Read will continue the teaching on the spiritual value of the Lenten Season leading to Easter. Women may contact Debbie Martin at 347-2143 for information about joining this group.

Thank you Lord for the rain!! It was such a blessing. At our house we have had 2 1/4 inches. Perhaps we can all rest a little easier knowing we aren't so dry and the land will be greening up soon.

Mike Peacock from Richmond, VA and his son-in-law, Aaron Adamick of Amarillo, came to visit Lea and Bill Peacock and took them to Amarillo to attend Mike's daughter, Michelle's baby shower. The Adamicks have a new baby girl named Ashton. Lea reported that they had a wonderful time and stayed in a cute Bed and Breakfast Inn called the Three B's.

Joyce Smith has been released from the rehab unit at the Garrison House. She is at her home in Lubbock.

The Masonic Lodge #824

met Thursday, March 16. Dinner was prepared by the Eastern Star ladies, Donalda Letkeman and Debbie Martin. There were 23 Masons present to welcome Pat Peacock into the fraternal order.

George and Penny Kline are temporary residents again in Roaring Springs. They come and stay several weeks a few times a year. They seem like home folks now and hope that one day, when they retire from traveling in their motor home, that they will be permanent. Welcome home. George and Penny fit in with whatever is going on in Roaring Springs and get involved helping in any way they can.

Bill Bowley was taken by ambulance to UMC Hospital in Lubbock on Sunday morning. He will remain there for treatment for a few days.

Anna Daniell returned home to Oklahoma on Sunday. Willeta Burkes of Paducah visited with Pearl Patten on Friday.

Gary and Rene Laughlin visited the First Baptist Church in Roaring Springs on Sunday. They came especially to hear Brother James Sain who was the fill-in preacher for this week.

Virgie Bannister has moved to the Bivins Memorial Rehab; 1001 Wallace Blvd.; Amarillo, TX 79106. She is in Room I-2. Dahl Clower said that she was doing better but was confined to a wheelchair and could not use a walker yet.

Mr. and Mrs. Cody Clower, Kennedy, Danielle and Hagen from McKinney, Texas were here on Saturday to help plan the Marshall Reunion. The reunion will be on the 22nd and 23rd of April at the Roaring Springs Volunteers Community Center. Also meeting to help plan were J.N. and Darlene Fletcher, Dwight Clower of Clovis, NM, Dahl Clower of Amarillo and Corky and Monta Marshall.

Cody, Julie and children had also been to Amarillo to visit his grandmother, Virgie Bannister.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

"You are okay, you simply have a bit of a chill," the doctor told the elderly gentleman. "I'd recommend that you go straight home and drink a good stiff shot of whiskey."

"Well, okay Doc," the man said, "but would you mind taking the time to put that in writing?"

VACATION TRIP

Wilburn Martin and daughter, Mrs. Marilee Cooper of Borger, had an enjoyable spring holiday vacation that included visiting in Granbury with his sister and husband, Nita and Ervin Merritt. They toured the Scott Chapel Cemetery in Aquilla where Martin ancestors are buried. They shopped until they dropped at the Outlet Center in Hillsboro.

They also visited in Granbury in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Merritt and children. En route home, they visited in Anson with Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Moss and Mrs. John Gilbert. Before Marilee returned to Borger, they visited in Sterling with Mrs. Wanda Lane and houseguests, daughter and family, Gwen and Jimmy Sutton of Bellville.

Brenda and Darrell Cruse enjoyed the spring holidays with a vacation trip to Corpus Christi. They enjoyed fishing and playing golf. En route home, they visited in Belton with Ronnie and Mickey Payne.

Cally and Will Sperry were in Dallas Friday and Saturday where she attended a Mary Kay Career Conference.

Weekend visitors of Connie and Coy Franks were Mr. and Mrs. Cory Franks, Hudson and Madison, Cary Franks, Anissa Hucker of Lubbock and Cara Franks of Flomot. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Bill D. Washington.

Mrs. Janice Hughes visited from Thursday until Sunday in Royce City with son and family, Bengie and J.J. Hughes and

daughter, Kaitlynn. Joining her there after attending the Houston Livestock Show were son and family, Roger and Tiffany Hughes, Reagan and Tara of Floydada.

