MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

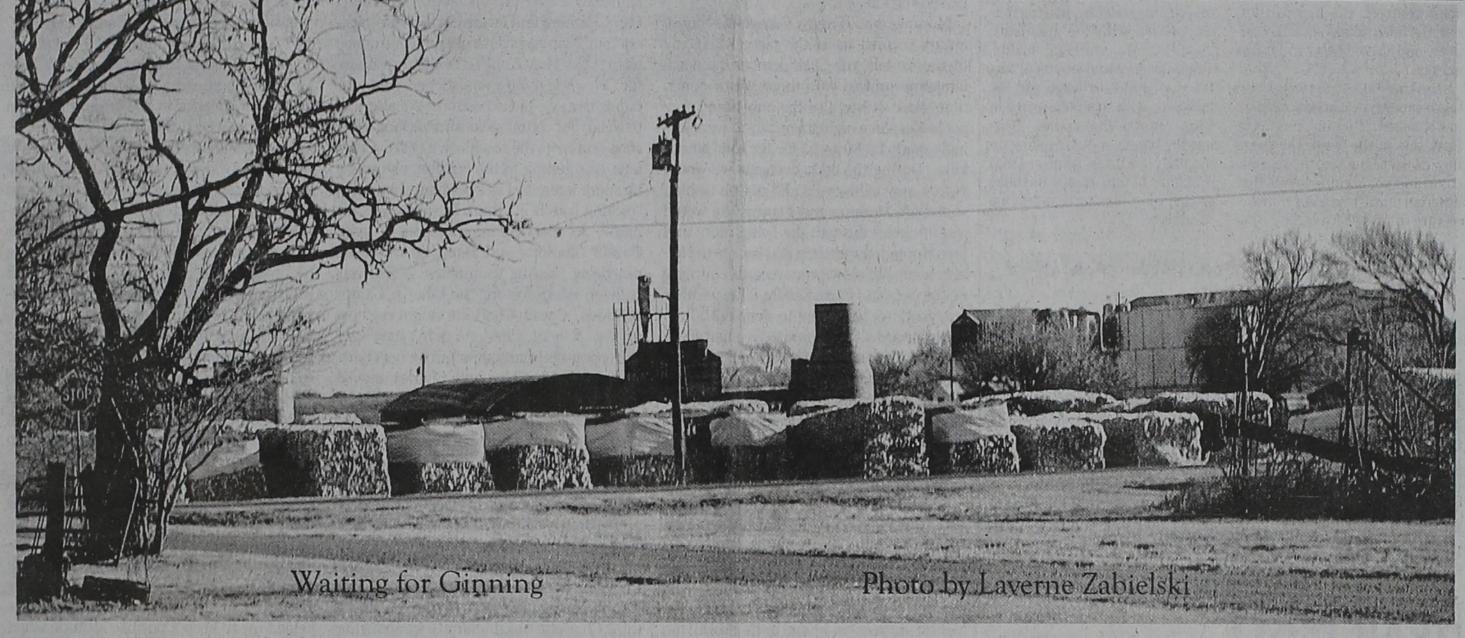


VOICE OF THE FOOTHILL COUNTRY

Thursday, January 15, 2009

ESTABLISHED 1891

Volume 118 Issue No. 3



Commissioners' court votes to establish new burn ban

By Carol Campbell

The Commissioners' Court met in regular session on Monday, January 12, 2009, in the Commissioner's Courtroom. A full quorum was present, consisting of County Judge Ed D. Smith; and Commissioners Roy Gene Stephens, Donnie Turner, Russell Alexander, and Franklin Jameson; Kate Hurt, County Clerk, Tom Edwards, County Attorney, and Michael Crutchley, Sheriff. Also attending was Marisue Potts-Powell, chair of the Motley County Oversight Committee; District Conservationist James Gillespie and Rodney Williams, Civil Engeneering Technician, Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS); and Ben Kautz, TxDOT.

The meeting included an 18item agenda, including a flood damage assistance update, approval of a county burn ban, the resignation of the Emergency Management Coordinator, appointment of a new chair at

the Motley County library, an update on wind energy, and a request by the county sheriff for approval of reserve deputies.

James Gillespie, District Conservationist, NRCS, met with the court in response to a request by landowner Donnie Rogers, Flomot, on flood damage to his property received during the floods of September, 2008. "We are here to provide technical assistance to the landowner and the county," Gillespie said.

Gillespie presented the court with three maps, outlining a proposed emergency spill waterway and grade stabilization structure to prevent further deterioration of additional acres of damagé to the Rogers farm. The proposed spillway would consist of a riser pipe of approximately 5.5 feet in height and 84-inches in diameter and about 184 linear feet of 42-inch metal pipe, draining into a spillway bottom, with the potential of diverting more than 35 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water. "This geologic ditch will

continue to move," Gillespie said, "until someone does something" (to carry the water away from the cultivated field).

Commissioner Donnie Turner said the county could move the county road that is currently impassable, but this measure would take more of Roger's cultivated field. "The ditch will keep moving," Gillespie said, making it necessary to move the road again in the future, as rushing water from rains continue to seek a path of least resistance. Commissioner Turner said he would meet with the landowner to discuss the recommendations from the USDA office.

In further business, the court accepted the resignation of James Gillespie, dated December 30, 2008, as the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) for Motley County. While in the past this position has been a volunteer position, Gillespie said the city and county should consider a paid posicontinued on page 3

City of Matador audit report is positive

By Larry Vogt

The Matador City Council met in regular session on January 8 at the City Hall. Present were Council members Alvin Alexander, Pat Seigler, Shane Jones, and Chuck Ream. Council member Kay Bailey was absent due to illness and Mayor Pat Smith arrived late because he was officiating at a boy's basketball game. Also present were City Superintendent Steve Barton, City Secretary Debra Scott, Larry Vogt, and Dianne Washington, who was present to explain her audit

report. Chuck Ream conducted the meeting as mayor pro tem until the arrival of the mayor. City Superintendent Steve Barton gave a report of over 59 million gallons of water pumped for the year. He also reported there were no violations at this time

but that there was a warning that the city needed to paint the water storage tanks and also have a written plan that would enable someone to operate the system should Steve be incapacitated in any way. The written plan is almost completed and there are plans to paint the tanks some time in the near future. He reported that the sidewalks are completed, buffer markers have been put around the landfill, the demolition of the Wiley house is almost complete, and there are plans for the landfill operator to upgrade his license.

There was some discussion of submitting a proposal to fund some water projects as part of the upcoming economic stimulus package making its way through congress. Steve Barton and Alvin Alexander are going to see if something can be submitted before the deadline this

In the City Secretary's report it was suggested that the Emergency Management Coordinator should be created as a line item in the next budget since it may be difficult to find someone willing to do it as a volunteer. Ms. Scott also reported that the expenditures were about right for this time in the budget year.

