

MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"

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Wind Farm prospects keep getting better for Motley County

Motley County may be in store for more wind! The prospects of wind farms in the county keep getting better. A new press release shows that more avenues are being created to transport wind energy produced in this area to the population centers in Texas.

Florida Power & Light has announced that its FPL Group, the largest U.S. generator of electricity from wind, has proposed a \$655 million power line connecting wind farms in West Texas to Dallas and Fort Worth, joining efforts by Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway and other developers.

FPL filed last Thursday for regulatory approval of the 200-mile DFW Express project. Application was made after reviewing power-line proposals submitted earlier this year to the Public Utility Commission of Texas by a joint venture of Berkshire and American Electric Power Co. and by a Texas group, this according to FPL.

This project can transport 2,000 megawatts of electricity generated by wind farms located in West Texas. The project

can be finished in three years. Electric Transmission Texas, along with Berkshire and Columbus, the owner of the longest U.S. high-voltage network have proposed a joint venture that includes 1,000 miles of high-voltage lines that can handle 10,000 megawatts of wind-generated power. This project will be part of a \$3 billion expansion in Texas.

What this means to Motley County is that there are even more possibilities of getting wind companies to build a wind farm in Motley County. At least one company is already leasing land now. With all the transmission line projects that have been announced, it may not be as important for this area to be designated as a CREZ as was once thought. There is so much interest in possible wind farms in this area that it appears the companies either expect CREZ 2 to be designated or possibly they will build in this region without the help from the Public Utility Commission.

Following conversations with several of the wind companies, Fred Risser reports that it

appears Motley County may be headed toward having several wind companies move into the area. He reminds residents that it would be helpful if they would communicate with each other when approached by wind companies. The more the residents

respond as a group instead of as individuals, the better the county's chances of receiving a more lucrative lease. He encourages everyone to help support and promote wind farm development in this area even, if they don't personally acquire turbines on their own land.

Having a wind farm in Motley County will benefit the county in many ways in addition to the reduced county tax rate that will take place once a project is constructed. Another big winner will be the school district, which stands to increase

revenue (through an increased tax base), as well as an increase in student enrollment (through new jobs created). Local merchants would also benefit from the increase in both population and economic activity.



FAMILY FUN — Aaron Green escorts son, Taylor, down the slide of the big bounce house at Sunday afternoon's Family Fun Day at the Matador First Baptist Church. Looking on is Reagan Elliott, left, and little Trace Osborn, getting ready to take his turn on the slide. In addition to the bounce house, those attending the fun day enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs, homemade ice cream, games and visiting.

New administrator, director of nurses hired for Hackberry Creek

by Marisue Potts

Mrs. Rosie Rendon of Lockney was hired as the new administrator for the Hackberry Creek Care Center by the board of directors in a meeting on Monday, June 4, 2007. Mrs. Rendon brings a wealth of experience and a vast network of regional contacts to the non-profit facility. Besides her background in managing care centers, Mrs. Rendon's job descriptions include running her own business and working with Hospice.

Her first official action as the licensed nursing home administrator is to call a staff meeting for Thursday, June 7, at 2 p.m. At that time, she will introduce herself, develop input from the staff, and outline some of her goals to bring in new residents and provide outstanding service as HCCC grows from the core group now at eleven.

Prior to hiring the adminis-

trator, the board took action in hiring a director of nurses. Sherry Robertson of Amarillo will officially begin work on June 11, but will be dropping in as she moves her daughter to college in Lubbock. The registered nurse's professional experience ranges from a managerial position in the Emergency Department at Baptist St. Anthony Hospital to staff nurse, charge nurse and Hospice on-call nurse, Emergency Staff nurse and travel nurse. She too has a vast array of professional contacts, but in a different regional setting, that will be invaluable to the center.

The board continues negotiations with the contractors on issues including the replacement of sod that was laid down in freezing weather and has never taken root. In other business, a carport will be ordered to protect the company car recently donated for the use of residents' transportation. Re-

pairs on the portico pillar, damaged by a truck too tall to fit underneath the canopy, have been completed by Kendall Construction and masonry workers. Travis and Tim Kendall also repaired the sheetrock damage caused by water leaks created by faulty gaskets in the sprinkler system. A recent influx of water bugs and blister bugs will be dealt with by a professional pesticide company.

Memorials have been received for Inez Bailey from Larry and Donna Hoyle, Mary Jones, and Ellis and Leona Terry. Bob and Wanda Kilmer have donated the "New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs" on CD's complete with a compact disc player. Then there are those donations of time. Jana Marshall spent time with resident C.D. Garrison so his wife Evelyn could visit with family at the luncheon for the Eugenia Garrison Barton funeral. With

continued on page 2

Roaring Springs July 4th Celebration plans in progress

Plans are now in progress for the annual July 4th Celebration to be held in Roaring Springs, Wednesday, July 4th.

The day long event is filled with excitement and fun festivities, beginning with the Red, White & Blue Riding Lawnmower Parade in downtown Roaring Springs that morning.

Many events are being planned for the day including the much anticipated Dog Show and the Hilarious Hat Contest. Put on your creative thinking cap now and start teaching your old dog some new tricks or planning a unique outfit for your pooch as there will be two categories - Tricks and Fashion.

The Hilarious Hat Contest will give participants the chance to display their creative decorating talents when modeling their 'hilarious hat.'

There are many other

events being planned for the day, including the beautiful fireworks display which will close the celebration. Mark your calendar now and make plans to attend and watch for more details.

Shane Newman will represent MC Matadors at Greenbelt Bowl

Softball Tournament will raise funds for Relay for Life

A 2-day Softball Tournament has been set for June 16-17 to raise funds for the Relay for Life Event, which is scheduled to be held June 23-24.

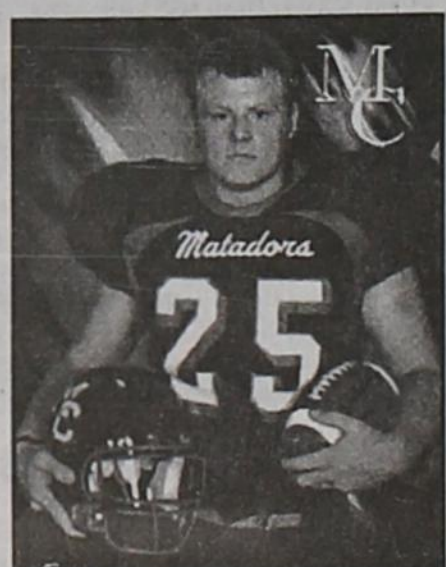
The tournament is open to all teams for an entry fee of \$110. To sign up call 806-347-2943.

A concession stand will be available. Come join the fun and do your part to combat cancer.

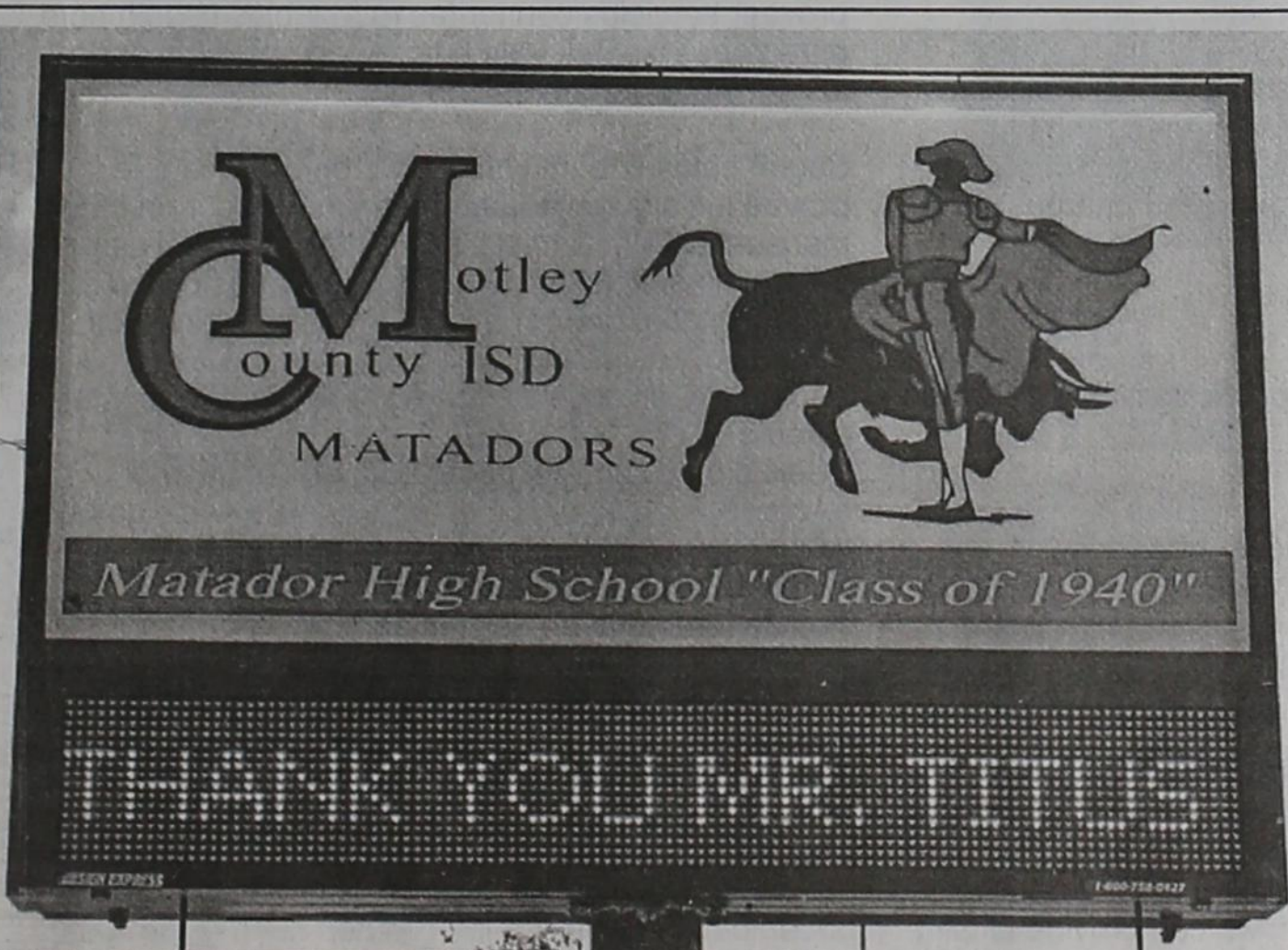
Shane Newman, a member of the Motley County High School class of 2007, will be representing Motley County in the Greenbelt Bowl in Childress on Saturday, June 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fair Park Stadium.

