

# MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

VOICE OF THE FOOTHILL COUNTRY

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End of the Trail by Ken Young

## Center Director advocates for senior support in council open forum

### Council selects bank depository and adopts a new 2008-2009 tax rate

By Carol Campbell

The Matador City Council met in regular session Thursday, August 14, to compare bank depository bids and adopt a proposed 2008-2009 tax rate.

The full council was present, including Mayor Pat Smith, City Secretary Debra Scott, City Superintendent Steve Barton, and council members Kay Bailey, Alvin Alexander, Chuck Ream, Pat Seigler, and Shane Jones.

Also attending were guests Tommye Keith, director of the Senior Citizens Center, and 10 citizens, consisting of Larry Hoyle, Dortha and Paul Westbrook, Bobby Williams, Harold and Vee Gordon, Bobby Klodinski, Roy Hobbs, Ronald Bailey, Fred Grant, and Motley County Tribune editor Larry Vogt.

Responding to recent concerns regarding city support for water and sewer services at the Senior Citizen Center, Tommye Keith spoke in Open Forum, providing the council with an overview of services, and requesting continued support from the City. "There

are 19 centers in a 15-county area, and all get some help from their city," Keith said.

From October-August 14, 2008, the Center has served 10,294 meals to 60-year-old and above residents; and delivered 452 meals in the same time frame, Keith said. "The home delivery volunteers may be the only person (a resident) sees all day long." The Center is funded in part by federal and state grants, local cash, memorials, donations, and fundraisers.

Following Open Forum, the City Superintendent Steve Barton reported the completion of the new water lines, except for hookup services.

"Travis and Franklin Jameson were the contractors and they did a great job," Barton said. In addition, Barton commended city employees Joel Guerrero, Gene Salazar, Brandon Martin, Lorenzo Salazar and Roy Moreno for their exceptional work. "My team did an outstanding job, working many a hot day. I am proud of them," he said. Mayor Smith also acknowledged the hard work of employees on the water and sidewalk grants, "com-

mending all city employees for doing a good job," he said.

The sidewalk tear-out is completed, Barton said. "They have most of the concrete poured back. People have been very cooperative, and we are appreciative of that cooperation," he said. Barton projected that by the end of next week the sidewalks, including the ramps and some curb repair, will be finished.

In other business, City Secretary Debra Scott reported that the Texas Municipal League had denied an insurance claim by L.J. Barkley to property on the corner of Eubank and Dundee. Barkley claims that when the city busted out sidewalks they left a pile of dirt on the pavement that blocked drainage to the building, thereby causing the building to flood during a subsequent rain.

The Council opened two bank depository bids; one from First National Bank of Seymour, Matador Branch, and one from First National Bank of Floydada. Roy Hobbs, President of the Matador Branch, met with the council

*continued on page 3*

## The 85th Annual Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion and Rodeo Queen Candidates



Jaci Zingerman

Motley County

Jordan Garvin  
Dickens County



## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

**County Agents' News**  
Farm Bill Meeting  
Scheduled for Aug. 25 in Childress

**Coming Home**  
Geraldine "Jerry" and Ellis Key "grew up" in the saddle, riding the range and working on the rolling plains of northwest Texas.

**Days Gone By**  
Part 2 of 3 continues of *The Texas Chief Bonanza*, by Marisue Potts.

**Opinion Editorial**  
David Oefinger, Director, Texas Pest Management Association, writes "It's Time to Turn off the Water in the Texas High Plains."

**Library News**  
Bestselling author Joaquin Jackson will be on hand to sign copies of his memoir, "One Ranger."



# Foothill Country Connections

Community, Diversity, Art

By Laverne Zabielski

When we went to Fort Worth a few weeks ago I made a point to visit a book store. It makes my travels complete when I can bring back something to read that represents where I am, where I've been and where I'm going. This trip I bought "Notes From Texas, On Writing in the Lone Star State," edited by W.C. Jameson. I don't know many Texas writers so this will be a good introduction.

For Jameson "Growing up in West Texas yielded one adventure after another." The West Texas that he grew up in "was a place that facilitated big dreams." I can only imagine the big dreams my pioneer ancestors must have had coming to Motley County.

Born April 27, 1858 near Tilson's Mill in Bland County, Virginia, my great-grandfather, W.R. Tilson, came to Texas in the fall of 1882. According to his autobiography, after a brief stay in

Dallas and Fort Worth he went to Wichita Falls, "the wildest town I had ever seen," he wrote.

His life was filled with such interesting jobs as driving six yoke, being twelve oxen. . . . Coming back loaded with buffalo bones, and seeing a buffalo bull so vicious he did not bother it. He worked as a cowboy on the R2 Ranch near where Chillicothe is today. "The horses I had ridden bucked straight ahead," he wrote. "This one went high in the air, turned halfway around and landed stiff legged. Then he did the same thing but in reverse. His name was Dynamite. He threw me. When I was trying to get on him the third time the foreman interfered and after that I was considered as a cowboy."

I can only imagine the big dreams of the cowboys and cowgirls at the Old Settlers Reunion and Rodeo next week end. I think I'll be satisfied with watching and writing about what I see.

# WRITING COMMUNITY

## RATTLESNAKES

By Tom Sanders

Part 4 of 4

Even when males fight over females they never bite one another. They rear up and try to slam one another down hard on the ground. The strongest one usually wins and the defeated one then leaves the area.

Rattlers are more sensible than you would think. They even sometimes hibernate in the same den with bull snakes, gopher snakes, milk snakes, racers, garter snakes, and copperheads. Even turtles and skunks have been found in dens with the rattlers, who are too lethargic in the winter to even think about biting a skunk.

However, warm weather is a different matter since the rattlers would be outside and physically active. They even are a help to farmers and ranchers since they eat rats, mice, and other rodents who cause them so much expense. Rattlers must have increased

10-fold in Motley County since "Rattlesnake" Slover, a local farmer, passed on. He was a well-known champion in the rattlesnake roundups in both Texas and Oklahoma. Also, since cowboys don't ride the range with the chuck wagon anymore, very few rattlers are killed like they used to be.

Their abundance today makes a new industry possible in Motley County—that of selling rattlesnake meat in the local cafes and canned meat in local stores, as well as by mail. Then there are the numerous things that can be made from their skins. What a tourist attraction such a business would be!

"George K. End established a rattlesnake canning business in Arcadia, Florida, in 1931. Selling at \$1.24 for a 5-ounce can, it could hardly fall in the category of a grocery staple. Fifteen thousand cans were sold in 1940; 2,500 diamond-backs were canned, which would give a yield of some-

what less than two pounds of meat per snake. Fifty people were said to be employed as hunters and cannerymen. The by-products were skins, rattles, venom, and oil.

Mr. End was subsequently bitten by a rattler and died. (My emphasis). The business was then purchased by Ross Allen of Silver Springs, Florida, who has continued the sale of canned rattlesnake meat. In keeping with the prices of other food items, the price has been advanced and is now \$1.50 per can. Mr. Allen informed me that in 1946, sales continued at the rate of 15,000 cans per year.

"During World War II, when many youngsters were in training in Texas camps, the roadside stands catering to servicemen made a specialty of 'rattle burgers.' (Klauber, pages 250-251).

I don't know if this business is still in operation, but I can visualize in my mind's eye a drive-in café where the

two highways cross in western Matador, as well as on the highway at Roaring Springs, wit big signs advertising "Rattlesnake burgers - with a rattle garnish!" These businesses would be national news, make Motley County famous and give employment to a lot of people.

Rattlesnakes were in the cap rock country when the foundations were being laid for the Egyptian pyramids, when there was another polar star in the northern sky, and when the Southern Cross shone upon the Great Lakes. And now that we can see better through the mists of historical memory there must be as many rattlers now as there were when my great uncles, Wylie and Dave Williams, serving in a Texas Ranger company, rode a beat from San Saba County through Motley County to the Quitaque Peaks in the 1860s. In that sense some things have not changed at all.

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### MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

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## Opinion Editorial

### It's Time to Turn Off the Water in the Texas High Plains

It was not my intention to sit down and pen this message to High Plains farmers, but the idea literally opened before my eyes this morning at the breakfast table. It's time for High Plains growers to cut their use of water ... in fact, regulators should not allow one drop of water to be used for agriculture in the nation's largest cotton patch. Period.

Now, hold on. You have to finish reading this commentary before you hang me from the nearest tree. There is a message here.

This morning, as I sat down to my toast and coffee, I opened the Austin American-Statesman to the front page. . . and there it was. . . the idea for this commentary: "Armstrong tops list of city's largest water users."

This morning's newspaper listed the 10 largest water users in Austin, Texas. Coming in number 1 was Lance Armstrong (bicyclist, lobbyist, techie and musician). According to the article, every minute during the month of June, about five gallons of water passed through the sinks, sprinklers, fountain, and pool at Lance Armstrong's home that rests on 1.16 acres of land. Armstrong used a total of 222,900 gallons of water in one month to feed his thirst.

At the bottom of the list was Jerry Jeff Walker, who used 135,400 gallons of water during June. The other eight major water users fell between Armstrong's and Walker's name. The greatest amount of acreage for a residence was 3.266, but the remaining users were below 1.8 acres.

