

MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

VOICE OF THE FOOTHILL COUNTRY

Where History is Pride

Flomot Matador Northfield Roaring Springs



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Thursday, March 3, 2011

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Volume 120 Issue No. 9

Fire sweeps Motley County HCCC evacuated to Paducah Residents in southwest Matador evacuated to MCISD



Flames leaped close to the road, about 1/2 mile north of Bob's Oil Well on State Hwy. 70. photo by Carol Campbell

By Carol Campbell
Motley County Tribune

Wildfire. We've seen it in the movies, we've read about it in books, we've watched it in the "Texas" production at Palo Duro Canyon, but nothing could prepare residents of Motley County for an out-of-control wild fire that threatened their homes and property on Sunday evening, February 27, 2011.

Just as residents in Matador were settling in for the Academy Awards red carpet ceremonies, a warning issued by County Judge Jim Meador on Lubbock television stations sent residents in southwest Matador scrambling to grab belongings while a house-to-house evacuation plan was put in place. They were moved to the Motley County ISD, where the Red Cross set up command central for the evacuees.

The most vulnerable citizens, residents at Hackberry Creek Care Center and staff, were evacuated by vans to Paducah, where the true meaning of neighbors helping neighbors became a reality.

Because of the quick action of the Matador Fire Department volunteers, property damage was held at a minimum. While several homes were damaged south of Walton Road, pri-

mary damage was contained to barns, equipment, trailers, and other outbuildings, no homes were lost in Matador proper. The fire burned up to the back door of the Marian Woodruff home, taking the swimming pool area and another outbuilding. The C.W. Moore's also lost mowers, a carport, and other equipment.

U.S. Highway 62-70 and State Highway 70 were closed to traffic. The city was cordoned off north, south, east, and west, with Chillerz and Allsup's full to overflowing with traffic not allowed to travel to points east or west on US 70. At press time, officials are still assessing the vast area of wind-swept prairie for remote rural homes that may have been caught in the raging fire.

According to Lee Jones, Motley County Emergency Management Coordinator, the current estimate of property acreage under siege is about 40,000 acres. It could go higher. At press time, law enforcement officials were driving the perimeters of the blackened land to assess the damage further; and helicopters were making a flyby to assess damage.

Dry conditions, and 45-five mile an hour winds, gusting up to 65 miles an hour, fueled the fire that swept the range-

land -- only stopping when it hit a plowed field. The Matador Ranch rangeland burned, as well as the historic H. H. Campbell and Mott Creek Ranch. Damage assessments are currently under way. The historic headquarters at Matador were spared, as was the new hunting lodge. The fire burned up to the buildings, but was contained. The outdoor fire-pit structure at the lodge burned down.

Roaring Springs proper was spared while the fire burned rangeland south of town. Smoldering cotton burrs from the Red Ball gin blew sparks wildly, igniting the dry prairie. A red glow of fire surrounded Matador.

Neighboring towns sent fire trucks, equipment, and volunteers to help fight the fire. "We had 12 departments respond from area towns," Emergency Management Coordinator Lee Jones said.

Jones set up Command Central east of the courthouse, where he coordinated the massive effort of responders. "Tx-Dot sent 12 maintainers and three dozers; the Forrest Service sent three dozers," Lee said. The county pitched in with four county maintainers that cut fire guards on rangeland.

more photos on page 3

4B Tax Dollars at Work

By Carol Campbell
Motley County Tribune

Economic development never looked better in Matador. The City Park has new playground equipment, thanks to the efforts of the 4B Tax Board of Directors and community volunteers.

Since 1989, voters in Texas cities have had the option of imposing a local "sales and use" tax to help finance their communities economic development efforts. The economic development tax under the 4B Sales Tax is imposed at 1/2- of 1-percent of all sales in Matador.

"Everytime you buy something in Matador, it comes home to support projects like the new playground equipment at City Park," Judy Renfro, chair of the 7-member 4B board said.

"This is truly your tax dollars at work."

The 4B Tax Board of Directors voted to use 4B funds for new playground equipment more than a year ago, Renfro said. A clean-up committee of community volunteers gave the park a face lift last summer, painting the existing swings and slides in primary colors, trimming trees, and picking up trash --all of this effort in preparation for the new state-of-the-art playground equipment which was delivered in pieces more than six months ago.

"It was a pretty complicated job," Renfro said. But she had just the resident in mind to see this project through to completion.

Lee Jones completed more than 100 hours on assembly,

concrete and dirt work. "Lee is to be commended for all the hard work he did on this project," Renfro said. The City of Matador Water Superintendent Steve Barton and Joel Guerrero spread the dirt with help from Steve's wife, Beverly.