Shane was a member of the Motley County Matador high school varsity football team and will play football at East Central Oklahoma University in Ada, Oklahoma in the Fall.

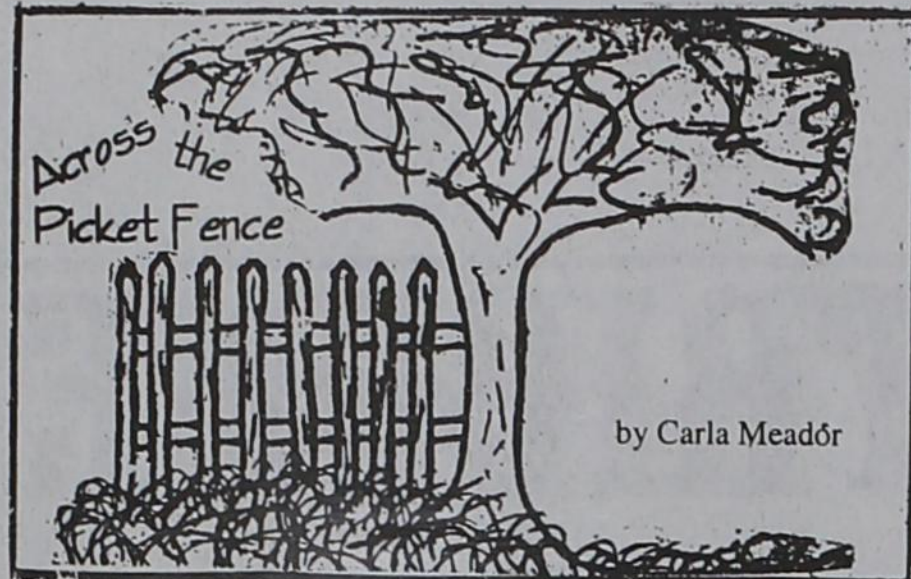
MC Matador fans are urged to attend the game and support Shane as he represents Motley County.



Shane Newman



MATADOR SIGN — James and Oneita Titus of Colleyville, in honor of the Matador High School Class of 1940, recently donated this big, wonderful sign to the Motley County school. Mrs. Titus said they were happy to donate the sign and still have very fond memories of their years in Matador and Motley County. Both were members of the Class of 1940. Mrs. Titus (the former Oneita Kimball) said while in high school a teacher asked her to help Mr. Titus with his school work, and the two became a couple. After graduating they were married and left Matador to attend college in the Fort Worth area, where they have made their home ever since. The couple still loves Matador and enjoy attending Homecoming when they can. Motley County School Superintendent, Randy Brown, said "We genuinely appreciate Mr. Titus' generosity and support of Motley County I.S.D. The sign will be a great tool we can use to recognize achievements and communicate more effectively. The sign will be a source of pride for our students, parents, staff and community."



The creepy-crawly season is here! There are bugs everywhere. My fence was covered with strange green bugs two mornings this week. They fly guard at night under our ramp light and rest on the fence in the morning. I've never seen so many!

I opened my cellar door the other day for the first time in a few months, and spiders were everywhere! Yikes!! But, I'll have to say, it was interesting to watch 100's of tiny, minute baby spiders crawling in a flurry, scattering from their nest, surely fearful of the giant woman who just opened the door. They appeared to be baby Daddy Long Leg spiders. I don't like spiders - baby or not!

And watch out for snakes! They are everywhere! One of our dogs has already been bitten twice. He swelled up like a beach ball, but he came through fine. We have killed 2 rattlesnakes in our yard and I wonder where the other ones are hiding.

Our little dogs killed a long bullsnake one night while we were at the office late. We arrived home about 2:00 a.m. and were greeted with this snake as if they were bringing us a gift. They had apparently had fun, playing tug-of-war with the thing and had it stretched out about 4 feet. They were covered with snake blood. So we bathed dogs at 2:00 a.m.! Some people say bullsnakes are beneficial and will eat bugs, etc., but I don't like snakes - of any kind!

With all the crawly creatures everywhere, here a few hints from Aunt Sally's Tried and True Household Hints, to help with the battle to keep

them away.

— Trap and destroy ants by soaking a sponge with a solution of sugar and water and placing it near an obvious path for the ants. Or attract them with small dishes filled with a mixture of sugar, borax and boiling water.

— Moths are averse to strong odors. Among many natural moth repellents are shavings of cedar or camphor wood, pepper, tobacco, cloves, sprigs of pine and lavender.

— An old method of eliminating roaches is to mix equal amounts of grated sweet chocolate and powdered borax, or equal quantities of powdered sugar and powdered borax, and spread on shelves where roaches run, or spread on pieces of slightly moistened bread.

— Keep flies away by placing bunches of cloves in bags made from gauze and hanging in the corners of a room. Keep flies out of the kitchen by growing pots of basil on the windowsill.

— To repel mice, place paper bags filled with cayenne pepper or peppermint leaves in cupboards or near mouse holes. Plug a hole with newspapers soaked in a solution of red pepper.

I've heard moth balls will keep snakes away. I've never tried it for fear one of my dogs would eat one. But if anyone knows of any way to keep snakes out of the yard, or other tips for the season, send them to me and I'll share them with our readers.

Good luck and happy Summer!

Library Notes

By Suzanne Abbott,
Librarian



We appreciate the memorial donations from Ken and Dinah Young in memory of Vance Campbell and LaVoe Thacker. These donations help keep our collection up-to-date and make a lasting memorial to a friend.

I want to thank our volunteers who kept the library open when I could not be here during May. We thank June Moss, Ruby McGuire, Marihelen Wason and Pina Sturdivant. We appreciate everyone who helps out at the library.

We thank Pat Groves for donating a new Macintosh to the library. It has Internet access and all the other programs that you are used to having. Best of all it has a huge monitor with great definition. We have our

bluebonnet photographs on it as a screen saver and this big monitor makes them look beautiful.

The Summer Reading Program for children who will be in grades 1-3 next year continues this week. Everyone had a great time at their first meeting. The children listened to a story about wild ponies, read by Deanie Edwards, and then they made their own painted pony. Susan Jameson and Betty Henry served delicious refreshments. It is still not too late to take part in the reading program at the library. Children in grades 1-6 (next year) can read through July in hopes of winning a bicycle.



Nineteen enthusiastic readers listened to Mrs. Deanie Edwards read a story about Painted Ponies. The children then painted their own ponies in the direction of Betty Henry. Pictured above are Alycia Silva, Carley Turner and Rivers Marshall (left to right) busy at work painting their pony pictures. Susan Jameson and Betty Henry provided delicious refreshments. The children checked out books to play reading bingo for the bicycles. Helpers were Marihelen Wason, PK Green and Gabby Silva.

CHAMBER NEWS & VIEWS

By Marie-Louise Liebe-Harkort



Consider:

The optimist pleasantly ponders how high his kite will fly; the pessimist woefully wonders how soon his kite will fall.

— William Arthur Ward

Optimists and pessimists alike are invited to the kite-flying event the Chamber of Commerce has planned for Saturday, July 21st.

