

MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

VOICE OF THE FOOTHILL COUNTRY

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"After the Drive" by Ken Young

Matador City Council approves change order for the sidewalk grant

By Carol Campbell

Following a 4B Tax Board Public Hearing, the City Council met at 6:30 p.m. in regular session at City Hall on July 10, 2008, covering an eight-item agenda, including six items for council action.

Council members present were Alvin Alexander, Chuck Ream, Kay Bailey, Pat Seigler, City Secretary Debra Scott, and Mayor Pat Smith.

Also in attendance were special guests Justice of the Peace Cora Smallwood and OJD engineer Ben Lewis; and Motley County Tribune editor Larry Vogt, and

Carol Campbell.

Judge Smallwood spoke to the council regarding municipal funds collected by the Motley County Sheriff and Deputy for the period ending June 30, 2008. She reported that a total of \$1,405 in traffic fines have been collected within the city limits since January from nine offenders. Of this amount, \$324 was earmarked for state court costs; \$32.40 for Jury Reimbursement Fees; \$16.20 for the Indigent Defense Fund, and \$28.50 for the State Traffic Fine fund. Judicial Support Fees accounted for \$46.60, for a total of \$447.70. This leaves \$957.30

net to the City of Matador. The City Secretary said these funds, collected on a quarterly basis, are designated funds for certain projects, like street maintenance.

In other business, a lengthy council discussion ensued regarding Sidewalk Grant Change Orders with the OJD Engineering firm. Council member Pat Seigler expressed concern about the appearance of the sidewalks, stating that adding color and texture to the steps will add to the appearance. Concerns were expressed by Council member Kay Bailey on the handicap accessible

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Two MC youth place in the 34th Annual Jr. Rodeo Competition

More than 80 rodeo cowgirls and cowboys from across the area traveled to Roaring Springs July 12-13, to compete in the 34th Annual Motley County Junior Rodeo.

Age brackets included Pre-kids, Pee Wee, Junior girls and boys, and Senior girls and boys, consisting of competition in Barrels, Goat Ribbon Pull, Flags,

Poles, Ribbon Roping, Steer Riding, Calf Riding, Steer Daubing, Breakway, and Tie Down. The Junior and Senior events also featured Team Roping and Straight Away Chute Dogging.

Cassidy Turner, Matador, won 6th place in Pee Wee Goat Tying; and Michael Seigler, Northfield, won 5th place in Pee Wee Steer Riding. *continued on page 3*

RS City Council sets fees for Community Center rental

The Roaring Springs city council met on Monday, July 14, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.. Those present were Mayor Corky Marshall, City Secretary Zella Palmer, City Superintendent Robert Osborn, council members P. K. Green, Alex Crowder, Kelly Keltz, Timmy Brooks, and James McCleskey. Guests included Don Stuckey, Larry Vogt, and J. N. Fletcher. There was a report about the

continued on page 6

Commissioner's Court adopts budget calendar

By Carol Campbell

The Commissioner's Court met in regular session on July 14, at 9:30 a.m., in the Commissioner's Courtroom at the courthouse, covering a 16-item agenda, including approval of a budget calendar for 2008-2009.

A full court was in attendance, consisting of Judge Ed D. Smith, Ronnie Davis, Precinct One; Donnie Turner, Precinct Two; Franklin Jameson, Precinct Three; and Russell Alexander, Precinct Four. Also present was County Clerk Kate Hurt, Sheriff Michael Crutchley, Tom Edwards, County Attorney; and Carol Campbell, assistant to the county judge.

Guests of the court were Motley County Tribune editor Larry Vogt; and chair of the Motley County Oversight Committee Marisue Potts-Powell.

The county judge handed out a color-coded proposed 2008-2009 Budget Calendar. The first budget session is scheduled for Friday, July 18, at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioner's Courtroom. The second session, to finalize the budget, will be held on July 24, at 8:30 a.m. Through the course of the budget sessions, if it becomes the intent of the court to increase taxes, a recorded vote must be taken and a "Notice of Public Hearing" will be prepared for publication in

the newspaper.

Judge Smith stated this is really a several step process. The first step is developing and filing the proposed budget with the County Clerk. "It is available for a time for public inspection," Smith said, "then there is a Public Budget Hearing and Adoption."

"After that, the tax rate adoption procedure starts," he said. "There are different requirements depending on what tax rate is proposed. All postings, notices and time requirements will be as required by (state) statute."

The Public Budget Hearing will *continued on page 3*



2007-2008 District 3 4-H Photograph Winner
"Little Cowboys Ride Away Too!" by Shane'a Russell

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

Matador News

Hotel Matador hosts Texas Plains Trail board meeting.

4-H News

The Four Winds RC&D provides grant funds to assist in purchase of LCD projector.

FSA News

Buy-in waiver for supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs underway in new Farm Bill.

Days Gone By

More Sand Storms by Pup Price, an excerpt from his memoir.

Earth Talk

Autism rates skyrocket. Some wonder if a "nature deficit disorder" is a factor.

Foothill Country

Connections

Community, Diversity, Art

The journalist's impressions of the junior rodeo would be words like well-kept fine looking horses being ridden by young people who seem at home with their mounts never mind their ages. They ride with way more skill than I ever mustered on the ranch where I passed my teen age years.

The gutsy kids who rode the calves and young steers. I had to hand it to them for trying a second time, or getting up out of the dirt after being thrown, and striding confidently to the side of the arena.

I felt the excitement of the barrel racing and pole racing, trying to beat the stop-watch times of other riders, or beating one's own previous ride in another rodeo.

Hats off to all the young participants and the parents and volunteers who make events like this happen year after year.

Meanwhile, back at the Tribune "ranch," we are also trying to beat the clock. In the midst of making the transition to computer graphics and cyberspace transmission of the newspaper to the printer, we experience a glitch that seems vexing to solve. So we decide we will email a few pages, but do the complete paper the way we have been doing it so that the transition has a back up system.

It is exciting to make this move to complete computer generated copy and graphics, but there are some nostalgic moments when we realize that the cutting (literally) and pasting (literally) will be no more. I can imagine the feelings Doug Meador had when he finally gave up the huge flat presses for the next technological step in the advancement of the newspaper's evolution.



Photo by Larry Vogt

TRAIL DUST

By DOUGLAS MEADOR



Matador Tribune
July 17, 1958

●Dust of a thousand herds has settled in the grass and cool rain has fed the roots, in the cycle of the prairies. The grass is changed to flesh and blood which in turn is reduced to dust again and grass is the catalyst that feeds the fires of life. Each day that breaks in somber glory is a phoenix rising from the ashes of countless centuries; the momentary splendor of a perpetuating Divine Plan.

●Before I am qualified to censure another man I must first perfect an estate of piety immune from all faults, else I become a hypocrite.

●Our lives are woven from a skein of habits which we select with frequently frightening haste.

●One of my reasons for not taking up golf is that I prefer to do my loafing in the shade and with minimum amount of exercise.

RETRO NEWS

Matador Tribune

July 17, 1958

RED SPUTNIK III SEEN IN MATADOR

Several alerted witnesses here Tuesday night saw the Red Sputnik III hurtling through the skies at almost exactly 9 p. m. The Russian satellite the size of an automobile, flashed alternately in its course from southwest to northeast. It was clearly visible.

The man made moon is now orbiting 130 miles above the earth according to the Lubbock Avalanche. It is now circling the earth in 106 minutes, and observers noted that the rays bounced off the satellite as it tumbled end over end, giving it an effect of flashing on and off.

Late night callers at the Tribune joined Editor Meador in watching the baby "moon" in its return engagement across the West Texas sky.

The satellite made an initial appearance over the South Plains area Monday night.

WRITING COMMUNITY

21st Century Pioneers

By Laverne Zabielski

We sit in a circle outside of Dinah's yurt in the outdoor living room she has created with blanket covered benches, a quilt covered porch swing, sawed off stumps for end tables, a mat for a rug that covers the sandy ground and a table set with linen holds pansies in one pitcher and peach tea in another one.

Five women from around town have gathered. We have a single purpose at this particular moment: to write for 45 minutes because there is something to be said. The story is the 21st century pioneer story. The story of vision

and dreams and struggles and circumstances which alter the course of each of our lives. Always reminding us that life will never be the same as we try to not look to the past where memories tug and pull at our heart.

Lately, I can hardly walk through the memories contained in my mother's house. I keep tripping on them. It's as though they are threads, like spider webs, so subtle I can barely see them. There is a path through the dim threads with webs of the past and the future on each side.

The path, of course, is the present; fixing dinner, chopping onions, letting the dogs

out, back to the kitchen, fixing dinner, chopping tomatoes. I walk, carefully, through these webs; my mother's past, my father's past or the past of my siblings who grew up in this house. An old roller skate is found behind a dresser. High school art hangs on the walls. A sewing project, begun, never finished. I'm clear about this past.

