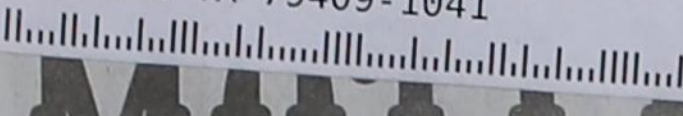


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MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

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Where History is Pride

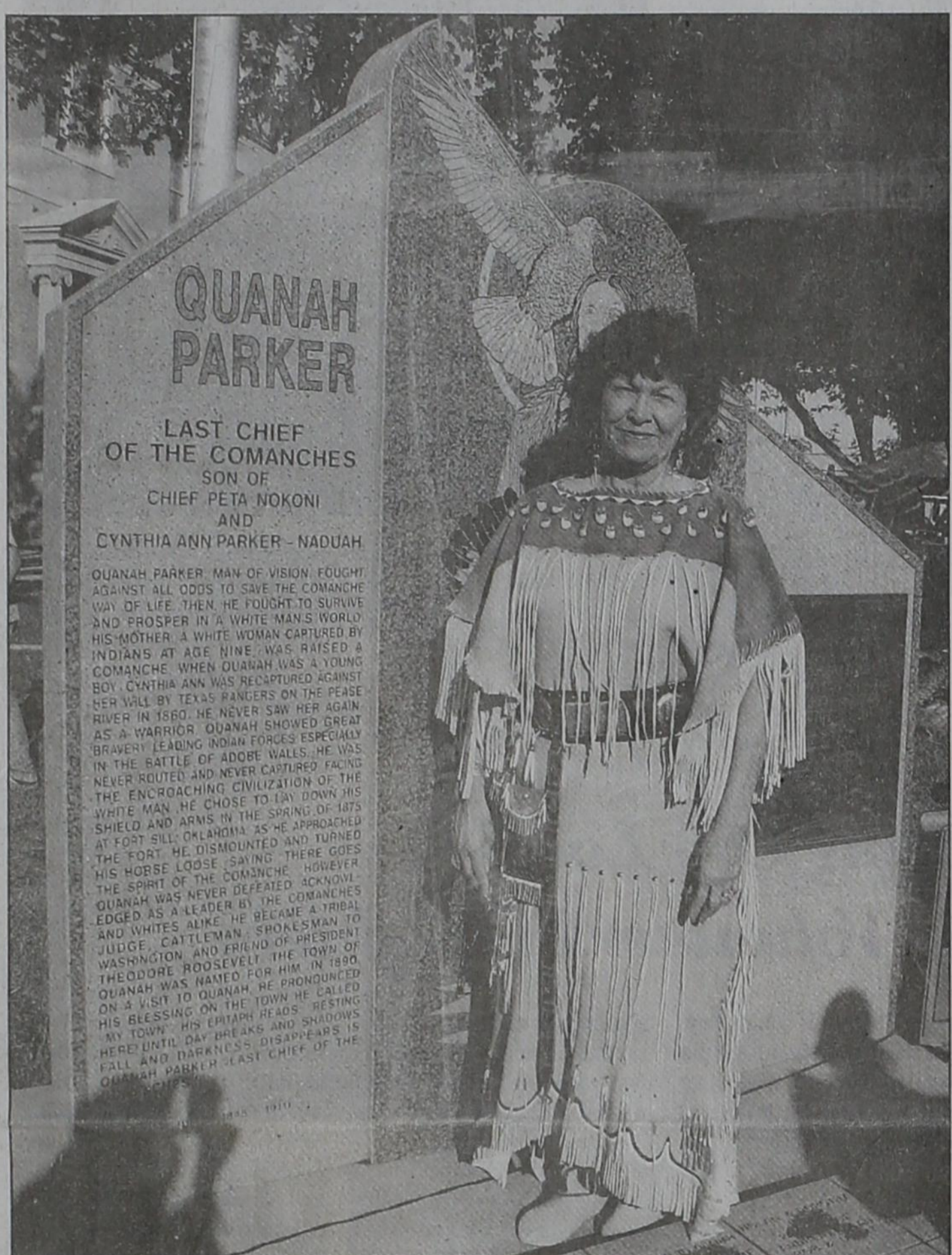
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Thursday, September 29, 2011

ESTABLISHED 1891

Volume 120 Issue No. 39



Giant Arrow Dedication to feature great granddaughter of Quannah Parker

A dedication ceremony combined with an annual fall event sponsored by the Friends of the Historic Motley County Jail will be staged south of Pioneer Park in downtown Matador, Texas, on October 15, 2011, at 6:00 p.m.

The site is now home to a 21-foot Giant Arrow, placed August 10, 2011, as a symbol of the Comanche presence in Motley County, thereby placing the county on the Quannah Parker Trail.

The highlight of the evening will be a performance by the great granddaughter of Quannah Parker, Ardith Parker-Lemming, who will be on hand to perform a blessing ceremony at the Giant Arrow location. The "cleansing cedar" ceremony will be performed by Glen Lemming. Ardith will be dressed in her buckskin wedding dress that was created by her husband.

Glen Lemming, the adopted son of the Comanche Nation, is an artisan that "brain tans" buckskin, makes Indian bows and medicine bags, and "lives the Indian way." A special performance by Anna Tahmahkera, 93-years-young, who was raised by Quannah Parker's 6th wife, Toe-pay, will be another highlight of the evening.

The event will feature free barbecue brisket on a bun,

chips, and drinks, followed by a program designed to highlight a cultural exchange between the descendants of Quannah Parker and the citizens of Motley County, spanning a relationship of more than 100 years.

Tai Kridler, a member of the QPT Steering Committee, representing Southwest Collection, a special collections and archival library at Texas Tech University, said, "All of this is so inspiring. It puts a marker in the earth for a memory and legacy that once was, and honors the resumption of a relationship that is happening now."

In addition, Annalon Gilbreath, a re-enactor and storyteller, will perform Mary Ann "Molly" Goodnight who is credited with saving the famous Charles Goodnight buffalo herds that now roam free in Caprock Canyons State Park. This herd represents the last remaining buffalo of the Great Southern Plains Bison.

The 21-foot arrow was the brainchild of sculptor Charles Smith, New Home, Texas. Giant Arrows will be placed on the Quannah Parker Trail in the 52-county Texas Plains Trail Region (TPTR) to develop cultural and historical trails that uniquely characterize the

region. An engraved plate on the tip of the Giant Arrow designates Motley County as the recipient of "Arrow Number 1" on the trail.

Quannah Parker spoke in Matador on several occasions, evidenced by photographs of Parker in full Indian regalia, speaking in front of the old bank in downtown Matador. Other historical photographs depict Quannah and his entourage camping on Hackberry Creek, located about one city block east of the location of the Giant Arrow, framed by the historic jail in the background.

Another photograph shows Quannah and two of his wives sitting on the banks of Ballard Creek at the headquarters of Matador Ranch. Quannah had a special relationship with several ranchers in Motley County, including pioneer ranchers C.D. Bird and W. R. Cammack. Photographs of butchering a donated beef at the Cammack Farm can be seen at the Motley County Museum.

Matador Ranch and other ranchers furnished beef to Quannah to help feed his people who were relocated to reservations in Oklahoma in the late 1800s. Quannah was also a close personal friend of pioneer doctor Albert Traweek of Matador.

Pictured is Ardith Parker-Lemming, the great granddaughter of Quannah Parker. Ardith and her husband, Glen, along with Anna Tahmahkera, will conduct a "cedar ceremony" at the Giant Arrow in downtown Matador on October 15, 2011.