Saturday at 11:30, the event will start off with hot dogs and chips and kool-aid served free to all comers. This is obviously necessary, since all who are going to get in on the kite-flying will need to start off without hunger pangs.

Then, when all have eaten, the fun with the kites will begin. There will be events for children of different ages - the little ones from 3 to 6, then the 7 to 9 year olds. The older kids from 10 to 12 years will have their own group, and the 13 to 15 year olds will have their's too. The other group is labeled "adult", and that includes everyone else.

So, if you are supposed to fly a kite, what kite? Well, you can buy one, of course. But you can make your own, too. After all, isn't that why we had to study fractions in school? By

letting you have this much advance notice, you should have time to make a pretty fancy one, and everyone will enjoy viewing the fruits of your labors.

But you are not going to all that effort to garner envious looks from friends and neighbors. No, you are doing it so that you can win the prize in the homemade kite division.

And there will be other prizes, too, for all the divisions. What can you win? Motley County Bucks, of course. You should be familiar with them by now - they are basically gift certificates that you can spend at every business but one in Motley County.

The optimists will start building their kites directly, while the pessimists will grumble and presume it will rain on July 21st, or there will be no wind. But the Chamber of Commerce is way ahead of you. In the event that one or the other of these two unfortunate twists of fate come to pass, the event will be put off to a better time.

So start getting ready now. Saturday, July 21st will be here before you know it, so get your kites ready for the big kite-flying event, get out and practice, and be ready to have a bang-up good time.

Kittie Campbell named to Dean's List

Kittie Campbell has been named to the Dean's Honor Roll at the University of North Texas. Students who earned a grade point average of 3.5 or better while completing at least 12 hours during the Spring 2007 semester were named to the honor roll.

Interior Dean, Thomas L. Evenson, said, "The effort students on the honor roll invested last semester paid important dividends, including being a part of the Dean's List. More important, is the expanded knowledge and experience they gained through their hard work.

The work ethic that made them stand out as a student is likely to transfer to their role in the professional world when they graduate - making them the



Kind of worker that employers are most interested in finding." Kittie is the daughter of Douglas and Janie Campbell of Matador.

Hackberry hires new Director

from page 1

the help of his family, C.D. attended the funeral of his sister.

Jana Marshall is one of those volunteers, along with Dena Washington and perhaps others, who have not been recognized for their help in getting the care center ready for its first residents. Jana added youth and vitality to the decorating committee and Dena created a beautiful flower arrangement for the dining room. Shane Jones has been covering bulletin boards and is always thinking up ways that residents could be served better. Darleen Fletcher has spent days working with the previous administrator to complete necessary and extremely important paperwork.

Another lady that goes beyond her job description is Dartha Westbrook. Dartha is responsible for filling out the volumes of paperwork required for admission, but as a LVN, she

is often called upon to help on the floor. Many times she will go out of her way to give a resident a drink of water or some type of assistance to make the resident more comfortable.

Activity Director, Mrs. Doris Vinson, received a donation of four sets of dominoes for the residents to enjoy.

The domino sets were donated by Alvin Alexander, Secretary of the local Masonic Lodge. The dominoes in these sets have the Masonic symbol on them.

Sets were also given by Mrs. Deborah Martin, Worthy Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star. These dominoes have the Eastern Star symbol.

Hackberry residents will enjoy the dominoes for years to come.

Volunteers and volunteerism are vital to the success of the care center and these individuals deserve recognition.

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Amy Bishop, O.D.
Therapeutic Optometrist

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Attitudes & Happiness

A fine old gentleman, who at the age of 102 was one of the happiest people around, was asked the secret of both his longevity and his personal joy. His reply was, "It's all a matter of attitude. For example, when I get up in the morning, I go over to the window and look out to see what the weather is doing. Sometimes I see rain, sometimes snow, sometimes sunshine. But regardless of the weather, I say to myself, 'This is exactly the kind of day I wanted!'"

This old gentleman had surely learned one of life's secrets to happiness. His attitude was such as that of Apostle Paul. "I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content." Phil. 4:11.

ATTITUDE - how important! It can make or break you. It can create happiness or bitterness in your life. Someone has well spoken, "Few cases of eyestrain have been developed by looking on the bright side of things." Some people complain because God put thorns on roses, while others praise for putting roses among the thorns. I guess it all depends on how we look at it - and ATTITUDE usually determines how we look.

It isn't your "position" that makes you happy or unhappy - it's your disposition. Happiness is not something you have in your hands; it's something you carry in your heart. Happiness does not come from what you have, but from what you are. Optimism may be defined as the disposition to look on the bright side of life - to expect the best - to work for the best - and to believe that the best will come to pass. Someone has said, "An optimist makes opportunities out of his calamities - a pessimist makes calamities out of his opportunities." How very true. The right disposition - coupled with optimism - creates within us the proper ATTITUDE.

Roaring Springs Church of Christ

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Basic and low cost telephone services from Verizon

Verizon is an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in Texas under Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) guidelines. As such, we receive universal service funding, which enables us to provide service at reasonable rates to high cost, usually rural areas and low income customers.

Under those guidelines, Verizon certifies that it provides the following basic services for a monthly charge of \$7.10 to \$16.40 (plus Federal Subscriber Line Charge, applicable taxes and surcharges) to residence customers.

- Single-party service
- Voice grade access to the public switched network
- Touch call service
- Access to emergency services (including 911 and enhanced 911)
- Access to operator, interexchange and directory assistance services

We also provide a Lifeline discount for qualified low-income customers of up to \$13.50. Link Up service, a low-cost basic connection service, is also available to qualified Lifeline customers at a 50% discount (up to \$30). In addition, we can provide Lifeline customers with free toll blocking to help control long-distance usage. For Lifeline customers who do not pay toll charges, their access to the toll network may be denied, but their local service won't be disconnected.

For more information on Lifeline and Link Up Services call Lite-Up Texas at 1-866-454-8387 or Verizon's Customer Sales and Solution Center at 1-800-483-4000 (Residence).

NOTIFICACIÓN PÚBLICA

Servicios básicos y a bajo costo de Verizon

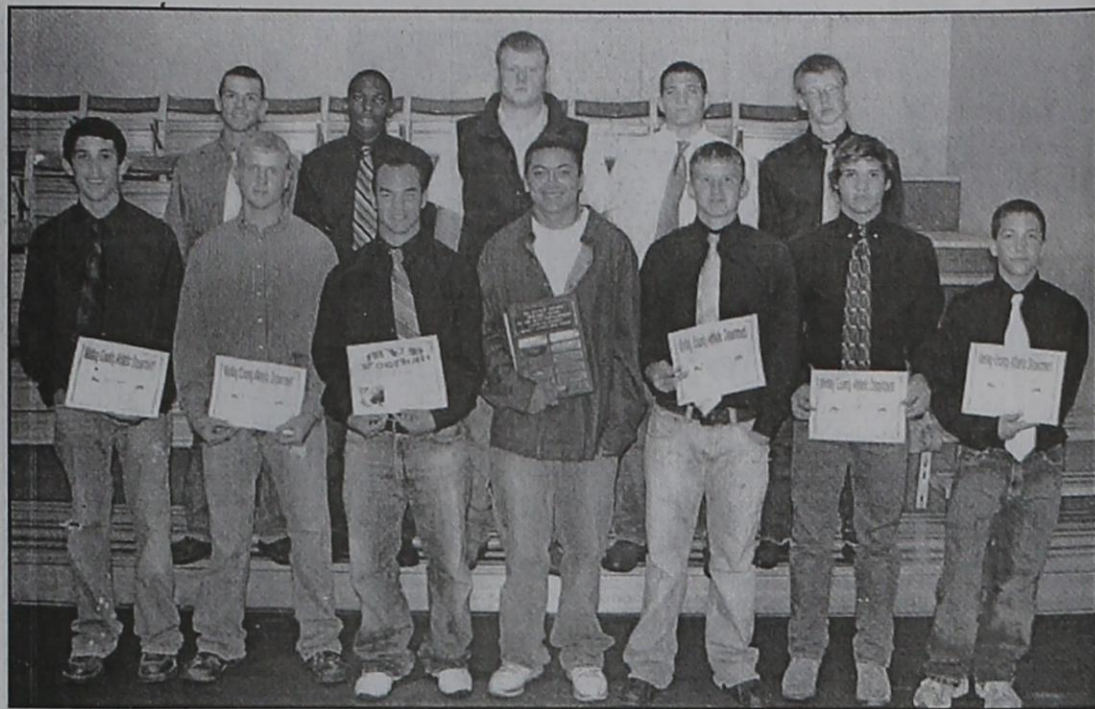
En Texas, Verizon es un Proveedor Elegible de Telecomunicaciones (ETC, por sus siglas en inglés) según los lineamientos de la Comisión Federal de Comunicaciones (FCC) y de la Comisión de Servicio Público de Texas (PUCT). Como tal, recibimos fondos para servicio universal, lo cual nos permite proveer servicios con tarifas razonables usualmente para zonas rurales y de bajos recursos a pesar de los altos costos que esto implica.

