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# MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE



SOUTHWEST COLLECTION  
 Texas Tech University  
 LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

FORMERLY THE  
**MATADOR TRIBUNE**

Flomot Matador Northfield Roaring Springs

**\$1.00**

Thursday, January 3, 2013

ESTABLISHED 1891

Volume 122 Issue No. 1

## Motley County in Review

*Out with the old; in with the new*



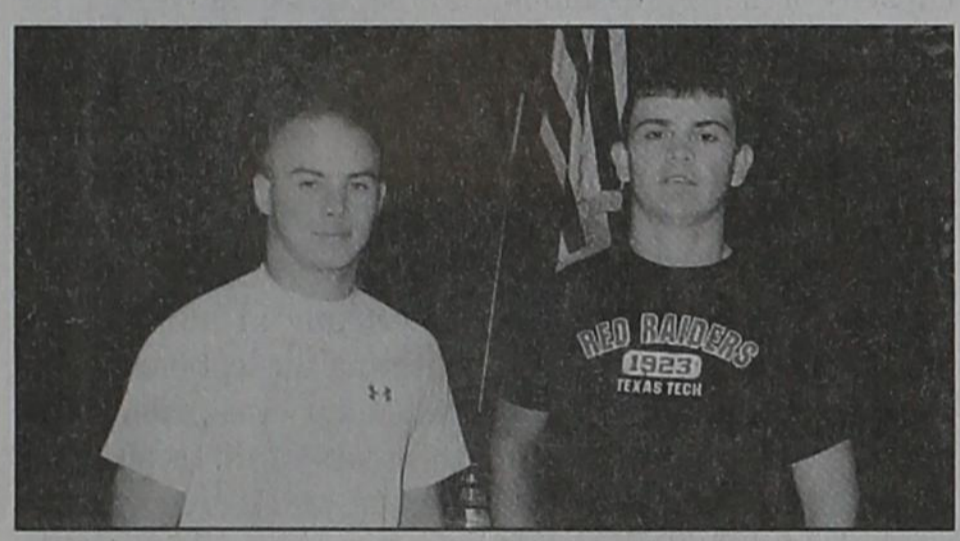
Centennial Organizers, Dianne Washington, Debra Scott and Ryan Martin



The Macedonia Baptist Church choir (L to R) Jesse Mae Sims, Clara Mangum, Renomia Campbell, and Jesse T. Sims.



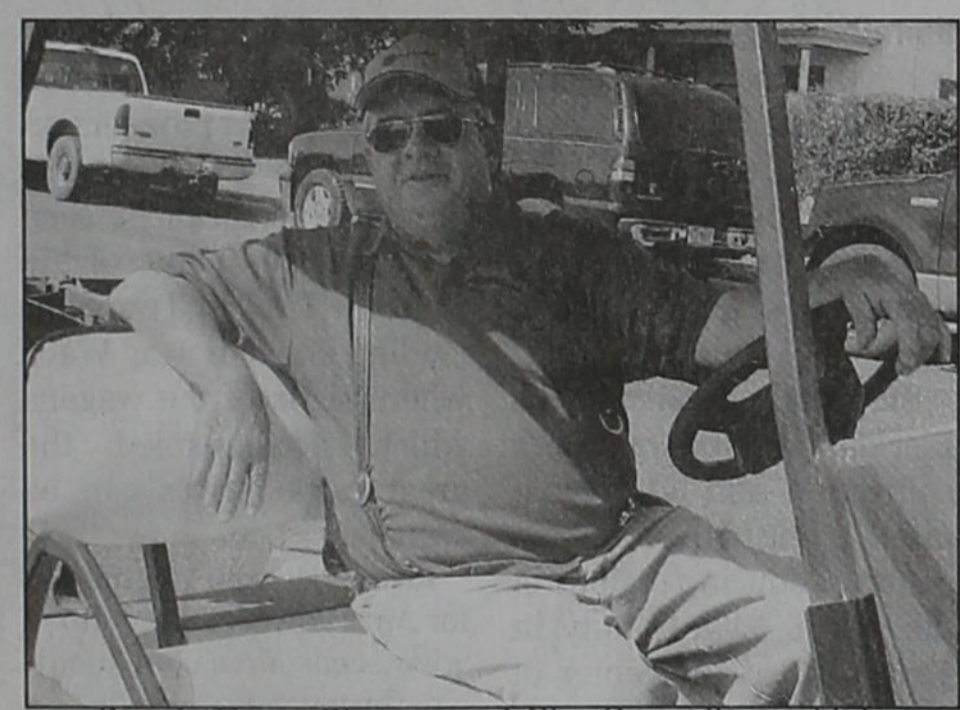
Billie Dean's Restaurant built a 3-layer "Happy Birthday Matador" cake and took top honors in the Parade Float category at the Centennial Parade Celebration in June, 2012. Pictured are the employees of Billie Dean's and their children.



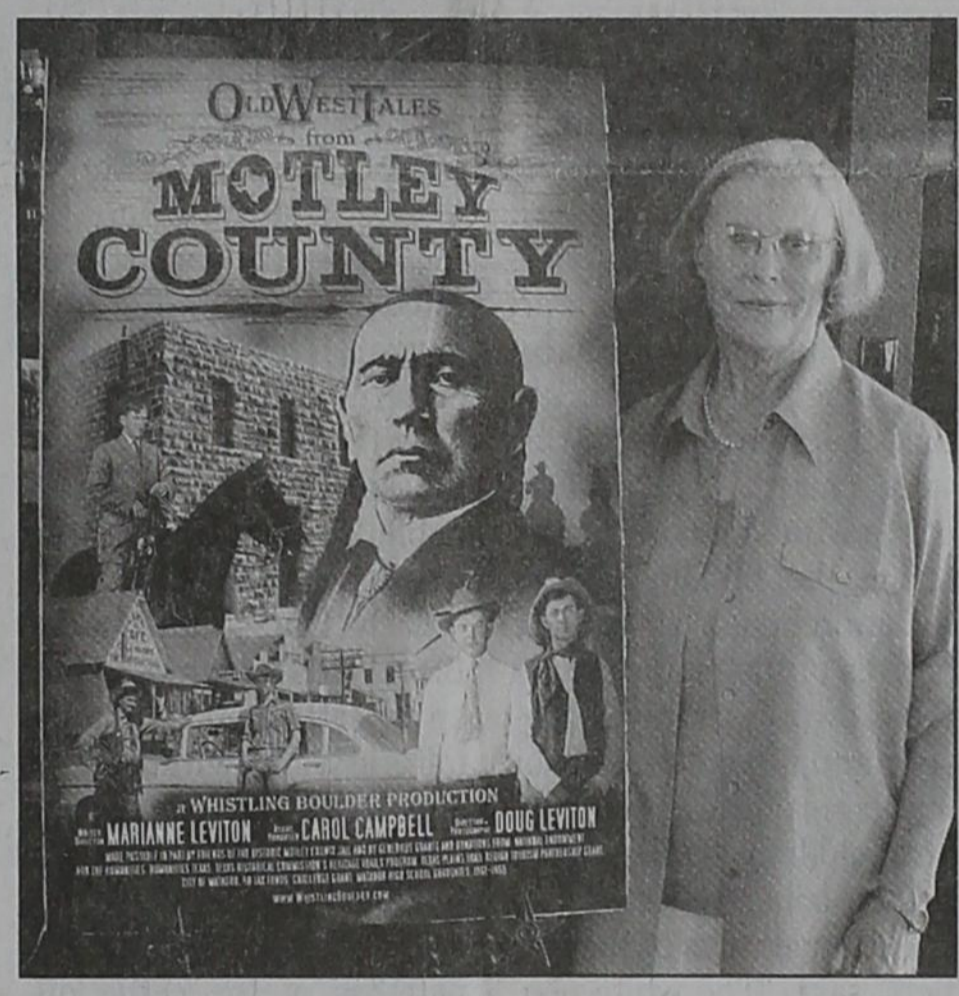
Christian Brooks and Jonathon Osborn have been selected to participate in the Canadian Bowl this summer. This is an all-star 6-man football game held annually in Canada. These two young men will travel to Canada July 2nd and participate in a week of practice and activities. The game will be held July 9th. photo by Walter Taylor



