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Motley County Tribune

TEXAS PRESS
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"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"

50¢

ESTABLISHED 1891

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2001

ISSUE NO. 50



Christmas scene

This touching Nativity scene is on display on the grounds of the First United Methodist Church in Matador. It is only one of the many beautiful Christmas decorations displayed around town in business windows and at homes.

Commissioners set 2002 courthouse holiday calendar

Motley County Commissioners set holidays for the year of 2002 when they met for regular session Monday, December 10. Courthouse holidays were set as follows:
New Year's Eve, December 31;
and New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 2002.
President's Day, Feb. 18, (Monday).
Good Friday, March 29, (Friday).
Memorial Day, May 27, (Monday).
Independence Day, July 4,

(Thursday).
First Day of Old Settlers, Aug. 22, (Thursday).
Labor Day, Sept. 2, (Monday).
Thanksgiving, Nov. 28 and 29, (Thursday & Friday).
Christmas, Dec. 24 & 25, (Tuesday & Wednesday).
Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Bills were reviewed and paid. Reports were heard from the County Treasurer, County

Agent, Tax-Assessor/Collector, Justice of the Peace, and the Motley County Library.
A request from FSA Committee for an increase of limitation of CRP land, from 25% to 30% was approved. Attending this session of Court were Judge Ed D. Smith, Commissioners Ronald Davis, Donnie Turner, Franklin Jameson, J.N. Fletcher, and County Clerk, Lucretia Campbell.

Eight candidates file for March Primary Election

Eight residents have officially thrown their hat into the ring for the March 12, 2002 Primary Election. Filing for Motley County Judge are Ed D. Smith, who was recently appointed Judge, after the resignation of Laverna Price, and Gale Stafford. Both men are subject to the Republican ticket.

Two candidates have filed for the position of Motley County Commissioner Precinct 4, Incumbent J.N. Fletcher, and Russell Alexander, both of Roaring Springs. Commissioner, Precinct 2, Donnie Turner, has filed for re-election for that position. Cora Smallwood has filed for re-

election as County Justice of the Peace. Eva Barkley of Matador has filed for the position of Motley County Treasurer. Kate Hurt of Matador has filed for County and District Clerk. Kate has worked in the Clerk's office for the past several years. Candidates may file until January 2, 2002.

Craig Estes sworn in as Senator Ratliff announces committee appointments

Austin -- Lieutenant Governor Bill Ratliff announced Monday changes in Senate committee appointments following the swearing-in of Sen. Craig Estes of Wichita Falls. Estes recently won a special election to complete the term of the late Sen. Tom Haywood in Senate District 30.

Ratliff also added Estes to the Senate Agriculture Policy Board and announced he also has named Sen. Eddie Lucio of Brownsville to serve on the board. In other moves, Ratliff appointed Sen. Todd Staples of Palestine to fill

Haywood's seat on the Senate Finance Committee after his resignation from the Senate Intergovernmental Relations Committee. Estes was sworn into office in the Senate Chamber of the State Capitol on Monday by Governor Rick Perry.

Matador First Baptist Church to present Christmas Cantata Sunday

The Matador First Baptist Church choir will present their annual Christmas Cantata, Sunday, December 16, at 11:00 a.m. The cantata, "Welcome To Our World," is a musical selection of songs welcoming Jesus into our lives.

There will be no nursery for the morning service, but children are welcome to attend.

A potluck lunch will be served after the services. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Gramm to honor local efforts to curb drunk driving

Matt Schaefer, regional director for Senator Phil Gramm will meet with local law enforcement officials in Motley County on Thursday, December 13, to honor them for their efforts in reducing drunk driving in the community. Schaefer will present a certificate from Gramm in appreciation of their work.

"The holidays should be a time for families, not tragedies," Gramm said. "Drunk driving takes the lives not only of those doing the drinking, but also those of thousands of innocent people each year, and the societal costs are staggering."

"Thanks to the hard work of these law enforcement officers who are working every day to keep our streets safe, we're stopping those who break the law, but more importantly, we're getting the message out: Don't drink and drive," Gramm said.

In the last year, Texas raised the bar on drunken driving, reducing the blood alcohol content at which someone is legally drunk to .08. The federal government awarded funds to the state to help enforce the law.

"I am proud of the men and women who are working hard to enforce these new laws, because they're making the streets safer for all of us," Gramm said. "I urge all Texans to join me in thanking these officers, who do so much for so many."

Mr. Schaefer will be at the Motley County Sheriff's office, at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, December 13.

MC Students will present Christmas program Thursday

The students of Motley County ISD Elementary and High School will present a special Christmas program Thursday, December 13 (tonight), in the gymnasium, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The Elementary students, P-K through 6th grade will present a variety of Christmas songs. High School students will present a Character Education activity, and High School Theater Arts classes will present Christmas plays, including "Of Course There Are Fairies" and "A Christmas Joke."

Refreshments will be served in the cafeteria immediately following the program. Everyone is invited to attend.

Roaring Springs Methodist Church to hold Christmas Eve Service

The Roaring Springs First United Methodist Church will hold a special Candlelight Service, Christmas Eve, December 24, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone from all denominations is welcome to attend.

AROUND THE COUNTY

News briefs of area events

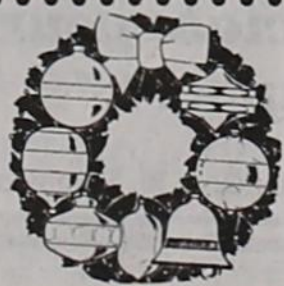
School to dismiss for Christmas holidays

Due to semester test schedules, all students in Motley County schools will be dismissed at 3:20 p.m. on Tuesday, December 18th and 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 19th. Busses will run at that time. Additionally, school will dismiss at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 20th, 2001, for the Christmas holidays; busses will run at 1:30 p.m.

Please make arrangements to pick up your children at these earlier times.

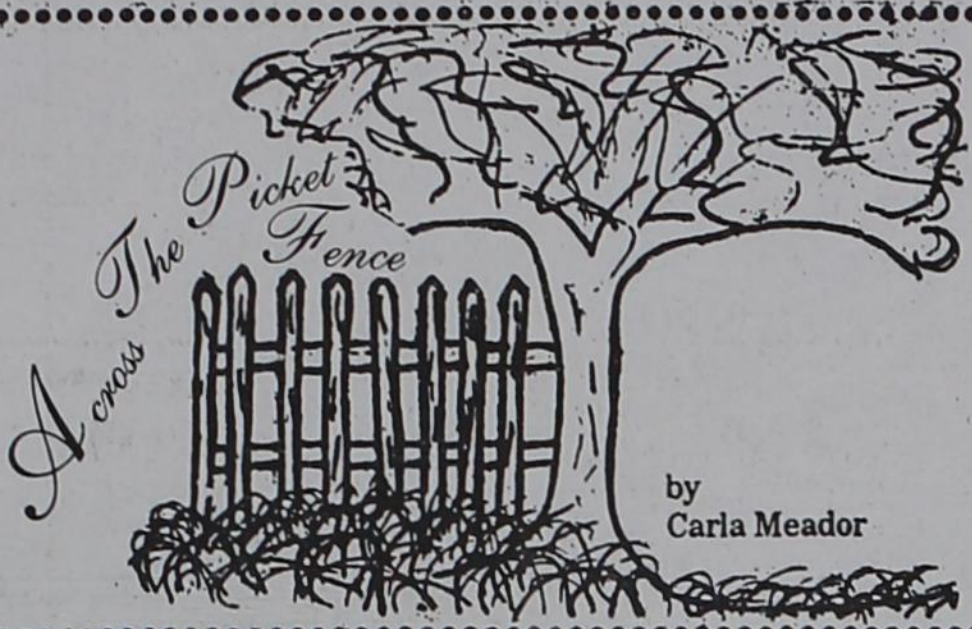
Teachers will have a workday on Friday, December 21. Because of UIL regulations, the gym will be closed December 22 through December 26. No one will be allowed into the gym on those days. Classes will resume at the regular time on Wednesday, January 2, 2002. The administration and staff at Motley County Schools wish all of you a Happy and Safe Holiday.

Only 12 days
'til Christmas!



Fire Destroys Home

The home of the Kenneth McDonald family, in east Matador, was completely destroyed by fire Sunday, December 9. Motley County emergency crews received a 9-1-1 call reporting the fire at approximately 10:30 a.m. Motley County EMS, Fire Department and Sheriff's Department responded to the call. A woman was transported to Crosbyton Clinic Hospital by Motley County ambulance, where she was airlifted to a hospital in Lubbock. The family, which includes two small children, lost most of their belongings in the fire. The Matador Fire Department was able to extinguish the fire, but the home was declared a total loss.