Según estos lineamientos, Verizon certifica que provee los siguientes servicios básicos por un cargo mensual de \$7.10 hasta \$16.40 (además del cargo federal de suscriptor de línea, los impuestos federales y sobrecargos) a los clientes residenciales.

- Servicio individual
- Acceso al nivel de voz para la red pública de intercambio
- Servicio de llamada de pulso
- Acceso a los servicios de emergencia (incluidos 911 y 911 extendido)
- Acceso al servicio de operador, intercambio y servicios de directorio de asistencia.

También proveemos el descuento "Lifeline" por un monto de hasta \$13.50 para clientes de bajos ingresos que califiquen. El servicio "Link Up", un servicio de conexión a bajo costo que ofrece un descuento de 50% (hasta \$30), para aquellos clientes de "Lifeline" que califiquen, también está disponible. Además, podemos suministrar a los clientes de "Lifeline" un servicio de bloqueo de llamadas por cobrar para ayudar a controlar el uso de la larga distancia. Para los clientes de "Lifeline" que no estén suscritos a cargos por cobrar, su acceso a la red paga puede ser negada, pero su servicio local no será desconectado.

Para mayor información sobre los servicios "Lifeline" y "Link Up", llame a "Lite Up Texas" al 1-866-454-8387 o al Centro de Soluciones y de Servicio al Cliente de Verizon al 1-800-483-4000 (residencial).



MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS football team was recognized at the 2007 Athletic Banquet. Pictured left to right (front) are Jacob Blanco, Jacob Johannes (Most Improved), Isaiah Archer (MVP), Gene Salazar (Dayton Graham), Stacey Perryman, Eric Simpson, Sam Moore; (back) Marc Henzler (Fighting Heart), Bradley Brown (Best Offensive), Shane Newman (Best Defensive), Casey Carnes, and Justin Newman.



GIRLS GOLF TEAM members recognized at the 2007 Athletic Banquet, are pictured left to right, Courtney Alexander, Savannah Rose, Chicagra Brown (MVP), Karrie Valdez and Emma Knowles.

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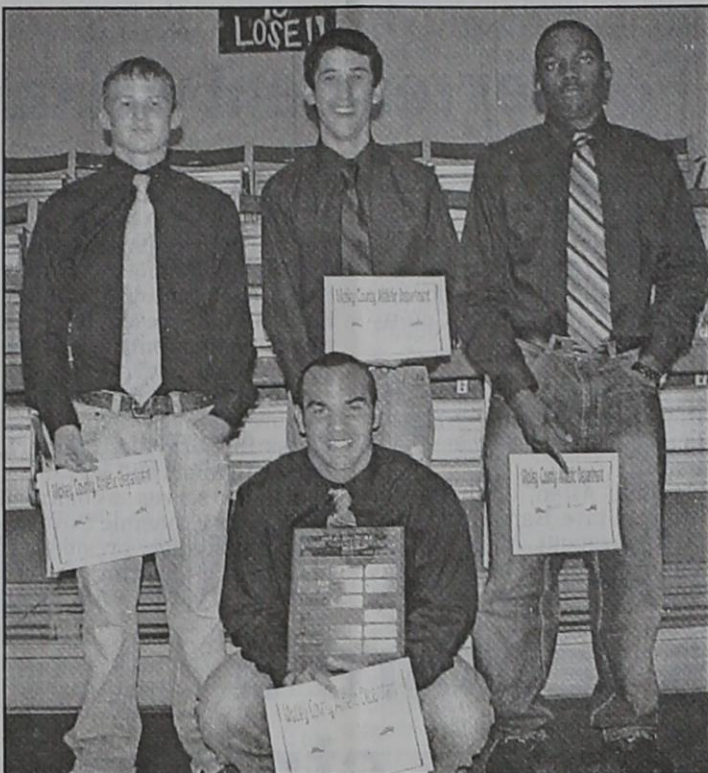
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TENNIS TEAM RECOGNITION — Members of the Motley County High School Tennis team were recognized at the 2007 Athletic Banquet held the week before school was dismissed. Pictured left to right are Amanda Chavez, Christalyn Davis and Brendan Wiltshire, MVP's, and Kayla Simpson.



BOYS GOLF — Motley County High School Boys Golf team members, recognized at the 2007 Athletic Banquet, were (left to right) Stacy Perryman, Jacob Blanco, Bradley Brown, and in front Isaiah Archer, MVP.

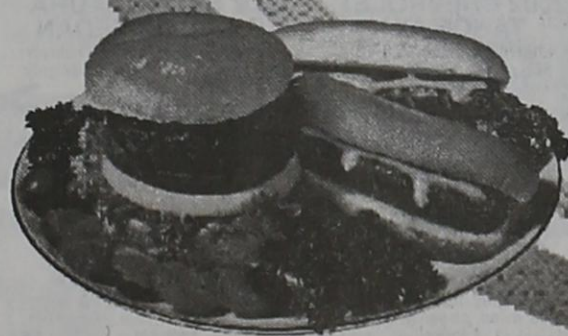
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COMBO MEALS

- | | | | | | |
|-------------|--|--------|--------------|---|--------|
| COMBO NO. 1 | BACON/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE | \$1.99 | COMBO NO. 6 | 3 TAMALES, HOWLERS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP | \$2.59 |
| COMBO NO. 2 | SAUSAGE/EGG BISCUIT & 16 OZ. COFFEE | \$1.99 | COMBO NO. 7 | 2 HOT LINKS WITH BREAD & 32 OZ. TALLSUP | \$2.49 |
| COMBO NO. 3 | BBQ SANDWICH & 32 OZ. TALLSUP | \$1.99 | COMBO NO. 8 | 2 CORN DOGS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP | \$2.59 |
| COMBO NO. 4 | HOMESTYLE POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP | \$2.69 | COMBO NO. 9 | CHIMICHANGA & 32 OZ. TALLSUP | \$2.39 |
| COMBO NO. 5 | SPICY POPCORN CHICKEN & 32 OZ. TALLSUP | \$2.69 | COMBO NO. 10 | 2 BEEF & BEAN BURRITOS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP | \$2.59 |

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Motley County students bring nostalgic entertainment to Hackberry residents

40's & 50's style acts rock & roll

The staff and residents of the Hackberry Creek Care Center were treated to the musical and acting talents of students from the Motley County sixth grade Theatre Arts class on Thursday, May 17. Their assignment, given by teacher Kay Bingham, was to select a song, preferably from the 1940's and 1950's era, obtain a CD containing the music, and learn to lip sync or sing along with the music. Next, the students had to come up with costumes and dance steps or movements that were appropriate for their song selections.

Sabra Pope, Mari Simmons and Taylor Tomlinson, dressed in poodle skirts and scarves, opened the production with a favorite from the '50's "Happy Days." Dominique Quilimaco was second to perform and

slowed the pace slightly with his version of "I Can See Clearly Now." The third act, "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," a very popular tune of the 1940's was performed by Jaci Zingerman and

Kaitlan Perryman. The girls were dressed in costumes from that era and had the entire audience stamping and clapping in tune to the music. The fourth act, "Tater Pie," was sung a cappella in cowboy attire by Payden Perryman and Ismael Torres. Next up, Austin Taylor and Britt Simpson, with slicked-back hair and rolled-up jeans,

entertained the residents with a rousing version of Elvis' "Jailhouse Rock." Austin further delighted the fans by going into the audience and dancing the Jitterbug with one of the staff members. The sixth act of Hance Davey and Jonah Meredith did nothing to slow down the action, but instead kept the audience rocking and rolling as they danced and played their guitars to the sound of "Tutti Frutti." for their part in the program, Juan Flores and Neal Potts slicked back their hair and completed

their 50's outfit right down to their "Blue Suede Shoes." The final song of the program, performed by Aaron Woodruff, was his impersonation of a golden oldie by Roy Rodgers and Dale Evans, "Happy Trails to You." As Aaron in his western attire played for the audience, the other members of the class served as his choir. Sabra Pope helped out by playing the part of Dale Evans.

"This was a difficult assignment for these young students to get up before a live audience and perform like this, however, I feel that they were very poised and carried off their acts like

true professional actors and actresses. I'm very proud of them all," stated Mrs. Bingham, their teacher. It was difficult to tell who enjoyed the event more — the staff and residents or the students!



NOSTALGIC PERFORMANCE — Motley County sixth grade Theatre Arts class members with Hackberry Creek Care Center residents after the class performed 40's and 50's tunes for nostalgic entertainment.