I know that agricultural water use is always a big topic on the Texas High Plains, but water is really important here in Central Texas, too, with the blind salamander and all. Perhaps we could consider piping your water here to Austin, where there is a real need. During June, Samsung (one of the largest industries in the Austin area), consumed 109,825,300 gallons. See? We need your water!

Armstrong said that he was a "little shocked" that he had used that much water. He had been in California during the month of June and thought his electric bill was a little high, but the cost of his water bill had never been brought to his attention. His estate is managed by a professional management firm.

Now that's a nifty idea. Maybe some of you farmers could spend a little more time out of town during the growing season and let a citified management firm run your operation. Then you would never know how much it cost you to farm. It's just a thought...

Armstrong's water usage during June was enough for 26 average Austin residences. All totaled, the top ten users used enough water in one month to fill a football field with 3 feet of water.

Many of the water users said that they were not aware of the amount of water they were using. It is interesting, though, that in all my years of being involved in agriculture that I have not found 1 single High Plains grower who could not give me a ball park figure of how much water they were using, how much water it takes to produce an average crop, and how much it cost. I guess that comes from spending too much time on the farm tending to business. You folks should lighten up and spend more time traveling and leave the water to us city folks.

One of the Austin water users said she was not shocked at all by her water bill. She figured that there must be a broken pipe somewhere on the quarter acre lot. But city officials doubted the broken pipe theory, saying that they had informed the user numerous times that she was consuming too much water.

Another user said that this was his first home and he figured it was just "pricey" to maintain a yard and pool. He said a management firm paid his water bill and he never knew that he had used 151,500 gallons of water during June.

Still another Austinite went on vacation and left the water cycling in the swimming pool. It makes me wonder how many High Plains farmers have gone on vacation and left their irrigation pumps running...

The real story here, however, is that the top ten water users really are minor when considered with the total amount of water used by city residents and industry. City officials say that demand for water will easily exceed its supply unless consumers act to implement conservation measures.

I hear that some High Plains state legislators are concerned about a proposal by T. Boone Pickens to pipe your water to Dallas. Well, folks here in Austin need your water, too ... for their pools, their fountains, and their lush lawns and landscape. Now, mind you, that's Austin folks ... I live in Round Rock. I have no pool, no fountain and my lawn is dying...but I do feel for my neighbors. Now while your state legislators may have a fight with Mr. Pickens, they'll face some really fierce competition here in Austin ... we have a blind salamander that needs your water!

This commentary is best summed up by an Austin reader's comment to the Statesman's article:

"Typical hypocrites. The Austin elite like to lecture the rest of us about conservation, but they don't practice what they preach. I have 1 acre, and 1,700 sq foot home. I have an orchard, and a nice veggie garden. I follow the rules for watering and I conserve as much as I can. It is very irresponsible not to, and bad planetary citizenship. Gardens before golf courses, food before pools."

Did he actually say "food before pools"? What a novel little thought.

David Oefinger  
Executive Director  
Texas Pest Management Association  
Austin, Texas

## News From Our Neighbors

### The Texas Spur

McAdoo Wind Energy project expected to be in full operation by end of year. Heather Otten of Invenery announced last week that all 100 turbines have been successfully erected.

### Hesperian-Beacon

Floyd County to make tax changes. Michele Arseneau, a Human Resource Representative from Texas Association of Counties told the Floyd County Commissioners that the IRS was auditing Texas counties and some counties have already had to pay large fines for mistakes in record keeping. "Some fringe benefits are taxable," Arseneau said.

### The Paducah Post

Officially Wet! On August 7 the first six pack of beer was sold (legally) in Cottle County since the early 1900's.

### The Childress Index

Annual Quanah Fall Festival Sept. 13. Call 940-663-222 for booth set up information. Crowds are expected to exceed 3000 again this year.

### The Clarendon Enterprise

Based on a prediction that parts of the Panhandle is running out of water, some Donley County ag producers could be facing restricted groundwater use if the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District takes action.



# COMING HOME

Oh, give me a home where the Buffalo roam, Where the Deer and the Antelope play; Where seldom is heard a discouraging word, And the sky is not cloudy all day. — Dr. Brewster Higley (1876)

By Carol Campbell

"Where the Deer and the Antelope play" has special meaning to this month's coming home couple, Geraldine "Jerry" and Ellis Key. They "grew up" in the saddle -- riding the range and working cattle on the rolling plains of north-west Texas. After a 30-plus year absence, this handsome couple is now "home on the range" in Matador, Texas.

Ellis went to work as a cowboy when he was 15 years old, he said, and was a bonafide Matador Ranch cowhand by the time he was 18. He was drafted into the Army at the end of World War II, serving six months in the Hawaiian Islands before "his hero," President Harry S. Truman, dropped the atom bomb and sent him home. It was August, 1945. He met his future bride at a dance in the old American Legion Hall in Matador, but

had to wait "for her to grow up," he said.

Jerry was six years younger than Ellis, but she could sit solid in a saddle, performing as a dancer on horseback in the early 1950s. She was a rider in an elite group of couples who performed in a choreographed equestrian ballet, set to music.

They were known as the Matador Quadrille which was performed in square-shaped formations with four couples on horseback. Quadrille is a historic horseback dance and a forerunner to the modern-day traditional American square dance. So what time Jerry wasn't on her horse "square dancing" she was kicking up her heels by a square dance caller to the beat of music.

While Ellis was working cattle from Bell Ranch in New Mexico to the Wylie Ranch in Matador and "biding his time," Geraldine was dancing

a different tune, graduating Matador High School in 1949. She went to Draughton's Business College in Lubbock, and then worked at keeping books at Matador Hardware Store. A few years later, she went to work for the telephone company, because "they paid better," she said.

Jerry and Ellis were married in Tucumcari in the Calvary Baptist Church in 1952. "I was a native of Matador and had lived here all my life," she said. "But when I married Ellis, I began following him around."

And around and around the Key's went like the speed of a square dancer, taking one step per beat of the music. In 1954, they made a cross-country move to Los Angeles County and worked in the feedlot business for a time. In 1957 they moved back to the Foot-hills and Rolling Plains, working on the Pitchfork Ranch, the Four-6s Ranch, Buckle L Ranch, and finally the Three-Bar Ranch in Childress, where they lived for 20 years, and raised their family, a daughter, Toni Ratliff of Paducah, and a son, Floyd Key of Childress. They have four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

When Geraldine's uncle Charles Gilbert "Buck" Waybourn died in 1986, they moved back to the home place after a 34-year-absence. "I moved right back in the house where I grew up," Geraldine said. With a few modifications, removing some walls, and repairing ceilings and updating the place, it is still home, she said.

Geraldine has deep roots in Matador. Her grandparents, Mattie (Gerald) and Charlie Waybourn came from Oklahoma to Childress, Texas, by train in 1900. Mattie was the daughter of S.A. Gerald of the Whiteflat community. They had two children, Gerald, who married Edna Leonard, and Charles Gilbert "Buck" Waybourn.

Geraldine's mother was the daughter of early-day pioneers, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leonard. "Mother was born on the Matador Ranch," Geraldine said, "and Dad was born in the north Pease River area. They moved to town and built this house," she added. Geraldine has one sister, Barbara Waybourn West. She and her husband Jimmy live in Amarillo.

The Key-West-Waybourn Ranch has been in continuous ownership and operation as a family enterprise for more than a century. Hanging on the walls in the living area is a large, framed certificate from the Ranch Heritage Program acknowledging their contribution from the State of Texas. It reads in part "... to the dedication and perseverance of the founders and heirs of these lands, we owe the basic wealth of Texas." The Waybourn Ranch was founded in 1902.

Ellis still has two brothers and a sister that live in California. "We get together occasionally at family reunions," he said. But Matador is home to this modest cowboy, "I have been here longer than I have lived anywhere else, and at



JERRY AND ELLIS KEY were married in Tucumcari in 1952. Jerry was a native of Matador, "but when I married Ellis, I began following him around," she said.

82-years, I'm still working cattle," Ellis said.

It gives Geraldine great joy to see her old school friends, naming a few, Frances (Casey) Dixon, Dorothy (Trawee) Hanesworth, Marcie (Gilbreath) Middlebrooks, and Joy (Martin) Archer. "Joy is living in the house where she was born," Geraldine adds, smiling.

The Keys were married 56 years last May 24. "It gets better every year," Ellis says,

with a wink, "and we have the sweetest kids and grand-kids in the world," Jerry adds. They still run a cattle operation, and according to Ellis, he and Jerry are still a team. "You just try to get off to the country without her," he said. The Keys are still out and about, in the country, where the deer and antelope play, and somehow it is hard to imagine a cloudy day on their cheerful faces.



GERALDINE AND ELLIS were married 56 years last May 24. "It gets better every year," Ellis said.

**TRAIL DUST**  
By DOUGLAS MEADOR

Matador Tribune  
September 20, 1937

Inside this purple horizon that was once the cattle country, time has hammered the rusty spearheads of custom and necessity into oddments, which gather dust in spare rooms of a generation apathetic to tradition. The past is as fragments of a dream remembered after journeying beyond the silent turnstile of dawn.