Dianne Washington presented her audit report and showed that the assets are all positive. The audit was approved, as well as the minutes from the previous meeting. The expenditures were approved and the appointment of Ronald Bailey to fill the vacancy on the 4B tax board was approved.

There was some discussion regarding some items for the agenda of the next meeting and then the meeting was ad-

4-HER'S PARTICIPATE IN 76TH ANNUAL SANDHILS STOCK SHOW L to R - Justin Todd, Jaci Zingerman, Mattie Brooks, Gabby Silva, Shane'a Russell and Cassidy Turner. See County Agent's News, p.5.

Motley County Jr. Livestock Show Mark your calendar for February 21, 2009

By Ryan Martin

It's 37 days until the Motley County Jr. Livestock Show set for February 21, 2009 at the bus barn, so mark your calendar and make plans to attend. The annual breakfast sponsored by Lowe's Pay-N-Save will be from 6:45 am until 8:30 am sharp. Richard Turner and his crew will once again be flipping pancakes and sausage for us. All animals must be weighed in by 8:00 am and the show will get started at 9:00 am with the PeeWee Swine Showmanship. Following the peewee Jr. Livestock Association will showmanship will be the market swine classes, bucket calves,

market lambs, rabbits, market goats, and market steers in that

A copy of the 2009 Motley County Jr. Livestock Show rules can be picked up at the county Extension office. If you would like to donate to the stock show, please see a Livestock Show Director, Mr. Cooper, D'anna Russell or myself. Remember, all donations are passed onto participants to help pay for their animals, feed and any other costs they have

This year the Motley County also be presenting to a graduating senior the Memorial Herdsman Award. This award is sponsored by friends and families that have lost a loved one that was dedicated to youth development through the livestock industry. Donations will be used to purchase a custom belt buckle that will be awarded to a deserving senior along with a second semester scholarship. If you would like to make a donation in memory of someone, please contact me.

Once again, mark your calendar for February 21, 2009 and come out to support our local youth as they showcase their livestock projects they have been working hard with for the past several months.

County News

Smith and other area officials met for emergency management training

School News

Motley County Judge Ed D. The Motley County School is sponsoring a blood drive Tuesday, January 20th

Roaring Springs News

The main speaker at the RS Lions CLub was Tom Novak from the Cal Farley's Boys Ranch in Amarillo.

Library News

The library is pleased to announce: Our Fax machine is finally operational!

County Agent New

Most of the state's agricultural producers continued to suffer dry if not drought conditions.

Foothill Country Connections

Community, Diversity, Art

By Larry Vogt

Passing into the next decade, will it be a day like any other? Of course it will. On the day before, you are 69, then the next day you are 70. That is not where the changes occur. The changes are gradual over the years, the hair color changes, the hair is thinner, the lines in the facial skin appear, and there seems to be less

these same eyes it seems nothing has changed. The sun rises in the East, sets in the West, the rivers flow down to the sea, the seasons come and go, nothing seems that different until I happen to see a picture of myself from, say, 1999

or 1989. Then it all comes down to, "when did that happen"? No point being in denial, this person I call me, is facing the usual facts of being older.

It's useless to be cynical about aging, might as well accept changes as they occur; rejoice in the ability to enjoy visiting, thinking, writing, reading, playing music, playing with the grandkids, loving family, working, hiking, all the usual grand events of life. Looking out into the world with It's also useful to reach out, be involved with people, serve in whatever way that comes. This has the bonus of not dwelling on the little (and, yes, some are big) problems of self. Happy Birthday to everyone turning a milestone this year!

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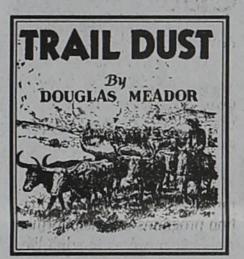
By Laverne Zabielski

Tuesday we met with Dr. Seigrist at to make plans for a new school news feature of the paper. In addition to publishing stories weekly, Hotel Matador is sponsoring a full page of school news once a month. This means that students' stories, poems, essays, and photos, in addition to features on class projects, and sports

events will be hilighted.

We welcome more ideas on how to best utilize this feature. Perhaps the students will want to start their own school newspaper. There is nothing like the feeling of being published, and seeing your words in print for the first time.

Contact Jennifer if you have news that you want published.



Matador Tribune January 15, 1953

Time will of course erase this recurrent antipathy that wades through my ranks of orderly thoughts like a drunken recruit. All the facts are like tall grass swept by the wind and point with convincing evidence to a different trend in my evaluation of character.

The man walks with princes of commerce and places exciting pieces of currency on the church collection plate.

His council is sought by many and patronizing men boast of his friendship after the third round in drinking circles. He is neither great nor is he small; a respected citizen walking always in his own shadow, but deliberately. The lights keep flashing after I remember his handshake. It is like clasping a slab of pie dough at slightly less then room temperature.

RETRO

Matador Tribune January 15, 1953

Selective Service **Calls Forty-Nine**

Forty-Nine listed registrants have been ordered by Texas Local board No. 45 to report for induction into the Armed Forces during January. This board is comprised of Floyd, Hale, Motley, and Swisher counties. Of twenty called to report at Plainview at 5 am January 26, one is from Matador being Norman D. Neighbors. James L. Shannon of Flomot and Joe L. Spray of Matador were listed among 14 registrants ordered to report for Induction on January 27th, at 5am. However, Spray has enlisted in the Air Force. Final call for induction is for January28th. And among the 15 ordered to report, is Jasper Watson Townsend, of Matador.

WRITING COMMUNITY

Some of My Memories of Life With Charlotte by Gary Campbell

The streets of Matador, Texas, in the 50's and 60's were filled with Campbell Kids. Charlotte, Carol, Richard, and I spent many a happy childhood day in that small, West Texas town. We had everything you needed: loving grandparents and parents, a Chevrolet dealership that gave us cheap (sometime free) gas, and lots of friends and adults that looked-out after us.