Former resident will take helm at Kerrville bank

EDITOR'S NOTE: This submitted article is from the Kerrville Daily Times by Mark J. Armstrong. Mr. Thompson is a former resident of Matador and a graduate of Motley County High School.

Long-time Kerrville banker Roy Thompson has been tapped to take the helm of Union State Bank.

Mike Allen, chairman of Union State Bank, made the announcement. Allen said Thompson was selected by the board after a statewide search.

"We couldn't have asked for a better addition to our team. Roy has been a trusted member of the banking industry within Kerr County for over 10 years. He is a highly respected individual, and not only within the banking industry," Allen said.

Thompson has served as the president of Wells Fargo banks in Kerrville, Bandera, Borne, Comfort and Ingram.

He also serves as chairman of the Kerr Economic Development Foundation, president of the board of directors for the Museum of Western Art, mem-

ber of the noon Rotary Club and of the Riverhill Country Club and past chairman of the Kerrville Area Chamber of Commerce.

His new role at Union State Bank will include president, CEO and board member. Thompson also will join the bank with an ownership interest.

"Roy also has made a substantial investment in Union State Bank, thus making a generous investment in the bank's customers in the process," Allen said.

Thompson called it a "fantastic opportunity" to be involved as CEO and part of the ownership of a locally owned bank.

"This will ensure our ability to remain involved in the community and enable my family to

sink our roots even deeper in the wonderful Texas Hill Country," Thompson said.

Thompson received a bachelor of business administration in finance and real estate from Texas Tech University in 1987. His career in banking began in 1987 with BankOne in Dallas, where he worked as a credit analyst.

He then returned to Lubbock in October of 1993 to work for Wells Fargo. In July of 1995 his family moved to Kerrville, where he continued to work for Wells Fargo as the Senior Loan Officer. Thompson later became president for the local branches.

He and his wife, Melanie, are members of First United Methodist Church and have three children.

Rising gas prices require a comprehensive energy strategy

by Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison

As the price of gasoline hits an all-time high, many Americans are worrying that they cannot afford a family vacation this summer. Families, individuals and businesses all feel the pinch at the pump. Some of my colleagues in Congress are eager to blame our nation's energy suppliers, but raising taxes on the profits of energy companies will not lower prices. A comprehensive, long-term and bipartisan solution is needed to ensure a safe and reliable energy supply and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. Our national and economic security depend upon it.

Over 60 percent of our crude oil is imported from foreign countries, and many of those countries are hostile to the interests of the United States. Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has promised to use his "strong oil card" to "finish off the U.S. empire," even if that means colliding with Iran and other nefarious regimes. Reliable energy is too important to the success of our economy to be tied to the whims of some dictator thousands of miles away. If we truly want to be energy independent, we need to expand domestic production of all energy sources — alternative technologies and renewable energy as well as traditional oil and natural gas. Imposing restrictions on supply while international demand rises leads to higher prices. This is a simple lesson from Economics 101 that is apparently lost on many politicians.

America is blessed with bountiful reserves of oil and gas in areas such as the Alaskan National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and Outer Continental

Shelf. As the Washington Post noted, "the nation needs to be as willing to explore off its own shores for the resources it needs as it is to import them from abroad." Under a plan issued by the Department of the Interior, potential production in the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic Ocean and off the coast of Alaska could equal 20 years worth of what we import from Saudi Arabia or Venezuela.

Unfortunately, political demagoguery has thwarted our attempts at energy independence. If President Clinton had signed a law passed by Congress for energy exploration in ANWR a decade ago, we would now be producing over 1 million additional barrels of domestic oil each day, a 20 percent increase over current levels. With today's advanced technology, we can explore these rich sources of energy using only a small portion of surface land, thereby protecting our environment and wildlife in ANWR. In addition, we must expand our refining capabilities to fully convert these natural resources to unstable energy. The American downstream energy industry is working hard in this region and will add over 1.9 million barrels per day of new refining capacity by the year 2012.

Conservation and new energy technologies are also crucial aspects of an effective and balanced energy plan. Texas is a leading adopter of alternative energy solutions and boasts the nation's highest wind power production and the most alternative fuel vehicles on the road. We are also leading the charge in the development of cellulosic ethanol made from grass and biodiesel made from soy. These crop-based alternatives draw upon renewable resources that

are abundant in Texas. As consumers increasingly seek cars with better gas mileage, automakers produce more fuel-efficient products to meet demand. I have introduced legislation in the Senate to amplify the federal government's efforts in alternative energy research and development. The last Congress streamlined the regulatory process to encourage more investment in nuclear power plants, which with better technology are our cleanest and most efficient energy source and produce significantly less waste than ever before.

Our nation's energy policy is stuck in the era of bellbottom pants and platform shoes, and we are long overdue for a change. However, we cannot combat climbing prices without a plan for increased domestic production of traditional oil and gas and alternative resources. Such a plan would also put us in charge of our own economic security, rather than relying on supplies that seek to harm our country. Congress must act, but not with knee-jerk penalties for the firms that help drive our booming economy. American ingenuity has always solved our toughest problems, and we must put it to work in this arena.

Alternative energy sources, conservation and responsible use of our domestic resources will provide affordable energy for our families and businesses.

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Star Walk at Copper Breaks State Park celebrates unique astronomy presentations

Quanah -- The mysterious and beautiful planet Venus will be the focus of the Star Walk, set for Saturday, June 9, as the acclaimed stargazing program continues to celebrate eleven years of unique and outstanding public astronomy presentations. Program originator Jeri Turner will lead a naked-eye exploration of our solar system as well as brighter objects for the popular family event beginning at dusk, or around 9:00 p.m., at Big Pond Campground.

In addition to the after-dark program, SkyGuide volunteers regularly offer an afternoon of Sun Fun from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Sun Fun offers the public rare views of our own star, the Sun, through telescopes fitted with special filters for safe viewing.

The nighttime observing begins after sunset. Turner will begin the fun, family oriented program with a tour of the darkening sky - the Star Walk. Blending science with history, legends, and lore, Turner takes participants on a trip through major constellations in all four directions, and introduces a technique known as "star-hopping" to find other interesting objects. Following the naked-eye presentation, the public is invited to get a close-up view of our planetary neighbors through the park's binoculars and telescopes as well as through larger scopes provided by knowledgeable SkyGuides. These volunteers come from throughout northern Texas and Oklahoma to assist the Star Walk program through the generous use of their own equipment.

Selected as a participant program in the Night Sky Network sponsored by NASA and the Jet Propulsion Lab, the Star

Walk has expanded its presentation format to demonstrate hands-on astronomy materials that the public can experience.

The 2007 Star Walk is also slated for July 14, August 18, September 15 and October 13. Next year's schedule is in development and will feature programs monthly from April through October.

Star Walk is sponsored by the Quahadi Society, Inc., the non-profit support group for Copper Breaks State Park. For more information on park facilities or programs, or the Quahadi Society, call the park weekdays during business hours at (940) 839-4331.

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REMEMBERING DAYS GONE BY

Stories of days gone by in and around Motley County

RECOLLECTIONS by John Duff Green

Note: John Duff Green was born in 1874 in Lampasas County, Texas, the son of John Archibald and Susan Lewis Green, who had migrated to Texas from Culpepper County, Virginia after the War Between the States. They came to this area and settled in Dickens County in 1891. "Duff" was a cowboy on some of the large ranches in that area when he met and married in 1901 a young school teacher, Myra Kelly. They purchased land in Motley County and lived there the rest of their lives. Duff died in 1960 and Myra in 1973.

After Mr. Green's death, seven volumes of his journal were first published as a series of stories in the *Motley County Tribune* and later made into a book "Recollections" by his granddaughter, Joan Green Lawrence. The book is no longer in print.

TEXAS

The word Texas wherever seen or heard, possibly offers to the average mind as many suggestive thoughts as any word in our English language.

To a native Texas cattleman, it is a perennial stream of content for his fondest hopes and dreams to float upon, as he relives his life amid scenes that have passed away, but whose halo lingers still, after the sun is down.

Texas in its primeval state has never had its equal as a livestock habitat, or natural breeding ground. No place is found on the world maps of equal size that could combine so many necessary attributes, with fewer disadvantages than Texas had - climate, altitudes, rainfall, natural shelter or protection from any extreme weather in summer or during winter's frowning visage.

Interspersed with rivers and creeks that flowed with an ample water supply the year round, fed as they were by gushing springs that rushed down

the hills and over the pebbles with a gurgling cadence as they went their way to the sea, the hills and vales were covered with an abundance of the most luxuriant grasses and weeds that any part of the face of the world was ever carpeted with.

Surely the Creator, with his Divine Wisdom, touched the part of His creation we know as Texas with an extra touch of His aesthetic wand, and left it clothed with loveliness, for the sterile, inhospitable features one may see today is the handiwork of man as he rudely disturbed nature as created.