Old camp-grounds heal their scars when chuck-wagons do not return in the spring and the ashes of mesquite fires are buried in the tiny deltas of shallow cow trails. Crumpled tin cans scattered in the grass soon abrade and fuse with the soil. Most of the old chuck-wagon cooks have piled bed-rolls high between the wagon bows and moved on, but the dangling thread of a simple code remains; boot-heels still tromp the cans before camp is broken. Inquisitive calves, waiting for their brands to peel, have been known to die of infection when a hoof became wedged in the open mouth of a tin can.

**RETRO NEWS**

Matador Tribune  
September 20, 1937

**Bob's Garage is Opened In New Building**

Precision Tools To Be Used As Expert Comes To Shop

Matador's newest business structure, a 40 x 100 feet brick and stucco building located adjacent Bob's Oil Well, has opened its doors to Bob's Garage, with L. V. Rogers, formerly of the Chevrolet Company of Odessa, in charge of the mechanical department. The garage, which will sell parts and accessories, is equipped with the most modern precision tools to be found in this section of the Panhandle. Mr. Rogers is an expert mechanic and has moved to Matador to make his future home here. L. B. Robertson owner of the garage, declared that all general repair work will carry an absolute guarantee.

The new equipment includes both electric and acetylene welders, a Hall brake riveting and honing machine, latest type Sioux Block boring bar capable of boring any size block.

continued from page one **Center Director advocates support in council open forum**

to support the local bid, and to field questions the council might propose. In addressing the council, Hobbs said the new rates would benefit the city, increase income for the city, and make "both Debra's happy," referring to city secretary Debra Scott and bank secretary Debra Spray.

"This bid gives the city much more flexibility," he said. "I appreciate you taking our bid," adding, "if you allow us to continue for you, we will do our very best in your behalf." No representatives were present from First National in Floydada.

The council compared both

bids, and voted to accept the Matador Branch bid. Councilman Alvin Alexander provided the only dissenting vote. The new bid will go into effect on September 1, 2008, and will consist of a two-year contract. Major changes consist of a 31-day, 90-day, and 182-day interest rate on "all paid accounts."

Further business included the 5-0 vote to accept a tax rate from .38671 of certified value in 2008 to .41765 for 2009, representing a .03094 increase. Council member Kay Bailey recommended accepting the new tax rate and setting a public hearing; the

motion was seconded by Alvin Alexander.

In discussion on items for future consideration, Mayor Smith said he would like to see the council adopt a water usage consumption policy. Currently, there are three individuals in Matador with agreement services from the city, in exchange for sewer pond usage; the use of scales north of town, plus a retirement agreement with a former employee. Motley County Museum and the Senior Citizens Center get free services at this time with no apparent agreement.

**THANK YOU**

We would like to thank everyone for their kind words, phone calls, flowers and food.

The Charlie Long Family

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**THE GOOD NEIGHBOR PRINCIPLE**

As a group of college students toured the slums of a city, one of the students, seeing a little girl playing in the dirt, asked the guide, "Why doesn't her mother clean her up?" "Well, the guide replied, "that girl's mother probably loves her, but she doesn't hate dirt. On the other hand you hate dirt, but you don't love the child enough to get down there and clean her up."

The lesson in the story is this: Until hate for dirt and love for that child are in the same person, that little girl is likely to remain as she is. Until a person learns to hate the sin and love the sinner, little will be done about the lost. The best lesson found in scripture on this point is found in the story of the Good Samaritan.

When we love the sinner and hate the sin, we will make every effort to share the good news of Jesus Christ with them. Remembering the Good Samaritan who had a hate for the condition of the man and a love of his life, we too can be "good neighbors" and take the time to care not only for the body but also for the soul.

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

**Roaring Springs Church of Christ**  
Michael G. Crowley, Sr.  
BIBLE STUDY 10:00 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m.

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# NEWS AROUND MOTLEY COUNTY

## Roaring Springs News

By Monta Marshall

Predicting the weather is something I am not qualified to do. Week before last, I made the brash statement that we would likely be having 30 to 45 more days of hot weather. Well, how wrong I was and am I glad! The rain and cloudy days have certainly been wonderful. It greens back up so fast and everything is washed clean and looks so bright. Quitting making predictions will help my credibility I'm sure. I think I'll try it!

Word was received here on Saturday evening that Betty Jo Hodgins Watson died. Her funeral service will be at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday at the First Baptist Church in Roaring Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Buzz Thacker attended the sixth annual Thacker Family Reunion at Lake Brownwood this past weekend at the lakeside home of John and Janna Thacker. Also attending were Joe and Anne Thacker, Isaiah, Emmalee, Amanda and Amanda's friend Alexis; John and Janna Thacker's children, Melanie and Matt Paul and grandchildren, Berkeley, Beckham and Brenner; Amy and Chris Smith; Jeff and Pam Thacker, their children Bradley and Weslyn Thacker; Blair and Brad Wilson and Jeff and Pam's grandchildren, Charlie and Edie Thacker. They reported a wonderful time even though it was rainy. The highlight of the reunion was a family talent show!

Paul Gillantine of Sweetwater visited his sister and brother-in-law, Edith and Glennard Daniell. He accompanied them to Lubbock to a funeral of a special friend on Friday.

Joyce Meredith, Carla Meador and Daphne Meredith took Jonah, Angelica and Parker Meredith shopping in Plainview on Friday for school clothes. After the shopping was done, Daphne treated the young people to a movie. On

Saturday, Angelica was honored on her 15th birthday with a family party. Those attending were Carla Meador, Sherry LaShae of Matador, Daphne and Parker Meredith of Roaring Springs and Morgan and Judd Jones of Lubbock.

Dinah and Ken Young spent the weekend near Cowles, New Mexico soaking up the beauty of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and the upper Pecos River.

Mr. and Mrs. Doug Stevens, of West Hills, California, nephew of the late Mary Green Webb visited P. K. Green and Corky and Monta Marshall last week. They visited with Doug's aunt, Nina Green Sinclair of Lubbock and daughters of the late Sue Green Maxey from Post also. They came to Roaring Springs on Wednesday and left on Friday morning to continue their vacation travel to Branson, Missouri.

Louis and Beverly Shorter were in Roaring Springs this week enjoying their weekend home visiting with family and celebrating their grandson, Braeden Moncrief's fifth birthday. The returned home on Sunday afternoon.

About 60 people attended the first Foothills Fellowship service on Thursday evening. Prior to the service a brisket supper was served. Winfield Davenport brought the lesson "Making Lifetime Commitments." Carolyn Ewing led the singing, Devonne Dillard and Susan Gahr provided the accompaniment. Rodney Williams and Winfield Davenport lead prayers. Providing the meal were Rodney and Glenda Williams, Winfield Davenport; Jim and Judy Cooper, Jim Watson and Fred Parsons.

Matt and Kenna Whittenberg of Flower Mound, TX are here visiting their grandparents, Don and Billie Stuckey this week.

## Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

### OVERHEARD

The day before tomorrow is a very special day. I feel I should live it in a happy kind of way. I'll put aside my cares, troubles I won't borrow and just be glad I'm living in the day before tomorrow!

Everett Shorter and son, Clois Shorter were hosts of a fish fry supper at 7:00 p.m., Sunday night at the Baptist Church in Flomot. Cole slaw, potato salad and freezers of ice cream added to the delicious meal. They attended from Quitaque, Turkey, Fairmont and Flomot.

Mrs. Barbara Campbell of Portland, Oregon, was met at the Lubbock airport Friday by her brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barton of Lubbock. They accompanied her to Flomot and visited their uncle, Wilson Barton. Mrs. Campbell remained to visit this week. Wilson celebrated his 93rd birthday, Monday, August 18.

Brenda and Darrell Cruse and daughter, Leah Cruse of Canyon visited in Gillette, Wyoming, from August 5-12 with son and brother, Derrick Cruse. They toured the Black Hills in South Dakota and Cook City and the Red Lodge in Montana. They also enjoyed playing golf at different locations.

Visiting Saturday with Janice and Butch Hughes were Bobby and Kay Clay of Whitesboro. They were in Lubbock Tuesday, August 19 for Butch to consult with his surgeon

following recent major surgery. They have had many local friends visiting them.

Waydette and Ronald Clay, Wilburn Martin and grandson, Cole Martin of Portales, N.M. attended the wedding of Lindsey Driver of Midland and Taylor Merritt, son of Nita and Ervin Merritt of Granbury. The ceremony was held at 5:00 p.m. Saturday at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Midland. The reception included a four-course meal followed by a dance. The couple will live in Killeen as Taylor is stationed at Fort Hood. They returned to their respective homes Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Barclay attended the Hospice Memorial in Plainview last Saturday. His father, S.D. Barclay of Lockney was one of the honorees.

Ruth and Orville Lee attended the graveside rites of his brother in law, Paul Rains, 78, held at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, August 16 at the Resthaven memorial Park in Midland.