It's when I open the cupboard stuffed with quilting supplies, threads and needles that it's getting blurry. Is this Mom's past, or my past silk dyeing and sewing, or my present desire or is this my future. As I traverse the rooms in my mother's house

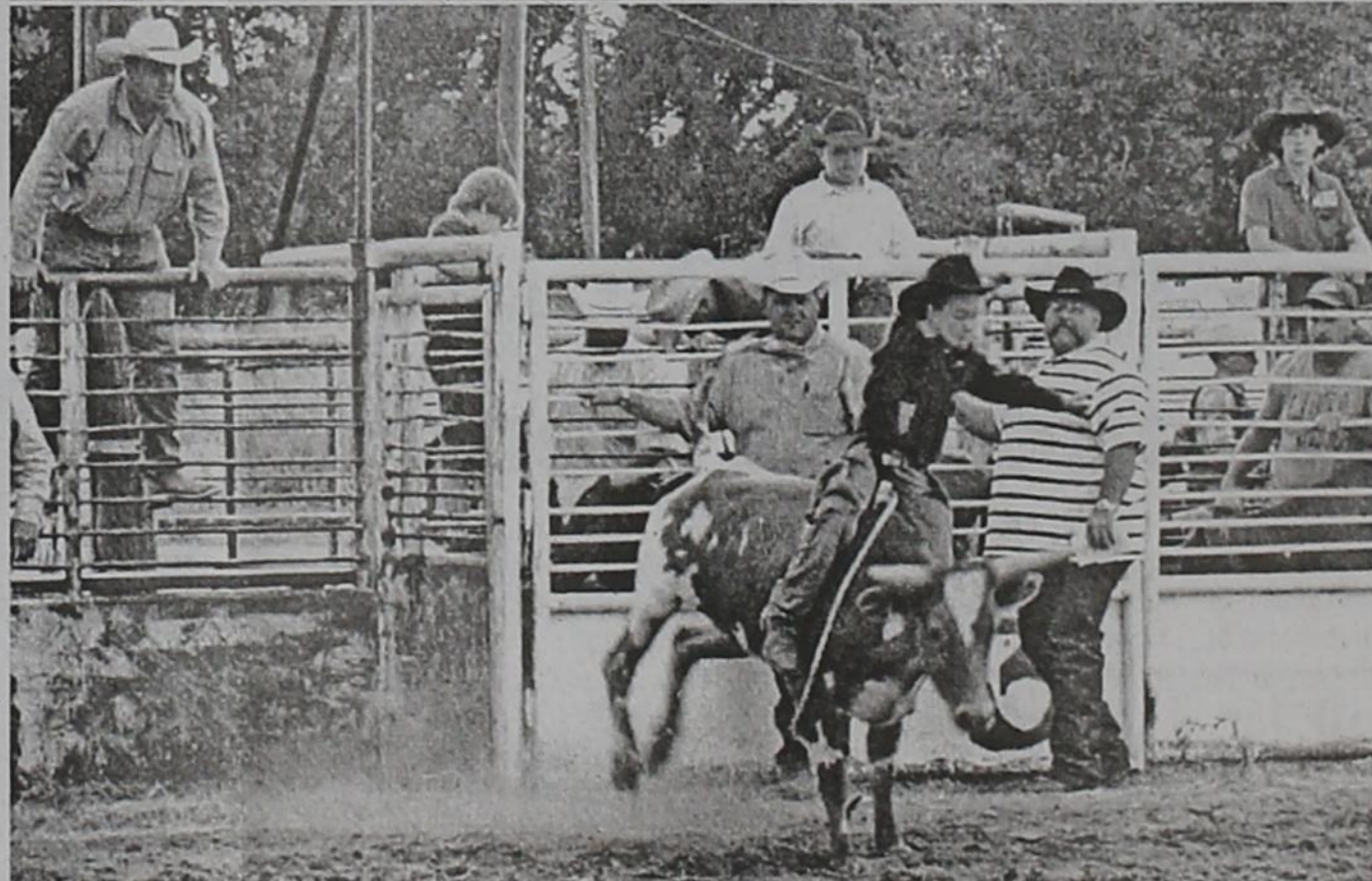
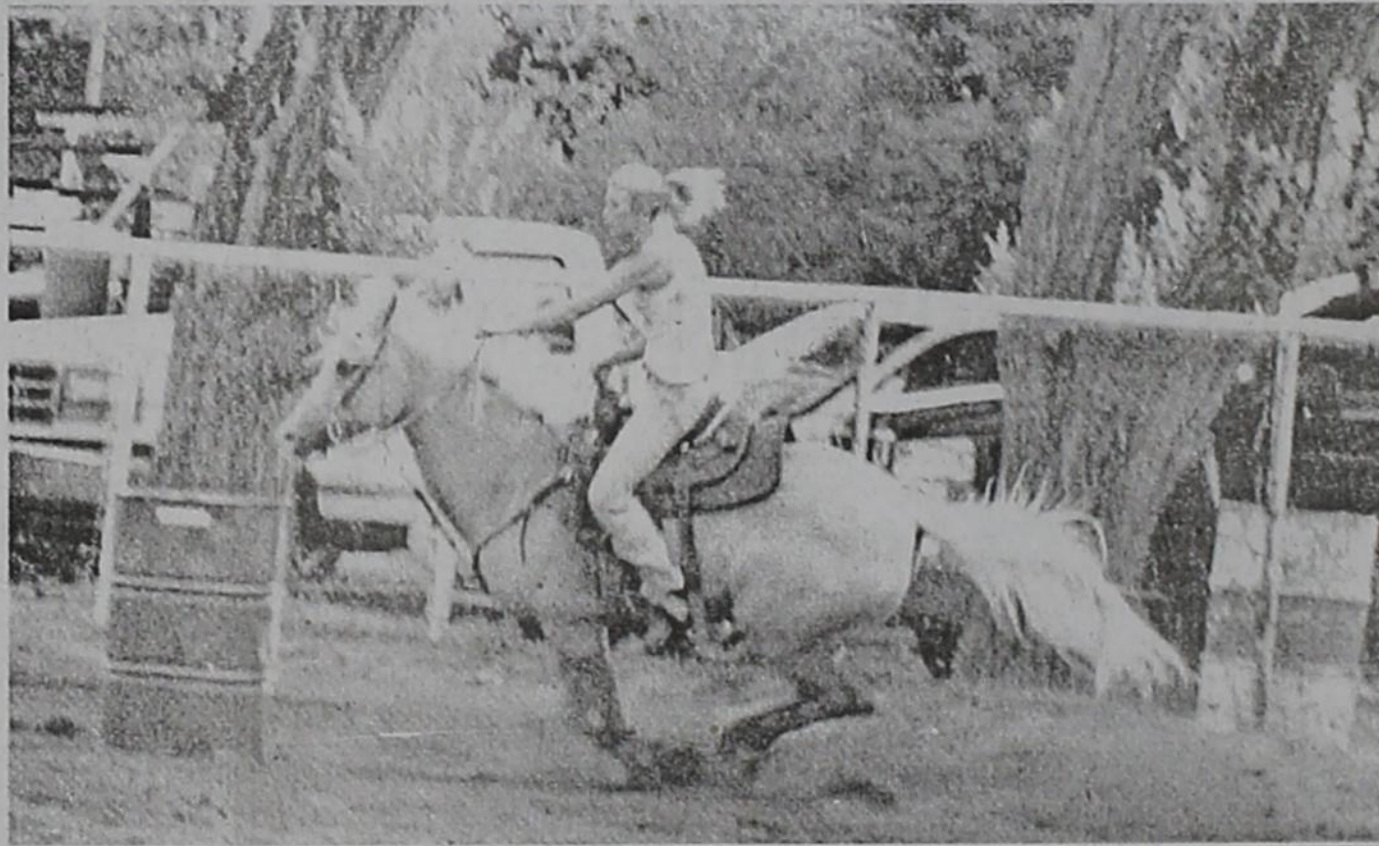
the threads start to tangle and I am careful not to trip and fall into this pain of memory. It's like a house with a ghost; only everyone is still alive, except my dad. Trying to make it my home, I search for me. Where is me?

In this circle I find my self in these women's stories that are written, and often published in the *Motley County Tribune*. This morning we sit in a circle amidst our differences. There is understanding and acceptance. Our subtle differences crawl out into our stories. This is where our uniqueness lives. These are the 21st century pioneer stories.



DINAH YOUNG AND PAULINE HOUSE greet writers and they arrive for writing practise in Dinah's pecan grove. Monta Marshall shares her writing with the group.

34TH ANNUAL JR RODEO



Photos by Larry Vogt

Motley County Tribune

Laverne Zabielski & Larry Vogt
Publishers & Editors
Carol Campbell, Feature writer



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Texas Spirit Seekers report paranormal activity at the jail

By Carol Campbell

Is the old 1891 jail haunted? Texas Spirit Seekers say "maybe," you decide for yourself, Judge Ed D. Smith said.

"I was a bit skeptical to begin with, but after hearing some of the audio stuff they picked up, now I'm beginning to have more questions, and more interest in what is really there," Smith said.

The Texas Spirit Seekers, Lewisville, met with county officials and interested citizens on Thursday, July 10, in the Commissioner's Courtroom, to present "photo, audio, and video" evidence of what may be paranormal activity at the old historic 1891 jail.

Co-founder and Lead Investigator Dr. Lance Brooks said that the Spirit Seekers are always looking for that special location that has never had any reported paranormal experiences, never been investigated, and is in the process of restoration. Four members of the paranormal group conducted an investigation of the jail on June 21, 2008.

"It got pretty interesting at 2:30 a.m.," Brooks said. "We did find a lot of evidence (of paranormal activity)," he said. According to Brooks, he uses a "scientific approach" to dealing with the paranormal, using "the Null Hypothesis for every investigation we conduct," he said.

The Null Hypothesis starts with the theory that "no paranormal activity" exists, and they begin by trying to "debunk" any collected evidence, using instrumentation such as audio recorders, video cameras, DVR systems, Electric Magnetic Field (EMF) meters, and thermometers. Then they review the data collected. "We do not report personal experiences as paranormal activity unless it can be backed up by our instrumentation," he said.

The state-of-the-art instru-

mentation used at the jail included digital Panasonic cameras, one Hitachi DVR, three Sony video recorders, and one infrared camera; a data logger thermometer, three Olympus audio recorders; a TriField Meter, Extech EMF Meter, and a Mini Box from Paranormal Systems, Inc. They also used a Toshiba Thermal Camera.

Brooks said that 80 percent of the time, "we don't catch anything." But the jail proved to be a veritable storehouse of residual and (maybe) intelligent energy," Brooks said. They reviewed 36 hours of DVD footage; three hours of HDD footage; 200 photographs; and 24 hours of audio tape plus 18 hours of environmental data that was logged and charted in an Excel spreadsheet.