A & B Enterprises (Austin Taylor and Britt Simpson) and helper Christian Brooks, have a summer business. "We will do just about anything to earn money," Taylor said. These enterprising young men are tearing down the old tin storage building downtown Matador located south of Tom Edwards' office. According to Tom and Deanie Edwards, the removal of this downtown "eyesore" might be a precursor to a covered area built on the concrete slab to be used as a future site for a farmer's market.



Parade Event Planner and City Councilman Alvin Alexander lines up the parade



Pictured is Carol Campbell with a movie poster donated by Whistling Boulder, Inc. for the Video Documentary Premiere. The poster was used at Hotel Matador for decoration, and also at the annex to advertise the event.



## 2012 REGIONAL CHAMPS



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## Foothill Country

### Connections

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



By Larry Vogt

By now, we all should have survived the New Year's Eve celebrations and maybe even the tumble over the fiscal cliff. I was amused to hear one commentator call the fiscal cliff the "fiscal curve." Since I learned to drive on curvy gravel roads in Oregon, curves may have a different meaning to me in the fact that curves can be just as deadly as cliffs. As a teenager, I went out with my own car to have a good time one December 31 and decided to come back home after it started snowing heavily and cars were falling in the ditch on many of the roads I traveled. I spent the next day making some money using our farm tractor to pull hapless motorists out of various snow banks and predicaments.

I hope the cliffs, curves, and end of world scenarios have not left you without hope for this New Year.

Most of us will probably go on as before, with our faith intact, trying to be responsible for our actions, and responsive to the needs of those around us. I have not started my list of resolutions for the year, but I suspect they will be similar to past years.

My favorite metaphor for life is the garden. A seed is planted, nurtured, and some food and foliage might be enjoyed. Of course, along the way, there is competition. There are bugs and rabbits that will enjoy the fruits of your labors and you may have to take drastic measures to realize your goals. But, with a little good fortune and hard work, the greens will be mighty tasty.

It seems everything is better if you are getting some enjoyment from your labors as well as the fruits. There are some tasks that one can anticipate with a glad heart and then there are some that have hardly any joyfulness. However, if approached with some positive thoughts, even the most dreaded activities could be completed with feelings of satisfaction. Best wishes, stay away from the cliff and slow down for that curve.

# WRITING COMMUNITY

## The 1800s, The Rise of "King Cotton" The End of the Red Man's Civilization

The European settlement of the prairie marked the end of the civilization that had sustained it and been sustained by it for thousands of years. The settlers were pioneers in the truest sense - with a determination to survive and thrive under the harshest of conditions, and to use the bounty of the earth to enrich not only their own lives but the lives of others on this continent and around the world. But the end of the red man's civilization was a violent and bloody one. During the process the land also changed dramatically, and in an incredibly short time.

Before the Civil War, between twenty and sixty million bison roamed the North American plains. By 1900, less than a thousand were still alive. As Black Elk, the famous Sioux Indian chief recalled, "I can remember when the bison were so many that they could not be counted, but more and more Wasichus (white men) came to kill them until there were only heaps of bones scattered where they used to be. The Wasichus did not kill them to eat; they killed them for the metal that makes them crazy, and they took only the hides to sell. Sometimes they did not even take the hides, only the tongues; and I have heard that fire-boats came down the Missouri River loaded with dried bison tongues. You can see that the men who did this were crazy..." The activity of the white man in slaughtering the buffalo was as incomprehensible to the natives of the plains as was their own "primitive" lifestyle and nomadic behavior to the European settlers.

An old holy woman of the Wintu tribe, reflecting on the strange ways of the settlers, said, "The white people never cared for land or deer or bear. When we Indians kill meat, we eat it all

up. When we dig roots we make little holes. When we build houses, we make little holes. When we burn grass for grasshoppers, we don't ruin things. We shake down acorns and pinenuts, we don't chop down the trees. But the white people plow up the ground, pull down trees, kill everything... How can the spirit of the earth like the white man? Everywhere the white man has touched it, it is sore."

It was only a matter of a few years before the European settlers, with their belief in man's "dominion over the earth," and their ingenuity in finding ways to conquer and exploit nature and its resources, had fundamentally changed the character of man's relationship to the land, and with it, the character of the prairies themselves.

### Cattle Country

The first Caucasian occupants of the Texas Blackland Prairie were not farmers; the thick sod and heavy, droughty black clay soils - later to be called the "dinner bell" soils, too wet to plow before dinner and too dry after dinner - were almost impossible to cultivate with the wooden moldboard plow in use at the time. So those who wanted to take up farming when the Spanish first opened Texas to colonization in the early 1800s settled in the southeastern part of the state near the Gulf Coast, where the soils were more amenable to cultivation with wooden implements.

Early land grants in the Blacklands were mostly taken by cattlemen, where the tall grasses - "high enough to hide cattle and long enough to tie in a knot around a horse's back" - made excellent forage. The grazing patterns of the cattle differed from those of the buffalo, and this introduction of domestic livestock was

the first major disruption of the grasslands. While the buffalo grazed the land intensively, they soon moved on, giving the grasses time to recover. Under human management, cattle grazing was concentrated in smaller areas, over longer periods of time. The natural species competition and succession of the flora was disturbed, favoring weedy annuals, the shorter, more grazing-tolerant species of grass and species unpalatable to cattle.

Barbed wire was introduced in 1874, and within 15 years most of the state was fenced, which concentrated livestock and resulted in even more overgrazing of the grasslands. In 1885 the combined influences of overgrazing and drought were so severe that hundreds of thousands of cattle starved to death in Texas. By 1890 the grazing capacity of many grasslands was reduced by one-half or more, and the pre-settlement vegetation was permanently altered.