Roaring Springs purchases new fire truck

By Corky Marshall
Motley County Tribune

In July 2011, Alex Crowder's son-in-law, Curtis Brown, the fire chief of the Dalhart Fire Department told Alex that the Forest Service was going to award some grants for fire trucks to small towns like Roaring Springs. The next weekend Curtis came to see Alex. I met with them and we visited. Curtis had a grant application. He told us he would write the grant. He did and I signed it and he sent it in to the Forest Service.

The grant was written for \$172,000.00. If we qualified for the grant we would have to raise 10 -percent in matching funds or \$17,200.00. Alex, Les Woolsey, Roaring Springs Fire Chief and Matt Woolsey, Assistant Chief and I started asking area land owners for donations to raise the matching funds. We were notified we would receive the grant in August.

We have received \$33,300.00 in donations from 36 landowners. Les, Matt, Bret Pierce, Alex and I met with two fire truck manufacturers on September 2, 2011, and ordered a new fire truck. We ordered a new truck

from Dragon Brush Trucks in Colorado City to be delivered in January 2012.

The truck equipped for our needs will cost \$177,120.00. The grant will pay \$155,000.00. The city of Roaring Springs will pay \$22,120.00 from the \$33,300.00 donations received. We will have \$11,180.00 left from the donations which we plan to use for fire-fighting suits and other badly needed equipment.

There are no words that we could say to express our appreciation to those who donated this money. I am listing your names so everyone will know who the donors are. Another big "thank you" goes to Curtis Brown. Without his knowledge of the grants being awarded and his expertise in writing grants, we would not have received this grant.

The 36 donors are: Dillard Ranch, Roaring Springs; James "Buddy" Davidson Foundation, Midland; Robert Hall, Apache Corporation, Houston; Robert and Amber Hale, Midland; Carol Wiley, Lubbock; D.A. and Ruby McGuire, Roaring Springs; Q.D. Williams, Floydada; Evelyn

Jones Williams, Floydada; Thomas and Kellie Williams, Floydada; Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Peacock, Palacios, Texas; Richard Piper, Roaring Springs; Joey Thacker, Thacker Jewelry, Roaring Springs; Bob Stafford, Amarillo; Alvin and Seven Alexander, Matador; James Titus, Colleyville, Texas; Robert Melcher, Lubbock; American State Bank, Lubbock; David Teague, Lubbock; Raymond Kingery, Abilene; Aly Gwinn; Lubbock; Warner and Virginia Sailsbury, Roaring Springs; John and Jana Thacker, Abilene; Gary Smith, Roaring Springs; First Baptist Church, Roaring Springs; TDH Hamilton, Plainview; Roaring Springs Church of Christ; Buzz Thacker, Roaring Springs; Roaring Springs Lions Club; Hal and Betty Campbell; Floydada; Charles Gwinn, Inc., Matador; James Guy Campbell, Matador; Matador Branch First National Bank of Seymour; George and Penny Kline, Roaring Springs; Red Ball Gin Company, Roaring Springs; Alex Crowder, Roaring Springs; Corky Marshall, Roaring Springs.

MC School Board meets

The Motley County Board of Trustees met on Monday, September 12, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. in a regular scheduled board meeting. All board members were present, except Lewis Drum. Also present were William Cochran, Tim Hill and Denise Ford. No one was present for Open Forum.

Following an invocation by Gilbert Guerrero, action items consisted of unanimous approval of the minutes for the August regular board meeting and called meeting and approval of expenditures.

In other business, the board voted to approve Mr. Cochran as the Authorized Representa-

tive for Lone Star Investment Pool, followed by approval of the 2011-2012 employee handbook; approval of the 2011-2012 Acceptable Use Policies, and approval of an addendum to the 2011-2012 Student Handbook concerning the End of Course Testing beginning this year.

A public meeting on School FIRST rating was approved by unanimous vote to be held October 10, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. during the regular board meeting.

In the Principal's Report, Mr. Hill reported enrollment of 190. Mr. Hill reported that "Adopt a Teacher" was up and running and that many

volunteers had signed up to help teachers in the classroom. Additionally, Mr. Hill announced that Accelerated Reading programs will be offered for Pre-Kindergarten through Sixth Grade.

During the Superintendent's report, Mr. Cochran reported that all students participating in academic and athletic events meals will be \$7.00 for meals before and during district play; \$12.00 post district; and state will be \$15.00 per student. Overnight trips will be \$7.00; \$10.00; and \$12.00. District Football passes were handed out.

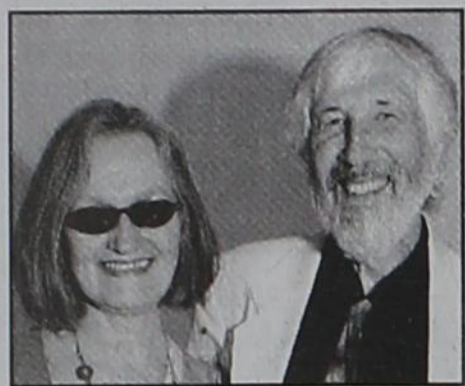
What's happening this week at school

- See you at the Pole at 7 a.m. on Wednesday Sept. 28th
- Pep Rally for Jr. High is on Thursday at 12:15
- JR. High game against Crowell at home at 5:00 on Thursday
- High School Pep Rally is at 3 p.m. on Friday, September 30th
- Varsity football game at Crowell, 7:30 p.m.
- Cross Country, October 1 at Guthrie at 9 am

Foothill Country

Connections

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



By Larry Vogt

Surely the hot summer is over. These cooler nights bring on the prospect of football games and sleeping without soaking the sheets with sweat. Football did not come to the small town where I spent my first 13 years until 1949 or 1950. Brand new to us, football was played at night under lights and the fall evenings in South Dakota were quite cool. Some nights were so cold we watched the games from a car with the engine running and the heater on. The visible breathing of the players seemed to send a cloud of steam rising above the football field. It took awhile for the game to catch on, basketball being the king of sports in the town. I went to high school in Oregon and football was a big deal there with the marching band doing a half-time show and cheerleaders with pom-poms waving.

Autumn also brought the first frost and the wind became a cool force that one

could feel as we walked across the fields. After the heat of the summer, the first cool nights were always a welcome sign of relief from the hot blasts of wind that swept through town during the summers. Worse than the warm winds were the days of stagnant air and we struggled to catch our breath in the humid languidness of the days and nights. Then the leaves began to fly and the summer heat gave way to cool days and nights with the occasional winter blast from the North.

The four seasons, as we experience them, give us joy and suffering with their contrasts and extreme fluctuations in the temperature and humidity. Humidity readings can go from a very low 30% in winter to a seat producing 90% in the summer. The differences in humidity are companions to temperatures that serve to make our bodies and spirits cringe with the unbearable conditions to which we are subjected. Nowadays, of course, we have our central heating and air conditioning systems that shield us from the extremes of the weather conditions outside, and we sometimes lose track of what is going on until we step outside and get that hot or cold blast of air and rain or snow. Hope you get a chance to get to a football game and see the Matadors do their thing.

WRITING COMMUNITY

Storyteller Annalon Gilbreath will be featured October 15 in Giant Arrow Dedication Ceremony

Annalon Gilbreath has been a storyteller most of her adult life. Born in a ranching family, she absorbed stories of ranch life as well as stories of family and friends as they made their place in the history of Texas.