In some ways, the jail presented a real challenge to the group, he said. "Since there was no reported activity in the jail, we were shooting in the dark as to where to locate cameras, recorders, data loggers. We made our best guess and set up four cameras, three recorders, and two loggers. We also had a handheld HDD Sony that we carried around with each group."

"We were able to capture a number of EVPs (electronic voice phenomenon) and a couple of video clips, but were unable, due to camera placement, to capture shadows seen by some of the investigators," he said.

"We recorded six EVPs," Brooks said. The EVP instrumentation can "pick up sounds outside our normal range of hearing," he explained. EVPs included: a door slamming, a voice, (unable to recognize words); another voice saying "let me outta here," "break this down, it's simple;" a door locking; and another unintelligible sound.

"There were a number of personal experiences," Brooks said. "Cold breezes (the average tem-

perature recorded was 84.47 degrees); and the strong smell of roses (the group says they could follow the strong rose smell down the stairs through the kitchen, over and over).

Ron Bailey offered an explanation of the strong rose smell, reporting his first-hand account of an escape from the jail in the mid-50s. Bailey recalls that "an inmate took wire off of an old broom, and cut the bars on the northeast corner of the jail," he said. "He tied sheets to the bar, then put that cheap rose hair oil on his body and escaped."

Everyone in the group had at least one experience, some had more than others," Brooks said. "The cool breezes, smell of perfume in the air, goose bumps, cold spots, sounds, everything associated with paranormal activity where none was supposed to be, was in the jail," he reported. "Needless to say, it was quite an exciting night for an old empty building."

However, reporting experiences and having data to back it up are two different things. "I'm not going to say the jail is haunted," Brooks said. "Since I am a scientist, I would have to have more data, recording the same experiences, over and over."

"We feel that there is not enough evidence to call the structure haunted, but there is a substantial amount of paranormal activity in the building that warrants further investigation."

"We look forward to subsequent investigations of the Motley County Jail, where we will have a chance to place equipment in areas that we did not cover in the first investigation and be better able to form an opinion of the paranormal experiences that we all had," Brooks said.

To read the full report go to the Texas Spirit Seekers web site at www.txspiritseekers.com.

Continued from page one

Matador City Council approves change order

ramps, asking for handrails at the library for steps that may have as much as a six-inch rise to the entrance. Councilman Alvin Alexander supported putting dye in the concrete on the steps. Lewis said that the sidewalks meet ADA specifications, and that the rise in the sidewalks are required to make sure that they shed water from the buildings.

Steps that are not colored will be colored, Lewis said, or redone, including the steps at City Hall and the Library. "On places that have not been poured, we will add colored concrete to help identify the steps," he said, adding stencil (like a brick lay) or coloring to differentiate the rise. The cost for the Change Order would consist of about \$2.00 a

foot, or about \$1,500 to \$1,600, he said. However, Lewis said, the City had enough left in the sidewalk account to take care of this change, due to previous plan revisions.

Lewis assured the Council that the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines will be met to the height of steps, which have to be consistently 3- to 4-inches, with a maximum one-quarter lip, he said.

Mayor Pat Smith stated he had been questioned about the "chunks" that are out of the some of the curbs, most notable at the corner of Highway 70 and Main. Efforts will be made to repair some of the more damaged curbs, Lewis said.

Lewis said he was proud of

the way the sidewalk is looking. The new sidewalks "definitely improve the looks," he said, with consistent walking surfaces.

"There will be a nice consistent new feel to downtown Matador, no worry about holes or cracks or pieces missing," Lewis said.

In other business, the Hotel Occupancy Ordinance and the Back Flow Prevention Ordinance paperwork are still in review by the city attorney. These two items were tabled until next month.

Councilman Alexander asked about the timeline on the depository bids. City Secretary Debra Scott said the Request for Bids have now been published for 21 days. The bids will be opened at the next council meeting, she said.

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34th Annual Jr. Rodeo results

PRE-KIDS

BARRELS: 1st, Kameryn Mathis, Haskell; 2nd, Kalli Dubose, Abernathy; 3rd, Jett Cabler, Spur; 4th, Montana Smith, Happy; 5th, Stetson Jameson, Amarillo; 6th, Colt Quisen Berry, Sayre, OK.

FLAGS: 1st, Jett Cabler, Spur; 2nd, Kameryn Mathis, Haskell; 3rd, Montana Smith, Happy; 4th, Chyenne Pellizari, Midland; 5th, Khaki Dubose, Abernathy; 6th, Kalli Dubose, Abernathy.

POLES: 1st, Kameryn Mathis, Haskell; 2nd, Montana Smith, Happy; 3rd, Llano Bateman, Dickens; 4th, Colt Quisenberry, Sayre, OK; 5th, Khaki Dubose, Abernathy; 6th, Bryanne Cude, Goree.

GOAT RIBBON PULL: 1st, Kalli Dubose, Abernathy; 2nd, Montana Smith, Happy; 3rd, Llano Bateman, Dickens; 4th, Jett Cabler, Spur; 5th, John Sharp, Levelland; 6th, Colby Taylor, Guthrie.

PRE-KID ALL AROUND GIRL: Kameryn Mathis
PRE-KID ALL AROUND BOY: Jett Cabler

PEE-WEE BARRELS: 1st, Swaize Lee, Brownfield; 2nd, Ryder Cude, Goree; 3rd, Amanda Brown, Stinnett; 4th, Sierra Fry, Spur; 5th, Kathryn Cude, Goree; 6th, Lydia Brown, Stinnett.

FLAGS: 1st, Kayley Mathis, Haskell; 2nd, Kara Hurt, Guthrie; 3rd, Ryder Cude, Goree; 4th, Lydia Brown, Stinnett; 5th, Jacy Cabler, Spur; 6th, Sierra Fry, Spur.

POLES: 1st, Swaize Lee, Brownfield; 2nd, Ryder Cude, Goree; 3rd, Lydia Brown, Stinnett; 4th, Hattie Chapman, Lubbock; 5th, Kara Hurt, Guthrie; 6th, Kalley Mathis, Haskell.

GOAT TYING: 1st, Wyatt Sims, Happy; 2nd, Kalli Dubose, Abernathy; 3rd, Jacy Cabler, Spur; 4th, Sqaize Lee, Brownfield; 5th, Zack Kirkpatrick, Crosbyton; 6th, Cassidy Turner, Matador.

BREAKAWAY: 1st, Zack Kirkpatrick, Crosbyton; 2nd, Wesley Sims, Happy; 3rd, Lydia Brown, Stinnett.

STEER DAUBING: 1st, Ryder Cude, Goree; 2nd, Wyatt Sims, Happy; 3rd, Riley Parr, Memphis; 4th, Garret Fry, Spur; 5th, Amanda Brown, Stinnett; 6th, Kaley Mathis, Haskell.

CALF RIDING: 1st, Llano Bateman, Spur; 2nd, Colby Talor, Guthrie; 3rd, Jett Cabler, Spur; 4th, Kalli Dubose, Abernathy; 5th, Tate Bount, Guthrie; 6th, Colt Quisenberry, Sayre, OK.

STEER RIDING: 1st, J.T. Cavazos, Ralls; 2nd, Riley Parr, Memphis; 3rd, Ryder Cude, Goree; 4th, Jay Jenson, Avoca; 5th, Michael Seigler, Northfield; 6th, Tristan Tomlinson, Lubbock.

PEE-WEE ALL AROUND GIRL: Swaize Lee
PEE-WEE ALL AROUND BOY: Ryder Cude

JUNIOR BARRELS: 1st, Sadie Watkins, Amarillo; 2nd, Kamri Criswell, Guthrie; 3rd, Ashley Howard, Friona; 4th, Melyssa Elliott, Paducah; 5th, Laroni Stewart, Haskell.

TIE DOWN: 1st, Myles Brown, Stinnett; 2nd, Lane Livingston, Seymour; 3rd, Tylo Kirkpatrick, Crosbyton; 4th, Jade Roby, Rotan.

POLES: 1st, Sadie Watkins, Amarillo; 2nd, Mrati Wieding, Paducah; 3rd, Karley Kasch, Skellytown; 4th, Kamri Criswell, Guthrie.

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Commissioners' Court adopts budget calendar

be held after August 12. The exact date will be announced in the newspaper. A Public Hearing to Adopt the Budget will be held no later than Monday, August 25. At this hearing, salaries and expenses for elected officials will be considered. Grievance Hearings from employees must be requested in writing within five days of receiving written notice and before the budget is filed. The tax rate hearings and the meeting will be announced at the Public Budget Hearing.

If the vote is favorable for an increase, there will be two rate increase hearings set. The first hearing will be published in the newspaper on Thursday, August 28. Seven days later, no later than Monday, September 8, the first Tax Rate Hearing will be conducted. The location will be announced, dates and time will be published in the newspaper.

No later than Friday, September 12, the Second Tax Rate Hearing will be set. The date, time and place of the meeting to adopt the tax rate will be announced in the newspaper.

At least three days and no more than 14 days after the second meeting, a meeting will be held to adopt the tax rate. The budget will be finalized by Monday, September 29, 2008.

In other business, according to Edwards, the county "may have lost this round of the war" in securing wind energy transmission lines. "I believe in miracles,

and I can prove they happen, but short of a miracle, Motley County will be bypassed," Edwards said.

In a general briefing from the Sheriff, he said he was "looking into grants to put one, if not two county vehicles on the road." One grant he is seeking would come through the South Plains Council of Governments; another grant may be available through the USDA Rural Development program. "These grants could potentially pay all the costs associated with putting up to two brand-new police vehicles on the road," Crutchley said. He will supply the court with additional information later on this initiative, he said.

