

MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

VOICE OF THE FOOTHILL COUNTRY

Where History is Pride

Flomot Matador Northfield Roaring Springs

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Thursday, March 31, 2011

ESTABLISHED 1891

Volume 120 Issue No. 13

RS City Council appoints new 4B Tax Board members

By Zella Palmer
Motley County Tribune

The Roaring Springs City Council met in regular session March 14, 2011, in the City Hall conference room.

Those in attendance were Mayor Corky Marshall, Alex Crowder, Council members Timmy Brooks, PK Green, and James McClesky; Water Manager Robert Osborn and City Secretary Zella Palmer.

The February 14, 2011, regular city council meeting minutes were approved. The financial re-

port was approved, and bills approved to be paid as presented.

The Economic Development Part B board members appointed to serve two years were Tina Brooks, Dana Graham, R.E. Hunter, Jeff Braselton, Suzanne Abbott, Corky Marshall, and Alex Crowder.

Alex Crowder reported he is working with his son-in-law, who is a Fire Chief, to pursue a grant for a fire truck for the city. The trucks cost \$135,000, to \$150,000. The grant would cover about 90% of the costs, with 10% to

be paid by the city. The cost to the city would be around \$15,000, depending on how much equipment is put on the truck. Council voted unanimously for Alex to explore all possibilities to get a grant for a new fire truck.

The Council voted unanimously to pay \$750.00 per year to go toward the Motley County Emergency Coordinator position.

City Secretary Zella Palmer reported three people filled out applications for the three council seats to be filled.

Matador City Council approves budget for 2011-12

Matador City Council met at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall on Thursday, March 10, 2011. Present were Councilmen Alvin Alexander, Chuck Ream, Shane Jones, and Nathan Shannon, Mayor Pat Smith, Water Superintendent Steve Barton and City Secretary Debra Scott. Absent was Kay Bailey. Also attending was Carol Campbell.

Water Superintendent Steve Barton reported he has purchased 806 feet of new transmission line to be installed between Roaring Springs and Matador. He also presented council with figures on buy-back and purchase of a track loader.

City Secretary Debra Scott informed council of the results of the new census. The population of the City of Matador has decreased to 607 and the county population has dropped to 1210.

Minutes from the January 13 and February 6, and February 10, 2011, meetings were approved by unanimous vote. Expenditures were approved

as presented by unanimous vote.

Council then discussed the use of 4B tax money for a Video Documentary of the history of Motley County to be on view at the historic jail. Carol Campbell was on hand to answer questions. Alvin Alexander made a motion to use \$5,000.00 of the 4B tax money for the project with the stipulation that the money was to be used as matching funds for grants that have been applied for to fund the video documentary, the motion was seconded by Nathan Shannon and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

In further action, the 2011-12 budgets for the Municipal Fund account was approved by unanimous vote.

Nathan Shannon made a motion to approve the 2011-12 budgets for the Hotel-Motel account, seconded by Chuck Ream, the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Alvin Alexander made the motion to approve the 2011-12 budgets for the Matador Water

District, seconded by Nathan Shannon and the motion carried 4-0.

Nathan Shannon made the motion to approve the 2011-12 budgets for the General Fund with the stipulation that money to the Library and Matador Volunteer Fire Department would be contingent on current financial statements being provided by each entity. This motion was seconded by Alvin Alexander and the motion carried 4-0.

Alvin Alexander made the motion to approve the 2011-12 budgets for the Water Works account moving the salary increases allotted to each full-time employee to the bonus line item, seconded by Chuck Ream and the motion carried 4-0.

Chuck Ream made the motion to accept sealed bids on Lots 13, 14, 15 and 16 in Block 107 at the next scheduled Council meeting on April 14. The motion was seconded by Shane Jones and the motion carried 4-0.

SPCA works hard for Motley County

By Carol Campbell
Motley County Tribune

The South Plains Community Action Center in Matador provides programs for low-income participants in Motley County to "transition out of poverty and towards self-sufficiency," Center Worker Cindy Johannes said.

Often, elderly on fixed incomes need assistance with electric and propane bills, she said. They also have a Weatherization Assistance Program that focuses on assisting low-income people - primarily the elderly, persons with disabilities, and families with young children - to reduce energy costs.

"We had 61 elderly last year that used this program; about 20 of those participants were co-pay participants that pay partially for services," she said.

This program helps participants "retrofit, repair or replace heating and cooling appliances" to reduce overall costs.

In addition to the energy assistance program, the SPCA, funded in part through a Community Services Block Grant, offers services through three components: Emergency/Crisis Intervention; Information and Referral; and Case Management services, including enrolling qualified participants in the Food Stamp program, health programs, and Medicaid.

Community Services in Motley County is a division of the South Plains Community Ac-



Pictured is Cindy Johannes, South Plains Community Action Center Worker in Matador, who helps provide programs for low-income participants in Motley County.

tion Association, Inc., serving a 13-county consortium with headquarters in Levelland, Texas.

The Center also provides medical transportation. "If it is a scheduled doctor's appointment, then we transport to Plainview and Lubbock for a small fee, usually costing \$12.00 round trip.

The rural public transportation provider, SPARTAN, is wheelchair equipped with trained and certified drivers. SPARTAN is a division of the South Plains Community Action Association.

During the fire storm in February, SPARTAN provided transportation for 19 residents at Hackberry Creek Care Center, Inc., to care centers in Paducah and Childress. For more information about the transportation services, call 1-800-462-8747, or go by the SPCA in Matador at 309 Bailey Avenue (directly east of Matador Motor and Implementation on US70).

The local contact for services, Cindy Johannes, is available by phone at 347-2881, and she works fulltime at the office on 309 Bailey Avenue.

RSCV hosts dinner

By Jennifer Lawler
Motley County Tribune

The Roaring Springs Community Volunteers hosted an appreciation dinner on March 22, 2011, for all of the fire fighters and volunteers who helped extinguish the fires that engulfed the county on February 28, 2011.

The dinner was held at the Roaring Springs Community Center and hosted more than 110 individuals from the Matador, Floydada, Lockney, Dougherty, McAdoo, and Dickens Fire Departments.

The group enjoyed a barbeque feast with all of the trimmings with an amazing dessert table of cakes, brownies, fudge, and pies.

Motley County Commissioner Russell Alexander made the welcome address, expressing his appreciation to everyone who came out to fight the fires, and everyone who showed up to the dinner.