Momma and Pappy Campbell's house always seemed to be the place where my memories take me. I remember the domino games played with those plastic, green dominoes. It was also the only time I ever got to sleep in a nightgown, which were lovingly made by Momma for the four grandkids. During the early evenings we would put on our nightgowns and put on fashion shows for Momma and Pappy. We would run in circles through the living room and then through the kitchen and back to the living room with old 78 rpm records churning on the victrola. Occasionally, if the weather was good, we would get to sleep outside in the backyard with Momma. She had some type of old bed set-up out there and I can still hear the spooky night sounds that we loved to "get scared" by. Of course, Carol and Charlotte were always interested in scaring the "BeJesus" out of Richard and me, but Momma Campbell was always there to save

us from the dreaded night creatures. Another early recollection I have of Charlotte was a summer vacation trip to Colorado. Charlotte joined me and my Mom (Jerry) and Dad (Forrest) for my first trip to the "mountains". I was only about 5 years old but I vividly remember crossing the sas River. I was literally scared to death but Charlotte convinced me I wasn't going to fall to my death. I believed her until halfway across the span, Charlotte's little red cap blew off of her head and slowly and wistfully drifted all the way down to the river. It took forever and I remember us watching

The and continuing done

the entire voyage of the "blown away cap". I knew that if that cap could get blown off of the bridge, then SO COULD I. I RAN!!! It took me a while to trust Cousin Charlotte again.

Picking cotton in the summer of 1955 was an event that I will always remember. I think that was probably the last year that we actually "picked cotton". After that, machines took over (Thank God!). Charlotte, Carol, Richard and I were not the best "pickers" but Pappy was determined to introduce us to "How They Used To Do It". It was awful. We picked out more stickers from our hands than we picked cotton. We also had to weigh our cotton sacks after picking a few rows and write the results on a chart. Charlotte was getting to the age that she was a bit more interested in boys than she was in "picking cotton". I think Dewayne was his name. As soon as Pappy was out of sight, Cousin Charlotte and Dewayne would be practicing "kissing techniques". This was truly an education for the other 3 Campbell Kids. Cousin Charlotte taught me how to kiss. Yahoo! Charlotte didn't have very many pounds of cotton picked on her chart.

In 1965, Charlotte and Charles moved from Lubbock to Santa Fe. Cousin Richard and I were getting ready to start our freshman year at Texas Tech but Charlotte talked us into helping her move all their earthly belongings to New Mexico. We had two vehicles, one of which was a small, Chevy Nova 2, that was used to pull the U-Haul trailer. That was a Big Mistake. All went well until we reached the steep hills of New Mexico. Chugging up those hills, we averaged about 5 mph during that part of the trip and I highest suspension bridge in the world, the think Charlotte was thinking twice about the Royal Gorge at 1,053 feet above the Arkan-move. I know Richard and I were. We finally made it to the outskirts of Santa Fe after many harrowing moments. I'll never forget the twinkling city lights that greeted us as we barreled over one last hill at 5 mph. What a relief! We pulled into the first motel we could find. Charlotte went in to pay for the room and I pulled the Chevy Nova with the

12 foot high trailer up under the 11 foot high awning. So much for that U-Haul. Richard jumped out and took off running. I think he thought the New Mexico police would most likely lock-up any Texans found destroying New Mexico property. That was the beginning of the New Mexico saga for Charlotte and a good one it was. We managed to stay out of jail.

Earlier that summer, the Sourdough Singers had recorded our first (and only) record at Norman Petty Studios in Clovis, New Mexico. There were six of us high school kids from Matador in the group but when we went to record the record, our lead female vocalist (Patsy Hankins) wasn't able to go. Thank God for Cousin Charlotte. Being the trooper she is, she joined us in Clovis and sang the female lead of "The Lonely Nightingale". I still get chill-bumps when I hear her strong, soprano voice singing "Where the Nightingale Can Sing His Song, and I Will Be Forever" which were preceded by Richard's lyrics, "When I Die, Please Take Me Back To My Home Beside the River". We are all so fortunate that our songs, and our recorded voices, live forever. The song was a "Hit" in many markets around the United States and even in Canada and a lot of that had to do with the beautiful soprano solo performed by Charlotte.

So here we are, with over a half-century of golden memories to comfort us as we grow older. Living with all of the other Campbell's has been a blessing in my life and the blessings continue to grow. Charlotte has always been there for me when I've had my trials and tribulations in life, and she has always helped me to keep a positive attitude when things weren't going so well. When I think of the positive way that Charlotte has approached her life I'm reminded of the lines from Rosalind Russell in the movie "Auntie Mame": "Just Remember Kid, Life is a Banquet, and Most Poor Suckers are Staving to Death."

PLEASE JOIN US AT HOTEL MATADOR ON JANUARY 17, 6PM MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE ADVERTISERS AND CONTRIBUTORS APPRECIATION CELEBRATION AND LARRY VOGT'S 70TH BIRTHDAY FEATURING MUSIC BY LARRY VOGT AND SUSANNA VAN TASSEL EVERYONE'S INVITED

MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE Laverne Zabielski & Larry Vogt, Publishers & Editors

Carol Campbell, Feature Writer Jennifer Lawler, Office Manager

Houston Press Club Editorial Award Winner West Texas Press Associaton Member Texas Press Association Member



· Award Winner

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County Judge attends emergency management training

Motley County Judge Ed D. Smith and other area officials met for emergency management training last Thursday-Friday, January 8-9, hosted by Childress Emergency Management.

Incident Command System (ICS) was the name of the training and it is based on the National Incident Management Sysrequires that a city and county complex incident.

be ICS compliant in order to receive emergency funding.

The training teaches officials how to approach a disaster or problem in their area.

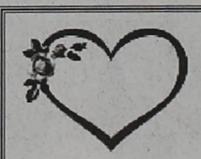
Tuesday and Wednesday officials went through ICS 300, which is an intermediate training in case of an expanding incident. On Thursday participants went through ICS 400, tem. The federal government advanced training in case of a

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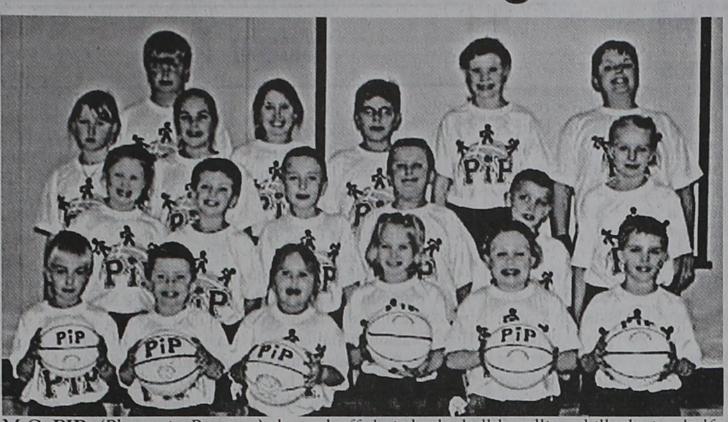
Grandparents, moms, dads, husbands, wives, sweethearts! Send 'em some love in the Motley County Tribune

Deadline: February 2

one photo \$20 two photos



MC PIPs show off basketball handling skills



M.C. PIPs (Players in Progress) showed off their basketball handling skills during halftime of the basketball game on Dec. 16. Back Row - Shelby Elliott, Seth Markey, Mattie Brooks, Meagan Ford, Grant Potts, Cassidy Turner and Michael Siegler. Middle -McKenna Ford, Gage Baker, Cade Drum, Cameron Stafford, Ethan Mason and Natalie Jameson. Front - Case Drum, Dawson Baker, Tatum Guerrero, Emily Jameson, Carley Turner and Brody Rankin.