County Treasurer Eva Barkley requested that the court consider establishing policies to comply with IRS mandates in regard to cell phones. In a memorandum to the court, Barkley said because cell phones are listed as "property" under the IRS Code, that the county needed to develop a policy for use. Cell phones owned by county employees cannot be used for personal calls, except under an emergency. The employee will be required to document all work-related transactions.

In a letter to the court, the South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG) requested that the court adopt a resolution authorizing grant signatories for the Flomot Water Improvement Project. The court voted unanimously to authorize the county

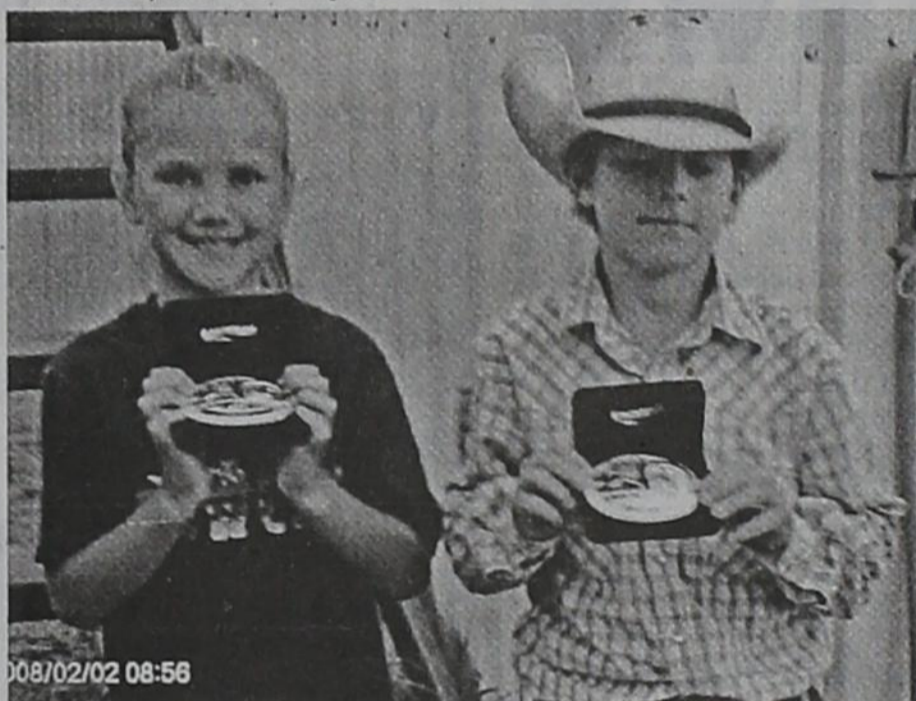
judge, county treasurer, and/or the county judge's assistant, to sign all documentation pertaining to the Texas Community Development Block Grant/Small Town Environmental Program. Only two signatures are required on documentation. The court voted unanimously to designate the First National Bank of Seymour as the depository bank for the block grant funds. Judge Smith was authorized by the court to open a non-interest bearing account at the Matador Branch.

Election judges presented to the Court for consideration by Republican County Chair Wilburn Martin were: Betty Luckett, Precinct Six; Olivia Barton, Precinct One; and Connie Franks, Precinct Two. Poll workers presented by Democratic County Chair C.W. Moore were: Precinct One, Brenda Osborn and Pat Moore; Precinct Two, E. G. and Barbara Reed; Precinct Three, Sue Seigler and Betty Simpson; Precinct Four, Danika Jameson; and Precinct Six, Sherry Rose. The court voted unanimously to accept the appointment of the precinct workers.

In other business, the Texas Department of Transportation gives counties the option of imposing an additional fee for registering a vehicle in the county. The court voted unanimously to adopt a \$10.00 fee, to be used for the upkeep of county roads and bridges.



ALL ROUND Senior Girl was Ashley Howard of Friona and All Around Senior Boy was Cole Carpenter of Girard.



ALL ROUND Pre Kid Cowgirl was Kameryn Mathis of Haskell All Pre Kid Cowboy was Jett Cabler of Spur

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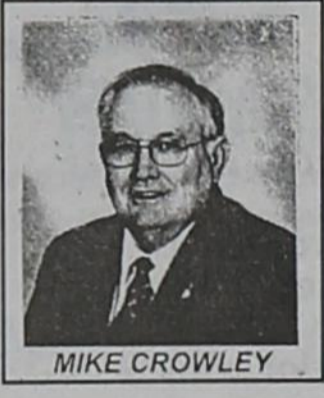
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DRIVEN TO CHRIST BY GUILT


MIKE CROWLEY

The first practical translations of the New Testament into Urdu and Persian languages were made by Henry Martyn between 1806 and 1812. He had an Arab assistant by the name of Sabat, who used to say that he had been driven to Christianity by remorse.

His remorse came from his betrayal of his life-long friend. He and his friend had made the Muslim pilgrimage (the Hajj) to Mecca together as young men. His friend later came across an Arabic Bible in Cabul (Kabul, Afghanistan), of all unlikely places, and far from any human teacher became a disciple of Christ.

The change in him could not be hidden, and he had to flee for his life. He came to Bokhara. Sabat, his friend, was in the city. "I had no pity," said Sabat afterwards. "I delivered him up to Morad Shah, the king." In the marketplace they cut off one of the Christian's hands, as Sabat the informer watched.

They pressed the Christian to recant. "He made no answer, but looked up steadfastly toward heaven, like Stephen, the first martyr; his eyes streaming with tears. He looked at me, but it was with the countenance of forgiveness. His other hand was then cut off. But he never changed, and when he bowed his head to receive the death blow, all Bokhara seemed to say, "What new thing is this?" Indeed.

Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

Roaring Springs Church of Christ
Michael G. Crowley, Sr.
BIBLE STUDY - 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP - 9:00 A.M.

NEWS AROUND MOTLEY COUNTY

Roaring Springs News

By Monta Marshall

I guess I am one of the most dense PC users. It seems I cannot install anything. It always tells me to press such and such button and that it will be in a certain position, i.e. upper right hand corner; and it isn't there nor is it anywhere else on the screen. I just wanted to install my Dell PC Turn Up. With help from a friend that is computer literate, I had purchased a subscription and have everything I need to install it if I could just find the button and the correct screen. All I lack is to put in my license key. Why can some understand the lingo of the PC and for others it might as well be the Russian or Chinese language?

I have noticed if someone who is literate is with me I can do all sorts of things! It makes me want to hide my head in shame. It is a good thing I don't try to get on the shopping channels or Ebay. I really would be frustrated or else I would purchase things I never meant to buy! Oh, well. . . My friend will be by in a few days and if we can get the right screen back maybe I can get my license key in properly and that will fix me up for another year.

A former Roaring Springs resident, Essie Payne who was a sister of Margie Payne died last Tuesday. A grave side service was held at the Roaring Springs Cemetery on Friday afternoon. About 67 family members attended the service and most were from out of town.

Gene Perry, retired Baptist minister preached at the First Baptist Church on Sunday. Most of his years as a pastor were in ministry in Oklahoma; he now resides in Plainview. Johnny and Connie Morris are vacationing part of this week.

Perry and Deannette Gullede have purchased the building that Vickie Pierce had her flower shop in when it was in Roaring Springs. They are busy beginning to convert the building into living quarters in the upstairs and a business on the lower floor.

The First Baptist Church will have a Bible Extravaganza for the children on August 9th. A day of Bible stories, crafts and other fun things is being planned. Vonda Brendle is the coordinator for this event.

The Roaring Springs Community Volunteers would also like to thank all who donated to the fireworks display and to those who planned the show. We have heard it said that it was the best ever. It takes a lot of work to set up the display and it is a dangerous job. People were generous to give money to purchase the fireworks. THANK YOU!

Bill Hand was at home last week. He had lots of visitors. He has gone back to Lubbock and is having a second cataract surgery today. He plans to stay with his daughter, Kim Watson until he has kept a couple of doctor's appointments and then he plans to be home to stay.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

A preacher was trying to start his pull start lawn mower when a young man walked by and said, "Preacher, you have to cuss at those things to get them to run." "Son," the preacher said, "I haven't cussed in a long, long time."

A moment went by and the young man replied, "Well, just keep pulling that rope and it'll come back to you."

MEMORABLE MOMENTS AT 1958 50TH CLASS REUNION

The 1958 Flomot High School graduating class observed their 50th class reunion during Flomot Homecoming Saturday afternoon in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Edd Smith in Fairmont.

All six of the class members attended and those enjoying renewing memories were Ervin Willard of Uvalde, Lewis Cannon of Tulia, Bertie Kimbell Branson of Kress, June Ross Hale of Floydada, Joan Green Helms of Flomot and the host, Joe Edd Smith. Special guest was their class sponsor, Wilburn Martin of Flomot.

Mrs. Geneva Martin following a fall in her home Monday suffered a broken hip and was conveyed by ambulance to Mangold Hospital in Lockney. She was transferred to Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock where she had surgery Thursday. With her during surgery and hospitalization are daughter and husband, Kathy and Clois Shorter.

Cory Kendall of Midland visited Sunday with his parents, Linda and Travis Kendall and accompanied home his children, Connor and Chancey, who visited here the past week. Jacob and Jere Kendall, sons of Melissa and Tim Kendall, returned to Midland with them to visit this week. Mrs. Wanda Lane of South Plains and Wilburn Martin visited.

ited in Anson Tuesday with J.C. Moss who is ill. They continued to Abilene and met Mrs. Barbara Jones of Santa Ana for lunch and to visit.

Tommy Ross who drives an 18-wheeler truck for Celcon, Co., visited from Monday until Friday with his mother, Mrs. Aleda Ross.