People who are at all conversant with Texas history will recall that after its annexation to the United States, and the Mexican War which followed and closed about 1847, the U.S. government shortly established a chain of forts across the State, primarily for the protection of its citizens from Indian raids.

This line of forts began at Fort Sill in the old Indian Territory on south to Fort Richardson in Jack County, Fort Belknap on the Brazos River in Young County, Fort Griffin on the Clear Fork in Shackelford County, Camp Cooper on the same stream and on to Fort Phantom Hill on the Clear Fork in Jones County, thence south by west across the watershed between the Brazos and the Colorado Rivers to Fort Chadbourne in Coke County in Fort Concho and on to the Rio Grande.

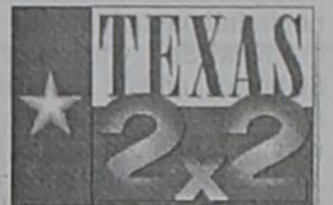
At the time of their establishment, there were of course somewhat in advance or in the background from the settlements proper and it can be stated with assurance that the country east and south of these forts were teeming with cowmen and their herds of cattle, dammed back as it were and kept below the forts because of the wily Indians who held undisputed control of the country north and west from those forts. It is true that a few hearty souls pushed out beyond, but a few entirely covered them and they were not distant.

to be continued



SERVICE AWARD — Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) recently awarded Terry Simpson, (left), Motley County Maintenance employee a service award for 20 years of employment with TxDOT.

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PROOF OF THE TRUTH

BY TOM EDWARDS

IS THE SETI PROJECT SCIENTIFIC?

Perhaps you remember the popular Jodie Foster movie "Contact." It was based upon the ongoing SETI project (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence), upon which many years and millions of dollars have been spent in listening to and analyzing cosmic radio waves. What they, along with super-computers, are searching for are radio waves that show a specified and ordered complexity that does not naturally occur. Why? Because if such is discovered, it would tell us that there is intelligence out there, and we are not alone in the universe!

Imagine the headlines if, from deep space, we intercepted a radio wave that said, for instance, "Kilroy was here," "Greetings earthlings," or "Is anybody out there?" Even "two plus two equals four!" This hasn't happened yet, but the search continues, and it is supported by many scientists who are both atheists and Darwinian evolutionists. And, they are all in agreement that the search and inquiry IS scientific! It is, because we know that specified (purposefully ordered) complexity, including language, that does not naturally occur, can not happen in the absence of power and intelligence. So, if such messages were received, we could rightly conclude that they resulted from intelligence by simply examining the messages. Nothing more would be required.

Now here's the weird part - these same scientists who claim that the above inquiry is "scientific" also claim that the search for Intelligent Design is not scientific, even though language itself is intelligently designed! Do we detect a bit of hypocrisy and "double-talk" here?

The truth of the matter is that the opponents of teaching and studying Intelligent Design are hopelessly contradictory and irrational in their positions - they are blind to truth by choice, i.e., "willingly ignorant!" See 2 Peter 3:3-5.

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News Around the County

OBITUARIES

Roaring Springs News

By Monta Marshall

Two mornings recently as I have been going to therapy I have had the pleasure of coming upon the Matador cowboys moving cattle up to a pasture on top of the Caprock. The green grass is so lush and the cattle so fat and sleek, it was a picture to keep in my mind for a long time. I would have been thrilled to have had a camera, the sky was perfect, it was definitely a Kodak moment. Vicariously I was part of the work going on. Were it not for arthritis, and other ailments I would have loved to have the leisure to ride along with them. Being raised on the Plains, I have not had the opportunity to see many cattle drives; oh, we moved them from wheat etc., but not in full panoply as this was.

Neal Sedgwick, son of Jerry Sedgwick, and Jo Dell King graduated from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, May 25th. Jo Dell attended the graduation. She returned home on May 30th. Congratulations, Neal.

The commodities from Catholic Family Services will be in Roaring Springs again on June 14, 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. If you wish for someone else to pick up some for you go by the City Hall and fill out the paperwork in advance.

Joyce Smith remains in Covenant Hospital. Joyce is having a tough time; please keep her in your prayers.

The chuckwagon supper for the Old Settlers Cowboy Camp meeting

was held on Friday evening, June 1, at the RSCV pavilion, and was a success. Thirty-two people were fed hamburgers with all the trimmings, cobbler and ice cream.

On Saturday, July 14th there will be a garage sale with proceeds going to the Old Settlers Camp Meeting held at the Pavilion.

Visiting in the home of Don and Billie Stuckey on Saturday were their daughter, Leandra Whittenberg of Corinth, TX; Billie's mother, Lou Dean Douthit and sister, Peggy North of Briscoe, Texas. Matthew and Kenna returned home with their mom after spending a week with Gram and Cappy.

Johnny and Connie Morris are attending the 23rd annual Lenapah Cowboy Camp Meeting in Lenapah, Oklahoma this week. Brother Johnny will be one of the speakers. Last year, Connie said it was the highlight of their year.

Ruby Hipp and Don Dillard remain at Heritage Oaks Rehab and Nursing facility in Lubbock. Don is taking therapy.

Carolyn Fletcher and Steven Bird attended the wedding of Carolyn's son, Kenny Bird this past week. Janice Perryman and LaNita Geer went also. They stayed with LaNita's sister, Kim, in Henderson. Carolyn was able to see her grandsons, Justin and Christopher Bird. They are leaving for the army this week. They are 18 and 21 years old.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

Nature has been for me, for as long as I can remember, a source of solace, inspiration, adventure and delight, a home, teacher and companion.

50TH CLASS REUNION

The 1957 Flomot High School graduation class held their 50th class reunion Friday, May 25, in Lubbock. They enjoyed a Mexican lunch at the Abuelos Restaurant and then went to their Motel to continue renewing memories. Mrs. Wanda Moseley Davis brought school pictures and gave each class member a DVD of popular songs in the 1950's.

Seven of the nine graduating class members attended. Wayne Winston is deceased and Peggy Purcell McKinnon was unable to attend. Those attending were Leo Reed and wife, Helena of Amarillo, Dean Turner and wife, Nova of Matador, Katherine Kimbell Conner and husband, Elgin of Levelland, Mary Ann Calvert Browning and husband, E.J. of Rising Star, Wanda Moseley Davis and husband, Buddy of Lamesa and Anna Beth Tanner Clay and Joe Ike Clay of Flomot.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

Keane Cruse of Turkey was honored with a birthday luncheon, decorated cake and all the trimmings Sunday, June 3rd in the home of his parents, Brenda and Darrell Cruse.

Those attending the happy occasion were his wife, Lacy and daughter, Reese; grandmothers, Mrs. Marihelen Wason of Matador and Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse of Turkey; his sister, Leah Cruse of Canyon, Mrs. Rex Hamilton of Matador and Brian Farmer of Lubbock.

ATTEND COMMUNITY REUNION

Nada and Jack Starkey attended the School and Community Reunion in Durham, Oklahoma Saturday afternoon, May 26 at the Community Center. They had musical entertainment and an evening meal was served at 6:00 p.m. Over 70 registered, but Nada was the only one in her 1957 class to attend.

They were overnight guests Friday in Durham of her brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Moon. They visited overnight Saturday in Cheyenne, Okla. and Mrs. Lorene Gault. En route home, they visited

in Higgins from Sunday until Tuesday with Mr. and Mrs. Jay Kennedy and children, Jackie Lee and Tanya Starkey.

Mrs. Velma Winston of Monroe, Washington is visiting her mother, Mrs. Anna Shannon and brother and family, Bill and Suzie Shannon.

Dana and Crystal Vinson and children, Allyson and Elise of Lubbock visited Memorial holidays with parents, Doris and Roger Vinson and grandmother, Mrs. Beverly Vinson. Visiting them this weekend was grandson, Bubba Vinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Shannon Vinson of Lubbock.

Jack and Johnie Starkey attended the graveside services of their aunt, Mrs. Nadene Weaver, 96, of Olton held Saturday, June 2 at the Olton Cemetery.

Mrs. Shonda Lee, her mother, Mrs. Wanda Davey of Plainview and her sister, Mrs. Penny Taylor of Floydada enjoyed shopping and entertainment in Lubbock, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay were in Panhandle last Sunday, May 27, to celebrate the birthday of their son, Larry Clay. Their granddaughter, Sarah Clay of Panhandle visited overnight Saturday and her father, Larry visited Sunday and accompanied her home.

Donnie Rogers accompanied his mother, Mrs. B. Rogers to Lubbock, Monday for a medical appointment and a new hearing aid. They visited Ronnie and Lou Rogers before returning home.

Guests of Ruth and Orville Lee Sunday were her cousin and wife, Wayne and Pat Smith of Woodenville, Washington.

Gwen and Tim Mandrell and daughter, Peyton of Lubbock visited Saturday afternoon with her family, Mary Jo and Doyle Calvert and Glen Calvert.