Emily and Haley Milam of Petersburg and Brian Sehon of Ropesville visited last week with their grandparents, Kathy and Clois Shorter. Emily and Haley are visiting this week with them.

Visiting Anna Beth and Joe Ike Clay during the week were grandchildren, Kyler and Karlee Kleibrink of Clifton and his brother and wife, Bobby and Kay Clay of Whitesboro. Bobby and Kay also visited in Turkey with her parents, Tink and Estelle Lane.

## Matador News

Mrs. E. D. (Patricia) Smith was conveyed by ambulance Monday, August 11, to Crosbyton, and then airlifted to Covenant Emergency with a heart attack. Following triple bypass surgery, she was placed in the Coronary Care Unit at Covenant. She was released from CCU to Room 981-South on Saturday. At her bedside is husband Judge Ed D. Smith; and daughters Alicia Davis of Reno, NV., and Anne Rounsville of Sacramento, CA., who are staying with Judge Smith's cousin, Tom Smauley, Lubbock.

Three local residents from Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Mary Magdalene attended the dedication of an addition to the Catholic Family Services building, Lubbock, on Thursday, August 14, at 3:00 p.m. Attending were the Rev. Jose Relente, Mike Norrell, and Joan Patton. The Bishop, Most Rev. Placido Rodriguez, CMF, blessed the new building. Many Lubbock residents attended, including Linda DeLeon, Lubbock City Council member.

Max Barton of Trophy Club and Cherri Karr of Whitney visited recently with their mother, Dan Barton of Hackberry Creek Care Center. They also took Dan to Lubbock for doctor appointments. The family is happy to have (Hackberry) care center in Matador and appreciate the care given to the residents there.

Hotel Matador hosted a Teacher Appreciation luncheon on Monday, sponsored by First National Bank of Sey-

mour, Matador Branch. About 50 guests enjoyed a gourmet meal of stuffed and rolled brisket, Perini corn pudding, Charro beans, strawberry romaine salad with sweet onion dressing, dinner rolls, and Flomot Bluegrass bread pudding with butter sauce.

Viola Keith, formerly of Matador, celebrated her 101st birthday August 1 at Parkview Nursing Home in Georgetown, with a party attended by friends and family.

Mrs. Keith was one of eight siblings. Following the death of her mother, she was raised in foster homes, receiving a high school degree. She completed two years of college at Westmoreland College, currently a part of Trinity University in San Antonio. She earned a degree in social studies, history and government at Texas Woman's University in Denton. After college, Mrs. Keith was an elementary school teacher for 37 years, spending most of her career in Matador. In Matador, Mrs. Keith and her husband of 72 years, Charlie Keith, raised two sons, Charles and David Keith.

They moved to Georgetown in 2000, where Charlie Keith died at the age of 98 years. Mrs. Keith's son Charles and his wife Joan live in Sun City-Georgetown; and Mrs. Keith's granddaughter Liz Keith lives in Georgetown.

David Keith of Dickens attended his mother's party, accompanied by Norma Keith, Cheyenne and Dakota, of Idalou.

Sunday evening August 24, 7:00 p.m. A Community Prayer Walk will be held at Motley County Schools.

We will meet in the foyer of the school and lists of employees will be handed out.

We walk through the school and on the grounds and pray for the teachers, employees and students and for the activities of the school for the school year.

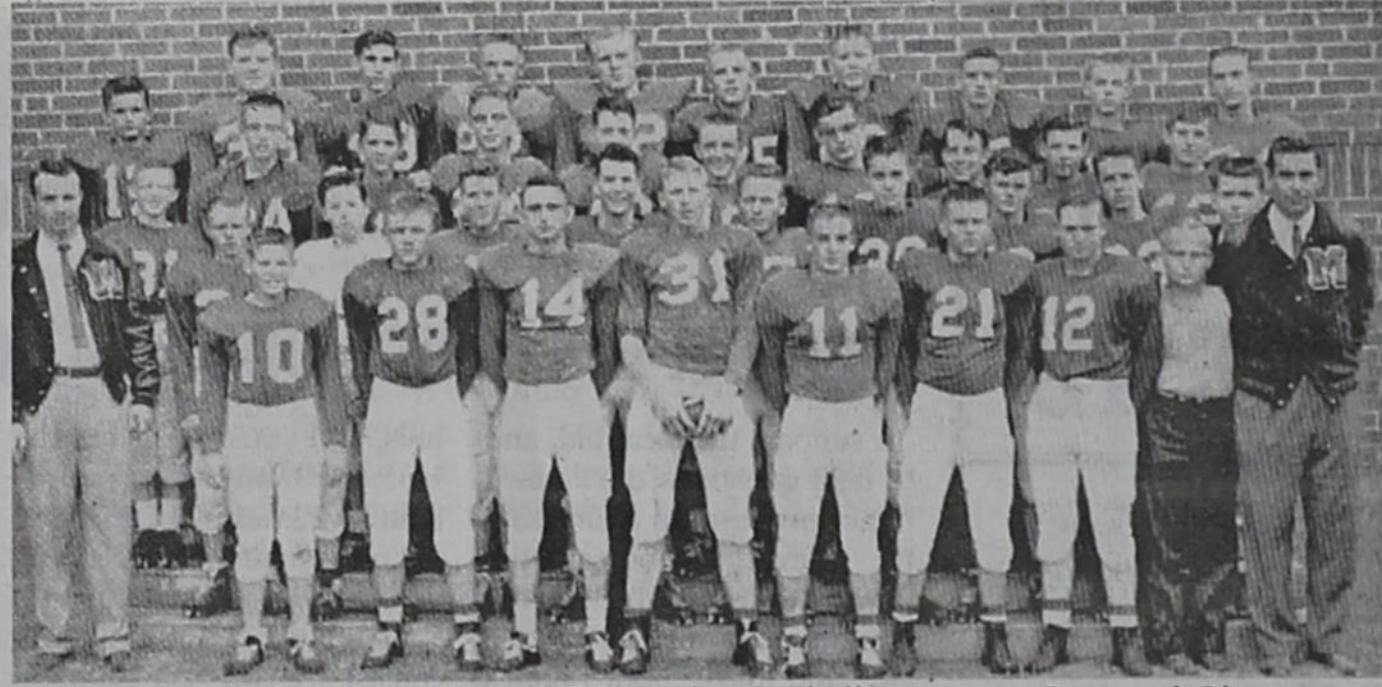
Please feel free to come join us in this effort. We have had a wonderful turn out in the past years and expect to again this year.

This is a very important event. Make plans to attend.

## HOMEcomings 2008 NEWS

The Class of 1958 will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary this year. They were seniors when they won the 1957 Regional Championship in football (See Above Photos). Kay Norman Copeland is heading up the class reunion. This team is one of the championship teams from the 1950's that will be recognized at the Homecoming game on Friday, September 12

The class of '63 will also be having their 45th reunion get together during the Homecoming this year.



**REGIONAL CHAMPS** - This 1957 Matador football team were Regional Champs. They are pictured here beginning with the back row, left to right: B. Williams, G. Stafford, K. Grey, T. Scaff, R. Stafford, B. Cross, L. Fair, S. Jackson, R. Bailey, R. Steen. Second row: D. Wilson, C. Luckett, P. Timmons T., Edwards, A. Fish, G. Pipkin, L. Hoyle, H. Campbell, B. Campbell, G. Campbell. Third row: R. Darsey, L. Martin, H. Hamilton, J. Bearden, S. Rigsby, J. Irwin, B. Renfro, G. Jenkins, M. Groves. Bottom row: Coach Johnson, J. Wedding, R. Scaff, D. Graham, F. Thrasher, P. Green, J. McNelly, R. Chambliss, S. Welling, Coach Bradshaw.

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# Chamber News

## The 85th Annual Motley-Dickens Old Settler Reunion and Rodeo

The 85th Annual Motley-Dickens Old Settler Reunion and Rodeo will kick off Thursday August 28, 2008 in Roaring Springs at 10:00 a.m. with the annual parade in downtown Roaring Springs. Businesses and individuals are encouraged to take part in this historic parade.

A memorial service will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Tabernacle on the grounds. A business meeting will follow at 1:00 p.m.

Motley -Dickens Counties Arena Events will get underway Thursday afternoon with books opening at 4:30 p.m. and events set to begin at 5:00 p.m.

Events will include Cutting, flag Race, Open Age Barrel Race, Junior Team roping, and Motley-Dickens Counties Team Roping.

An Old Folks Dance will be held all three nights featuring Mike Porter. All dances are free with Thursday night's dance to be held 8:00 - 11:00. Friday and Saturday night dances will be held from 5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

The Friday night dance will feature Kevin Rainwater and the Moonlighters from 9:00 - 11:00. The Saturday night dance will feature Cadillac Jack also from 9:00 - 11:00.

The Cowboy Church Band with Ron and Marianne Brunson will perform Friday and Saturday at 6:00 p.m. on Slab.

General admission on the grounds is \$5.00 Friday and Saturday, with those 12 and under admitted free.

Friday events will start early with the RHAA Ranch Horse Competition. Books will open at 8:00 a.m. and competition will start at 9:00 a.m. Classes will include Cowboy, Ranch Hand, Junior, Senior and Youth.

