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Happy Easter!



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America!

Motley County Tribune

"VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS"

50¢



THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2004

ESTABLISHED 1891

ISSUE NO. 15

New Roaring Springs business brings alternative fuel to area *Sun Cotton Bio Fuel holds grand opening*

Sun Cotton Bio Fuel, a new company in Roaring Springs, held its grand opening Friday, April 2. What is Bio Fuel? Biodiesel Fuel is a clean-burning fuel for diesel engines made from domestically produced, renewable fats and oils such as cottonseed oil.

James and Darla Gwinn, owners of Motley Mill and Cube, established the new company after seeing a big need to process the crude cottonseed oil which is a result of producing the feed sold at Motley Mill.

The couple established Motley Mill and Cube in 1999. The Roaring Springs plant is only one of a few that exists in Texas. Mrs. Gwinn says that as far as she knows the only other plants are located in Nazareth, Rowena, Rosebud near Waco, Brownfield and one in South Texas. The plant in Nazareth was the first to run cottonseed with an extruder, which is a machine to crush and extract the oil from feed without the use of chemicals. All of these companies saw the need for a refinery for the oil, and at one time the group had discussed establishing a Co-Op.

"When feed is made there is crude cottonseed oil left from the process," explained Mrs. Gwinn. "We were selling the crude oil to U.S. markets, but after the use of crude oil stopped the price dropped to half of what it was." She explained that with the help of a broker the oil was sold to Mexico by the pound for some time, but this was not a constant market.

"After doing some research, James and I decided it would be in our best interest to open a refinery plant ourselves," Mrs. Gwinn said. The couple sought advice from the SBDC (Small Business Development Center), which helped in putting together a workable plan to present to a banker. They worked with SBA and the Security Bank at Idalou to secure the finances needed to put the plant in operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Gwinn, along with a partner, Tom Campbell,

an engineer from Portales, New Mexico, started the proceedings to get everything up and going. "Tom had helped in designing the feed plant," Mrs. Gwinn said. She explained that Mr. Campbell, owner of Socora Consulting in Hereford, an engineering firm, designs layouts for feedyards, loading areas for railroads and other engineering projects. He and the Gwinns had talked about developing the Bio Fuel plant for a few years.

Mrs. Gwinn explained that biodiesel fuel can be used just like petroleum diesel, but it is made from renewable sources such as mustard, cotton, sunflower seed or soybeans. It is a clean-burning fuel for diesel engines.

"The crude cottonseed oil goes through a transesterification process, which means the glycerin has been removed to make it ready to be used as fuel," she explained.

The fuel is safe for all diesel engines. Alexander Fuel in Roaring Springs is the plant's first retail outlet. "Mr. Alexander has a tank at his station and the biodiesel will be mixed with regular diesel, 95% regular and 5% biodiesel," she said. "Even with this small amount of the biodiesel the fuel cuts down on smoke and oil emissions," she continued.

Biodiesel is registered as a fuel and fuel additive with the EPA and meets clean diesel standards established by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). B100 (100 percent biodiesel) has been designated as an alternative fuel by the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Transportation.

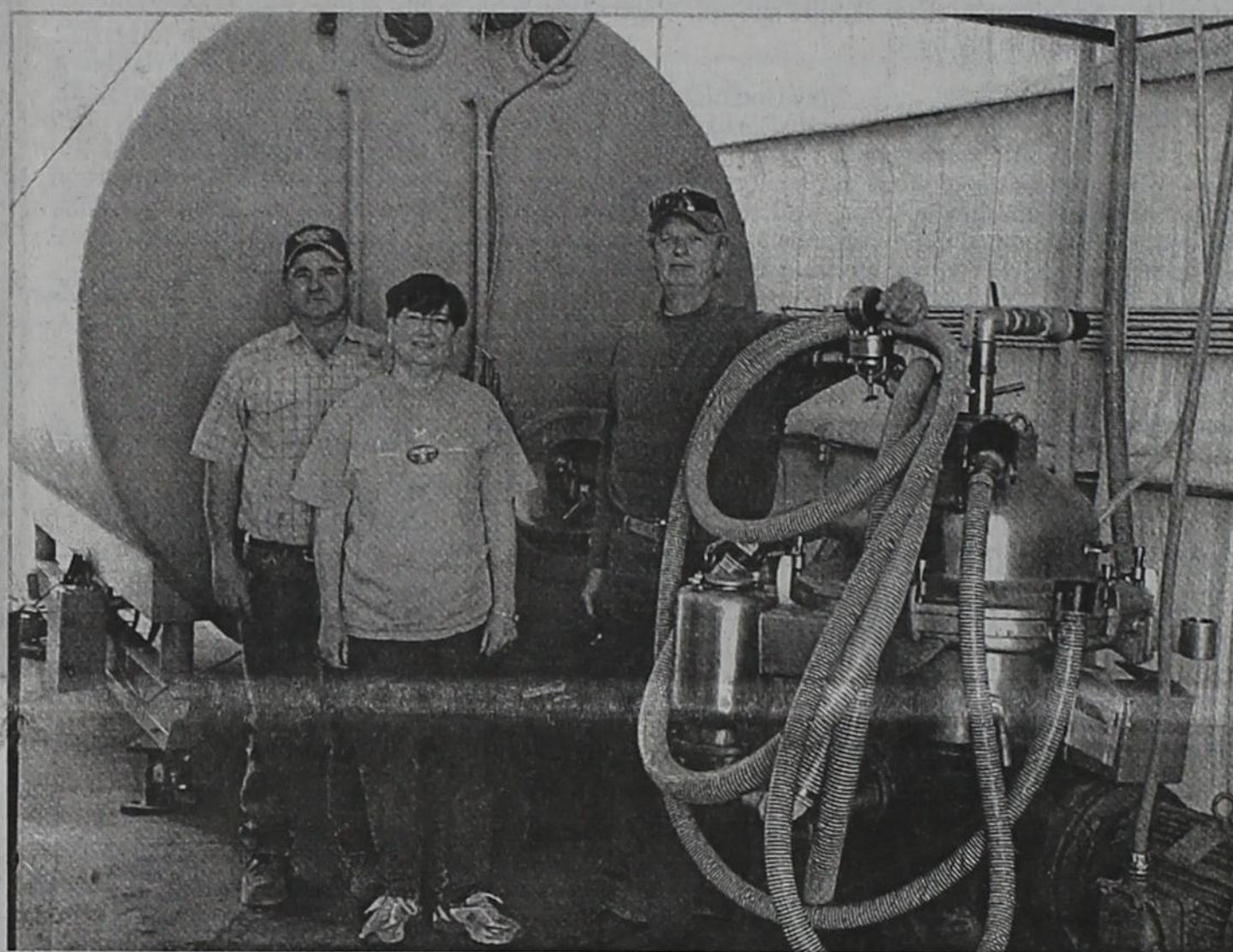
In November, 1998, Congress approved the use of biodiesel as an Energy Policy Act (EPAct) compliance strategy. The legislation allows EPAct-covered fleets (federal, state and public utility fleets) to meet their alternative fuel vehicle purchase requirements simply by buying 450 gallons of pure biodiesel and burning it in new or existing diesel vehicles in at least a 20% blend with diesel fuel.

The Congressional Budget Office and the U.S. Department of Agriculture have confirmed that the biodiesel option is the least-cost alternative fuel option for meeting the Federal government's EPAct compliance requirements. Because it works with existing diesel engines, biodiesel offers an immediate and seamless way to transition existing diesel vehicles into a cleaner burning fleet.

A study completed in 2001 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture found that an average annual increase of the equivalent of 200 million gallons of soy-based biodiesel demand would boost total crop cash receipts by \$5.2 billion cumulatively by 2010, resulting in an average net farm income increase of \$300 million per year.

Biodiesel has a higher cetane number than U.S. diesel fuel. In over 15 million miles of in-field demonstrations biodiesel showed similar fuel consumption, horsepower, torque, and haulage rates as conventional diesel fuel.

continued on page 3



SUN COTTON BIO FUEL OWNERS, James and Darla Gwinn with partner and engineer, Tom Campbell, are pictured inside their biodiesel plant. Mr. Campbell stands near the centrifuge, which separates the crude cottonseed oil. The large tank is a reactor tank where a catalyst is added to the crude oil to begin the process of making biodiesel. The plant held its grand opening Friday, April 2. See more pictures on page 3.

March opened doors with rain and pleasant spring weather

by Earlyne Jameson

"Rain brings nourishment to the earth and introspection to our souls." The month of March opened its doors with good rains for Motley County and escorted in pleasant spring weather. Surprisingly, we had very little wind during the month.