Mrs. Janice Hughes was a hostess Saturday morning at a baby shower honoring Mrs. Christi Whittle in the home of Mrs. Elaine LeBaume in Floydada. She and husband, Butch visited son and family, Rickey and Tasha Hughes, Kendal and Kason before returning home.

Donnie Rogers, mother, Mrs. B. Rogers met his daughter, Natalie Rogers of Williamsburg, Virginia at Lubbock Airport Monday and accompanied her here to visit. Thursday, they met his other daughter, Brooke Rogers, a student at the University of Texas in Austin at Lubbock Airport. The four of them visited overnight in Lubbock with Ronnie and Lou Rogers who had a barbecue supper for them. Other guests were Richard, Tina and Jerod Rogers of Lubbock. Friday morning, Donnie, B., Natalie and Brooke went to Ruidoso, N.M. and enjoyed the weekend.

Those with Mrs. Geneva Martin Thursday who had hip surgery at the Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock were Mrs. Carolyn Ewing of Matador, Mrs. Waydette Clay, Mrs. Anna Beth Clay and Wilburn Martin. Anna Beth and husband, Joe Ike Clay visited her Saturday.

Mrs. Connie Franks, Mrs. Erna Washington and Mrs. Sandra Barclay enjoyed attending the All Star Baseball game, Friday, at the Maxey Park in Lubbock. Ashton Barclay, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cody Barclay of Borger, was on the All Star Team of Borger.

Jack and Nada Starkey attended the Blue Grass Gospel Concert in Tulia Saturday night.

Matador News

STEPHENS FAMILY REUNION

The descendants of Dan and Hattie Belle Stephens, who moved to Whiteflat in 1907 with their family, held their annual reunion Sunday, July 13, 2008, in Plainview.

Billy C. "Doc" and Mary Helen Stephens Cross have hosted the reunion the past 25 years in their beautiful backyard and patio. They announced this would be the last year as they are selling their home and moving to a Town Apartment in Plainview for the convenience of less work due to their physical problems. Relatives attending enjoyed renewing memories, family photographs, a bountiful noon meal and visiting from New Mexico, Colorado, Oklahoma and throughout Texas. Attending from Matador were Earlyne and H.R. "sneet" Jameson.

Jana Campbell Ellsworth and son, Brennen, 2, visited with Carol and grandmother Lucretia Campbell on Friday, July 11. Jana is the daughter of the late Richard Campbell, and Ann Huffman of Denver.

Carolyn Pohl Limmer spent the day in Matador on Monday,

July 14, visiting with friends. She met Carol Campbell for lunch at Main Street, and visited with Kay and Ron Bailey before returning to Snyder, Texas.

Brant Bailey attended the Jay Novacek Dallas Cowboys Football Camp at North Texas State University in Denton. He received a special training at the quarterback position. He won the "Outstanding Quarterback" award out of his group of 14 quarterbacks for the 10-year-olds. Brant is the son of Andrea Bailey and the grandson of Ron and Kay Bailey, all local residents.

Former resident Laverna Price Johnston was honored with a Birthday Party on July 9 at the Triumph Hospital in Amarillo. Family members attending were Mary Jones, Andrea Bailey, Rona and Kay Bailey, all of Matador, Lance Bailey and Jason Bailey of Lamesa, David and Marilyn Rattan, and Dax Rattan of Amarillo. A decorated table and centerpiece, birthday cake, ice cream, punch, balloons, gifts, and cards, made it a very happy and festive occasion. Laverna would welcome notes from friends in Matador. Her address is: Triumph Hospital, 7501 Wallace, Room 102, Amarillo, TX 79124.

OBITUARY

Essie Roller Payne

Essie Payne, 79, of Lubbock, Texas, was born April 7, 1929 in Roaring Springs, Texas to the late William Carl and Eula Viola Roller. She passed away July 8, 2008 in Lubbock. She married Ruben Payne on October 6, 1945 in Roaring Springs. She loved all her family and her precious dog, Scrappy. She retired from Ti and Devro.

Essie was survived by three daughters; Linda (Floyd) Walters of Plainview, Teresa (Sid) Gibson, and Celia Mohling of Lubbock; her twin brother, Jesse

(Bud) Roller of Lubbock; her brother, A.L. (Bo) Roller; four sister, Winnie Byars of Seminole, Ruby Nichols of Lubbock, Margie Payne of Roaring Springs, and Janie of Marana, Arizona; three grandchildren, Keith (Jennifer), Jimmy and Valorie (Bobby); eight great grandchildren, Cassidy, Benna Mae, Tristan, Kaleb, Matthew, Troy, Leeann, and Amber. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ruben; a grandson, James, and seven brothers and sisters.

RS Underwood girls together first time in many years



On June 5, 2008, The Underwood girls gathered to attend the funeral and celebrate the life of, William Mack "Micky" Hurt. Micky went to be with the Lord on June 3, 2008.

Micky was the son of Thomas and Dora Hurt, and nephew of the Underwood girls. Pictured from the left are: Audrey Jones, Emma Jean Grant, Mildred (Tinsy) Parr, Dora Hurt, Barbara Marvel, Mary Martin, Rose Martin, and Sarah Martin. The Underwood girls are

daughters of Otto and Rosetta Underwood, both deceased. Otto farmed for many years in Roaring Springs.

Two sisters, Marie and Edith Ashley are deceased. Besides the sisters there are two Underwood brothers Richard (Dick) Underwood deceased and Charles Underwood. Charles was unable to attend the funeral. This is the first time all the Underwood girls have been together in many years.

Hackberry Creek

June

Employee of the Month

Vickey Wederski



Vickey is married to Dave Wederski. They have three children, Aaron, Kelsy, and Wendy and attend St. Elizabeth church.

I really enjoy working at HCCC, Inc. The residents and family members are my first priority.

One of the functions of humor is to help all of us to take ourselves less seriously.

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<p>3 PROGRAM IMPALAS</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">30 + PLUS MILES PER GALLON</p>	<p>2007 CHEVY COBALTS</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">3 LOW MILE PROGRAM CARS HIGH MPG</p>	<p>1995 MERCURY CLEAN AS A NEW ONE FORMER OWNER SAID IT GOT OVER 25MPG.</p>

MATADOR HOMECOMING 2008 NEWS



The 1955 REGIONAL CHAMPIONS Matador Matadors football team is one of the teams to be recognized at the Matador/Motley County Homecoming game on Friday, September 12th. Back Row: C. Jameson, K. Grey, G. Cartwright, A. Lynn, A.B. Simpson, C. Holiman, A. Ellithorp. Third Row: L. Smith, M. Nichols, B. Cross, J. McNelly, L. Fair, L. Hoyle, Coach Hopkins. Second Row: Coach Rattan, R. Bailey, G. Pipkin, D. Green, P. Green, S. Jackson, F. Thrasher, D. Graham. Front Row: J. Bearden, R. Scaff, H.

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Saturday Night
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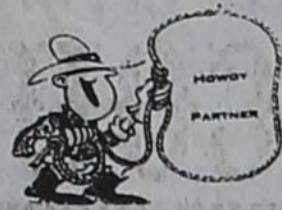
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Chamber

News & Views

By Marie-Louise Liebe-Harkort



Consider:

If you're too busy to give your neighbor a helping hand, then you're just too darned busy.

--Marie T. Freeman

A helping hand is just what is needed at this juncture, and it is to be hoped that you're not just too darned busy to lend one.

There are two items where the Chamber of Commerce needs your help, and hopefully you can get to the one or the other with a fair amount of dispatch, given that it is summertime, when the living is (supposed to be) easy...

Item number one where help is being solicited concerns the directory of businesses and services in Motley County that is nearing completion. As has already been mentioned, the Chamber is preparing a new directory, since the one prepared a couple of years ago is quite out of date. Some businesses are no longer around, and others, new ones, have opened their doors.

And that is where your help is needed.

Have you started a business in recent years? Then it needs to be listed, since only when the listing is as complete as we can make it is it really a helpful tool, not only to newcomers in the communities, but to long time residents as well.

Or maybe you know of a new business that should be listed, or someone with a special skill

that they are willing to put at the disposal of other members of the community. Then let them know about the directory and encourage them to be listed.

Call the Chamber office any time and leave a message, if that is the easiest for you: (806) 347-2968. Or send an E-Mail to the Chamber at motcocm@caprock-spur.com, listing the type of business, the name and the telephone number.

And, while you are on the internet, surf on over to www.motley-countychamber.org, and check out the Chamber of Commerce web site. It is in the process of being updated and expanded, and your comments and suggestions will be welcomed.

Not only that, but all businesses that are members can have a link to their own website or a webpage all their own on the Chamber site. You just have to let us know what you want on the page--the easiest way is if you send the information to the Chamber at the address listed above. That way, there are no communication foul-ups, and the information you want published appears as you send it.

So take a couple of minutes off from all the other pressing tasks that are keeping you busy, think about the businesses that need to be in the directory, check out the Chamber website, and let us know the results of your contemplations. The Chamber mailbox at motcocm@caprock-spur.com is open 24 hours a day for your suggestions.

Gregory Retires from Cooperative Board

Garth Gregory retired from his advisory board position with South Plains Development Corporation, a subsidiary of South Plains Electric Cooperative. He held the position of secretary/treasurer at the time of his retirement at the May 2008 meeting. Gregory served on the former Dickens Electric Cooperative Board from 1977 to 1986, serving as Board Secretary. He resigned from the Cooperative Board because he was elected and served one term as Kent County judge. He was re-elected to the Dickens Electric Cooperative Board in 1991.

As a member of Dickens Electric Cooperative, Gregory was instrumental in the merger with South Plains Electric Cooperative in 1999. His leadership and experience helped guide the Dickens Electric Cooperative membership down the road to what has been a very successful business decision

for members. With the merger, only two Dickens Directors were seated on the Cooperative Board with the balance of the Dickens Board taking seats on the South Plains Development Corporation. Gregory was seated on the Development Board.