### The Sodbusters

It was not until the 1870s and 80s that farmers became interested in cultivating the Blacklands, when the development of the steel plow and other implements had made it possible to cut through the thick prairie sod. The roots were so dense - up to five miles or more of roots might be found in one square meter of grasses - that the prairie literally rang, or twanged, when the steel plows turned over its dense underlayer - "a storm of wild music" was the poetic description given by one wheat farmer's daughter several decades later.

By 1900 most of the Blackland Prairie was under cultivation and was recognized as one of the foremost cotton producing regions of the world. Ellis County in Texas was at the center of

this extraordinary accomplishment, and many grand old Victorian homes in the cities of Waxahachie and Ennis still exist, as reminders of the fortunes that were made in those times.

Cultivation was also, however, a catastrophic disruption of the prairie ecosystem. It was a common farmers' joke to tell the story of an old Indian who, having seen a plowed field for the first time, said to the farmer, "Wrong side up." The story was taken to be an illustration of the Indian's ignorance, but in fact when the native grasses are turned under and the soil aerated, the organic matter decomposes faster. This creates a flush of nutrients available to cultivated crops, but when the crops are harvested the nutrients are removed with the harvest, and the soil continues to be depleted year after year. Today's dependence on chemical fertilizers is evidence that perhaps there was more wisdom in that old Indian's statement than was recognized at the time.

Certainly in terms of recovering the lost prairie, his statement was true. Once the roots of the prairie are broken, and its recovery cycle interrupted by conventional agriculture, the grasslands never heal unaided. The prairie ecosystem is so vulnerable to manmade disturbances that the wheel ruts left by the migrations of the mid-nineteenth century are still visible, more than 140 years after the covered wagons carried pioneers on their westward journeys. Similar traces can be seen in prairie remnants of the Chisolm Trail in Texas, including one site near Waco where signs of the wagons which accompanied the great cattle drives can be seen.

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The **MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE**, (ISSN: 0897-4322), purchased on November 29, 2007, is published weekly each Thursday, except Christmas week, at Matador, Texas. The office is located at 724 Dundee, 806.347.2400. Periodical-class postage paid at Matador, Texas, Postmaster. Send address changes to Motley county Tribune P.O. Box 490, Matador, TX 79244.

**NOTICE:** Any erroneous reflection upon the character, firm, or corporation, which may appear in the columns of the **MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE** will gladly be corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

PUBLICATION NO. 333700

Subscription Rates: \$40.00

Over 60 may deduct \$5.00

Email only \$30

P.O. Box 490, Matador, TX 79244

Advertising Rates: \$4.10 per col inch, in county

\$4.60 per col inch, in Texas

\$5.50 per col inch, national

Tear sheet \$3 and publisher's affidavit: additional \$4

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# Opinion Editorial

I know 2012 has been a challenging one for many of us.

Fueled by climate change, drought continued to dry up our rivers and lakes. Combined with excessive water withdrawals by some of the state's most powerful industries, our wildlife and drinking water supplies took a big hit. Low lake levels meant fewer visitors and revenue to our state parks, kicking our parks department when they are already down from massive budget cuts by the Legislature.

So many of our challenges are interconnected and too often share the same root cause year after year—big polluters or politicians putting their short-term interests ahead of the long-term good for our environment.

This time of the year is one for reflection on what hap-

pened in the 365 days before and in anticipation of the 365 days ahead. I've certainly been doing both in the past few weeks and, honestly, more than anything, I'm proud of the fact that we've stood up and fought the good fight in the face of so many challenges. And I feel prepared to fight even harder because people like you are at our side.

It's easy to get discouraged in the face of the damage we see to our beloved Texas. People often ask me how I can keep at it when the challenges are so many and so big, the odds so steep, and the victories never come as quickly as we'd like.

My answer?

I continue to be inspired by the people around me, working tirelessly for a better world. People like Sister Elizabeth Riebschlaeger, a

south Texas nun who is organizing to protect her community from the threat of fracking. Or Michael Banks, a Jacksonville dentist whose years of community organizing paid off this year with the celebration of the new Neches River National Wildlife Refuge.

And there's you. You—and the victories we've been able to win together—inspire me.

As in August, when the Obama administration finalized new clean car standards that will double the fuel efficiency of today's vehicles by 2025—the largest step the U.S. has ever taken to fight global warming. Environment Texas played an important role in winning final adoption of the rule by conducting research and gathering public comments from thousands of Texans to back the standards.

And I'm proud of the groundwork we've laid for future victories. We campaigned to renew federal tax credits for wind power, for stronger water conservation measures, to reduce the damage from fracking, and to restore funding for our state parks.

Because we've been able to do all this in spite of such enormous challenges, I'm confident that this time next year, I'll have more good news to report.

All of us here at Environment Texas look forward to continuing our work with you in 2013, and we wish you a happy holiday season and a cleaner, greener, healthier new year.

Thanks as always for making it possible,

Luke Metzger  
Environment Texas Director

## Matador Volunteer Fire Dept. presents awards at annual Christmas party

# Applications for Conservation Programs Being Accepted at Motley County NRCS Office

TEMPLE, Dec. 27, 2012—USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) District Conservationist James Gillespie announces applications for funding opportunities with the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) are currently being accepted at the NRCS office in Matador.

NRCS in Texas has received its initial allocation of EQIP funding in 2013 and will begin ranking and obligating EQIP contracts after February 15. All agriculture producers interested in submitting a contract application for 2013 should do so before this ranking deadline.

EQIP — one of the largest programs in the Farm Bill — is a voluntary conservation program that promotes environmental quality and assists producers to meet local, state and federal regulations.

"EQIP is a valuable tool to help Motley County's agricultural producers implement conservation practices that

provide environmental benefits to help sustain agricultural operations," says Gillespie.

EQIP is a continuous sign-up program that allows landowners or operators to apply for financial and technical assistance for the application of specific conservation practices; but the deadline for the first 2013 funding is February 15, 2013. Contracts are offered periodically depending on budgetary allocations. Applications made after the deadline will be considered in the next funding cycle. Higher priority will be given to those applications that address national, state and local priorities and provide higher cost efficiency.