The rain trend has added up for the first three months in 2004 to be over seven inches, more than half of the moisture that was registered in the entire year of 2003!

Motley County National Weather Service Volunteers were happy to report the follow-

ing total precipitation for the month of March: Buzz Thacker, Roaring Springs 2.84 inches; Betty Simpson, Northfield 2.40

inches; Kelly Meyer, Matador 2.54 inches; Jim Stockton, Whiteflat 2.65 inches and Tommie Jo Cruse, Flomot 3.14 inches.

Every County in Texas losing money from CHIP cuts

The Campaign to Restore CHIP, represented by local civic leaders, business owners, and elected officials, held six press conferences across Texas on April 1 to call for the full restoration of CHIP benefits and eligibility and to speak out about the local impact of drastic cuts to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). April 1 was the fourth anniversary of the Texas CHIP program. Press conferences were held in Houston, Dallas/Ft. Worth, El Paso, San Antonio, the Rio Grande Valley, and Austin.

As a result of cuts made to CHIP by the 78th Texas Legislature, enrollment has dropped by over 118,000 children and all children still enrolled have lost benefits, including dental, vision, and hospice services.

In addition, Texas will lose over \$500 million in federal matching dollars as a result of the cuts to CHIP, and these dollars, if not used in Texas, will go to other states. Every county will lose a portion of these state and federal dollars, ranging from a \$11,778 loss in King County to \$136,452,782 in Harris County.

Motley County with a case load of 12, will lose an estimated

\$54,472. Other area counties will also lose large dollar amounts. Floyd County, with a case load of 91, will lose an estimated \$404,869; Cottle County, with a case load of 14, will lose \$61,835; Dickens County, with a case load of 22, will lose \$98,641; and Hall County, with a case load of 34, will lose an estimated \$153,114.

Harris County Judge Robert Eckels released a statement expressing concern about this cost shift to local communities and the added burden to Harris County taxpayers. "CHIP enrollment has dropped by almost 20,000 children in Harris County, shifting the burden of care from federal and state dollars to the property taxes of local homeowners," he said. "At the same time, cities like Chicago and Denver are happy to use the \$136 million we have already sent back to Washington, D.C. to improve the health care of their youngsters."

Other elected officials echoed similar concerns. Travis County Judge Sam Biscoe kicked off the statewide initiative in Austin. "Every county in Texas will feel the impact of these cuts to CHIP. These are dollars that could be spent in

local communities to pay for health services for children. I don't want to send our taxpayer dollars to New York or Chicago.

continued on page 2

Summer Softball sign-up deadline April 15 Enchilada Supper set for April 23

Summer Softball sign-up will end April 15. Those who would like to participate and have not completed a sign-up form, should contact Tammy Simpson at 806-347-2202.

MCYO has set their annual Enchilada Supper for April 23. The event will be held at the Motley County School Cafeteria, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased early at a cost of \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 12 and under. If tickets are purchased at the door the cost will be \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 12 and under.

For more information contact Tammy Simpson at the number listed above.

Roaring Springs Community Volunteers will sponsor Easter Egg Hunt

The Roaring Springs Community Volunteers will sponsor their annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 10, at 2:00 P.M. at the Roaring Springs Community Center. All children, from toddlers to eleven years old, are invited to participate.

Children need to bring only a basket to put their eggs in. The Volunteers will furnish the Easter eggs. Two lucky children will have a chance to win a prize bunny.

Music Evangelist, Allison Ware, of Allen, Texas, will present a special Easter Service at the First Baptist Church in Matador, Sunday, April 11. Mrs. Ware will lead the congregation in praise and worship and will present a mini-concert.

Mrs. Ware has ministered in music evangelism for 26 years with her husband, Connie and their sons. "After my husband went home to be with the Lord in 2000, God made it clear to me that I'm to continue serving Him in a traveling ministry of music to churches and ministry to women."

George Mosier, Pastor, Pleasant Terrace Baptist Church in Dallas, said, "Let me assure you, Allison 'on her own' burns a very strong light. Allison's range is immense, her voice strong; her personal charm leaves the platform and visits each person. Her beautiful voice shows years of training. Her witness shows countless times of sharing Christ."

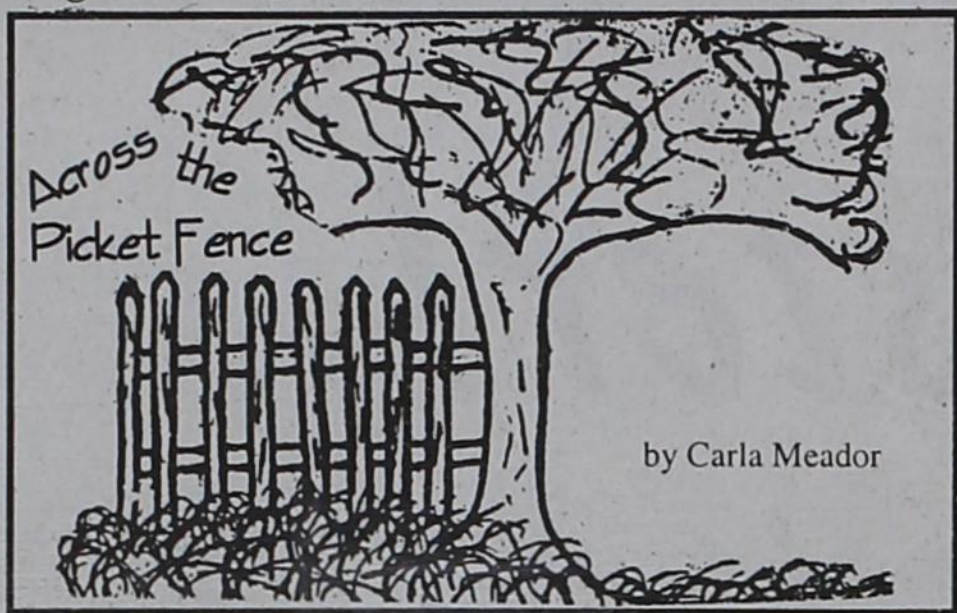
Mrs. Ware, a graduate of Baylor University, has ministered in over 1,400 church com-



Allison Ware

mitments throughout the United States - revivals, retreats, concerts, conferences, banquets, music and family revivals. She has also done mission work in Jamaica, Brazil, England and Australia.

Rev. Jack Boggs extends an invitation to everyone to attend this special Easter service, which will begin at 11:00 a.m.



Praise God for the wonderful rain! I don't know exactly how much we have received, but I know it is very much needed!

Happy Easter! I cannot believe that Easter is already here. It was just Christmas yesterday, wasn't it? Where does time go. My Daddy used to tell me that the older we get the faster time goes by. When I was a little girl and anxiously awaiting Christmas or some other holiday or special event, I just could not imagine how time could possibly go any faster. But, Daddy, I sure do understand what you meant, now!

I truly hope you all have a wonderfully blessed holiday and experience the true meaning of the season — the resurrection of our Lord Jesus!

I have not had the opportunity to see the new Mel Gibson movie, "The Passion of the Christ," but hope to soon. Those who have seen the movie, that I have talked with, were touched deeply. When we take the time to really meditate on the sacrifice that Jesus made for each one of us, it's awesome. Thinking on the crucifixion and resurrection and imagining what Jesus must have experienced so that we could have life, is sometimes overwhelming, when you allow your thoughts to truly realize the pain and agony our Lord went through.

But, He's alive! He arose! Jesus is the reason we celebrate Easter.

NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the beautiful floral arrangements, pots of ivy, gifts, cards and telephone calls - they all made me feel quite special. Each of you have a very special place in my heart.

May God bless you all,
Judy Cartwright

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the kindness shown to us during Carolyn's hospitalization and since being home. The food has been delicious and we appreciate every act of friendship and words of concern. We are blessed to live in a place with such caring people.

Doyle and Carolyn Rose

It's Gardening time...

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books for gardening and Spring!

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Fruit Bearing



There is a question that each of us must ask ourselves from time to time. Here it is. How long has it been since I have borne fruit in my life for Jesus? Now there's a question that gives us pause. Perhaps we have stagnated in our spiritual development? We ought not to think that God does not care anymore about our bearing fruit. That would be a misjudgment on our part.

