

MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

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Flomot Matador Northfield Roaring Springs

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Thursday, May 19, 2011

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Bomb Squads detonate explosives in Motley County ATF taking full responsibility for prairie fire

By Carol Campbell
Motley County Tribune

In a training exercise on Tuesday, May 10, 2011, the Lubbock, Abilene, Odessa and Midland Bomb Squads detonated explosives close to Flomot, igniting fires that burned about 150 acres.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) was at the site in a support role, and as the ranking federal agency, took full responsibility for the fire. ATF is a federal law enforcement organization within the United States Department of Justice. ATF agents work closely with state and local bomb disposal units within the U.S.

Midland Police Department's Explosive Disposal unit headed up by Sgt. Brian Rackow train on a monthly basis. "All bomb squads fall under the FBI," he said. "We train with both groups (FBI and ATF), but we answer to the FBI. We report incidents through ATF."

According to Sgt. Rackow, the explosives used at the Flomot site were commercially made - designed to be transported," he said. These explosives consisted of oil field stockpiles from Lubbock, Abilene, Odessa and Midland, he said. "Once a year, the bomb squads get together to find a place to do large disposals of explosives," Rackow explained.

While the "range limit" at the Midland range is five pounds ("before it knocks pictures off the walls") because of the remote area, the range limit at the Flomot site is 1,800 pounds, Rackow said. Range limits are determined by the number of roads or buildings on the property. "There were six shots with about 300 pounds per shot used at Flomot," he said.

"Usually, we use military ranges," Sgt. Rackow said. But at 5-pounds per shot, it may take a whole week of work to get rid of a stockpile, he said. The unit was "maxed out" with surplus explosives, he said. "This time, Texas Tech University helped us set up using their training site range. It was arranged with Tech through the Lubbock Bomb Squad and the ATF." (Lubbock Bomb Squad official Chris Eppler referred questions to the Lubbock Police Department's Public Re-

lations Department who have not returned a call at press time).

According to Rackow, Texas Tech has a program that studies how well buildings stand up to weather. "They do testing on buildings to rate the PSI (pounds per square inch) on winds hitting them - to see how buildings stand up to weather."

The land on which the exercise was conducted is owned by Assistant Fire Chief Craig Turner, who has a contract with Texas Tech University to conduct instructional detonation exercises. "I agreed to the (bomb squad) training exercise as a community service commitment to people that protect me every day," Turner said.

Affected landowners in the northwest county with boundaries to the fire included Coy Franks, Ronald Clay, and Craig Turner. Flomot residents said several loud explosions rattled picture frames off the walls and shook foundations.

Flomot firefighter Roger Vinson said Turner had called him and he knew they were setting off explosions. "There were initially four explosions," he said. "Then the fire horn went off and I received a call from Craig to respond to a fire."

"When we started out in the early morning, the weather was calm, cloudy, and cool," Turner said. "We were in a wheat field." But by the time the explosives were actually set to detonate, the wind was gusting, the clouds were gone, and temperatures were rising. "Then we had a dilemma," Turner said. "Is it worth risking the lives of the squad to demobilize the bombs or do we detonate? We decided to detonate," he said.

In that special 20-20 hindsight view it was still the right decision, Turner said. "The timing could have been more appropriate," he admitted. "A lot of decisions had to be made immediately. Once decisions were put into play we can say we like some of those decisions and some we don't like." But according to Turner, ATF "stepped up and are doing everything over and beyond the call of duty to take full responsibility for this accident," he said, adding, "We all make mistakes - but we

should be judged on how we fix our mistakes."

One thing that will be fixed in the future is the timely advance notice to law enforcement in Motley County. Motley County Sheriff Chris Spence said prior to the blast, he was not informed that training exercises were being conducted. Following several explosions, he reportedly began to receive calls from concerned Flomot residents. Gusting winds spread the fire rapidly. Residents close to the fire were concerned about evacuation.

Motley County Attorney Tom Edwards said, "ATF has apologized to Sheriff Spence for not informing him of what was going on. As the Chief Law Enforcement Officer in the county, he should have been informed before the fact. There are local individuals in the county who knew of the upcoming event, but no one informed the Sheriff. He was first informed there were explosives involved when he arrived on the scene of the fire."

Edwards said, "ATF has taken a tremendous amount of heat on this and I wish to compliment them for their integrity in taking responsibility. "In my legal opinion, there is a ton of shared responsibility in all of this by everyone involved - none of whom have stepped up to assume any responsibility, other than ATF," he said. Edwards also had a problem with the transportation of dangerous explosives into the county.

Roger Vinson was about 1/2-mile from the last two detonations. (There were four detonations before the fire and two after the fire, he said). "You could feel the air being sucked away and a 300- to 400-foot mushroom of smoke and fire shooting sparks out in every direction. When the percussion hit, it was a pretty good jolt," he said.

"We had about nine to 10 trucks from area fire departments," Vinson said, with about 25 to 30 people on the ground. Due to the quick action of the fire departments from Matador, Floydada, Turkey, Quitaque, and Flomot, plus firefighters from Roaring Springs and the Texas Department of Transportation who brought heavy equipment to cut fire guards, the flames were quickly contained.



