

MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

VOICE OF THE FOOTHILL COUNTRY

Where History is Pride

Flomot Matador Northfield Roaring Springs



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Citizen committee recommends closure of four county roads

By Carol Campbell

On the morning of March 5, 2010, a Jury of View was scheduled by the county Commissioner's Court to hear testimony on three protests submitted to the court on February 8, 2010, for the closure of four roads in Motley County.

Prior to 1981, a county could obtain a county road by prescriptive easement or by adverse possession. A county road by adverse possession is a road whereby the county could declare ownership by the use of the road. Most county roads, however, were obtained by prescriptive easement.

After 1981, the only way a county could obtain a road was by purchase, condemnation, dedication, or court order. In 2003, the Legislature created Chapter 258 of the Transportation Code to deal with roads in existence before 1981, later extending the deadline to September 1, 2011.

"To prove up a county road, the County would have to prove it had been maintained on a regular basis prior to 1981 by records or testimony," Judge Ed D. Smith said.

There were three protests submitted to the court on February 8, 2010: Harry Hamilton submitted a protest to County Roads 411 and 415, located in southeast Motley County; Si Causey and three others submitted a protest to County Road 110, running across private property and connecting to FM2999, north of CR 110; and Bob Kilmer submitted a protest in behalf of Matador Ranch to close County Road 247, from the cattle guard 3.5-miles across Matador Ranch pasture to the former Tee Pee City.

The Court submitted nine names for potential jurors, consisting of Ron Bailey, Larry Hoyle, James Beardon, Tim

Ward, Glen Calvert, Seab Washington, Randy Hicks, Craig Turner, and James McCleskey. Five members, randomly selected to serve were: Ron Bailey, Larry Hoyle, Tim Ward, Seab Washington, and Randy Hicks. Hicks was named by unanimous vote to serve as chairman.

Providing testimony were James Gillespie, Si Causey, Stanley Bureson, Louis Bostick, Bob Kilmer, Harry and Tom Hamilton, Don Cox, and Jim McMahan.

They all submitted testimony to the Jury of View, some wanting the roads in question to be declared as private roads and some wanting them to be County Roads. The Jury heard the evidence before noon; and then after lunch they drove County Roads 411 and 415; and CR 110 to FM2999. Although the Commissioner's Court had already declared the Tee Pee City road a private road, the county was advised by experts in the procedure to ask the Jury of View to declare the road as a private for public record.

The Jury returned to the courthouse after they drove the properties, and began deliberations. By unanimous vote, they determined that in fact CR411, CR415, and the Tee Pee City Road were private roads. Further, they determined that on County Road 110 that the road would be declared private from 50 yards east of the collapsed Tom Handle bridge, all the way to "the oil and gas well." Then from that point, the road would be maintained as County Road to FM2999.

Following the regular Commissioner's Court meeting on April 12, 2010, at 1:15 p.m., the county will adopt the modified County Road Map. "The purpose of this process is to protect the county in years to come," Judge Smith said. "It may not seem like a big deal now, but property changes hands, heirs may not want to honor old

agreements on a handshake."

"The decisions of the Jury of View are binding on the Commissioners Court," Judge Smith said. There is a process in place to contest the inclusion of a road on the County Road Map. "A property owner can go to District Court within the next two years, to challenge the decision to include the road," Smith said.

Initially, Smith contacted experts in the procedure, Allison-Bass and Associates, a law firm in Austin that serves as General Counsel for all county judges and commissioners in the state. While he had budgeted \$1,000.00 in the 2009-2010 budget for the process, he learned that "these lawyers wanted to help us with the process, but wanted \$13,600.00," he said. Further, the South Plains Council of Governments also declined to help - out of their area of expertise.

Necessity is the mother of invention, they say. Judge Smith completed the whole process for about \$600.00. "We invested in a \$500.00 County Road Map that is required by law; and the Jury of View was paid \$6.00 for the first day of deliberations, and promised \$40.00 a day thereafter. However, the Jury was through in one day, and most that asked for the money donated their earnings to the Senior Citizens. In addition, I don't think it cost me any extra postage to include the list of county roads in the tax statements this year," he said.

Ron Bailey, who served on the Jury of View, said the committee benefited from the Judge's expertise and experience. "No one really knows the hard work that went on behind the scenes to prepare the documents necessary to formalize the Motley County Road Map. Judge Smith's work ethic is to be commended, and the fact that he saved the county more than \$13,000 is something we should all be proud of."

MCISD Board meets

The Motley County Board of Trustees met in a regular scheduled board meeting on Monday, March 1, 2009, with a full quorum. Also present were Dr. Andrew Seigrist, William Cochran, Kathy Gillespie, Denise Ford, and Coach Mike Bigham.

Following an invocation by Gilbert Guerrero, the meeting was opened for public comment. No one spoke in Open Forum.

On the first item of business, TAKS Coordinator Kathy Gillespie gave a brief summary to the board concerning the new changes in testing and accountability. Following her presentation, minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved by unanimous vote.

Other action items approved by unanimous vote consisted of a motion by Lewis Drum, seconded by Don Baxter, to approve the Textbook Certifi-

cation Form; and a motion by Tina Brooks, seconded by Lee Jones, to award Hogland Office Supply the copier bid. A motion was then made to table action on reroofing bids, approved by unanimous vote.

Principal William Cochran reported enrollment at 174 and the attendance rate at 97.1 percent for the month of February. Mr. Cochran also discussed C-Scope, a curriculum that is a vertical alignment of scope and sequence.

During the Superintendent's report, Dr. Seigrist reported that three Titus Foundation scholarship applications have been received from the current senior class. The deadline to apply for teacher mini grants scholarships is April 1, 2010.

Many teachers and both Administrators attended the TCEA conference in Austin. Other announcements included a re-

port that Judy Woolsey is doing much better and has returned to work; bids have been sent out for school buses; and the budget workshop is scheduled for March 30, 2010.

In other business, Coach Bigham spoke to the board about the possibility of hiring a girls' head basketball coach. Having two coaches for Junior High and High School girls will enhance the girls program considerably, he said.

The board entered executive session at 8:48 p.m. and exited at 9:13 p.m. to discuss the principal's contract, extension and compensation. Following executive session, a motion was made by Lewis Drum, seconded by Don Baxter, to extend the Principal William Cochran's contract from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2012, including a four percent cost of living raise. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Wind Expo Draws a Crowd

FLOYDADA, Texas, March 9, 2010— It was tough to find a parking space at the Unity Center in Floyd County on Thursday March 4th. The parking lot was at full capacity, packed with wind industry professionals who had booths at the event and others hoping to learn more about the industry and its future in the Texas panhandle.