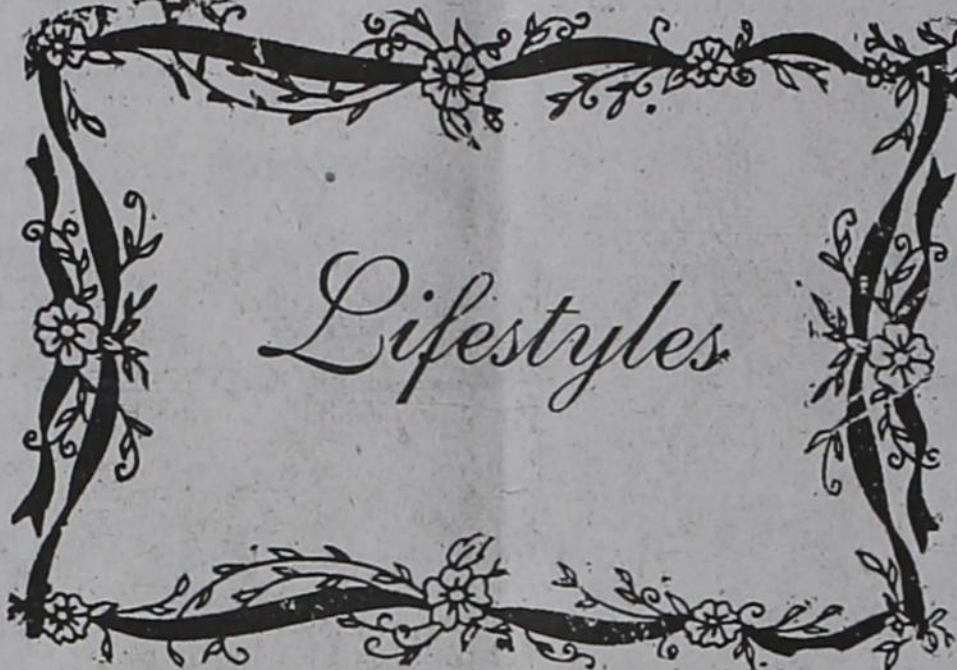
When we read the Lord's own words in Luke 13: 6-9 we find an expression, "Why does it use up the ground..." In reading further, the farmer asks for the Lord's patience... "until I dig around it and put in fertilizer; and if it bears fruit next year fine; but if not, cut it down." This is very serious, this business of fruit bearing.

But we did notice that the fig tree was given a second chance, with some additional care, to bear fruit. For the most of us, our lives are built around second chances. Our Lord is giving opportunities and the time to be useful fruitful servants in His Kingdom. Let's redeem the time.

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

BIBLE STUDY, 10:00 A.M.

WORSHIP, 9:00 A.M.



MOTLEY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS & VIEWS

by Pennie Pipkin, President



Due to recent spring breaks and spring vacations, the regularly scheduled March monthly meeting of the Motley County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors did not meet. Monthly meetings will resume on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, at the Motley County Library in downtown Matador at 7:30 p.m.

Anyone and everyone interested in the continuing efforts to improve the business environment of our community are invited to the April meeting.

There are many opportunities for each of us to contribute. Please attend the next meeting to find out how you can be a part.

Look Who's New

Kenzie Morgan Keltz

Kevin and Lesa Keltz and big sister, Kaitlyn of Lubbock, Texas, are proud to announce the birth of their new daughter and sister, Kenzie Morgan Keltz. Kenzie was born at 10:15 a.m., March 24, 2004, in Lubbock. She weighed 8 pounds and 5 ounces and was 20 inches long. Welcoming the new arrival

are grandparents, Kelly and Pennie Keltz of Roaring Springs, Coach and Sherry Prather of Red Oak, Texas; great grandparents, June Keltz of Matador, Corky and Monta Marshall of Roaring Springs, Frankie Pittman of Wolforth, and Herman and Imogene Prather of Trinity.

CHIP program from page 1

Let's keep our tax dollars in Texas," he said.

In addition, many Texas hospitals are facing huge revenue losses as a result of the decreasing CHIP enrollment. The Harris County Hospital District, for example, reports a \$36 million reduction in funds due to cuts to the CHIP program.

The loss in revenue to the El Paso Hospital District has exceeded its predictions of \$11.2 million and may increase to over \$15 million.

All children enrolled have lost critical benefits, including dental, vision, and hospice services and most communities do not have adequate services available to meet the need of children who are uninsured. As a result children are having difficulty finding services that were eliminated from CHIP benefits.



SEEDS
FROM
THE
SOWER

Michael A. Guido
Metter, Georgia

When I was a child, I enjoyed sitting under a railroad trestle and I'd smile when the shadow of a train ran over me. As the shadow of the train didn't hurt, and the shadow of a knife can't cut me, so the shadow of death can't hurt a believer.

That's why the Psalmist said, "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me."

Christ died for our sins. On that first Easter morning He rose bodily from the dead. Now He's with us in our perplexities to guide us, in our pains to comfort us, and in our perils to strengthen us.



Jesus
is the
Reason
for the
Season!



Library Notes

by Suzanne Abbott, Librarian

The library will be closed tomorrow, April 9, for Good Friday.

I was gone all last week and I appreciate the help of Marihelen Wason, Ruby McGuire and Betty Henry who all did extra work in my absence. Kenneth's mother, who lives in Salida, Colorado, had her 90th birthday on April 1, so we went to help her celebrate.

New books in the library include James Patterson's 3rd Degree and Bad Men by John Connolly. For kids of all ages we have The Flower Hunter, William Bartram, America's First Naturalist by Deborah Kogan Ray. This story is told by William Bartram's eight-year-old son who went with his father on his travels in the 1700's.

Cooking Corner

Tips To Help You

The Skinny On Carrot Cake

(NAPS)—Rich, moist home-baked carrot cake—it's a classic. With its fresh flavor, tender texture and that delicious cream cheese icing, it's always been a favorite.

The only catch with traditional carrot cake is its fat and calorie count. An average piece has about 24 grams of fat and 450 calories.

The good news is that things have changed. This recipe for carrot cake tastes rich and wonderful without the oil, butter, eggs and heavy cream cheese of yesterday. With only six grams of fat and 310 calories per serving, you can have your cake and feel good, too.

Even better, it's quick and easy to make. It starts with a fat-free mix you combine with fresh carrots, pineapple, cranberries and nuts. And the icing? It's sweet and decadent thanks to lite cream cheese, sugar and fresh orange zest.

Fresh for spring and full of flavor, this carrot cake is yummy on the lips, and easy on the hips. That's a win-win any way you slice it.

Cranberry Carrot Cake

Cake:

- 1 package (17.5 oz) Krusteaz Fat Free Cranberry Orange Muffin Mix (1 pouch muffin mix and 1 can cranberries)
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup grated carrots
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1 can (8 oz.) crushed pineapple, drained

Icing:

- 1/2 cup (4 oz) Neufchâtel or lite cream cheese



A decadent low-fat carrot cake for spring.

- 2 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon orange zest

Preheat oven to 350°F.

For Cake: In medium bowl, combine muffin mix and water. Add carrots, nuts and spices. Stir until moistened. Drain cranberries and pineapple. Fold into batter. Spoon into two, lightly greased 8-inch round cake pans. Bake 28-30 minutes or until golden brown and toothpick inserted into center comes out clean. Let cool 10-15 minutes and remove from pans to wire rack. Cool completely and frost with cream cheese icing.

For Icing: Beat cream cheese, sugar and zest on medium speed for 1 minute or until smooth. To frost, place one cake layer on plate. Spread with half of icing, leaving sides unfrosted. Place remaining layer on top of frosted layer. Spread icing over top, leaving sides unfrosted.

Makes 12 servings.

Nutrients per serving (1/2 of two-layer frosted cake): Calories 310, Total Fat 6g, Sat. Fat 2g, Cholesterol 5mg, Sodium 380mg, Total Carb. 60g, Dietary Fiber 3g, Protein 4g. For more recipe ideas using Continental Mills products, visit www.continentalmills.com.

Matador Church of Christ

Invites you to come to a

Gospel Meeting

"Fresh Hope

In A

Raging Storm"

Does it seem like your life is spinning out of control?

Come join us as we seek fresh hope
from the Master of the storm!

Matador Church of Christ

Matador, Texas

Michael Crowley, Jr., Evangelist, of Modesto, California
in a series of Biblical Lessons

Sunday, April 18 through April 21

Sunday Bible Classes - 10 a.m. "Does God Hear Sinners?"

Sunday Morning Worship - 11 a.m. "Does God Hear My Prayers?"

A Potluck Meal will follow after the morning worship service

Sunday Evening Worship - 6 p.m. "What Does God Want?"

Times and Titles of the Services

Monday evening through Wednesday evening

MONDAY - 7:30 P.M. - "THE MASTER OF THE STORM"

TUESDAY - 7:30 P.M. - "HOW CAN I INCREASE MY FAITH?"