"You could feel the air being sucked away and a 300- to 400-foot mushroom of smoke and fire shooting sparks out in every direction. When the percussion hit, it was a pretty good jolt," Roger Vinson said. (Photo courtesy of Stacey Cochran).

Three-day Flomot Bluegrass Festival set Western Trade Day event on Saturday

By Dianne Washington
Motley County Tribune

Two interesting events will take place in Flomot this weekend. A three day bluegrass festival will start on Thursday, May 19; and a western trade day will complete the weekend on Saturday May 21.

The 12th Annual Washington Cattle Co. Bluegrass Festival will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 19, with gospel music and barbeque. Friday night the stage music starts at 6:00 p.m. and will continue until 10:30 p.m. Saturday, the music begins at 1:00 p.m. and goes until 11:00 p.m. Please bring lawn chairs for the most comfortable seating.

Hardin & Turner Western Trade Day will be on Saturday May 21. This is the fourth year for this event and it just gets bigger and better. This event specializes in tack and other things found around the

ranch. A lot of "horse trading" goes on and the day ends with an auction. Everyone is welcome to come to buy, sale or trade. There is no charge to attend the western trade day.

Bands from Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma are scheduled to play during the festival. The bands scheduled to perform during the festival include: *Pecos Valley Bluegrass* from Mayhill, New Mexico; *Grassfire* and *Now and Again* from Amarillo, Texas; *Texas Country* from Wicket, Texas; *Kays Bluegrass Band* from Texas; *Hanks and Company* from Seymour, Texas; *Wichita Mountain Bluegrass*; and *From the Heartland Bluegrass* from Oklahoma.

But, the official bands are just half of the fun. Groups will be playing and jamming at all hours on the festival grounds. Everyone who plays an instrument is welcome to come and

join in the music. If you don't play you are welcome to listen to the various groups.

A food concession will be open Friday and Saturday. The food concessions will be selling cowboy taters, hand dipped corn dogs, hot dogs, funnel cakes, and other delicious food. Everyone is invited to come to Flomot and listen to great music, eat and shop the western trade day.

RV parking is \$10.00 per night and hookups are still available with festival ticket purchase. Thursday festival tickets are \$8.00 for music only and \$12.00 for music and barbeque, \$8.00 on Friday, and \$12.00 for all day Saturday. Children under 13 admitted free with an adult at all times. Children's Thursday night barbeque tickets are \$4.00.

For more informational please call 806-469-5278 or 806-269-1578. E-mail flomot@caprock-spur.com.

Motley County ISD will have early releases during the week of May 23-27, which is the last week of school. On Monday and Tuesday, school will be released at the regular time of 3:30. On Wednesday, May 25th and Thursday, May 26th, school will be dismissed at 2:00. On Friday, May 27th, school will be dismissed at 12:20.

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By Larry Vogt

I had an experience on Sunday afternoon that I would like to share with our readers. Laverne and I were in Lexington, Kentucky to attend a recital of violin students that included a performance by Chuck, our grandchild. He was one of the first players and performed well with a lot of concentration and focus. His teacher is an old friend of mine who also taught my daughter, Rainbow. The teacher uses the Suzuki method, which prepares very young students to play music, with a great emphasis on listening, imitating, and positive encouragement.

While listening to each student as they performed, I recalled the many hours of encouragement and practice that go into each student performance. I remembered the

time and effort I put into my own musical development. As our children progressed from one carefully chosen musical selection to the next, we also progressed in our understanding and development of the character of the child. This relationship to the teacher and to our own child was at the key to the steady progress of the musical journey of the parent and child.

The "experience" I mentioned at the beginning of my column had to do with the realization that in addition to the training aspect of what happened with the music lessons, there was the intense and powerful emotional connection that was made with all our children as we worked with them on a daily basis. In my case, I also worked out the musical accompaniments on my guitar, and played with them in their practices and that also became a positive show of support. It became the model for all activities that transpired as the children grew into adulthood. Music is not the only avenue where the opportunity existed to support and nurture our children. Perhaps in another column I will address the topic from the standpoint of sports, and maybe 4H and rodeo.

WRITING COMMUNITY

Claude Warren, Matador Postmaster and Motley County Sheriff

By Ron Bailey

Claude W. Warren, the 11th Motley County Sheriff, was born in Denison, Texas on November 26, 1884. His father apparently abandoned his family which included Claude and his four brothers. His mother then married Jesse H. Hodges, a widower with five children.

The family came to Motley County in a covered wagon in 1898. Warren's step-father, Jesse H. Hodges, served as

Motley County Treasurer from 1908 - 1912, and again from 1916 to 1918.

Claude married Pearl Callison, a Matador school teacher, in 1910. He served as the Matador Postmaster from 1916 until 1922. He was elected Motley County Sheriff in 1923 and served until 1929. While serving as Sheriff, Motley County experienced its greatest population growth from 1910 until 1930. Motley County had a population of 2,396 in 1910, and in 1930 the population

had grown to 6,812. Most of the brick buildings in Matador were built during this period.

Claude was a member of the Matador Methodist Church where he served as Sunday School Superintendent in 1918. He was also a member of the IOOF Lodge.

The Claude Warren family moved to Haskell in 1931 where he went into the café business. He died of a heart attack on August 31, 1958. He and his wife are buried in Willow Cemetery in Haskell, Texas.



MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE Announces
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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to write about why I am on the Relay For Life Committee. It isn't to have another volunteer job. It isn't to be in the limelight or to be noticed.

In my lifetime, 21 of my family members have had cancer including a grandparent, uncles, aunts, cousins and husbands.

If Relay For Life is a way to help with research to see that no one else has to go through the cancer ordeal, I want to participate. Since I am not a doctor, a scientist, or any other type of able researcher; Relay For Life gives me the opportunity to be involved in finding a cure.

Honoring those who have died before effective treatments were discovered with a memorial Luminaria, or celebrating others in my family who have been cured or

helped by the latest cancer technology seems a way of loving my family.

No, I can't reverse the course of the many that died but hopefully I can be a part of the hope, the fight, remembering and celebrating the lives of those who have touched mine.

By donating, reminding, memorializing, honoring, being a team member gives me an opportunity to make a small difference. It is remarkable that since the beginning of the Relay For Life walks have begun, \$4 billion has been raised for the American Cancer Society for research. Collectively, our time, donations and caring can and have made a difference.

This is something to get excited about.

Sincerely,

Monta Marshall
Roaring Springs

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Award Winner

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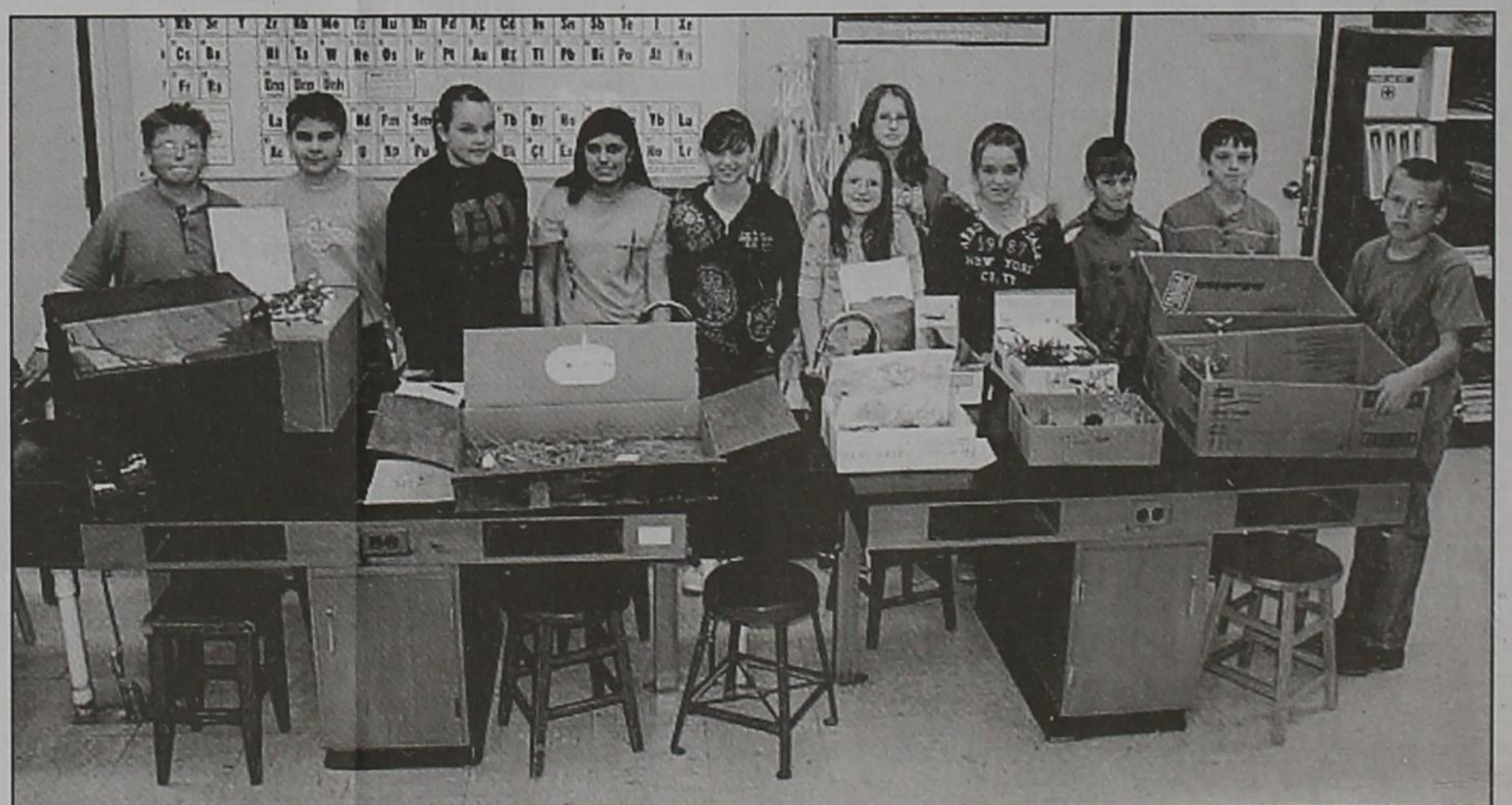
Thank you notes: \$13 minimum

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\$25 minimum, with photos additional \$5

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Motley County Shining Stars



The 6th grade science class wrote a report and made a model of an ecosystem. Pictured are: (L-R) J.R. Spence, Grant Potts, Sage Guerrero, Thalia Mendoza, Chloe Gleghorn, Lauryn Bohn, Chasity Cox, Autumn Woolsey, Mickey Clary, Chris Ward, and Bradley Allred.

