

Matley Co. Tribune

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105 YEARS

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1996

ISSUE NO. 12

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord."

— Matthew 23:39

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



FORREST CAMPBELL

Forrest Campbell came to Matador when he was 14 years old with his parents. The Campbell family owned and operated Campbell Food Market for several years before purchasing the Campbell Chevrolet Company.

Forrest and his brother, R.E. Jr. were partners in the Chevrolet business, before Forrest was elected Motley County Judge and served in that capacity for 12 years. He then worked for the Appraisal Office for 12 years before his retirement.

He has one son, Gary, of Kansas City, Missouri, and one granddaughter, Jerri Ann, who is doing her student teaching in Lubbock.

In his spare time, Mr. Campbell enjoys participating in Lions Club activities and visiting in the coffee shop.

Easter Cantata March 31

The Easter Cantata, "Hosanna!" will be presented Sunday evening, March 31, at 7:00 p.m., at First Baptist Church, Matador.

The Cantata features dramatic portrayals of several Biblical characters, as well as music from many familiar hymns.

Men's Roundup Set For March 26

All men of the community are reminded to make plans to attend the fifth annual Men's Roundup, Tuesday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall of First Baptist Church, Matador. Enter the building through the north basement door.

A hearty meal will be provided by the church, and the atmosphere will be casual.

Rev. Stacy Conner, former pastor of the church, will be the featured speaker. Bro. Conner currently serves as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Muleshoe.

All who wish to attend should register by this weekend. Singup sheets are located at the church, at Matador Motor, and at Marshall Bros., or men may sign up by calling Elaine Risser, 347-2782 or 347-2345 or Ginger Gilmore, 347-2249.

Spring has Sprung.....

Matador City Council Sets Budget Employees to receive pay raises

The Matador City Council met Tuesday, March 14. Kay Howard of Howco Consultants of Municipal Development Service explained grant updates and possibilities of improvement funds available to cities wishing to apply for grants, etc.

Councilman Travis Jameson stated he had a problem with grants, because they're inflated and can almost pay for most projects for a little more than the match and without the red tape. He also stated the last project cost them more and it still isn't doing the job it was designed to do.

Other items on the agenda which were voted on were:

* Discussed and voted to charge the Matador Ranch for their third dumpster.

* Voted to change the April Council meeting to the third Thursday, April 18.

* James Gillespie, Craig Turner, and Rodney Williams, representing the Matador Volunteer Fire Department, presented their past five year

budget to the Council. They explained they had been given a motor for the older pumper truck used in Matador only and they need an allowance of up to \$1,000 to place this motor in the truck and get it in running order.

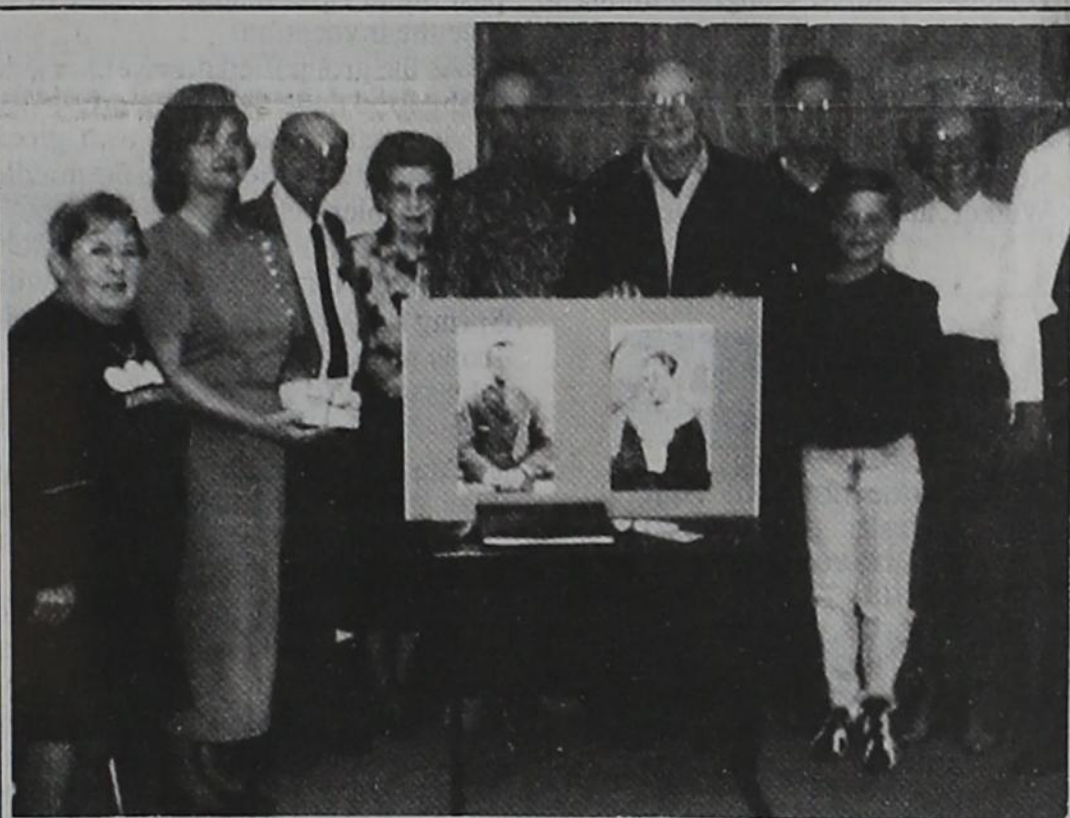
* Council discussed the proposed budget for 1996-97. They allowed for the water tower to be repainted, seal coat on designated city streets, added the allowance of up to \$1,000 for the Fire Department. They also allowed for salary raises for City employees. The budget was accepted.