WEDNESDAY - 7:30 P.M. - "HOW CAN I START OVER?"

A Warm Welcome Awaits You!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As Paul Harvey says, "this is the rest of the story." Harry H. Campbell was born on May 15, 1881, making him the first white child born in Motley County. "Chiseling in Stone" does not make a truth.

Grace B.K. Campbell

Dear Carla,

I had written to my dear friends in Texas with my address as 125 Ave. SW. That address is not correct. After having mail returned to a friend in Matador, I realized that my address was wrong. The correct address is 9659 25th Ave., Seattle, WA 98106.

My telephone number is 206-764-7102.

I am so glad that people are moving back to Matador and good things are going to happen there.

My best wishes to all.

Cora Hall

Consider what God has done.... Who can straighten what He has made crooked; When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider God has made the one as well as the other.

— Ecc. 7:13-14 NIV

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Dear Carla,

Jake Edwards may have been the person God put in the school house, church and community to show all of us, by his life, the perfect example that our heavenly father would have each of us to live our lives. "On the wings of a snow white dove, God sends his own pure love, as a sign from above, on the wings of a dove." As the casketbearers were at the bottom step carrying Jake's body to its resting place, a snow white pigeon flew over his casket, down low. That pigeon is as close to a pure white dove as West Texans are going to see. God sent a sign from above!

We are told there is a time to be born and a time to die, in God's Holy word. I believe Jake continued a close relationship with God, to the end of his earthly life. It was my honor to visit him at his apartment, hospital and nursing home. He very graciously thanked me for the kind words I spoke to him about what he has meant to literally thousands of kids.

He was a real athlete and his play with the kids demonstrated he was a Principal with tons of Principle. It is difficult to find such a wonderful role model. He had all of us his favorite person.

His leadership for his entire adult life is truly rare. He has left a legacy for Tom and all of his family. Little Jake asked Marg if all those people were really kin to him and she assured him they were. Jake enjoyed many loving grandchildren.

Jake never held words of hurt or anger to weaken the worthiness of mankind. Just out of the hospital with aneurysm surgery, he came to me at the Whiteflat Cemetery. It was impossible to ostracize me with his arm and shoulder to comfort me. He could always see a good person, even though we all have our faults.

No one could ever give more of themselves than Jake. I told the nurses he had thousands of children and put up with every one of them through the bad times, the sad times as well as the good times. He knew when someone was down and he always helped them up.

Many people sought Jake out - long after leaving school. Some parents went back to seek advice. Jake never turned one away and I am sure he was glad he possessed the personality to make everyone know they could trust him with their feelings and leave him, feeling better.

His public service in Matador was more than 50 years. He served as a Sunday School teacher, deacon and even stood up to say he was from Whiteflat if we were asked to stand up! He was worthy indeed, to be helpful when needed and outstanding in his suggestions, when his advice was sought. I personally have not known another person I could count on, no matter what, to be there for me.

Jake shared his feelings with me. He said he had lived a long, happy and productive life and he would rather not stay on earth because he felt he could no longer do his job for all the people. I thanked him the last time I saw him for being the kind of man he was. He responded with very, very gracious words - feeling very overrated. I told him to consider my words to be from every single person who had ever known him. I knew, in my heart, he was appreciated and loved by one and all.

With his passing, a completely new arena is standing. Mr. Edwards told me on several occasions how much he loved his family. Precious memories will always abound as long as his acquaintances live.

We all find great peace knowing he went into the Holy of Holies! There will be a great reunion day, when we meet him again.

LaNelle Rattan Chandler



The three stages of cottonseed oil are displayed in these jars, with the crude stage at right, and the purest on the left.

Biodiesel Fuel

from page 1

Testing has also shown that lubricity results of biodiesel and petroleum diesel indicate that there is a marked improvement in lubricity when the fuel is added to conventional diesel. Even biodiesel levels below 1

percent can provide up to a 65 percent increase in lubricity in distillate fuels.

Mrs. Gwinn said that there are islands in Hawaii and national parks such as Yellowstone now using 100% biodiesel for the sole purpose of helping the environment.

When in full operation, Mrs. Gwinn expects the plant will employ 2-6 people and run 24 hours.



San Angelo, TX MESQUITE ART FESTIVAL

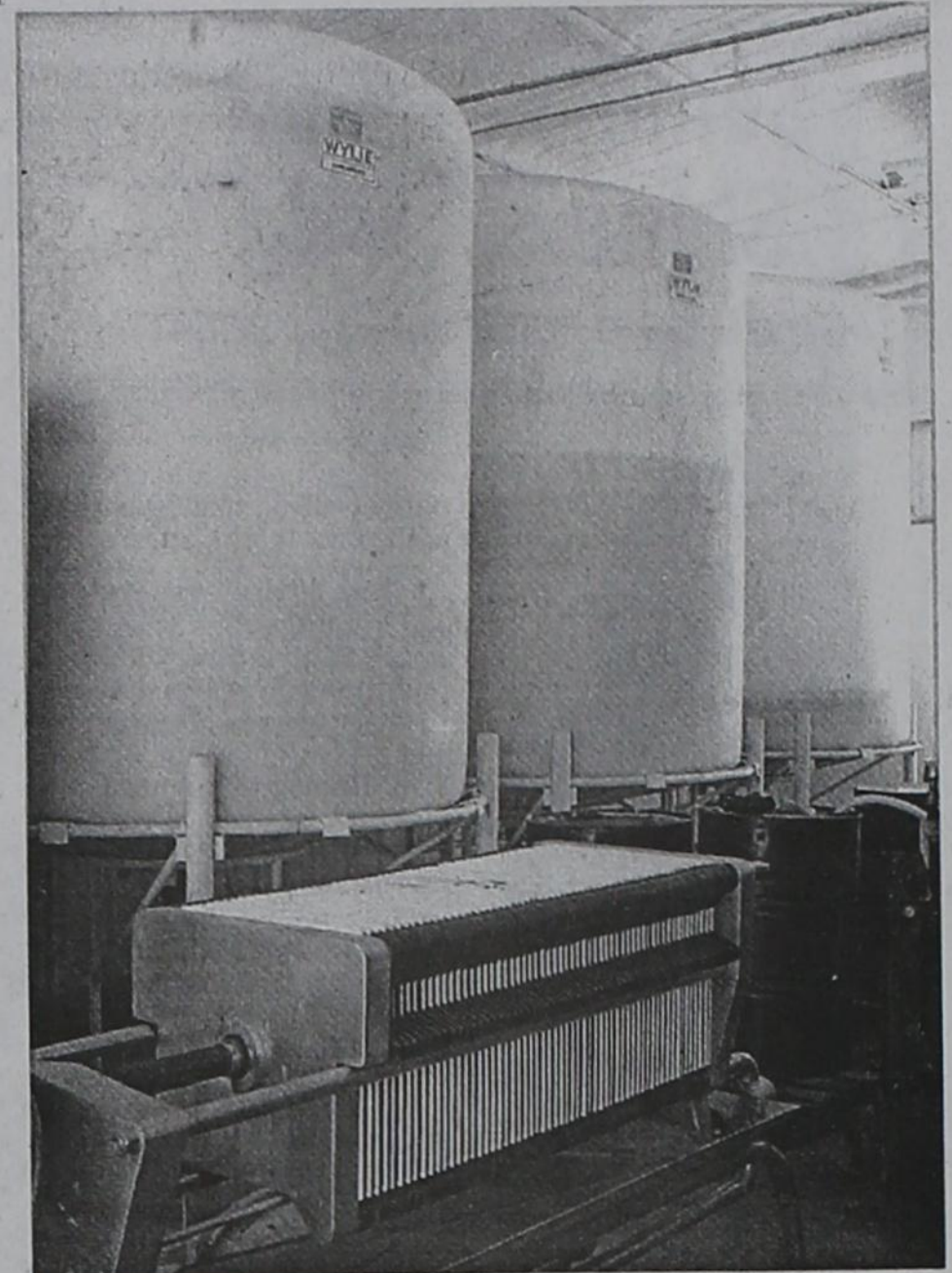
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These large tanks store the cottonseed oil in various stages. The large machine in front is a filter used in processing the oil.

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Seniors Shine



Motley County Class of 2004!