I love reading Christmas stories and poems. I thought this was a good one and wanted to share it with you. Hope you enjoy it.

The True Meaning of Christmas
by Marjorie Ainsborough Decker
Christian Mother Goose Rock-A-Bye Christmas

"What is the meaning of Christmas?"
A teacher asked his class,
In a small schoolhouse in the country,
Nestled down in cornstalks and grass.

As quick as a wink, little Raymond
Said, "Feasting with family and friends."
Dorothy raised her hand to say,
"But Santa Claus comes at the end."

Then Emery stood up to answer,
With his shoulders true and straight,
"The meaning of Christmas is Christ;
It's His birthday we celebrate."

The teacher looked at his students;
Two out of three didn't know
The meaning of Christmas is Jesus.
The Savior Who loves them all so.
Right here, the teacher decided
He'd take Bibles across the land.
So that the true meaning of Christmas,
Little children would understand.

Then, true to his promise and calling,
He set off to fill the great need
Of planting Bibles everywhere,
Like old Johnny Appleseed.

Today, you can't count all the children
Who learned from the Bible story
The lovely true meaning of Christmas —
Jesus Christ, The Lord of glory.



**A Merry Christmas party at
Do Gooders' club meeting**

The Do Gooders' Club of Flomot had a Merry Christmas party Tuesday afternoon, December 4 at the Community Center.

A surprising entrance of Ho! Ho! Ho! at the Center by hostesses, Mrs. Waydette Clay as Santa Claus and her two helpers dressed in red, Mrs. Leona Degan and Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse had a cheerful welcome. The sack Mr. Claus had over his shoulder was filled with letters he said were anthrax free as club members had written them. He proceeded to read their amusing requests that included Barbie dolls that were not overweight or old, did not have fallen arches, flat feet, back trouble and etc. One letter warned if she didn't get what she wanted, she would leave cookies with ExLax rather than chocolate chips for him.

They concluded the program with the spiritual memory of the first Christmas when Mrs. Clay related the Biblical story of "Christ's Birth." Mrs. Cruse recited the poem, "A Prayer for Peace."

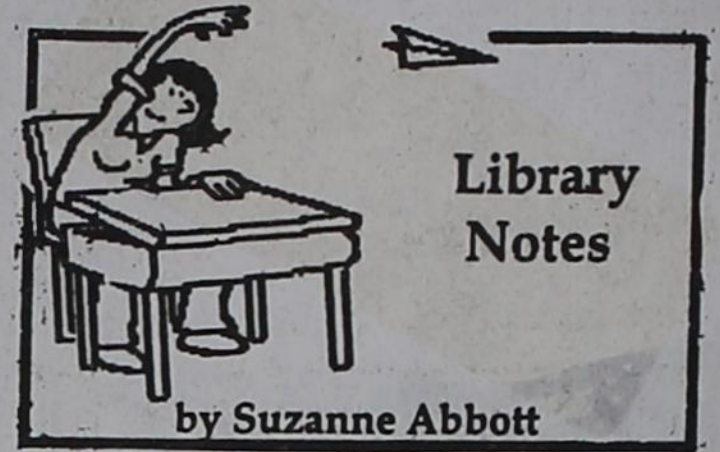
A colorful decorated tabletop Christmas tree was surrounded by gifts that were circulated around by

members in a fun filled Chinese Swap. They had a raffle for a Christmas towel that Mrs. Degan won and Mrs. B. Rogers was the lucky winner of a milk glass jar of butter toffee with reindeer art work on the sides.

The hostesses presided at a crystal punch service. The table was laid with a red cloth and centered with a cowboy Christmas decor and a pointsettia arrangement. Refreshments of assorted dips and chips, cookie bars, candy, nuts, citrus punch with floating lemon rings and cherries, coffee and spiced tea were served.

Mrs. Suzie Shannon had a short business session. Members voted to have a clean up day at the Community Center and not to quilt anymore this year. They sent a card to Mrs. Barbara Payne who had recent surgery.

Members attending the annual event were Mesdames Edith Washington, Mary Jo Calvert, Tommie Jo Cruse, Alma Shorter, Connie Franks, B. Rogers, Leona Degan, Suzie Shannon, Anna Beth Clay, Erna Washington, Kathy Sorter, Waydette Clay, Geneva Martin, Trula Martin and Nada Starkey.



New books in the library include Barbara Delinsky's *Woman Betrayed* and Mary Higgins Clark's *He Sees You When You're Sleeping*. A new paperback is Nora Roberts' *Heaven and Earth*.

A first novel by Morag Prunty called *Wild Cats & Colleens*, is based on this classified ad: "Irish-American billionaire seeks bright, beautiful independent, but, above all, Irish wife. Pleased send photo and three-hundred word essay about yourself to PO Box NY 14786. Looking for genuine

love. No time-wasting money-grabbing please. The billionaire narrows the field down to three Irish women and he goes to Ireland to choose his "Wild Cat and/or Colleen."

Also new to the library is Jonathan Kellerman's newest Alex Delaware novel, *Flesh and Blood*. We also have James Patterson's *Violets are Blue*. Bill Crider writes detective stories set in Texas with Sheriff Dan Rhodes as the main character. His newest, *A Romantic Way to Die*, is now at the Motley County Library.



by Penny Pipkin

**News from
the Lions**

The December 18th Lions Club meeting will be busy sorting and boxing holiday food donations from the Motley County Independent School district students. Each year our local Lions distribute these food boxes to those who can use a helping hand during the holiday season.

The Lions would like to thank

Seven Alexander for presenting a program on the newly expanded EMS services offered by Motley County. The two trained paramedics are on 24-hour duties and can offer additional skilled services on our ambulances. She urged anyone needing emergency care not to hesitate calling 9-1-1. Many thanks, Seven.

A NOTE OF THANKS

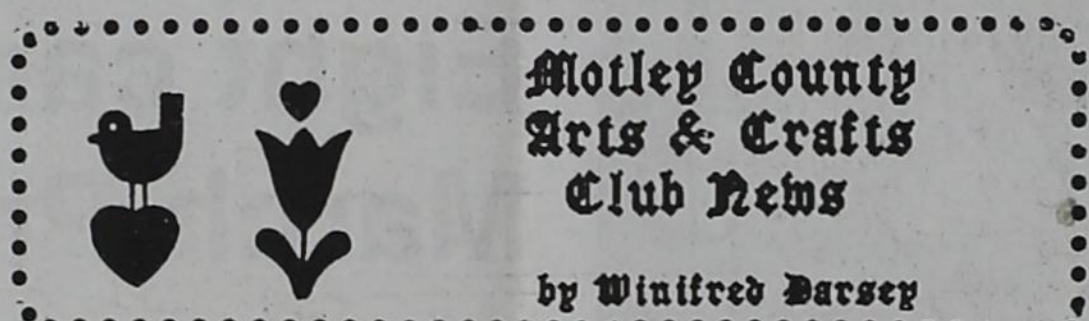
We would like to thank everyone who helped Electra Irwin in any way in the years that she has lived in Motley County. A special thanks to Don and Pat Warren, to the Church of Christ and the ladies who prepared the lunch, and to Bro. Crowley for the nice service.

The Irwin and Morrow families

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to those who helped make my birthday special. Thank you to those who came by for a visit, sent food, cards and gifts. May God bless you.

Lula Swim

*Jesus is the reason
for the season!*



The members of the Motley County Arts and Crafts Club have the Spirit of Christmas early this season. The Christmas Bazaar was a stunning success, and the Christmas party was a gala affair.

The Christmas party was held at the home of Nova Dell Turner. It was lovely to see, a beautiful Christmas tree adorned the east window, with white ornaments, red satin balls, and other traditional ornaments. The mantel was decorated with Christmas bells, green garland, and denim stockings hanging ready for Santa. The house was beautifully decorated throughout, with a ceramic snowman and miniature trees with red berries and a burlap stand. These trees were used to center the table covered with a red cloth.

The food was very delicious with the traditional menu of Turkey, dressing, pies, cakes and all the other goodies. It would have put any famous French chef to shame because it could not have been surpassed.