* Council discussed problems with weighing of trash dumped in the landfill, and the picking up outside the city limits, on the same day as city pickup.

* No one came to the Public Hearing for the Texas Community Development Program.

Council elected to go into closed session concerning salaries and raises for the budget.

After closed session, meeting adjourned.



LIBRARY PROGRAM — Marisue Potts, second from left, is pictured here with some of the Keith family after her program, "A Matador Cowboy's Long Distant Romance", a romantic story of a young cowboy, D.C. Keith and a lady, Ella Cribbs, as they wrote letters to each other from 1886 until 1891 when they were married. Ms. Potts presented her program before a large crowd Sunday, March 17 at the Motley County Library in Matador.

Grass Fires Burn Thousands of Acres

Local firefighters have helped their neighbors battle grass fires for the last two weeks to help contain fires in Cottle, Childress, and Hardeman Counties, where approximately 54,000 acres have burned. A fire southeast of Childress on the Buckle L Ranch was started from friction caused by a tire blowout from a truck.

The fires started last week and burned through Monday, March 18 before they were brought under control.

The Texas Forestry Service and the United States Army aided in containing the fire. One form of help was helicopters using large buckets of water flown and dumped on intense fire acres.

Motley County Volunteer firemen urge caution when doing anything which could possibly cause a fire. With extremely dry weather and the high winds, fire danger is still very extreme.



Amarillo Daily News

Mother and Daughter of the Year Announced at Annual Banquet



Glenda and Lindsey Williams were named Mother and Daughter of the Year for 1996 at the Annual Mother-Daughter Banquet held in the high school gym, Tuesday night. Lindsey is a Senior at Motley County ISD.

Local Candidates File For May 4th Elections

With the last day to file for local elections, May 4th, on Wednesday, March 20, after the paper had gone to Press, the following candidates have filed:

City Council, Matador: Mayor, Rodney Head, and incumbent Gary L. Lancaster.

Councilmembers: Charles Keith, and incumbents Shane Jones and Don Warren.

City Council of Roaring Springs, Mayor: Joey Thacker.

Two council places, Russell Alexander and Timmy Brooks.

School Board, three places: Darrell Cruse, incumbents Randy Barton, Gale Stafford, Marisue Potts.

Hospital Board, three places: Ronnie Vandiver, and incumbents James Gillespie and Charles Keith.



Rodney Head

Mr. Rodney Head is running for Mayor of Matador. He stated, "I am running for Mayor of the City of Matador in the May 4, 1996 city elections, and appreciate your vote and support for the opportunity of being a voice for, and to serve, the citizens of Matador. As Mayor of Matador I will work hard for the improvement of life, and the needs of the citizens of Matador for more efficient and higher levels of services."

School Board Extends All Teacher Contracts

The Motley County ISD Board of Trustees met Monday, March 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Items for Board action:

* Approved minutes of previous meeting.

* Approved list of expenditures and reviewed financial statements.

* Approved election judges for school board election on May 4, 1996 as follows:

Matador, Faye Slover
Flomot, Wilburn Martin
Northfield, Betty Simpson
Roaring Springs, Lee Peacock
* Considered changing the April 8th board meeting to April 10 due to Easter Vacation.

* Approved budget addition. WADA monies were added.

* Voted on ESC Region XVII Board of Directors, Billie Harrison, Abernathy and Victor Leal, Muleshoe.

* Approved Update 50 Supplements (Employment Policy Worksheet).

* Approved ESC XVII Media Services Contract.

* The Board went into Executive Session to review Teacher's Contracts.

Out of Executive Session all teacher contracts were extended.

* School Board Training was discussed.

* Reviewed Aide applications. Meeting adjourned.

Barbara's Byles

We can all be thankful that we finally got a little rain. Hopefully this will help stop the fire problem.

We can also appreciate the men who traveled to help fight the fires between Paducah and Crowell.

News for former classmates of '63, Pat Cooper Minton and husband, Lynn, along with mom Juanita and granddaughter, Courtney, stopped by the Tribune office to say hi while in Texas. The Mintons now live outside Indianapolis, Indiana. Pat said they have one more year then they can retire and be Texans again.