Annalon will perform Mary Ann "Molly" Goodnight, wife of the famed Texas rancher Charles Goodnight, on October 15, 2011, at the Giant Arrow dedication ceremony. Molly Goodnight is credited with saving the great Southern Bison herd. The remnants of this herd now reside on 1,000 acres in Caprock Canyons State Park.

Annalon's belief that today's children need to know their family history, as well as the history of their state and nation, has generated a passion both to teach and entertain.

Gilbreath developed curriculum for fourth grade, which she teaches at the Nita Stewart Haley Memorial Library and History Center each year as part of the Character Education Program for Midland Independent School District. Students learn of the begin-

nings of the cattle industry in Texas as well as the strength and flavor of the people who helped to build the West. Cowhands for the day enjoy hands-on activities; roping, lasso twirling, horseshoe pitching and getting the feel of a saddle, as they hear stories of the people that made Texas great.

Growing up 20 miles from San Antonio, Annalon has a strong interest in the Alamo. She remembers hearing stories from families of participants in the battle for Texas independence. She now tells the stories of the children involved in that struggle.

Having a strong feeling that the contributions of women in history have often been overlooked or ignored, Annalon has developed a series: "Characters of Texas Women," usually presented in first person. These programs show the strength and moral fiber of these ladies that continues to touch our lives to this day.

Annalon Gilbreath has presented programs in schools, libraries, museums, clubs and churches. She has also told stories for the National



Cowboy Symposium and the Historic Ranch Tour. She has conducted programs and workshops for Midland Independent School District, Region 18 Educational Center, Tejas Storytelling Festival

and Texas Storytelling Conference. Each year she participates in Midland's Celebration of Lights Storytelling Festival, which gathers the top storytellers in the nation.

Honoring Our Local Heroes: Texas' Volunteer Firefighters

By U.S. Sen. John Cornyn

As recent wildfires ravaged parts of Texas, destroying homes and property in their path, thousands of Texans were displaced and endured tremendous losses. Among the hardest hit were a group of individuals who lost their homes to the very fires they were volunteering to fight.

A majority of the members of the Heart of the Pines Volunteer Fire Department—just between Smithville and Bastrop—lost their homes in the Bastrop fire, the most costly fire in Texas' history.

For Mizzy Zdroj, one of the Heart of Pines volunteer firefighters, news of her home being destroyed did not deter her from continuing to work around the clock to fight the fires. Zdroj told the Houston Chronicle,

"When I have this suit on, and I can make runs, and I can put out fires, and I can save other people from having to lose all their things - and having to explain that to their kids - I'll do it."

According to the State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association, more than three-fourths of Texas' fire departments are manned by volunteers. In recent weeks, these volunteer firefighters have flocked to Central Texas and other parts of Texas in droves to help battle historic blazes. For most, firefighting is not their day job. Among the Heart of the Pines team, for instance, are a truck driver, an artist, and a college chemistry lecturer.

In Texas and across the country, volunteer firefighters are often the first line of defense against wildfires and emergency

situations in rural or less populated communities. The nation's first volunteer fire department was established by founding father Benjamin Franklin. Franklin, who had witnessed the devastating effects of several fires since childhood, was concerned about the lack of organized fire protection. In 1736, Franklin established the Union Fire Company in Philadelphia, manned by 30 volunteer firefighters.

Since then, generations of volunteer firefighters have demonstrated courage and selflessness in the face of danger. Today, roughly 30,000 volunteer firefighters call Texas home. More than 85 percent of these men and women use their personal funds to meet the needs of their fire departments. As we've witnessed during this year's historic drought, these local heroes go above and beyond the call of duty, and they deserve our utmost gratitude and support. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the employers who have given these volunteers the time off they need to serve and protect Texas communities.

I recently had the chance to tour fire-damaged areas of Bastrop and was humbled to see Texans coming together to help their neighbors in need. In addition to the hard work of our volunteer firefighters, many Texans have donated their time and talents in other

areas to bring about recovery in Central Texas. While some manned the Incident Command Post in Bastrop, others facilitated donation drives for families who had lost homes and all their belongings, while others worked to find lodging for displaced livestock and family pets.

Though the Texas spirit has been tested to extremes in recent weeks, I am proud to say it has not faltered. Texans have stood shoulder to shoulder to help each other recover, and we will continue to do so until all of the fire victims are back on their feet. On the front lines of this effort have been our volunteer firefighters, many of whom have experienced great personal losses. I hope we can each do our part to rally behind these brave men and women in the coming days to express our appreciation for the protection they have so selflessly provided.

Sources: State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas; The Houston Chronicle

Sen. Cornyn serves on the Finance, Judiciary, Armed Services, and Budget Committees. He serves as the top Republican on the Judiciary Committee's Immigration, Refugees and Border Security subcommittee. He served previously as Texas Attorney General, Texas Supreme Court Justice, and Bexar County District Judge.

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Award Winner

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Tuesday- Thursday 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday 11 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Buffet

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You are invited to join
us in saying
"Thank you" to Mary Ann Potts
and
"Welcome" to Carla Meador
at a coffee at the
Motley County Library, Friday,
September 30,
from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Senior Night



From the Principal's Desk By Tim Hill

The words that strike fear into all kids - "Do you want to go to the principal's office?"

I have had the privilege of serving as the principal of Motley County ISD for the first six weeks of school. What a great first six weeks we've had. The students are learning everyday and the teachers are working hard to provide a quality education. It has been a learning experience for your principal as well. I have taught for 20 years from 2A to 5A but am learning the ropes of a six-man school that boasts an attendance of 190 students. Everyone has asked "How do you like it so far?" I can honestly say that Motley County has quickly become home to me, my wife and my three girls. Thanks to everyone that has welcomed us into your community.

What's new at Motley County ISD? Well, in case you haven't heard, our football team is 5-0 and ranked Number Two in state. We began an incentive based AR (accelerated reader) program in grades 1st-6th. Students can choose books on their reading level and earn points during a 9-week period. Students that reach their individualized goal will be rewarded with special days, treats, and even field trips. The first reward is a jump house party for all students that reach their first goal. Our goal is to make reading fun where kids are not

just worried about making a grade.

We have implemented a Character Counts program in grades PK- 12th grades. This program emphasizes good character such as respect, caring, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, and citizenship. I have spoken with individual classes about being trustworthy this first six weeks. Teachers are also working hard in the classroom, halls and athletic fields to teach and model these very important life lessons. Teachers will nominate one student per grade that has demonstrated one of the characters each six weeks. Look for the first six weeks winners in next week's paper. These students will be recognized in the paper and receive a special treat at school in addition to a t-shirt. We want our kids to do the right thing and treat others the way that we would like to be treated ourselves.