A heartfelt "thank you" was also extended to Kevin Rainwater and Mike Porter who entertained the guests with some great country music. Some attendees even took advantage of the dance floor, like, J.N. Fletcher, Donna Kennedy and Kristi Ward.

There was a lot of talk about how heartwarming it was to say "thank you" to all of the people who helped extinguish the fires; and what a great feeling it is to live in Motley County because of how the people pull together in times of crisis.

National Observance Week Highlights Work Zone Awareness

Texas.

CHILDRESS - For many motorists, the first word that comes to mind when encountering a highway construction work zone is delay. The word that should come to mind is caution.

Each April, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) joins the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), national transportation associations and numerous other state DOTs for National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) to remember victims and to raise awareness about safety precautions for workers and motorists in work zones. This year, NWZAW will be observed April 4-8.

The TxDOT Childress/Amarillo Districts will host a NWZAW event on April 5, 2011, for 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Donley County Safety Rest Area on US 287 southbound. A mock traffic control will be set up and interested motorists will tour through the zone to get a better understanding of the area our maintenance forces work in and motorist drive through.

Work zones can be hazardous for both motorists and highway crews working to improve Texas' highways. However, TxDOT has seen a 35 percent decrease in work zone fatalities in 2009 from the previous year because of increased safety measures and public outreach efforts.

While work zone fatalities and crashes have declined significantly, there is still work to do. In 2009, 108 people were killed in highway construction and maintenance zones in

"One work zone fatality is one too many. We are continuing our efforts to educate motorists on the dangers of speed and distracted driving in work zones," said Fred Underwood, Texas Transportation Commissioner. "Each of us has the power to protect lives as we drive. We just need to put our cell phones down, stop adjusting the radio and focus on driving safely."

TxDOT maintains approximately 80,000 miles of highway with more than 1,000 construction or maintenance projects underway at any given time. With so much construction, motorists frequently encounter work zones.

In 2009, there were 3,871 distracted driver crashes in work zones, involving 7,837 vehicles. These distracted driver crashes resulted in 27 fatalities.

In 2009, 66 percent of work zone fatalities were male.

Forty-six percent of all work zone fatalities for 2009 were 35 years old or younger.

Four out of every five work zone fatalities are motorists traveling through the work zone.

One in three work zone crashes is a rear-end collision.

Of the 108 work zone fatalities in 2009, 40 were drug and alcohol-related.

Underwood said everyone should take responsibility for work zone safety, from engineers and planners to drivers and pedestrians. For more information about work zone safety or to download our newest Public Service Announcement, go to www.txdot.gov, search work zone.

Churches to Sponsor Firefighter Appreciation Night

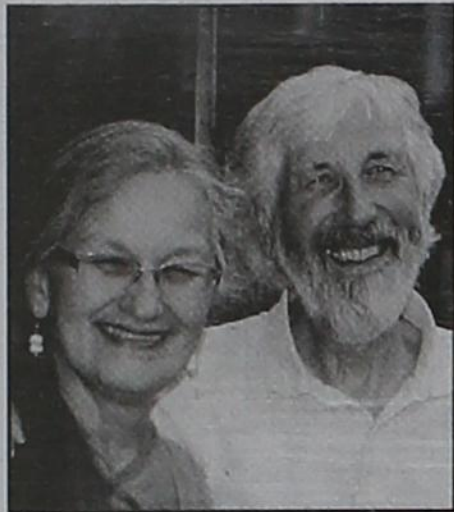
On Saturday, April 9, 2011, at the Motley County High School Cafeteria, an All-Churches Appreciation supper will honor Motley County Firefighters. The meal will be served from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m. a short appreciation speech will be made in the the multipurpose room at the South End of the school building. Donations will be accepted.

The churches will be furnishing the meat, consisting of turkey, hams, and briskets. The congregations will be furnishing all the trimmings. This effort is being chaired by the Rev. Bill Manney, First United Methodist Church, Matador. For more information, please call Bro. Manney at 347-2727 or 347-2335.

Foothill Country

Connections

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



By Larry Vogt

Air travel wasn't always jet aircraft, airport security scrutiny, and movies on board. Right after World War II, my older brother took me for my first airplane ride. He had been home from Navy service for about a month and when we saw a small plane land in a field near our house in South Dakota, he talked me into going to look at it. The plane was a small Piper Cub with overhead wings and a noisy propeller engine. Bud, my brother, arranged for us to take a ride and we climbed aboard, sitting in front, with the pilot in the back seat.

I was so excited the noise did not bother me now. As we rose off the ground I marveled at the sights of the little town and how pretty it looked from my vantage point in the small aircraft. I thought it was so

neat to see the house where we lived as I peered excitedly from the window of the airplane, the cockpit of which seemed smaller than the inside of our car. There was what appeared to be a gearshift lever on the floor of the plane that bore a great resemblance to the one in our 1928 Model A Ford. When I casually rested my hand on the gearshift lever, wanting to feel the vibration, Bud removed it right away, thinking I was going to crash the airplane, maybe.

After circling around the town a couple of times we came in for a bumpy landing and when we got out of the plane there were several people waiting to get a chance for a ride. I now got a good look at the pilot and was disappointed that he did not look at all like the actors who portrayed heroic fighter and bomber pilots in the movies. In fact, he looked kind of rough and unshaven, maybe unfriendly, as well. When we approached our house, Bud told me he was more scared in that dinky plane than he had been all through the war. Never mind, I was thrilled and couldn't wait to tell my friends and start making model airplanes and flying them all over the place.

WRITING COMMUNITY

FIRE IN TEXAS

by Norman Spray

Editor's Note:

Norman Spray, an 80-year-old native of Motley County, son of deceased Whiteflat farmers Jack and Rosa Spray, wrote this story when he was 19 years old. Set in Motley County, it is fiction. It never happened. Yet, now 61 years later, one has to wonder whether some of today's biggest social issues could be rooted in the time, place, events, people and attitudes discussed here.

Author's note: Texas is a great state. An interesting book indeed is the *Texas Almanac for 1949-1950*, compiled by the *Dallas Morning News*. The almanac says late in 1948 the Spanish-speaking population of Texas was estimated at more than a million. "No census has been made, but it is known that the demand for agricultural and unskilled industrial labor during the war and postwar period brought a flood of immigration into the state from Mexico," says the almanac.

Jose Garcia heard *los Americanos'* excited chatter before dawn. Indeed it was their blusterings that awakened him. Somehow, it made him, a graying Hispanic, nervous, expectant. Why, he could not determine.