Also, Thrasher Gravel Pit under the supervision of Albert Thrasher, donated two semi-loads of sand, free of charge, Renfro said.

"This was truly a community effort, and I want to thank all the volunteers that donated their time to this project," Renfro said.

The 4B Tax Board consists of Craig Turner, Roy Hobbs, Debra Scott, Wes Day, D'anna Russell, Kay Bailey, and Judy Renfro.



Lee Jones assembled new playground equipment at City Park, funded by the 4B Sales Tax fund. Pictured (L to R, standing) are: 4B Tax Board member Roy Hobbs, Lee Jones; other 4B Tax Board members, D'anna Russell and Craig Turner; and seated is Judy Renfro, chair of the 4B board. Children are Kylee Jones, 8, and Logan Jones, 9. 4B Board members, not pictured, are: Kay Bailey, Debra Scott, and Wes Day.

"Can You Top This" chili supper great success

By Monta Marshall
Motley County Tribune

Twenty-four people gathered to have fellowship, eat and have fun at the annual chili supper held at the Lula Swim Memorial Fellowship hall at the First United Church in Roaring Springs on Monday evening, February 21, 2011.

Tall tales were told that brought big laughs and lots of ribbing. Some were true but most were tales. O. K. Neal is a great story teller and puts lots of action into his stories. Clint Burns shared some humorous true stories that happened during his residency in New Orleans. Ralph Roming told a whopper of a fishing story. Corky told of his first date after he got back into the dating game after 25 years of being married. There were many more memorable stories.

O. K. Neal did a good job of trying to defend his right

continued on page 3



Kylie Penrod, daughter of Jehromie and Leigh Penrod captures traveling trophy at the annual CAN YOU TOP THIS chili supper.

photo by Monta Marshall

Relay For Life committee meets

By Monta Marshall
Motley County Tribune

The committee members of the Relay For Life met Tuesday evening at the fellowship hall of the First Baptist Church in Roaring Springs.

Kyle Shelton, Community Manager of Development for the Lubbock Field of the American Cancer Society, met with committee members for the last time before being transferred to Fort Worth. A new Community Manager should be arriving in Lubbock next week and plans to meet with the Motley/Dickens County Committee next week.

At this time there is more interest in the Relay For Life in Dickens County. There will

be stiff competition if Motley County raises the most money, the criteria for hosting the Relay in 2012.

Dominique McArthur of Spur will be the Accounting Chair and Monta Marshall agreed to take the Luminara Chair. There are still committee chairs open; a Team Captain Chair is greatly needed. Teams are being urged to form and sign on for the relay.

"I would like to challenge the caregivers and or family members of cancer patients to join forces and form a team," Marshall said. "It would be a thoughtful memorial or honor to your loved one who has fought valiantly to overcome their illness. Some didn't make it though there are

many in Motley and Dickens Counties that are now doing well due to new treatments created by research funded by the American Cancer Society."

Motley County is to be commended for their participation in the Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure that helps fund breast cancer research, Marshall said. The Relay For Life helps to fund all cancer research. Both are needed; great strides have been made in treatments and life expectancy; many are now cancer free, thanks to a diligent search for a cure for cancer.

Those attending the meeting were: Annette Hollinsworth, Rosalee Davis, Donald McArthur, Kyle Shelton and Monta Marshall.

Foothill Country

Connections

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



By Larry Vogt

Fire. A wonderful discovery made by some long lost ancestor that has enabled us to survive the elements and produce cooked meals. Fire is also very dangerous as manifested in our news this week. I like my wood-burning stove but I also have to recognize that if my chimney is full of combustible residue and that the stovepipes are leaking, or if a burning ember falls out of the stove, there could be problems.

Open fires have been used to reduce waste products from various agricultural, industrial, and landscaping operations until the advent of chipping machines and composting methods produced an alternative way to reduce and dispose of the waste products. The waste products are simply reduced to smaller particles and allowed to decompose into a usable soil amend-

ment and applied to cropland or gardens.

Perhaps we could get ahead of the curve by imposing a general outdoor burn ban year around and investing in the machinery necessary to break down all the residue that is now burned. We have chippers that can turn branches and limbs from trees into a very usable mulching material. Perhaps there are machines that could do the same for every material that is now burned. Twenty years ago I lived in a city where open burning was allowed and leaves and branches were burned. I suggested neighborhood-chipping stations as an alternative at an open town meeting. Although the chipping station was never implemented the city now collects all leaves and tree branches and chips them up and offers citizens the resulting mulch. Oh, and yes, there is a burn ban as well.