The wind energy expo hosted by Caprock Plains Wind Energy Association brought in a crowd of nearly 300 people from across the South Plains. Attendees came to meet with developers, transmission companies, consultants and manufacturers as well as educational and advocacy groups working in wind energy.

"The event was well attended and a testament to the optimism of wind energy development in West Texas," said the Floydada Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Justin Jaworski. "Floydada EDC is currently working to help develop a proper incentive program for wind farms and looks forward to assisting this process in the near future."

Local companies in the Texas Panhandle such as Turbines Over Texas and Alternative En-

ergy Specialties were hoping to use CPWEA's wind energy expo to promote their products and services.

Randy Craig is an associate professor of biology at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, but three years ago he began building a residential wind turbine with other local residents. Craig and the Turbines Over Texas crew had the turbine that they are currently manufacturing on display at the expo.

"Through much trial and error we feel that we have achieved a small-wind residential, rural turbine that will allow more people to assist with rising electrical costs and reduce their carbon foot-print on the Earth," Craig said. "The expo was an opportunity for our small manufacturing company to increase the awareness of our wind turbine company and its presence in Hale County, Texas."

Alternative Energy Specialties located in Abernathy, Texas also had an exhibit at the event. Their exhibit featured a patent pending meteorological tower (often times referred to as a met tower) that they manufacture locally.

"Our Tall-Tilt™ 60 through 80 meter met towers are patent pending technology and were designed and engineered by a

local team here in the Lubbock area in 2009," said Glenn Van Slyke, a member of the Alternative Energy Specialties team. "It was beneficial to be in the same venue with the companies that use our products since what we provide is in place, and many times gone, long before power is generated by a turbine."

Hill Country Wind Power is one of the developers that local representatives like Van Slyke were happy to see at the event. HCWP develops small to mid-sized wind farms. They are a non-traditional wind farm developer as they focus on selling retail electricity from their projects to large end-users like co-ops, school districts and hospitals.

John McNair, director of land acquisitions at HCWP, said their focus was to take care of the landowner first. He noted that selling electricity at retail benefits landowners, investors and local communities.

"At the expo I met primarily with landowners in areas we are targeting, some who represented target areas as far as two and a half hours from the expo location," McNair said. "That speaks volumes about what CPWEA is doing, facilitating the introduction of developers to landowners in the windiest areas of Texas."

Matador City Council approves budget for 2010-11 Salary increases for city employees

By Carol Campbell

Attending the meeting were Councilmen Pat Seigler, Alvin Alexander, Shane Jones, Kay Bailey; and Mayor Pat Smith and City Secretary Debra Scott. Water Superintendent Steve Barton and Councilman Chuck Ream were absent. A public hearing was set for 6:15 p.m. to hear public comment on the proposed budget for 2010-2011. No one spoke in open forum.

The Secretary's Report for February, 2010, showed a funds balance of \$133,917.96 in the Waterworks Fund; \$83,398.56 in the General Fund; with the 4A Tax Funds sitting at \$106,743.73 and 4B Tax Funds at \$55,588.49. The Water District has \$8,111.57; Municipal Fines at \$2,934.96; and the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund has a balance of \$7,000.00. The total funds are \$397,695.27, earning \$31.62 in interest income for February.

Additionally, Secretary Debra Scott reported that she had talked to Morton Irrigation about the sidewalk deterioration in front of City Hall. Pictures of the damage were emailed to OJD Engineering firm on February 5, 2010, however, according to the OJD, they had not received the

documentation. Scott said she would continue to "follow up" on the sidewalk repairs. The minutes and expenditures for the month of February were approved by unanimous vote.

City Secretary Debra Scott provided the council with color coded copies of current and proposed Profit and Loss Budgets, showing the actual numbers from April 2009 through March 2010; and the proposed budgets for April 2010 through March 2011.

Overall, the total expenses for the 2009-2010 General Fund were over budget by a net of \$7,400, with a projected income of \$8,000.00 yet to be received for the fiscal year. In the 2010-2011, the projected budget for the new fiscal year is \$157,400.00, an increase from the previous year of one-half of a percent (.5%, \$800.00).

Overall, the Waterworks Fund was \$17,220 over budget for 2009-2010 with a projected income of \$24,000.00 yet to be received for the fiscal year. Total income and expenses for the Waterworks Fund for 2010-2011 is projected at \$441,900, a 7-percent increase (6.74%, \$29,800) over 2009-2010. A motion was made and seconded to approve both proposed budgets for 2010-2011, passing by

unanimous vote.

"I think Debra has done an excellent job in managing the budgets for the city," Councilman Pat Seigler said. "I commend her for a job well done."

In other business, a copy of a Resolution to Adopt an Investment Policy for the City was reviewed by the council. Following discussion and omitting the Investment Strategy portion of the document, the resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

An Executive Session was called at 7:25 p.m., reconvening at 7:40 p.m. to discuss salary increases for city employees. A move was made by Kay Bailey, and seconded by Pat Seigler to approve \$600 per year raises for all four city employees. Additionally, a merit raise of \$2,000.00 was given to Joel Guerrero for completing his water license requirements.

Under Items for Future Consideration, the council discussed the old trailer house behind Bob's Oil Well. Mayor Smith said he would send the owner a letter to get written permission to move the trailer. Councilman Bailey said the new globes and oil pumps had added to the historical value of the property, and that tourists and visitors often stopped at Bob's Oil Well.

Foothill Country Connections

Community, Diversity, Art
When you have history, you have pride.

By Larry Vogt

There is an old popular song called "I Didn't Know What Time it Was" and that is exactly where the editors were this past Sunday when the daylight savings time began with the clocks to be moved forward one hour. The computer and cell phones knew the time had changed but we were clueless. Plus we did not mention the time change in the last edition when it should have warned the readership. Earlene Jameson mentioned it by way of a joke and there was a typo in the word savings.

I can't really live an hour ahead of sun time anyway. It seems the whole summer I

am feeling like I am missing something and will be late for everything and I usually am late. I reckon it is the changing that causes the rushed mentality. If the time would stay on daylight savings time year around I think I might do better. I understand there are some countries that have daylight savings time the year around. And why don't they change it on Saturday instead of Sunday? It is downright embarrassing to get to church right in the middle of some part of the service that you thought was an hour earlier.

I hope you have your inner and outer clocks adjusted by now and that the television stations or one of your neighbors put you straight on what time it was on Sunday.