One of the highlights of the party was the contest of the decorated brown shopping (grocery) bags. There was much rivalry and fun. The bags were unbelievable. Mrs. Donaldal Letkeman won first place,

with a bag covered with white paper and scenes were drawn on it with black pin - one outstanding scene was of Canadian plans and flowers. It had bulrushes on it - we call them cat tails!

Betty Henry won second with a lace trimmed sack covered with blue paper displaying a picture outlined. It was attractive and beautiful.

Mrs. Betty Simpson won third. She had a lighted green Christmas tree, on a green sack, that had blinking lights with colored ornaments. It was amazing to see, very unique and lovely.

Linda Ruhl was fourth. It was a lovely scene of blue background, a country village in winter time. A lovely angel pin made of pearls. All sacks were objects of lovely art and ingenuity.

Members present were Joy Archer, Sharon Allen, Lana Copp, Grace Garrison, Lorene Lancaster, Donaldal Letkeman, Nan Lumpkins, Betty Henry, Vee Gordon, Geraldine Key, Billie Koon, Dorothy Knight, Joyce Meredith, Nova Dell Turner, Katheryn Russell, Betty Simpson and Winifred Darsey.

The January meeting will be held at the Senior Center on the 7th.

**You are invited to attend a
Birthday Party
honoring**

**Nadine Cooper
for her 90th birthday**

**Sunday, December 16
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
at the home of
Doc & Mary Helen Cross
1301 Amarillo St.
Plainview**

No Gifts Please

There is Something for You to Do

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." — I Corinthians 15:58.

The church is a marvelous institution. It is "for the people." It is the people. The Lord adds the saved to the church - Acts 2:47. That is people just like me and you. And in the church He tells us to bear fruit - Romans 7:4; John 15: 1-8. In His church, there is something for everyone to do. The following was lifted from *The Voice of Truth International*, author unknown.

THE GIFT THAT I'VE GOT

In the church today, this is my task
For the members like me to take time to ask,
In the work of the Lord, what can I do?
And be Christian enough to carry it through
Never complaining that others don't teach
Or try with me, some soul to reach,
But use for the Master the gift that I've got
Even though I may not be given a lot.
Like a picture puzzle, I'm but one small part
If I'll find my place and then just start
To fill that place the best that I can
And Show Christianity to my fellowman
The church today will continue to grow
The limits of which we'll never know,
So let us unite our vision and dreams;
Christianity is not as hard as it seems.
In the church today, we each have our call,
There's none of us that can do it all,
So let's each develop the gift we were given
And all work together on our way to heaven.

Makes sense to me -- how about you??

Roaring Springs Church of Christ

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

Radio Programs, K-96FM

Bible Study - 10 am

Worship - 9 am

Happy Holidays

**Re-Elect
Cora M. Smallwood**

**for
JUSTICE OF
THE PEACE
Motley County**

**Democratic Primary,
March 12, 2002**

**"I would appreciate your
continued support."**

Political Advertisement paid for by Cora M. Smallwood

**20% - 40% off
all clothing!**

*Beautiful selections
to choose from*

Custom Sewing
& Alterations

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Motley County School News

MOTLEY COUNTY PTO NEWS

The Motley County PTO regular monthly meeting was called to order by President D'Anna Russell on December 6 at 6:00 p.m. Due to illness reading of the previous months' minutes were dispensed. Treasurer Wendy Taylor gave the financial report. Vice President and fund-raiser chairman reported that PTO made \$80 on the Christmas ornaments that were sold. She passed them out to be delivered so if you haven't got your's yet you should be getting them soon.

Annette Hollinsworth at New to You has a few extra ornaments if anyone still wants a set. The work list for the concession stand was presented and signed by those present. It will be in the concession stand Tuesday, Dec. 11 and Friday, Dec. 14, so that members not present can have the opportunity to sign-up to help at their convenience. It was voted unanimously to have the Pajama Reading Party again. A committee consisting of Kim Jenscke, Lara Davey, Kellie Williams, and Tina Brooks was set up to do the planning. We are looking

at some dates in March. There will be more discussion at the next few monthly meetings.

First grade teacher Karen Davis won the book for having the most parents present at the meeting.

Announcements were made as follows:

Dec. 11, 14, and 18 are home games for high school. Remember if you signed up to work in the concession stand please be there and if you haven't the list will be there for you to drop by and sign up to work a game or two.

December 13, 7:00 p.m., the Motley County School will have a Christmas Program. Refreshments will follow provided by the PTO. If you are a member please bring a batch of cookies.

December 20, school will dismiss at 1:30 for the Christmas holidays. The elementary children will have their class partys that day. School will resume on January 2, 2002.

Happy Holidays!

Syrup, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Chicken Nuggets, Creamed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Honey, Milk.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19

Breakfast: Biscuit, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Juice, Milk.

Lunch: Pizza, Salad, Pineapple, Vanilla Wafers, Milk.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20

Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Milk.

Lunch: Barbecue on a Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Onion, Chips, Chocolate Pudding, Milk.

FRIDAY, DEC. 21

Christmas holidays begin!

SCHOOL MENU



MONDAY, DEC. 17

Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Fruit.
Lunch: Spaghetti, Meat Sauce, Corn, Bread Sticks, Peaches, Milk.

TUESDAY, DEC. 18

Breakfast: Pancakes, Sausage,

Students of the Month

Hannah Hulsey and Reagan Elliott have been selected as the Elementary Student of the Month for December at Motley County ISD.

Hannah is the 5-year-old daughter of Mickey and Jill Brooks of Roaring Springs. She is a Kindergarten student at MC ISD. Her favorite subjects are Reading and Writing. Her favorite teacher was Mrs. Richardson at Grandview ISD, where Hannah attended school before coming to Motley County. Hannah enjoys drawing, coloring and playing dress up. She plans to attend college when she completes her schooling. Hannah wants to be an Artist when she grows up.

She has one pet, a dog named Lucy.

Her favorite color is purple and her favorite food is chicken. Her favorite movie is 101 Dalmations and she enjoys listening to Country music. The last book she read was Hungry Caterpillar.

Reagan is the 7-year-old son of Shawn and Shonda Elliott of Roaring Springs. He is a second grade student. His favorite subject is Math and his favorite teacher is Mrs. Thacker.

He enjoys fishing and hunting with his dad, and playing Nintendo or on the Computer. He also enjoys playing baseball, and is a member of the Motley County Youth Organization in which he plays T-Ball. He is also a member of the Cub Scouts, Troop 360, and the PIPS program.

Reagan wants to own a ranch when he completes his schooling.

He has cats for pets. His favorite color is blue, and his favorite food is Chinese food. His favorite music is by Kid Rock and his favorite movies are James Bond movies. The last book he read was Goofy the Gardener.

Reagan admires his Mom and Dad, and he feels that the qualities of a good citizen is being polite and to have respect for others.

Marc Henzler is the 13-year-old son of Russell and Andrea Henzler of Matador. He is a seventh grader. His favorite subject is Science and his

favorite teacher is Mrs. Cox.

He enjoys playing basketball, football and soccer.

Marc was chosen as Class Favorite.

He plans to attend college after high school, and wants to be an NBA player some day.

Marc gives this piece of advice to fellow students, "Never quit."

His favorite color is Metallic Blue and his favorite food is Pizza. He enjoys listening to Rap music and his favorite movie is Scary Movie II. The last book he read is from the Goosebumps series. He admires Superman.

Marc believes one of the qualities of a good citizen is picking up trash. He thinks when he is 50 years old he will probably be watching TV.

Kayla Copp is the 17-year-old daughter of Rick and Lana Copp of Matador. She is a Senior at MC ISD. Her favorite subject is Government and her favorite teacher is Coach Sanchez.

Kayla enjoys riding horses, participating in stock shows, reading, and just hanging out.