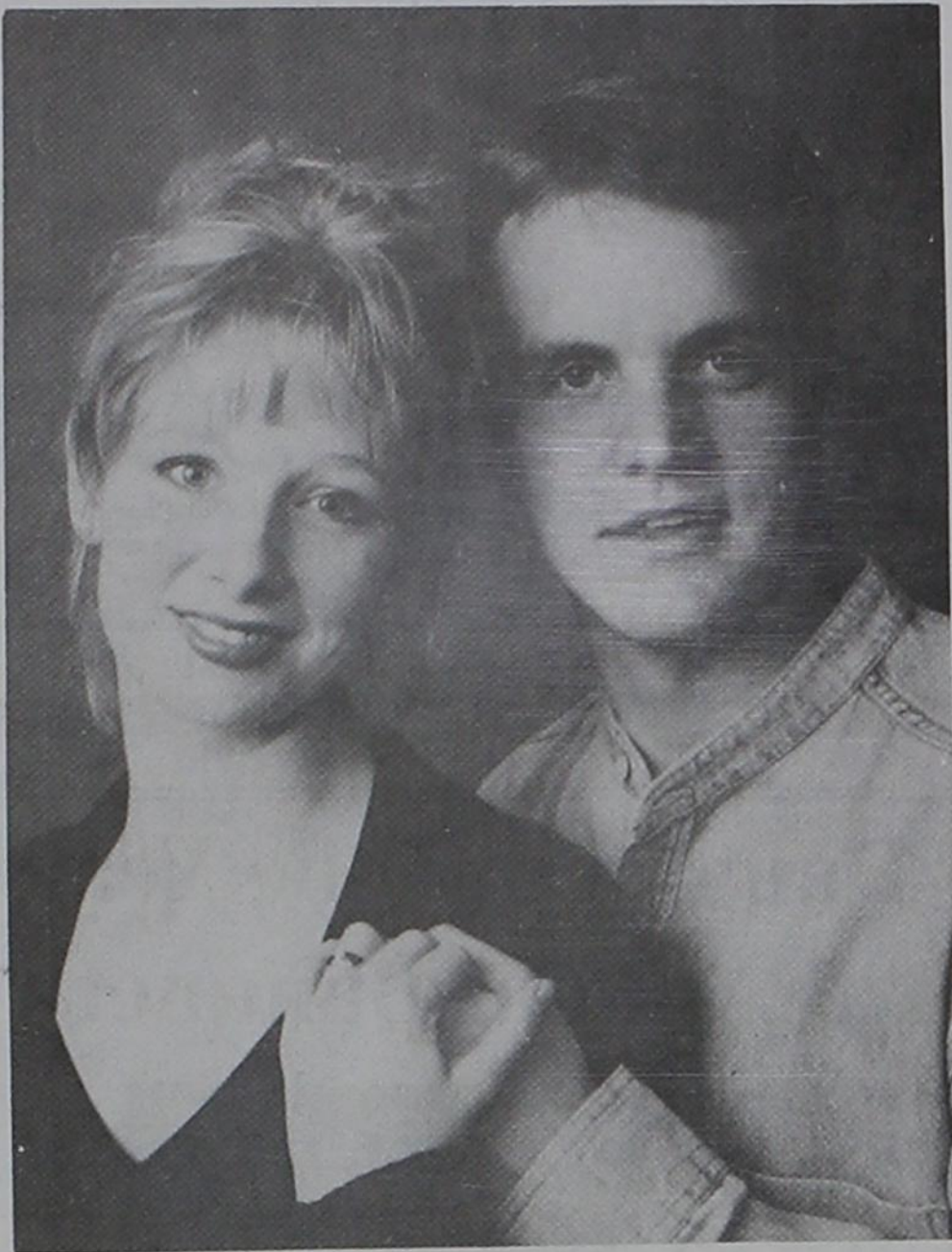
I heard Jane Hamilton Carter was in Plainview last week during her Spring Break. Her mom, Josephine Hamilton has been ill, but is improving daily.

Michael came home to Matador to visit last weekend. It was good to hear "what's to eat" again. His dad even put him to work working cattle on Saturday.



ONE-VEHICLE ACCIDENT — This 1972 Ford pickup, driven by Payton Lester, 16, of Matador, rolled over when the driver lost control of the vehicle as he was driving south on County Road 417, Tuesday afternoon. The driver was not injured.

Engagement Announced



Vanessa Lewis & Trey McCallie

Butch and Renee Preston of Friona announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Vanessa Dee Lewis, to Jack Ewing McCallie, III (Trey). The bride-elect is a senior at West Texas A&M University where she is a member of the Student Foundation. She is also employed by the WTAMU admissions office. The prospective bridegroom is the son of Jack and Ruthie McCallie of Boys Ranch, formerly of Matador. Trey is also a senior at WTAMU and President of Student Foundation. He is employed by the USDA Agriculture Research Center at Bushland. Trey is the grandson of the late Lonzo and Elsie Lynn of Matador and of Jack and Blanche McCallie of Sulphur Springs, Texas.

The couple plans to wed June 15, 1996 at the Cal Farley's Boys Ranch Chapel.