He cleared his throat, spit up the phlegm which belled from the cold within him. He rolled it around in his mouth before ejecting it onto the dirt floor of the shoddy old garage which housed him and his family.

Jose did not feel good. His head hurt and his muscles were sore. He smiled, though, as he looked fondly upon his children: little Maria, Juan, and Enrique. They were huddled tightly together on their single pallet-bed laid out on the cold earth. He felt sorry for them. And ashamed he had provided no better for them. He wished he could have done better. Much better.

The wrinkles about his eyes deepened as Jose tried to think where he might have slipped as a father or provider. But he could not understand the complications of American economics. "The Panhandle es no bueno," he concluded simply, concerned with physical comfort. "Es too cold for *los ninos*. They should be in the Valley, where it is warm."

Shivering from the weight of the cold air, Jose forced himself onto the icy floor, shoving covers from himself but leaving them over Cicillia, his aging wife. As he laced his shoes, he saw that the fire had died in the old tub he used to heat the room.

He crossed the floor, threw open the door and stepped out to get wood to re-

build the fire. As the door swung back on its shoe-sole hinges, something new and different invaded his nostrils. Scattered splotches of white dotted the pasture and field beyond it. Frost had swept across the foothill country. Wilting, frost-bit cotton leaves sent out a pungent strangely pleasant, but hard-to-describe, aroma as potent as incense. In the distance, Jose heard the voices.

In an entirely different section, the almanac for these years says: "Texas is the nation's leading cotton-producing state. Production in 1948 was 3,200,000 bales from 736,000 acres." Cotton still is the main cash crop of Texas, it said, adding: "...an increasing proportion of the Texas cotton crop is mechanically harvested."

The gaunt-looking farmer, his two sons, one ten and one sixteen, and a neighbor were working around a new cotton puller. Exhaling breath turned into white columns of smoke as it hit the frigid West Texas air.

"Think it'll work, Pa?" Bill, the youngest son, asked. "I can stay out of school and see it, can't I Pa? I'd be lots of help."

Jack Brandon, fortyish and rather small in stature, continued pumping a grease gun. He nodded. "I bet we c'n pull as much in a day as them Mexicans can in a week," Bill chirped. "I'm glad the frost got here."

Jack pulled the grease gun from a bearing zert and blew warm breath onto his frigid knuckles. "It had better work," he said. "It's got to. If we don't get the cotton out before winter hits, we're ruined." The farmer wished he shared his son's enthusiasm. Too many crops, too many failures, too many years, had gone by. But to be young again, even for a day, he thought, but to be free of an overhanging \$15,000 debt, to romp carelessly.

"Think you'll clear your debt this year, Jack?" Woody, the close neighbor quizzed, as if reading Jack's thoughts.

"Hope so," Jack answered. "Looks good." It was no lie. He had made a good crop. But it cost so much to get it gathered. If he could cut down expenses, there might be a chance.

He wiped grease from his hands. "Let's go eat breakfast, boys," he said.

The men started for the house. "Buenos Dias," Jack said as he met Jose outside the garage door and passed on toward the moderate but clean farm house. "Muchas frio this morning."

Jose grinned. He did not catch all that "Mr. Jock" said. He thought maybe it was a joke about his language.

"This (immigration from Mexico into Texas) has taken place though the Mexican Government has refused to give Texas a quota for seasonal labor migration because of alleged discrimination by Anglo-American Texans against Mexicans. Hence a large proportion of illegal status, known as 'Wetbacks' in parlance to the border, on the assumption that they swim the Rio Grande at unguarded points." — *Texas Almanac for 1949-1950*

Jose stooped over to get mesquite wood for the tub-stove. He watched "Mr. Jock," his boys and Woody disappear into the doorway of the neat white house. He smelled ham and eggs frying in Mrs. Jock's kitchen. Sure to be better than the tortillas stuffed with beans he and his family would be eating in a few moments. Why he thought so puzzled him. Tortillas and beans had always been a staple in Mexico.

Was living in Texas changing him? *Los Americanos* had funny ways, he thought, but he felt himself thinking better and better of many of them since he had waded the Rio Grande. For instance, Christmas: *Feliz Navidad*. Never had his children seen an American Christmas and it was sure there would be no traditional Mexican *Pasada* or Yule party this year. But maybe... yes! He'd get a tree and, for the children, toys, many toys. An American Christmas.

The frost should help. It would kill the cotton leaves. That would make it possible for him to pull more cotton each day. He might even weigh in up to five hundreds pounds a day now. At two dollars for each hundred, that would be ten dollars. Of course, they had to buy groceries but he worked out a budget in his mind. He could save some. Enough for a big Christmas, sure. Maybe even a bottle of wine or tequila for Cicillia and himself. "Mr. Jock, he is good hombre," Jose told himself. "His cotton will last until Christmas."

Suddenly Christmas became his happiness. He would do one good thing for his children. He carried his armload of wood inside, built a fire in the tub and roused his family. He told them about his plans for Christmas. The children danced, delighted. Cecillia smiled. She doubted Jose's Christmas would ever come. A good man, yes, he was. But their optimistic plans never had worked out.

continued next week



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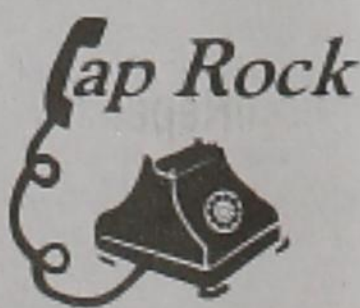
Award Winner

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Motley County Shining Stars



Fourth graders in Mrs. Alexander's class created these replicas of the Alamo for their Social Studies class. Other students have opted to create newspapers, Powerpoints, or posters to share the knowledge they gained about Texas' fight for independence. The students pictured are Alycia Silva, Kyler Degan, Cameron Stafford, Ethan Mason, and Tadley Pollard.

Hale Center Pioneer Club visits Matador

Motley County PIPS participate in 20th annual PIP Festival

By Carol Campbell
Motley County Tribune

Hotel Matador has been a destination for visitors for almost 100 years and this is one thing that has not changed in Matador - thanks to the outstanding hospitality of innkeepers and sister's Marilynn Hicks, Linda Roy, and Caron Perkins. The matriarch of this dynamic threesome is Dorothy Russell, "who keeps us all in line," Marilynn said.

Last Tuesday, March 22, 2011, a group of 16 guests enjoyed a luncheon at the historical hotel consisting of tossed green salad, tomato bisque soup, green beans and pork tenderloin on vegetable rice with the Hotel's famous bread pudding for dessert.