Relay For Life News



Cancer survivors attending the Survivor Caregiver Breakfast are: Back row (L to R): Tom Jordan, J. N. Fletcher, Rosalee Davis. Front row (L to R): Grant Wallace, Lorene Jordan, Marihelen Wason, Dorothy Day, Geneva Wilson, Geraldine Key, Annette Hollinsworth and Deb Spray. Trinity Ward is pictured standing next to her grandmother, Deb Spray.

By Monta Marshall
Motley County Tribune

A tasty breakfast of eggs, bacon, biscuits, sausage, gravy and fruit was provided by the Windmill Café for the second year to honor cancer patients and caregivers. Honoring the patients and caregivers with a breakfast is a part of the Relay For Life activities each year.

There were 17 people served including the speaker who was also a survivor. Rosalee Davis is the Survivor Chair again this year. A special 'thank you' goes to Rosalee for seeing about the arrangements. Also, 'thank you' to Perry and Deanne Gullede of the Windmill Café for donating and preparing the food; and to Christi Fisk,

owner of Matador Floral Designs by Vickie who donated lovely table decorations.

Grant Wallace was the guest speaker. He is a young survivor, but his talk wasn't about him. It was about caring about others and working to see that they never have to be diagnosed with cancer; the importance an individual can make in finding a cure, supporting those who are in treatment and by providing hope and encouragement.

Those attending were; Dorothy Day, Tom and Lorene Jordan, Lorene's son and his wife, Wayne and Gabrielle Osborn from Houston, Marihelen Wason, Debra Spray, Trinity Ward, Geneva Wilson, Nelda Tomison, Geraldine Key, Da-

vid McArthur of Spur, Rosalee Davis, Annette Hollinsworth, Grant Wallace from the American Cancer Society, Panhandle Region, J. N. Fletcher and Monta Marshall.

Other news of interest is that Annette Hollinsworth raised \$225.00 for Relay For Life by getting people to pay her to cut her hair and donate it to the American Cancer Society. That is a neat thing to do and an innovative idea to raise funds!

A reminder that this week is the latest you can order your Relay For Life tee shirt. Other meetings of the Relay Life Committee and Team Chair are planned to be held in Spur. The time and dates are still pending at this time.

Pop Tabs Collection

The Motley County High School National Honor Society has set Friday, May 20th as the final day of this school year's pop tab collection. If you still have pop tabs that you wish to contribute and cannot bring them to school, please call Kyla Simpson, Keyan Kautz, Braden Mason, or Kathy Gillespie.

Your continued support of this NHS service project is greatly appreciated. We will continue to collect pop tabs during the next school year, also.

CAPROCK CANYONS "Ramblings of a Buffalo Hunter"

Relive the past when the Texas plains were wild and the buffalo roamed free. Buffalo hunter, Canyon Doux Chey (a.k.a. Clyde Dudley, lead ranger at Caprock Canyons State Park), will tell of the hardships endured during the taming of the Texas frontier as he coped with hostile Indians, wildfires, and the motley crew of characters drawn to the excitement of the buffalo hunt.

The program will take place at the Interpretive Amphitheater of Caprock Canyons State Park on Sunday, May 29, at 7:30 p.m.

Park admission: adults, \$3; seniors, \$2; children 12 and under, free. Camping is available, along with hiking, biking, fishing, and many other outdoor and recreational opportunities. For more information, please call 806-455-1492.



Cory Durham, son of Stace and Connie Durham of Roaring Springs, graduated with honors from the Navy Boot Camp Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Illinois on Friday, May 13, 2011. Cory is the grandson of Johnny and Vera Durham, from Shallowater, Texas and the great-grandson of the late Alvin and Adelle Durham from Roaring Springs, Texas. He is now in Groton, Connecticut in school for computer operations on a submarine. Cory is not sure where he will be stationed after his school, but Florida and Hawaii are his top picks. His mother, Connie Durham, says, "Please keep this Texas boy in your prayers because he really misses home, but he is excited about his future and all the places he will visit!"

Thank You in Memory of Shae Lynn

A heartfelt "thank you" for all the memorials to the Do-Gooder's Club and the Flomot Cemetery, especially for all the food, flowers, cards, and prayers. Special thanks go to the friends of Motley County School for the flowers and gifts. May God bless you.

Gwen, Tim, and Peyton Mandrell
Dustin, Elise and Hayleigh Reed
The Calvert Family

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ALLSUP'S

NEWS AROUND MOTLEY COUNTY

Roaring Springs News

By Monta Marshall

On a personal note

Dear Readers, (Doesn't that sound like Ann Landers?!!) Because of health problems, I need to take a break for a few weeks.

Getting to know more people and the encouraging words from many have made writing the RS News worthwhile. Thank you for your kind words and telling me how you related to something I wrote. I want to finish my job as Publicity Chair for The Relay For Life by writing that news. That will be finished in June.

When I get too much going on, my brain goes on overload and I get stressed. I have been pushing myself too hard lately; consequently, my heart problems are coming back. Getting back into arterial fibulation is scary!