LIBRARY NOTES by Suzanne Abbott

We are deeply appreciative of the memorial donations made to the Library. Even though I have said it before, I really can't say it enough: these donations are so very important in that they help us maintain an up-to-date collection of books and in that they make a lasting memorial to very special people. A big thank you goes to Letrice Knight Dickinson for her donation in memory of Ruby Hobbs, Tom Spears, Ward Rattan, Pete Knight and Jim D. Knight. We also thank Herman and Ruby Ellithrop for their memorial to Cecil Shelton. We appreciate the memorial to Cecil Shelton made by Dude Barton and Viola Stinson. We are grateful to Jo Scott for the donations in memory of Mutt Smith and in honor of Leona Smith and in memory of Cecil Shelton and in honor of Grace Shelton. We also thank Earline Vaughn for her memorial to Cecil Shelton.

New children's books at the library include the Newberry Medal book *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech and *Absolutely Normal Chaos* by the same author. We also have Jane Yolen's *Beneath the Ghost Moon* and *Night of the Gargoyles* by Eve Bunting. Just in time for Easter we are featuring *Dumb Bunnies Easter*.

We have a new shipment of videos ready to be checked out and enjoyed. These include Walt Disney's "Pecos Bill", Eudora Welty's short story "The

Hitch-Hikers," and a story teller video that has four stories on it, such as "Tommy Knocker and the Magic Fan", "The Extraordinary Cat," and "The Lion in the Path". Another video features blues music by Joe Williams, Paula Kelly, Bobby McGee, and Count Basic. Also in this shipment of videos is a new full-length animation in color of "The Three Musketeers."

We had a wonderful afternoon at the Library last Sunday. Marisue Potts told the fascinating tale of D.C. and Ella Keith to an over-flow crowd. The Friends of the Library served lots of goodies, and everyone enjoyed the program and the visiting afterwards. Many out-of-towners attended. We had

people from Lubbock, Lockney, Floydada, Spur, Flomot, Roaring Springs, Kress, and Grayson, Georgia. Marisue graciously left her board of visuals in the Library for us to enjoy. If you didn't get to see it Sunday, come by and enjoy the pictures, the copies of some of the love letters, the new articles, and the maps that go together to tell the story of the Keiths. By the way,

four generations of descendants from this long-distance romance attended the program at the library. That made it even more special and meaningful. Thank you Marisue and Friends of the Library for a memorable Sunday afternoon.

GOD BLESS YOU!

Ten Graduate From ECA Training

Rural Nurse Resurse Inc. a local non-profit health & safety education organization announces the graduation of students from the January Emergency Care Attendant Course. Mike Reeves EMT-P served as the class coordinator with Sharon Hinton RN, EMT as the class instructor and Kendra Luckett EMT as the instructor assistant. The course was sponsored and paid for by the Motley County Hospital District. Congratulations to the following graduates:

Rev. Felton Gilmore, Lucinda Johannes, Christine Martin, Frank Ortiz, Kenny Rose, Sherry Rose, Tony Rose, Rose Ann Saldana, Katherine Walker, and Barbara Wallace.

WORD of GOD

And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

Leviticus 20:6

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May Wedding Plans Announced



Clay Ewing & Stephanie Westenburg

Mrs. Carolyn Ewing of Matador, along with Ronnie and Debbie Westenburg of Amarillo, announce the engagement of their children, Clay and Stephanie. The groom's father is the late Don Ewing. The couple will exchange vows on Saturday, May 18 at Kingswood Methodist Church in Amarillo.

El Progresso Club Hears Program On State Parks

Friday evening, Feb. 23, El Progresso Club members and guests met in the First United Methodist Church at Matador for the annual guest evening. The group congregated in the sanctuary of the church for the introduction of Mrs. Robert (JoAnn) Dickson, Santa Rosa District Club president who then proclaimed the "official" welcome extolling the virtues of being a Federated Club woman. Mrs. George (Sue) Seigler then called upon Mrs. Harold (Grace) Campbell, past Santa Rosa district president to give the invocation.

As the group filed down either side of the food table they were privileged to sit at tables decorated with green and yellow streamers down the middle of the tables set with beautiful bouquets of silk flowers making the whole room look like a garden filled with Spring flowers. Green and yellow balloons were placed at each end of the tables to add to the festive air. Responsible for the lovely scene was Mrs. JoEtta Bumgardner and Mrs. Dorothy Day. Mrs. Lola Pohl provided the place cards done in her pretty calligraphy.

Mrs. Pohl was called to come to the front of the auditorium by Mrs. Seigler where she was presented a beautiful Spring bouquet in recognition for the many years of her faithful service to the club and community. She is a 54 year member of Matador Eastern Star Chapter where she has been pianist for many, many years, a more than 50 year member of the Matador Methodist Church where she has filled many positions and she was awarded a 50 year certificate from Texas Federated Clubs last year. She was completely surprised and stood "open mouthed" for a few minutes until she regained her composure.

Returning to the sanctuary after the delicious meal, the musical portion of the program was Dumont Darsey singing "Home on the Range" accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Pohl. He then played "When the Saints Go Marching In" on the piano.

After Dumont entertained Mrs. Pohl introduced Dr. Harold Reese and his wife Carol Reese who live in Floydada. He is retired, as is she, and they travel all over Texas visiting the parks of this very large state. Dr. Reese narrated the slide presentation, the photography being done by his wife and they were beautiful. Dr. Reese said this is truly "God's Country" for all the 120 state parks, the 12 national parks, the 9 national forests and the 13 wild life refuges.