Mrs. Jackie Lynn Davis of Fritch accompanied her father, Jack Starkey to Amarillo, Wednesday and again Thursday to Veterans Hospital for medical treatment following his recent knee surgery.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross and daughter, Mrs. Elisa Wigley of Lubbock visited from Friday until Sunday in Castroville with son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Ross, Aleda Elaine, Megan, Cheyenne, Ciara, Anjoli and Elisa Ann.

Brian Sehon of Ropesville, Emily and Haley Milam of Petersburg visited during the spring holidays with grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter. Friday, they were in Petersburg to celebrate the birthdays of Christi and Dwain Milam with all the trimmings. Other guests were Keri and Kevin Sehon of Ropesville and Mrs. Geneva Martin of Flomot.

Mrs. Marilee Cooper and family, Mr. and Mrs. Cody Barclay and children escaped the ravages of the fires east of Borger.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Lee visited in Turkey, Sunday with Tom Heck and Mrs. Teresa Lee and children, Kacee and Micah and son, Kellan of Waco, who visited during his spring break.

Mrs. Betty Collins of Amarillo visited Mrs. Leona Degan, Sunday.

Johnnie Starkey was in Warner, Oklahoma Saturday and Sunday attending to business and visited sister and family, Bobbie and Royce Hanna.

Thank you for reading the Motley County Tribune

Matador News

by Earlyne Jameson

PRESIDENT ELECT OF TFWC

Wilda and Spencer Dixon were in Lubbock Friday and Saturday. Wilda attended the annual convention of the Texas Federation of Womens' Clubs, Saturday held at the Science Spectrum. She was installed as President Elect of the Club.

MOVE TO AMARILLO

Mrs. Beatrice Smith, a resident of Matador for 38 years, has moved to Amarillo to be near her children. She would appreciate hearing from friends. Her address is 4700 South Virginia Street, Apartment 325, Amarillo, Texas 79109.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Laughlin of Midland were guests, Sunday of his sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. H.R. "Skeet" Jameson. They attended the church services Sunday morning at the Roaring Springs Baptist Church. The guest speaker, the Rev. James Sain of Tulia, was a former pastor of their Baptist Church in Midland. It was a pleasure for them to again attend one of his church services.

Jack Samford returned to

his home Wednesday, March 5, after having had 5 bypass heart surgery in Albuquerque, NM on Feb. 1. He returned to Amarillo on the 11th of February and has been recuperating at the home of his daughter and husband, Vickie and Ray King in Canyon.

Juanita Cooper returned to her home on Wednesday, March 15, having spent the past six weeks with her daughter and husband, Kay and Ken Dunnam of Amarillo. She has been receiving treatments for a sciatic nerve in her back. She will be going back for more treatments for a few weeks.

John and Pam Meador and children, Matthew and Mahanna of Gatesville visited the weekend with his brother and wife, Jim and Carla Meador. They also visited John's mother, Dena Meador, at the Floydada Care Center.

Shirlene Cooper of DeRidder, Louisiana, has been visiting her dad and brother, Jackie and Steve Smith. Last week the three traveled to Ruidoso, NM and visited with longtime friends, Ronnie and Jean Onstead and other friends.

Shop at HOME!

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord; and he delighteth in his way."
- Psalm 37:23

The Motley County Junior Livestock Show Association sincerely appreciates everyone who contributed in any way to the success of the 66th Annual Motley County Livestock Show, February 25, 2006

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PROOF OF THE TRUTH

BY TOM EDWARDS

"LEAP SECOND" AND THE SHRINKING SUN

We've previously mentioned the Second Law of Thermodynamics. Now don't be spooked by the term. You know what it is, even if you've never heard of it. It is the apparently absolute universal natural law that everything decays (from a higher degree of order to a lower degree of order, or disorder). It applies to everything. The human race is devolving. We age and die. Plows rust. Fires go out, and planetary orbits deteriorate, which brings us to this week's topic. The rotation of the earth is slowing down and the sun is burning out.

Continuing our look at the age of the earth and universe, "assuming" the "uniformitarian" principle that natural processes and their rates have always been the same, as "old-earthers" do, what does "leap second" and the shrinking sun tell us?

You might have read in December about their having to add a second to the atomic clocks the world relies upon. This is because days are getting longer as the earth's rate of rotation is slowing caused by the gravitational pull of the moon. It's estimated it will take hundreds of millions of years to add an hour to our 24-hour day.