Wilburn Martin visited during Memorial holidays in Borger with daughter and husband, Marilee and Fred Cooper. Visiting him and other family members during the weekend was his sister, Mrs. Nita Merritt of Grandbury.

Mrs. Cindy Calvert accompanied her husband to the Lubbock Airport Sunday morning where he explained to Warrington, Virginia on business. Cindy and son, Cade remained to visit her parents, Clois and Kathy Shorter.

Eugenia Barton

Funeral services for Eugenia Barton, 86, of Matador were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, June 4, 2007, at the First Baptist Church in Matador with Rev. Matt Crawford, pastor, officiating. Interment followed in the East Mound Cemetery in Matador under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

Mrs. Barton passed away at her residence Thursday, May 31, 2007. She was born March 18, 1921, in Motley County, Texas to Coke D. and Bertha E. Day Garrison and remained a lifelong resident of Motley County. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother and amazed all of them with her abilities as a wonderful cook and hostess. Eugenia was married to France Barton on December 15, 1940, at Spur, Texas. He preceded her in death on April 2, 1997. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Matador, Matador Stitch and Chatter Club, and the Red Rovers.

Mrs. Barton was preceded in death by two sons: Mike and Coke Barton; 1 son-in-law, Shad Brooks; 4 brothers and 3 sisters.

She is survived by two daughters, Dixie Campbell and husband, Bundy Hal of Matador and Brigid



Brooks of Lubbock; one brother, C.D. Garrison and wife Evelyn of Matador; 9 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Brent Campbell, Michael Burr Barton, Jamie Bulls, Stacy Price, Monty Edwards, Charlie Fisher, Donovan Stevens, Jamie Saunders.

The family suggests memorials to the East Mound Cemetery Association, c/o Seigler Funeral Home, P.O. Box 370, Matador, Texas 79244.

Senior Notes

by Tommye Keith, Director

Leona and Ellis Terry gave a memorial in honor of Vance Campbell. Joyce Campbell gave a memorial in memory of John Buchanan, Ray and Don Baxter, Ellis and Geraldine Key and Barbara and Jimmy West, Dan Barton, Wade and Nell Berryman, Lucretia Campbell, Joyce Campbell, Carolyn Ewing, June Cunningham, Mickie Hillman, Ed D. and Pat Smith, Evelyn and C.D. Garrison, Carolyn and Harold Limmer, Lance and Sherry Bailey, Edna Ruth Green, Peggy Welling James, C.H. and Raynita Murphy, Roy and Frances Hobbs and Dahl and Dwight Clower gave memorials in memory of Inez Bailey.

Joanie and Steve Stevens gave a memorial in memory of

Casey Simpson. Bob and Wanda Kilmer gave a memorial in memory of Bill Dean Washington and John Buchanan.

C.H. and Raynita Murphy also gave a memorial in memory of Dorothy Martin Meador, Dahl and Dwight Clower also gave a memorial donation in memory of Eugenia Barton.

Would like to thank Mike Jones, Debra Spray, Linda Jameson, Steve Hess, Stan Hanesworth and Lawrence Allen for their jury donation.

Thanks everyone so very much for your memorial donations and donations. They sure help the Center a bunch.

The Center is open Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. See you at the Center.

THANK YOU

We all want to thank you for phone calls, visits, food, sympathy cards, flowers and donations to the Motley County Senior Citizen's Center and the Whiteflat Cemetery Fund in memory of our Mother and MeMaw, Inez Bailey.

Once again, we are overwhelmed by the goodness and kindness of all of you who "pitched in" in our time of need. Matador and Motley County people are clearly the best in the world!

A special thanks to Pat, Nathan and Frances Hobbs for making Inez look so beautiful; to Pastor Matt Crawford and Carolyn Ewing for the wonderful message and music at Inez's graveside service; to Deanie Edwards, Liv Barton, Dorothy Turner and Wanda Stockton for planning and overseeing the nice meal at the Baptist Church; to Dartha, Steve, Wendy and all the staff at Hackberry Creek Care Center for their care and support; and to Dr. Jeffrey Hannel for taking care of Inez at Grace Clinic and UMC in Lubbock.

Our sincere gratitude and thanks, Marlene and Dick Hamm, David, Caroline, Lauren and Rachel Hamm, Mike, Cindy, West & Will Everett, Sandra, Brian and Cody Hamm, Ron and Kay Bailey, Lance, Sherry and Jason Bailey, Kevin, Sherry, Dillon and Kolton Bailey, Andrea & Branton Bailey

Matador News

Warren and Tanya Multer, Katy, Amy and Cory of Garden City met her parents, Betty and Billy Paul Simpson at the Roaring Springs Ranch during the Memorial holidays and enjoyed camping out.

Richard and Sue Lancaster of Breckenridge visited Tuesday with her sister and family, Evelyn and C.D. Garrison. Sue remained to visit until Sunday when Richard returned to accompany her home.

Spencer and Wilda Dixon visited in Lovington, N.M. from May 19-24 in the home of her mother, Mrs. Ted Hester. They attended the Lovington High School graduation of Christopher Hester, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hester, held Sunday afternoon, May 20 at the Lee County Event Center.

Motley County Relay for Life - June 23-24

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FARM & RANCH NEWS



Rains and cool temperatures continue in Motley County in May

by Earlyne Jameson

Rains that abandoned Motley County crops last season have returned to drench the region in record setting fashion. Saddled with cool, sodden fields it is difficult to plant and cotton will be slow to sprout. However, the benefit of the moisture is going to outweigh the danger of the cooler than normal temperatures.

Wheat is in good condition

and continues to mature. Pastures and ranges and cattle are in mostly good to excellent condition.

The Motley County National Service Volunteers registered the total moisture for May 2007: Buzz Thacker, Roaring Springs, 5.28 inches; Betty Simpson, Northfield, 4.28 inches; Clois Shorter, Flomot, 4.90 inches; Ronnie Bailey, Matador, 4.75 inches and Lawrence Allen, Whiteflat, 2.90 inches.

OIL & GAS REPORT

BY THOMAS MUSSER



MOTLEY COUNTY: Area rains continue to delay the rig move and the spudding of the Banker's Petroleum (US) Inc. Black 4 Lease Well #1.

FLOYD COUNTY: On Thursday, May 31, 2007, PetroGlobe Inc. of Calgary, Alberta Canada issued their 2007 First Quarter Report, which included updates on the PetroGlobe Energy U.S.A. Ltd. Palo Duro Basin Operation.

PetroGlobe Inc. announced the four mile pipeline connection from the McIntosh location to the Atmos Energy Distribution Pipeline had been completed and pressure tested. PetroGlobe Inc. stated it is wait-

ing on (1) the completion of the fabrication of the McIntosh Lease Gas Processing Facility; (2) the installation of this facility on the McIntosh location; (3) the installation of the tap connection to the Atmos Energy Pipeline; and (4) the installation of the Atmos Energy metering facility. PetroGlobe Inc. stated that commercial production from the McIntosh Lease should begin late in the third quarter of 2007 or early in the fourth quarter of 2007.

PetroGlobe Energy U.S.A. Ltd. continues to frac and perform completion work on the McIntosh Lease Well #176.

Texas A&M team to add a 'Grain of Common Sense' to Biofuel Options

College Station -- The U.S. has entered the "era of the bio-economy," said U.S. Department of Agriculture Undersecretary Gale Buchanan.

"This could have the most important impact on agriculture in 150 years. To fully meet the nation's needs for sustainable resources, we've got to look at all types of feedstock," said Buchanan, who recently visited the Texas A&M University System campus at College Station.

Buchanan, along with the Texas Commissioner of Agriculture Todd Staples, agribusiness leaders and media representatives, were at the campus to tour the Texas A&M Agriculture effort in biofuel research. The Texas A&M biofuel research effort goes beyond corn for ethanol, a multi-disciplinary effort that includes crops bred specifically for high-tonnage biomass for biofuel and generating electricity, engineering research into processing the biomass, and cropping systems that would allow farmers to not just grow the crops, but grow them profitably, said Dr. Juerg Blumenthal, a Texas A&M Agriculture agronomist.

The problem with some biofuel crops is that they may have been well thought out at the engineering/refining level but not at the farming level, said Blumenthal, one of the many featured speakers on the tour. The Texas A&M program is avoiding this problem by incorporating cropping system trials at the field level as dedicated biofuel systems are developed.

"It just makes common sense, that if you are talking about a dedicated energy crop, you have to develop a crop production method that farmers can make money with. If they can't make money with it, they're not going to grow it," said Blumenthal, who has a joint appointment with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and Texas Cooperative Extension.

"The strength of the effort is

to bring everything to the table, from crop development to engineering, from crop systems to genetics," Blumenthal said. "My responsibility is to develop recommendations how to grow these crops profitably."