Volunteers (and Residents!) Needed at Care Center

By Marisue Potts Powell

A plea for volunteers was not tops on the agenda for the annual meeting of Hackberry Creek Care Center on January 12, but the need was put forth by Jim Watson. "Volunteers, for instance, could free up the staff by assisting with the feeding of residents. One person coming one day a week would be a tremendous help, and it could be very rewarding," he said. Anyone interested may contact Sandra Seago at the center for more information or other ways to help.

The annual meeting program chaired by President of the Board, Seab Washington, included an introduction of Mrs. Sandra Seago, who began her job as administrator in late September, and Director of Nurses, Mrs. Charlotte Blackburn, who began her job in October. Mrs. Seago said she was honored to be the administrator and proud of a facility with such strong community support and such a loving staff. She hopes the community will continue to offer support.

Sammie Phillips, filling in for an ailing board secretary, Regina Sheffield, read the minutes of the 2008 annual meeting which were approved as read. Then Washington introduced the board members: Chuck Ream, Charlie Johnson, Jim Watson, Marisue Powell, Sammie Phillips, and the newest members, Pam Thacker and Larry Hoyle.

Washington explained that

the care center has 30 employees at the present time and the current census is at 24 residents. "We need more residents," he said. "This is an excellent facility and you, our members, can help with the marketing. Encourage people to check us out before going

somewhere else."

The financial report prepared by Diane Washington, CPA, emphasized the need for more residents. The break-even point for the forty-five bed facility is thirty-five, so the report showed a sizable loss. However, the accountant pointed out that the loss is half of what was suffered last year, and with several more years under the belt, and with an increase in residents, the facility will be in the positive.

In addition, Mrs. Seago and Mrs. Blackburn, working with a hired consultant, have been very successful in scouring past records for unbilled or incorrectly billed items and resubmitting them to Medicare and Medicaid for payment. This time-consuming task has paid off for the Care Center, but Mrs. Seago looks forward to the time when she can spend more time getting to know the staff and the residents.

Chuck Ream, vice president of the board, opened the floor for nominations to fill the three vacancies of the board and the following were nominated: Seab Washington, Charlie Johnson, Jim Watson, Joan Patton, and Janie Campbell, who declined to serve. Washington, Johnson, and Watson were elected to

return to the board.

Some concerns were brought to the meeting. One member commented that she missed the jolly, bubbling, laughing atmosphere once apparent. Another, who is an employee, said it was not very much fun working now and she went home exhausted. A member questioned what had happened to employing Matador nurses. Another emphasized that an important part of resident care was being cared for by people who know them and know the families, and know who to call.

Washington explained that personnel changes had to be made to get closer to a paying basis. During this time, no one has been fired or let go, though some were reassigned. The ratio of staff to residents is an industry standard, not something invented here. He said, "Right now, we are closer to making it work than we have been since the opening. If we stick together, we can make it work."

There was time for more kudos. Ronald Bailey thanked the board members for serving, and serving free gratis. Mrs. Phillips expressed appreciation to those who improve the morale of the men and women residents: the decorating committee, who did such an outstanding job at Christmas; the hair dressers; and nail ladies.

This inspired a lively and lovely resident, Ida Farley of Turkey, to address the group. She said when they were building the care center, she once drove by with family and

Eommissioners' court

tion for this important task. "Motley County is in a precarious situation without the EMC position filled," he said. "We may become ineligible for some federal grants."

"There are two things that a coordinator needs," Gillespie said. "One, find someone that wants to do it and has the time; and two, provide not only the financial support but the (coordinated) support of the city and county."

The court held a discussion regarding a burn ban for Motley County. According to Commissioner Alexander, a Christmas Eve fire that was set by an absentee landowner resulted in the dispatch of more than five volunteers plus fire equipment, finally containing the fire after

"All the burn ban does is to "alert" people to the danger," Judge Smith said. Further, it only applies to the unincorporated areas of the county. The order prohibiting outdoor burning would be in effect for 90 days. The burn ban does not involve individuals gainfully employed in a trade or profession that involves the use of combustible materials, such as a welding business. "However, there are no exceptions otherwise that we can make," Judge Smith said. Violation of the order is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500. The court voted unanimously to institute a burn ban for 90 days.

continued from page one

The judge announced to the court that Charlie Johnson had resigned as chair of the Motley County Library board. The board recommended Larry Hoyle to serve as chair. This appointment was approved unanimously by the court.

Ben Kautz, TxDOT, met with the court to present the Radio Tower Site Lease Agreement. In addition to the county, the tower, located east of the historic jail, leases space to the EMS. TxDOT requested space on the tower, conducting an inspection that determined the anchors were deteriorating. The county has agreed to lease the space free of charge to TxDOT, who will pay for the repairs to the tower. The site lease agreement was reviewed by the county attorney, who made some adjustments to the standard state lease form. This item was tabled until Feb-

The sheriff asked the court to approve reserve deputies for the county. The goal of this proposal is to get volunteer law enforcement help that will be on reserve for the Fourth of July parade and Old Settlers, for example. Volunteers would work about 16 hours per month, Crutchley said, adding, individuals will have to have peace officer certification. They would not enforce outside of Motley County, Crutchley said. "They have to be trained, and up on all their training hours," he said. "These individuals would be someone we could call on in emergencies, someone to fall back on if the sheriff gets sick," Judge Smith added. The court voted unanimously to name two reservists for Motley County.

In a wind energy update, County Attorney Tom Edwards informed the court that a consumer group had filed suit in Austin to block the proposed transmission lines. "We have had zero political support in Austin," Edwards said. "We need to secure Motley County some benefit from this enterprise. If anyone has any input to our "supposed" representation in Austin, then now is the time to speak out on our behalf."

In further business, Judge Smith reported that the elevator to the district courtroom, which has been out of commission since the summer, had extensive work the last week of December, when a new replacement motor was installed. Again, the replacement motor "burned out." Further evaluation is in order, and will be conducted in the near future.

Speaker From Cal Farley Boys Ranch at Lions Club

The Roaring Springs Lions Club met at the Travelers' Inn in Roaring Springs on Thursday January 8. There were twelve members and three guests attending. Secretary Corky Marshall read a citation from the Texas Lions Camp acknowledging the Roaring Springs Club for 100% participation donation pledges for two years in a row. The main speaker for the day was introduced as Tom Novak from the Cal Farley's Boys Ranch in Amarillo.