Thank you, Larry and Larverne for allowing me to write and consenting for me to take off awhile. I plan to be back!

In the community

Margie Payne has been in the hospital in Childress again. She hopes to return home today and stay at home under Hospice Care.

There are dishes at the First Baptist Church left from both the Hand and Bearden funerals. If you would like to pick them up, call and either Corky or I will open the fellowship hall so you will be able to get them. If you will call and describe your dish, I will try to return it to you. Our phone number is 348-7000 and my cell number is 806-787-0859. We appreciate everyone who helped to serve these families during their bereavement.

Charlee and Edie Thacker, children of Brad and Weslyn Thacker of Amarillo visited their grandparents and great grandparents, Jeff and Pam Thacker and Buzz and Tince Thacker this weekend.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

Overheard

Burle Pettit: "It used to be you could smoke purt near anywhere you wanted to, but had to be very careful where you cussed. Nowadays you can cuss purt near anywhere you want to, but have to be very careful where you smoke. Early on in my life when I would hear Tommy Duncan croon about the "Time Changes Everything" it never occurred to me it was more than a pretty song, it was prophecy set to fiddle music."

Community News

Mrs. Janice Hughes and friend, Mrs. JoAnn McFall of Silverton, enjoyed tourist attractions and the nice weather from Friday until Sunday of last week in Santa Fe, N.M.

Weekend visitors of Jerry and Sandra Barclay were grandchildren, Tylee, Trent, and Trevor Barclay of Matador.

Mrs. Nada Starkey had a medical appointment in Lockney Monday.

A nice shower of needed rain

was reported of 0.40 to 0.52 in Flomot Thursday, May 12. Every little bit of moisture is appreciated!

Wilburn Martin was in Amarillo, Tuesday for a medical appointment.

Visiting Butch and Janice Hughes Sunday were sons and children, Roger Hughes and Brody and Rickey Hughes and Kason of Floydada.

Connie and Coy Franks visited the weekend in Idalou with sons and families, Cary and Mary Franks, Cory and Amy Franks, Madison, Hudson and Heston.

Kathy and Clois Shorter visited in Wolforth Saturday with daughter and family, Keri and Kevin Sehon and son, Brian. They enjoyed the Basketball League Tournament in which Brian played on the Ropesville team.

Mrs. Shirley Winters of Lancaster, Pennsylvania and Aly Gwinn of Lubbock visited Saturday with James and Darla Gwinn and Danielle.

Matador News

FROM THE HEARTLAND, a bluegrass gospel music group based in Oklahoma, will be performing during the 11:00 a.m. worship service,

Sunday May 22 at the First United Methodist Church. Everyone is invited to come enjoy good old fashioned gospel music.

Obituary

Rosalyn Mitchell Work

Rosalyn Mitchell Work was born 16 June 1919 and passed away peacefully in her sleep on 2 May 2011. Rosalyn was born in Indian Gap, Texas and grew up in Roaring Springs, Texas. She was a 1942 graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

She was the loving wife of Colonel Robert E. Work of Saratoga, California, devoted mother of Mitchell R. Work of Lincolnshire, Illinois and Joel Christopher Work of Saratoga, mother-in-law of Susan M. Work of Lincolnshire, Illinois, and grandmother of Jessica O. Work of Portland, Oregon and Emily C. Work of Chicago, Illinois. She was preceded in death by her parents Judson D. Mitchell and Isabel (Gerrells) Mitchell, and by her three siblings: Doyle Mitchell, Frank Mitchell, and Marion Jones.

Rosalyn and Bob's 67 years of marriage were highlighted by 31 years as an Air Force wife, during which she was an enthusiastic and competent supporter throughout her husband's career in national intelligence activities. This time included overseas assignments in both Austria and Germany, as well as many memorable years in Washington D.C. Throughout the D.C. years Rosalyn was always active and prominent as a schoolteacher of 4th and 5th grades as well as an organizer of garden clubs and other social activities.

Rosalyn's great loves in



life included family, friends, teaching school, gardens and flowers. She was involved both as a participant and instructor in numerous floral arrangement activities. In the mid-1950s she co-founded the Fairfax, Virginia Women's Garden Club, a group that is still active and now ranked among the major garden clubs of the Washington D.C. area.

Rosalyn and Bob enjoyed a long, happy retirement in Saratoga, California. As a resident of Saratoga since 1971 she was very active in numerous local organizations such as Montalvo Center for the Arts, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Foothill Club of Saratoga, the Los Gatos-Saratoga Soup Group, and the Air Force Wives' Club.

She will be remembered for her kindness, sense of humor and loving spirit. She was warmly cherished and will be deeply missed by her family, friends and the local community. A private memorial service was held at her residence.



Carly and Cassidy Turner, pictured, left, pose with two miniature horses inherited from their Uncle Bennie Turner's estate. These two little horses were his special pets, now with a new doting family. They haven't received their formal names from the girls - they are known only as "Mamma and Baby" - to be named in the future, Carly said.

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May 19, 20 and 21, 2011



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Western Trade Day
May 21, 2011
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Open Mike Friday 6:00 p.m.