One of the stars of the event was not a dignitary or a scientist, but a sorghum cultivar that has been bred to produce large amounts of biomass that can be converted into biofuel.

Though a lot of attention has been paid to using corn grain as a biofuel source - converting starch to ethanol - as the primary biofuel method, it may not be the answer for Texas, said Dr. Bill McCutchen, deputy associate director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Moreover, there are better alternatives for the Lone Star State.

As an example of such alternatives are sorghum cultivars that have been bred to produce either a high tonnage of biomass or high sugar content, McCutchen said.

One sorghum, developed by Dr. Bill Rooney, Experiment Station plant breeder, can produce from 15 to 20 dry tons of biomass per acre, McCutchen said.

"Other crops for biofuel have been considered, some of which are exotic while others abandoned decades past because they weren't profitable for growers. But some scientists are not considering the logistics of harvesting and transporting many of these proposed biofuel crops," McCutchen said.

McCutchen and others talked about by-passing current ethanol production methods, which relies on a fermentation process similar to what is used to produce consumable alcohol from the sugars in grains such as corn. Instead, they spoke of going directly from cellulose, the main constituent of leaves and stalks, to ethanol and other biofuels.

These methods have the promise of converting all of the plant material - not just the grain - into biofuels or directly

into electricity. Because very little plant material is wasted, these technologies should also be more environmentally viable, McCutchen said.

Rooney emphasized that the sorghum lines he developed are part of a conventional breeding program and are not genetically engineered. In a conventional breeding program, parent plants are selected for specific traits, then cross-pollinated with other varieties to strengthen those desired traits. The process is repeated over several growing seasons until the plant with the desired traits breeds true.

Agronomists have essentially used the same breeding techniques for centuries, and all modern cultivars, from improved landscape plants to row crops, have been developed this way, Rooney said. The process is painstaking, and the development of a new variety takes from eight to ten years or longer. Much of that time is spent just identifying which parent plants carry the gene that is responsible for the desired trait.

Plant geneticists at the Norman E. Borlaug Center for Southern Crop Improvement have mapped the chromosomes of Rooney's sorghums. Using these genetic maps, Rooney and other plant breeders hope to bypass many of the field trials to identify parent plants with the desired traits.

With this technique, they expect they can cut the time it takes to further develop high-tonnage sorghum by more than half, Rooney said.

As a result, he hopes to be able to have a drought-tolerant sorghum that's ready for farmers in a few years rather than a decade, he said.

Rooney emphasized that this process is not what's commonly called "genetic engineering." No genes from other species will be inserted into the genomic structure of the sorghums.

Before his appointment as USDA undersecretary,

Buchanan spent more than two decades as research agronomist.

"I am impressed with what I saw today," he said. The challenge is to identify feedstock and convert it into some form that we can take, he said. "It's hard to stuff feedstocks into a gas tank. As a former scientist, it's not enough to (put together) a good piece of research and publish a paper. That's just the beginning."

Buchanan noted in an after-tour luncheon speech, that Title 7 of the new federal farm bill is expected to include up to \$50 million in funding as part of a bioenergy/bioproducts initiative, with research and development conducted among select land-grant and other universities, Buchanan said.

It is imperative the U.S. find ways to make fuel from feedstocks, including waste products, such as wood chips, Buchanan said.

Staples, who also spoke at the luncheon, was also impressed with the scope and vision of the Texas A&M effort.

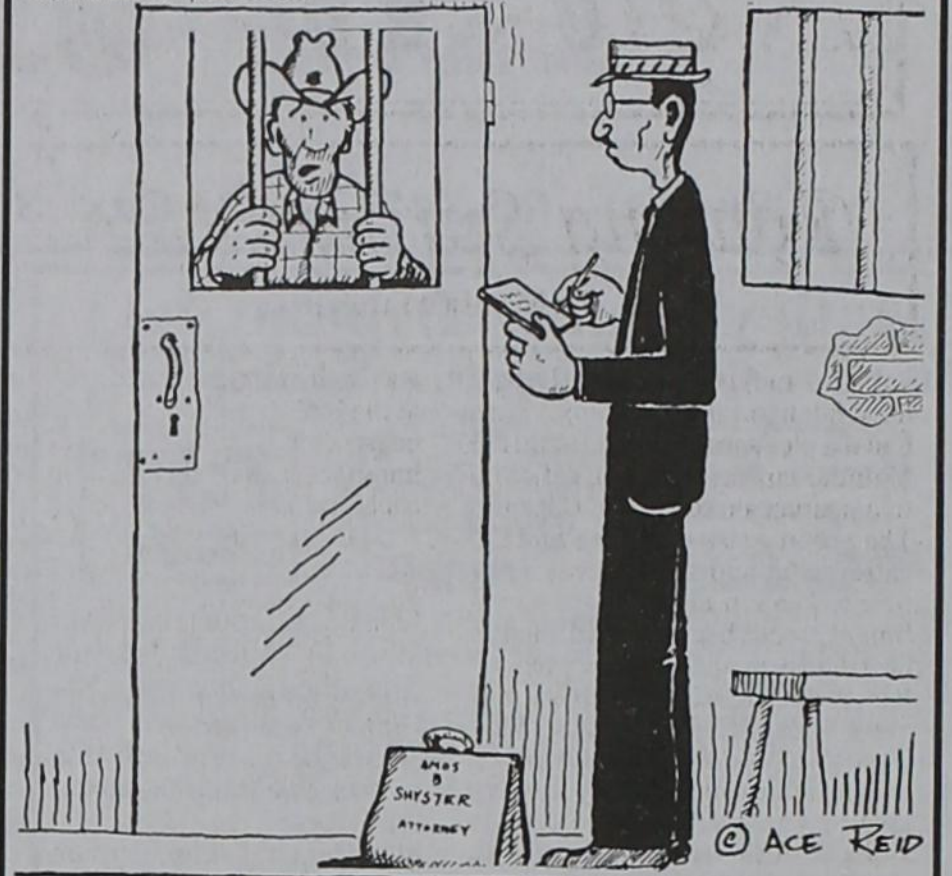
"I'm excited about what I've seen (today)," Staples said. "We (Texas) can really capitalize and take advantage of this. For decades we have used what's underground, and now it's a reality to use what's above the ground."

More information on the Experiment Station's biofuel initiative can be found at <http://agrresearch.tamu.edu/BioenergyInitiatives.htm> or by contacting Bob Avant, bioenergy program manager at bavant@tamu.edu or 512-365-6591.

Thank you for reading the Motley County Tribune

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LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST

Motley County Tribune Weather June 7, 2007

7-Day Forecast	In-Depth Forecast	Moon Phases
Thursday Mostly Sunny High: 97 Low: 68	Today we will see mostly sunny skies with a high temperature of 97°, humidity of 23% and an overnight low of 68°. The record high temperature for today is 108° set in 1964. Friday, skies will be partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms.	Last 6/8
Friday Partly Cloudy High: 94 Low: 70		New 6/14
Saturday Partly Cloudy High: 88 Low: 67		First 6/22
Sunday Partly Cloudy High: 91 Low: 70		Full 6/30
Monday Partly Cloudy High: 92 Low: 68		
Tuesday Mostly Sunny High: 89 Low: 65		
Wednesday Mostly Sunny High: 90 Low: 67		

Last Week's Local Almanac

Day	High	Low	Normals	Precip
Sunday	84	65	86/61	0.00"
Monday	84	60	86/61	0.00"
Tuesday	85	61	86/62	0.00"
Wednesday	78	61	87/62	0.00"
Thursday	82	57	87/62	0.00"
Friday	79	63	87/63	0.75"
Saturday	84	63	88/63	0.21"

Weather History
 June 7, 1972 - Richmond, Va. experienced its worst flood of record as rains from Hurricane Agnes pushed the water level at the city locks to a height of 36.5 feet, easily topping the previous record of 30 feet set in 1771.

Sun & Moon Times

Sunrise today	6:32 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:53 p.m.
Moonrise today	1:28 a.m.
Moonsset today	12:50 p.m.

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Motley County Tribune

Carla M. Meador ~ Publisher & Editor



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Guadalupe Economic Services Corporation will be giving commodities in the following cities Thursday, June 14, 2007.

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Important Reminder: To receive your NEW card for 2007, you will need to bring the following information to apply. We request that you have ID, Social Security cards for everyone in your household, Electric Bill (no water, cable or phone bills please), proof of income for everyone 24 and over (the past 30 days), bank statement, check stubs and award letter can be used. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS! No application will be started if any information is missing.

CORRECTION

Robert Fisk has not been deployed to Iraq as reported in last week's Memorial Day story.

HELP WANTED

MOTLEY COUNTY I.S.D. is now accepting applications for two (2) instructional aide positions for the 2007-2008 school year. Applications may be obtained at the school office from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday. For more information contact Superintendent Randy Brown at 347-2676 extension 2401. Motley County ISD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

2tc-23

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