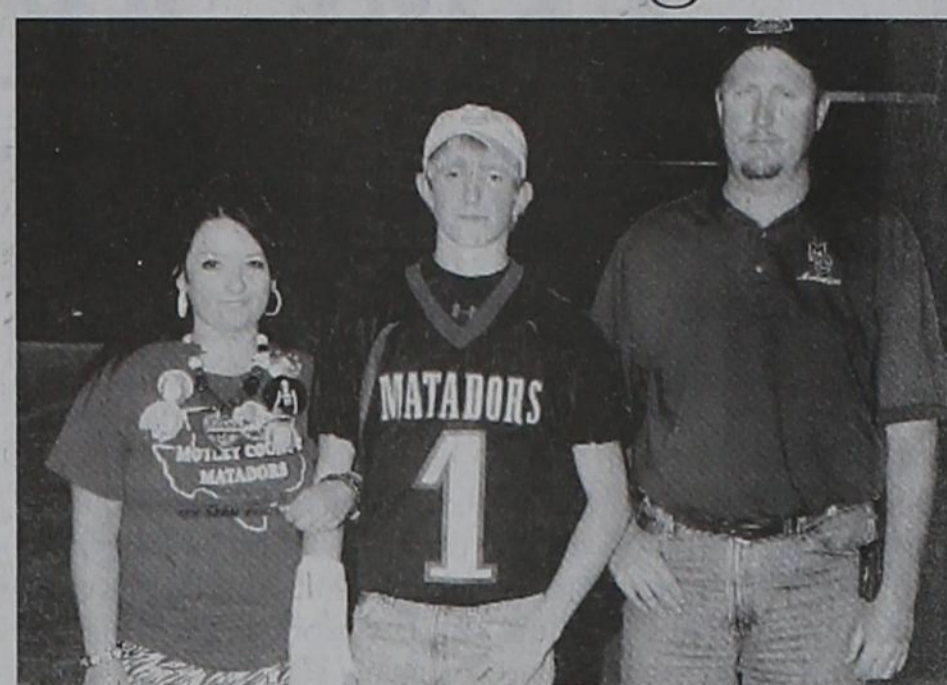
We have also created community volunteer program entitled "Adopt a Teacher." Individuals from the community volunteer for one hour a week in the classroom. Duties include filing, copying, small groups and reading to students. The volunteers request the grade level they prefer and then we match them up with a teacher. Thanks to the community volunteers for your time. Motley County is a great place to call home!



MCISD Jr High, Mickey Clary



MCISD Junior Varsity Cheerleaders at Friday's Pep Rally



Sr. Reagan Elliott with parents, Shawn and Shonda Elliott



Danielle Gwinn with parents, James and Darla Gwinn

MC Matadors defeat the Follett Panthers

By Charli Bigham
Motley County Tribune

The Motley County Matadors defeated the Follett Panthers by a score of 41-38 last Friday in front of a huge home crowd. "We played well at times," said Coach Bigham. "We were pleased to pull off a win over a highly ranked Division 1 opponent, but we know we will have to play better and improve to achieve our goals."

The Matadors were led on offense by Augy Chavez who had three touchdowns on 14 carries, Aaron Rogers with two touchdowns on 14 carries and Britt Simpson with one reception for a touchdown. The Offensive line did a good job most of the night and will continue to improve.

Aaron Rogers led the defense with 14 tackles followed by Juan Flores and

Augy Chavez who each has 11 tackles on the night. "Our defense kept us in the game most of the night and allowed our offense chances to score from a shorter distance to the



MCISD Varsity, Juan Flores

end zone," said Coach Bigham. "We are really playing some good defense against some very physical and explosive offenses. The coaching staff was proud of our team on Friday."

The next game will be at Crowell Friday, September 30 at 7:30 p.m. "We would like to encourage everyone to come out and support the Matadors as we travel to Crowell," Coach Bigham said.



MCISD JV, Seth Baxter

All photos by Walter Taylor

School News Sponsored By

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Library Journal
by Carla Meador Librarian

Last week I attended a Library System meeting in Lubbock, accompanied by Library board member, Suzanne Abbott. The meeting was very informative, but sad in the fact that we learned of the major funding cuts to Libraries. Most rural public libraries operate on a very small budget and without state and federal funds, that job will be much harder. The Motley County Library depends mostly on grants, donations and the funds we receive from the county and the cities of Matarador and Roaring Springs. The grants we receive are used mostly for books and equipment. The funds we receive from local entities are only a fraction of what the library needs to continue to operate.

Many of you make regular donations to the Library and we appreciate your generosity so much. Many of you are Friends of the Library, pay your annual dues and attend fund raisers; we appreciate our Friends tremendously. If you're not a Friend of the Library, I urge you to join. Stop by the Library and I will be glad to tell you how to become a part of this vital organization. I would like to remind you that we accept and appreciate donations anytime. Memorials and honorariums are nice ways to remember or praise a loved one or friend. We will even accept a "just because I love my Library" donation! The following quote reminds us of the importance of our local library:

"The library connects us with the insight and knowledge, painfully extracted from Nature, of the greatest minds that ever were, with the best teachers, drawn from the entire planet and from all our history, to instruct us without tiring, and to inspire us to make our own

contribution to the collective knowledge of the human species. I think the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries."
~Carl Sagan

Well said, Mr. Sagan. If you would like more information about how to donate to the Library, please don't hesitate to call, 806-347-2717. Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 557, Matarador, TX 79244.

New books on our shelves this week include: A **Most Wanted Man** by John LeCarre', bestselling author of **The Constant Gardener**. This book is thrilling and compassionate. New spies with new loyalties, old spies with old ones, terror as the new mantra; decent people wanting to do good but caught in the moral maze.

If I Gained The World, a novel by Linda Nichols. A romantic story of two broken hearts who must move past their pain and find their way to faithfulness, grace and love.

Blood, Iron and Gold, by Christian Wolmar. This book is described as a gripping, intriguing and relentlessly innovative history of how railroads have shaped the modern world.

New DVDs on our shelves include *Something Borrowed, Eat, Pray and Love* and a timeless classic, *Mutiny on the Bounty*, starring Marlon Brando.

Don't forget to watch for our upcoming contest. Just to give you a little hint, I will tell you that you might want to think about the Classics.

Library hours are Monday, 2-5 p.m.; Tuesday - Thursday, 1-6 p.m.; and Friday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. See you at the Library!

County Agent's News
by Ryan Martin, Agri LIFE EXTENSION Agent



Drought takes its toll on Texas pumpkin patch AgriLife expert said reduced yields likely to raise prices

LUBBOCK □ Linus of □Peanuts□ comic strip fame might be a little disappointed if he waits for the □Great Pumpkin□ in a Texas pumpkin patch this year, said a Texas AgriLife Extension Service expert.

Dr. Russ Wallace, AgriLife Extension vegetable specialist at Lubbock, said pumpkins, like all Texas vegetables in 2011, had a hard time struggling through the record-setting high temperatures, low humidity and drought conditions.

"With only limited rainfall, the quality of the pumpkin fruit itself should be excellent, but I expect the overall production will be much less than normal,"

Wallace said. "I visited with Mark Carroll, AgriLife Extension agent in Floyd County, which is normally our leading pumpkin producing county in Texas. He told me he estimates the actual size of the pumpkins along with the yields this year will be roughly half what they normally are."

Sq what does this mean for the annual trek to the pumpkin patch for Halloween?

Wallace said the shortage in West Texas, coupled with reduced yields from pumpkin growers in the Northeast due to flooding from Hurricane Irene, will likely result in fewer pumpkins, higher demand and higher prices.

Each year, Wallace grows up to 40 pumpkin varieties in replicated trials at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Lubbock. This year, he had 25 varieties and said each of them struggled to make a decent crop.

"Our small pie and minipumpkins don't appear to have suffered much, but the mid- to large-sized varieties grew vines at a slow pace during the high temperatures and really struggled to set fruit," he said.

"About the only good news for the High Plains pumpkin crop this year was that the low humidity reduced the incidents of disease, especially powdery mildew, which infects pumpkin leaves and reduces yield and quality," he said.

"Severe powdery mildew infections can lead to mushy stems or infected fruit, so when shopping for melons, check out the 'handle.' If it's soft, it may be infected and not last until Halloween. If it's a High Plains Texas pumpkin though, that shouldn't be a problem this year."