WRITING COMMUNITY

March is Women's History Month

Matador Chapter No. 66 of the Order of the Eastern Star closes ranks after 110 years

By Carol Campbell

Editor's Note: Information for this article was taken from several primary sources, including "Hearts of Friendship," a yearbook compiled by Deborah Martin for program year 2006-2007; and "Of Such As These, a History of Motley County," by Eleanor Mitchell Traweek. Secondary sources included interviews with past members. In honor of Women's History Month, this article will focus primarily on the sister organization of the Masonic Lodge, and is not meant to overlook the significant contributions of the Masons and Worthy Patrons of this organization.

The Matador Chapter No. 66 of the Order of the Eastern Star was organized 110 years ago on September 9, 1900, with 20 members. During its peak year in 1969, the organization had 88 members on the rolls. Today, only seven resident members, and five non-resident members remain. Their membership was moved to the Floydada Chapter No. 33 on January 14, 2010, thus ending a long and storied past in two locations. The first Masonic Hall (near the present City Hall) was destroyed by fire in December, 1925. The last location occupied space above the Matador Variety Store, Main Street and U.S. Hwy. 70.

Now, in the quiet halls and shuttered windows, where the last Worthy Matron Deborah Martin was sworn in, remnants of the glory days remain — memorabilia, photos of skits and

programs, historic cookbooks, and 100-plus years of program minutes remain, written first in the meticulous hand of charter member Allie Traweek, wife of the pioneer doctor Albert C. Traweek.

The contributions of many members supported this important icon in Motley County history. Charter members of the Eastern Star read like a roster from the history books: The first Worthy Matron, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Campbell, was a descendant of Alexander Hamilton of Revolutionary fame. She was the wife of Henry H. Campbell, founder of the Matador Ranch, and the first Motley County Judge. Her great grandson, Wes Campbell, is a member of Eastern Star, and serves as an officer in Floydada Chapter No. 33. "The history of every town is tied to Masonry," he said. "The old Masonic Hall is a treasure trove of information."

The first Worthy Patron was Thomas Neal Edmondson, who came to Motley County in 1891 in a covered wagon when "the whole county was a sea of grass as far as the eye could see." He was a cattleman and a county official, serving one term in 1892 as Commissioner of Precinct 4.

Also in the Edmondson wagon train, moving west from Comanche County Texas, with their six children, was Albina and John L. Burleson. They settled in Motley County where Albina became the first Associate Matron of this fledgling organization. Albina was referred to as "Mother Burleson," reflecting the affection residents had for

her. It is reported she made "long wagon trips through any weather to deliver babies when a doctor was not available."

In the early 1900s, dues were \$1.00, refreshments cost \$1.25 a month, and initiation fees were \$3.00. Lizzie Campbell continued to serve as Worthy Matron from 1900 to 1903 followed by Miss Rosa Cammack, (1903-1905, 1918-1919). Rosa and her parents, Thomas Newton and Izora Cammack, were charter members of the Matador Missionary Baptist Church. This pioneer family originally lived in the historic townsite of Tee Pee City.

In 1926, dues were raised to \$2.50 per year. The organization moved into their new location, and bought a piano for \$290.00. The membership held a 42 domino tournament to raise funds.

Other notable names on the Past Matrons list were Mrs. Allie Traweek (1907-1908, 1919-1920), wife of Dr. Albert Carroll Traweek, a practicing physician in Motley County until his death in 1959; and Mrs. Leonora Luckett (1909-1910, 1916-1917), known for her sense of style and fashion. Nora was the wife of



Celebrating the Chapter's 75th anniversary, the Diamond Jubilee was the "event of the year" and incoming officers set for installation wore matching silk, silver lame' formals with "diamond" tiara's in their hair. Pictured is the incoming Worthy Matron, Winifred Darsey.

Jack Luckett, a colorful early-day pioneer employed by Henry H. Campbell and later the Matador Ranch. He built the first gin in the county and was part owner of Matador Mercantile Company.

In October 1939, nylon stockings went on sale for the first time in Wilmington, Delaware; Kate Smith first sings "God Bless America"; and "Gone with the Wind" premiered in Atlanta. In Matador, the Eastern Star bought a new gas stove for \$18.50, and .50 cents was col-

continued on page 6

Relay For Life April 23

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MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

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Award Winner

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In 1951, the Chapter celebrated the 50-year anniversary of the organization with an installation ceremony where all the incoming officers wore formal gold satin gowns made from the same bolt of material, but sewn with different styles. Pictured (L to R, back row) are: Grace Campbell, Mary Elizabeth Pitts, Jerry Campbell, Maggie Hamilton, Jessie Prichett, Beverly Vinson, Etoile Stanley, and Vivian Jacobs; (L to R, front row): Dan Barton, Ollie Cox, Winifred Darsey, Lucretia Campbell, and Opal Pipkin.

Letter to the Editor

I would like to thank District/County Clerk Kate Hurt and her deputy, Diana Russell, for all their hard work in this past election. They were essential in seeing this election through. The election laws of Texas are complex and there are a myriad of things that have to be done, done correctly and on time. In my opinion the taxpayers are getting more than their money's worth from the clerk's office.

I would also like to thank all the poll workers. Again

this is another job that has to be done strictly according to law to ensure that the voters get their say. Workers have to be trained and work a twelve hour day for not a whole lot of money. They perform a real public service. If you recognize them it would be nice to show appreciation for their service and a job well done.

C.W. Moore

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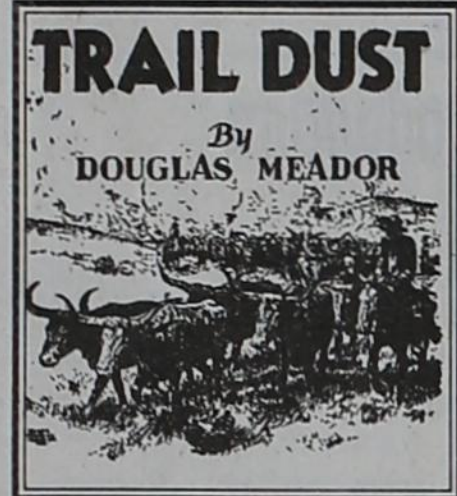
Ask how we can
improve wildlife
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Matador winds reach 40-mph with 60-mph gusts



Forty-mph straight winds with 60-mph gusts created dust storms Monday, March 8, and downed a large tree at the home of Vaden Hays, 830 Hunter Street, Matador. Hays was in his back yard working when the gust of wind toppled the tree on his head, causing injury to his neck and lower back. He reported no fractures, but a very sore neck.