Mr. Novak opened his program with the story of his own involvement with the Ranch as a resident from the age of nine. He went on to graduate from high school at the Ranch, went to college and came back to work as a teacher and then an administrator.

A short history of the Ranch revealed that it was started in 1939 by Mr. Farley, who had grown up during farming times when children were often subjected to heavy laboring conditions on farms and in factories and decided there were other ways to rear children and especially children in troubled households who may have had minor scrapes with law enforcement authorities.

The Ranch is now coeducational with a separate facility, Girlstown, USA, which is open only to girls. There are currently 260 residents at the Ranch and

60 girls at Girlstown.

The Ranch consists of an 11,000-acre campus with its own village cluster of buildings that are used as residence homes and class facilities. They have their own beef operation that is a conception to consumption ranch. There are after graduation programs that help former residents move on to adult life, whether it is higher education, the military service, or technical school and the career world.

After a brief question and answer session Lions Club president Wes Campbell expressed appreciation to Mr. Novak and the meeting was adjourned.

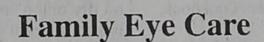
commented, "If I ever get old enough to go to a care center, I'd like to go there." Mrs. Farley, who greets everyone with the biggest and brightest smile, was most generous in expressing her appreciation to the center and to the staff. "I said when I came here I was going to make the most of it," she once told this reporter, and she has. Mrs. Farley makes everyone's day brighter.

"There's no better testimony, than from someone who lives here," Washington said.

Hackberry has received the following memorials since I last reported: Geneva Martin by Richard and Dorothy Turner, Henry and Leona Terry, Wanda Davis of Ackerly and Velma Moseley, and Carolyn Ewing; Cal Garrett by Kathy Shorter and Geneva Martin; James T. Johnson by Mary M. Jones;

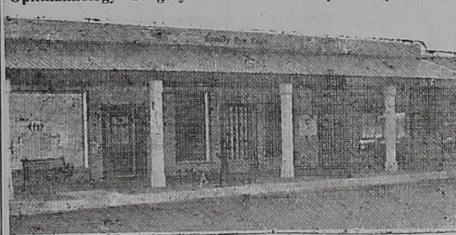
Loys Cox by Joan and John Warren; and Alvera Watson by Carolyn Ewing.

Other gifts included five crocheted blankets for residents from Janet Martin of Dickens; 50 games and puzzles by Don and Lu Largent; and paper sacks by Lowe's Grocery Store. The Center thanks one and all for their support, concern, and help.



Blake Avera, M. D. Ophthalmology - Surgery

Amy Bishop, O. D. Therapeutic Optometrist



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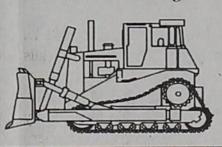
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IS THE TRUTH ELUSIVE?



"What is truth?" Pilate asked of Jesus long ago. The Bible answers the question in the Gospel of John, Chapter 17, verse 17. The search for truth should be a high priority for us as we journey through this life.

We must approach the study of the Bible with a desire to discover truth. We must be willing to read the Bible and allow it to speak to us. We need to try to understand what is actually being said. The Biblical truths we find need to be incorporated into our own lives.

"Ah, you have me there," a research scientist once said thoughtfully. "I'm not sure I can take the risk. It might mean leaving my job and becoming a missionary or something." This man was not joking. Indeed, a few people are that honest. Also, we can offer him no guarantees as to what demands his conscience might make of him.

It is important that you and I come to the study of the Bible not to prove what we already believe, but to discover what we must believe. Only then will we be truly, students of the

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

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

NEWS AROUND MOTLEY COUNTY

Roaring Springs News By Monta Marshall

January's used to mean cold snowy days that you settled by the fire to read a good book, shell pecans, mend or do handwork. Men might bring their tack in to mend or maybe clean and oil. Kids really loved the snow days; playing, having snowball fights, slipping and 'skating' on the ice or playing with their new games they got for Christmas. We've had a few cold days and will likely have some really 'blustery cold days'. I have a long list of interesting things I could do when they happen. In this day and time with mostly paved roads and 4-wheel drive vehicles we seem to go on about our days as usual in spite of bad weather. I guess I can dream of snowed in days.

Bobby Fletcher is home from the hospital.

We received word yesterday that former resident, Charles Hipp died. He was the son of Elmer and Ruby Hipp. Ruby resides at Heritage Oaks Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Lubbock. Her address is 5301 University Avenue; Lubbock, TX 79413. Charles was the owner of Lubbock Saw and Knife for many years and Turf Equipment on Slide Road in Lubbock. His funeral service will be on Wednesday. He will be missed! He came often to Roaring Springs.

Benny D. Dillard had shoulder surgery last Thursday. He ber 27th. is at home recuperating. Barbara Alexander has been on the sick list for some time. She also broke her collar bone. Barbara will be going in for more tests. Please pray for Barbara. She has had a very rough year.

The First Baptist Church of Roaring Springs has begun a Children's Church hour. Last Wednesday evening there were thirteen children and on Sun-

Thursday, January 15

potato, tossed salad, banana

Friday, January 16

split dessert.

oranges.

Broccoli and cheese stuffed

Friedfish, red beans, creamy

Hamburger on a Bun (let-

Looking for Texas

Hunting or Ranch

Land?

coleslaw, baked hushpuppies,

Monday, January 19

day there were nine in attendance, Brook Barton and Kim Gleghorn are in charge of this program. All children are invited to attend.

On Saturday evening, Corky and I went to my son, Kevin Mc-Claran's for a steak dinner. My daughter-in-law, Tracie's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Mohon were guests also. We had an enjoyable evening.

Suzanne Abbott was surprised with a birthday cake at the three o'clock coffee gathering at the Traveler's Inn last Wednesday. Those present were: Ken and Suzanne Abbott; Lyn Montgomery, Buzz Thacker, Alex and Jo Crowder, J. N. Fletcher, Chig Guinn; Margaret Leonard; Corky and Monta Marshall. Suzanne is enjoying being 39!

Christmas news is still trickling in. Joe Glenn and Joyce Meredith's family spent Christmas Eve at their home. Those attending were: Jim and Carla Meador; Tony, Sherry, LaShea, and Sean Rose all of Matador; Jeremy, Whitney, Morgan and Judson Jones of Lubbock, Jonah and Angelica Meredith of San Angelo; Kenneth Ashley; and Yancy, Daphne and Parker Meredith of Roaring Springs. All but the Jones and Yancy's family were there also on Christmas Day. Yancy, Daphne, and Parker took Jonah and Angelica back to San Angelo on Decem-

Yancy, Daphne and Parker spent Christmas Day in Hale Center with Daphne's parents, Ronny and Dorothy Farmer.