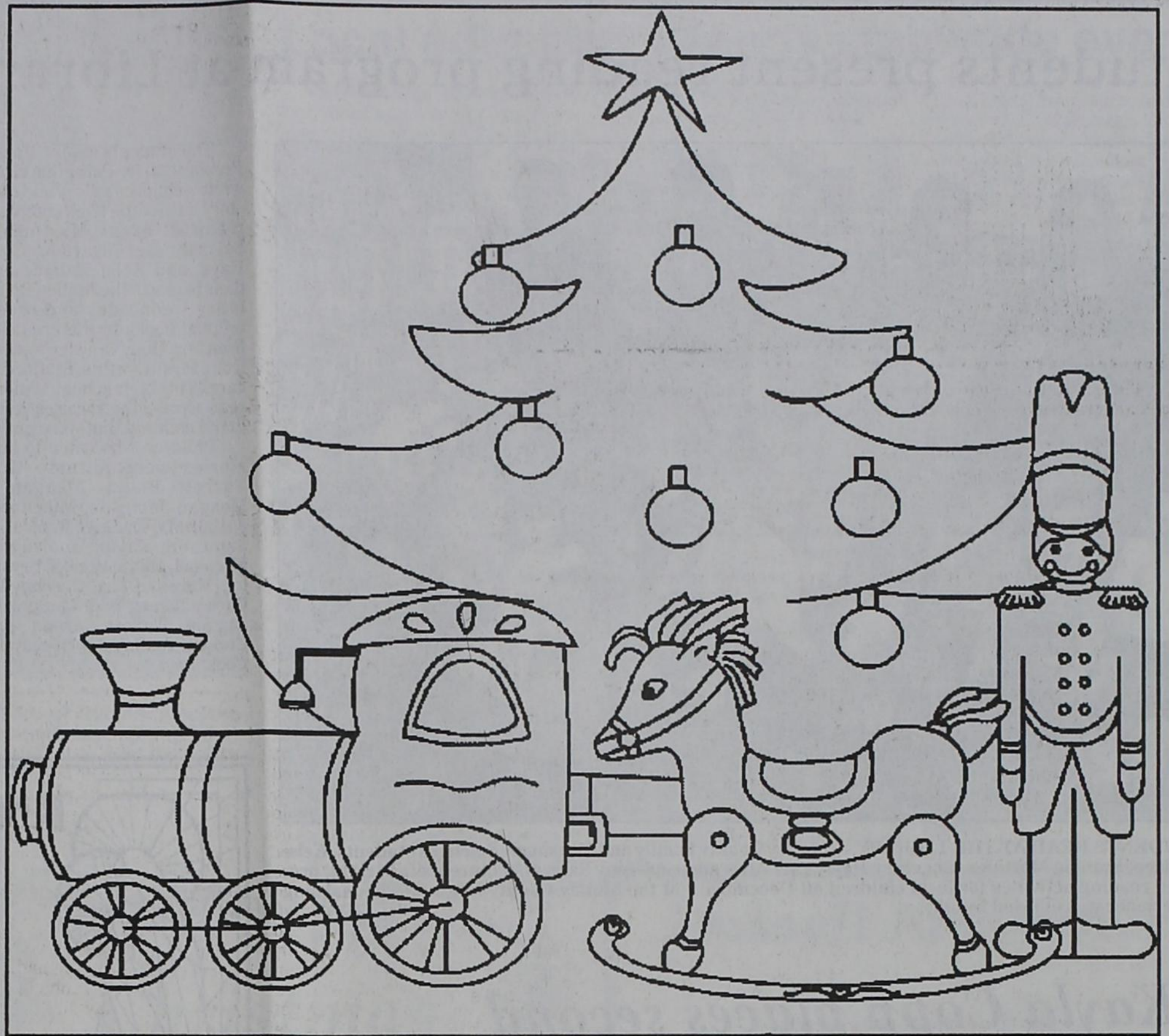
Kayla is a member of FFA, FCA, NHS, Who's Who, TJSSA, All American, and NFLA. She plans to attend Texas A&M University and major in Ag Communications after graduation, and would like to be a Veterinarian or work through Ag Communications.

Kayla has 5 cats and 5 dogs.

Her advice to fellow students is, "It is possible to study for Math tests."

Kayla's favorite colors are Maroon and Silver. Her favorite food is Chicken Fried Steak. She enjoys listening to Country music and her favorite performer is Chris Ledoux. Her favorite movie is 8 Seconds. The last book she read was Grapes of Wrath.

Kayla admires her Dad. She believes the qualities of a good citizen is to be caring and friendly. When asked what she will be doing when she is 50, Kayla said, "Who knows."



Coloring Contest

The MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE is sponsoring a Christmas Coloring Contest for children, ages 3-9. There will be three age divisions (3-4; 5-7; and 8-9). First and second place winners will be chosen from each age group. Prizes will be awarded to winners and first place winners will have the honor of having their pictures published in the December 20th issue of the paper. All entries must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m., Thursday, December 13. Prizes are on display at the MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE office. Entrants must include the entry blank with their picture. (Family members of Motley County Tribune staff are not eligible)

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Lady Matadors bring home first place from Patton Springs Tournament

The Lady Matadors brought home the first place trophy from the Patton Springs tournament held Dec. 6-8.

The Ladies defeated Benjamin, 52-33, for their first game of the tournament. Brittany Donaldson led in scoring with 14 points. Courtney Hays added 13; Mandi Ream and Brittany Moore (Fr.), added 4 each; Brittany Moore (Jr.), added 3; and Lisa Perryman, 1.

Brittany Donaldson also led in rebounds with 6.

The Ladies won over Valley in a very close game, with a final score of 27-25, for their second game of the tournament. Chasity Holman led in scoring with 9 points, followed by Courtney Hays who put in 8. Brittany Moore (Fr.) added 5; Brittany Donaldson, 3; and Brittany Moore (Jr.), 2.

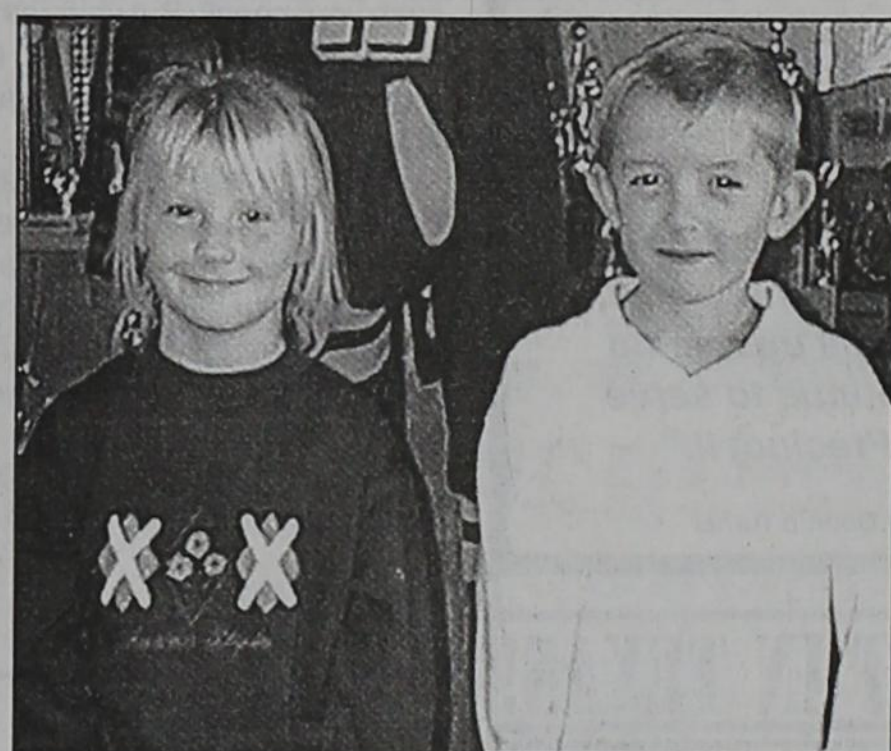
Brittany Donaldson led in rebounds with 5.

The Championship game decided the outcome for the Ladies, with a 66-22 win over Paint Creek. Courtney Hays led in scoring with 17, followed by Brittany Moore (Fr.) with 16. Chasity Holman put in 12; Brittany Donaldson, 11; Brittany Moore (Jr.), 6; and Annie Green, 2.

Chasity Holman led with rebounds, grabbing 8.

★ Shining Stars ★

DECEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Hannah Hulsey and Reagan Elliott have been selected as Motley County Elementary Students of the Month for December.

Hannah is a Kindergarten student and the daughter of Mickey and Jill Brooks of Roaring Springs. Reagan is a second grader and the son of Shawn and Shonda Elliott of Matador.

Marc Henzler and Kayla Copp have been selected December Students of the Month for Jr. High and High School.

Marc is a seventh grader and the son of Russ and Andrea Henzler of Matador.

Kayla is a Senior and the daughter of Rick and Lana Copp of Matador.

See profiles for these shining students at left.



Season's Greetings



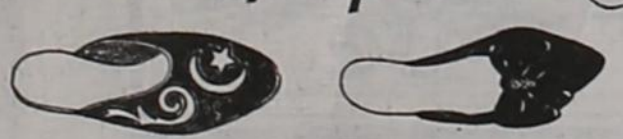
Need a great Christmas gift?