Matador Tribune
January 20, 1977

Maturity in a man begins when he starts noticing the indiscretions of his contemporaries.

Numerically our weaknesses are generally adequate to insure the clergy with unwinn-

nowed grain for half a dozen generations.

A thought is like a shadow passing a thousand times, yet failing utterly to leave a single trace of its journeys. But charity may pass one time and bring eternal hope to a despairing life.

Our new national economy has made the blue collar worker a man of distinction while his white collar contemporary is forced to patch the patches on his apparel to prevent arrest for indecent exposure. Labor has become an executive who presses a button to cause a machine to do his former work. At the same time the white collar worker is fighting the wolf from the door with a handful of degrees.

RETRO NEWS

Matador Tribune
January 20, 1977

Local Girl Attending Inauguration

Miss Charise Cullin is in Washington, D.C. this week for the inauguration of President Carter, and other activities. She left by plane Friday from Lubbock, to join her mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Richardson in Dallas, in making the trip.

Mrs. R.E. Campbell Jr. accompanied Charise, her granddaughter, to Lubbock to take the plane.

FBCM to host concert by West Texas Watchmen

First Baptist Church, Matador, will host a concert by West Texas Watchmen on Sunday evening, March 21, at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone in the community is invited to hear this outstanding Gospel singing group, which includes Matador native Stan Martin, a founding member of the group.

A love offering will be taken.

Grant funds help library purchase new copy machine



Four Winds Resource Conservation and Development recently awarded the Motley County Library a matching grant to purchase a new copy machine. Ron Bailey, the Motley County RC&D representative, was on hand to present the check to the former librarian Buffy Crutchley. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Four Winds RC&D serves 13

counties, including Motley. Matching grants are awarded once a year to projects meeting certain criteria that represent the mission of RC&D and NRCS.

The purpose of the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) program is to accelerate the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources, improve the general level of economic

activity, and to enhance the environment and standard of living in designated RC&D areas. RC&D areas are locally sponsored areas designated by the Secretary of Agriculture for RC&D technical and financial assistance program funds. For more information, please contact the NRCS office in Matador, or visit http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/red/Four_Winds.html.

American Legion meeting set for March 22

American Legion Post 337 will meet on Monday, March 22, at 7:00 p.m. at the Motley County Senior Center.

Justin Newman will speak about his experiences at Texas Boys State in 2009.

Deliberation concerning participants for the 2010 Boys State program will be conducted.

It is suggested that Legion and Auxiliary members plan to attend the Hackberry Creek Care Center fund raising spaghetti supper at the Motley County School cafeteria at 5:00p.m. before the Legion meeting.

No meal will be served at the Legion meeting.

Traveler's Inn Bed & Breakfast

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In honor of the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Billy Paul and Betty Simpson, their children and grandchildren request the pleasure of your company on March, 27, 2010 at 2 o'clock in the afternoon at the Hotel Matador, in Matador, Texas.

Your love is a treasured gift, we request no other.

APPLICATION TIME



It is true! Spiritual development comes as a result of knowing God's Word and then applying the principles found therein to our lives. Personal Bible study time is often difficult to find. But when found this time can be a period of re-learning and of refreshing ourselves in some elementary areas of Christian growth.

A good way to prepare our selves for the opportunities and challenges of this life is to get into the Gospels. It is in the four gospel accounts that we find our Lord Jesus. If we are to do as He did, then we of necessity must find out how He did it. In the reading of the gospel accounts we find how our Lord felt, acted, reacted and taught. We need to feel His compassion for others and to see people through His eyes. This will be an eye-opening experience for many of us.

Our emphasis is not only a reading of the life of Jesus, but also to acquaint our selves with the Master's own walk. Let me suggest the book of Luke as an excellent starting point. Also we remind ourselves that it is "application time," for the Bible says in James 1:22, "But be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding your own selves."

The Bible tells us that faith comes by hearing the words of God. Spiritual development is the product of faith.

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

Motley County Native, Stanley Martin And The West Texas Watchmen In Concert

First Baptist Church
Roaring Springs, Texas
Sunday, March 21th
10:45 a.m.

Come and enjoy good gospel music with us.

WEST TEXAS WATCHMEN

WILL BE IN CONCERT AT

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

QUITAQUE, TEXAS

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2010

7:00 P.M.

(There will be a love offering.)

The West Texas Watchmen are a Southern Gospel Trio. The members of the group are: Stan Martin (raised in Matador), Randy Ervin and Bennett Kimbell. Check out their website www.wtwatchmen.com for more information.

Notes from the Library

By Mary Ann Potts

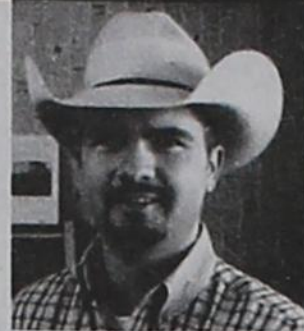
Hello All! We'll I've made it through my first week alone at the library and am getting more familiar with everything and everyone. Thanks again for being patient with me.

Last week Buffy initiated me into Librarian status by allowing me to place the next book order. Don't worry she printed out a list of your favorite authors to help guide me in my selection. "Blood Vine" by Erica Spindler, "Hell Gate" by Linda Fairstein and Clive Cussler's "Silent Sea" are on their way as I write this column. But that's not all, I took a chance and ordered "Deep Shadow" by Randy White, an action mystery story about underwater cave explorers and a pair of ex-cons searching for sunken treasure. And if your familiar with Don Delillo, a National Book Award-winning author

who wrote "White Noise" and "Underworld," you'll sure enjoy this new novel, "Point Omega," about a secret war advisor and the young filmmaker who visits him in his desert home. And last but not least, I'm testing the waters of Motley County Readers with "Islands of the Damned: A Marine at War in the Pacific." Now this new non-fiction book is an eyewitness account of the true nature of war from the point of view of a young marine. But not any marine, a young Texas marine, who left his home state to escape the life of a travelling salesman.

Well that's all the news I have for this week, but I have more new books scheduled for arrival in the weeks to come. Make sure and stop by to check them out, no pun intended.

County Agent's News



by Ryan Martin, Agri LIFE EXTENSION Agent

Beef production workshop set for March 24 in Miami AgriLife Extension agent: Breeding soundness of bulls should be a priority

MIAMI -- At the core of a successful beef reproduction program is the bull, said Brandon Dukes, Texas AgriLife Extension Service agent in Roberts County.