EQIP offers technical and financial help to install or implement structural, vegetative, and management practices that can benefit the soil, water, air, plants, livestock, and wildlife. Each county in the state is funded yearly to assist producers financially with these land

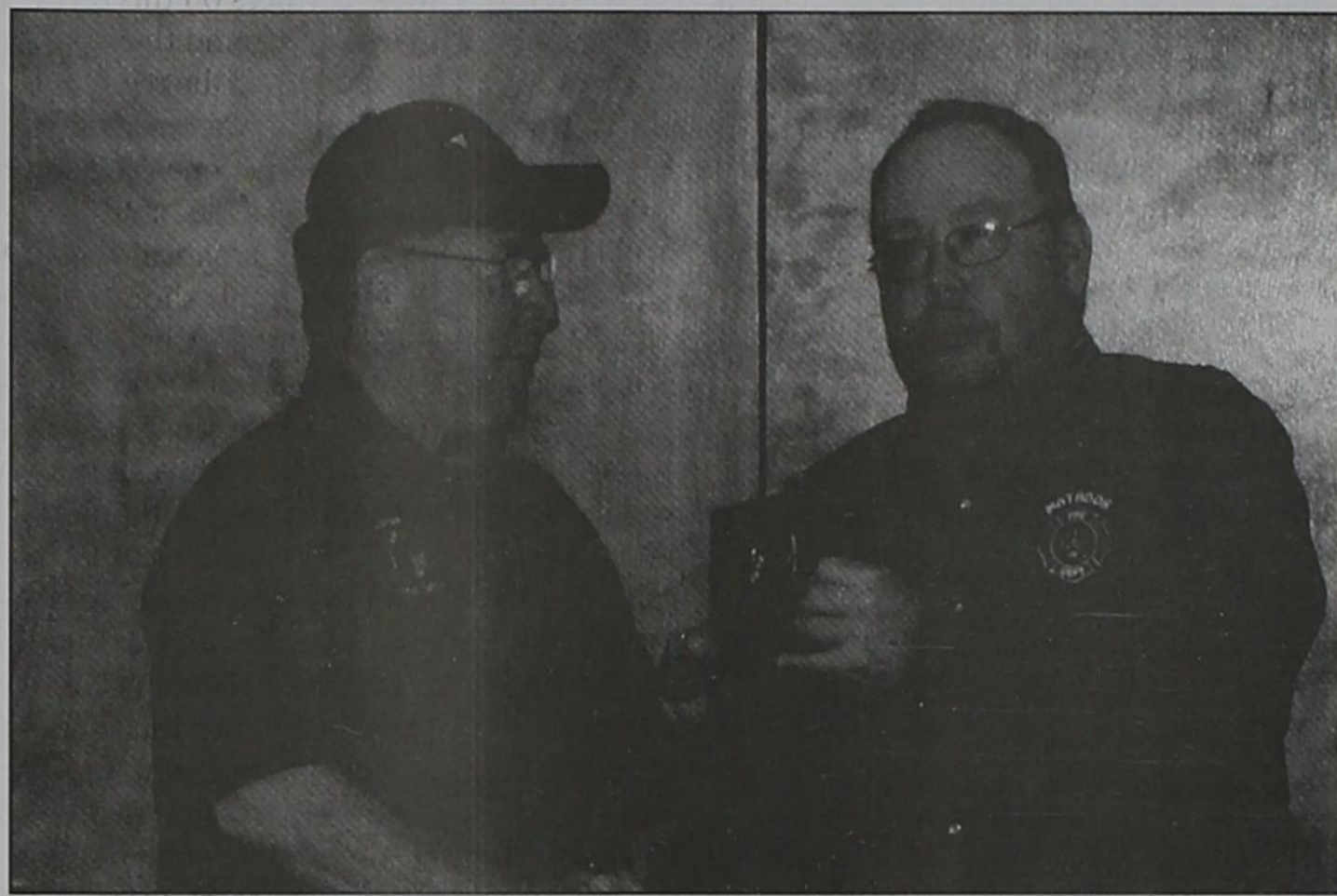
management practices.

Last year, NRCS in Texas funded over 4,000 EQIP contracts with \$76 million to accomplish conservation practices such as irrigation efficiency, minimum tillage, brush management and more on 2.1 million acres across the entire state. In addition to helping our environment, Farm Bill conservation program funds support rural communities. In Texas, it is estimated that each dollar of NRCS and private matching expenditures on NRCS conservation programs generates an additional \$2.54 in sales of goods and services.

For more information, including eligibility requirements, call the USDA Service Center office in Matador at 806-347-2263 ext 3. Service center locations and program information can be found on the Texas NRCS Web site at [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov).



Bert Darsey received the Here's Your Sign Award.



Winning the fireman of the year award was James Gillespie.



The Spirit Award was presented to Ray Martin.

## Awards presented at Masonic Lodge Christmas Party



Pictured is County Agent Ryan Martin accepting a \$300.00 check for the Jr. Livestock Show from Masonic Lodge Secretary Alvin Alexander and Worship Master Chris Spence at the recent Masonic Lodge Christmas Party. The Masonic Lodge also donated \$100.00 to the Senior Citizens Center.

## TPTR Completes a Successful Year

Group tours Charles Goodnight home

By Carol Campbell  
Motley County Tribune

The Texas Plains Trail Region (TPTR) Board of Directors closed out the fiscal year December 13 with a Christmas celebration attended by 20 members representing the 52-county region of the TPTR. Representing Motley County and serving as secretary on the board is Carol Campbell of Matador.

The TPTR is the 6<sup>th</sup> activated Heritage Trail Region in the state under the Texas Historical Commission's Award-winning Heritage Trails Program organized in 2003. The TPTR is governed by a 25-member Board of Directors, representing the 52-county region.

An all-volunteer board, supported in part by the Texas Historical Commission, travels to different communities six times a year to discuss ongoing projects, outline accomplishments of the region, discuss partnerships, county and community involvement, and project accomplishments.

The TPTR works with local communities and attractions to encourage economic development through heritage tourism, education, and historic preservation.

This year, Deborah Sue McDonald, who has served as the Executive Director of the TPTR for five years is stepping down. She said she had led the organization through the "teenage years" and "I can't wait to see what the mature adult will do!"

A new Executive Director was introduced - Barbara Brannon of Lubbock. The new TPTR office has been moved from Vega, TX, to Lubbock.

Some of the projects completed included four successful Preservation Round-Ups, the 2010 Stamp Cancellation and County Spotlight; Quanah Parker Trail and Arrow Placement Project; the Red River War Brochure printing and distribution to the northern 26 counties; Can Collection, speaking engagements, workshops, travel shows, and community support and event visits. "No doubt," McDonald said, "serving as the Executive Director of the Texas Plains Trail Region has been amongst the richest and most rewarding moments of my life."

Additionally, the TPTR distributed \$50,000 in grants for projects in Cottle, Armstrong, Cochran, Hockley, Garza, Crosby, Wheeler and Motley counties. The Motley County grant helped fund the video documentary project which will be used as a play-back system at the old jail to engage visitors and introduce them to Motley County and surrounding historical sites.

During 2011-2012, the TPTR received "an amazing" \$167,729 from in-kind services, McDonald said. "It is evident that the board is passionate, energetic, and committed to their work in the region."