A book is a lasting gift that will long be remembered. Come by and see our great selection.

Motley County Tribune

10% off all AVON

ALL SHOES
1/2 price

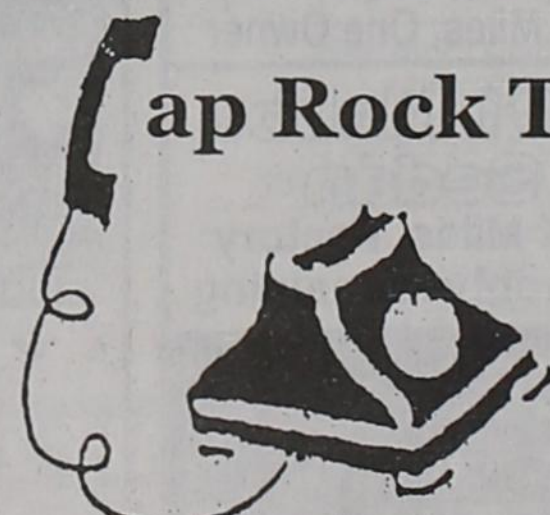


New to You

Downtown Matador ~ 347-2388

ap Rock Telephone

Sponsored by:



Cooperative, Inc.

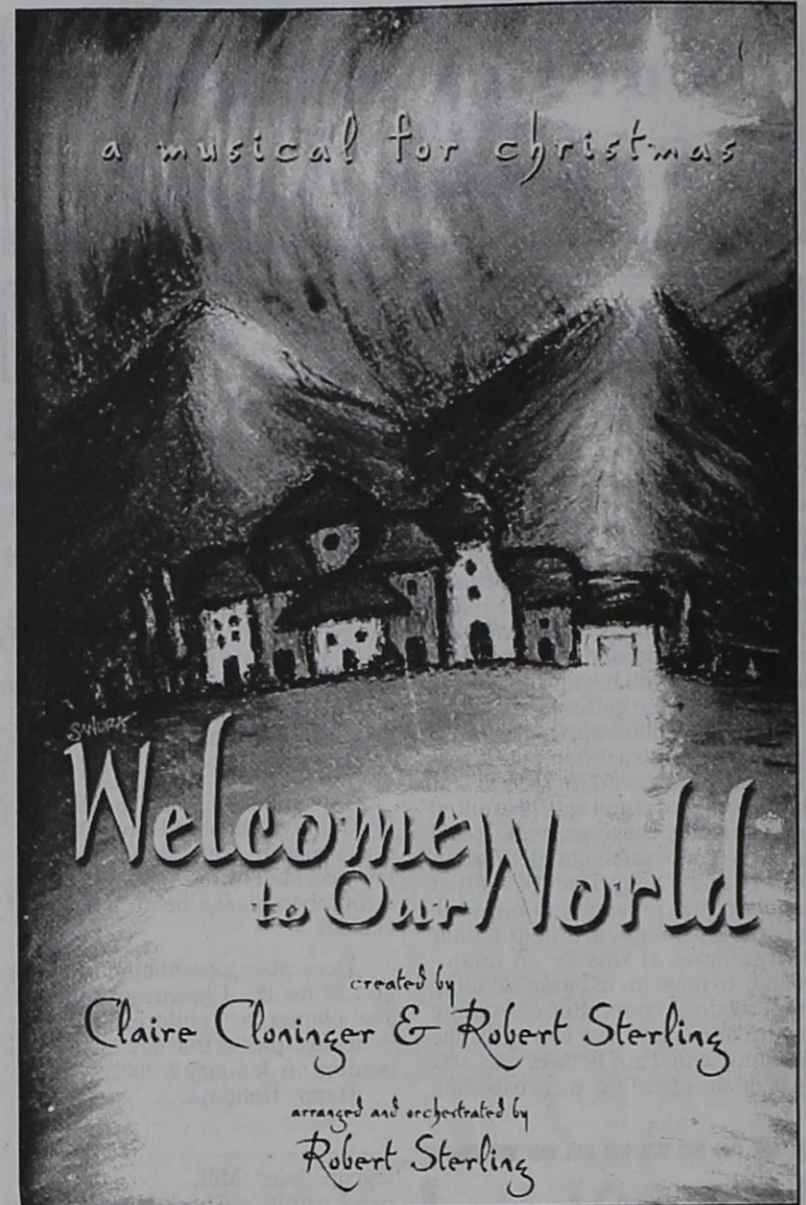
Students present reading program at Library



STUDENTS READ AT THE LIBRARY — Motley County Family and Consumer Sciences students, Kelsi Wallace, Frankie Martinez, Courtney Hays, Ysef Alvarado, and Tony Salazar, pictured left to right, provided reading activities for local children on December 3 at the Motley County Library. The learning experience was enjoyed by all.

The students of Mrs. Jan Jones' Preparation for Parenting class each wrote a children's story and made the story into a little book complete with pictures. Frank Martinez, Tony Salazar, Ysef Alvarado, Courtney Hays, and Kelsi Wallace brought their books to the Motley County Library Wednesday and read their original books to the pre-schoolers from Mrs. Judy Crowley's school and from Mrs. Cynthia Stafford's day-care. The high school seniors also read some of the library's new books to the children that were present.

Children who came to hear the stories were Autumn Woolsey, Barrett Bland, Meagan Ford, Meagan Jameson, Mikenna Ford, Joshua Martin, Gage Renfro, Natalie Jameson, Kaylei Woolsey, Macie Marshall, Mattie Brooks, Bryant Taylor, Marcos Ortiz, Cassidy Turner, Carley Turner, Tyler Campbell, Katie Barton, Walker Carson, Ryleigh Carson, Ashley Jones and Tristan Cook.



presented by
Matador First Baptist Church Choir
 Sunday, December 16 - 11:00 a.m.
Everyone welcome!

Kayla Copp places second in Showmaster Showdown

Kayla Copp, Motley County High School Senior, participated in the ACCO Showmaster Showdown at the Taylor County Fairgrounds, Decem-

ber 2. There were approximately 125 steers involved in the show. Kayla placed 2nd in her class with her steer Spunky. Spunky weighed 1100 lbs.

Her lighter steer, Sarge who weighed 965 lbs., placed 3rd in his class. Kayla will be showing her steers at the Fort Worth Show, San Antonio Show, and at Houston.

SHOP AT HOME!

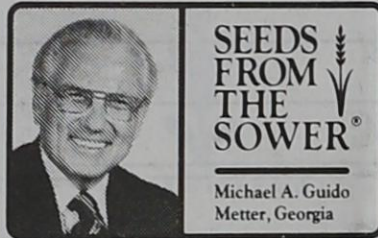
Donnie Turner

Democratic Candidate for
**Motley County
 Commissioner
 Precinct II**

Primary Election
 March 12, 2002

"I have enjoyed serving the people of Precinct II and Motley County, and would appreciate your support in the upcoming election. I would like to continue to serve as your Commissioner, Precinct II."

Political Advertisement paid for by Donnie Turner



A boy saw his father write a check, go to the bank and cash it. Wanting some money, he tried it.

He wrote a check for ten dollars, signed his name to it, and gave it to the cashier.

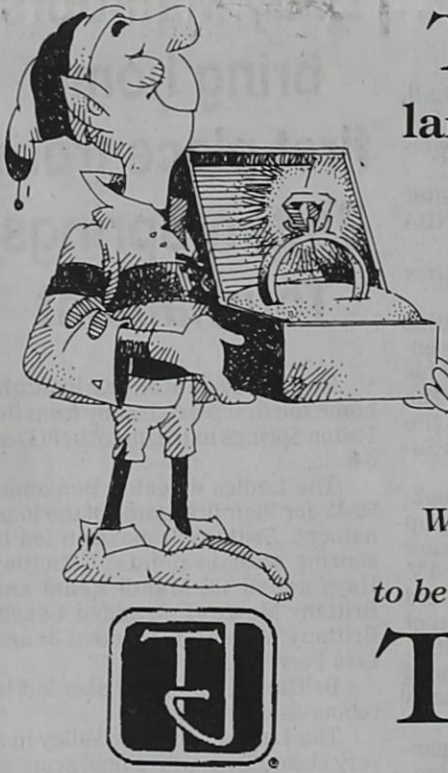
"Son," he said, "you don't have any money here. I can't cash your check. But your father has some here. Come with his name on the check and I'll cash it."