During lunch, the chief cook for the day, Marilynn, gave a short history on the hotel and answered questions from guests. The hotel, built in 1914, was completely renovated about three years ago, retaining as much of the original configuration as possible, Marilynn said. The original tin ceilings in the entrance living room and the barber's mirror and ceilings in the Circle Cross Heritage Suite are original to the

building.

The pine floors in the living area and dining room (with a few patches due to water deterioration) are for the most part original, she said.

Following lunch, historian Marisue Powell spoke to the group on the history of Motley County, regaling the group with early stories of the formation of Motley County. In 1891, 20 cowboys from Matador Ranch put up "bogus" store fronts in downtown Matador in order to meet the requirements for incorporation.

Then, Carol Campbell spoke to the group about the 120-year-old historic Motley County Jail and the renovation plans. The video trailer was shown to the group to introduce them to a few of the early-day sheriffs of the jail.

After shopping in the "Cupboard Under the Stairs" and selecting jewelry from local artist D'Anna Russell, the group made a stop at the Motley County Library to view the mural depicting people and events of the early days, explained in detail by Marisue Powell. This stop was followed by a stop at the Motley County Museum, and the historical jail.



Motley County PIPS participated in the 20th annual PIP Festival held on the Abilene Christian University Campus on March 18th and 19th. Several PIPs chose to travel to Abilene to participate against PIPs of the same age and skill level from around the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and New York. Motley County PIPs has been a part of this National Organization now for 5 years consecutively and many more in the past. Each PIP could choose to participate in four events and enjoy the fun activities planned during the weekend. Some of the events included the Spin contest, Two-ball dribble, Figure 8 dribble, Between leg pass, PIP Shots, PIP Lay-ups, Trio performance (a four min. routine that is judged), Walking Spider, Obstacle Speed Dribble, Backwards Dribble, and many more to choose from. All of the PIPs from Motley County placed in several events and brought home numerous metals. PIPs winners, Back Row: Mikenna Ford, 5th; Addie Guerrero, 5th; Ethan Mason, 4th; Cade Drum, 5th; Brody Rankin, 5th; and Cameron Stafford, 4th. Front Row: Alycia Silva, 4th; Andrew Stafford, 1st; Case Drum, 2nd; and Brogan Rankin (Kinder.) Not pictured: Cade Wampler, 2nd.

Koch Industries donates \$1 million for Japan relief efforts

In the wake of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, Koch Industries, Inc. has announced it will donate \$1 million for disaster relief efforts, giving \$500,000 each to the American Red Cross and The Salvation Army.

The Matador Ranch is a subsidiary of Koch Industries, Inc.

"Our hearts go out to the people of Japan as they deal with overwhelming and unfolding challenges," said Dave Robertson, president and COO of Koch Industries. "Although our presence there is small with only seventy-five employees, this is an important humanitarian effort. We hope these funds will help

the Japanese people as they set out on the path to recovery."

Koch companies with a presence in Japan include Koch Chemical Technology Group and INVISTA, with most of the employees working in or near Tokyo. "Thankfully, all our employees are safe and accounted for," Robertson added.

In addition to the \$1 million donation, Koch Industries subsidiary Georgia-Pacific LLC is contributing its bath tissue and paper towels, and Dixie® brand plates, cups and tableware, to the ongoing relief effort through organizations like Convoy of Hope and Feed The Children.

WTHA brings tour to Motley County

The West Texas Historical Association (WTHA) Annual Meeting kicks off in Lubbock on Thursday, March 31, 2011 through Saturday, April 2, 2011.

About 45 "Early Birds" have signed up for a Motley County Ranch Tour on Thursday, with stops at the Mott Creek Ranch, Matador Ranch headquarters and lodge, the old jail, and the library mural and Motley County Museum. The tour will end with a buffet at Windmill Café in Roaring Springs.

Marisue Potts Powell, Chair of the Motley County Historical Commission, is coordinating the effort to introduce guests to Motley County, with

help from the Chamber of Commerce members.

Powell will also be a featured speaker on Saturday, April 2, on "Indians and Anthropology." Other sessions during the conference highlighting this area include "Battle of Pease River and the 1860 Capture of Cynthia Ann Parker;" Farming and Ranching on "Homesteading Llano Estacado," and "Family Farming West Texas."

The sessions are being held in the American Heritage Building, located diagonally across from the Lubbock Christina University campus. Registration is ongoing until 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 2.

Texas Attorney General Abbott Statement on Ruling Upholding the Texas Open Meetings Act

PECOS—Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott released the following statement after a federal district judge ruled in favor of the State to protect transparency and openness in government by upholding the constitutionality of the Texas Open Meetings Act (TOMA):

"Today's ruling is a great victory for democracy and the First Amendment. Openness in government is a First Amendment virtue, not a First Amendment violation. This guarantees the public will continue to have access to information about how their government works."


Media links

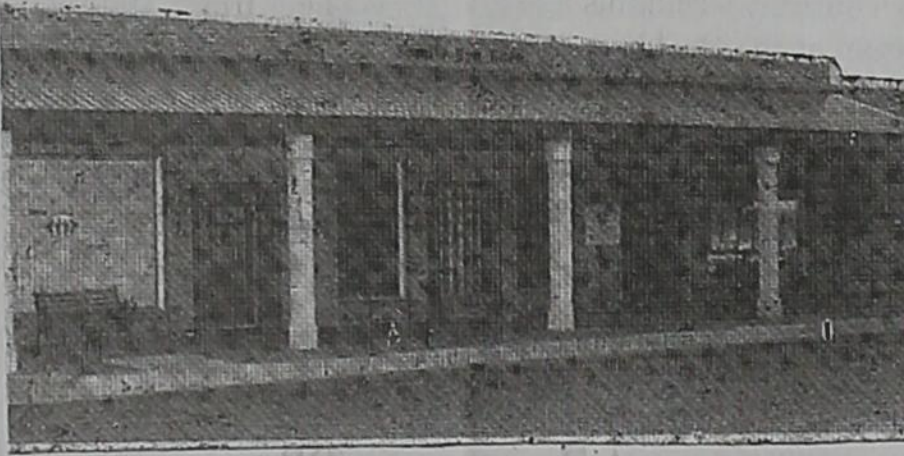
U.S. District Court Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

The ruling rejected a First Amendment challenge to the validity of TOMA's requirement that all meetings of a quorum of a governmental body to consider public issues and policy under its control must be conducted openly before the public. Specifically, the court held that TOMA only punishes members of governmental bodies when those

members hide their deliberations and decision-making from Texas citizens in closed meetings. Stating that, "TOMA neither suppresses the speakers' viewpoint nor the content of her speech," but rather "protects the compelling interest of government transparency," the court concluded that TOMA does not run afoul of the First Amendment.