For more information on pumpkins and other crops, contact Wallace at 806-746-6101, rwallace@ag.tamu.edu or visit his website at:

<http://lubbock.tamu.edu/horticulture/>
-30-

Texas crop, weather for Sept. 20, 2011
AgriLife expert: Despite recent rains, planting winter wheat now could result in a 'catastrophic' failure

COLLEGE STATION - Many parts of the state received from a trace to 4 inches of rain, but as welcome as the moisture was, people rushing to plant winter wheat or pasture may be setting themselves up for an expensive failure, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service agronomist.

From Sept. 13 through Sept. 20, much of the state east of Interstate 45 received from 1 to 2 inches of rain, according to the National Weather Service. Parts of the Panhandle and North Texas received similar amounts, as did San Antonio and surrounding counties. The Coastal Bend and South Texas areas had large pockets of 3 to 4 inches of rain.

But even where 4 inches was received, the deep soil moisture profile is so poor that, without regular rains, early planting of winter wheat could result in "catastrophic" failures, said Dr. Larry Redmon, AgriLife Extension state forage specialist, College Station.

"The soil is so devoid of moisture right now that even where there was 4 inches, we've only wetted up the top part of that profile," Redmon said. "If people plant now, they're likely to get that seed to germinate, but there's not going to be any moisture down below for that plant."

Redmon's warning applies not just to winter wheat but to winter pastures as well.

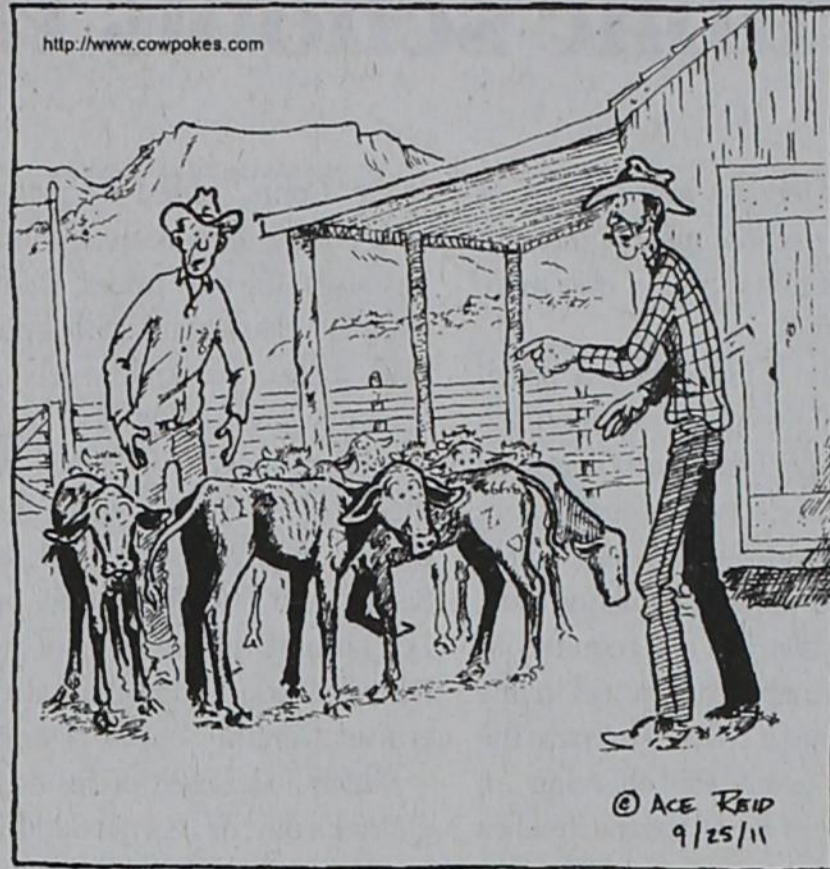
"We see this a lot with winter annuals," Redmon said. "We'll get just enough rain to germinate, get the plant up, but then we don't get enough rain for the plant to survive."

When there are moisture reserves deep in the soil profile, plants will survive dry spells because they can tap down into it. But with no deep moisture, it's going to take regular rains to keep the top layer of soil wet and maintain new plantings, he said.

A lot of people may know these basic facts and still plant, Redmon noted. Hay supplies are nearly non-existent because of the extended drought, and so many producers are in dire need of forages to maintain their cattle through fall and winter, and there is going to be the tendency to optimistically gamble on more rain coming.

"And certainly that's their call, but they're gambling they're going to not only get more rain this week, but the next, and the week thereafter," he said. "With the fore-

COWPOKES By Ace Reid



"These calves ain't pore! They're bred slim so they can git thru cedar brakes without skinnin' themselves up!"

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cast that La Nina is supposed to strengthen, which bodes for a dry winter and spring, I'm thinking that's not a good gamble."

Redmon recommended producers wait a bit to see what the weather brings. The planting window for winter wheat extends to late-October and early November in the Lubbock or Amarillo area. Farther south, into Central Texas, producers can plant as late as Christmas or New Year's Day and still have a chance to make a crop, he said. After that, there are other choices besides wheat and the usual winter annuals.

"If we get much later than that, then wheat may not be the best choice (for grazing)," he said. "Maybe ryegrass becomes a better player than wheat or oats or rye."

This is because ryegrass is going to make most of its growth in the late winter, early spring anyway, he said. Also while the cost of establishing wheat or oats or rye is relatively high, the gamble with ryegrass is not going to be so high-stakes.

"The seeding rate for wheat and other winter annuals is typically about 90 pounds per acre, and the seed is not cheap," he said. "So if we miss that fall window of opportunity, then ryegrass becomes an option that is a lot less expensive to plant. You only have to plant 30 pounds per acre. You don't have to drill it; you can broadcast it, and drag or lightly harrow it."

More information on the current Texas drought and wildfire alerts can be found on the AgriLife Extension Agricultural Drought Task Force website at <http://agriflife.tamu.edu/drought/>.

Panhandle: The region received from a trace to 2 inches of rain and cooler temperatures. However, more rain was needed to have a substantial effect on soil-moisture levels. Along with the rain, Deaf Smith County

had a 1.5-mile-wide band of hail that traveled 4 to 5 miles, destroying crops in its wake. Some cotton producers were still irrigating. Winter wheat was being planted. Rangeland and pasture continued to be rated very poor. Livestock producers further reduced herds and were weaning calves early.

Rolling Plains: Parts of the region received rain, from a few tenths of an inch to as much as 4 inches. In Clay County, there was heavy run-off and many stock tanks caught water. Some even filled up. Temperatures dropped from highs of 106 to 108 degrees to the upper 70s and low 80s. In those counties that received moisture, producers were already preparing to plant wheat. Growers who had gambled and planted wheat in dry ground now expected it to quickly emerge, but the crop will need much more moisture to sustain it. Rangeland was still in poor condition, but it was hoped the wet weather would turn it around before winter sets in. Livestock were in poor condition as producers continued to cull herds. Some irrigated cotton had been defoliated, but some wells were shut off due to not having enough water to do the crop any good.

South Plains: Most of the region received some rain, with scattered showers delivering from a trace to 1.5 inches. Cooler temperatures accompanied the rain, with highs ranging from the upper 60s to the 80s. The moisture was welcome, but came too late to impact cotton, most of which was already in cut-out. The rain will encourage some to plant winter wheat. Most cotton producers were preparing for harvest. Rangeland and pastures still needed a significant rain, and cattle were being sold off due to lack of available forage. More rain was forecast, but the region will need a lot more to catch up.

Thank You

I want to thank everyone who came to my retirement party. Thanks for all the Cards, Gifts, and money and words of encouragement. Thanks to Edith Daniell for the lovely party and all the wonderful food she had prepared. I am enjoying being home and doing things I have not had time to do. I will be having knee replacement surgery October 11th, then I will be ready to really enjoy my retirement. Thanks again for everything- Zella Palmer

OUR PRIVILEGE!