When we avoid the use of open fires and the inherent dangers we face from those fires we avoid a lot of risks to ourselves and damage to our equipment and property. Of course there are other ways wild fires start, but we would be cutting our risks of spreading fires if we took on the task of composting and reusing waste instead of burning it.

WRITING COMMUNITY

On the Road in the Snow Storm of 2011

By Barbara Armstrong

I know everyone had their problems with the cold weather and the snow.

But this is my story.

On February 1st I was suppose to leave and drive to Kerrville to attend classes for my Ag job, except the snow storm was coming in the night of January 31st so my supervisor thought it would be a good idea for me to leave on that day and drive to Abilene. Well, because I had to go with Bill to Amarillo for a VA appointment that morning, I could not leave until later that evening.

Lyn Montgomery of Roaring Springs was going with me to see the Hill Country, so we left for our late evening drive to arrive in Abilene about 10:30 p.m., just as it started to snow!

On February 1st we woke up to 8- to 12-inch snow! We waited until about 11:00 a.m. before we left the hotel; it was an hour later before we finally made our way to Highway 84 South. We stopped in

Coleman after driving 35 miles an hour for 52 miles to take a break and visit with Dena Renfro Zarate, who works in the famous Owl Pharmacy (a lot like our former Stanley Pharmacy for those of you who remember).

We finally drove out of the snow just north of Brady. After five hours of driving we arrived in Fredericksburg where we drove around looking at the old German Sunday Houses before going to eat a delicious German supper. Now we were only 22 miles from Kerrville, but so was the cold weather.

By the time we got to the Inn of the Hills it was eight degrees. It stayed between 8- to 16-degrees during the day, the whole time we were there! We met a man in the Hotel restaurant who wanted to know where we were from, when I told him he stated "Oh, you're from Quail country!" Then he promptly asked if I knew Roy Thompson who was from Matador. Well

of course I did, I watched him grow up! On Friday I went to the bank where he is the CEO and visited him. He said, "tell everyone in Matador hello for me!"

Thursday evening, I had supper and a visit with Linda and Bill Hussy who live seven miles outside of Kerrville. Linda's mother, Nell Rhea Higgins Gilbert is a former resident of Matador.

Despite the cold weather, Lyn got to do some sightseeing while I was in class for a day and half. We left to drive back to Roaring Springs and Matador on Friday. We used Lyn's iPhone and the internet to find a way to miss the snow that had come through the evening before. We drove home through San Angelo, where we stopped downtown for a delicious hamburger lunch at Miss Hattie's.

The wonderful website that shows the snow and ice roads and the clear roads is: http://www.dot.state.tx.us/travel/static_maps.htm

Motley County ISD urges legislators to make education a priority

Lawmakers must make education a priority this legislative session if they are to find a solution to the broken school finance system and properly fund public schools in Texas.

Motley County Independent School District adopted a resolution on January 24, 2011, in an effort to raise awareness of the growing financial crisis public school districts are facing. The resolution adoption encourages state legislators to work with local school board members and other stakeholders with an attitude of the highest priority.

The Motley County ISD school board urges the lawmakers throughout the state to make funding education the top priority of this legislative session.

With this resolution adoption, Motley County ISD joins over 500 school districts across Texas that have done the same as part of the "Make Education a Priority" campaign launched by the Aledo ISD Board of Trustees.

The campaign aims to unite school districts to support and share with our legislators an attitude of making education a sincere priority during the 2011 82nd Legislative Session. The campaign calls for a commitment to fix the broken system of school finance and to properly fund education.

One of the main causes of the current school finance crisis is 2006 legislation (House Bill 1) that has proven to fall

short of properly funding Texas public schools. The state cut property taxes by one third and did not establish a new stream of revenue to completely make up the difference.

In 2007 and 2009, legislators were unsuccessful in addressing school funding shortcomings. Currently, more than half of the school districts in Texas are being forced to use dollars from their fund balances for daily operating expenditures – a practice that is neither financially sound nor sustainable over the long term. In addition, teaching positions are being eliminated, salaries reduced and local educational programs removed to meet reduced budgets.

"Our united priority message is respectful and clear," said Bobby J Rigueus Aledo ISD Board Vice President.

"During difficult financial times, the process of prioritizing becomes magnified. A united concern to protect and properly fund education must be found as the highest priority during the 82nd Legislative Session"

More information may be found at the Make Education a Priority website: www.schoolpriority.com. A list of school districts adopting the resolution and supporting statements by legislators and educational organizations can also be found within the website.