"It is absolutely critical that much thought go into selecting and developing herd bulls, as well as keeping them in good breeding condition," Dukes said. "Equally important is the understanding of diseases and other factors that can affect the fertility of your herd bulls."

An "Improving Beef Reproductive Efficiency: Bull Management" workshop will be held March 24 at the Miami Community Center to provide a comprehensive look at managing bulls for improved reproductive efficiency, he said.

The program will start with registration at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch. The program will begin at 12:30 p.m. and end at 4 p.m.

Program topics will be: Selecting and Developing Herd Bulls, Nutritional Requirements of Bulls, Trichomoniasis and Other Health Concerns, Factors Affecting Bull Fertility, and Conducting Breeding Soundness Exams.

Two general Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education credits will be offered, and lunch will be included. Those planning to attend should RSVP to 806-868-3191 on or before March 19, Dukes said.

NAFEC President Testifies Before House Agriculture Subcommittee on FSA Information Technology System

WASHINGTON (Rural-Wire), March 12, 2009 - Craig Turner, President of the National Association of Farmer Elected Committees (NAFEC) testified this week before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry to review the status of information technology (IT) at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

"The challenge of delivering this multitude of highly complex programs to a much larger customer base has been, and continues to be, exacerbated with an ever-declining FSA workforce and an ever-shrinking number of county offices," declared Turner, a farmer and rancher from Matador, Texas. "FSA has, therefore, been forced to rely much more heavily on IT in an attempt to fill the service gap. Unfortunately, much of FSA's current IT structure is archaic and fragile. We fear that we are uncomfortably close to a total IT meltdown and that service to farmers by the FSA is in a perilous situation."

"For too many years, FSA has been forced to take funding away from salaries for staff and expense money for county and state offices to fund stop-gap measures to keep the old IT system up and running," added Turner. "FSA has bled all of the people and brick and mortar it can afford to keep the old IT sys-

tem running. There must be a separate, dedicated, statutory funding stream for a modern IT platform -- authorized by Congress -- if we are to deliver all of the programs authorized by Congress to all of the farmers and ranchers mandated by Congress."

Turner also explained the importance of broadband deployment to farmers and FSA program delivery. "We commend President Obama and Secretary Vilsack for their bold initiatives on broadband deployment in rural America. We also suggest that county FSA offices and USDA Service Centers be prioritized as a high priority target for broadband deployment. If we can get broadband to our FSA county offices it would not only help negate the agency's antiquated and decaying IT structure, but we may also have a better chance of getting broadband deployment to the rest of the county and into the homes and offices of farm and ranch families.

County committee members are an important component of the operations of FSA and provide a link between the agricultural community and the USDA. Farmers and ranchers who serve on county committees help deliver FSA farm programs at the local level, applying their knowledge and judgment to make decisions on: commodity price support loans and payments; conservation programs; incentive indemnity and disaster payments for some commodities; emergency programs and payment eligibility. FSA committees operate within official regulations designed to carry out federal laws.

Mr. Turner's testimony may be found at http://kscw.com/kscwdocs/NAFEC_IT_Testimony_10_MAR_10.pdf, and the accompanying exhibit at <http://kscw.com/kscwdocs/FSAFactSheet.pdf>

April 6 Horse Management Workshop in Lubbock offers sound advice

LUBBOCK - The Texas AgriLife Extension Service office in Lubbock County will offer a free Horse Management Workshop from 1 until 4:45 p.m. on April 6 at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Lubbock.

The center is located at 1102 E. Farm-to-Market 1294. Dr. Brett Scott, AgriLife Extension horse specialist at College Station, will be the featured speaker.

Topics will include pasture and hay selection, basic horse nutrition, general horse health care and using equine genetics testing to determine diseases in horses.

To preregister by April 1 or for more information, call the AgriLife Extension office in Lubbock County at 806-775-1680.

Prescribed burn tour set for April 30

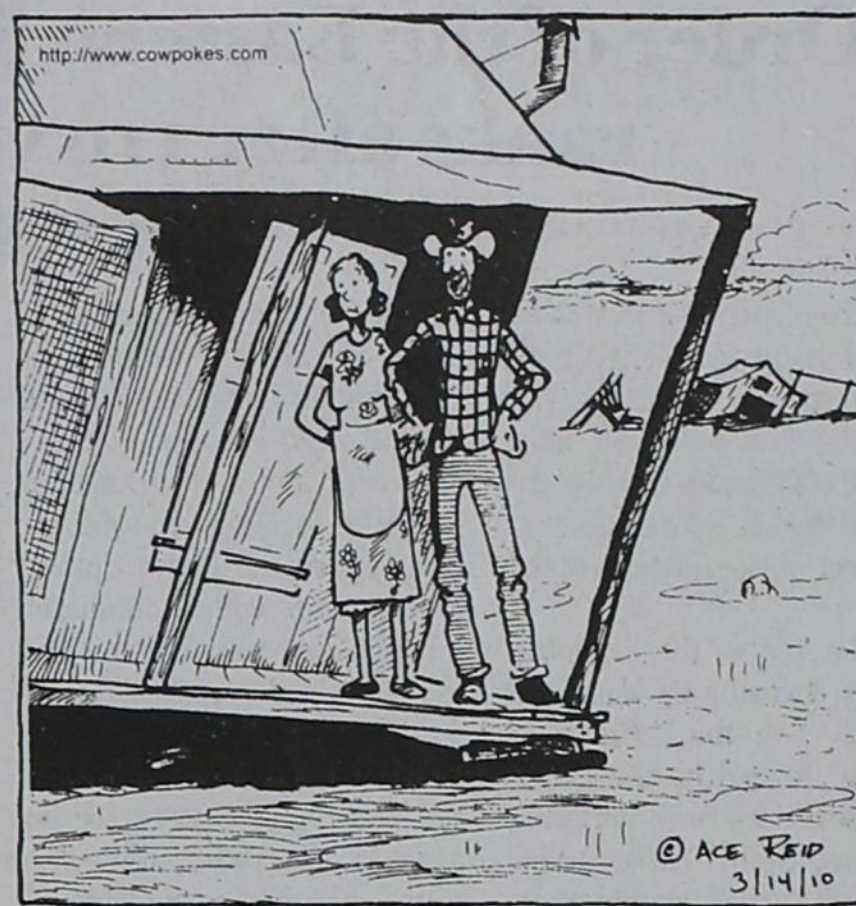
ROBY - A prescribed burning field day will be held from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. April 30 at the Rolling Plains Quail Research Ranch located 11 miles west of Roby on U.S. Hwy. 180.