One of the greatest privileges and graces afforded the Christian is giving. Our heavenly Father gave us His Son to be the atonement for our sins. Jesus gave His life to save us from the consequences of sin. Through the Holy Spirit, God gave us the Bible in order to guide and

direct us through this life.

In early Christian literature, we read of many who gave their lives to spread the Gospel to the whole world. Even today, many give of their time, money and ability to take the Gospel to foreign places. Giving is the theme behind it all. It is something all of us can do. Notice this passage:

"But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loves a cheerful giver." (II Cor. 9:6-7).

In giving we bless others and we receive a blessing. In giving we demonstrate the attitude and action of our Lord. It was He who said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35).

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Public schools face the rising costs of serving lunch

The federal government is making school meals more nutritious this year, but also more expensive.

Under a little-noticed provision of the child nutrition bill signed by President Obama in December, which brought more fresh produce and less whole milk to cafeterias nationwide, school districts are required to start bringing their prices in line with what it costs to prepare the meals, eventually charging an average of \$2.46 for the lunches they serve.

Though the law suggests that prices go up by a maximum of 10 cents a year, the town of Sey-

mour, Conn., raised its prices by 25 cents, after years without increases; the new prices, \$2.25 a day for elementary school pupils, \$2.50 for middle-school students and \$2.75 for high school students — are listed on the district's Web site, just under the words, "Welcome Back to School!" In Suffolk County, on Long Island, the president of the Board of Education at the Riverhead Central School District — which also raised prices by a quarter a day, or 12.5 percent for most students — said that parents had cornered her and other officials at supermarkets, gas stations and before meetings,

questioning the increase.

"All we could tell them was we really had no choice," said the president, Ann Cotten-De-Grasse.

Officials are already bracing for a backlash as the increases pile up.

"Our parents haven't complained, but I don't know if they'll be as understanding if we do it again next year, and the year after, and then the year after that," said Louise D'Angelo, director of food services at the North Syracuse Central School District in upstate New York, where lunch prices just went up by 25 cents across all grades —

to \$1.75 in elementary school, \$2 in middle school and \$2.25 in high school.

The new pricing requirement, which comes amid school budget cuts and a lingering recession, is the first time the federal government has gotten into the business of cafeteria prices since its school lunch program was established in 1946. Under the roughly \$10 billion program, families with incomes up to 130 percent of the poverty level — \$28,665 a year for a family of four — are eligible for free meals. Those that earn 130 percent to 185 percent of poverty level, or \$40,793 for a family of four, qualify for reduced-price meals.

The federal government reimburses districts \$2.72 for free meals, \$2.32 for reduced-price meals and 26 cents for the rest. Generally, this money is combined with proceeds from the sale of meals and snacks into a single pot. But there is a wide range of what districts charge paying customers: in Fairfax County, Va., lunch costs \$2.65 in elementary school and \$2.75 in middle and high schools, while in Austin, Tex., it is \$2.15 and \$2.50, respectively. Other districts have kept prices far lower than costs — in New York City, for example, there is a \$1.10 gap — to make lunch affordable.

A study published last year by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a research organization in Washington, argued that this arrangement "appears to be subsidizing meals for children whose families are much better off" than the children for whom the reimbursements are meant. It urged a gradual rise in lunch prices to prevent federal money from being "siphoned off to

keep prices low for paid meals."

Congress heeded the suggestion, tying an increase of 6 cents in the reimbursement rates, the first in 30 years, to the mandate for increased meal prices in the child nutrition bill.

Based on a convoluted formula that takes into account inflation and the average price of meals sold in schools, certain districts — like New York City, where lunch is sold for \$1.50 — did not have to raise prices this year. But next year, it could be different, unless the districts decide to use their own money to subsidize lunches.

The mandatory increases in meal prices are "a recognition that over time, the money coming in to schools from the sale of paid meals has not kept pace with the cost of preparing those meals," said Kevin Concannon, under secretary for food, nutrition and consumer services at the Department of Agriculture, which oversees the school meal program. "The consideration here is the transition and giving adjustments that they need to serve healthier meals to all our kids."

But Eric Goldstein, who oversees the New York City schools' food program, said the law "misses the point." Price increases threaten to upend the delicate balance of school food operations, Mr. Goldstein said, as they might compel more parents to pack their children's lunches or to skip on paying cafeteria lunch fees altogether — already a huge problem, with the city absorbing \$42 million in unpaid fees since 2004.

Mr. Concannon, of the Agriculture Department, said the bill "seeks to ensure that the level of support for all school meals is

equal." Mr. Goldstein said the goal was "unrealistic."

"We want to serve the same food for everyone, in the same cafeteria, to have everyone eating together," Mr. Goldstein said. "It shouldn't be that we have to say, this is for this child, and this is for that child, and here's money to pay for this and here's money for that."

Then, there is the financial burden that higher meal prices would carry for families whose income lies just above the cutoff line for reduced-price lunches, for which schools can charge no more than 40 cents. (They cost 25 cents in New York City.)

"We could be shooting ourselves in the foot here if we're not setting prices at a level that parents are able or willing to pay," said Diane Pratt-Heavner, a spokeswoman for the School Nutrition Association, which represents cafeteria administrators.

Cindy Brooks, the food service director in Seymour, a 2,500-student district northwest of New Haven, said she had been closely monitoring the sales of paid meals, which provide the bulk of her revenues, since the 25-cent price increase went into effect.

"I'm worried," Ms. Brooks said. "A lot of our families are struggling to make ends meet."

And in North Syracuse, Ms. D'Angelo said the entire pricing structure was out of balance. After labor costs, she said, she is left with 15 cents per lunch to buy ingredients, repair equipment and equip cafeterias.

"The federal government knows this is not enough to pay for the food we make," she said.

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Texas AgriLife Extension to Offer Food Manager Certification Training Course

Statistics indicate that food-borne illness continues to be a health issue in the United States. Each year, 1 in 4 Americans will become sick, 1 in 1,000 will be hospitalized, and 5,000 will die due to a foodborne illness.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Floyd County, is offering a food manager certification training course. This program will be offered for \$115 November 4 & 7, 2011 at the Texas AgriLife Extension Office in Floyd County at 110 S. Wall in Floydada. Cost includes training, materials, and the State food manager certification examination. Deadline for registration is October 21, 2011.

This program is designed to not only prepare foodservice managers to pass the certification examination; it will provide valuable education regarding the safe handling of food. Almost 50 cents of every dollar Americans spend on food is spent on meals

prepared away from home. Therefore, careful attention to food safety will help keep customers safe and satisfied.

Foodborne illnesses are estimated to cost thousands of dollars in lost wages, insurance, and medical bills. With these statistics, knowledge of how to prevent foodborne illness is essential. The benefits of improved food safety include:

- Increased customer satisfaction

- Improved relationships with health officials

- Prevention of bad publicity and law suits due to foodborne illness

By attending the course, food-service managers will learn about:

- identifying potentially hazardous foods and common errors in food handling

- preventing contamination and cross-contamination of food

- teaching and encouraging per-

- sonal hygiene for employees
- complying with government regulations

- maintaining clean utensils, equipment and surroundings
- controlling pests

Foodborne illnesses can be prevented by following simple food safety practices. For more information about the Food Manager Certification Training course of Texas AgriLife Extension, called "Food Safety: It's Our Business," call Floyd County Extension Office for more information at 806-983-4912 or for a registration form.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating. We will seek to accommodate all persons with disabilities for all meetings. We request that you contact the Floyd County Extension Office as soon as possible to advise us of any auxiliary and/or services needed.