"Can You Top This" chili supper great success continued from page one

to the traveling trophy for the best *Can You Top This*. Kylie Penrod tied with O.K. and he graciously let her have the trophy. Her story was a Biblical riddle she asked of O.K.

Alex and Jo Crowder prepared their gringo and Mexican hot chilies. Others brought desserts.

Those attending were:

Mike and Judy Crowley and granddaughters, Megan and McKenna Ford; O. K. and Jane Neal, Clint and Freda Burns, Marisue Powell, Genetta Amejjide; Jehromie, Leigh and Kylie Penrod; Charlie and Opal Johnson, Ken and Suzanne Abbott, Alex and Jo Crowder, Ralph Roming, Jerry Collins, and Corky and Monta Marshall.



Guests are seen thinking, "Hmm. . . Could I top that story?" Left to right: O.K. and Jane Neal; Freda and Clint Burns; Genetta Amejjide and Marisue Powell photo by Monta Marshall

MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

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Award Winner

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

As Chair of the Friends of the Historic Motley County Jail and Board Member of the Texas Plains Trail Region, I am writing to acknowledge the outstanding support of the *Motley County Tribune* for this worthy project; and to thank you for this support and for the newspaper's commitment to historical preservation.

When I moved back to Matador in 2005, I worked part-time for the County Judge and "inherited" the jail project from a former employee that had written a grant to engage an architect to examine the costs of repair and restoration of the historic jail.

The little red sandstone jail, built in 1891, had gallantly

withstood the ravages of time, but had severe water damage due to mortar and roof deterioration. Without help, the jail was in danger of collapsing on the east side. Through a grant to the Texas Historical Commission monies were secured to repair the stone mortar and the roof to stop the water deterioration. A non-profit group was formed to support the jail project, now 100-members strong.

From the beginning of this work in 2007, the *Tribune* has continued to show enormous interest in the historical preservation of the jail. A fundraiser each year has been supported by feature articles, advertising, and other historical pieces in the *Writing Community*. But with a logo

of *Where History is Pride*, can we expect less?

The *Tribune* has been instrumental in bringing the community together for a common purpose – a fully restored historic jail museum. I can truthfully say that the progress that has been made in the jail restoration has been dramatically influenced by the excellent coverage we have received; and the ongoing commitment of historical preservationists in the community.

The most recent effort by the Friends group to raise money took place on October 16, 2010. "A Night at the Historic MC Jail and East Mound Cemetery Tour" featured 11 "residents," highlighting six past sheriffs of Motley County; a Matador Ranch cowboy

that was murdered in the early 1800s; the builder of the jail; the widow of the Sheriff George Cook, gunned down by Joe Beckham (Sheriff #1); and a Texas Ranger. The newspaper highlighted the past sheriffs in the *Writing Community*, and published numerous feature articles advertising the event.

The community turned out for this function in record droves, thanks in large part to the excellent coverage of the event by the *Motley County Tribune*. This letter is to thank you for this support and for the newspaper's commitment to historical preservation.

Sincerely,
Carol Campbell, Chair
Friends of the Historic Motley County Jail

MCISD meets in regular session

The Motley County Board of Trustees met on Monday, February 21, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. in a regularly scheduled board meeting. All board members were present except J.D. Russell, Gilbert Guerrero, and Lee Jones. Also present were Dr. Tom Alvis, Mr. William Cochran, Denise Ford and school attorney Dennis Eichelbaum. The agenda covered six action items including unanimous votes to approve the minutes and expenditures from January, 2011; to approve the agreement with Davis Kinard and Company for the school audit for 2010-

2011; and a unanimous vote to certify the textbooks selections by the textbook committee and the electronic transmission form.

In other business, a unanimous vote of the board allowed the parents of the Melanie Wood Memorial Scholarship to set up a scholarship at Motley County ISD for items to be sold at the Matador Hotel.

In the Principal's report, Mr. William Cochran reported the enrollment at 185 with an attendance rate of 97.9 percent.

During the Superinten-

dent's report, Dr. Alvis, informed the board of the upcoming election of the Board of Directors for Region 17 Educational Service Center. New power flush toilets have been installed in the elementary restrooms. The new Suburban should be delivered within 30 days.

The next school board meeting was set for Thursday, March 10, 2011. Immediately following the board meeting, Dennis Eichelbaum conducted two hours of school board training on Defensive Methods for Reducing Personnel Costs.