The Ranch rodeo will begin at 7:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday evening. Events will include Bronc Riding, Wild Cow Milking, Team Doctoring, Calf Branding and Team Sorting. Twenty teams will consist of 4-6 members each.

The drawing for Handmade Spurs by Matt Humphreys and 2008 Rodeo Queen will be crowned Saturday night during the Rodeo.

A Jr. Flag Race will be held for kids 12 and under Friday and Saturday during the Rodeo. The entry fee is \$10. (Stock Charge is \$10). The winner will receive a ranger buckle set.

Saturday morning will begin with a Double Mugging. Books open at 9:00 a.m. and Roping will begin at 10:00 a.m. A Washer Pitch Contest will be held a 1:00 p.m.

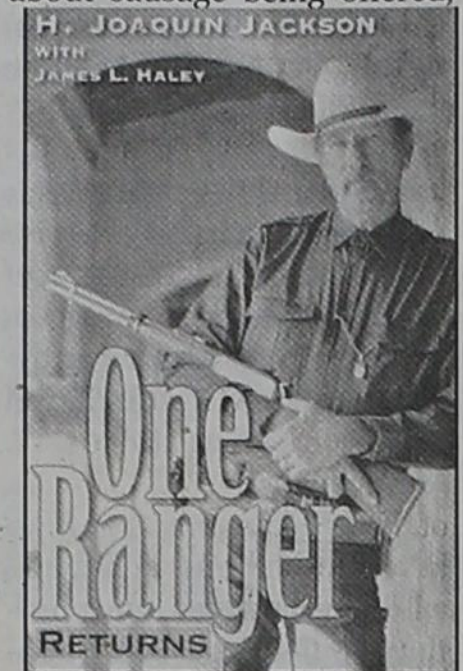
The much anticipated Kid's Snapping Turtle Race will begin at 3:00 p.m. The winners in each division will receive \$50. For more information contact Russell Alexander at 806-348-7958.

# Notes from the Library

By Buffy Crutchley

## Friends of the Library Hosting Beans & Cornbread Luncheon: Bestselling Author to attend

It's that time of year again! The Friends of the Library is pleased to announce the upcoming 8th Annual Beans and Cornbread Fundraiser. This year's event promises to be even better than ever! The Celebrities of Motley County will be on hand to fill your plate again this year. It should be fun watching them get their hands dirty! The Friends will be serving the usual "Rootin Tootin Beans", Yella Cornbread, The finest tea in Texas, and the best cookies in the county. I even heard a rumor about sausage being offered.



but I'd get there early if you expect to get any of that.

As an added bonus this year, we are pleased to announce the presence of a very special guest. Bestselling author Joaquin Jackson will be on hand to sign copies of his memoirs, "One Ranger" and the continuation, "One Ranger Returns". Mr. Jackson served for 27 years as a Texas Ranger, before retiring in 1993. His two books highlight just a few of the adventures he experienced during his career with one of the most elite law enforcement agencies in the nation. He even discusses some of his experiences while filming the movie "The Good Old Boys" with Tommy Lee Jones.

The Beans & Cornbread Lunch will be Friday, August 29 from 11:30am to 1:30pm, in the Library Annex. For more information on Joaquin Jackson, please visit his website [www.oneranger.org](http://www.oneranger.org). If you haven't read either of the books, The Motley County Library has both available for checkout. If you have never had a chance to meet Joaquin Jackson, this is an excellent chance to stop by, get a full belly, and shake the hand of an American hero

## 2008 Floyd County Ag Tour features Wind Energy

The 2008 Floyd County Ag Tour will be held on Tuesday, September 16. Registration will get underway at 8:00 a.m. at the Floyd County Friends Unity Center in Muncy, and there is not cost. The Floyd County Friends Unity Center is located six miles west of Floydada and four miles east of Lockney on US Hwy. 70.

This year's tour will feature only one single stop. A complete tour of Floyd County's only 26 Wind Turbine Farm located in the northeastern portion of Floyd County. Also at the Unity Center from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Shelby Welton, representative of Western Wind Systems of Lubbock will provide a presentation on how to "Establish Your Private Wind Turbine" and answer any questions regarding private use. At 9:00 a.m. we will load the buses and depart to the wind farm. A complete tour of the 26-turbine wind

farm will be conducted by Renewable Energy Sources personally. Lunch will be served at the wind farm site at 11:30 a.m. A chuck wagon meal with all the trimmings will be provided by Floyd County's own Joe Taylor. During lunch an Ag Committee Awards presentation will be held. The conclusion of the tour is set at 1:00 p.m. Ag Programs will be presented from 1:30-2:30 p.m. to both Floydada and Lockney 3rd-5th grade students.

All producers planning to attend must RSVP through the Extension Office by 12 noon, Thursday, September 11, (806-983-4912. Producers will be able to receive CEU's when topics apply along with a complimentary Ag Tour cap. Please don't forget to RSVP, meals will only be guaranteed for those that RSVP. For more information contact the Floyd County AgriLife Extension Office.

# County Agent's News



by Ryan Martin, Agri LIFE EXTENSION Agent

## Farm Bill Meeting Scheduled for Aug. 25 in Childress

CHILDRESS - Rolling Plains producers can get their questions on the new farm bill answered during a meeting Aug. 25 at the Fair Park Auditorium in Childress, said Lonnie Jenschke, Texas AgriLife Extension Service agriculture and natural resources agent in Childress County.

The meeting will run from 9 a.m. to noon in the Foyer Room with guest speaker Dr. Joe Outlaw, AgriLife Extension economist and co-director of the Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University.

The program will include an explanation of the Average Crop Revenue Election, or ACRE as it is referred to the farm bill, compared to counter-cyclical payments. Also on the program will be presentations on changes in payment limitations, in adjusted gross income criteria for payment eligibility, and in methods used to develop the posted county prices.

Farm Service Agency officials, as well as AgriLife Extension risk management specialists will be on hand to give updates.

The meeting is sponsored by AgriLife Extension, the Farm Service Agency, the Childress Co-op Gin and the Childress Ag Committee.

For more information, contact Jenschke at 940-937-2351 or [l-jenschke@tamu.edu](mailto:l-jenschke@tamu.edu).

## Workshop to Expand Opportunities for Women and Minority-Owned Businesses

Contact: Sue Church, 806-373-0713, [schurch@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:schurch@ag.tamu.edu)

AMARILLO - A seminar providing information about market expansion opportunities for women and minority business owners will be offered Aug. 21 at the West Texas A&M University Enterprise Center, 2300 N. Western Ave., Amarillo.

The third annual "Make the Connection Minority & Women Business Owners Forum" will teach participants the value of their business becoming Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) certified vendors.

The forum will include a light supper at 5:30 p.m., fol-

lowed by training instruction from 6-9 p.m. at the WTAMU Enterprise Center.

Edmond Esparza, contract procurement center coordinator for Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, will facilitate the training, said Sue Church, Texas AgriLife Extension Service family and consumer sciences agent in Potter County.

Ruben Gonzales, director of HUB operations for Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, will present basics on becoming HUB certified.

Certified HUB vendors listed in the State of Texas HUB directory receive exposure to the state agencies and their procurement processes.

Gonzales also will share information about the value of subscribing to the Centralized Master Bidders' List.

Joining Gonzales will be Bryan Glenn, WTAMU director of purchasing and inventories, and P.J. Pronger, with the WTAMU Small Business Development Center. Glenn will discuss the benefits of the Mentor-Protégé program for HUB vendors, while Pronger will talk about resources available to businesses.

Esparza also will share information on how to market a business and prepare a capabilities statement.

Concluding the seminar will be a roundtable networking opportunity for participants to visit with representatives from companies, municipalities and universities that contract with HUB vendors.

They will include BWXT Pantex, TxDOT, Bell Helicopter, City of Amarillo, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, WTAMU, WTAMU Small Business Development Center and Panhandle Regional Planning Commission.

Participants are asked to register in advance by calling 806-373-0713. A \$5 fee per individual will be charged and the training will be limited to 40 individuals.

Sponsors of this event are the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, WTAMU Small Business Development Center, WTAMU, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and AgriLife Extension-Potter County Leadership Advisory Board.

For more information, contact Church at 806-373-0713. *continued on page 7*



MATTIE BROOKS of Roaring Springs, Texas is the 10 year old daughter of Timmy and Tina Brooks. Mattie is a 5th grader at Motley County ISD. Mattie participates in 4-H, gymnastics, basketball, Greenbelt golf, Little Dribblers, PIP's and active at the First Baptist Church in Matador. In her spare time she likes to be with her friends. Mattie was proud to serve as the 2007 Old Settlers Queen.

Russell Alexander, owner

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## Wedding vows exchanged by Eugene and Cherry Tumulak Daniell

Wedding vows were exchanged by Eugene and Cherry Tumulak Daniell in a ceremony at the First Baptist Church on August 8, 2008. Brother Jackie Farmer of Lubbock performed the ceremony. Eugene and Cherry had exchanged vows earlier to meet the requirements of the immigration services and the company that Eugene works for to qualify Cherry to travel in the truck with Eugene. They wanted to repeat their vows in front of family and friends. They also wanted include some of the customs of a Filipino wedding ceremony into their wedding. Eugene and Cherry met on-line and Eugene traveled to the Philippine Islands to bring his intended bride to the United States back in the late spring.