In addition to a grant from the Texas Historical Commission, the program relies on financial support from counties, commu-

nities, and other businesses and organizations. "Based on county population, we request an annual fee to assure the sustainability of this program. We thank the counties who have contributed to our Marketing Package, helping us to continue our work to preserve our rich West Texas heritage." Total cash contributions from September 2011 to August 2012 were \$48,810. Motley County contributes \$200.00 a year to TPTR from the city's Hotel-Motel Occupancy Tax fund.

"I would like to thank the City of Matador for participating in the sustainability of this heritage trails program," local board member Carol Campbell said. "This contribution comes back two-fold in services TPTR provides our community, especially in marketing Motley County at conferences and workshops."

Following the meeting, the group toured the Armstrong County Museum and the Charles Goodnight Home in Goodnight, TX. The fully-restored \$3-million dollar renovation project is a true testament and historical record of one of the state's legendary cattlemen.

Molly Goodnight is credited with saving the great southern bison herd by protecting baby buffalo left to die after commercial hunters ravaged the plains. She rescued and raised orphaned buffaloes, helping to re-establish the Goodnight buffalo herd, known throughout the world. A life-size sculpture is now placed in the front yard

of the Goodnight home, depicting Molly Goodnight with a baby buffalo. It was sculpted by a descendent of Charles Goodnight, Veryl Goodnight.



Pictured is a sculpture of Mary Ann "Molly" Goodnight bottle feeding a baby bison. The sculpture was created by Veryl Goodnight, a descendent of Charles Goodnight, and is located on the lawn of the newly remodeled Goodnight Ranch home in Goodnight, TX. The name of the sculpture is "Back From The Brink," depicting the mass destruction of the great bison herds that roamed free in the 1800s. Molly Goodnight is credited with saving the Great Southern Bison Herd, now housed in Caprock Canyons State Park.

### 2013 HAS ARRIVED!!!



The months of the old year are gone! Here we are in the year 2013. Years ago that seemed a lifetime away! And it was. I have lived much of that lifetime. Having lived through the year that has passed and being so blessed, it is with confidence that I look forward to life under the calendar of 2013.

In this New Year let's cultivate a desire for knowledge. Can we make it our goal to have a better relationship with both God and man? We want to develop a thirst for the things of God. We will purpose to do His will as we learn of it through study of the Scriptures.

It will be our purpose to identify with those earl men and women of faith. I reference those who lived Christ in the First Century. Our mission for 2013 will be to preach Christ and to be useful to all as we have opportunity. Our confidence will be firmly placed in Jesus. He is our Rock, our solid foundation. For we believe that He is the Son of God, that He is the head of the Church and that He speaks to believers through His Holy Word.

Whatever this New Year holds for us, we will anticipate every day of it with the understanding of our Lord's promise found in Hebrews 13: 5, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." May the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace..." in this year of 2013.

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

# NEWS AROUND MOTLEY COUNTY

## Roaring Springs News

By Monta Marshall

### On a personal note

What is a special friend? One who goes the second mile; one you share a history of many years and experiences.

A 45 year friendship became a memory the day after Christmas when Ralph Roming died. He lost his battle with chronic pulmonary and heart problems. Ralph's last year was a struggle. He was weary.

Two young couples with children of similar ages and interests worked and played together. We went on trips together; shared each other's triumphs, sorrows and joys.

Ralph and his wife Donna came often and helped me when my husband Jerry fought valiantly with a deadly cancer. When my daughter Katie started her second year in college, her dad was still taking radiation treatments; Ralph and his son Doug traveled nine hours from home and moved her two hundred miles to her first apartment with roommates.

Ralph's good friends from Round Rock, Texas, had planned to spend a few days with him during Christmas. Even after receiving the news that Ralph had been taken by ambulance to the Heart Hospital in Lubbock, his friend, Billy Stocklin came and sat with Ralph much of three days. His brother, Chuck of Paragould, AR, and his daughter Dian Roming were with him. We were in and out and there most all day on Sunday with him.

After many years of following different occupations and living in various areas Ralph decided to move here to spend his last days near friends. It was a good two and one half years. We had a lot of time to recall old memories and make a few new ones. We will miss him!

### In the community

The week before Christmas the Roaring Springs Lions combined forces with the Matador Lions to purchase and assemble Christmas food boxes for those less fortunate. Twelve families in Roaring Springs were gifted with generous goodies.

Bill and Margaret Leonard have returned from an extended trip to Louisiana to visit Margaret's family. They left before Thanksgiving and returned home the day after Christmas.

Mozelle Hand spent Christmas in Grandview with her daughter, Missy Davis and family.

The Lions Club drawing was held on December 19<sup>th</sup> to find the lucky winner of the lovely diamond necklace raffled for

their main annual fundraiser. Tince Thacker drew the lucky ticket held by Douglas Campbell of Matador. Boss Lion, Lynn Campbell oversaw the drawing held at the City Hall during the Roaring Springs three o'clock coffee klatch. Someone had a wonderful Christmas surprise!

John and Joan Meason along with their sons prepared a traditional Christmas dinner at the Roaring Springs Community Center for those who did not have family coming for Christmas. They have continued the 'you don't have to dine alone on Christmas' begun by the First United Methodist Church several years ago. They served thirty-five diners. They decorated the center for Christmas which added to the festive occasion. Fifteen dinners were delivered to shut-ins. The Meason family has prepared Christmas dinner for three years for our community. It is an act of love very much appreciated.

Kelly and Pennie Keltz hosted the Marshall family Christmas party the evening of Christmas Eve. It was a merry bunch with 13 grand children present. They range in age from 15 down to one year. It is fun to see all of them together.

My son and daughter-in-law, Kevin and Tracie McClaran hosted my family's annual Christmas gathering at their home south of Lorenzo. There were 16 present with the combined families of Kevin and Tracie for a tasty Mexican food feast. Several members of my family are not really turkey fans so they are ready for a different fare.

Don and Billie Stuckey spent Christmas in Flower Mound with their daughter and family. They were there a little longer than planned because of the snow storm in the Dallas area. They returned home after a week's stay on Thursday.

Kenzie McClaran is spending a few days with Corky and Monta Marshall. Kenzie is my youngest granddaughter. We are having fun playing games and working puzzles.

Randy, Shannon and Kyle Trammell spent three days with Walter and Jo Trammell. On Christmas day they went to Lubbock to have their gathering with Walter and Jo's daughter and son-in-law, Tina and Jerry Overman. There were 20 family members present. Some of the great grandchildren had the stomach bug so their group was a little smaller than usual.

Next week's paper will have a continuation of Christmas family happenings. The Tribune is going to press early this week.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

### Christmas Country Life displayed at Do Gooders' Club

The Do Gooders' Club held their annual Christmas Party at the Community Center in Flomot.

Mrs. Kathy Shorter and Mrs. Shondi Lee had a beautiful Christmas display depicting county life. The serving table was laid with a red and white quilt top with intermingled glowing old fashioned globe and hurricane lamps. Everything was draped with sweet smelling greenery and pine cone arrangements. Christmas music was performed by Mrs. Waydetta Clay and Mrs. Kathy Shorter, singing Christmas Carols in harmony.