STACHIA ROSE BAXTER

Nickname: Stach, Didi
Parents: Don and Colleen Baxter
Brothers and sisters: Bradley and Seth.
Birthdate and birthplace: 11-15-1985, Lockney, Texas.
Favorites:
Song: Figured You Out by Nickelback and Feel Like Making Love by Kid Rock.
Movie: How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days.
Book: Cosmo Magazine
Sport: Golf
Color: Red and Hot Pink
Food: Chicken Strips with cheese.
Musical Group: Kid Rock and Chris Cagle.
Teacher (9-12), who and why: Mrs. Cox, because she al-

ways spoils me.
Subject, Why? Independent Study. I can do what I want most of the time.

Best advice ever received and from whom? Think about what you do before you do it or you'll probably regret it later on.

The person I have admired most in my life and why: My Dad. He works his hardest to make my family happy.

Best memory of school: Amanda and Lorenzo's birthday parties. Going to Regional in Golf since I was a Freshman!

Activities: Student Council President, Golf, Basketball, OAP (One-Act Play).

Special Awards: Spanish I, English II, Accounting, Golf (Will to Win).

Worst Habit: Stressing out over everything.

Hobbies: Hang out with friends and doing things on the computer.

Favorite pastime: being with friends and camping.

Two words that best describe me: Outgoing and ambitious.

Words of wisdom to the underclassmen: Respect your elders and don't slack off (especially in Mrs. Bingham's classes)!

Plans after graduation: Attend ASU, major in pre-dental, and become successful in life.

Drinking among adolescents a concern

by Patti J. Patterson, M.D.
 Vice President for Rural and Community Health
 Texas Tech University
 Health Sciences Center

The use of alcohol by underage drinkers is a rising epidemic in communities across Texas. According to Kitty Harris, Ph.D., director of the Center for the Study of Addiction at Texas Tech University, alcohol is the drug abused the most and the earliest by adolescents. Many children have their first alcoholic drink between the ages of 12 and 13.

Alcohol abuse has serious and lasting consequences for underage drinkers. In addition to the risks of engaging in illegal behavior, teenager drinkers face a number of physical and emotional problems caused by drinking.

"Underage drinkers can have serious health problems, their academics suffer, as do their relationships with family and friends," Harris said. "They can also experience developmental problems. Younger drinkers literally quit growing emotionally and socially, because alcohol becomes their way to cope. These young people miss out on all the usual adolescent opportunities to learn productive coping behaviors."

Harris said that too many parents minimize the seriousness of their children's abuse of alcohol and believe that alcohol is less dangerous than other kinds of drugs their children could be using. "The parents are mistaken, however," said Harris. "Alcohol is one of the most dangerous drugs available in terms of consequences. Excessive drinking by adolescents is a leading contributor to sexually transmitted diseases and teenage pregnancies."

In a 1998 survey of secondary students conducted by the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, almost half said that alcohol was "easy" to obtain, while an additional 37.5 percent responded that alcohol

was "somewhat easy" to acquire. In the same survey, 17 percent of secondary students said that when they drink, they have five or more drinks at a time. Ten percent of survey respondents claimed to have attended at least one class while drunk.

Parents must actively protect their children from the dangerous consequences of alcohol abuse. Harris discourages parents from threatening their children, and instead encourages parents to create a plan setting clear expectations and enforcing consequences if children do not meet those expectations. The plan should start with parents talking to their children about the dangers of underage drinking, letting children know the consequences of their drinking, and monitoring their children's activities to decrease the likelihood of their engaging in underage drinking.

"Consistency from parents is important," Harris said. "Parents must enforce the rules. The impact of a parent on a child's life is immeasurable."

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THE MATADOR

— SCHOOL NEWS & HAPPENINGS —



SCHOOL MENU

MONDAY, APRIL 12
 NO SCHOOL!

TUESDAY, APRIL 13
Breakfast: Waffle, Sausage, Syrup, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Corn Dog, Baked Beans, Salad, Jello/Fruit, Milk.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14
Breakfast: Cereal, Toast, Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Steak Fingers, Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Broccoli/Cheese, Hot Roll, Honey, Milk.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15
Breakfast: Biscuit, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16
Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: BBQ on Bun, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Potato Chips, Brownies, Milk.

2004 CapRock Telephone scholarship deadline April 9th

The deadline for the 2004 Caprock Telephone Scholarship program is Friday, April 9. Applications must be in Cap Rock's business office by 5:00 p.m. Friday. In order to qualify, the Parents or Guardian of a 2004 high school graduating senior must be a member of Cap Rock Telephone and live within Cap Rock's service area. The winners

of these scholarships will be notified at their respective school graduation.

Since the inception of the scholarship award program, Cap Rock has provided \$48,000 for area youth to continue their education. Last year's recipients represented the following area schools: Paducah High School, Motley County High

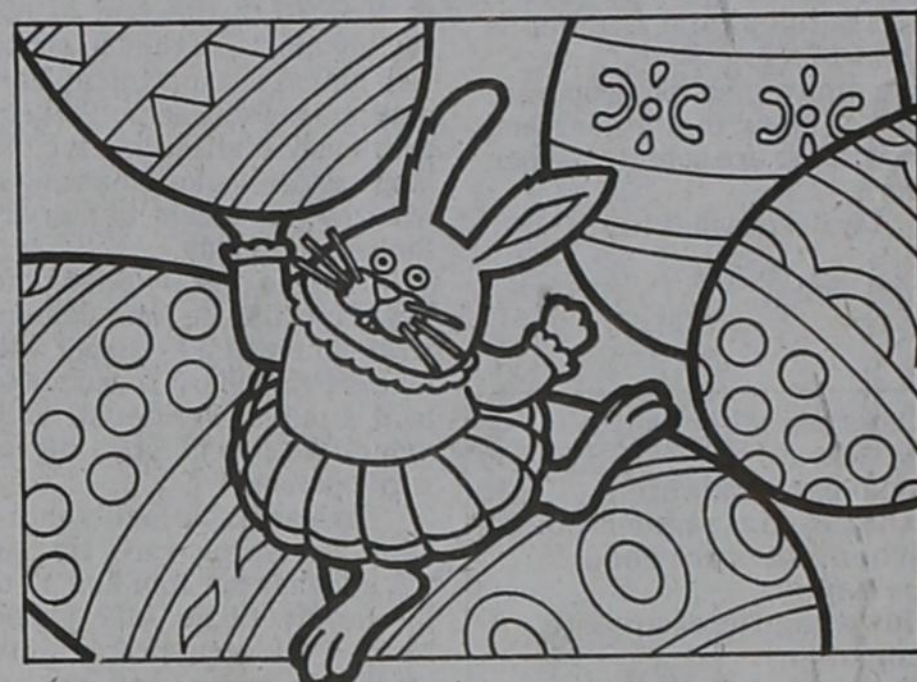
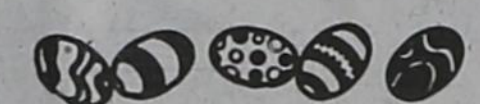
School, Spur High School, Jayton High School, Valley High School, Patton Springs High School and Guthrie High School.

If you know an interested, qualifying student and would like a scholarship application, contact your school counselor or call Cap Rock Telephone at 800-692-4242 or 806-271-3336.

School will dismiss for Easter holiday

There will be a regular school day on Thursday, April 8, but there will be no tutoring that afternoon.

There will be no school on Friday, April 9 or Monday, April 12.



Happy Easter!

An Easter picture to color!

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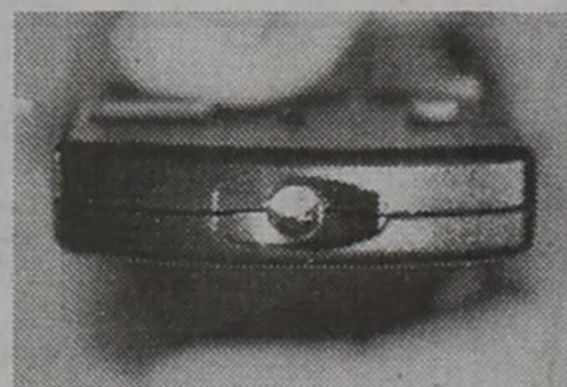
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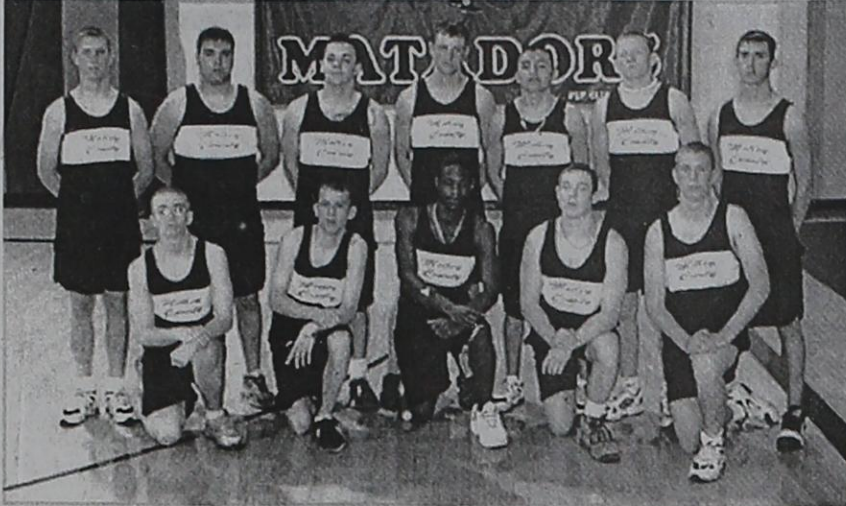
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Congratulations Spring Sports participants!