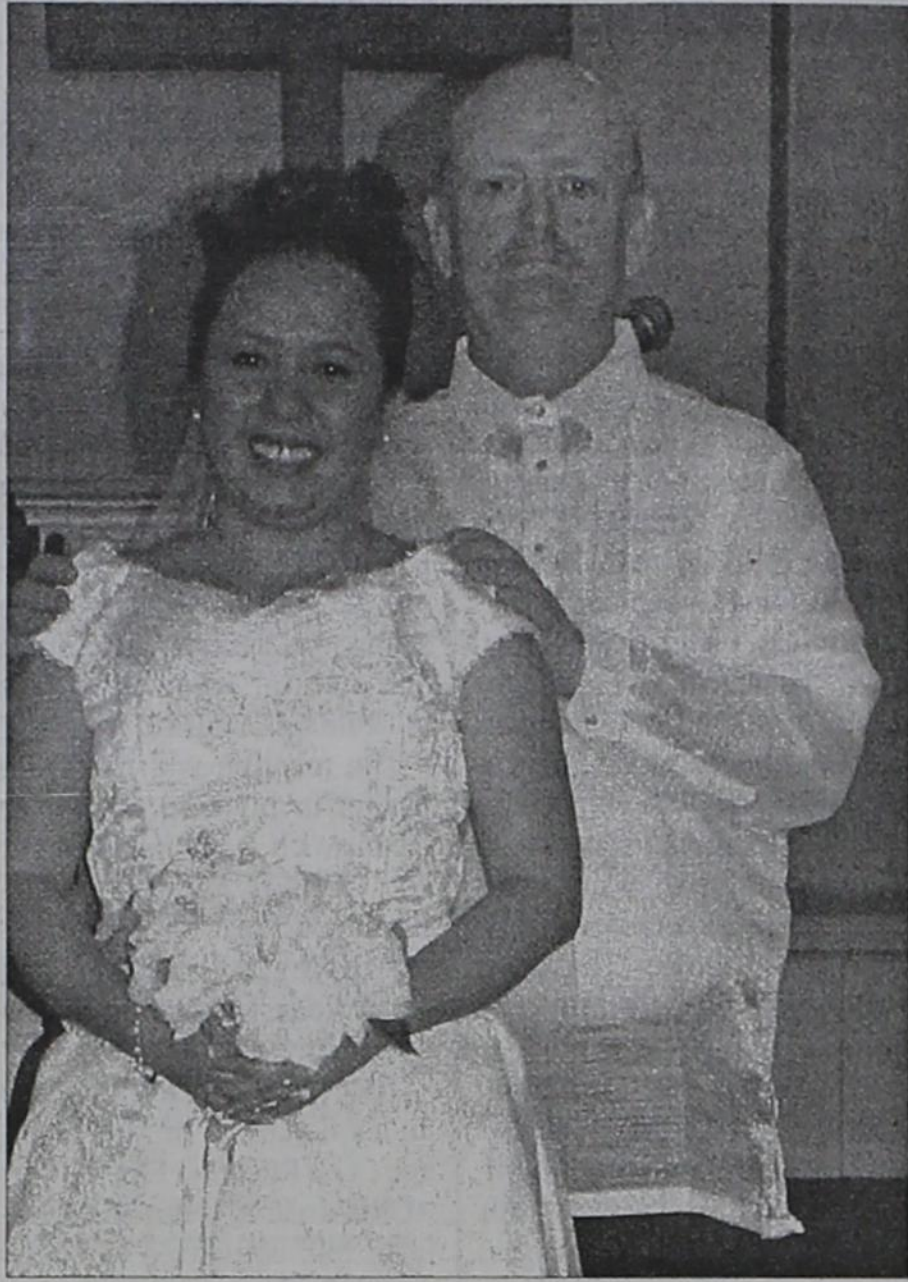
Coins were given to the bride by the groom. The coins represent the groom earning a living and giving his wife provision money for her needs. The bride returned the coins to her groom indicating that all they have belongs to each other.

A veil was used in part of the ceremony. It was pinned from the groom's right shoulder to her left shoulder which signifies the groom's pledge of giving his strength and protection to her.

A cord ceremony followed the veil ceremony. As the couple knelt, a cord was wrapped in a figure eight around the head and shoulders of the bride and groom. This signifies unity and infinity — a love together forever.

A unity candle was lit at the end of the ceremony. The bride and groom lit two side candles and together let a large unity candle in the center. This represents the two lives joined together — kindled as one. The unity candle is saved to be lighted yearly on their anniversary.

Glennard Daniell accompa-



nied the bride down the aisle and presented her for marriage.

Anna Daniell, niece of the groom was bridesmaid; Nicky Nichols a friend of the groom from North Carolina was best man.

The bride wore a white satin dress overlaid with lace and beads. The dress was made with cap sleeves and a sweetheart neckline. Cherry carried a bouquet of white roses and wore a finger tip illusion veil.

A wedding supper of smoked brisket, fried chicken, potato salad, pinto beans and coleslaw was served to guests at the Travelers Inn following the wedding. A six layer, three tier wedding cake baked by Eugene's mother, Edith and decorated by Anna was also served. Toasts to the bride and groom were made with sparkling apple juice.

Those attending were: Pat Nichols, Nicky Nichols, Jennifer Harmon all from North Carolina; Brother Jackie and Patsy Farmer of Lubbock, Leo and Glenna Vaughn of Lubbock; Brad, Alyssa and Autum Daniell of Plainview; Leslie Daniell of Pennsylvania and Dale, Glennard, Edith and Anna Daniell from Roaring Springs.

Other guests included: Mr. and Mrs. Buzz Thacker; Mr. and Mrs. Ken Abbott; Mr. and Mrs. Alex Crowder; Mr. and Mrs. Chig Guinn; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Dillard; Zella Palmer, Joy Beeson, Pearl Patton, Laura Long and her grandsons Kamryn and Coy Meyer, Bo long; Matt Easter, J. N. Fletcher; Marty Ferguson and children Logan and Christen, Corky Marshall and Angie and Amanda Chavez.

## USDA designates Dickens County as a primary natural disaster area

### Decision allows farmers and ranchers to apply for USDA assistance

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14, 2008 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture designated Dickens County, Texas as a primary natural disaster area because of losses caused by high winds that occurred from Jan. 1, 2008, and continuing. Farm operators in Cottle, Crosby, Floyd, Garza, Kent, King, Motley and Stonewall counties also qualify for natural disaster benefits because their counties are contiguous. All counties listed above were designated natural disaster areas on Aug. 11, 2008, making all qualified farm operators in the designated

areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the EM loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity.

USDA has also made other programs available to assist farmers and ranchers, including the Emergency Conservation Program, Federal Crop Insurance and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program. Interested farmers may contact their local USDA Service Centers for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

## continued from page 5 County Agent's News

### AgriLife Extension to Offer Beef Quality Update Amarillo Aug. 25

AMARILLO -- The Texas AgriLife Extension Service will conduct a Texas Beef Quality Producer program in Amarillo on Aug. 25 at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at 6500 W. Amarillo Blvd.

The program starts at 8:30 a.m. and will end at 2 p.m., following a catered lunch provided by the Texas Beef Council.

Program sponsors along with AgriLife Extension are the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association and Texas Beef Council. Four beef quality credits will be avail-

able. "The Texas Beef Quality Producer Program offers a standardized way for beef producers to document and be recognized for the quality and management they've put into their cattle," said Dr. Ted McCollum, AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist at Amarillo.

"Beef enjoys a well-deserved reputation as a tasty and wholesome product. Nonetheless, quality and food safety remain big issues with consumers, and are driving forces in the industry here and abroad," McCollum said.

"By participating in a Beef Quality Assurance program, growers not only help keep consumer confidence strong,

but also position themselves to capture some of the premium dollars which the program will undoubtedly generate along the way," he said.

The program is free, but pre-registration is requested by Aug. 22 for an accurate meal count.

For more information and to pre-register, contact Stacy Fox at the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association at 817-332-7155 or [sfox@texascattleraisers.org](mailto:sfox@texascattleraisers.org).

Also, information can be found by contacting Ronda Fisher at the Amarillo center at 806-677-5600 or by going to [www.texasbeefquality.com](http://www.texasbeefquality.com)

## Grazing Management Workshop for Landowners

Producers are invited to attend a USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) summer series workshop in Clarendon on Sept. 3, 2008 at Clarendon College.

The GLCI program is sponsoring the workshop that will include presentations and outdoor demonstrations presented by the NRCS, Donley County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

and Texas AgriLife Extension. The workshop will be held in the Bairfield Activity Center on the campus of Clarendon College.

Landowners can expect to receive valuable information on managing grazing lands through classroom instruction during the morning session, followed in the afternoon with practical demonstrations providing hands-on forage production and management instruction in the field.