EarthTalk®

Dear EarthTalk: What is "genetic pollution" as it pertains to the bioengineering of animals, fish and plants, and what happens if they cross breed with their wild cousins?
-- R. Ahearn, Rome, NY

Genetically modified organisms are those that have been altered by scientists to include genes from other organisms (known as transgenes) that may impart specific benefits. For instance, crop seeds that have added genes which resist the effects of herbicides can allow farmers to spray their fields liberally with herbicides to kill undesired weeds without the fear of killing their marketable crop along with them.

Genetic pollution is the release into the natural environment of these altered genes, creating the risk that they might breed with wild plants or animals and spread out uncontrollably. Reports author Jeremy Rifkin in his landmark 1998 book, *The Bio-tech Century*: "Some of those

releases...could wreak havoc with the planet's biosphere, spreading destabilizing and even deadly genetic pollution across the world."

To follow through on the previous crop seed example: If herbicide-resistant, genetically engineered crops were to breed with their wild cousins, it could lead to the creation of super-weeds undeterred by control efforts. The weeds could, in turn, edge out native species and drive them to extinction, causing an overall loss of genetic diversity. According to Greenpeace, crop genetic diversity is "essential for global food security" and a lack of it can be linked to many of the major crop epidemics in human history, including the Southern corn leaf blight in the U.S. in 1970. They quote noted botanist Jack Harlan who said that genetic diversity is all that "stands between us and catastrophic starvation on a scale we can not imagine."

To track the growing problem of genetic pollution, Greenpeace International, along with GeneWatch UK,

launched the GM Contamination Register in 2005 (the "GM" stands for Genetic Modification). This free online database details publicly documented incidents of contamination arising from the intentional or accidental release of genetically modified organisms into the environment as well as any accompanying negative agricultural side effects. Individuals, public interest groups and governments make use of the register to see where, when and how contamination has occurred. So far in 2011 alone more than a dozen cases of contamination—from Australia, Asia, Europe and the U.S.—have been reported in the register.

Gene pollution as it pertains to crops is only part of the concern. A Canadian company, AquaBounty, is seeking approval from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration to sell genetically modified Atlantic salmon in the U.S. These fish have a growth hormone gene from Chinook salmon (native to the North Pacific) and an anti-freeze protein gene from another fish, the ocean pout (native to the Northwest Atlantic). The resulting transgenic salmon produce growth hormones all year long—not just during the warmer months like other fish—and as such reach maturity faster than their non-genetically modified counterparts.

"There are concerns about the impact of GM salmon on wild salmon should it escape into rivers or the Atlantic ocean, because it could out-compete wild salmon for food, or breed with them producing offspring that may be less fit to survive," reports GeneWatch UK. "This could have serious negative effects on declining or endangered wild salmon populations."

CONTACTS: GeneWatch UK, www.genewatch.org; Greenpeace International, www.greenpeace.org/inter

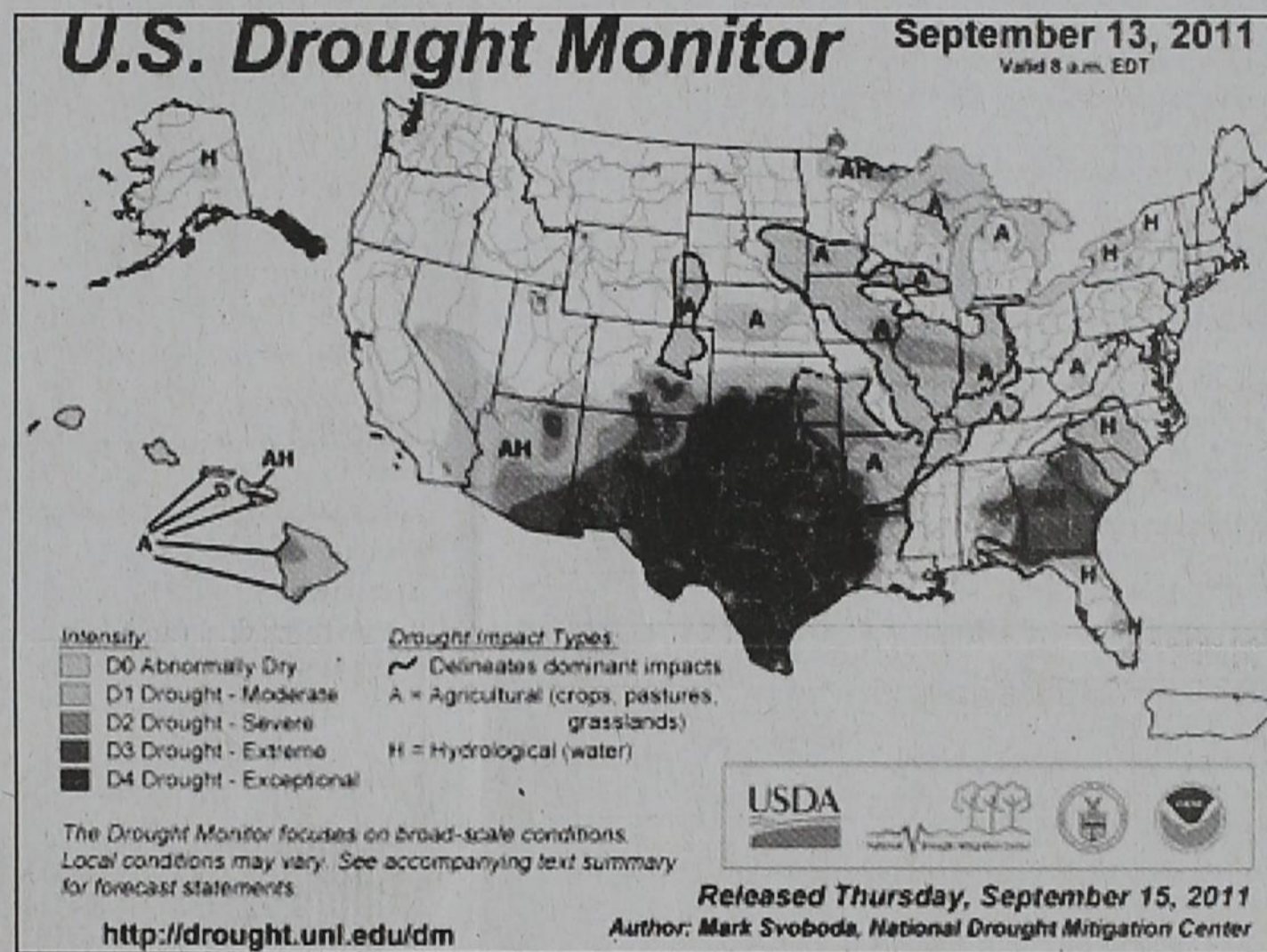
Severe drought in the Southern Plains could stretch into a multi-year event

La Nina, the weather phenomenon that cools the Pacific and warms the center of North America, is causing a year-long drought in the Southern Plains, and its return could prolong the toughest season farmers say they've ever seen.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration says the drought could become a multi-year event. Brian Fuchs, a climatologist with the National Drought Mitigation Center, told Tiffany Stecker of Environment & Energy News that recovering from severe droughts is a slow process, and the fear is that a multi-year drought

would have dire consequences on farmers in the Southern Plains. Here's an interactive map illustrating the drought:

The drought has already caused damage in several states and is keeping farmers for the year from planting crops at the proper time. Stecker reports that Texas agriculture has already suffered \$8.7 billion in losses, with \$2.3 billion in the state's leading cash crop, cotton. Growers in Oklahoma report being 15 to 20 inches short of rain for the year and wheat farmers are finding it difficult to plant at all. Reprinted with permission from the Rural Blog, <http://irjci.blogspot.com/>



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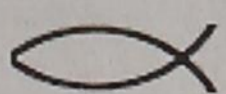
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USPS says it wants to close most sorting centers

"Snail mail is about to get even slower." That's how Patrick Rizzo of MSNBC summed up today's announcement by the U.S. Postal Service that it would move to close more than half of its regional mail-sorting facilities. "The moves will mean first-class mail will no longer reach most customers the day after it was dropped in the mailbox," Rizzo wrote.