Thursday (Gospel Music) 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
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JOIN US THURSDAY NIGHT at 5:30 p.m. FOR SUPPER AND GOSPEL MUSIC

RS Ranch Club Golf Update

By Cindy Stafford

Tuesday Night Scramble participants were Olivia Barton, Timmy Brooks, Garland Cartwright, Jean Hoover, Lee Hurt, Jeannie Johnson, Jerry Johnson, Kelly Keltz, Kevin Keltz, Ken Marshall, Tim Ward, and Jim Watson. Closest to the Pin winner was Jim Watson. The winning team was Lee Hurt, Tim Ward, and Jim Watson.

Thursday, Ladies Day morning participants were Olivia Barton, Jean Hoover, Jeannie Johnson, June Moss, Raynita Murphy, and Geneva Wilson. Olivia Barton won the ball for the lowest score.

To come and join the golf fun, please call Cynthia Stafford at 806-348-7267.



Graduation gifts are at



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This Week's Local Forecast

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | |
| Thursday Mostly Sunny 87/61 | Friday Sunny 86/57 | Saturday Sunny 90/60 | Sunday Mostly Sunny 92/61 | Monday Mostly Sunny 94/61 | Tuesday Partly Cloudy 91/55 | Wednesday Mostly Cloudy 88/56 |

Weather Trivia

On average, what is the wettest place in the United States?
Answer: Waialeale, Hawaii gets about 460 inches of rainfall per year.

Weather History

May 19, 1780 - This is the infamous "dark day" in New England tradition. At noon, it was nearly as dark as night. Chickens went to roost, and many people were fearful of divine wrath. Forest fires to the west of New England were responsible for the phenomenon.

Moon Phases

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Last 5/24 | New 6/1 | First 6/8 | Full 6/15 |
| | | | |

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Notes from the Library

By Mary Ann Potts

The library has received some great new books from Adult Fiction to "wondering what will happen next" children's story books. Also in are several new DVDs which are great for Family Movie Nights! There's an electrifying new novel out by Jo Nesbo, *The Snowman*; the dark world of international slave trade with *Blood Trust* by Eric Van Lustbader; and a "good for your soul" read about *Heaven is for Real* by Todd Burpo.

For our tween readers, and just in time for our Summer Reading Program, *Wolves of the Beyond: Lone Wolf* by Kathryn Lasky, a survival of the fittest tale; *Blood on the River: James Town 1607* by Elisa Carbone is another story about adapting to unfamiliar territory and survival with a history lesson or two mixed in.

We have 2 new Young Adult titles gracing our shelves this week both by Maureen Johnson, *13 Little Blue Envelopes* and *The Last Little Blue Envelope* both about

being young and carrying out an adventure set forth by a departed relative.

And hot off the presses for some great story time moments with the little ones are *My Side of the Car* by Kate Feiffer and *The Little Red Pen* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel.

For a Girlfriend Movie Night check out *Remember Me*, and *My Sister's Keeper*, two definite chick flicks, and for laughs there's *The Other Guys*. And kids can have some fun watching *Monsters vs. Aliens*, and *Megamind*.

The Motley County Library Summer Reading Program will begin May 31 and run through July 29, 2011.

The Texas Reading Club's theme this year is "Dig Up a Good Book" and the library has great storytellers lined up for kids K - 2nd grade, along with crafts and great snacks. Stop by the library to pick up your reading card on May 31st to get a chance to win the Grand Prize! I'll reveal that secret next week.

FSA News

By Amy Hackler

USDA REMINDS PRODUCERS TO APPLY FOR 2011 LIVESTOCK DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Motley County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Amy Hackler, reminds eligible ranchers and livestock producers of the Jan. 30, 2012 deadline for applying for benefits under the provisions of the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) for losses incurred during the 2011 crop year. In addition to the counties that became eligible earlier in the year, the following counties triggered after April 1, 2011.

We anticipate more counties may become eligible between now and the end of September, so livestock producers should stay tuned.

LFP provides payments to eligible livestock producers that have suffered livestock grazing losses due to qualifying drought or fire. Fire losses apply only to federally managed rangeland. Eligible livestock under LFP include beef cattle, alpacas, buffalo, beefalo, dairy cattle, deer, elk, emus, equine, goats, llamas, poultry, reindeer, sheep and swine. For losses due to drought, qualifying drought ratings are determined using the U.S. Drought Monitor located at <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>.

It is imperative that livestock producers meet this deadline for disaster assistance as there are no late file provisions for LFP. To ensure

a smooth application process, producers should have all required supporting documentation with them at the time they visit our office to apply for benefits.

In order for an LFP applicant to qualify for program benefits, the applicant must have purchased insurance coverage through FSA's Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) or the Pasture, Rangeland and Forage Insurance-Rainfall Index for Grazing (PRF-RI) program offered through the Risk Management Agency (RMA).

Producers who meet the requirements of a socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmers or ranchers, as defined in the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, Section 2501 (e) (7 U.S.C. 2279(e)), do not have to meet this Risk Management Purchase Requirement (RMPR).

LFP program applicants should note that in addition to risk management provisions, certain payment limitation and adjusted gross income eligibility requirements must be met in order to qualify for livestock disaster program benefits.

For more information, county eligibility questions or to apply for LFP and other USDA Farm Service Agency disaster assistance programs, please contact the Motley County FSA office at 806-347-2263. Information can also be obtained on line at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.