At the green and red service a bounteous table of delicious refreshments was served with coffee and fruit punch. A fun-filled time was held with the gifts and Merry Christmas exchanges.

Members attending were Mesdames Connie Franks, Barbara Payne, Anna Beth Clay, Kathy Shorter, Waydetta Clay, Erma Washington, Doris Vinson, Nada Starkey, and Suzie Shannon. Guests were Mrs. Carolyn Ewing of Matador, Mrs. Sherry McKay of Quitaque, Mrs. Janice Hughes and Mrs. Shondi Lee of Flomot.

### Overheard

The rung of a ladder was never meant to rest upon, but only to hold a man's foot long enough to enable him to put the other somewhat higher. Happy New Year!

### Attend Graduation

Brooke Rogers, daughter of Donnie Rogers, was awarded her bachelor's degree from the University of Texas in Austin, Sunday December 9, 2012.

Visiting in Austin from Friday until Sunday and attending her graduation ceremony was her father, Donnie Rogers, grandmother, Mrs. B. Rogers, sister Natalie Rogers of Williamsburg, Virginia and friend, Mrs. Jackie Lynn Davis of Fritch.

### Belated Birthday

Mrs. Mary Jo Calvert honored her son Glen Calvert with a belated birthday luncheon in her home Sunday December 16. His birthday is December 7. A Mexican lunch with a cake of fruit and whipped cream was enjoyed. He received gifts and best wishes.

Family members attending were Mr. and Mrs. Alvia Jo Calvert of Dumas, Tim, Gwen and Peyton Mandrall, Dan and Sherrilyn Foster, Dustin, Elise, Hayleigh and Kayden Reed of Lubbock; Dan Bannister and son, Treston of Sherman.

## Matador News

Mrs. Earlyne Jameson had emergency heart surgery Saturday, December 15 at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock after being conveyed by helicopter from Lockney. With her during surgery and hospitalization was husband, H.R. "Skeet" Jameson and son Shannon Jameson of Santa Fe, N.M. Also visiting during her hospitalization was son Lance Jameson of Vernon. Shannon returned home Thursday, Dec. 20.

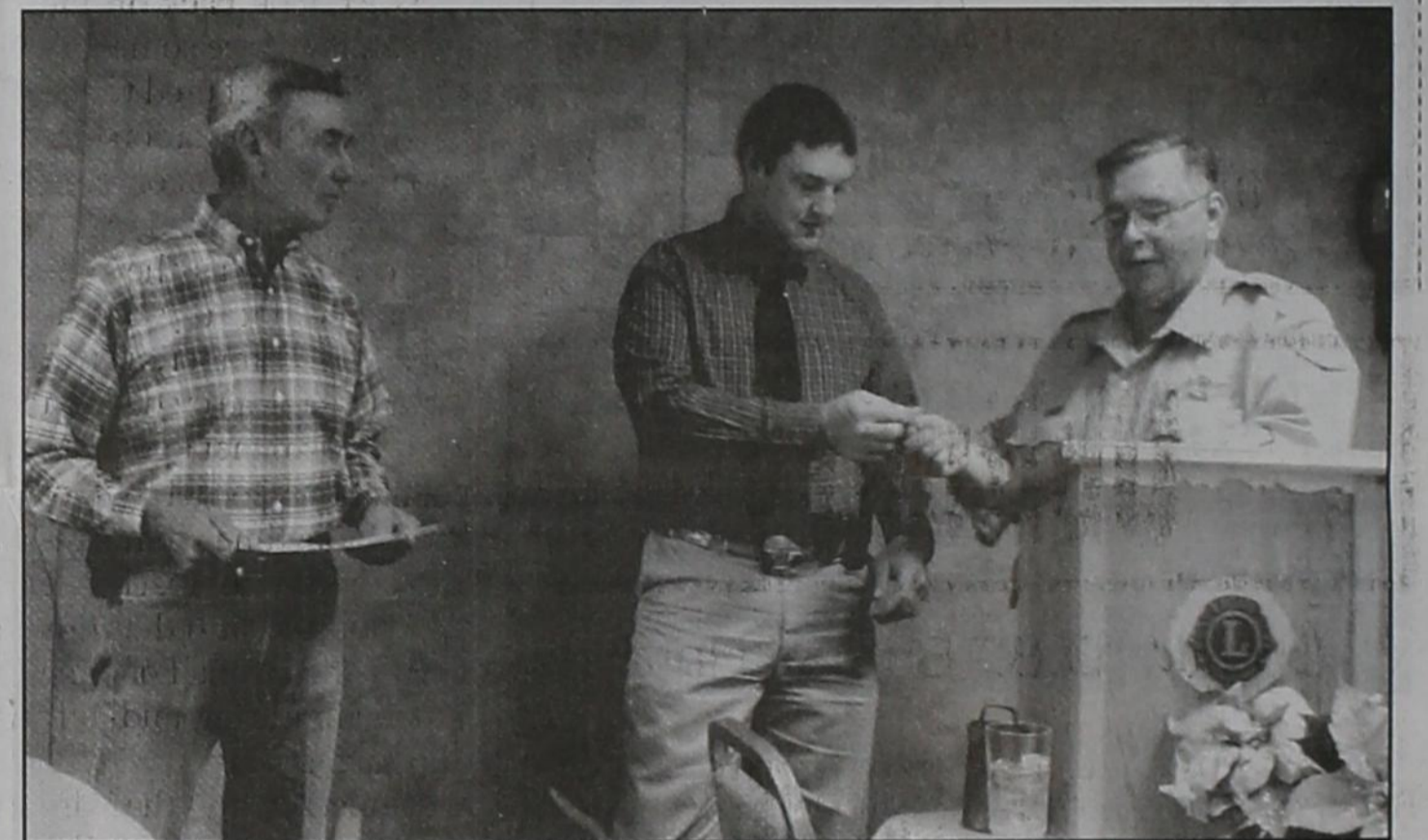
Mrs. Geraldine Key is a patient at St. Anthony, Baptist Hospital in Amarillo and is listed in serious condition following major surgery. With her are son and family, Floyd Key of Childress daughter and family, Toni Ratliff of Paducah.

Carol and Lucretia Campbell travelled to Denton, TX, to spend Christmas with Craig and Charise Christian, daughter Cameron and husband Brian Welter, and Caitlin Christian. Charise hosted a family Christmas Eve party attended by Michael Richardson, Dallas, and longtime family friends, Erica and Stanley Mynt, Dallas. Barbara Christian hosted a

Christmas Day dinner with all the trimmings at her home in Denton. Attending the event followed by a gift exchange were Cody and Holle Christian, son, Hunter, and daughter, Camber, of McKinney, TX; Carla and Dallas Oldham, Charise and Craig Christian, and Caitlin Christian, all of Denton, and Lucretia and Carol Campbell.