Family Eye Care

Blake Avera, M. D.  Amy Bishop, O. D.
Ophthalmology - Surgery Therapeutic Optometrist



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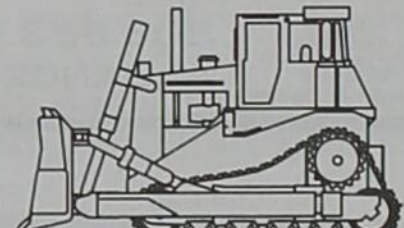
The PIP Trio of Brody Rankin (5th grade), Case Drum (2nd grade) and Cade Drum (5th grade), brought home the Gold in the PIP Trio for the first time in three years. This is a competition that is judged and performed in the Coliseum during the Festival.

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"SERVE ONE ANOTHER"



Greatness coming through service to others is almost beyond our comprehension. It just is! The very idea of serving others achieves greatness? Where did this idea come from we ask? In reading Matthew 20: 25-28 we find our Lord Jesus is the one teaching this radical concept. This part

our Lord's teaching is overlooked.

In the Scriptures we find examples that help us understand the concept of serving one another. Examples such as Abraham, Moses, Elijah, King David, Paul and especially Jesus demonstrate service. It would then appear, based on these biblical examples, that God really loves those who serve. We read words in our Bibles often to this effect, "the last shall be first and the least will be the greatest, and the one serving will be rewarded."

To be a servant of Jesus Christ is to humble ourselves and serve one another. We are to serve Christ supremely that is understood but in that service to Him we will find our opportunities to serve one another. In reading Gal. 5:13 we read, "For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." There it is. Simply stated. We serve best when we serve one another.

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

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NEWS AROUND MOTLEY COUNTY

Roaring Springs News

By Monta Marshall

On a personal note

Last Friday we had three appointments in Lubbock. We usually take something to read if we have separate appointments. Such was the case last week. Corky found a shady place to park underneath a tree. I read a while and kept hearing this bird sitting on the edge of the building in front of me. Being interested in birds even if it was a grackle, I began to watch him and then whistle back at him. That really seemed to entertain him. Maybe he thought I was one of his ilk. He would raise his wings slightly and shake and then whistle again and squawk a few times. He soon tired of the game and flew away. I guess he decided that we were not "birds of a feather" so we shouldn't visit together!

Sometimes Robins will hang around while I work in the yard very unconcerned about my being nearby. Not so with the cardinals, jays and finches.

In the community

Yesterday Jan Hancock called to let us know that Palma Smiley had died in her sleep. J.C. and Palma lived in Roaring Springs early in their married life. Palma was a very talented lady. The first time I met her was when my children were small and she was teaching in a Sunday School teacher's workshop. The little folks were her specialty. She wrote several series of material for toddlers. She could find lots of ways to hold their attention. One series used a black light which fascinated the children. A graveside service was held in

the Roaring Springs Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon, March 29, 2011. Because the Community Center was booked, a visitation time with refreshments was held after the services at the First Baptist Church fellowship hall.

Dinah Young's sisters have visited her recently. Her twin, Gingham and brother-in-law, Mark Milnes of Big Pine Key, Florida, came Sunday a week ago and stayed until Wednesday. Dinah's other sister and brother-in-law, Karen and Jerry Wienke of Lubbock joined them for the day on Tuesday.

About 125 people attended the appreciation dinner for the firemen. Generous donations were given by many to thank them for keeping us safe.

Our hearts were saddened to learn about Jake Jenkin's fatal plane crash that killed him and his mother. The Jenkins attended the Roaring Springs Church of Christ. His wife Rhonda and their three children were at church on Sunday when the crash occurred.

John Thacker visited Buzz and Tince Thacker last Thursday. They had a wonderful time together. John is now retired and had lots of time to visit.

Jeff, Pam, Buzz and Tince Thacker attended a play at the Garza Theater in Post to see a comedy, *Insane With Power*. Blair Thacker Wilson was one of the leading actresses in the play. Her role was *Mental* - a patient in an insane asylum.

Judy Woolsey was airlifted to the Covenant Hospital in Lubbock on Friday evening. She was released from the hospital on Sunday.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

Overheard

Henry Ford: "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

Flomot Homecoming Meeting

The Flomot Homecoming Association met Friday night at the Community Center in Flomot, Texas. Glen Calvert, president, conducted the business meeting. They voted to have the Tri-Annual Homecoming Saturday, July 2, 2011, at the Community Center. Others on the executive board are Seab Washington, vice president and Mrs. Connie Franks, secretary and treasurer.

The following were elected to serve as committee chairmen: Registration, Mrs. Kayla Guest; Program, Wilburn Martin; Decorations, Mrs. Carolyn Johnson; Concession stand, The Do Gooders Club; Clean Up, Joe Ike Clay. Two planned activities still pending are the Homecoming catered supper and Homecoming dance band.

Those attending were Carolyn and Arnold Johnson, Ruth and Orville Lee, Wilburn Martin, Glen Calvert, Joe Ike Clay, Billy Shannon, Josh Lee, Mesdames Connie Franks, Erma Washington, Mary Jo Calvert, and Kayla Guest.

Trip to California

Roger and Doris Vinson returned home Monday, March 21, from a 12 day vacation trip to Santa Ana and Orange, California. They were guests of Roger's aunt and uncle, Betty and Bubs Schroder. Among the tourists attractions enjoyed was the former U.S. President Ronald Reagan Library.

Mrs. B. Rogers is a patient at the Mangold Hospital in Lockney. Her son, Donnie Rogers has been with her during hospitalization.

Mrs. Mary Jo Calvert visited Thursday with Mrs. Leona Degan at the Hackberry Care Center in Matador.

Mrs. Connie Franks and mother, Mrs. Erma Washington, attended the Little

Dribblers Play Day basketball game in Matador, Saturday, March 26. They enjoyed watching Brazos Washington of Roaring Springs and Mickey Clary of Matador play in the games.

Of interest to Motley County residents, Bill Meyer of Turkey, Texas, was attacked by a rabid cow near Turkey last Tuesday. He managed to call for help on his cell phone, but not before the cow got him down and caused severe injury to his replaced hip. He is a patient at the Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock where he has undergone surgery. Several people involved with the rescue, as well as Bill, are currently receiving rabies shots.