BOYS TRACK — Back, left to right, Cody Cooper, Brandon Martin, Brandon Gresset, Kenny Johannes, Lorenzo Salazar, Quinten Rose, Chance Bingham; (front) Aaron Dodson, Marc Henzler, Seagram Sims, Sam Stapleton, Clay Cooper.



GIRL'S TRACK — Back row, left to right, Angelica Mendoza, Chicagra Brown, Emily Hurt, Kasha Denny, Griselda Flores; (front) Veronica Mendoza, Sylvia Martinez, Stachia Baxter, Brittany Moore.



TENNIS TEAM — Back, left to right, Amanda Hurt, Quinten Rose, Brandon Martin, Lorenzo Salazar, Ashley Fonseca; (front) Charli Ream, Brittany Moore, Mandi Ream.



GOLF TEAM — Back, left to right, Cameron Jeffcoat, Lorenzo Salazar, Colton Russell, Kenny Johannes, Chance Bingham, Dakota Meyer; (front) Emily Hurt, Sabrina Osborn, Stachia Baxter, Brittany Moore, Sylvia Martinez.



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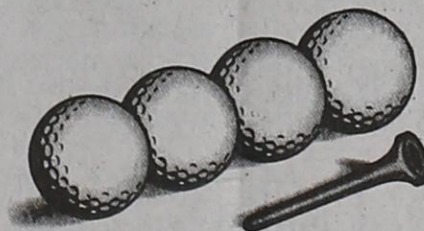
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Motley County Tribune





EASTER BLESSINGS TO ALL



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First Ag Credit, FCS	Thacker Jewelry	Petticoat Junction
Anna's Mexican Restaurant	Red Ball Gin Co.	CapRock Telephone
Caprock Cellular	Alexander Fuel & Service	Meredith Construction Gas & Supply
Motley County Tribune	Kathy's Hair Salon	



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Though we hope that we are never in an emergency situation, when Texans are in need they can rely on public safety telecommunications to answer 9-1-1 phone calls.

According to the Commission on State Emergency Communications, more than 4,000 telecommunications from almost 600 Public Safety Answering points respond to emergency phone calls throughout the Lone Star State. These dedicated professionals save countless lives by quickly and accurately responding to emergency calls 24 hours a day, every day of the year. They are often the first to answer our cries for help; providing instruction and comfort until emergency responders arrive.

The commission and other public safety agencies have designated April 11-17 for an awareness campaign in an effort to highlight the invaluable role of emergency service teams.

At this time, therefore, I urge all Texans to recognize public safety telecommunications for their focus on ensuring the well-being of Texans throughout our great state. They highlight the best of Texas.

Therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 11-17, 2004,

Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition thereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 15th day of March, 2004.

Rick Perry
Governor of Texas



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Telecommunicator appreciation week April 11-17

Governor Rick Perry has declared the week of April 11-17th as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week! The week is intended to honor the many telecommunication professionals who aid in providing 9-1-1 emergency assistance to citizens. South Plains Association of Governments recognizes the hard work and dedication the call-takers in its region demonstrate.

Every day, the citizens of West Texas depend on the skill, expertise and commitment of public safety telecommunicators who have helped save countless lives by responding to emergency calls, dis-

patching emergency professionals and equipment, and providing moral support to distressed people. These critical services are difficult and stressful; by recognizing their first response and assistance we can honor the vital link of these professionals provide to the public in times of crisis.

"The term '9-1-1' is often associated with rapid emergency response, poise under pressure, aid and compassion in times of critical decision-making within seconds. Many people don't stop to think about the seemingly nameless, faceless individuals who answer 9-1-1's call until they experience actual emer-

gencies themselves. These call takers make the difference between life and death in many instances," states the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials.

By officially recognizing these public safety telecommunications professionals, South Plains Association of Government's Regional 9-1-1 hopes to awaken public awareness and promote much-needed education regarding important public safety issues. SPAG will recognize over eighty individuals in twelve counties for their tireless dedication by distributing inspirational and creative gifts each day of the week. Gifts

include donations from Academy Sports & Outdoors, Atoms Energy, Blockbuster Video, Hollywood Video, The Science Spectrum, Southwestern Bell, SPAG, and Untied Supermarkets. Please support your local officials in thanking those who contribute their time to ensuring the public's interest in safety and competent emergency response.

Communities are encouraged to participate in 9-1-1 public awareness activities conducted within the SPAG region. For more information regarding National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, please contact Amanda M. Mayer, SPAG 9-1-1 Public Educator and Training Coordinator at (806) 762-8721.

The Easter Bunny's been here!



We have everything you'll need for a special Easter!

Toys, Candy, Eggs, Coloring kits, and Much More!

Matador Variety

Have a Great Week!

Annual Whiteflat Homecoming celebrated by exes and friends

by Frances Dixon

Another Whiteflat Homecoming has come and gone. The 27 attending enjoyed visiting and catching up and the usual abundant meal.

Due to the death of our president, Luther Green, Vice-President C.D. Garrison presided at the business meeting. C.D. will serve as President for the coming year and Gail King was elected Vice-President. Frances Dixon was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer.

The list of those deceased the past year were read as follows:

Carrol Wayne Cooper
Elwanda Martin McCaghren
Ruth Simpson Noel
Leroy Lipham
Opal Dean Johnston
Les Jameson

Richard Baker
Joe Martin
Frances McCary Gainer
Audrey Wright Murphy
Luther Green
Katheryn Martin
J.E. "Jake" Edwards
Josie Kimbell Martin

Welcomed news to the group was that Ryan Martin had expressed willingness to care for the Whiteflat cemetery. Unanimous support from the group was shown with desire to pay him adequately. Although there are funds on hand now, it was expressed we should remind everyone, local and out of town, and especially those with family members buried there, that there will be an ongoing need for money. We ask that you'll remember this with donations and memorials so we can continue the upkeep of the cemetery. Any donations can be sent

to Frances Dixon, Box 180, Matador or to First State Bank.

Those attending this year's homecoming were: Dora Spray Watson, Crosbyton; Truett Pritchett, Claude; Herb and Lona Smallwood, Iowa Park; Nora Belle Stephens Dunning and Kenneth Dunning, Plainview; Roland and Willena Wilkinson Hurt, Lubbock; Dick and Marlene Bailey Hamm and Inez Clifton Bailey, Brownfield; Troy and Evelyn Perkins, Amarillo; Gail McWilliams King, Frisco; Glenda McWilliams Groves, Abilene; Rocky and Carolyn Perkins Lucas, Ransom Canyon; and local residents, Dan Browning Barton, C.D. and Evelyn Garrison, Jim Watson, Spencer and Wilda Dixon, Dorothy Morris Meador, Elaine Dixon Risser, Eugenia Garrison Barton, and Frances Casey Dixon.

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JONES SODA ASSORTED FLAVORS 12 OZ. / REGULAR 99¢	79¢
BLUE BUNNY ASSORTED FLAVORS 1/2 GALLON RND. / REGULAR \$4.99	\$3.99
GATORADE ASSORTED FLAVORS 24 OZ.	99¢
ALLSUP'S SANDWICH BREAD 24 OZ. / 59¢ EACH OR	2 FOR \$1.09
ALLSUP'S WHEAT BREAD 24 OZ. / 69¢ EACH OR	2 FOR \$1.29
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COMBO NO. 4	2 CORN DOGS & 32 OZ. TALLSUP	\$1.99
COMBO NO. 5	SAUSAGE/EGG BISCUIT 16 OZ. COFFEE OR FOUNTAIN DRINK	\$1.29

News Around the County

Roaring Springs News

By Lula Swim

Joyce Meredith and grandson, Parker Meredith visited at the home of her daughter, Carla Meador, in Matador, Saturday morning, where she and Parker enjoyed visiting and playing with her great-grandchildren and Parker's cousins, Morgan and Judson Jones of Lubbock.