Kay and Ron Bailey hosted their family Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with dinner and gift exchange. Attending were Andi, Brant, and Sage Bailey, of Eastland; Lance and Sherry Bailey of Lamesa; and Kevin, Sherry, Dillon, and Kolton, of Leveland.

Andrew Clements, of Af-ton, Minnesota, recently spent a weekend with Bill and Arlyce Manney. Andrew, a computer expert, and the grand-nephew of Arlyce, had been working in Irving, and stopped for two days in Matador, before going on to work at Texas Tech in Lubbock. Andrew enjoyed visiting with the Manneys, seeing the jail, touring our community, and worshipping at First Methodist.



At the Matador Lions Club meeting on December 18, Boss Lion Chris Spence recognized Joel Dean Spray and Gary Waitman as new members of the Matador Lions Club. At the meeting the members put together the annual Christmas boxes for the needy. photo by Jennifer Lawler



CHRISTMAS VILLAGE - This holiday scene has been on display at the Motley County Library. The village pieces belong to Kassi Beshirs of Matador, who set up the scene for the library window. The Library appreciates Mrs. Beshirs' use of the beautiful village scene, which has been a very popular sight for passersby.

### This Week's Local Forecast

Thursday T-storms 78/46	Friday T-storms 72/45	Saturday Mostly Cloudy 71/44	Sunday Mostly Sunny 69/43	Monday Sunny 73/43	Tuesday Mostly Sunny 75/44	Wednesday Partly Cloudy 79/48

<b>Weather Trivia</b> What is the highest temperature ever recorded on Earth? Answer: The Library doesn't have the record. 136 degrees Fahrenheit.	<b>Weather History</b> April 16, 1851 - The famous "Lighthouse Storm" raged near Boston Harbor. Gale winds and gigantic waves destroyed Minot Light with its two keepers still inside. The storm resulted in great shipping losses as well as coastal erosion.	<b>Moon Phases</b> Last 4/17 New 4/24 First 5/1 Full 5/8
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**Library Journal**  
by Carla Meador Librarian

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and enjoyed some quality time with your loved ones. That's what Christmas is all about - Love!

We appreciate our patrons' understanding of the Library being closed for three days Christmas week, and on New Year's Day. I apologize if you came by and missed us.

I would like to extend a big heartfelt thanks to Martha Farris and the Farris Foundation for their very generous donation to the Library. We appreciate the continued support of the Farris family and this wonderful foundation. What a wonderful Christmas gift!

We have some great new books to help you usher in 2013. We have *Two Graves* by Preston and Child, *The Panther* by Nelson DeMille, *The Blackhouse* by Peter May, *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich, *Good Junk* by Ed Kovacs, *Say You're Sorry*

by Michael Robotham, *Not Dead Yet* by Peter James, *House of Evidence* by Viktor Arnar Ingolfsson, *The Old Gray Wolf* by James D. Doss, and *Agenda 21* by Glenn Beck.

In our Juvenile section we have *Life of Pi* by Martel Yann, *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien, *Second Life of Abigail Walker* by Frances O'Roark Dowell and *Chickadee* by Louise Erdrich. In our children's section we have *Rabbit and Robot*, *The Sleepover* by Cece Bell.

We also have a new DVD set, *Marple: The Classic Mysteries Collection and The Campaign*.

We thank Judy Renfro for her donation in memory of Truitt Read. We also thank Rebekah Jameson and Stephen Tyler of Austin for their book donations.

I hope 2013 brings joy and peace to you all; continued financial blessings for our Library; and great things for all of Motley County!

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



**AgriLife Today: 2012 produced extreme spider mite infestations in corn**  
**AgriLife Extension offers insight for future management decisions**

AMARILLO - Spider mite infestations across the entire Texas High Plains were among the worst producers have had to deal with in a number of years, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service entomologist.

Dr. Ed Bynum, AgriLife Extension entomologist in Amarillo, said corn producers primarily saw populations of the Banks grass mite, which "are supposedly easier to control than the two-spotted spider mite."

But, Bynum said, this year many producers had a hard time controlling any mites with a single miticide application. In many instances, mites were never controlled with multiple applications.

"As we look back on the season, there are some factors that contributed to the rapid mite infestation development and poor control," he said.

One factor was the timing of the hot, dry conditions this summer, which Bynum said provided an ideal environment for mite populations to get out of hand. Daytime temperatures began to reach the high 90s and into the 100s during the last half of June and again during mid-July into August.

Coupled with the dry conditions, mite populations were able to become established across the field in June, he said. Then in July, corn fields were tasseling and starting grain development growth stages, which further enhanced the reproductive capacity of mites.

"Once mite infestations moved up the plant and began causing damage below the ear leaf, the populations reached levels that even a miticide application controlling 60 percent to 80 percent of the mites left sufficient numbers to rebound rapidly," Bynum said.

The entomologist said one observation this year was that mite populations developed earlier and faster on corn grown under drip irrigation.

Another factor in some fields, he said, was insecticides applied for other insects, such as southwestern corn borers, western bean cutworms and western corn rootworm adults, either eliminated natural predators and/or further stimulated the reproductive capacity of mites.

"Previous research has shown pyrethroid insecticides will flare mites. Even the use of bifenthrin will not control mites, except in a few locations," Bynum said. "Applications of dimethoate for other insect pests are also ineffective at controlling mites due to their developed resistance to this insecticide, and dimethoate further elimi-

nates the natural predators."

Bynum said predators important to managing mite infestations are western flower thrips early in the season when migrating out of wheat, and later in the season by six-spotted thrips, minute pirate bugs, predatory mites and spider mite destroyer beetles.

Another consideration is spray coverage, which is a key factor to the level of control obtained with any miticide application, he said.

"With the currently registered miticides, spray deposition into the canopy to where mite infestations are located is even more critical for effective control," Bynum said. "Research has shown that Comite, Oberon, Onager and now Zeal are effective under most situations and conditions."

This year, even when these products were mixed with crop oil but were sprayed during the heat of the day, many of the droplets may not have made it to the canopy, he said. Also, for these products to be maximally effective, they have to rely on help from natural predators.

"Fortunately, the products are very safe on predators that eat mites," Bynum said. "The predators act in concert with the miticides to 'clean up' any escapees and usually extend control for the remainder of the season. When this balance is disrupted, mite infestations are free to blow up."

Bynum outlined some management steps for producers trying to manage future mite infestations:

- If a mite infestation is developing, a preventative miticide should be considered at least two weeks prior to any pesticide application that is "harsh" on natural predators, especially when an insecticide is planned at tassel and during the grain developmental growth stages for other corn pests.


- Consider using pesticides that are softer on predators when spraying for southwestern corn borers, western bean cutworms, western corn rootworm adults, fall armyworms and other corn pests.

- Scout fields at least once a week to know the dynamics of the mite/predator populations and damage. Consider treating if mite colonies are beginning to establish on the ear leaf and mite densities - eggs, immatures, adults - and damage continues to increase.