Attending the "Feeding the Women," a ladies night out sponsored by the First Methodist Church in Quitaque Friday night were Mrs. Waydette Clay and Mrs. Kathy Shorter who led the music. Others attending from Flomot were Mesdames Anna Beth Clay, Dianne Washington, Suzie Shannon, Linda Kendall and Melissa Kendall.

Joey and Brenda Lee of Clarendon were guests Sunday of his parents, Ruth and Orville Lee.

Nada Starkey was in Lockney, Thursday for a medical check up. She and husband, Jack Starkey were in Amarillo Monday and again Wednesday for medical appointments. They visited Sunday with Mrs. B. Rogers, a patient at Mangold Hospital in Lockney.

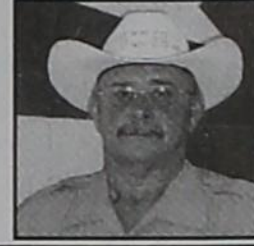
Natalie Rogers met her sister, Brooke Rogers of Austin in Fort Worth on Friday. They enjoyed entertainment and celebrated the 21st birthday of Brooke. They returned to their respective homes Monday.

Mary Jones and grandchildren, Ashleigh and John Jones spent spring break with John and Jana Thacker of Abilene. They went from Abilene to the Thacker's house on Lake Brownwood, and were joined there by the Thacker's daughters and grandchildren. They returned home on Friday.

Matador News

Deanie Edwards visited last weekend in Dalhart with Stephen, Lori and Haley Davis. She met Lori and Haley and Nadyne Lynn at Applebee's for lunch and then took Haley for some shopping while Lori had an eye appointment. They later met Stephen in the Mall. Stephen cooked some

delicious steaks on Saturday night and they enjoyed watching the beautiful full moon. Deanie returned to Matador early Sunday morning. She took Tom to his eye surgery appointment early Monday morning. He had a lens replaced. Doing very well.



Sheriff's Desk by Chris Spence

I would like to announce the promotion of Motley County Deputy Sheriff Chad Ware to Chief Deputy. Chief Deputy Ware will help me with grants and the daily operations of the Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff's Office traded in the Chevy Impala on a 2009 Dodge Charger and sold the truck to a precinct road crew. This will save the citizens money in upkeep on two vehicles instead of three; and also save money on maintenance and insurance. The Department has applied for two grants including updated equipment for a new computer system for electronic filing; and a grant for a Remote Monitoring System that automatically files classified paperwork to the state. The grants are pending, and we will keep you informed if we receive the grants.

The Sheriff's Office has been noticing that citizens are not using safety belts, and children are not properly latched in safety belts. The state has a program: "Click It or Ticket" and this office will be joining

the state in enforcing this program.

Also with the warm weather, people will be riding four-wheelers and golf carts. These vehicles are not allowed on the streets, and can only be driven in designated areas.

To the citizens of Northfield: If you see a female Pit Bull dog with a red nose, white chest, and white socks, please contact the Sheriff's Office. A citizen was coming from Childress to Idalou and had the dog in back of his truck. They think it jumped out of the truck in your area.

We have a lot of scrap metal being moved in this area because the prices are at an all-time high. If you see anything suspicious, please call the Sheriff's Office. We are here 24/7 for the citizens of Motley County.

The Sheriff's Office has new telephones, and the numbers we were using were switched to the new phones. Chief Deputy Ware's cell number is 806-269-3588, the Sheriff's cell number is 806-269-3577 and the Sheriff's office number is 806-347-2234.

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This Week's Local Forecast

Thursday Mostly Sunny 71/40	Friday Sunny 77/46	Saturday Sunny 85/52	Sunday Mostly Sunny 84/55	Monday Mostly Sunny 86/56	Tuesday Partly Cloudy 81/55	Wednesday Mostly Cloudy 78/51

Weather Trivia Which month averages the most tornadoes per year? **Answer:** May, with an average of 143 tornadoes each year.

Weather History **March 31, 1973** - A devastating tornado took a nearly continuous 75-mile path through north central Georgia, causing more than 113 million dollars in damage, the highest total of record for a natural disaster in the state.

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CORRECTION
 In last weeks paper Dale and Joetta Bumgardner thanked all the people on the ambulance who took care of Dale on his transport to the hospital, and Seven Alexander's name should have been on that list of people to thank. Dale will go on Monday to the doctor to see if he will get stints or have to have a bypass surgery.

Barbara Bogart, from Caprock Telephone, will conduct Internet, Search Engines and E-mail basics class in the library annex on Tue., April 12 at 2:00 p.m. On Thu., April 14 at 2:00 p.m. she will focus on Internet Security and Facebook. You're welcome to bring your own laptops to both classes.

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Notes from the Library

By Mary Ann Potts

We have a wide selection of new books to choose from this week. For our sentimentalists and romantics there's Jodi Picoult's *Sing You Home*, a story about identity, love, marriage and parenthood. And if you like tragedy, then Kristin Hannah can help you out with *Night Road*. But, watch out, this is an emotionally charged novel that captures the exquisite pain of loss and the stunning power of hope!

For our mystery thrill-seekers we have several books for your perusal. We'll start with Suzanne Brockmann's *Breaking the Rules* where family, no matter how unconventional, is your most precious possession. *Live Wire* by Harlan Coben is an electric, stay-up-all-night thriller that unfolds at lightning speed. *Love You More* by Lisa Gardner will send chills

up your spine, that no sacrifice is too great for a mother. And then there's James Patterson's tale of *Toys*. The kind of toys is the mystery. Lastly, *Pacific Glory* by Peter T. Deutermann is an old-fashioned military adventure keeping you mesmerized until the very end.

Just a reminder, we will have our Annual Library Cleaning on Mon., April 4 at 9:00 a.m. and all *Friends of the Library* are welcome and encouraged to come and help clean.

Also, Barbara Bogart, from Caprock Telephone, will conduct Internet, Search Engines and E-mail basics class in the library annex on Tue., April 12 at 2:00 p.m. On Thu., April 14 at 2:00 p.m. she will focus on Internet Security and Facebook. You're welcome to bring your own laptops to both classes.