Mr.and Mrs.Sam Swim of Lubbock drove to Dickens to meet Mr. and Mrs. J.T Swim of Roaring Springs, and Mr. and Mrs. J.R Swim of Abilene to eat lunch for Mr. J.T Swims 92nd Birthday.

tuce, tomato, onion, Ect.) tater

Tuesday, January 20

Cornflake Chicken, pota-

Wednesday, January 21

Vegetable beef stew, corn-

bread, pea salad, cherry cob-

Danny and Ronda Havins

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toes, greens, roll, chocolate

tots, beets, baked apples.

cake, w/berries.

Flomot News By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity. They are but trifles, to be sure, but, scattered along life's pathway, the good they do is inconceiv-

Kathy and Clois Shorter attended the Ragtown Gospel Theater in Post Friday night and enjoyed the performance of Legacy V Southern Gospel Musical Concert and the Drama of Judas.

Mrs. Marisue Powell of Mott Creek Ranch and Mary Ellen "Dude" Barton were honored on their birthdays by Mrs. Powell's son and family, Jim and Mary Ann Potts and sons of Floydada with a luncheon, cake and gifts Saturday at the Main Street café in Matador. Mrs. Judy Renfro of Matador was a guest.

Jack and Nada Starkey were in Amarillo Monday and Tuesday for Jack a medical appointment. Their daughter, Mrs. Jackie Lynn Davis of Fritch met them there. Mr. and Mrs. Starkey visited in Canyon with son and wife Mr. and Mrs. Michael Starkey.

Anna Beth and Joe Ike Clay were in Lubbock, Tuesday for his medical appointment. They continued to the Panhandle and visited with Larry and Angelica Clay and enand Kelsey played. Anna Beth mail routes.

attended the Briscoe County stock show Saturday held at the Vance Price Barn of Valley School. Her grandchildren, Walker, Ryleigh and Parker Carson and Caden Edwards of Turkey participated in the

Recent visitors of Roger and Doris Vinson and Mrs. Beverly Vinson were Shannon Vinson and son, Morgan of Lubbock.

Mrs. Marilee Cooper of Borger visited Wednesday and Thursday with her father, Wilburn Martin. They visited in Lockney, Wednesday with Mrs. Wanda Lane. Visiting Friday and Saturday with Wilburn was his granddaughter, Lindsey Martin of Amarillo.

Butch and Janice Hughes were in Lubbock, Monday for him to receive an evaluation of his treatments and progress. May God Bless him.

Justin Calvert of Dumas visited overnight Friday with his grandparents, Mary Joe and Doyle Calvert, and uncle, Glen Calvert. Glen and his friends have killed 97 hogs within the last four months.

Danny Barrett of Quitaque, Matador and Flomot Rural mail Carrier, is a patient at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock and listed in serious condition. His sister, Judy Barret of Quitaque is a is bedside and ask for your prayers. joyed the basketball games in Mrs. Cally Sperry of Flomot which their children, Tanner is substituting for him on his

Matador News

Billie Koon is in rehab in Plano. She would love to hear from everyone, and her birthday is January 25. Cards and notes may be mailed to her at: Billie Koon, c/o Ken Koon, 4528 Hitching Post Lane, Plano, TX 75024-2141.

The Texas Principals Excellence Program (TxPEP) will be conducting a workshop at Hotel Matador today and tomorrow. Principals from Dell City, Amarillo, Novice, Leuders Avoca, and Sierra Blanca will be attending.

Kim and Kal Bergstrom of Earth Movers, Inc., a heavy construction company located in Hurst, were in Matador recently. They are working on an area highway construction project.

Area superintendents will be meeting at Hotel Matador next Wednesday at noon.

The Russell clan had their holiday reunion recently. Gathering with local residents Dorothy Russell, J.D. and D'anna Russell, Shane'a and Colton Russell, Marilynn and Randy Hicks, and Linda and Luke Roy were the following: Emily and Paul Teegardin of Silverton; Tom Roy of Weatherford; Matt and Kelly Roy of Fort Worth; Caron and Jesse Perkins of Odessa.

Also, Jeremy, Dana, and Emma Perkins of Waxahachie: Jessica, Danny, and

Kate White of McKinney; Kevin, Kim, Jacy, and Jake Hicks of Cedar Park; Jason, Kimmie, Hannah, and Hailey Hicks of Temple; Lara, Adrian, Jaxon, and Isabell Escobar of Lubbock; Muriel Hicks of Buffalo Gap.

The MCISD elementary students and the MCHS Student Council hosted a bake sale last Tuesday to benefit Lockney ISD, whose school burned down recently.

A blood drive is set for Tuesday, January 20, in the MCISD Multi-Purpose Room. Science teacher Kathy Gillespie schedules the community blood drives and may be contacted for further information. All citizens who are at least 18 years of age are urged to participate.

Myra McCleskey is starting college classes on an educational aide scholarship this week. She will be taking classes online from Clarendon College toward earning her bachelor's degree in education and teacher certification. She is taking English Composition and Introduction to Recreation this semester. Myra currently works as a special education aide at Motley County ISD. She is the wife of James McCleskey, and their children are Colby, Dillon, Ashley, and Justin.

Do Gooders' Club Of Flomot Begins New 2009 Season

Flomot began the New Year, Tuesday afternoon, January 6 at the Community Center with the election of officers.

serve for 2009 were Mrs. Connie Franks, President; Mrs. Doris Vinson, vice president; Mrs. Anna Beth Clay, secretary, treasurer and reporter.

During the business session conducted by Mrs. Franks some of the projects planned for the coming year are another refrigerator, new floor tile in closets, storage room and pantry and a new heater for bathroom.

Clay and Mrs. Mary Jo Calvert presided at a snowman designed service. The table was

The Do Gooders Club of laid with a white cloth with a long blue table runner with snowflakes on each end. The centerpiece was a snowman on a blue place mat. They The following elected to served refreshments of dips and chips, assorted cookies, popcorn and peppermint sticks with coffee and fruit

The Hostess gift was a decorative set of candleholders in a snowman gift bag. Barbara Payne was pleased when her name had been drawn.

Those attending were Mesdames Erma Washington, Suzue Shannon, Waydetta Clay, Mary Jo Calvert, Barbara Hostesses, Mrs. Waydetta Payne, Doris Vinson, Tommie Jo Cruse, Connie Franks and Nada Starkey.