Gregory is a retired appraiser for Kent County. He is also retired from the Association of Texas Appraisal Districts, the Andrew Kent Water and Soil Conservation, Jayton-Girard ISD and Salt Fork Underground Conservation boards.

Garth, and his wife, Alta Jean, have been residents of Kent County most of their lives. They have two daughters and four grandchildren.

The Cooperative and its members thank Garth Gregory for his many years of dedicated service to the Cooperative Board and Advisory Board.

Hotel Matador Hosts Regional Board Meeting

Hotel Matador was host for the Texas Plains Trail Regional board meeting on Thursday July 10 at 11:00 a.m. A presentation on the Historic Motley County Jail restoration project was given by Carol Campbell of Matador and a presentation on various historic projects in Motley County was given by Marisue Potts. An elegant luncheon was served which included some home made strawberry sherbet.

The regular business meeting followed with reports on Texas

Plains Trail efforts to promote tourism in the 52 county region. This includes a booth at the Texas and New Mexico state fairs, advertising in Travel Host magazine, involvement with the musical production "TEXAS" and presentations in the Lubbock and Amarillo airports and billboards in the area.

Each county represented at the meeting gave a brief overview of recent tourism events after which the meeting was adjourned and there were tours of the Hotel.



Notes from the Library

By Buffy Crutchley

June was definitely a busy month at the library. I was amazed at some of the statistics I found while tallying my monthly reports. We checked out a whopping 1072 materials. That's a record since I came to work at the library. We also issued 18 new library cards! 700 people visited the library over a 17 day period, and the library had eight different meetings held in our building. The internet was used for 102 combined hours by 138 people! We also added 82 new books to the shelves. We've really been working hard, and these numbers show it!

Thank you to Suzanne, Marihelen and PK for manning the

fort while I was in Florida. I couldn't have left without their help, so thank you gals so much! It was a relief knowing the library was in such capable hands.

While I was away, I bought enough children's books to warrant shipping home 2 giant boxes full. I'm excited to add several of the popular "Junie B. Jones" series to the shelves, as well as a few of the "Goosebumps" and "Disney" books too. So if your child might be interested in these types of books, bring 'em in today!

And don't forget, the last day to turn in the Reading Bingo cards is July 30th.

Four Winds RC&D provides grant funds for 4-H projector

The Four Winds Resource Conservation and Development council provided grant funds to the Motley County 4-H to assist in the purchase of an LCD projector.

The projector will be used by 4-H youth and leaders to improve implementation of their projects

and programs. Ronald Bailey, Motley County RC&D representative presented the check to agent Ryan Martin.

The Four Winds RC&D is comprised of 13 counties in the rolling plains of Texas and is a function of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).



RYAN MARTIN receives projector from Ron Bailey. The Four Winds Resource Conservation and Development council provided grant funds to the Motley County 4-H to assist in the purchase of the LCD projector.

Birth Announcement



Scott and Laura Simmons of Friendswood announce the birth of their daughter, Natalie Laura Simmons, born May 5, 2008 at 6:29 PM at Clear Lake Regional Medical Center, Webster, Texas. She weighed 8 lb 5 oz and was 19 1/4 inches long.

Grandparents are Nancy and Bill Barrow of Vernon (Nancy is the former Nancy Bond Traweek of Matador), the late Gary Simmons, formerly of Ft. Worth, Cynthia Simmons

of Ft. Worth, and Bob Barrow of Galveston. Great grandparents are the late Howard and Eleanor Traweek, long time Matador Residents, and Jim and Modell Stanfill of Arlington. Uncles are Brian Barrow of San Marcos and Bryce Barrow of Ft. Worth, wife Susan and children Blake and Bailey.

CONGRATULATIONS, Mom and Dad, and WELCOME, Natalie!

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County Agent's News

by Ryan Martin, Agri LIFE EXTENSION Agent



Motley County Jr. Rodeo

I want to personally thank everyone that helped with the 2008 Motley County Jr. Rodeo. We had an excellent turnout this year and everyone did a great job.

I also want to thank everyone that donated to this cause or came out to watch the rodeo. Without your support this fund raiser would not be possible. At this time we do not have a total amount that was raised, but all proceeds will go to help the Motley 4-H Club with its programs, events and activities.

A big thank you goes out to the Adult 4-H Leaders Association as they are the people behind this event that put it on and also to the Motley 4-H Club members for helping at the gate, concession stand and in the arena.

Thanks again for another great year.

Country of Origin Labeling

The 2007 Farm Bill (passed in May 2008) included provisions to implement mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (COOL). COOL was actually directed in the 2002 Farm Bill but was not implemented because of funding issues. Unless there is change during rulemaking, COOL will be enforced at retail beginning October 1, 2008.

The following was excerpted from a release in late May: "The Farm Bill amends the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to provide new COOL requirements for beef, lamb, pork, and goat meat. It also amends the list of covered commodities to include chicken, macadamia nuts, ginseng, and pecans. (Note that peanuts were covered by the existing COOL law.) The provision specifies labeling requirements for products that are of U.S. country of origin, multiple countries of origin, imported for immediate slaughter, and from a foreign country of origin. For meat products to be eligible for U.S. country of origin, the product must be derived from an animal that was born, raised, and slaughtered exclusively in the United States (with a narrow exception for animals from Alaska or Hawaii and transported through Canada), or present in the United States on or before July 15th, 2008 and, once present in the United States, must have remained continuously in the United States."

Note that meats include beef, lamb, pork, and goat. Also note that animals present in the US on or before July 15, 2008, and that remain in the US after that date, are grandfathered (eligible for US country of origin label).

The USDA is currently writing the rules for COOL. They are supposed to be out any time.

It might be worthwhile for livestock owners to document their livestock inventory that was present on July 15, 2008. We do not know the rules yet, but a July 15, 2008 inventory might prove useful in the future. Likewise, producers need to keep track of invoices for purchased livestock and the person/entity from which they bought the stock after July 15, 2008. Industry assumptions are that an affidavit system will be used in the future when livestock change hands (seller signs affidavit indicating they can prove where the animals originated or from who they were purchased previously).

Again, we do not know the rules yet, but taking a couple of steps - JUST IN CASE - may prove worthwhile.

ROLLING PLAINS-3 DISTRICT 4-H RECORD BOOK WINNERS NAMED

VERNON - Winners in the Texas AgriLife Extension Service Rolling Plains-3 District 4-H Record Judging were selected July 10, when screening groups met at the Wilbarger Memorial Auditorium in Vernon, according to Kelli Lehman, Extension Program Specialist 4-H for the twenty-four Rolling Plains counties.

There were 64 Junior records, 83 Intermediate records, and 71 Senior records scored in 39 different subject matter areas. Junior and Intermediate records were placed first through fifth place. First place Senior records will be submitted for State judging, where they will compete for scholarships and awards.

4-H members from Motley County placed as follows: Cassidy Turner - First Place in Food and Nutrition Junior Division, Shane'a Russell - Third Place in Food and Nutrition Senior Division, Mattie Brooks - First Place in Personal Development Junior Division, Jaci Zingerman - First Place in Photography Intermediate Division, and Seth Baxter - First Place in Sheep Junior Division.

Congratulations to these 4-H members as they did an excellent job on their record books.

4-H is the youth development and leadership program of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, a part of the Texas A&M System.

Fairways and Rough

by Tammy Simpson

Scramble Ladies Playday June 26

18 hole players were June Moss, Geneva Wilson, Dartha Westbrook and Jean Hoover. Jean won the ball - low putts.

9 hole players were Pat Warren, Jan Martin, Nell Berryman, Judy Renfro, Glenna Ross, Polly Campbell, Tommye Keith, Frances Hobbs, Judy Cartwright, Jessica Ballard, Olivia Osborn and Tammy Simpson. Frances won the ball - low putts

Scramble July 1

First, with a score of 27, Ken Marshall, Austin Taylor, Corky Marshall, Pat Smith and William Cochran. Others playing were, Robert Osborn, Jonathon Osborn, Kyla Simpson, David Taylor, Tammy Simpson, Jack Rex, Todd Ellis, Roy Gene Stephens, Olivia Barton and Jim Watson.

Closest to the pin - Roy Gene Stephens 32'9"

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DAYS GONE BY

More Sand Storms

By Pup Price

Many people suffered long term breathing problems as a result of the sand storms. Some entered that period already with difficulties and did not survive because of what the sand contributed, an unbeatable combination.

We provided as much personal protection as possible by dipping rags in water and covering our noses. Still with every breath the taste of dirt stuck in our throats and our eyes burned like fire. Vicks nose drops and salve were the miracle of the time. We would stuff our noses full of the salve in an attempt to limit the effects of the dirt.

At night when we could not sleep because of stuffed noses, we used the drops - always Vicks, which was strong and very effective, coming equipped with a rubber bulb over a glass vial and an invitation to count the drops. If we had no Vicks nose drops, as was frequently the case, we used salt water, which was less effective.

Matador Ranch offering ranch-raised horses at Caprock Ranchers' Horse Sale and Futurity

Matador Ranch is consigning six ranch-bred and -raised horses to the third annual Caprock Ranchers' Horse Sale and Futurity set for July 18 and 19 in Clarendon, Texas.

"This show and sale continues to attract outstanding horses ready to work on a ranch or in the arena," said Bob Kilmer, Matador Ranch manager. "Matador Ranch has been raising quality stock for our use for a number of years. We focus on soundness and disposition - and agility. We recognize the need for a strong safety program and believe our horses fit that bill."

Matador Ranch breeds its foundation Quarter Horse mares to leading performance stallions to produce a quality working and futurity horse. The ranch keeps what it needs and offers a select number for sale during the Caprock Rancher's sale and through private treaty sales at the ranch.