Two Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be available for those with a private applicators license.

Dr. Dale Rollins, Texas AgriLife Extension Service wildlife specialist at San Angelo, said the field day will showcase a number of burns conducted at the research

COWPOKES®

By Ace Reid



"Maw, after looking things over, I don't blame you for gittin' a little nervous about that wind last night."

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ranch over the past year and should be of interest to range and wildlife managers as well as ranchers.

Rollins, who also serves as the ranch director, refers to the event as a "Fire Appreciation Day."

"I use the term 'appreciation' to market several of my programs, especially those which can be controversial," Rollins said. "Appreciation has several contexts, including 'to value or admire highly,' 'to judge with heightened awareness,' and 'to be cautiously or sensitively aware of.' All of these apply to the use of fire as a tool for range and wildlife management."

Rollins said prescribed burning has received increased scrutiny lately, especially given the damage caused by large wildfires in the Texas Panhandle and elsewhere in recent years. He is quick to point out that those wildfires were not caused by prescribed burning.

"Prescribed burning is a lot more than just throwing a match," he said. "With proper planning and training, burning can be safe and effective. We'll highlight the plans and procedures we use here."

The quail research ranch was established in 2007 with the mission to "preserve Texas' wild quail hunting heritage for this and future generations." Rollins uses fire as his "adjustable wrench" to reach that goal; something he said more land managers should consider.

He said a properly executed prescribed burn can accomplish multiple objectives simultaneously for less than \$7 per acre.

"One of our objectives is to determine the plant responses to seasonal fires so we can eventually tweak our burn timing to achieve the most desirable impact for quail," he said. "Most of the prescribed burning in Texas has been done in late winter, but we've seen some pretty incredible forb responses to fires conducted last August."

Rollins said the program's formal talks will be kept to a minimum to promote comments and insights from attendees. Fire weather forecasters will be on hand to discuss their forecasting tools, since an accurate, real-time weather forecast is critical when conducting a burn.

Cost of the tour is \$10 for those who preregister by April 23, or \$20 at the door. Registration includes lunch and refreshments. Participants are encouraged to preregister to assist with meal planning.

In the event of inclement weather, the program will be moved to the Roby Community Center.

The tour is sponsored by the research ranch, Texas AgriLife Research, and AgriLife Extension's Quail Decline Initiative. For more information or to pre-register, contact Rollins at 325-653-4576 or e-mail: d-rollins@tamu.edu.

Litter-Themed Essays Equal College Cash

AUSTIN, Texas-Texas high school seniors can earn cash for college by composing a 350-word essay suggesting additional measures to be used in the state's fight against litter.

Dow Chemical Company is partnering with Keep Texas Beautiful to sponsor the 2010 Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship Program. High school seniors are encouraged to submit essays explaining how they tackled a litter-related problem in their own school or community. The grand-prize winner will receive \$3,000 for college tuition, while two second-place winners will receive \$1,000 each.

"Here at Dow, we know that ensuring the health and sustainability of our environment takes a commitment from everyone, but particularly our youth," said Community Relations Manager Trish Ritthaler. "We're proud to sponsor a program that encourages high school seniors to come up with great ideas for litter prevention while enabling the winners to get support in furthering their

educations.* The Texas Department of Transportation spends millions of dollars each year to pick up litter along Texas highways, and research shows those most likely to litter are young Texans.

"If you don't tolerate litter, and if you've ever done something about it, you have a great shot at winning," said Doris Howdeshell, Travel Information Division director for the Texas Department of Transportation, which manages the Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship Program.

Eligible high school seniors must plan to pursue a two- or four-year degree at a Texas university or college. Essays must be 350 words or less and will be accepted starting March 8. Apply online, download an application, and view complete rules at DontMessWithTexas.org.

Completed applications and essays must be submitted online or postmarked by April 16, 2010. Mailed entries should be sent to the Don't Mess with Texas Scholarship Program c/o EnviroMedia Social Marketing at 1717 West 6th Street, Suite 400; Austin, TX 78703.

February Star Achiever Norma Zamora



Norma is the proud mother of 4 children Krystal, Luis, Amanda, Gabriel. She has a beautiful granddaughter, Neveah as well. She attends Sacred Heart Church and enjoys spending time with family and reading.

"Since working with Hospice Hands I have found it to be very rewarding."

Way to go Norma and thanks for all your hard work!!!!
Norma and the rest of us here to help you at
1-888-795-1212 or 806-652-3000

Relay For Life April 23

MCPC to raise money for All Night Party

The Motley County Parents Club is doing a fund raiser to raise money for the All Night Party that is held after the graduation ceremony. All players need to bring a black shirt and a white shirt. There is a \$5.00 entry fee. Gate admission is \$1.00. The concession stand will be serving breakfast burritos and brisket sandwiches and wraps. During half time of the games there will be free throw contests, three point contest and 1/2 court shot contests; everyone is encouraged to get involved in these fun contests.

Womens Teams

Golden Oldies

Wee Wee Brown
Shonda Elliott
Whitney Jones
Nancy Marshall
Tammy Simpson
Donna Kay Solt
Lisa Taylor
Carrie Tomlinson
Shane'a Russell
Coaches
Kyla Simpson and Alyx Smith

Smooth Criminals

Amanda Ashby
Jessica Ballard
Kassi Bachirs
Emily Hurt
Sylvia Martinez
Sabrina Osborn
Mandi Ream
D'Anna Russell
Danika Jameson
Kim Woolsey
Coaches
Lexi Osborn and Jaci Zingerman

Motley Mama's

Brandi Baker
Judy Cooper
Krystal Degan
LeJeanna Faulks
Rebecca Gwinn

Misty Jones
Marvina Mason
Crystal Salazar
Louann Silva
Teresa Woolsey
Coaches
Sabra Pope and Danielle Gwinn

Matador Rejects

Amy Bearden
Charli Bigham
Kathy Blanco
Jennifer Brady
Griselda Flores
Darla Gwinn
Jeanie Moore
Brittany Stewart
Karrie Valdez
Christy Smith
Debora Mata
Coaches
Melissa Flores and Justin Newman

Mens Teams

Comebacks

Timmy Brooks
William Cochran
Jim Cooper
Shawn Elliott
Bradley Jameson
Kyle Neal
Josh Piercy
Terry Simpson
Matt Washington
Coaches
Dayne Butler and Christian Brooks

Chumps

Ty Barclay
Roy Estrada
Anthony Hernandez
Jeromy Jameson
Lee Jones
Jason McMillan
Andrew Rodriguez
Seagram Sims
Joe Don Warren
Coaches
Ky Christopher and Mark Quintero