Mrs. Paige Barnes and Zoe and Mrs. Bobby Williams visited Mrs. Cleo Watson Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Abbott were in Salido, Colorado over the weekend to celebrate the 90th birthday of his mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Letkeman will be returning to Canada on Tuesday. Hopefully they will be back in October.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Largent went to Ft. Worth to be with her sister who is in the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Peacock and their niece of Houston visited the Bill Peacocks last week.

Matador News

↳ Geraldine and Ellis Key met her sister and husband, Barbara and Jimmy West, Melissa Fulton and daughter Emma, of Amarillo in Plainview last Saturday to visit and enjoy entertainment.

Medical transportation program moves to TxDOT

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Transportation today officially took over the state's Medical Transportation Program.

Formerly administered by the Texas Department of Health, the approximately \$29.4 million program and its staff, which includes 169 positions, became part of TxDOT. Last year, nearly 132,000 Medicaid clients were served by the program, which arranges transportation for Medicaid - eligible clients to and from health-care services.

The transfer is the result of legislation passed last session to reduce overlapping services, cut costs and increase efficiencies.

"The legislature has entrusted us with the job of making sure that our neediest citizens continue to receive transportation services while also assuring taxpayers of the most efficient and cost-effective system possible," said Ric Williamson, chair of the Texas Transportation Commission. "We take this responsibility seriously and are prepared to do the job for those who need the services - and those who pay for them."

Texans who rely on this program will see no interruption or change of service as a result of the transfer. To request non-emergency medical transportation services, users call the same toll-free number, 1-877-MED - TRIP (1-877-633-8747). This number has not changed. Eligible recipients must have a current Medicaid identification card, be eligible for the Children with Special Health Care Needs or Transportation for Indigent Cancer Patients programs, and must have no other means of transportation.

For more information, call Ginnie Grayson, TxDOT Public Transportation division (512) 416-2867.

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

Easter baskets and colored eggs are fine and they have their places. However, the true meaning of this holiday is a celebration of victory over death. Christ is risen.

ATTEND WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Starkey attended the wedding of their granddaughter Christina Reid and Jamie Browder at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, April 3, at the Wedding Chapel in Amarillo. Following the wedding ceremony, a supper and dance was held at the Ambassador Hotel Rio Grande Ball Room. The head table centerpiece was an ice sculptured bride and groom. They attended the rehearsal dinner Friday night at the Cattle Call Restaurant.

Christina is the daughter of Clifton and Bessie Reid of Amarillo and the great granddaughter of Mrs. C.W. Starkey of Flomot. Jamie is the son of Eddie and Camilla Browder of Quanah and the grandson of Mrs. Reba Swindell of Quanah. Other family members attending the wedding events were Mrs. Jackie Davis and son, Michael of Fritch, Michael Starkey and granddaughter, Taylor Stallings of Canyon.

Flomot News

RAINS CONTINUE IN APRIL

Flomot and Whiteflat reported rain April 2-3 of as much as 1.50 inches. At newstime Monday, still light rain falling and the forecast is for continued rain.

Flomot News

Mrs. Cindy Calvert of Warrington, Virginia, houseguest of parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter, visited in Petrolia Tuesday and Wednesday with her sister and family, Christi and Dwain Milam, Emily and Haley.

Mrs. Michelle Jeffers of San Marcos and Aly Gwinn of Lubbock visited during the week with Mr. and Mrs. James Gwinn, Danielle and Fannin.

Kacee McGraw of Turkey visited overnight Saturday with her grandparents, Ruth and Orville Lee. They enjoyed the Jamboree in Turkey Saturday night.

Mrs. Nola Mary Long and son, Clifton Long of Winnewood, Oklahoma arrived Monday to visit her mother, Mrs. C.W. Starkey and help with preparations for the annual Starkey family reunion held Easter weekend.

Mrs. Alma Shorter returned home Tuesday from Mangold Hospital in Lockney and is recuperating from pneumonia.

Visiting Kathy and Clois Shorter Thursday and Friday were daughters and children, Mrs. Christi Milam, Haley and Emily of Petrolia, Mrs. Keri Sehon and son, Brian of Ropesville and Mrs. Cindy Calvert of Warrington, Virginia. Brian remained to visit until Saturday when Kathy accompanied Cindy to Lubbock Airport for her return trip home to Warrington. Brian's parents, Keri and Kevin Sehon met them at the Airport and Brian returned home with them.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay visited in Panhandle Saturday with son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clay, Tanner, Kelsey and Sarah. They enjoyed attending the Panhandle basketball tournament in which Tanner and Kelsey competed.

Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse attended the 97th Annual Texas Cotton Ginners Association meeting and Trade Show held Friday at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

Senior Notes

by Tommye Keith, Director

Boy, what rain can do. My dad used to say, "This old country is getting it's Sunday britches on." As I was coming into work I can see what he was talking about, it is beautiful.

The Center has received a donation from Eva Barkley and memorials from Dick and Marlene Bailey Hamm in memory of Jake Edwards, Jerry Watson, Luther Green and Tootie Meador. We appreciate it so very much. Thank you.

The BAKE SALE is coming up this Saturday, starting at 9:00 a.m. in front of the Library. This is a fund-raiser for the Center.

A Volunteers Appreciation Spaghetti Supper will be held April 24, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Hope everyone can come out and join us.

The Center is open Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. Come out and enjoy!

Obituaries

June Thompson Stanfield

Lubbock - Graveside services for June Thompson Stanfield, 70, of Lubbock and formerly of Northfield were held March 30 at Resthaven Memorial Park. She died Sunday, March 28.

Born Nov. 29, 1933, at Northfield, she and Melvin Stanfield were married Jan. 27, 1951, in Clovis, N.M.

Survivors include her husband, Melvin; a daughter, Sheila Randel of Lubbock; two grandsons, Brandon and Brian Hickey, both of Lubbock; a sister, Doris Collins of Eules; numerous nieces and nephews.

Brian Bertrum Love

Quanah - Brian Bertrum Love, age 92, of Ruidoso, NM died Tuesday, March 30, 2004, in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Graveside services were held Saturday, April 3 at 1:00 p.m. in the Roaring Springs Cemetery with the family officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Smith Funeral Home of Quanah. A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m., April 10, at Community United Methodist Church in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Brian was born August 7, 1911, in Dickens, Texas, son of the late O.O. and Florence (Medlin) Love. His family settled in Roaring Springs, Texas, in the early 1900's. His parents were owners of the O.O. Love Dry Goods in the early days of Roaring Springs.

Brian and Blanche (Robertson) Spencer were married December 2, 1975, in Carrizozo, New Mexico.

Brian was retired, after 55 years, as a steam fitter for the Local Union #412. He was a Baptist and member of the Elks Lodge in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

He is survived by his wife Blanche Love of Ruidoso, New Mexico; two daughters, Christina Mills of New Orleans, Louisiana and Judy Love of New Orleans, Louisiana; three step-sons, Weldon Spencer of Alton, NM, Richard Spencer of Ingram, Texas, and Don Spencer of Ruidoso, NM; one brother, Tom Love of Amarillo; one sister, Mary Owens of Irving; three grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the Community United Methodist Church in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Leroy Stone

Funeral services for Leroy Stone, 84, of Lubbock, will be held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, April 8, at the First Baptist Church in Turkey. Interment will be in Dreamland Cemetery at Turkey under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

He was born June 4, 1919, in Childress County, and had been a longtime resident of Turkey, before moving to Lubbock in 1995. He was married to Colleen Young November 9, 1940, at Silverton. He served in the US Army during World War II, and had worked as a funeral director at Turkey for a number of years.

He had served on the Turkey City Council and as Mayor of Turkey for two terms. He was a member of Heritage Baptist Church in Lubbock, and a former member of the Turkey Lions Club.

He was preceded in death by a son, Clyde Stone, in 1978, and by two brothers and sisters.