This year, Matador is offering three mares, two geldings and a yearling stallion. The mares

When the storm subsided, we would attempt to clean the sand from our nostrils and ears. The wash cloths were black, and I don't believe we ever totally got out the dirt. We would wash our hair with soap, we had no shampoo. In fact it was some time before I was aware of a product called shampoo.

Our eyes were constantly red and itchy, again as a result of the sand, small gravel propelled by the raging wind would often imbed itself in the skin, resulting in blood when the gravel was brushed away. I marveled at the clean appearing cool crystal clear water that we drew from the cisterns, unaffected by the raging sand.

No comparisons of that time have occurred since. It is not possible to describe the sandstorms of the thirties sufficiently to enable those with no experience to realize the fury and the effect it had on our lives. I can only invite them to locate pictures made during such events and observe the ominous portrayal of a such a storm at the height of its fury.

The predictable feature about the storms was that they would certainly occur and often - those that followed were as those that came before them. Lacking any style of weather forecast, we would most often awaken to a calm beautiful day only to see the dreaded red haze develop toward the West, usually in early afternoon.

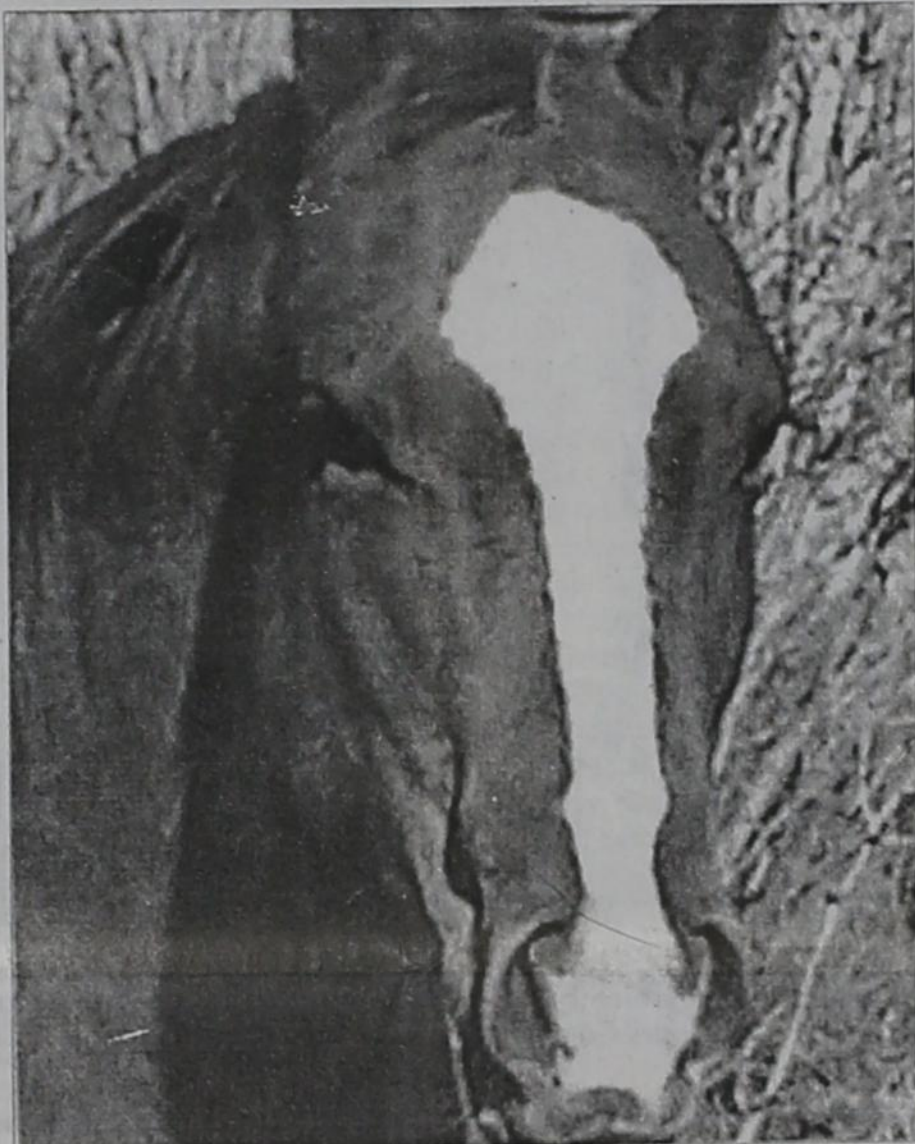
I was awed by the fact that, as the storm approached and just before it reached where I was standing, I could look to the East and the sky was blue - for a brief moment. Recently, I found a program on the network that contained several pictures of the storms of that time. They brought back visions in my mind that can not be described.

There is a movie called "Suez" starring Tyrone Power and Annabelle that was made in the thirties. Not a particularly good movie, however, there is an extended scene shot during a sand storm supposedly in that part of the world. It impressed me because the sound and sight were so realistic, so like what we heard

and saw. Today whenever given the opportunity, I watch that movie.

We found that during the height of the wind and sand storm seasons, there was insufficient time to plow the fields during the day. Daddy equipped his tractor with lights to enable work during the night time hours when the wind was less frequent and much calmer. The lighting on the tractor was rigged up with an old six volt battery that was charged by adapting a generator on the tractor.

The result was so so and a great example of Daddy's rigging ability. The tractor motor turned slower than a car engine, which was what the generator was meant for, and the battery was old, old. The lighting was so poor, I am surprised Daddy was able to see at all. Often he would plow far into the night and sometimes into the next day when he would fall from exhaustion or the sight of a coming sand storm.



2007-2008 District 3 4-H Photograph Winner
Horse in a Pasture
by Shelby Elliott

Earth Talk

Autism rates have skyrocketed in the U.S. and beyond in recent years. While researchers think there is a genetic component to autism, they also believe environmental factors are playing a role in its recent increase.

Some researchers are focusing on the role of food in a young child's development. Many autistic children suffer from digestive diseases or have genetic dispositions rendering them unable to naturally rid their bodies of toxins. As such, exposure to heavy metals, pesticides, contaminated water and even processed food could have a devastating cumulative effect, some researchers

think. Others wonder if a collective "nature deficit disorder" among children plays a factor in rising autism rates. Outdoor exposure has long been associated with healthier cognitive functioning in children, with reduction in Attention Deficit Disorder symptoms and greater emotional capacity. But new findings suggest it could impact autism, too.

GOT AN ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION? Submit it at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/, or e-mail: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Read past columns at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php.

Diálogo Ecológico

No cabe duda que los niveles de autismo se han disparado súbitamente en los E.E.U.U. y otros países estos últimos años. Según los Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Centros para el control y prevención de enfermedades), la enfermedad afecta a uno en cada de 150 niños nacidos hoy en los E.E.U.U., un aumento serio sobre el uno en cada 500 que se registraba tan recientemente como apenas 10 años atrás. Se ha convertido en la incapacidad de crecimiento de más rápido aumento entre los niños, más que el cáncer de la niñez, la diabetes juvenil y el SIDA pediátrico combinados - y la misma continúa creciendo a un índice del 10 a 17 por ciento por año.

Aunque los investigadores piensan que hay un componente genético en el autismo, ellos también creen que los factores ambientales están desempeñando un papel central en su aumento reciente. Algunos investigadores se están concentrando en el papel de los alimentos en el desarrollo de los niños pequeños. Muchos niños autísticos sufren de enfermedades digestivas o tienen disposiciones genéticas que impiden a sus cuerpos desprenderse naturalmente de toxinas. www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/; ó mándela por correo electrónico a: earthtalk@emagazine.com. Lea nuestro archivo de columnas pasadas en: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php.

continued from page one

RS City Council

Community Center building regarding the future rental fees and various future users.

The Roaring Springs Community Volunteers will be able to meet at the Center without charge since they had sold the city the building for a nominal fee. J. N. Fletcher said the Volunteers will probably give a donation for the use. General fees for the use of the Center were set at \$150 for reunions and other gatherings for one day or \$175 for usage of two days. Foothills Fellowship has requested to use the building once a month on the second Thursday and the fee for that was set. There was also discussion about replacing the water heater because of the odor and also discussion about repairing the outside rest rooms.

There was discussion concerning the need for revenue building

since the sales tax monies seemed low and interest rates on monies held were also low, a report on the roofing project on the school buildings which is proceeding as planned, and letter of request was read from Kevin Keltz for the use of the high school for a Christian based Halloween series of events that involve children with messages encouraging the avoidance of drug use, alcohol use, and suicide prevention. After some discussion about release forms, a motion was made and approved to allow the use of the building for this event.

Positive feedback about the 4th of July celebration has been received and plans are already underway for next year in which the City will collaborate with the Volunteers for the events. After expressing many thanks to all who helped at the celebration the meeting was adjourned.

Got something to share? Email mctribune@gmail.com

Connect to Customer Choice

AS THE ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY that has been serving south and west Texas for over 90 years, AEP Texas knows a thing or two about energy conservation. While we no longer sell electricity or send out monthly electric bills, we recognize this is going to be a long, hot summer.

Since AEP Texas and its 1,700 employees are directly connected to the many communities we live in and serve, we'd like to share some information on how you can help manage your electric bills through active retail choice and where you can go for additional help if need be.

One of the best ways to lower higher electric bills is to shop around for a less expensive retail electric provider (REP). Finding different offers can be done quickly and efficiently.

- 1) Visit the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) electric choice website at www.powertochoose.org. If you don't have access to a computer, you can call the PUCT's Electric Choice hotline at 1-866-PWR-4-TEX (797-4839).
- 2) Use the information you receive to contact different REPs to collect more information on various services and offers. Also contact your current REP at the number listed on your electric bill for other offers that may be available. Ask about contract terms and prices and be sure to look at the REPs' Electricity Facts Labels to make a good comparison.