Ed O'Keefe of The Washington Post notes, "Lawmakers are considering four competing legislative proposals that would generally grant USPS the flexibility to end Saturday mail deliveries,

close post offices based on market conditions and recalculate how much it pays annually into federal retirement, health-care and workers compensation accounts."

The Postal Regulatory Commission recommended in March, after testimony from the National Newspaper Association and the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, that the postal service conduct more research on the impact of five-day delivery on rural areas.

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- 30 Matadors @ Crowell at 7:30

October

- 1 49th Annual Northfield Homecoming Reunion, Matador Senior Citizens, 10:00 a.m. A cover dish lunch will be served.
- 1 Cross Country, Guthrie, 9 am
- 3 Motley County Arts and Crafts Club, Motley County Senior Citizen Center in Matador from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.
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- 6 Roaring Springs Lions 1st Thurs
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MATADOR
 Billy Green
 Dorothy Hanesworth
 Debra Scott
 O K Neal
 Fred Grant
 James Gillespie
 Myrna Stephens

ROARING SPRINGS

Red Ball Gin

TEXAS

Tanya Multer, Garden City
 Ronnie Cooper, Lubbock
 Chester Davis, Lubbock
 Espuela Steakhouse, Spur
 W Mitchell, Paducah
 Betty Campbell, Floydada
 Q D Williams, Floydada
 Dempsey Sims, Afton
 Robert Darsey, Afton
 B P Simpson, Northfield
 Mary Brown, Northfield
 Barbara Brown, Amarillo
 Larry Keltz, Plainview
 Karen Palmer, Austin
 J Hanesworth, San Antonio
 C Rickard, Universal City
 George Gray, Robert Lee
 Pearl Trapini, San Angelo
 Tommy Barton, Cameron
 Jerry Edwards, Palo Pinto
 Steve Burns, Springtown
 Pat Minton, Granbury
 Charles Russell, Rockwall

ELSEWHERE

George Stapleton, CA
 Robert Work, CA
 Kaci Risser, SC

ROARING SPRINGS, TX HOME RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Roaring Springs, TX, has received HOME Program funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to reconstruct five (5) homes that are:

- in poor condition,
- owned by households with at least one member who is elderly (62+) and/or disabled
- and owned by low income households with incomes that are not greater than 60% of the Family Median Income for the area within Roaring Springs, TX. (See eligible income levels below).

The City of Roaring Springs invites eligible households to attend a general information session about the HOME Program, and to complete an application for the program on:

October 4th, 2011
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Motley County Senior Citizens' Center
625 Stewart Street
Matador, Texas 79244

The general information session will begin at 2:00 p.m. Please bring:

1. Driver's license or other type of identification
2. Social Security card for all Household members
3. Proof of ownership of your home (e.g., warranty deed)
4. Property "Tax Certificate" for most current tax payer year
5. Documentation showing earned income and/or benefits received (e.g., pay stub or social security letter) and
6. Latest electric and gas utility bill or Voters Registration Card.

Applications are available at the South Plains Community Action Association, 806 Bailey, Matador, TX. *Application Deadline is November 04, 2011*

Eligible Annual Income levels Per Households

1 person: \$19,560	2 persons \$22,320	3 Persons \$25,140
4 Persons \$27,900	5 Persons \$30,180	6 Persons \$32,400

The City of Roaring Springs provides services to eligible participants without regard to race, color, sex, religion, familial status, or disability. All applications intake locations are accessible to persons with disabilities. If additional assistance or information is required, please contact Lucinda Johannes at (806) 347-2881



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS MOTLEY COUNTY ISD'S STATE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING

Motley County ISD will hold a Public Meeting at 7:30pm, Monday, October 10, 2011 in the Motley County I.S.D. Board Room, 1600 Bundy Street.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Motley County I.S.D.'s rating on the State's Financial Accountability System. ct39

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MATADOR, TX HOME RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Matador, TX has received HOME Program funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to reconstruct five (5) homes that are:

- in poor condition,
- owned by households with at least one member who is elderly (62+) and/or disabled
- and owned by low income households with incomes that are not greater than 60% of the Family Median Income for the area within Matador, Texas. (See eligible income levels below).

The City of Matador invites eligible households to attend a general information session about the HOME Program, and to complete an application for the program on:

October 4th, 2011
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Motley County Senior Citizens' Center
625 Stewart Street
Matador, Texas 79244

The general information session will begin at 2:00 p.m. Please bring:

1. Driver's license or other type of identification
2. Social Security card for all Household members
3. Proof of ownership of your home (e.g., warranty deed)
4. Property "Tax Certificate" for most current tax payer year
5. Documentation showing earned income and/or benefits received (e.g., pay stub or social security letter) and
6. Latest electric and gas utility bill or Voters Registration Card.

Applications are available at the South Plains Community Action Association, 806 Bailey, Matador, TX. *Application Deadline is November 04, 2011*

Eligible Annual Income levels Per Households

1 person: \$19,560	2 persons \$22,320	3 Persons \$25,140
4 Persons \$27,900	5 Persons \$30,180	6 Persons \$32,400

The City of Matador provides services to eligible participants without regard to race, color, sex, religion, familial status, or disability. All applications intake locations are accessible to persons with disabilities. If additional assistance or information is required, please contact Lucinda Johannes at (806) 347-2881



MOTLEY COUNTY HOME RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Motley County has received HOME Program funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to reconstruct five (5) homes that are:

- in poor condition,
- owned by households with at least one member who is elderly (62+) and/or disabled
- and owned by low income households with incomes that are not greater than 60% of the Family Median Income for the area within the Motley County, Texas. (See eligible income levels below).

Motley County invites eligible households to attend a general information session about the HOME Program, and to complete an application for the program on:

October 4th, 2011
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Motley County Senior Citizens' Center
625 Stewart Street
Matador, Texas 79244

The general information session will begin at 2:00 p.m. Please bring:

1. Driver's license or other type of identification
2. Social Security card for all Household members
3. Proof of ownership of your home (e.g., warranty deed)
4. Property "Tax Certificate" for most current tax payer year
5. Documentation showing earned income and/or benefits received (e.g., pay stub or social security letter) and
6. Latest electric and gas utility bill or Voters Registration Card.

Applications are available at the South Plains Community Action Association, 806 Bailey, Matador, TX. *Application Deadline is November 04, 2011*

Eligible Annual Income levels Per Households

1 person: \$19,560	2 persons \$22,320	3 Persons \$25,140
4 Persons \$27,900	5 Persons \$30,180	6 Persons \$32,400

Motley County provides services to eligible participants without regard to race, color, sex, religion, familial status, or disability. All applications intake locations are accessible to persons with disabilities. If additional assistance or information is required, please contact Lucinda Johannes at (806) 347-2881