- Spray coverage is critical. Miticide applications to corn less than 2 feet tall only protect leaf tissue the spray makes contact with. Leaves that grow after application are not protected. Encourage applicators to spray the field in the early morning before the hotter times of the day.

- Do not rely on a single mode of action. Continued use of one product year after year and for multiple applications during a year puts heavy selection pres-

**COWPOKES** ° By Ace Reid



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"You was too pessimistic when you said there'd be nothin' but Christmas bills. Here's something from the Department of Internal Revenue."

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Writer: Kay Ledbetter, 806-677-5608, skledbet@ag.tamu.edu

Contact: Dr. Ed Bynum, 806-677-5600, ebynum@ag.tamu.edu

**Texas Beef Quality Producer training set Jan. 29 in Clarendon**

CLARENDON - All beef producers are invited to attend a training session on Jan. 29 for the Texas Beef Quality Producer program to sharpen their knowledge of Beef Quality Assurance principles, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service specialist.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., with the program from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the AgriLife Extension office for Donley County, 4430 State Highway 70 North, Clarendon. A complimentary lunch sponsored by Texas Beef Council will be served.

"Beef Quality Assurance is a national effort in the beef industry that focuses on proven management practices that help ensure safety and quality of beef," said Dr. Ted McCollum, AgriLife Extension beef cattle specialist in Amarillo.

"The Texas Beef Quality Producer program is de-

veloped for cow-calf and stocker producers in Texas," McCollum said.

The program is a collaborative effort of AgriLife Extension, Texas Beef Council and Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, he said. Funding is provided by Beef Checkoff dollars from the beef council and by the cattle raisers association.

In addition to focusing on the safety of beef products, the program informs producers on current industry concerns and how producers can help with increasing demand for cattle and beef, he said.

The training will cover Beef Quality Assurance principles, industry updates, record keeping, environmental stewardship, management practices associated with genetic selection, cattle handling, culling and use of animal health products, said Leonard Haynes, AgriLife Extension agriculture agent for Donley County.

Participants should RSVP by Jan. 23 to Stacy Fox at the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association at 800-242-7820 or [sfox@texas cattleraisers.org](mailto:sfox@texas cattleraisers.org), or by contacting the AgriLife Extension office in Donley County at 806-874-2141.

*Thank You*

*Thank you everyone that sent cards for our 70th Anniversary, the 1st of December. We appreciate you and appreciate your thinking about us on our special day.*

*God Bless each and everyone, Billy and Lea Peacock*

**Obituary**

**Donald "D.B." Burnett Hurdt**

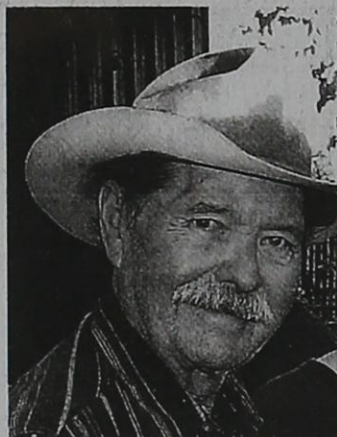
Donald "D.B." Burnett Hurdt, 76, of Dickens, Texas, passed away on December 24, 2012.

Don was born in Hobart, Oklahoma, on July 21, 1936. He graduated from Hobart High School and continued on to New Mexico Military Institute and Texas Christian University.

Don was married to Martha Annette Gass on June 14, 1955; they were married 31 years and had three children: John, Linda, and Cody.

He owned Hurdt Seeds where he created his own seed varieties; he and his dad, J.T. Hurdt, invented the Hydromist that puts moisture back into the ginned cotton prior to being pressed into a bale; and he had his own Delinting Plant for a majority of his adult life. He was also a rancher and loved the outdoors. He loved to laugh, pull pranks, and holidays (4th of July and Christmas!) What Don was best known for was his deep and faithful friendships throughout his life. All his friends are especially remembered for their love and support throughout the years.

Don is survived by Edith "Boots" Joy Wells, Johnnie (son) and Mary Sue Hurdt, Rob and Linda (daughter)



Winkler, Cody (son) and Karen Hurdt, Kim and Candy Vale, Melody Wells, Sheere and Robert Alsop, along with many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by Martha Ann Gass Hurdt Elliott, James "Johnnie or J.T." Truby Hurdt, and Ann Elliott Burnett Hurdt.

Funeral services were held on December 28 at his Ranch in Dickens, Texas. Officiating was Pastor Rob Winkler of Trinity Church, Lubbock, Texas. Viewing was held at Zapata Funeral Home December 26 and 27, 2012. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be given to Joy "Boots" Wells through Zapata Funeral Home at 602 N. Burlington, P.O. Box 326, Spur, Texas 79370 (806) 271-3333.

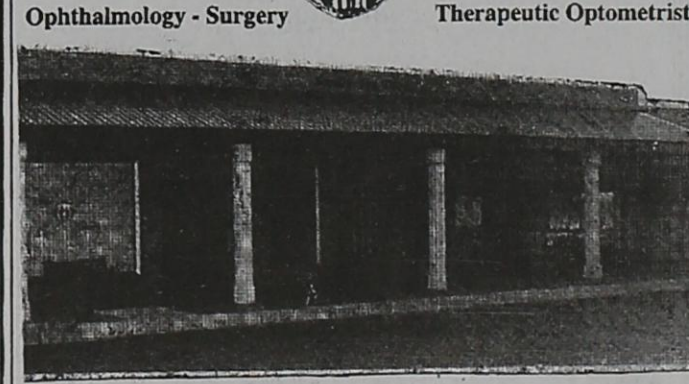
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## EVENTS CALENDAR

### January

- 1 Matador Lions
- 3 Roaring Springs Lions
- 4 AA Meeting, 7p.m. Prayer Chapel behind First Baptist Church, Matador
- 9 Hospital Bd meets in the back of the ambulance barn
- 10 Matador City Council
- 10 Matador Chapter of the Eastern Star, Floydada, Meal at 6:30pm, meeting at 7:30 pm
- 11 AA Meeting, 7p.m. Prayer Chapel behind First Baptist Church, Matador
- 14 Commissioners' Court
- 14 Roaring Springs City Council
- 14 MCISD School Board, 7:30pm
- 15 Matador Lions
- 17 Matador Masonic Lodge, 6:30 pm
- 18 AA Meeting, 7p.m. Prayer Chapel behind First Baptist Church, Matador
- 25 AA Meeting, 7p.m. Prayer Chapel behind First Baptist Church, Matador

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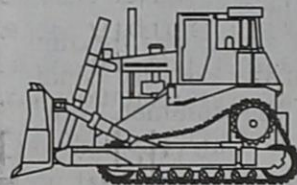
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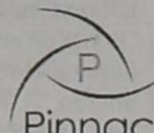
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