Prayer is like going to the Bank of Heaven to get a check cashed. You and I don't have anything deposited there. If we go in our name, we get nothing. If we go in the Lord's name, we'll get everything.

He said, "If you shall ask anything in My name, I will do it."

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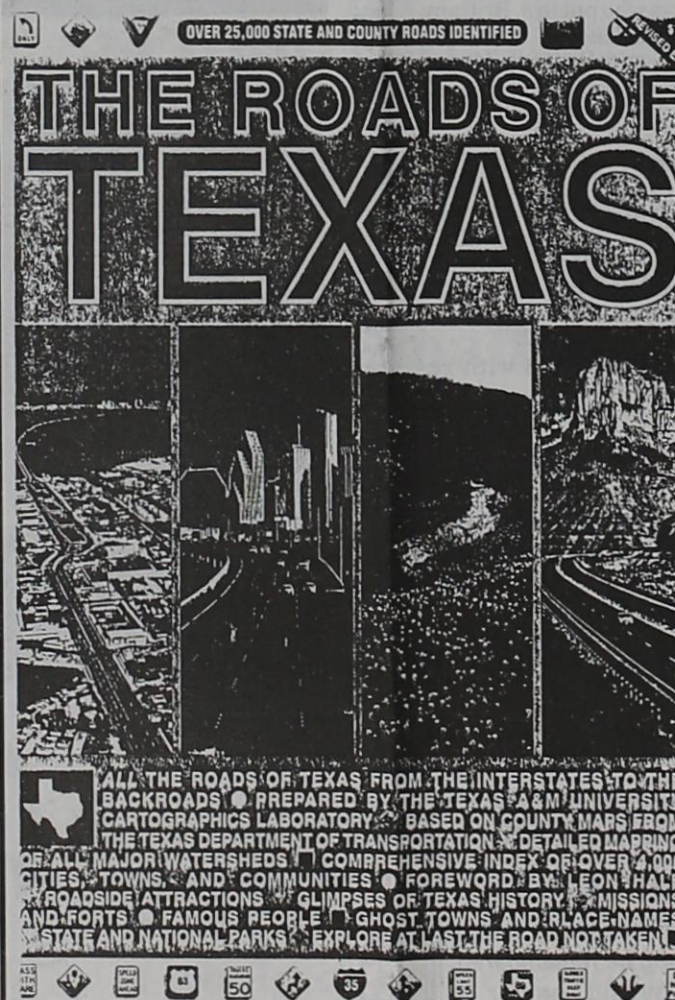
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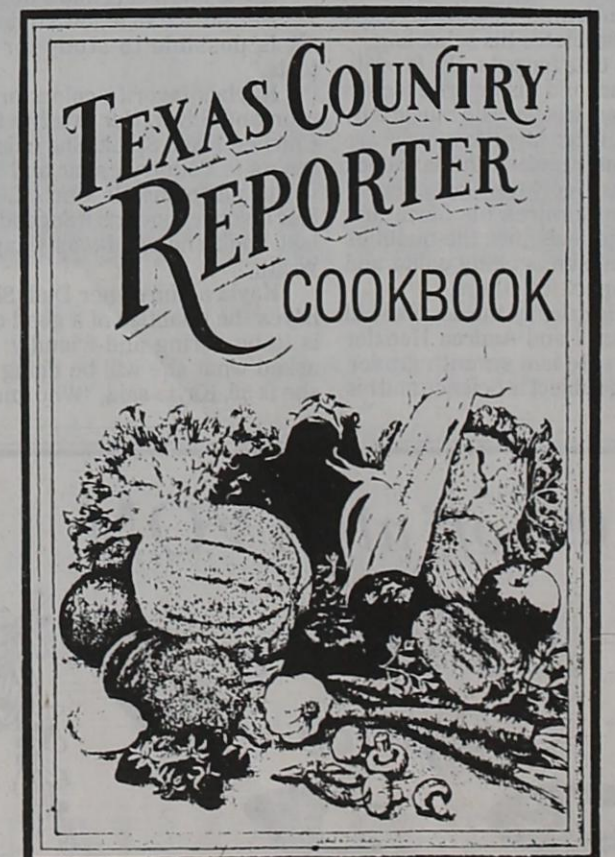
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Cowboy Santa — This Santa, dressed in western style, is displayed in the window of Matador Floral, in downtown Matador. Matador business windows display a variety of Christmas scenes and lighting. Many homes in Matador are lighted for the holidays. If you haven't taken a drive at night to view the lights, don't miss it. The time is drawing near, only 12 days until Christmas.

Local educator attends statewide event

Motley County ISD Superintendent, Rick Copp, was among 125 participants attending the Texas Rural Systemic Initiative (TRSI) Administrative Partner Academy on December 4, 2001. The networking and professional development event included opportunities to meet with administrators, counselors and teachers from the sixty participating TRSI school districts and hear updates from Texas Education Agency (TEA)

on critical issues in mathematics and science for high school students.

Presenters included David Anderson, Managing Director Curriculum and Professional Development, TEA; Chris Comer, Director of Science, TEA; and Paula Gustafson, Director of Mathematics, TEA. The new state assessment program has raised numerous questions about high school mathematics and sci-

ence ranging from course taking patterns to calculator usage. TRSI provided this opportunity for rural school districts to dialogue with TEA about those critical issues.

TRSI works in partnership with districts to improve and accelerate the performance of all students in mathematics and science. A five-year, \$10 million project, TRSI is in the third year of funding from the National Science Foundation.

Family & Consumer News

By Mozelle Montano, Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences



HOLIDAY LIGHTS
Decorative lights during the holiday season are beautiful, but you need to follow safety precautions to prevent electrical shock or a fire, says Mozelle Montano, Extension Agent with Texas Cooperative Extension Service.

Use outdoor-rated lights outdoors and indoor lights indoors. Do not mix or match these two types of lighting. Check the string of lights to make sure the wiring is intact. Replace missing bulbs. Before you hang a string of lights, lay it on a non-com-

combustible surface and plug it in for 10 to 15 minutes to ensure that the lights don't smoke and the wiring doesn't get hot.

When you hang the string of lights on the tree, position the bulbs so they are not touching needles, ornaments, or combustible material such as the tree skirt or nearby curtains. If you attach multiple strings of lights together, don't join more than 200 midget lights or 50 or larger bulbs through one continuous string. Be sure to keep the cords and plugs away from the water under a natural

tree.

Use hooks or plastic ties to suspend outdoor lights on your house. Do not insert nails into the wiring and do not compress or crimp the wiring. Also, be careful while on the roof or a ladder to hang the string of lights.

Remember to unplug all electrical decorations inside and outside your home before leaving the house or going to bed.

Have a safe and joyous holiday season!

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NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY

Roaring Springs News

By Odessa Mullins

Pearl Patten and Zella Palmer shopped in Plainview, Saturday. Mary Lumsden drove to Floydada Saturday afternoon for shopping. Jo Ann Reagan visited her mother, Pearl Patten, Friday evening and had supper with her at the new restaurant.

CELEBRATES 6TH BIRTHDAY

Parker Meredith celebrated his 6th birthday with a party at Chucky Cheese Pizza in Lubbock, on Saturday, December 8. Parker will turn six on December 23, but celebrates his birthday early, so it will be special, and not tied in with Christmas. Parker says, "More gifts!"

Pizza and games were enjoyed by all that attended - his parents, Yancey and Daphne Meredith, grandmother Joyce Meredith, and John Hodges, of Roaring Springs; Sherry Rose and Shea Rose of Matador; grandparents, Ronald and Dorothy Farmer; great-granny Mildred Sowell, Diana Farmer, Jonathan and Katie, Mr. and Mrs. Dustin Farmer and new baby, McKenzie, all of Hale Center.

CELEBRATES 80TH BIRTHDAY

Lula Swim was honored on her 80th birthday with a family gathering in her

home for the weekend. Family members celebrating the event with Lula were S.A. and Darnelle Swim of Medina; James and Marsha Swim, Miss Cindy Swim of Bella Vista, Ark.; Ron and Felicia Swim of Lake Arrowhead, CA; Becki Knight of La Mirada, CA; John Swim of Aspen, Colo.; J.R. and Stella Swim of Abilene; Sam and Reba Swim, Ruston, Trisha and Jacob, Edward Swim and Emily Swim, all of Lubbock; J.T. and Imogene Swim of Roaring Springs.