Cowboys

Cole Grundy
Casey Lawrence
Matthew Martin
Ryan Martin
Brandon Moore
Ronnie Pope
Tony Salazar
Jermaine Hendrix
Frankie Martinez

Coaches
Britt Simpson and Reagan Elliott

Allstars

Isiah Archer
Brandt Bearden
Bert Darsey
Jeromy Jones
John Martin
Chance Maynard
Stacy Perryman
Tim Ward
Randy Martin
Coaches
Jon Osborn and Andrew Martin

Replacements

Conway Clary
Jay Flowers
Aaron Green
Crawford Mason
Ryan Moore
Adam McKinney
Frankie Ortiz
Shane Taylor
Coaches
Austin Taylor and Braden Mason

Champs

Ysef Alvarado
Devin Ballard
Bradley Brown
Clay Cooper
Brandon Martin
Jim Meador
Chad Overton
Sean Rose
Tim Mangram

Coaches
Juan Flores and Weston Griswald

Getting to know your Relay For Life committee

By Monta Marshall

Note: This story is third in a series of articles about the Motley County Relay For Life Committee.

Kathy Blanco, wife, working mother of two, finds time to be a vital part of the Relay For Life Committee.

When she first met Pam Newman and Pam mentioned beginning to do something to be a part of the cure, Kathy immediately got on board. She got an information packet from Kathy Oakes, the Community Manager of Development of the Lubbock Field of the American Cancer Society. At the second meeting, the group organized and began their work for a cure for cancer.

Kathy Blanco is the Event Chair for the Relay For Life which means she is responsible for scheduling, contacting people, and overseeing the Relay. The Event Chair is

equivalent to being the Chairperson of a committee.

Kathy's husband David Blanco is very supportive of her efforts and lends a helping hand when he can.

Kathy's motivation for becoming a part of the committee was that she had a grandmother, Callie Giesecke, step-grandfather, R. C. Giesecke, her mom, Sharon Martin and an uncle, Rodney Long who were fighting cancer. All of these relatives resided in Motley County. All of the members of her family who have battled cancer were helped by cancer research, making a difference in their lives. Kathy wanted to be a part of making a difference in the lives of her family and other cancer patients. The best way she knew how was to join up with the Relay For Life Committee and fight back.

Her proudest moment was the night of the Relay when the donations, raffle monies, and Relay Teams efforts were all tallied up and it came

to \$16,000.00. Every donation, every sacrifice made to the cause makes a difference. Kathy's personal motto is "A Penny Closer to the Cure!" She saves her pennies and picks up all she might find anywhere and puts them in her special savings jar.

Each year more volunteers and community folks come out to support and enjoy the activities. They come to make a difference, to happily celebrate another year of life, to honor family members that have fought valiantly with a humanaria that is lighted during the memorial service or to remind those who are struggling that they care. They learn more of what is being done and what can be done at a Relay. Relays are fun too. People have a great deal of respect for the American Cancer Society; it has proven itself over the years and Kathy is proud to be associated with it in the fourth annual Motley County Relay For Life whose theme is "Imagine a World With More Birthdays."

Relay For Life Activities planned at committee meeting

By Monta Marshall

The Relay For Life Committee met last Monday evening, March 8, at the Capital Farm Credit building in Matador. Work is being done to secure teams and plan activities that occur during the rest of March, culminating on April 23, 2010. The Relay Walk will be held at the Motley County Football Stadium. Activities end at end of the fiscal year for the Motley County Relay For Life, August 1, 2010.

Kyle Shelton of Lubbock, the Community Manager of the Lubbock Field of the American Cancer Society, was present to help the committee organize events. The Relay For Life Committee will be raffling a Wii by Nintendo, an interactive game system valued at more than \$200.00. The tickets will be

sold for \$5.00. This should be a popular item that many would love to win, committee chair Kathy Blanco said. Tickets may be purchased from any committee member or at New To You in Matador.

In addition, tee shirts for the Relay Committee, sponsors, and survivors and care givers were ordered. The Survivor Breakfast is tentatively set for April 10, 2010, at the Windmill Café in Roaring Springs.

Willie Herrera of Brownfield will be the DJ for the Relay Walk. He was here last year and puts on a very well planned musical program with lots of skits and fun.