Bucket Calf Participants in the 71st Annual Jr Stock Show

High winds north of Spur caused electrical pole to snap

By Cindi Taylor
The Texas Spur

High winds that caused an electrical pole to snap started a wild fire just north of Spur Sunday evening, February 27. The fire forced the evacuation of at least one family while their neighbors to the south stayed home to try and keep the fire from spreading to their property and injuring livestock.

The Tre Howell family left their home shortly after the fire was sparked by an electrical line while Brice and Debra Capps, the Howells' neighbors to the south, used water hoses to wet down the perimeter of their property where cows, calves, and horses nervously paced inside stalls and fences. The fire also threatened a group of oil tank batteries as well as one other

home before it was brought under control by the Spur Volunteer Fire Department two hours later.

It was a busy day for volunteer firefighters. At 4:09 p.m. Sunday local fire departments responded to a fire near East Afton in Dickens County. Spur VFD firefighters were still on the scene of that fire when the call came in at 6:39 p.m. for the fire located 3 miles north of Spur. Four Spur volunteer firefighters were first on the scene of that fire before being joined by others returning from the fire at East Afton. Dickens County employees pitched in Sunday on both fires using county maintainers to carve fire guards around the fires to keep them from spreading.

The Dickens County fires were among several in the area stoked by high winds

including a massive wildfire that threatened the town of Matador.

Firefighters from the Dickens Volunteer Fire Department were in Motley County assisting other departments there when Dickens VFD member Jerry Roberts was injured. He was taken to Dickens then transported to Lubbock where he was treated and released for second-degree burns to his face.

Residents of Matador had to be evacuated but were allowed to return to their homes Monday morning, February 28. There were reports of fire damage to at least four homes but none were burned to the ground. A number of out buildings and sheds in and around Matador did burn down.

The fire consumed about 50,000 acres.

Connor Stafford chosen to participate in All-Star Classic

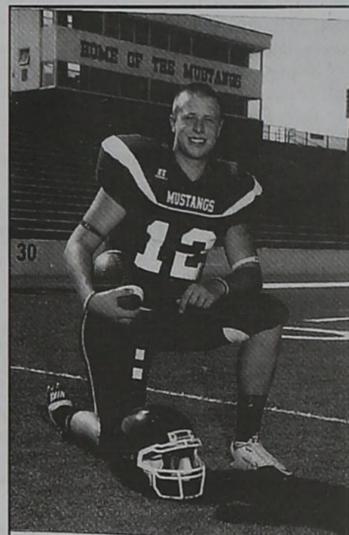
Connor Stafford, son of Wesley and Tammi Stafford of Sweetwater; and grandson of Lindy Stafford and the late Gale Stafford of Matador; Pat Rice of Lubbock; and Fred and Jan Edwards of Petersburg, was chosen as part of the football squad from Sweetwater High School to participate in the 12th annual Fellowship of Christian Athletes Myrtle Greathouse All-Star Classic, to be held Saturday, June 4, 2011 in Abilene.

He is one of 139 area student athletes selected for the game which benefits the Big Country Area Office of the FCA. Representing approximately 50 area high schools, the rosters for the North and South squads were announced at a Press Conference on Sunday, February 13, 2011, at Beltway Park Baptist Church in Abilene, Texas.

The young All-Stars were nominated by their head coaches for the game, which features schools from an approximate 100-mile radius of Abilene covering 36 counties.

Representatives from Class A-5A make up the squads. They will report for two-day workouts on Wednesday, June 1, 2011. Activities that they will be involved in during that time will include a Victory Banquet on April 17, 2011, at the Abilene Civic Center.

Connor was also selected Sweetwater Player of the Week; Two-time Honorable Mention *Abilene Reporter News* Big Country



Player of the Week; second team All District; and Honorable Mention All Big Country team.

Pioneer Days in Paducah set for March 12

The 3rd Annual Pioneer Days Event is set for March 12, 2011, in downtown Paducah, Texas, beginning at 8:00 a.m. for a cowboy breakfast on the courthouse square.

The Cottle County Leadership Forum has been hard at work planning for a big event to feature a gunfighter reenactment group, authentic stage coach rides; a chuck wagon cook and homemade ice cream; live entertainment, tours, authentic demonstrations, games, and photo opportunities in pioneer garb to name just a few events on the agenda. The day ends with a dance at 9:00 p.m., courtesy of the Texas Troubadours.

Thanks to a partnership grant from the Texas Historical Commission, Texas Plains Trail Region, the group was able to book the Windy Ridge Posse, a gunfighter reenactment group, who will give two performances.