A "thank you" gift was presented followed by the benediction by Furman Vinson.

Members and guests attending were Mrs. JoEtta Bumgardner, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Day, Dr. and Mrs. Pat Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Moss, Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Giesecke, Mrs. Frank Pohl, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Limmer from Snyder, Mrs. Sue Seigler, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Green from Roaring Springs, Mr. and Mrs. Furman Vinson, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Campbell and guests of the club were Mr. and Mrs. Robin Darsey, Bert and Dumont, Dr. and Mrs. Harold Reese and citizens who had given programs for El Progresso during the past year, Mrs. Marisue Potts of Floydada, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keith, this just as a means of saying "thank you".

DON'T QUIT

Have you ever thought how many races are lost at the very end? As we watch different athletic races we might often wonder how someone who had run well and hard at the beginning would slacken the pace just before breaking the tape and lose the race. Others grow weary and give up. Even though they may not have stopped completely, they lost the dedication and commitment which motivated them earlier in the race.



The apostle Paul often compares the running of a race to living the Christian life. He said that we need to run so as to be the winner in 1 Corinthians 9:24. He also said that we need to run well (Galatians 5:7). As Christians we need "to run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1). We need to encourage one another not to give up. Revelation 2:10 says, "Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life." Someone has said that this passage really means to be faithful even if it costs our death. Isn't this what it should cost us if we are faithful? Maybe to some it will be through immediate persecution, while for others it may be after several years of faithful service, but still it costs every faithful Christian his life and death in the Lord's service. For our entire lives are given completely to the Lord and His service. Jesus promised that "he who stands firm to the end will be saved".

It is such a tragedy to lose the race so near to its end. To those who have patience, and continue in doing well, Romans 2:7 has promised our glory, honor, immortality, and eternal life. All of this is within our grasp. Do not lose sight of it by stopping before the race is over.

Roaring Springs Church of Christ
Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.

Worship - 9:00 a.m.

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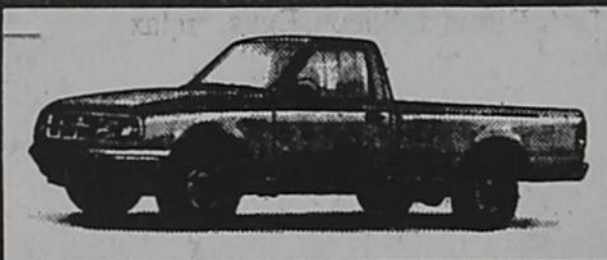
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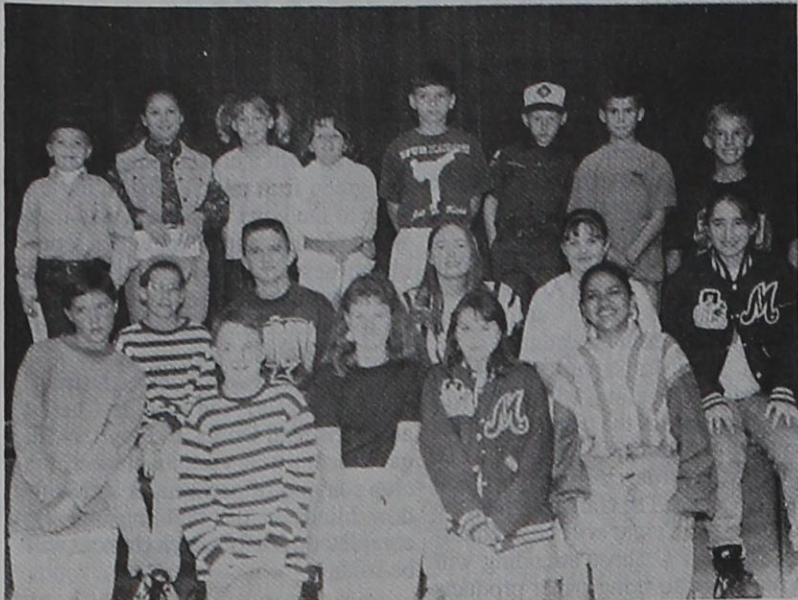
14.5 oz. can Shurfine Cut or String
Green Beans
45¢