Friends attending the celebration were Rev. and Mrs. Monte Wike of Sudan, J.N. Fletcher, Cleo and Larry Watson, Devonne Dillard, Buzz and LaVoe Thacker and Joyce Smith, all of Roaring Springs; Juanita Cooper and Jack Samford of Matador.

Those enjoying coffee and refreshments at the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall on Monday morning, December 10, were Buzz and LaVoe Thacker, Joyce Smith, Lea and Bill Peacock, Corky Marshall, Dean McInroe, Larry and Cleo Watson, Ruby Hipp, Rita Groves, Donald and Dennis Letkeman, Mary Lumsden, Reva Sweeney, Jeff Thacker, Edmond Hunter, and Pearl Patten.

Roaring Springs Senior Citizens Report

The Roaring Springs Senior Citizens met and enjoyed a pot-luck lunch on Thursday, December 6. This was also the Christmas party.

After a delicious meal, the group enjoyed gathering around the Christmas tree for show and tell.

Those attending were Mary Lumsden, Pearl Patten, Zella Palmer, Carl Barton, Rita Groves, Walter Trammel, Jo

Trammel, Cleo Watson, Larry Watson, Lula Swim, Odessa Mullins, Rev. Paul Stearns, Ruby Hipp, Rev. Jack and Jo Boggs, Vera Mitchell, Grace Zabielski, Margie Payne, Bill Boley, and Dorothy Lee.

Kim Woolsey was there to take blood pressures. Larry Watson, Margie Payne and Lula Swim had clean-up duties.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

Mrs. Barbara Payne had recent surgery at Medical Covenant Center in Plainview.

Richard and Randy Rogers and friend, Tina Jameson of Lubbock visited Tuesday with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers.

Kayla and Colton Barclay, children of Mr. and Mrs. Lance Barclay of Lubbock visited last weekend with grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Barclay. Visiting them this weekend were grandchildren, Lane and Ashton Barclay, children of Mr. and Mrs. Cody Barclay of Borger.

Butch Hughes is on the sick list and under medical treatment at Mangold Clinic in Lockney.

Weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Johnson were Mrs. Lucretia Dockery and daughter, Brittany of Vernon, Mrs. Kayla Guest of Turkey and Mrs. Dorothy May of Quataque.

Jack and Nada Starkey were in Amarillo, Thursday for Jack an optical appointment at the Veteran's Hospital. They visited Bessie and Clifton Reid and in Can-

yon with Connie and Michael Starkey. Ty Barclay of Matador helped his grandfather, Bill D. Washington strip cotton this weekend.

Mrs. Kathy Shorter met daughters, Mrs. Christi Milam of Petersburg and Mrs. Keri Sehon and son, Brian of Ropesville in Lubbock, Friday for lunch and to shop. Enroute home, Mrs. Shorter stopped in Petersburg and accompanied granddaughter, Emily Milam home with her to visit until Saturday. Her parents, Christi and Dwain Milam were in Amarillo Friday night to attend regional football game, Petersburg vs. Stratford (number one team in the state). Stratford won the game 28-0. Mr. Milam is a coach at Petersburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin were in Borger, Friday and had lunch with daughter, Mrs. Marilee Cooper. Mrs. Cooper is a professor at John Phillips College.

Michael Starkey and grandson, Joey and Dustin Kemp of Canyon visited Friday night and Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Starkey.

Whiteflat News

By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

I've learned that you can tell a lot about a man by the way he handles these three things: A rainy day, lost luggage and tangled Christmas tree lights.

Danielle Gwinn was a featured soloist at the music recital held Saturday night at the First Baptist Church in Floydada. She is a vocal student of Mrs. Dell Gray of Floydada. Attending the recital were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Gwinn and aunt, Mrs. Marilyn Holcomb of Floydada.

Jack Samford of Matador accompa-

nied Mrs. Juanita Cooper to Amarillo, Sunday where she visited until Tuesday with daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Dunnam and Kourtney. She had a medical cat scan Monday. Mr. Samford visited in Canyon with daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ray King. He also had a medical appointment in Amarillo, Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Laughlin of Midland visited during the weekend in the home of his sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. H.R. "Skeet" Jameson.

Cotton strippers are in full force in the fields in Whiteflat and Flomot.

Matador News

ATTEND 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Mesdames W.N. Pipkin, Robert Darsey and R.E. Campbell, Jr., attended the celebration of cousin, Ola Eatman Thompson's 100th birthday on October 26 at the Community Center in Munday.

Mrs. Thompson was born Oct. 26, 1901 in Indian Territory. The family moved to Doan's Community, north of Vernon, in 1903. The Doan's settlement was at the famous ford of the Red River, where the great herds of cattle crossing at that period of time were driven north to the Railroads in Kansas to be shipped to the Eastern United States. Mrs. Thompson's parents were Myrtle Estes Eatman and Richard Eatman.

Ola Eatman and Hubert Thompson were married in Wilbarger County, Texas. They had four children; three sons and one daughter. They lost one son, Carroll in an airplane accident. Her two sons and daughter, Alzie Robertson were hosts for the party. There were 100-150 people served at

the luncheon and other friends came in later for the cake and fruit punch for the birthday tea, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone present, from ages 3 to 4 to 90.

Mrs. Thompson had another first cousin present from the Eatman side of the family from Wichita Falls, as well as the three Matador cousins, from the Estes side, also many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, especially two little grands who sampled the peanuts and jelly beans throughout the afternoon from the tea table.

A wonderful, happy time was had by all present, besides the good food and fellowship, many pictures were taken of the honoree who was dressed in a lovely blue silk dress. She said, "We were brought up to love one another," and it showed, which is a good philosophy for any family.

Art Green and Kathryn Martin visited in Spur, Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Josie Martin.

Jack Case is a patient in the Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

Obituaries

Electra Mae Lisenby Irwin

Electra Mae Lisenby Irwin was born July 17, 1909 in Whiteflat, Texas, to John C. and Bertha Mae Rattan Lisenby. Electra attended school in the Whiteflat area and then went on to the Baylor College Academy at Belton. On January 1, 1929, she married John C. Irwin. A marriage of 64 years that was ended with John's death. To this union four children were born, John Houston, Fred Cecil, Jimmie Charles and Mary Margaret.

Throughout life she was a devoted wife and mother. She was a longtime member of the Matador Church of Christ. Electra was one of six children and was

preceded in death by her parents and five siblings. Also preceding her were her husband, John and sons, John Houston and Cecil. Electra passed peacefully from this life on November 26, 2001, at the Lockney Health Center.

Her survivors include her son, Jim and wife Elena of San Antonio; her daughter Mary and husband Norman Morrow of St. Francis, Kansas and daughter-in-law, Gloria Irwin of Waco.

She was also survived by 13 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

John Howard Osborn

Funeral services for Johnny Osborn, 51, of Baton Rouge, La were held December 8 in Baton Rouge. Mr. Osborn died suddenly December 5 in Baton Rouge.

He was born July 31, 1950 in Roscoe, Texas to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Osborn. As a child he was a resident of Roaring Springs and attended school there. His mother was the former Hazel Irene Dodson, daughter of Hazel Havis and

John Dodson.

He is survived by his wife, Edie Osborn; a son, Gary Osborn of Midland, Texas; four step-children, Jodi Cauble, Phoenix, Ariz., Craig Oliver, Tuscon, Ariz., Julianna Anaya, Peoria, Ariz., Jon Oliver, Tuscon, Ariz.; two sisters, Carolyn (Susie) Henry, of Austin, and Penny Sanders of Midland; brother Terry Osborn of Wascom, Texas; and seven grandchildren.

Notice

I, Joe E. Campbell, do not seek Re-Election for the Office of Motley County Treasurer. My term ends December 31, 2002

I have had the pleasure of being Motley County Treasurer since 1985.

I sure am thankful and appreciate the support everyone has given me during the years in office.

Thanks again to the finest people I know.

Sincerely,
Joe E. Campbell

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FARM AND RANCH NEWS

Cotton  **News**
from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

SENATE LEADER INTENDS TO FINISH FARM BILL

When it comes to making yourself understood in Washington, DC there is usually very little room for error or a lack of clarity.

That was reiterated quite clearly late Thursday afternoon after comments by Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle were read, interpreted and apparently misconstrued.

After telling reporters that he intended to pursue the Farm Bill through passage by the Senate, Daschle apparently left out the part in which he wanted to complete a conference and send the Bill to the White House for the President's signature.