MCISD sponsors blood drive

The Motley County School is sponsoring a blood drive Tuesday, January 20th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room. This drive will also be a "Be A Hero" blood drive. A "Be A Hero" blood drive is when the elementary students recruit donors to come to the Motley County Drive. Each elementary student will receive one prize for every donor that they recruited. The classroom who recruits the most donors for will receive a prize for each student

in that classroom. Remember, every donor who donates next week at a mobile drive will be eligible for a chance to win a \$200 VISA card. During the month of January, a \$200 VISA card will be given away each week. The donors will come from the mobile drives from the previous week. Find the HERO in you and donate next Tuesday, January 20th. For an appointment please call Kathy Gillespie at 347-2677 or 800-333-6920.

Trail Fixin's By Dorothy Pope

It's Kind of Spring Again, I'm going to start cleaning out flowerbeds soon, and getting ready to plant a garden. We decided that today is the day that we will go to Flomot and dig some of Lessies Iris, isn't it funny how when nothing else will survive those flowers will.

Here is a recipe that will stand the Test Of Time. Submitted by Lessie Pope to Flomot Do-Gooders Cookbook.

Chicken Casserole

Grease pan or baking dish with oleo. Put uncooked rice enough to cover the bottom.

1 or 1-1/2 cups of water

1 cup cream of celery soup 1 cup cream of mushroom

soup

1 small can of carnation milk

Heat and put on top of rice, add 2 cups cooked chicken,(deboned) sprinkle on dry onion soup cover and bake 2 hours at 350 degrees.

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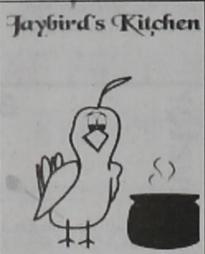
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Notes from the Library

By Buffy Crutchley

After about two months of headaches, and over one hundred feet of telephone cord, the library is pleased to announce: Our Fax machine is finally operational! I am so excited about this. We get about five people a month needing to fax something, and now we can finally help these folks. I have to say thank you to my sister, Bree, all the way in Florida. She was kind enough to let me send her several "test" faxes as I was getting the machine set up. It was quite comical, but we finally got it working.

For those of you interested in entering the Photography Contest, don't forget. The entries are due by Friday at 2:00pm. I've had an overwhelming amount of interest in the contest, so it should be a lot of fun. If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call: 347-2717.

The long awaited new book by Janet Evanovich is in. It's called "Plum Spooky," and looks to be as good, or better, than all her others. We also have new books in by Michael McGarrity and W.E.B. Grif-

Elsie Vaughn Gilbert Thacker

Elsie Vaughn Gilbert Thacker died on January 2, 2009. She was born in Yoakum County, Texas, on December 30, 1911.

Her parents were William Murphy and Annie Drennan Vaughn. They moved to Afton when Elsie was a young girl and later to Roaring Springs.

She married Clyde Gilbert October 6,1928. He preceded her in death September 7, 1976. She married Freeman Thacker December 1,1978. He preceded her in death June 19, 1984.

Her services were held at Church on January 5th.

Her remains will be buried in Matador Texas sometime in June 2009.

She is survived by one daughter, Marcia (Bateman) Middlebrooks; three granddaughters, Clyda (Ron) Thurman of Orem, UT, Jeana (Art) Bristow of Longview, Texas and Nona (Gary) Yoder of Topeka, IN; 22 great grandchildren and 25 great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, four sisters, seven brothers, one grandson and son-in-law.

In lieu of flowers a donation the Topeka United Methodist to a favorite charity or East Mound Cemetery.

School Menu

Thursday, January 15: Breakfast: Cinnamon raisin biscuit, sausage, or cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: Frito pie, corn, salad, crackers, chocolate pudding, milk.

Friday, January 16: Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza or Toast, Juice, Milk

Lunch: BBQ, Bun, lettuce, tomato, pickle slices, French fries, pineapple chunks, vanilla wafers, milk.

Monday, January 19th **Breakfast:** Biscuit, scrambled eggs, bacon or cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: Salisbury Steak/ gravy, creamed potatoes, biscuit, honey, milk.

Tuesday, January 20 Breakfast: Cereal, toast, juice, milk.

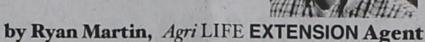
Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, creamed potatoes, green beans, Hot roll, honey, milk.

Wednesday, January 21 Breakfast: Waffle, sausage, or cereal, toast, applesauce, milk.

Lunch: Cheese Pizza, salad, pineapple chunks, vanilla wafers, milk.

Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)

County Agent's News



4-Hers' Participate in 76th Annual Sandhills Stock Show

County Agent Ryan Martin took Jaci Zingerman, Mattie Brooks, Gabby Silva, Shane'a Russell, Cassidy Turner and Justin Todd to the 76th Annual Sandhills Stock Show and Rodeo in Odessa on January 2 and 3 to compete with their goat projects. Also traveling to the show with these 4-Hers' were Jamie Martin, Craig, Cathey and Carlee Turner, JD and D'anna Russell, Lori Alexander, Tina Brooks, Dvonna Grundy, Michael, Louann and Michael Silva.

This was a very tough show as there were 6 classes of goats averaging 54 goats per class. These kids were competing against others who showed all summer on the show circuit and in jackpots. Shane'a Russell was the only one to receive a placing. She got 17th out of 56 in her class. Justin Todd was also called back into the show ring to compete for Senior Showmanship. Everyone did an excellent job exhibiting their animals and representing Motley County. Congratulations to these individuals on a job well done.

Western Rolling Plains Chemical Conference Slated for January 19, 2009

The Western Rolling Plains Chemical Conference will be held on January 19, 2009 at the Spur Community Center. The conference will feature 5 TDA approved CEU's and a catered lunch. Topics that will be covered will include: Range Herbicides, Cotton and Wheat Herbicide Updates, Grain Sorghum Production Updates, as well as an in depth marketing outlook provided by Stan Bevers, and 1 hour of laws and regulations for all TDA pesticide applicator license holders. We will also cover a new program being offered this year known as the

"Dickens-Motley Premier Cotton Program" which we anticipate will be very beneficial and open to all Rolling Plains cotton producers. The cost of registration will be \$10 at the door while registration and hospitality will begin at 8:30 a.m. Please RSVP by January 16, 2009 at the Motley County Extension Office at 806-347-2733 or the Dickens County Extension Office at 806-623-5552 so we can plan accordingly.

Texas Crop Weather Report

COLLEGE STATION - Most of the state's agricultural producers continued to suffer dry if not drought conditions.

Low soil moisture levels were critical in some areas, limiting the planting of winter wheat and possibly even spring wheat if rainfall patterns don't change, reported Texas AgriLife Extension Service agents throughout the state.

The East and Southeastern reporting regions received some rain, but both could use ore, particularly the Southeast, according to reports.