Other events include stage rides on an authentic stage coach; a John Deer, Popping Johnny ice cream-making machine with your favorite flavors; and a chuck wagon group who will be cooking and giving demonstrations.

The chuck wagon will be assisting with the cowboy breakfast which will begin at 8:00 a.m. by cooking over the open campfire in cast iron Dutch ovens buried in hot coals. Not an early riser? That's okay too, because the downtown area opens up around 9:00 a.m. where you can visit the courthouse to take in the photo display of Cottle County's history. At the courthouse, visitors can register, pick up a brochure of where things are happening, and fill out a survey.

Reenactments and live music will take place on the north side of the courthouse, so pick up a schedule, note the times and come enjoy each of those activities.

In the Community Center you will find the quilters showing quilts. A "bed turning" event will feature stories shared about each of the quilts on the bed;

and don't forget to buy a raffle ticket for this year's quilt. After leaving the quilt show, you can take time to ride in the stage coach, watch the Popping Johnny make ice cream, and if you are hungry, you might want to purchase freshly churned ice cream, or one of the other treats, and then get close enough to "kiss" a longhorn.

Just a short stroll further, you can visit the Cottle County Jail to view memorabilia and talk to former law enforcement folks, but be careful not to break the law or you might be locked behind the bars in the formerly used jail cells.

Guests can watch a roping demonstration, challenge someone to a horseshoe throwing game, and then stroll down to and around the Veteran's Memorial building while smelling all the aromas from the sanctioned BBQ Cook Off. Visitors will be invited to watch the cooks and get some tips on how to make your BBQ taste like a winner every time.

Visitors are encouraged to visit one of the many vendors and purchase a few must-have items. If you missed the register at the courthouse earlier, you may also register at the Norris Building where the vendors are located.

Of course, you need to have a photo made in pioneer garb to remember your day in Paducah. By now the kids with you have with you have begged and begged to go jump in one or all four of the bounce houses located on the court house lawn, and it is free. Not to worry, they are pretty safe if you are a kid (not so sure about that if you are an "old timer").

Check that brochure you got earlier, it might be time for a historical reenactment on the lawn of the courthouse's north side.

If not, take in the happenings in and around the old ME Moses variety store building. Hint, hint: It is something really sweet and good to eat. While you enjoy your purchased treat, watch the city's mayor give a whittling

demonstration. I hope he is not spitting like those old timers used to do, "YUCK!"

Yesteryears Soda Shop is on the other corner across the street and it is like stepping back in time just walking through the door. If hunger pains are hitting by now, food is there at Yesteryears, while outside hamburgers are being cooked by the Paducah Volunteer Fire Department, as well as other food vendors around the square.

I warn you - it may be hard to decide what to eat, so just go for a little bit of everything. Hang around while you enjoy the day, because the awarding of the trophies for the winners of the cook-off takes place around 3:00 p.m. as does the drawing for the 50-50 raffle. Hope you bought at least one of those tickets.

Later after all the awards are given will be a dinner featuring the briskets, sausage, and ribs that the cook-off cooks have prepared along with the fixings. The price is right and the food is delicious.

At 9:00 p.m. a dance begins and the music is provided by the Texas Troubadours.

Hope you enjoy your time at Paducah's 3rd Annual Pioneer Days, and don't forget to turn in that survey so we know something about the folks who help make our day a success. Hope to see you in Paducah, Texas, on Saturday, March 12, 2011.

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MAKING SOME ADJUSTMENTS



Pilots cannot fly an airplane from one city to another without making some adjustments to the base course. The reasons for this are varied and complex. Winds aloft and wind direction and air density all have to be factored into the course correction.

The same is also true of our life's journey.. We must make course adjustments as we are faced with each new challenge this life sets before us. Often we hold on to some old perceptions (course) with a death grip. We sometimes maintain a course through fear of the "new". New experiences are often challenging and difficult to deal with when they come into in our lives. But like the airplane, a new course heading is sometimes what is necessary.

The Apostle Paul helps us to make the necessary adjustments by telling us in Philippians 3: 13-14 "...But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal..." Here is Paul's example of overcoming former perceptions and being unafraid to accept new challenges or course corrections. As with Paul, so we also learn how to maintain sight of the goal.

Jesus has promised that He would be with us. Therefore we have the grandest Pilot to supervise the course corrections and a God who has declared, "Never will I leave you: never will I forsake you." (Hebrews 13: 5).

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

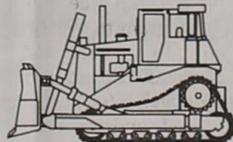
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NEWS AROUND MOTLEY COUNTY

Roaring Springs News

By Monta Marshall

Monta and Corky are in Lubbock. She will provide us with update on Roaring Springs news next week.