32 oz. Shurfine 100% Natural
Vegetable Oil
\$1.99

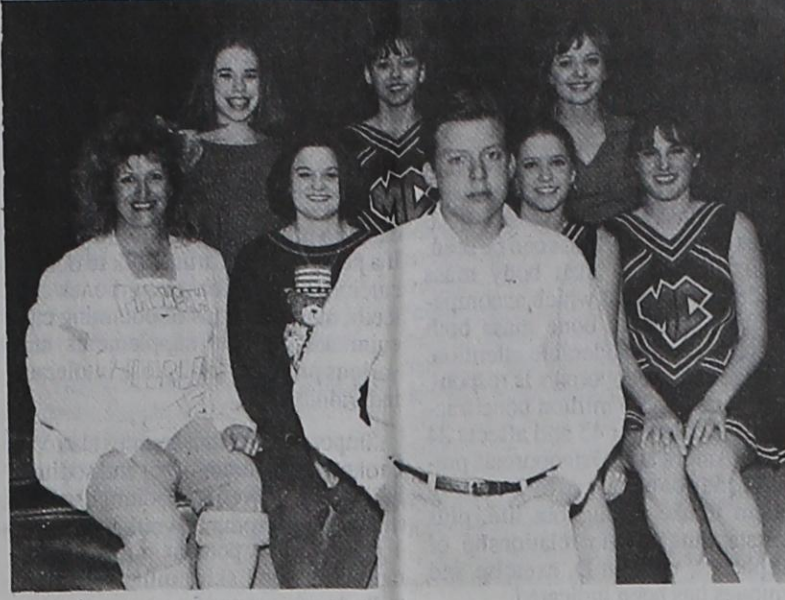
18 oz. Peter Pan Creamy
Peanut Butter
\$2.49

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Motley County School News

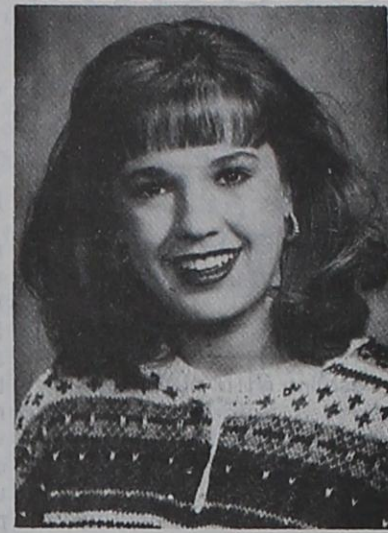


TALENT SHOW WINNERS — Pre-K-2nd grade division winner was Michael Arneel (pictured back row left to right) 3rd-4th winner Aleda Ross; 5th-6th runner up Lacy Carson; 3rd-4th runner up Sabrina Osborn and John W. Stevns; Pre-K to 2nd runner up Cub Scouts Troop 360, Quintin Rose, Chance Bingham; Jared Reiger and (now beginning next row right to left) Llan Barkley, Rochelle Renfro, Vanessa Easter, Brandt Donaldson, Ryam Moore, Joel Reiger, Dusty Jackson, Ashley Stevens, Denise Shannon, and Lou Ann Salazar, Jr. High Basketball players, winners in the Jr. High Division. Ashley Stevens was runner up in this division.



HIGH SCHOOL WINNERS — Jeremy McWilliams (front) was winner in the High School division of the talent show with his beautiful piano selections; High School Cheerleaders and sponsor were named runner-up. They are pictured left to right - Kay Bingham, Sponsor, Blair Thacker, Kristi Williams, Leslie VanHoose, Leigh Ann Pipkin, Brandi Jameson, and Leah Cruse.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Laurie Virginia Hoyle



Leigh Ann Pipkin

NICKNAME: Buck and Lar
AGE: 17
BIRTHDATE: 6-2-78
BIRTHPLACE: Lubbock, Texas
PARENTS: Larry and Donna Hoyle
BROTHERS AND SISTERS: Tanya Price
FAVORITE COLOR: Forest Green.
FAVORITE FOOD: Cereal
FAVORITE SONG: Water Runs Dry
HOW LONG HAVE YOU ATTENDED MC ISD: 13 years.
ACTIVITIES: Basketball, Golf, Cross Country, FCA, FHA, Student Council, NHS, UIL, Pep Club.
FAVORITE SUBJECT: Athletics
FAVORITE ACTIVITY: Golf
BEST ADVICE EVER RECEIVED: Remember who you are.
WORST ADVICE EVER RECEIVED: Just give up.
FAVORITE MEMORY: Regional golf trip 94-95.
PET PEEVE: People who think they know everything.
GOALS: Make a lot of money and be successful in life.
PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL: Attend College at Tech and major in nursing.
IF I COULD CHANGE ANYTHING ABOUT MY HIGH SCHOOL YEARS IT WOULD BE: Slow down and have fun.
MOST IMPORTANT TO ME: Family and cat (Spaz) and God.
HOBBIES: Cooking, snow skiing, swimming, golfing, shopping.
IN MY SPARE TIME: Sleep, shop, and relax.

NICKNAME: LA, Tiger, Leigh B.
AGE: 17
BIRTHDATE: August 16, 1978.
BIRTHPLACE: Lubbock, Texas.
PARENTS: Gerald and Syd Pipkin.
BROTHERS AND SISTERS: Amy Pipkin.
FAVORITE COLOR: Hunter Green.
FAVORITE FOOD: Spaghetti and Pancakes.
FAVORITE SONG: What Might Have Been.
HOW LONG HAVE YOU ATTENDED MC ISD: 13 years.
ACTIVITIES: Cross Country, Cheerleading, golf, basketball, tennis, track, UIL, NHS, FCA, FHA, FFA, DAP.
FAVORITE SUBJECT: Micro Computers, Athletics.
FAVORITE ACTIVITY: Golf, Basketball.
BEST ADVICE EVER RECEIVED: If you want something, go get it!
WORST ADVICE EVER RECEIVED: Go ahead and quit now.
FAVORITE MEMORY: Winning the Top Team Award at Cheerleading Camp.
PET PEEVE: People who sosh their food like Brad and people that are obnoxious and whine!
GOALS: Be successful and make lots of money!
PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL: Attend Texas Tech University and major in pre-physical therapy.
IF I COULD CHANGE ANYTHING ABOUT MY HIGH SCHOOL YEARS IT WOULD BE: It would have lasted longer!
MOST IMPORTANT TO ME: God, family, friends, car.
HOBBIES: Playing sports, snow skiing.
IN MY SPARE TIME: Cook, spend time with my family and friends.