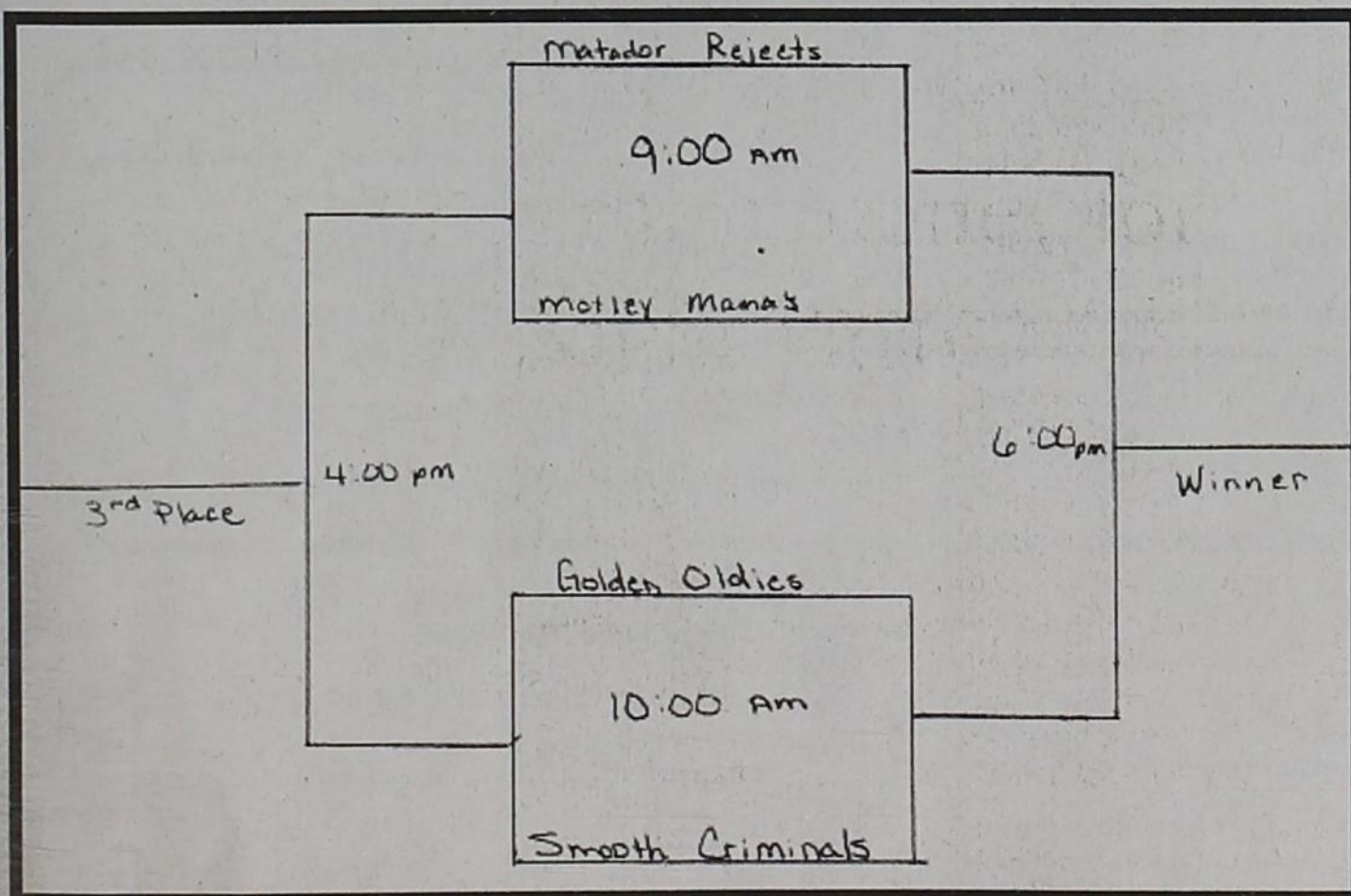
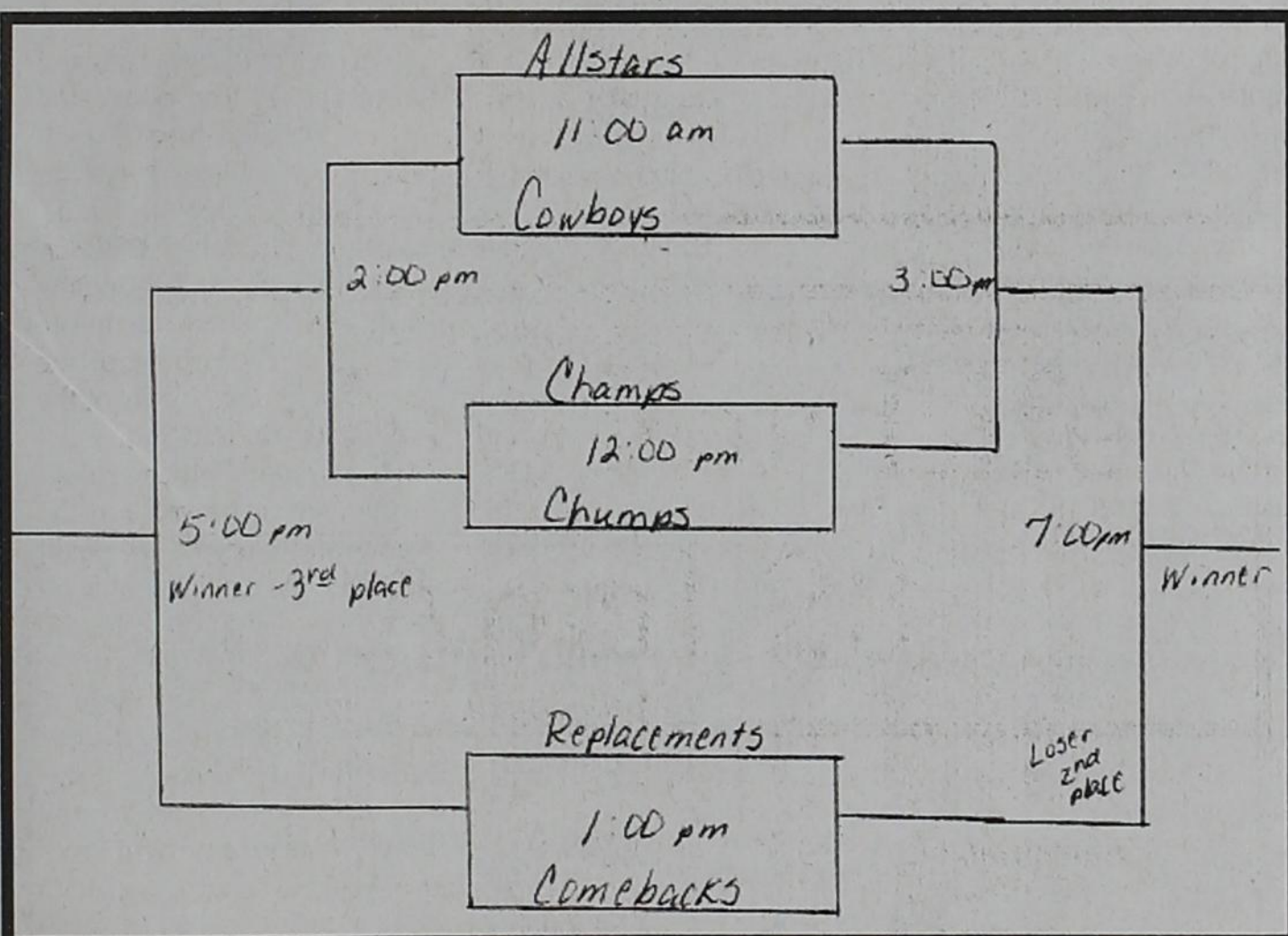
Those attending were: Nancy Marshall, Kathy Blanco, Amy Hackler, Brittany Miller, Rosalee Davis, Annette Hollinsworth, Andi Henzler, and Kyle Shelton.

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Saturday 9-noon
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Relay For Life April 23

YOU ARE INVITED!

WHAT: **SPRING GOSPEL MEETING**

WHERE: **Matador Church of Christ**

WHEN: March 21st - 24th, 2010

WITH: **Carroll Sites** from Higdon, Arkansas

Sunday Morning Class 10:00a.m. "The Lord's Return"

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00a.m. "Signs Of The Times"

Please stay and enjoy a potluck meal following the morning worship service.

Sunday Night Worship 6:00p.m. "The Thousand Year Reign- Truth or False"

Monday Night 7:00p.m. "The Rapture and Tribulation"

Tuesday Night 7:30p.m. "A Coming Forth"

Wednesday Night 7:00p.m. "Judgement: Heaven or Hell?"

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU!