In an effort to clear up exactly what he intended to say the first time around, Daschle's office has been hard at work reiterating his goal of finishing Senate Floor debate of the Farm Bill, quickly completing a conference with representatives of the House of Representatives and dropping the Bill on President's signature.

That is where the politics of the situation appear to have the most impact. Reality and the calendar says that there just isn't that much time left before Congress will adjourn.

Plains Cotton Growers and others have been adamant about the fact that whether they like the Senate Farm Bill in its current form or not there should be no delay in getting the Farm Bill to the Senate floor.

Once there both Republicans and Democrats would have the ability to debate and offer amendments to the Senate Bill. This would serve two important purposes: First it keeps the process moving forward; and, second neither side is viewed as trying to obstruct or delay completion of the legislation.

Everyone, from the producer in West Texas to the shopkeeper in the big city is keenly aware of the fact that Congress has a lot of work to do between now and Christmas.

The fact is a new Farm Bill will strengthen the foundation of a struggling Agricultural economy that sup-

plies 20 percent or more of the nation's Gross Domestic Product.

Its passage is not only important to farmers and ranchers, it should also be viewed as one of the first steps toward moving the entire U.S. economy out of the current economic recession.

HIGH QUALITY MARKS 2001 HIGH PLAINS CROP

With the High Plains cotton harvest virtually complete all that remains is the ginning and classification of cotton still in modules.

For most growers one of the more pleasant surprises of this year's crop has been the consistently high quality it has exhibited.

Overall the crop has averaged some of the best color, staple and strength readings observed in recent memory.

To date the Lubbock Cotton Classing office has processed just over 1.6 million bales of cotton and expects to see slightly more than 2 million bales by the end of the ginning season.

Staple lengths recorded at the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service Cotton Classing Office in Lubbock are averaging just under 1 1/16" inches (Staple 34) with approximately half having staples of 34 or longer and the rest coming in below that figure.

HVI Color and Leaf measurements have also been a pleasant surprise. More than 75 percent of the crop classed to date has been assigned Color Grades 11 or 21 while 93 percent of the bales have received Leaf grades of 3 or better.

The only HVI reading that appears to be less than optimal appears to be Micronaire where the trend for much of the season has been to the high side of the optimal range. This is further evidenced by the fact that 45 percent of the bales classed at Lubbock has mike measurements in the 4.3 - 4.9 range and 19.9 percent have been assigned mike grades of 5.0 or greater.

The high mike readings are in many cases keeping producers from realizing the full price benefits of the longer than expected staple readings.

County Agent's Report

by Lonnie Jensechke - Motley County Extension Agent



TRANSPLANTING NATIVE PLANTS

Many desirable native or wild Texas plants are adaptable for the home landscape. The natives are hardy to local weather conditions, local soils, and perhaps more tolerant of local garden insects and diseases. Most natives are easy to grow, yet the task of successfully transplanting the desired native from the wild is often difficult, and must be done with care. The wet, cold days of winter are ideal times for transplanting plants, both native or cultivated species. Due to cold, the plants are dormant or in a state of rest, and will not suffer the shock of moving and the interruption of growth.

Special precautions must be taken when selecting native plants for transplanting. Even though these plants are hardy, it is often difficult for the home owner to substitute the natural or native woodland environment which nature has provided. The gardener must first ask if he or she can provide growing conditions similar to those in which the plant now thrives. If not, leave the plant to nature.

Before digging, the home owner must decide which native plants will best fit his or her landscape needs. It would be unwise to select a native dogwood for a sunny location, since dogwood demands shade or overhead protection. The planting area for the new plant should be well prepared prior to transplanting. Dig the planting hole both wider and deeper than the native plant's root system. Add woods loam, peat or humus, or, preferably, the type of soil from which the native is taken. Have leaf mold and loam on hand to fill in or work around the new plant's root system.

In choosing the native plant to transplant, do not attempt to transplant an overly large specimen. Small plants are usually more vigorous. They grow much faster and are easier to handle. It may be necessary to tag the plant in the wild while in leaf or berry to be sure of a positive identification. Young elms, void of foliage, often resemble native redbuds. Not all hollies will produce berries; in selecting yaupon, deciduous holly, and American holly, choose the female plants with berries.

Particularly in the case of large specimens, it may be well to prune the root system of the selected native prior to digging. Prune the plants lateral roots at least one growing season prior to complete transplanting. Making spade cuts around the plant helps it to adjust to shock prior to transplanting and develop a more intensive root system.

When transplanting, lift the plant with a ball of earth if possible. Wrap the ball with a moist burlap sack or similar material for easy transfer and to prevent disturbance of the root system.

Plant the native plant at its normal growth depth immediately after digging. Water well after planting, and mulch over the root areas with leaves, straw, or leaf mold.

Pruning transplanted plants is often difficult for the gardener, but usually is essential for viability. Cut back the upper branches and end shoots of limbs to compensate for loss of root area and to encourage new branching and foliage growth come spring. Some of the foliage should be stripped or removed from evergreen plants.

Some of the most desirable and abundant native plants that may be transplanted now include: Dogwood, Redbut, River Birch, Sassafras, Cherry, Laurel, Native, Oaks, Elms, and Maples.

Regardless of your choice, be sure you transplant with caution and care; otherwise, leave it to nature.

IT'S A GREAT TIME TO HAVE YOUR SOIL TESTED

If your garden performed below expectations last year, or maybe things just didn't grow quite right, a few dollars invested in a soil test may be just the solution. A properly prepared and fertilized garden soil is the real key to successful gardening in most areas of Texas. You can't look at the soil, taste it, smell it, or feel it to tell whether your soil is low in nitrogen, high in phosphates, or maybe just right. One sure way to overcome the mister, and avoid confusion when it comes time to purchase fertilizers, is to have your garden soil tested.

Why is it important to know how much phosphorus or nitrogens in the soil, or what the pH of the soil is? The answer is simple. Vegetables don't do well in improperly fertilized soil, whether it be too fertile or not fertile enough.

The soil test report will tell you the level of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, and magnesium available to your garden plants. It will also indicate the pH (acidity or alkalinity) of your garden soil. For the most part, this is all you need to know to properly fertilize your garden soil, and insure a bountiful harvest.

To take a soil sample, make a hole about a foot deep in the garden with a spade or sharpshooter. Throw out the first spade-full of soil. Then, from the back of the hole, cut a slice of the soil 1/2 inch to 1 inch thick. Be sure the slice is at least 6 to 7 inches in depth, with fairly even width and thickness. Then place the soil slice in a bucket or tub. Repeat this procedure 4 to 6 times in different spots in the garden, depending primarily on the size of the garden. Thoroughly mix the composite of the soil, and mail it to the Soils Testing Laboratory here at Texas A&M University. Soil testing is a service provided by the University; soil test kits, with instructions, can also be obtained from your local county Extension agent.

If a soil sample is taken in late winter or very early spring, you should expect to get your results back within 2 to 3 weeks. If you wait until Spring, then it may take considerably longer to get your results back. An adequate soil test, properly done and properly interpreted, will go a long way toward insuring a bountiful harvest from this spring's garden.

COW POKES® By Ace Reid



Don't bother him. He's writin' a book exposin' the bankin' system!"

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Karnal Blunt hits Texas

Karnal bunt has infected more than two million bushels of Texas wheat. Extension leader of soil and crop sciences, Dr. Travis Miller, says there is only one solution - not to plant wheat. Karnal bunt is a fungal disease that affects a portion of the wheat kernel, leaving an eroded area and a mass of black pores that produce an offensive odor. It grows under moist, cool conditions like the ones experienced in Texas during the spring. Karnal bunt has cost the Rolling Plains more than 27 million dollars this year. Karnal bunt has been

around for more than thirty years, and is known to have originated in a number of countries, but especially Mexico. To minimize the risk of Karnal bunt, producers should be sure seeds and farm equipment are

free of the disease. Contact Dr. Travis Miller at 979-845-0603 or td_miller@tamu.edu

• The date damage to the perennial crop acreage becomes apparent to the producer.
• May 15, 2002.

The Notice of Loss deadline MUST be strictly applied, i.e. provided within 15 days after the disaster occurrence or date damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent to the producer. For example, for grazing, an increase in supplemental feed or a reduction in the stocking level is reasonable indications of a loss of forage due to damage caused by a natural disaster.

If you have questions concerning this new policy, please contact the office.

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