"No question it's dry and we need a rain," said J.D. Ragland, AgriLife Extension agent for Floyd County, northeast of Lubbock. "Really, no wheat in Floyd County is responding or growing at this time. Some irrigated fields look decent, but they too need a good rain."

"Moisture is needed badly," said Brad Easterling, AgriLife Extension agent for Baylor County, southwest of Wichita Falls."What few fields were able to be grazed have been grazed to the point of exhaustion or the wheat is simply pulling up due to shallow root systems. Most fields are not even being turned out on and will miss any chance of being grazed."

"Extremely dry conditions," said Marty Gibbs, AgriLife Extension agent for Runnels County, south of Abilene. "Wheat looks terrible and many

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By Ace Reid

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fields have died if they came up

"Our county ends 2008 in severe drought conditions which have caused many cattle ranchers to downsize and review alternative feeding sources to offset costs," said Dirk Aaron, AgriLife Extension agent Bell County, near Temple. "Corn producers who have not fertilized for the 2009 planting are looking at alternative sources of fertilizer due to soil conditions being too dry for anhydrous ammonia."

"The drought continues," said Bob Whitney, AgriLife Extension agent for Williamson County, north of Austin. "There has been some drizzle but no rain in months. Cattle sell-offs continue and wheat farmers have parked their drills without planting," III Swan of Abile, and

"We received several light

rains in the past couple of weeks which have given cover crops enough moisture to start growing," said Armon Hewitt, AgriLife Extension agent for Trinity County, southwest of Lufkin. "The weather has changed from hot to cold back to hot every few days, which is extremely hard on livestock, especially when mixed with rain."

PANHANDLE: Little to no rain or snow combined with high winds depleted topsoil moisture. The short soil moisture across much of the region left the wheat crop and pastures in fair to poor condition. Moisture was desperately needed for the dryland wheat. The cotton harvest was mostly completed, with short yields and lower quality. Supplemental feeding of cattle continued.

ROLLING PLAINS: Conditions remained extremely dry. Green bug numbers increased over the past several weeks, and a few producers were spraying. Winter-grain mites were also found, but not in any great numbers. Wheat rust is still present and should be watched. Much of the pasture in the area had no winter grass at all. Stock tank levels continue to recede. Not all counties were under a burn ban, but residents were cautioned about outdoor fires. Though cattle prices remained low, some producers were selling anyway to avoid the cost of keeping and feeding calves through the winter.

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MOTLEY COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTALFUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2008

Data Total 10 SSA SSA Control Other Governmental IDEA, Part B Special General Funds Funds Education Codes Fund Formula **REVENUES:** 20,108 \$ 1,179,838 232,405 927,325 \$ 5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources 44,114 1,150,544 1,099,320 7,110 State Program Revenues 382,362 737,134 354,772 5900 Federal Program Revenues 446,584 3,067,516 239,515 354,772 2,026,645 **Total Revenues** 5020 **EXPENDITURES:** Current: 1,567,836 343,697 331,195 74,825 818,119 Instruction 9,376 9,376 Instructional Resources and Media Services 6,872 8,299 1,427 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development 0013 150,720 144,302 3,678 2,740 0021 Instructional Leadership 71,838 71,838 School Leadership 0023 14,748 11,595 116 3,037 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services 98 Health Services 194,751 194,751 Student (Pupil) Transportation 103,484 103,484 Food Services 0035 95,486 95,486 Extracurricular Activities 1,051 208,938 207,887 General Administration 344,424 8,793 335,631 Facilities Maintenance and Operations 68,025 Data Processing Services 68,025 Intergovernmental: 55,954 17,800 38,154 Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA 19,294 Other Intergovernmental Charges 19,294 458,782 2,913,271 239,515 354,772 Total Expenditures 1,860,202 6030 154,245 (12,198)Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) 166,443 Expenditures OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES): 21,000 21,000 Sale of Real and Personal Property 16,080 16,080 Transfers In (16,080)(16,080)Transfers Out (Use) 21,000 16,080 4,920 7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) 3,882 175,245 1200 171,363 Net Change in Fund Balances 4,356 965,240 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning) 960,884

1,132,247 \$

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January

- 14 Kids Praise, FBCM 5pm
- 14 Hospital Board Meeting, 7 am-2nd Wed
- 15 Matador Masonic Lodge, 6:30 pm
- 15 Foothills Fellowship 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center in Roaring Springs.
- 16 Varsity boys & girls BB vs Guthrie in Guthrie 6:00pm
- 19 MCISD School Board, 7:30pm
- 19 JH BB in Patton Springs @ 5:30 pm
- 20 Blood Drive @ School
- 20 Matador Lions Club, Methodist Church 12:30 pm
- 20 Varsity BB boys & girls at Pacucah @ 6:00 pm
- 22 Eastern Star, 6:30pm
- 23 Titus Foundation Meeting
- 23 Varsity BB boys & girls vs Valley at Home 6:00pm
- 26 JH BB vs Guthrie Home 5:30 pm
- 26 American Legion Post 337, 7 PM at the Motley County Senior Center?
- 27 Varsity BB boys & girls vs Spur at Home @ 6:pm
- 30 Varsity BB boys & girls in Patton Springs @ 6pm

February

- 4 Kids Praise
- 5 RS Lions

- 10 RSCV
- 12 Matador City council
- 17 Matador Lions, Methodist Church 12:30 pm
- 19Foothills Fellowship 7:00 p. m. at the Community

- 3 Matador Lions, Methodist Church 12:30 pm

- 9 Commisioners' Court 9:30 am
- 9 RS City Council
- 11 Hospital Board, 7 am
- 16 MCISD School Board, 7:30pm
- 19 Matador Masonic Lodge, 6:30 pm

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William Dean, Floydada

Garland Rattan, Amarillo

Tom Hamilton, Plainview

Carl Bontke, Plainview

Roy McMahan, Dumas

Key Vaughn, Austin

Jerry Swaringen, Canyon

C Cammack, San Antonio

Larry Elliot, Beaumont

Norman Frede, Houston

Nancy Barrow, Vernon Brett King, Burleson

J H Gillespie, Crowell

Billy Meyer, Turkey

Margaret Stanley, Lubbock

Stephen Crowell, Lubbock

Gerald Fugit, Odessa

Larry Markham

Judy Renfro

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Robert Forbis

Harley Alsup

Nancy Long

Bert Whitaker

H E Terry

Lindy Stafford

Harold Campbell

ELSEWHERE Richard Hamilton, AK Frank Traweek, CA Clyde Lancaster, NM Bessie Lebow, NM Shelby Jackson, NM Maurine Hall, NM Janie Henley, AZ Brenda Moser, AZ Pat Williams, OK James Earl Jackson, OK Ala Kingston, IL

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