A \$25 registration fee will include lunch and a newly published handbook titled, *Managing My Piece of Texas*.

To register for the workshop, call the Donley County SWCD office in the USDA Service Center at (806) 874-3561 ext. 3. Deadline for registration will be August 29. For more information on managing grazing lands visit the GLCI website at [www.GLCI.org](http://www.GLCI.org) or the Texas NRCS website at [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov).

### FSA REMINDERS, AMY HACKLER, CED

September 1st - OFFICE CLOSED - Labor Day

September 1st - Wheat NAP deadline for 2009 coverage

September 16th - Buy-In Fee Deadline (please call local FSA for more details)

This program is essential for eligibility for future Crop and Livestock Disaster Programs.

September 30th - Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) deadline for 2008.

## Connect to Energy Savings

AS THE ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY that has been serving south and west Texas for over 90 years, AEP Texas knows a thing or two about energy conservation. While we no longer sell electricity or send out monthly electric bills, we recognize this is going to be a long, hot summer.

Since AEP Texas and its 1,700 employees are directly connected to the many communities we live in and serve, we'd like to share some low or no cost tips with you on how to keep cooler this summer by saving energy and money.

- Set air-conditioning thermostats to the highest possible comfortable setting and dress accordingly.
- Turn off every appliance you are not using including lights, televisions and radios. Use the "sleep" feature on your computer equipment.
- Only cool rooms that you use. Close vents and doors in unused rooms. Be sure to close closet doors.
- Check your air-conditioning filter every month and replace as needed.
- Keep windows that let the sun in covered when the sun is shining on them.
- Weather strip and caulk around windows and doors to prevent drafts.
- Close your fireplace damper when the fireplace is not being used.
- Use fans to help circulate the air in your house.
- Air-dry dishes in the dishwasher.
- Lower the temperature on your hot water heater to warm during the summer, take short showers and wash only full loads of clothes in the laundry.

It's important to remember that if you're having trouble paying your electric bill, call your retail energy provider (REP) at the number listed on your current electric bill to avoid disconnection.

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# Days Gone By

## The Texas Chief Bonanza

From Motley County Roundup, c 1991 by Marisue Potts

**Part 3 of 3**

Two wells struck pay dirt within a few hours of each other in October of 1957. The L.A. Stearns Estate No. 3 was drilled by Sinclair with an initial flowing potential of 355 barrels a day.

The O.C. Campbell No. 2-A well was completed by Pan American. The petroleum company followed with the A.W. Payne No. 2, predicted to be as good if not better than the eight previous strikes, and No. 2-A, the county's tenth producing well.

Storage facilities were limited, so the crude was transported by truck until a gathering system was built by the Scurlock Oil Company of Houston in 1958. An eight inch pipeline, with a capacity of about 8,000 barrels a day,

followed, in part, the right of way for the Motley County Railway. A pumping station was erected near Whiteflat where a connection was made with the Stanolind cross-country pipeline.

A leak in the bottom of a 5,000 barrel oil storage tank gushed an estimated 577 barrels in February of 1968 before workmen could halt the exodus. While the crude was flowing, a tunnel was dug beneath the tank, then an iron plate covered with rubber was pressed against the hole by a hydraulic jack. A hastily dug pit collected the runoff, most of which was pumped back into the tank. Since the "Roaring Springs oil was 40% gravity (flow) and will burn like gasoline," according to Ray Hankins, the operator of the pumps and pipeline, fire

was a threat but fortunately did not materialize.

Mud violently exploded from a well on Shinnery Draw as it tapped an ancient air pocket in July of 1958. The E.E. Moss & Sons' "No. 1. M.S. Thacker" lifted a 6,000 pound rotary table from the rig platform. This pocket of air quickly blew itself out and operations resumed. However, a coring operation which took place some years previously had hit an air pocket, creating the famous "Blow Hole," which still hurtles rocks or objects placed in it up in the air.

In October of 1958 spectators were banned from the Birnie Ranch well, four miles west of Whiteflat, because of the danger of fire. The 10,010 foot wildcat unleashed a field which registered a million cubic feet of gas and 120 barrels

of distillate a day.

Dusters and dry holes became commonplace in the county. In 1963, for instance, five wells were drilled, all dry. The following year an estimated \$300,000 was invested in the search of new fields.

Despite the problems in locating more oil, by 1967 the county had 29 producing oil wells pumping 25,000 barrels of oil each month.

In 1991 the three fields, Roaring Springs, Wolf-flat and Cisco, and Gilpin, produced royalties for 141 people who paid taxes on production interest in 27 wells. The 1990 taxable value for Oil, Gas, and Mineral Reserves, according to Betty Luckett of the tax appraisal district, was \$14,065,670.

**COW POKES**

By Ace Reid



"No need to weigh mine, 'cause I'm jist volunteerin' for the day so I can appreciate the opportunity to dig postholes!"

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## National Cowboy Symposium

Virginia Taylor of Lockney to Emcee

LUBBOCK, TX - The National Cowboy Symposium & Celebration rolls out the twentieth anniversary event in Lubbock, Texas, September 4-5-6-7th, 2008. This symposium will feature unique events, entertainment and demonstrations at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

Virginia Taylor, of Lockney will Emcee "Poetry and Stories" in the Banquet room at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 6.

The purpose of the event is to celebrate, preserve and pass along our western heritage and cowboy culture for those who know and love it, and for those who have never known it before to learn from and enjoy it as well. To carry out these goals, the event schedule includes headline musical entertainers Sons of the San Joaquin, Don Edwards and Waddie Mitchell along with many other talented performers, poetry and storytelling, western writers/authors panels, film and movie seminars, horse handling demonstrations, a parade, a full blown Indian Pow-Wow, chuck wagon cook-off, and exhibits of western artworks and merchandise.

The event features more than 40 cowboy and cowgirl poets, 30 or more musical acts, 30 or more storytellers, more than 200 exhibit spaces filled with the best in western art and goods, authentic chuck wagons and other special presenters. This event also includes the American Cowboy Cultural Awards Show,

"The Dress of The West:" 100 Years of Western Clothing, The Frank Dean-Will Rogers World Championship Trick Roping Contest, and the National Championship Chuck Wagon Cook-off. It truly is the premier event of its kind in existence today! One of the largest events annually held in Lubbock, the Symposium draws visitors from 20-30 states and multiple nations, and people from more than 30 nations have attended in the previous nineteen years.

The event has activities for the entire family! Show goers will be able pick and choose from a full schedule of entertainers, western programs, and activities each day of the event. A current schedule of events and ticket information may be found on the official web site at <http://www.cowboy.org>

Tickets for meals, exhibits, daily concurrent sessions, and evening performances may be purchased upon arrival at the event. The outside park area activities, entertainment, and demonstrations are free to the public throughout the event.

The show is open to the public Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 5-6-7th at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, 1501 Mac Davis Lane (6th Street), Lubbock, Texas. Additional information on exhibiting, or tickets may be obtained from the show office at (806)798-7825, email at [cowboysymposium@suddenlink.net](mailto:cowboysymposium@suddenlink.net) or the web site <http://www.cowboy.org>.

## Texas Comptroller Susan Combs Offers Free Energy Assessments to Farmers and Ranchers

(AUSTIN) - Saving energy can help farmers and ranchers increase their profits while also helping to preserve Texas' energy resources, Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said today as she premiered a new initiative to promote energy efficiency in agriculture. The new Texas Agricultural Technical Assistance Program will provide farm and ranch operations information about cost-effective energy choices, aid in accessing funding and incentive sources, conduct training and offer free Energy Assessment Reports (EARs) of producers' buildings and facilities. The State Energy Conservation Office (SECO), a division of the Comptroller's office, will conduct the program.

Combs said farmers and ranchers could benefit from the free assessments that examine utility costs and energy consumption in farm and business operations. Producers can also use assistance in finding loan and grant pro-

grams to increase efficiency or purchase renewable energy systems.

"Rising energy costs impact all sectors of our economy, but agriculture producers in Texas now have new opportunities to streamline operations, reduce costs and remain competitive," Combs said. "To help farmers and ranchers face these significant challenges, this program will identify incentives to move toward more energy-efficient farms, reducing energy costs, increasing available capital, spurring economic growth and improving the working environment."

SECO will run the Texas Agricultural Technical Assistance Program in partnership with EnSave Inc., USDA Rural Development, the Texas Association of Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Areas Inc. and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. By working together, this partnership will maximize the effectiveness of energy ef-

iciency activities within the Texas agricultural sector.

"Investing in our communities through improved energy efficiency in farming operations is a win-win opportunity for state agriculture," Combs said. "We want to make Texas-made products available to every market in the world, and we can keep prices competitive when farmers operate efficiently."

The Texas Agricultural Technical Assistance Program will provide Texas agricultural operations with free EARs for their farm buildings and facilities. The reports will collect data regarding energy consumption usage and information about the farming equipment used in production. These reports will identify opportunities to save on energy costs and recommend changes concerning electricity, propane and diesel fuel within the farm operation.