J.N. Fletcher and Donna Kennedy celebrated birthdays at the Travelers Inn. Those in attendance included Buzz and Tince Thacker, Chig Gwinn, Suzanne and Ken Abbott, Glennard and Edith Daniel,

Don and Billie Stuckey, Floyd and Diane Carter, Ralph Roming, and Corky Marshall.

J.T. Swim is now at Hackberry Care Clinic.

Willeta Burkes visited with Pearl Patten last Sunday

Travis Trammel and son Travis visited with parents Jo and Walter Trammel.

RS City Council meets

By Zella Palmer
Motley County Tribune

The Roaring Springs City Council met in regular session February 14, 2011, in the city hall conference room. Present were; Mayor Corky Marshall, council members PK Green, Timmy Brooks, James McCleskey, Perry Gullede, and Alex Crowder; water manager, Robert Osborn, and city secretary Zella Palmer.

Mayor Marshall called the meeting to order and gave the invocation. The pledge of allegiance to the United States flag was led by PK Green.

Minutes of the January 10, 2011, regular city council meeting minutes were approved as written. The financial report was approved, with bills being approved to be paid as presented.

The warranty renewal with

Gafford Pest Control, for the control of pests at the Community Center was passed with a unanimous vote.

Mayor Marshall called for an Order of Election, to be held May 14, 2011, for the purpose of electing three council members. The order of election passed unanimously with a motion by James McCleskey and seconded by Perry Gullede.

Mayor Marshall reported that plans are being made for the 100th Anniversary of the City of Roaring Springs to be held in conjunction with the Roaring Springs School Reunion in June, 2013. Gordon Harmon is president of the Roaring Springs Ex-student Association. More information will be provided as plans are made.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.



C.W. Moore's property in southwest Matador lost a cedar shed, both lawn mowers, and (pictured) a metal shade barn. A fire guard protected his home.. photo by Carol Campbell



Pictured is Ed D. Smith and Roy Hobbs working on fence on property located about 1/2-mile north of Bob's Oil Well on State Hwy. 70. Roy had cattle on the property that escaped the fire storm. photo by Carol Campbell

Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

Overheard

A mother recalled when her young son entered the Whiteflat School for his first day of school in the first grade. He returned home and was telling her about his day at school. "Bill, I bet you are a "smart aleck" his mother remarked. "Yeah, man!" he shouted, "That is just what they said at school!"

Fire in Flomot

Volunteer Fire Departments from Matador, Turkey, Quitaque and Flomot responded to a grass fire on Moseley land, across from highway 97 Wednesday February 23. Thinking weather was agreeable they were welding fences, but a spark ignited the dry grass. The fire departments got the fire under control and only 40 acres was lost.

Roger and Doris Vinson visited last weekend in Lubbock with their children and families, Dana and Crystal Vinson, Allyson, Elise and Chris and Shannon Vinson and new wife, Stacy and his children, Kaitlyn and Bubba. Roger and Doris treated them to a dinner Friday night at the Rib and Crib Restaurant in Lubbock.

Kathy and Clois Shorter accompanied home his father, Everett Shorter from the Mangold Hospital in Lockney Thursday. He is recuperating in their home following pneumonia.

Mrs. Darla Gwinn and daughter, Danielle had attend-

ed Stock Shows in San Antonio February 14-15 and in San Angelo February 19-20. Danielle had sheep entries.

Word was received by Wilburn Martin that the fire in Borger this weekend came within two blocks of the home of his daughter and husband, Marilee and Fred Cooper. They were thankful their home escaped damage.

Justin Calvert of Dumas visited Saturday and Sunday with his grandmother, Mrs. Mary Jo Calvert and uncle, Glen Calvert.

Brenda and Darrell Cruse enjoyed the basketball game in Abernathy Friday night when the Valley School Boys team defeated the Meadow team.

Weekend visitors of Connie and Coy Franks were children and families, Cara and Clint Cowart of Big Spring, Cory and Amy Franks, Madison, Hudson and Heston and Cary and Mary Franks of Idalou and her mother, Mrs. Erma Washington of Flomot. They celebrated the birthday of Hudson with all the trimmings. He blew out his seven candles on a colorful movie characters decorated cake.

Nada and Jack Starkey were in Lockney Monday and again Thursday for her medical appointment.

Anna Beth and Joe Ike Clay were in Pampa last Monday night to attend basketball game Panhandle versus Canadian in quarter-final game. Their grandson, Tanner Clay was on the Panhandle team.