WORD of GOD

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Psalms 29:2

Every flower is a soul blossoming out to nature.
 —Gerard De Nerval

What's Happening

Thursday, March 21: MC Spelling Bee at 1:30.
 Jr. High Track Meet at Aspermont.
 Friday, March 22: Father-Son Banquet at 7:00 p.m.
 Fair.
 Thursday, March 28: PTO Book Fair.
 Jr. High Track at Spur.
 High School UIL at Munday.
 FFA Judging, Tarleton S.U.
 Friday, March 29: PTO Book Fair.
 High School Track at Jayton.
 High School UIL at Munday.
 FFA Judging at WT A&M.
 Saturday, March 30: District One Act Play.
 FFA Judging at Clarendon.

Saturday, March 23: High School Track Meet at Aspermont.
 4-H Fashion Show at 1 a.m. M.P. Room.
 FFA Judging at San Marcos.
 Monday, March 25: PTO Book Fair.
 Girls Golf at Memphis
 Tuesday, March 26: PTO Book Fair.
 West Zone One Act Play at Petersburg.
 Boys Golf at Memphis.
 Wednesday, March 27: PTO Book Fair.

DRINKING DRIVING DEATH

Lindsey's Lines

by Lindsey Williams

It was hard to come back to school Monday after Spring Break, but now things are back on schedule. Monday night several high school students performed in this year's One-Act play "Voices". Tuesday night the Mother-Daughter Banquet was held. It was very special for each mother and daughter because it is a time to share and to be thankful for mother and daughter relationships. I am sure that the Father-Son Banquet will be successful as well.

One other activity to be held this week is the track meet in Aspermont. Good luck to the track participants!



MONDAY, MARCH 25

Breakfast: Cereal, Buttered Toast, Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Pigs in Blankets, Baked Beans, Potato Wedges, Chocolate Pudding, Milk.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Breakfast: Cinnamon Rolls, Applesauce, Milk.
Lunch: Chef Salad, Ham, Egg, Cheese, Baked Potato, Crackers, Dessert, Milk.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

Breakfast: Sausage, Pancakes, Syrup, Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Tostados, Meat, Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Pinto Beans, Jello, Milk.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Breakfast: Cereal, Buttered Toast, Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Pork Chops, Creamed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Milk.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Breakfast: Biscuits, Bacon, Eggs, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Hamburgers, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Onion, Potato Chips, Fruit Salad, Milk.

One Act Play Contest Scheduled

Tuesday, March 26, 1996 is the date scheduled for the West Zone One Act Play Contest. The contest will be held at Petersburg High School Auditorium with the first play starting at 2:00 p.m. Motley County will perform first followed by Spur, Lorenzo, Valley and Petersburg. The plays will be performed back to back with just enough time for one play to strike their set and the next play to set allowed between plays. Admission will be charged.

Motley County's play this year is VOICES by Richard Lortz. It is per-

formed by special permission from Baker's Plays. The play is set in old deserted house in New England during a blizzard. The cast includes: Claire - Leslie Van Hoose; Robert - Jarrod Brooks; Jessica - Blair Thacker, John - Tyler Decker; and Mother - Lanie Barton. The backstage crew includes Dodie Morris, Lighting; Kandi Keltz, Sound; and Aaron Binder, Curtains and Special Effects.

The play will be performed at school on Friday, March 23 during HAT period which is from 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend.

And now abideth faith, hope, and love. These three, but the greatest of these is love.
 I Cor. 13:13

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Social Security Tips

by Mary Jane Shanes
Social Security Manager, Plainview

SOCIAL SECURITY AS INSURANCE

A friend who knows I work for Social Security asked me how Social Security compares with other insurance programs. Specifically, he was wondering if he could get a better deal if he were able to use the money he puts into Social Security to purchase private coverage.

I pointed out that comparing Social Security to private insurance is not a fair comparison. This is because no private insurance company can match the Social Security coverage for the price. The protection includes retirement, survivors, and disability insurance coverage.

The value of Social Security survivors benefits for an average wage earner who dies and leaves a spouse and two children is equivalent to a \$295,000 life insurance policy. The average monthly payment would be \$1,350. The importance of these benefits is underscored by the fact that younger Americans face roughly a one in five chance of dying before reaching age 65.

The disability protection for workers unable to work is equivalent to a \$203,000 disability policy for an average income earner with a spouse and two children. The average monthly payment to such a family would be about \$1,100. Benefits continue until the youngest unmarried child reaches 18. A 20-year-old worker stands a one in three chance of becoming disabled before age 65.