His survivors include his wife; one son, Jay D. Stone of Lubbock; one brother, Ken Stone of Idaho; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

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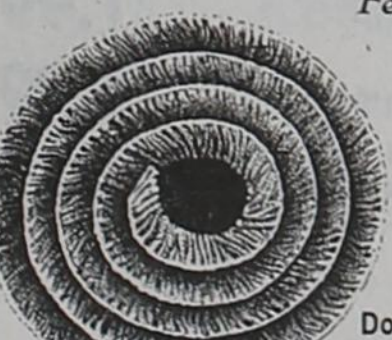


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FARM & RANCH NEWS



Farm Service Agency News

by John Bird,
Motley County CED



TREES ON CRP

If you have mesquites, salt cedars, etc...on your CRP, you may not be able to get a new contract when the old one has ended. Also, once you're within two years of the contract expiring, the FSA will no longer cost share brush removal. Now is the time! We will cost share mechanical brush control only (on CRP). We cannot cost share spraying of mesquite or other brush regardless of whether it's spraying a large area, or just spraying individual plants. If you are interested in cleaning up your CRP, talk to the NRCS about modifying your plan. Keep in mind that from March 1 to June 30 is the primary nesting season, so we can't do anything to CRP at this time.

FARM OPERATING PLANS AND AGI DETERMINATIONS

Although farm operating plans are no longer required to be filed annually, producers are required to let us know of any changes in the operation which would affect a "person," "ac-

tively engaged," cash rent tenant, or average adjusted income determination. No program benefits subject to limitation may be provided until all required forms are submitted and the eligibility determinations are made. All certifications are subject to spot-check through the end-of-year review process.

CHANGING OPERATORS ON YOUR FARM

If you plan to change operators on your farm, please make sure you let them know well in advance of when they even begin to make plans for the next season. Sometimes sending a certified letter is the best method, and this is what we would recommend. If a producer feels that they have not been notified in a timely manner the farm that they are removed from may be put on hold.

"I will take no bullock out of thy house, nor he goats out of thy folds, for every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills."

Psalm 50: 9-10

COUNTY AGENT'S REPORT

by Lonnie Jenschke
Motley County Extension Agent



FERAL HOG WORKSHOP SET FOR APRIL 16

Motley, Cottle and Foard County — Texas Cooperative Extension is sponsoring a "Feral Hog Workshop" at 8:00 a.m. at Roaring Springs in the Community Center.

There will be a total of 5.5 Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units available for participants (3 general, 2 Integrated Pest Management and 0.5 Laws and Regulations).

"Feral hogs are a classic 'Dr. Jeckyll - Mr. Hyde' situation," said Dr. Dale Rollins, Extension wildlife specialist at San Angelo and a program coordinator. "Farmers hate 'em, hunters love 'em and ranchers tolerate them. Accordingly, the 'appreciation' theme fits the various perspectives. Some folks 'value or admire highly' the wild swine, while others need to 'judge with heightened awareness.' Our goal for the day is to help attendees learn what options they have for coping with or capitalizing on, feral hogs in their

area."

Morning program topics beginning at 8:30 a.m. include: "What's Your Feral Hog IQ?," County Extension Agents; "Appreciating Feral Hogs," Rollins; "Feral Hog Biology," Rollins; "Landowner Attitudes On Feral Hogs," Jenschke and "Interactions With Native Wildlife," Rollins.

After lunch at 11:45 a.m., the afternoon session convenes with "Controlling Feral Hogs," Ricky Gilliland "Hunting Feral Hogs," and a landowners panel.

The program will conclude at 3:15 p.m. just after the talk "Laws and Regulations Governing Feral Hogs."

Pre-registration is \$15 per person until five days before the program and \$25 per person at the door. The fee includes the noon meal.

For more information contact: Lonnie Jenschke, Motley County CEA - (806) 347-2733 or Justin Nash, Cottle County CEA - (806) 492-3151 or Charles Neill, Foard County CEA - (940) 684-1919.

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By Ace Reid

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5. Unload firearms when not in use. Leave the actions open. Firearms should be carried empty in cases to and from shooting areas.
6. Never point a firearm at anything you do not want to shoot.
7. Never climb a fence or tree or jump a ditch with a loaded firearm. Never pull a firearm toward you by the muzzle.
8. Never shoot a bullet at a flat, hard surface or water. During target practice, be sure your backstop is adequate.
9. Store firearms and ammunition separately in secured locations beyond the reach of children and careless adults.
10. Avoid alcoholic beverages or other mood-altering drugs before and during shooting.

Beef Cattle Workshop to be held in Vernon

Vernon The 2003 year provided ranchers a wide variety of issues, from the drought, a BSE encounter and record cattle prices. Many of these issues and responses continue to be felt. For commercial ranchers to survive in this environment, it is imperative that cow-calf operators know how their operation is performing from both a production and financial standpoint. Current figures show that the total costs to run a breeding female in a typical Rolling Plains ranch is \$389 per female. The average return on investments is less than one percent.

To assist ranchers in determining these numbers as well as others, the Texas Cooperative Extension is offering Cow-calf Standardized Performance Analysis (SPA) Workshop to be held at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center located south of Vernon. The course will be May 5, 2004, and will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

This will be a working workshop where the ranchers will be assisted in completing their own analysis. SPA provides ranchers an opportunity to analyze their

ranch operation from both a production and financial side. SPA facilitates the comparison of an operation's performance between years, producers, production regions, and production systems. SPA is intended to be used as an annual tool by the cow-calf producer.

This is an intensive workshop with the intent being ranchers completing the analysis for the 2003 calf crop. Registered participants will be sent forms to organize data before the conference. Confidentiality of the producer's data will be maintained. Individual conferences will be held with producers. Each ranch will be provided an assistant and a computer. It is important to register early so you can be advised on how to organize your data for the SPA analysis.

The registration fee is \$100 per ranch and includes the software, educational materials, lunch and refreshments. Interested persons can obtain additional information or register by contacting Stan Bevers, Extension Economist, at the Texas A&M University Center at Vernon at (940) 555-9941, extension 231.

First Ag Credit distributes \$5.2 million in cash dividend

First Ag Credit, Farm Credit Services' stockholders should watch their mailboxes for their part in the \$5.2 million cash patronage dividend being distributed based on 2003 financial results. The patronage dividend will reduce most customers' net cost of borrowing by approximately 70 basis points, or almost three-quarters of a percent.

This is the sixth consecutive year that over 6,500 First Ag Credit stockholders will receive a cash dividend from their agriculture financing cooperative. Members will receive their

checks this month.

Since January 1997, the association has returned approximately \$35 million in cash to its customers. Keith Vandivere, chairman of the board from Brownfield, said the refund is an indication of the financial strength of the organization as well as "the dedication we have to our stockholders."

First Ag Credit, FCS has nearly \$1 billion in loans outstanding and serves 113 county territory in Texas with 36 primary credit offices conveniently located throughout.

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Maintain Beneficials While Controlling Damaging Pecan Pests

A pecan orchard is a sensitive environment. Many chemical treatments for damaging pests like pecan nut casebearer and hickory shuckworm also eliminate beneficial insects and can potentially lead to outbreaks of aphids and other secondary pests. It's a delicate balance.

Field studies have shown that Intrepid® 2F insecticide is an effective way to control pecan nut casebearer and hickory shuckworm without harming the beneficial insects found in an orchard. Intrepid is an advanced, selective insecticide that provides 14- to 21-day residual activity against these target pests. The active ingredient in Intrepid mimics a naturally occurring hormone that causes a partial - and lethal - molt to the worm. After the larvae ingest Intrepid, all feeding on nuts or shucks stops, with death occurring within one or two days.

The pecan nut casebearer is found in almost all pecan growing areas. Left untreated, the larvae will tunnel into pecan nuts shortly after pollination and often destroy all nutlets in a cluster. Multiple generations of casebearers are common, with the first generation generally causing the most damage and potential economic loss.

Hickory shuckworms may be present in orchards throughout most of the season, but are generally seen in June or July. Prior to shell hardening, shuckworms feed inside nuts and cause the nut to drop. After shell hardening, the larvae feed in the pecan shuck and cause it to stick to the shell, making shelling more difficult and expensive after harvest.

Follow state scouting recommendations for determining egg lay and treatment thresholds for these pests. Intrepid may be applied at rates of 4-8 fluid ounces per acre in sequential treatments during the season or following a recommended early season treatment of Lorsban®-4E insecticide.

For casebearer control, apply Intrepid insecticide at the initiation of egg hatch for each generation. Control of first generation casebearer may require a second application under conditions of extended egg lay or for improved coverage of rapidly expanding nuts and foliage. The higher rates may be needed for extended residual effectiveness, higher pest infestations, low crop load, larger trees or heavy, dense foliage.

For shuckworm control, treat early- to mid-season infestations at egg hatch, with applications for late season infestations coming at half-shell hardening. Subsequent applications may be made at 14-day intervals to shuck split or while nuts are susceptible to heavy infestations.

To learn more about the benefits of Intrepid 2F insecticide, contact your local ag retailer.



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Thank you!

Motley County Tribune

Carla M. Meador ~ Publisher & Editor



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