Farm Service Agency Disaster Program Sign up Begins

Motley County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director Amy Hackler, announced that the 2009 crop year Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) program sign-up began on Jan. 10, 2011. SURE is a disaster program that provides assistance to farmers and ranchers who have experienced losses caused by natural disasters.

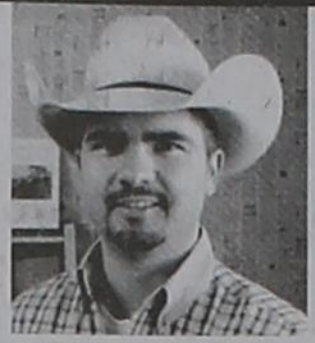
"Natural disasters can turn

what would be a profitable crop year into a year of hardship and financial loss," said Hackler. "The SURE program is part of the 'safety net' that provides assistance to farmers and ranchers when disaster strikes," she said.

For information on the 2009 SURE program eligibility requirements visit your local FSA office or <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/sure>.

County Agent's News

by Ryan Martin, AgriLIFE EXTENSION Agent



Garden expert gives pointers for saving lawns, landscape plants during drought

COLLEGE STATION - Saving valuable landscapes - even successfully adding some new plants - depends on the length of one's hose and depth of one's commitment, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service gardening expert.

"It's the season. People are going to want to plant," said Jayla Fry, AgriLife Extension Master Gardener program assistant in College Station. "By all means, go for it."

During a drought, the use of drip irrigation and mulch can help sustain landscapes. (Texas AgriLife Research photo by Kathleen Phillips)

"But at the same time you have to realize that during times of a major drought like this, you're going to have to add the water," she said. "So it's an expense that one has to weigh out when adding to the landscape."

Fry said existing plants - from flowers to shrubs to trees - also need special care during the drought to stay healthy and last until rain returns.

"A couple of things to consider in a drought are lawns and trees," Fry said. "With lawns of course, they need to be protected with supplemental irrigation. So about once a week you're going to want to add about an inch of water. Bermuda grass is a little more drought tolerant than St. Augustine, so it is more

forgiving."

Trees are a higher investment for property owners and should be watered during a drought to keep them from dying.

"You're going to want to protect trees and how you do that is with your water hose," she said.

Fry suggested that a water hose be turned on until it produces a pencil-sized flow. Place the running hose at the dripline, or the edge of its canopy, and move the water around the tree every 15 minutes until the ground is completely soaked.

"You need to do this every two weeks, even when the rains come again," she said. "The trees will need the extra water to recoup from this prolonged drought."

For flower beds, Fry said, the soil is an indicator of whether water is needed.

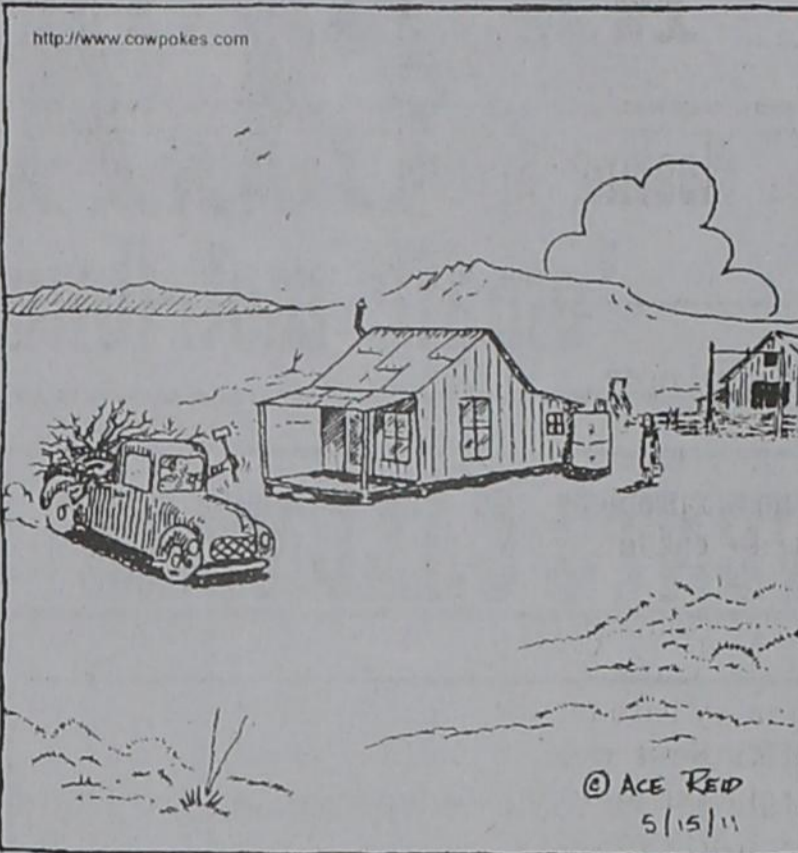
"If it is cool to the touch, then you're OK," she said. "But especially with the wind and the drought conditions, you're going to want to supplement with irrigation. Shrubs will need between the amount of water that you add to your lawn and the amount that you add to your trees."

Adding mulch, she noted, will maintain soil moisture and reduce soil temperatures, which helps plants survive a drought.