County Agent's News

by Ryan Martin, Agri LIFE EXTENSION Agent



Busting feral hog myths

Like the critters themselves, myths abound about feral hogs

By: Robert Burns

According to a recent study, about 134 million acres, or 79 percent of the state total of 170 million acres, is feral hog habitat. (Texas AgriLife Extension Service graphic courtesy of the Texas A&M University Institute for Renewable Natural Resources)

OVERTON — Until recently, if anyone tried to tell you how many feral hogs there are in Texas, they were just blowing smoke, according to a Texas AgriLife Extension Service wildlife biologist.

"When it comes to feral hogs in Texas, separating fact from fiction is becoming a little easier as research reveals more about the pesky porcines," said Dr. Billy Higginbotham, AgriLife Extension wildlife specialist. "There remains much we don't know about this exotic that has inhabited our state for the past 450 years."

Highest ranking among the myths are estimates of the actual number of feral hogs in Texas, Higginbotham said. A common number that has been bantered about for years is 1 to 4 million. But there was just no data to support this estimate.

That is, there wasn't until Dr. Roel Lopez, associate director of the Texas A&M University Institute for Renewable Natural Resources, recently used geographic information system procedures to turn the guesstimates into reliable estimates, said Higginbotham, who collaborated with Lopez on the study.

The term "geographic information systems," usually simply called GIS, refers to a procedure that involves diverse data gathering means, from on-the-ground GPS referenced data to satellite to historical records, and organizes it geographically.

"A simpler way to put it is that it's just an electronic map," Lopez said.

Using GIS techniques, Lopez was able to quantify first the extent of the feral hog habitat in Texas. He estimates that "approximately 134 million acres, or 79 percent of the state's 170 million acres, represents feral hog habitat," said Higginbotham.

By knowing the range of feral hog habitat and the species population density in various types

of Texas environments, Lopez also came up with a population estimate that has some meat to it, Higginbotham said. Lopez estimates that the actual number could range from a low of 1.9 million to a high of 3.4 million.

Exaggerated claims of feral hog population-growth rates are a related myth. Many of the population guesstimates are based on a purely arbitrary number of hogs in Texas being set at 1 million in the 1970s. This number, which also had no research basis, is then often extrapolated on using another bit of misinformation: That because of feral hogs' high birth rates, their population is doubling every year.

So what are the facts? A 2011 consolidation of past studies done by his graduate student, Janell Mellish, the average litter size in Texas and the Southeast is 5.6 pigs, Lopez said.

It is also known, that on average, a sow is about 13 months old when she has her first litter, and that also on average, mature sows have 1.5 litters per year. This means there is a significant population growth rate, but a far cry from the doubling-yearly myth, Lopez said.

"We estimated the population growth of feral hogs in Texas averages between 18 percent to 20 percent annually," Lopez said. "This means that it would take almost five years for a population to double in size if left unchecked."

The study, which was conducted by Lopez and Mellish, used three methods to estimate feral pig population growth in Texas: the statewide number of aerial permits issued for shooting feral hogs; the number of pigs processed in commercial processing facilities; and feral hog control data made available from U.S. Department of Agriculture-Wildlife Services.

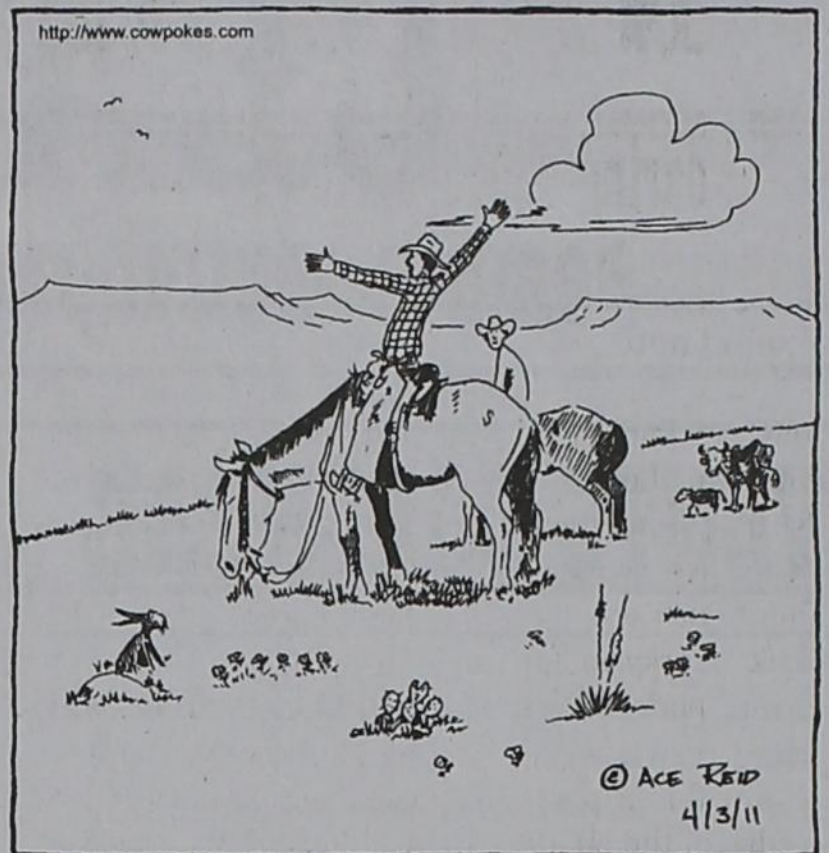
A common myth is that it's possible to identify the breed of a given feral hog by its color and markings. "Hogwash," said a Texas AgriLife Extension Service wildlife specialist. (Texas AgriLife Extension Service photo by Dr. Billy Higginbotham)

Another common myth is that recreational hunting alone can control feral hog populations, Higginbotham said.

"Of the dozen studies conducted across the nation, hunting removes between 8 percent and 50 percent of a population, with an average of 24 percent across all studies," he said. "In order to hold a population stable with no growth, 60 to 70 percent of a fe-

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By Ace Reid



"April is the month when green returns to the pasture, loco weed and the IRS!"

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Obituaries

Gwendolyn Wilkinson Randel

Gwendolyn Wilkinson Randel, 79, passed away Wednesday, March 16, 2011, in Fort Worth.

A memorial was held Monday, March 21, 2011, at Acton United Methodist Church with graveside services at Acton Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Wiley Funeral Home Funeral Home.

Mrs. Randel was born September 7, 1931, in Whiteflat, Texas, to Robert and Pearl Nigh Wilkinson. She married Sherman Lloyd Randel, August 3, 1956, in Lubbock. She was a graduate of Texas Tech University. She was a big Texas Rangers fan and loved her children and grandchildren. Mrs. Randel was a member of Acton United Methodist Church. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, Levi Wilkinson, and sisters, Corrine Schmidt, Rita Fox, Janice Ross and Wilda Grace



Wilkinson.