However, most people who compare Social Security with private insurance are thinking about retirement income. It's true that if you invested the Social Security tax for a strictly retirement annuity, you would probably do well. However, many forget that Social Security benefits are increased annually to keep up with the cost of living; and they continue for life. These features are not found in most private policies.

As a social insurance program, Social Security is primarily concerned with whether it is meeting the needs of society as a whole. To this extent, Social Security gets high marks. It provides a base of income that permits workers to build their retirement income and a valuable package of disability and survivors protection for their working years. About 95 percent of the people age 65 and over at the beginning of 1996 were receiving benefits or would be able to receive benefits when they or their spouses retire. About 98 percent of the children under 18 and their mothers or fathers (with children under 16) can count on monthly cash benefits if a working parent dies. About four out of five men and women aged 21-64 can count on monthly cash benefits in the event the wage earner suffers a severe and prolonged disability.

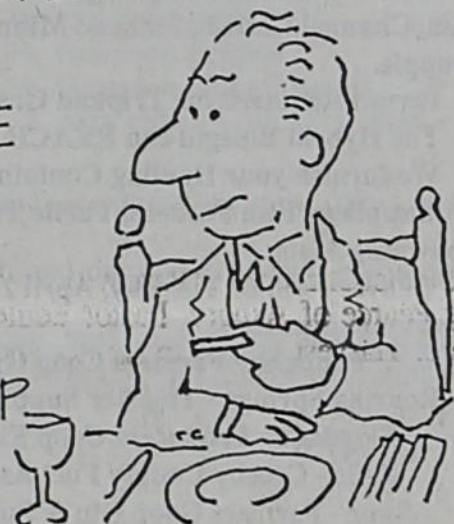
Even these social benefits can be quantified as a benefit to you to the extent you are relieved of the burden of supporting your parents. It's something to think about.

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Matthew 6:24

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Lubbock-based Plains Cotton Growers announces a monumental breakthrough for High Plains cotton producers following yesterday's Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation meeting in Abilene.

Concerned with the lack of options available to producers, Wayne Huffaker, High Plains member of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation (TFWEF) Board of Directors, fought hard to win area producers a number of new payment options for 1996. The effort to reform the collection procedure was carried by Huffaker and several other members of the TFWEF Board.

Huffaker, who also serves as Chairman of the PCG Boll Weevil Steering Committee, reports that approval was granted by the TFWEF Board to institute a new collection policy beginning in 1996. The need for a change in assessment collection procedures was first brought forward by PCG Director and current BWSC member Ronnie Hopper of Petersburg.

Huffaker notes that the new policy provides a number of payment options for producers ranging from early payment discounts to the development of a delayed payment plan based on the billing practices of agricultural businesses statewide.

"The new collection policy is a monumental step toward alleviating the apprehension of producers who feel they are simply unable to pay their assessment on the specified due date," explains Huffaker. "What we have done is try and develop a range of choices for producers so they can make the best possible management decisions for their farm."

Specifics about the new collection policy are limited, however, what is known is very good news for producers. The following breakdown covers what is currently known.

EARLY PAYMENT - Cotton producers across the state will be given an incentive to pay boll weevil assessments early through the initiation of discounts for accounts settled prior to the scheduled due date of July 15.

Producers opting to pay their 1996 assessments 30 days before to the scheduled due date will qualify for a 1 percent discount. Producers who pay 45 days before the July 15 due date will receive a 2 percent discount on their assessment.

DELAYED PAYMENT - Some producers may want to ask for a de-

layed collection schedule for their 1996 assessment. Assessments for which a Payment Extension Agreement has been properly executed will not be assessed any penalties but will be subject to a monthly finance charge of 1 1/2 percent on the unpaid balance. A 10 percent down payment will be required at the time an agreement is executed.

FAILED ACREAGE - Producers who suffer crop losses during the season will also be allowed to request relief from the TBWEF in 1996. Producers who have failed acreage may furnish the TFWEF with a signed FSA Form 574 and proof of crop destruction to apply for a refund, partial refund, or credit for paid 1996 assessments.

Huffaker notes that these are only the bare bones of the new collection procedures but that they mark a fundamental change in the manner in which assessments are collected across the state. Among the benefits to producers is the ability to more closely match the payment of boll weevil assessments to their own operations.

Ten Free Shade Trees From National Arbor Day Foundation

Ten free shade trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during March 1996.

The free trees are part of the non-profit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The ten shade trees are Red Oak, Weeping Willow, Sugar Maple, Green Ash, Thornless Honeylocust, Pin Oak, River Birch, Tuliptree, Silver Maple, and Red Maple.

"These trees were selected to provide shade and beauty, and a variety of forms, leaf shapes, and beautiful fall colors," John Rosenow, the Foundation's president, said.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting in April or May with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's bi-monthly publication, "Arbor Day," and The Tree Book with information about tree planting and care.

To become a member of the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to FREE SHADE TREES, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by March 31, 1996.

— To the Voters of Motley County —
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