But let's go backward, assuming (as they claim) the earth is 4.5-5 billion years old, a constant rate of slowing, and what do we get? If we assume it takes half a billion years to add an hour, going backward would produce 12-15 hour days for the infant earth. As we learned last week, the moon would be much closer and if everything didn't fly off from such a rapid spin, the tidal forces would be so great as

to level everything, i.e., no continents! But that's not all. This falls in the department of something we don't need a scientific study to know, but recent evidence indicates the sun is shrinking, and burning out. There's an argument on how fast, but even the "old-earthers" agree that it will eventually burn out. Now, let's go backward 4.5-5 billion years and what would we have - a much bigger sun and a correspondingly much hotter earth (too hot for life to exist), spinning so rapidly it would probably lose its atmosphere (if not water), with tidal forces too great for continents to exist - in short, hell!

It is hoped that you are beginning to smell the rat and see the light. You see, the "old earthers" must have billions of years for "evolution" to occur, but when we examine the environment that would have then existed, any life would have been impossible. They can't have it both ways!

Next week: "There's Not Enough!"

Thornberry pushes for Fire Aid House leaders promise to help

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Mac Thornberry (TX-13) is optimistic that Congress will provide help to area residents for the damage caused by the wildfires that plagued the Texas Panhandle last week.

Thornberry said he is receiving increasing support in the House for his proposal to attach wildfire recovery assistance to a spending bill currently making its way through Congress. The bill in question is a supplemental appropriations bill primarily intended to provide new funding for the Global War on Terror and hurricane recovery efforts.

The U.S. House of Representatives is expected to vote tomorrow on its version of the supplemental appropriations bill. Fire aid amendments drafted by Thornberry could not be considered at this time, but Thornberry is encouraged by the support he is receiving for taking action before the bill is finalized.

"I am grateful for the support my proposals have received from both Republicans and Democrats. Key leaders have promised to help," said Thornberry.

Among the provisions Thornberry has proposed is:

- Compensation for livestock owners for their losses through the Livestock Indemnity Program, and

- Funding and technical assistance through the Emergency Conservation Program to rehabilitate farm and ranch land by removing debris, restoring fences and conservation structures, and providing water for livestock.

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) have been used in previous disasters, but the two programs do not receive continuous funding. Instead, these two programs receive funding from Congress only on an "as needed" basis in response to specific emergencies.

Although his amendments are not yet included in the legislation, Thornberry noted that the passage of the supplement-

Farm Service Agency News

by John Bird, CED

MOTLEY COUNTY PRODUCER PAYMENTS IN 2005

In 2005, Motley County FSA paid over 5.4 million dollars to our producers enrolled in various programs. This includes over 2.5 million in DCP, \$948,000 in LDP's, \$863,000 in CRP, \$301,000 in crop disaster program payments, and many other programs.

HAY DONATIONS AND OTHER FIRE ASSISTANCE FOR PANHANDLE PRODUCERS NEEDED

Hay can be donated to the ranchers of Gray, Donley and Wheeler Counties that have suffered losses due to the large fires in those counties. The staging area for donating the hay is the McLean Feedlot in McLean, Gray County. For more information on how to help Gray County farmers and ranchers, call Matt Street, Gray County CED, at 806-665-6561.

• Gray-Roberts County Farm Bureau at (806) 665-8451 is accepting cash and materials.

Ranchers needing items should call the same number. Donations also can be made through the Texas Farm Bureau office at (254) 751-2246, or through <http://www.tfb.org>.

• Texas Cattle Feeders Association is coordinating a hay donation also. For more information contact Burt Rutherford at (806) 358-3681.

• The Texas Department of Agriculture Hay Hotline can be accessed at (877) 429-1998 or by going to the Website: <http://www.agr.state.tx.us>.

2006 COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

We are about to begin the 2006 County Committee Election process. This year's election will be held in LAA 2 which is currently held by Bill Luckett. Mr. Luckett will not be eligible to run for the County Committee again. Please be thinking of people that farm in the LAA and would be good to be nominated. To see the LAA boundaries, come by the office.

COW POKES

By Ace Reid

<http://www.cowpokes.com>



"We start out drinkin' to celebrate a broken drouth an' good cattle market ... an' end up drinkin' to fergit that now we can't afford th' cows to restock."

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- San Antonio — April 18
- San Antonio — April 19
- San Antonio — April 20

Display info: ☎ 1-800-874-3597, ext. 406 • abeka.org/406

Tax Payments

from page 1

\$22.9 million, up 19.8 percent compared to one year ago. Calendar year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are 17.8 percent higher than last year.