Need some help?

Customers having trouble paying their electric bills and wishing to avoid disconnection should discuss their concerns with their current retail electric provider. All REPs are required to offer deferred payment plans to eligible customers who express an inability to pay. REPs also offer balanced billing plans, which allow eligible customers to pay an average amount each month year-round.

Additionally, many community action agencies may be able to help with electric bills or energy efficiency programs. For more information, contact the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) at 1-800-525-0657, e-mail at info@tdhca.state.tx.us or visiting one of the following websites.

TDHCA Utility Bill Help and Other Assistance
www.tdhca.state.tx.us/assist_energy.htm

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Buy-in waiver for supplemental agricultural disaster assistance programs underway in new Farm Bill

WASHINGTON, July 11, 2008 - USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will allow producers who would otherwise be ineligible for the new disaster assistance programs to become eligible by paying a fee as required by the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (the 2008 Act).

The 2008 Act requires producers who wish to participate in the new disaster programs to have crop insurance or non-insured crop disaster assistance (NAP) coverage for the land for which assistance is being requested, and for all farms in all counties in which they have an interest. Since the 2008 Act was enacted after the application periods had closed for those programs, producers who did not have such coverage could not comply with this requirement in order to be eligible for the new disaster programs. However, the 2008 Act authorizes a waiver that allows producers to pay a fee, called a "buy-in" fee, to be eligible for this new disaster assistance.

Every producer whose crops, including grazing lands, are not fully covered by crop insurance or NAP may take advantage of this one-time opportunity. The buy-in fee is due no later than Sept. 16, 2008, 90 days after the date of enactment, as required by the 2008 Act. Those who miss this opportunity will not be eligible for disaster assistance. Producers are also reminded that the payment of the applicable buy-in fee does not afford the producer crop insurance or NAP coverage; it only affords eligibility for the 2008 disaster programs.

The crop insurance and NAP coverage requirements will be waived in

2008 for producers who did not obtain crop insurance or NAP coverage by the applicable sales closing date, if the producer

files an application for waiver and pays a buy-in fee in an amount equal to the 2008 applicable NAP coverage or catastrophic risk protection plan fee for the crop or grazing lands.

Producers who meet the definition of "Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource," or "Beginning Farmer or Rancher," do not have to meet the Risk Management Purchase Requirement, and, therefore, are not required to pay the buy-in fee.

The buy-in fee for 2008 eligibility only for either the catastrophic risk protection insurance (CAT) or NAP is \$100 per crop, but not more than \$300 per producer per administrative county, or \$900 total per producer for all counties less any previously paid fees for CAT and/or NAP.

Producers can contact their local administrative FSA County Office to file the application for waiver and pay the applicable fees.

The applicable buy-in form must be completed and applicable fees paid by Sept. 16, 2008. Payment of the applicable fees will allow the producer to be eligible for benefits for losses under Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program, Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), Tree Assistance Program (TAP), and Emergency Assistance Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP).

The 2008 Act authorizes funds to be used to make payments to farmers and ranchers incurring eligible crop production/quality losses under the SURE Program,

livestock losses under LFP, livestock death losses under LIP, and losses suffered by producers of livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish under ELAP. The 2008 Act also authorizes TAP.

To be eligible for SURE, TAP, and ELAP, producers must meet the Risk Management Purchase Requirement by purchasing at least the CAT level of crop insurance for all insurable crops and/or NAP coverage for non-insurable crops. To be eligible for LFP, producers must meet the Risk Management Purchase Requirement by purchasing or obtaining for the grazing land incurring the losses where assistance is being requested, a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, including pilot programs such as the Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Program (PRF) or NAP coverage by filing the required paperwork and paying the administrative fee by the applicable State filing deadline. The Risk Management Purchase Requirement does not apply to LIP.

The SURE program will be available to eligible producers on farms in disaster counties, designated by the Secretary, including contiguous counties that have incurred crop production losses and/or crop quality losses during the crop year. However, Congress determined that payments would not occur until the calculation at the end of the marketing year.

It also will be available to any farm where, during the calendar year, the total loss of production on the farm, because of weather, is greater than 50 percent of the normal production of the farm.

The LFP program will be available to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock, because of drought on land that is either

native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or planted to a crop specifically for providing grazing. The LFP program will also be available to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock, because of fire on rangeland managed by a Federal agency, if the eligible livestock producer is prohibited from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland.

The LIP program will be available to eligible livestock producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality, because of adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary during the calendar year, including losses because of hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold.

The TAP program provides assistance to orchardists and eligible nursery tree growers who produce nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut or Christmas trees for commercial sale that lost trees, bushes, or vines, because of a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary.

The ELAP program will provide emergency relief to producers of livestock, honey bees and farm-raised fish, because of losses from adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary.

Because Congress did not provide a rulemaking exception for these programs, FSA must first publish a proposed rule seeking public comment, followed by a final rule. FSA is working to develop detailed regulations and software for these programs. Sign up for these programs is not expected to be held until this winter.

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Thank You and God Bless You
The Essie Roller Payne Family

SHOP AT HOME FIRST!

continued from page 3 JR rodeo Results

GOAT TYING: 1st, Sadie Watkins, Amarillo; 2nd, Katey Kasch, Skellytown.

GIRLS BREAKAWAY: 1st, Katey Kasch, Skellytown.

BOYS BREAKAWAY: 1st, Myles Brown, Stinnett; 2nd, Jeremy Davidson, Lubbock; 3rd, Cody Roby, Rotan; 4th, Schlen Tomlinson, Lubbock; 5th, Tylo Kirkpatrick, Crosbyton; 6th, Coley Flowers, Aspermont.

RIBBON ROPING: 1st, Coley Flowers, Aspermont; 2nd, Lane Livingston, Seymour.

STEER DAUBING GIRLS: 1st, Sadie Watkins, Amarillo; 2nd, Marti Wieding, Paducah; 3rd, Kamri Criswell, Paducah; 4th, Katey Kasch, Skellytown.

STEER DAUBING BOYS: 1st, Cody Roby, Rotan; 2nd, Miles Brown, Stinnett; 3rd, Sterling Jameson, Amarillo; 4th, Lane Livingston, Seymour; 5th, Aaron McKee, Borger; 6th, Coley Flowers, Aspermont.

TEAM ROPING: 1st, Cody and Jade Roby, Rotan.

JUNIORS ALL AROUND: Sadie Watkins, Amarillo.

JUNIOR BOYS ALL AROUND: Myles Brown, Stinnett.

SENIOR

BARRELS: 1st, Alexis McKee, Borger; 2nd, Ashton Rokowski, Haskell; 3d, Ashlee Howard, Friona; 4th, Melyssa Elliott, Paducah; 5th, Larano Stewart, Haskell.

TIE DOWN: 1st, Cole Carpenter, Girard; 2nd Tres Myers, Aspermont; 3rd, Sterling Jameson, Amarillo; 4th Jacob Wiechart, Pampa; 5th, Clay Ware, Ceder Hill; 6th, Tanner Arnold, Dickens.

POLES: 1st, Melyssa Elliott, Paducah; 2nd, Ashlee Howard, Friona; 3rd, Ashton Rukowski, Haskell; 4th, Alexis McKee, Borger.

GOAT TYING: 1st, Ashlee Howard, Friona; 2nd, Melyssa Elliott, Paducah; 3rd, Ashton Rokowski, Haskell; 4th Alexis McKee, Borger.

SENIOR GIRLS BREAKWAY: 1st, Ashley Howard, Friona.

STRAIGHT AWAY CHUTE DOGGING: 1st, Cole Carpenter, Girard; 2nd, Sterling Jameson, Amarillo; 3rd, Tres Myers, Aspermont; 4th, Clay Ware, Cedar Hill; 5th, Drew Sageser, Kress; 6th, J.P. Hybecek, Sterley.

SENIOR GIRLS ALL AROUND: Ashlee Howard, Friona.

SENIOR BOYS ALL AROUND: Cole Carpenter, Girard.

SENIOR CITIZENS MENU

Thursday, July 17: Hamburger on a bun w/all trimmings, potato wedges, veggie of the day, pineapple.

Friday, July 18: Chicken fried steak/gravy, baked potato, turnip greens, wheat rolls, peaches.

Monday, July 21: Chicken salad w/roll, baked tater tots, tossed salad, lemon pudding.

Tuesday, July 22: A) Liver & onions, B) Ham w/pineapple, peas & carrots, roll, tossed salad, mixed fruit w/cookie.

Wednesday, July 23: Broccoli & cheese, stuffed potato, tossed salad, banana split dessert.

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Events Calendar

July

- 17 Matador Masonic Lodge, 6:30 pm
- 24 Matador Eastern Star, 6:30 pm

August

- 2 Men's Breakfast, Baptist Church, 7:00 am
- 5 Matador Lions, Methodist Church, 12:30 pm
- 7 Roaring Springs Lions, Hitchin Post, 11:30 am
- 9 MC class 1983 reunion, Hotel Matador
- 11 Commissioners Court, 9:30 am
- 11 Roaring Springs City Council, 6:30 pm
- 14 Matador City Council, 6:30 pm
- 19 Matador Lions, Methodist Church, 12:30 pm
- 21 Matador Masonic Lodge, 6:30 pm
- 28 Matador Eastern Star, 6:30 pm

September

- 2 Matador Lions, Methodist Church, 12:30 pm
- 4 Roaring Springs Lions, Hitchin Post, 11:30 am
- 6 Mens Breakfast, Methodist Church, 7:00 am

HOME COMING & REUNIONS

- August 28 - 30 Old Settlers Reunion, Roaring Springs
- September 12 & 13 Matador/Motley County Homecoming
- October 4 Northfield Homecoming

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REPORTED ON JULY 11, 2008
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