Survivors include her husband, Lloyd Randel of DeCordova; son, Neil Randel and wife, Paige, of Fort Worth; daughter, Alison Lovett of Fort Worth; grandchildren, Nathan Randel and wife, Liana, Brittany Randel, Lexi Lovett, Jacob Lovett, and Zachary Lovett; and great grandchildren, McKenzie and Lyla; niece Jan Whitener of Arlington, Va.; and nephew, Barry Fox of Bradenton, Fla.

Raymond "Ray" G. Rice

Memorial services for Raymond "Ray" G. Rice, 82, of Matador, Texas, was held Monday, March 28, 2011, at the First United Methodist Church or Matador, Texas, with Pastor Bill Manney officiating. Cremation was under the direction of Shannon Funeral Home of Matador. Ray passed away March 25, 2011.

He was born on July 13, 1928, in Ware, Massachusetts, to Stanley and Mildred Gascou Rice. Ray married Patty Mae Papenhausen on October 21, 1949. From this union they had three children Neal, Gail, and Jill. Ray was in the Navy for 20 years. He was a Sr. chief electrician.

Ray and Patty moved to

Matador, Texas, in 2004. She preceded him in death in 2006. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Roaring Springs, Texas, the American Veterans, and the Fleet Reserve Association. He enjoyed playing dominoes at the Senior Citizens in Matador.

Ray is survived by his children: Neal Rice of Melvin, Iowa, Gail Ream and husband Chuck of Matador, Texas, and Jill Schnepf and husband Pat of Vernon, Texas.

His sisters, Doris Ford and husband Art of Victorville, Ca., Barbara Hanson and husband Stan of North Brookfield, Mass., Alice and Cecilia.

Charles L. Renfro "Charlie"

Graveside services for Charles L. Renfro "Charlie" were held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 28, 2011, at East Mound Cemetery under the direction of Shannon Funeral Home of Matador. Officiating will be Johnny Morris.

Charlie was born March 9, 1938, in Motley County to James H. "Red" Renfro and Zola Mae Clifton Renfro. He married Mary Newman on June 1, 1963, in Matador. He was a lifelong resident of Matador where he farmed, worked as a mechanic for Matador Motor and Implement, served on the school board, and was a member of

the First Baptist Church. Charlie is survived by his wife, Mary Renfro; one son, Andy Renfro; two daughters, Brenda Osborn and husband Billy, and Dena Zarate and husband Joe.

Eight grandchildren, Samantha Jameson and husband Jason, Sabrina Osborn, Lexi Osborn, Tasha Zarate, Carissa Zarate, Jolyn Zarate, Shelton Zarate, and Gage Renfro; two great-grandchildren, Trace Osborn and Chloe Basquez; and two nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents James and Zola Renfro and one brother Butch Renfro.

Obituary

Palma Smiley

Graveside services for Palma Luedene Smiley, 78, of Crosbyton, formerly of Lubbock, will be held at 2:00 PM Tuesday, March 29, 2011 at the Roaring Springs Cemetery with Tony Compton officiating. Burial is under direction of Adams Funeral Home of Crosbyton.

Palma passed away Sunday, March 27, 2011 in Lubbock. She was born June 19, 1932 in Matador to the late Joe and Jessie Lee (Archer) Lancaster.

She married J. C. (Jay) Smiley in Roaring Springs. He preceded her in death April 29, 2006.

She has devoted a lifetime to serving the educational needs of children. In addition to her professional pursuits, she has been a Sunday School teacher, Church Curriculum Director and volunteer in the Lubbock ISD. Palma has been publishing educational materials since 1963. She was an honors graduate of West Texas College in Canyon in Education/Speech and Drama. A certified Montessori Directress, Palma had a career teaching in the public schools and formed Early Child-



hood Curriculum Publishers in 1978. A graduate of several professional institutes involving early childhood education and development, Palma has also produced a preschool television show and numerous videos.

She was a member of Southside Church of Christ in Lubbock and moved to Crosbyton in 2009 from Lubbock.

She is survived by one daughter and her husband, Debby and Mike Ausmus of Ralls.

Visitation will be held from 5-6 PM Monday, March 28, 2011 at Adams Funeral Home in Crosbyton.



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EVENTS CALENDAR

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- April**
- 2 Men's breakfast, Methodist church in Matador. 7:00 a.m.
 - 4 Library Clean-Up Day. 9:00 am. Bring Swiffer wands if you have one.
 - 5 Matador Lions
 - 6 Kids Praise
 - 7 Roaring Springs Lions
 - 7 HS Track at Aspermont, District Meet
 - 8 Jr High Track at Silverton, District Meet
 - 9 All-Churches Appreciation supper will honor Motley County Firefighters. Motley County High School Cafeteria. The meal will be served from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Donations will be accepted.
 - 11 Commissioners' Court
 - 11 Roaring Springs City Council 2nd Mon
 - 11 HCCC Board
 - 12 Internet, Search Engines and E-mail basics class in the library annex, 2:00 p.m.
 - 13 HS Track at Abernathy, area meet
 - 13 Hospital Board meets in the back of the EMS, 7am
 - 14 Internet Security and Facebook, class in the library annex, 2:00 p.m.
 - 14 Matador City Council
 - 14 Matador Chapter of the Eastern Star, Floydada, Meal at 6:30pm, meeting at 7:30 pm
 - 18 MCISD School Board, 7:30 pm
 - 19 Matador Lions
 - 21 Matador Masonic Lodge, 6:30 pm

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 Rosemary Webb, Lubbock
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 Lonnie Harmon, Hedley
 D Schweitzer, Floydada
 Barry Hale, Dougherty
 Sandy Lewis, Dickens
 G Russell, Hale Center
 Dale Nance, Barksdale
 Ronald Richards, Wimberly
 Viola Keith, Georgetown
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 Charise Christian, Denton
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Meeting to discuss the use of 4 B tax money to provide matching grant funds of \$5000 to the Friends of the Historic Motley County Jail for a grant to produce a Video Documentary of the history of Motley County.

The Matador 4 B Tax Board will hold a public meeting at 5:00 p.m. on April 14, 2011, at City Hall, City of Matador, 706 Dundee.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the allocation of 4 B sales tax money to the Friends of the Historic Motley County Jail.

Debra Scott
 Secretary 4 B Tax Board

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