The 108 special purpose taxing districts around the state received \$10.8 million in sales tax revenue, up 18.5 percent compared to last March. Ten local transit systems received \$86.5 million, up 14.4 percent.

Matador, with a current rate of 2.000%, received a net payment this period of \$4,191.35, compared to \$3,498.41 last year, a 19.80% change. 2006 payments to date total \$15,223.60, compared to \$13,953.88 at this time last year, a 9.09% change.

Roaring Springs, with a rate of 2.000%, received a payment of \$2,997.52, compared to \$1,930.63 last year, a 55.26% change. 2006 payments total \$8,996.38, compared to \$7,878.44 last year, a 14.18% change.

The Comptroller's next sale tax allocation will be made on Friday, April 14.

Support Motley County Businesses!!

The Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance Office has immediate openings for full time temporary ATTORNEYS, LOAN CLOSERS, PARALEGALS

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LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST

Motley County Tribune Weather March 23, 2006

7-Day Forecast		In-Depth Forecast		Moon Phases	
	Thursday Mostly Sunny High: 56 Low: 34	Today we will see mostly sunny skies with a high temperature of 56°, humidity of 43% and an overnight low of 34°. The record high temperature for today is 88° set in 1978. The record low is 18° set in 1952. Friday, skies will be partly cloudy with a high temperature of 59°.	New 3/29	First 4/5	Full 4/13
	Friday Partly Cloudy High: 59 Low: 37		Last 4/20		
	Saturday Partly Cloudy High: 68 Low: 39				
	Sunday Mostly Sunny High: 70 Low: 42				
	Monday Mostly Sunny High: 75 Low: 44				
	Tuesday Partly Cloudy High: 73 Low: 41				
	Wednesday Mostly Sunny High: 73 Low: 40				
Last Week's Local Almanac		Weather History		Sun & Moon Times	
Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip	Precipitation 1.42"
Sunday	86	46	65/38	0.00"	Normal precipitation 0.32"
Monday	59	35	65/38	0.00"	Departure from normal +1.10"
Tuesday	64	31	66/39	0.00"	
Wednesday	73	38	66/39	0.00"	Average temperature 51.9°
Thursday	69	45	66/39	0.00"	Average normal temperature 52.4°
Friday	53	39	67/39	0.11"	Departure from normal -0.5°
Saturday	47	41	67/40	1.31"	Departure from normal -0.5°
<i>Data as reported from Childress, Texas</i>					
Weather History					
March 23, 1913 - A vicious tornado hit the city of Omaha, Neb. The tornado struck during the late afternoon on Easter Sunday, and in just 12 minutes it cut a path of total destruction five miles long and two blocks wide, killing 94 people and causing 3.5 million dollars in damage.					
Sun & Moon Times					
Sunrise today 6:43 a.m.					
Sunset tonight 6:57 p.m.					
Moonrise today 2:51 a.m.					
Moonset today 12:25 p.m.					
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Motley County Tribune
Carla M. Meador ~ Publisher & Editor



The Motley County Tribune, (ISSN: 0897-4322), purchased on September 3, 1996, is published weekly each Thursday, except Christmas week, at Matador, Texas. The office is located at 724 Dundee, telephone number, 806/347-2400. Periodical-class postage paid at Matador, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Motley County Tribune, P.O. Box 490, Matador, Texas 79244.
NOTICE: Any erroneous reflection upon the character, firm, or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the Motley County Tribune will gladly be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the Publisher. Only signed Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication.

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FOR SALE IN MATADOR: Luther Green home, 1307 Main in Matador. 6 bedrooms, 3 bath, 2 living areas. \$90,000. Call Rodney Williams at 806-269-3781 or Virginia Green at (806) 287-1236.

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NOTICE

WHITEFLAT HOMECOMING

Saturday, April 1

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Matador

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Meetings, March 25 at Spur Community Center, 10 a.m. and Matador Senior Citizens Center, 4 p.m.

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GARAGE SALE: 1510 Main, Matador, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

1tc-12

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Bid Notice

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Childress
Contract 0145-08-028 for SAFETY TREAT FIXED OBJECTS in MOTLEY County will be opened April 12, 2006, at 1:00 p.m. at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 19477
State Office
Constr/Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540
Dist/Div Office(s)
Childress Engineer
7599 U.S. 287
Childress, Texas 79201-9705
Phone: 940-937-2571

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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WANT TO BUY: Grass or Farm land with older home, barns and corrals. 701-662-4444.

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