"And of course, by adding mulch you get the benefit of cutting down on weeds in your flower bed. So mulch can be a great help during drought periods," Fry noted.

COWPOKES

By Ace Reid



"Maw, you have been so concerned about the fuel shortage I solved it, bought you a new axe and a load of wood!"

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"We search the world for truth. We call the good, the pure, the beautiful, From graven stone and written scroll, From all old flower fields of the soul, And, weary seeker for the best, We come back laden from our quest, To find that all the sages said Is in the Book our mothers read." John Greenleaf Whittier—

Our key—our code—our guide, our source of encouragement and faith, it is the Bible. It is God's Word and it tells us of Jesus Christ and what He has done for us. It tells us of His way of life. It assures us that salvation is found in Jesus. It tells us how to prepare to enter into the life beyond all that we now see and know. Read it. Study it. Meditate upon it. Follow its teachings. This grand old book has survived all its enemies. The Word of God will be around when time has ceased to be and all material things are gone. You can depend upon "the book our mothers read." It is indeed the "grand old book."

Roaring Springs Church of Christ

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.
BIBLE STUDY 10:00 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m.

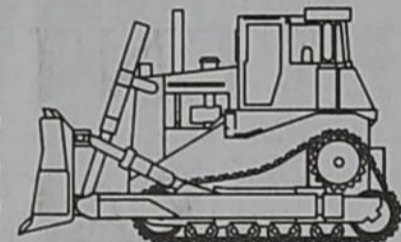
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Motley 4-H Members compete in District Trap Contest - Back Row: (l to r) Reagan Elliott, Seth Baxter, Christian Brooks and Bryant Taylor. Front Row: Bryson Elliott, Cameron Stafford, Cade Drum and Jacob Woolsey. Jr. Team consisting of Bryson, Cameron and Cade placed 4th. Intermediate team consisting of Seth and Bryant tied for 10th. We are still awaiting on results for the sr. team.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

May
 17 Matador Lions
 19 Matador Masonic Lodge, 6:30 pm 3rd Thurs
 19-21 Flomot Bluegrass
 21 Western trade day
 22 Blue Grass Gospel Singers, First Methodist Church in Matador, 11 am
 22 Baccalaureate, First Methodist Church in Matador at 7 pm
 25 Senior Breakfast at Matador Methodist Church
 27 Jr. High Graduation, Motley Co gym
 28 High School Graduation, 7:00 pm, Motley Co gym

Save The date
 VBS at FBCM-- July 17-20 evening sessions for all kids, 3yr thru 5th grade (completed)

PRE-K REGISTRATION FOR 2011-12
 Registration for Pre-K students will be May 25th at 2:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Parents must bring the following documents when they register their child for school:

- Up to date Immunization Record
- Student's Social security Card
- Student's Birth Certificate
- Identification of parent or legal guardian and/or custody papers

Copies of these documents will be made at the time of registration and originals will be given back to parents or guardians.

MCISD to offer ESL Summer Program
 Motley County ISD will offer an ESL program for LEP (Limited English Proficient) students during the summer of 2011. The summer program will be offered for students who will be eligible for admission to kindergarten or first grade at the beginning of the next school year.

Please let the school officials know if you know of any other families with eligible children who might be moving into Motley County.

Transportation and meals will not be provided.
 For more information, Please contact Ann Neaves ESL Coordinator, at 806-347-2676 ext:2414

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WANTED

Lockney Health and Rehab is seeking a PT licensed social worker. Apply at 401 N. Main St Lockney, TX 79241 or fax 806 652 3466. ctf

The Motley County ISD is taking applications for a superintendents secretary to begin in June, 2011. Pick up applications at the superintendent's office at 1600 Bundy Street, Matador, Texas. ct20

Motley County ISD is taking applications for a lunchroom helper. Applications may be picked up at the superintendent's office at 1600 Bundy Street, Matador, Texas ct20

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HELP WANTED

Now hiring RNs, LVNs, CNA. Also Cooks and HK/Laundry EOE Apply in person, Paducah Nursing Center 800 7th street. ct20

The City of Roaring Springs is now accepting applications for the position of City Secretary. Computer experience in Micorsoft Excel and Microsoft Word will be helpful. Applications may be obtained and filled out at Roaring Springs city hall, from 8 am until 12 o'clock noon, Monday through Friday. Applications will be accepted until 12 o'clock noon, June 10, 2011. Applicants will be interviewed at th regular meeting of the Roaring Springs city council meeting, June 13, 2011. ct22

The City of Roaring Springs is now accepting bids for City Lots 2 & 5, Block 5. Bids may be mailed to the City of Roaring Spring, P.O. Box 247. Roaring Springs, Texas, 79256, or may be brought to City Hall during regular business hours, 8:00 A.M. to 12 o'clock noon, Monday through Friday. Bids must be received by 12 o'clock noon, June 10, 2011. The city has the right to refuse any or all bids. ct21

Notice of a Public Meeting to discuss the use of Economic Development Part 4 B sales tax money to use as part of matching funds for the Fire Truck grant. The Roaring Springs Economic Development Part 4 B Board will hold a public meeting at 6 o'clock PM, in the conference room at City Hall, May 31, 2011, to discuss the allocation of Economic Development Part B sales tax money to use as part of matching funds for the Fire Truck Fund. ct21

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