This program will also help agricultural producers access additional funds to imple-

ment energy efficiency projects, such as grants and guaranteed loan funds available through the USDA Rural Development

Section 9007, Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), utility company incentives or other funds (loan funds, economic development funds). Some of these loans and grants can help agricultural producers make energy efficiency improvements to their existing operations or install their own renewable energy systems.

SECO will host informational workshops in Stephenville, Lubbock, Nacogdoches and San Antonio throughout August and September to provide more information to producers and the extended agricultural community. SECO representatives on hand at the presentations can answer questions and sign eligible producers up for free EARs.

# AUCTION

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SALE DATE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2008 - SALE TIME: 10:00 A.M.  
 VIEWING: 9:00 A.M.

**HUNTING & CAMPING**

- 1- AUTOMATIC BIRD FEEDER
- 1- 17" CAST IRON DUTCH OVEN
- 1- COOKING GRATE
- 1- LOT ASST. CAST IRON SKILLETS
- 1- LOT WAGON STAKES
- 1- 24" X 24" POLY CUTTING BOARD
- REMODELING
- 1- 38" X 38" NEO ANGLE SHOWER KIT, NEW
- 1- PAIR FRENCH DOORS, NEW
- 1- LOT ASST TIN PANELS
- SHOP EQUIPMENT
- 1- CRAFTSMAN RADIAL ALARM SAW
- 2- 4 1/2" ELEC. GRINDERS
- 1- COLEMAN BATTERY BOOSTER
- 1- LOT 5 GAL. PROPANE TANKS
- 1- LOT ELEC. MOUSE TRAPS
- HANDMADE BOOTS
- 1- PAIR DUDE DAMRON KANGAROO BOOTS
- RIDING HEEL, APPR. SIZE 9, BLACK W/ RED SHAFTS, LIKE NEW
- QUILTS, CRAFTS & SEWING
- 5- HANDMADE QUILTS, BY OPAL BRADFORD
- 1- WOODEN QUILT RACK
- 1- WHITE SEWING MACHINE, W/ TABLE
- 1- LOT QUILTING MATERIAL
- SEVERAL WOODEN PAINTED-CRAFTS

**LAWN & GARDEN**

- 1- TROY BILT LAWN TRACTOR, 42" DECK, 17.5 H.P. BRIGGS & STRATTON ENG., 8 SPD.
- 1- 15 GAL. SPRAY TANK, W/ PUMP & WAND
- 2- GARDEN BENCHES
- 1- PORCH SWING
- HOME HEALTH
- 1- POWERLIFT RECLINER, CLEAN
- 1- ACTION RANGER II ELEC. WHEEL CHAIR, NEEDS BATTERY
- HOUSEHOLD & PIANO
- 1- KIMBALL CHICAGO UPRIGHT PIANO
- 1- G.E. UPRIGHT FREEZER
- 1- 8" BANQUET TABLE
- 1- SUPER SINGLE WATERBED
- 1- DEARBORN HEATER
- 1- MORGANTON MAPLE DESK
- 1- MAPLE COFFEE TABLE
- 1- END TABLE, MARBLE TOP
- 1- BATHROOM CABINET
- 1- OLD COFFEE GRINDER
- 1- WOODEN CHESTS
- 1- LOT ASST. OLD WOODEN CRATES
- 1- WHIRLPOOL 220 VOLT AIR CONDITIONER
- 1- DINING TABLE, RETRO
- 1- SOFA
- 1- PAIR LAMPS

**1- LOT ELEC. BLANKETS**

- 1- LOT TODDLER TOYS
  - 2- FILING CABINETS
  - 1- LOT CANNING JARS
- NOTE: WE DO NOT ACCEPT CREDIT OR DEBIT CARDS! PERSONAL CHECKS AND CASH ONLY
- TERMS & CONDITIONS: ALL PURCHASES MUST BE PAID ON DAY OF SALE. WHILE DESCRIPTIONS ARE BELIEVED CORRECT, THE AUCTIONEERS OR OWNERS MAKE NO WARRANTIES OR GUARANTEES AS TO THE GENUINENESS, AUTHENTICITY OF, OR DEFECT IN ANY LOT AND WILL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ADVERTISING DISCREPANCIES OR INACCURACIES. ALL SALES ARE FINAL. WHEN AWARDED TO SUCCESSFUL BUYER, BUYER ACCEPTS FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL PURCHASES MADE AND HOLDS THE AUCTION COMPANY AND OWNERS FREE OF AN LIABILITY IN THE EVENT OF THEFT OR DISAPPEARANCE OF ANY ITEMS PURCHASED. NO ITEM IS TO BE MOVED UNTIL PROPER SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN MADE. EVERYTHING SOLD "AS IS". BUYER IS RESPONSIBLE FROM TIME AUCTIONEER SELL THE ITEM SOLD!! WE ACT AS COMMISSION AGENTS ONLY.
- LUNCH AVAILABLE---ALL PURCHASES MUST BE REMOVED FROM PREMISES SALE DAY---ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS ON SALE DAY TAKES PRECEDENCE

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AUGUST 23, 10: A.M. AT PETERSBURG

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

### August

- 21 Matador Masonic Lodge, 6:30 pm
  - 24--FBCM Prayer walk at the school, 7pm
  - 25 First day of school, MCISD
  - 25 Public hearing MCISD budget, 7:00 pm
  - 25 MCISD School Board, School, 7:30 pm
  - 28 Old Settlers begins, parade, Roaring Springs, 10:00 am
  - 29 Rootin' Tootin' beans and cornbread, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Library Annex.
  - 31 FBCM Church Picnic Day, 10am Sunday School; 11am worship, casual attire; noon--picnic & family games.
- FBCM is collecting t-shirts in August; toys for boys in September; and toys for girls in October for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

### September

- 2 Matador Lions, Methodist Church, 12:30 pm
  - 3 Kids' Praise resumes, 5pm, all kids, 3yr thru 6th
  - 4 Roaring Springs Lions, Hitchin Post, 12:30 pm
  - 6 Men's Breakfast, Methodist Church, 7:00 am
  - 12 & 13, Matador/Motley County Homecoming
  - 16 RHN /Town Hall meeting, 7-9 pm
- HOME COMING & REUNIONS**
- 28 - 30 Old Settlers Reunion & Rodeo, Roaring Springs, see poster for schedule of events
  - September 12 & 13, Matador/Motley County Homecoming
  - October 4, Northfield Homecoming

## LEGAL NOTICES

The City of Matador will hold a meeting at 6:15 p.m. on September 11, 2008, at City Hall, Matador, Texas, to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2008. The proposed tax rate is .41765 per \$100 of value. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the City of Matador by .08 percent.

The Motley County Hospital District will hold a meeting at 7:00 p.m. on September 8, 2008, at the Motley County Clinic Boardroom to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2008. The proposed tax rate is .1054 per \$100 of value. The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the Motley County Hospital District by .0037 percent.

The City of Roaring Springs will hold a meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 8, 2008, at Roaring Springs City Hall, Roaring Springs, to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2008. The proposed tax rate is .40149 per \$100 value.

**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 6184-03-001 for ON-CALL STRIPING in CHILDRESS County, etc will be opened on September 18, 2008 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of \$299,550.00. 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.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 27389 State Office Constr./Maint. Division 200 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, Texas 78704 Phone: 512-416-2540 Dist/Div Office(s) Childress District District 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. CT35

## FOR SALE

**Brand name QUEEN** orthopedic chiropractic mattress set, unused. \$140. 806-438-0081.

**MATTRESS-all new KING** set (pillowtop) left in pkg. Original warranty. Will take \$260. 806-549-3110.

**FULL SIZE ORTHOPEDIC** mattress set, in plastic \$130, NEW twin size \$100. 806-549-3110.

**ELECTRIC BED and** memory foam mattress, brand new, QUEEN SIZE, \$1097. 806-438-0081.

**FINE CHERRY 6-pc** dining room table & chairs. Solid wood. Queen anne style, \$395. 806-549-3110.

**\$575 5-pc micro** fiber sofa set. New in boxes. Factory warranty. Neutral color. 806-549-3110.

**POTTERY BARN style** chocolate sofa, loveseat. Still boxed. Worth \$4100, sell \$1390. 806-549-3110.

**TEXAS DECOR IRON/** WOOD SLEIGH BED. New in box. STURDY. \$350. 806-549-3110.

**KING 6-pc Windsor** bedroom suite, List \$3450. Sell \$980. 806-438-0081.

**MASSAGE RECLINER,** beige or brown, brand new, soft durasuede, warranty, \$475.

## GARAGE SALES

**MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE** SALE Saturday August 30 8:30 a.m. till ? Couch, bench, clothes, etc. 1625 Scotch St Matador.

**ESTATE/GARAGE SALE on** August 29 & 30. Friday 1-6 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m. to ? TV ent center, chairs, decorations, misc. 1512 Bundy Matador. 347-2071.

## PRODUCE MKT

**FRIDAY MORNING 9 am** to sellout. Tomatoes, squash, herbs, exotics. Roaring Springs Park in the Gazebo. Information at 689-2043.

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### HELP WANTED Hackberry Creek Care Center

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