Matador News



By Marilynn Hicks

Visitors from South Africa

Henk Vorster and Marika Von Wyk spent last week in Matador soaking up culture and enjoying a break. They are from the Free State of South Africa and are in the United States for a month marketing Big Game and Photo Safaris for his company, Makhulu Game Farms.

Marika is the marketing director for the farm. In Africa, the areas where animals are raised and hunted are called farms instead of ranches. Makhulu has breeding stock, specializing in lions of which they have around 400. Conservation of the species and game control are Henk's primary goals, hunting is a part of meeting those goals.

Henk and Marika met up with Randy Hicks at the Safari Club International show in Roswell, New Mexico, and accepted his invitation to come to Matador. Randy works with their farm as well as the Ubathi game farm as a representative in the United States.

During the week in Matador, the visitors spent several hours walking around town, taking pictures, and visiting with many citizens. They were given a tour of the bank by Roy Hobbs and especially enjoyed the Indian artifacts.

One day was spent looking

at property in Scurry County for possible expansion into the United States. The adventure included some excellent Tex-Mex Food at the Spanish Inn in Snyder. Toni Gonzales also made them some homemade tortillas which they loved.

Permission was gained for the South African guests to attend a "branding" of the calves at the TeePee Camp of the Matador Ranch. Both got a good sunburn and some wonderful memories. Henk even joined Tim Washington in eating some "fresh" mountain oysters.

Henk and Marika prepared a South African braai (barbecue) on Thursday night for some local residents. Attending the dinner were Roy and Frances Hobbs, William, Stayce and Colby Cochran, Ronnie and Shelley Cox, J D and D' Russell, Dorothy Russell, Bill and Barbara Armstrong, Tracie Bruning from Robert Lee and Terry Smith from San Saba. They prepared grilled, marinated meat, mealie pot with a tomato sauce, mixed beans, and juice. After the meal, Henk and Marika gave a talk on their farm and hunts.

Friday, the guests were driven to El Paso, where Marika attended the SCI event and from which Henk flew to Midland for the SCI show at that location.

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The Barton's are getting together a cook book, as an outgrowth of the Barton Reunion in Austin two years ago. The recipes are to go to Peggy Nouri.

Send all recipes to Peggy Nouri, peggy.nouri@oag.state.tx.us

Evelyn and Herbert Smallwood attended the funeral services of Mrs. Bessie Garrison, 93, Monday, February 21, 2011, held at the Church of Christ in Silverton. They visited in Iowa Park from Tuesday until Friday.

Correction

In last weeks paper Brody Rankin also won Jr. Showmanship with his steer that was Rate of Gain. The picture with his plaque was not taken for Rate of Gain that was his Showmanship certificate.

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This Week's Local Forecast

Thursday Mostly Sunny 82/41	Friday Mostly Sunny 69/36	Saturday Mostly Sunny 58/32	Sunday Mostly Sunny 67/35	Monday Sunny 65/34	Tuesday Mostly Sunny 70/38	Wednesday Partly Cloudy 68/39

Weather Trivia

Where is the hottest place in the atmosphere?
ANSWER: The thermosphere, or top layer, gets the hottest.

Weather History

March 3, 1988 - A small but intense low pressure system roared across west central Mississippi at 90 mph. A tornado in southern Mississippi picked up an automobile, carried it 150 feet, and tossed it through the brick wall of an unoccupied retirement home.

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
3/4	3/12	3/19	3/26

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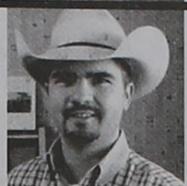
By Mary Ann Potts

Our shipment of new books has finally arrived! We have some choice selections to help you escape your daily grind, even if it's just for a little while. Our Suspense/Thrillers this week include: Alex Berenson's *The Secret Soldier, Learning to Swim* by Sara J. Henry, Daniel Palmer's *Delirious, Treachery in Death* by J. D. Robb, *Though Not Dead* by Dana Stabenow, *A Heartbeat Away* by Michael Palmer, *Fatal Error* by J. A. Jance, and Preston & Child's *Gideon's Sword*. On the other hand, if you're looking for a family story and loves lost and found then Kim Edwards' *The Lake of Dreams* is the book for you. For our true story lovers we have 2 great reads, Michael Oher's *I Beat the Odds* (the subject of Michael Lewis' *The Blind Side*) and *A Box of Darkness* by Sally Ryder Brady.

In addition to the new books this week, our new carpet is installed and we would love for everyone to stop in and see our new look. Please continue to be patient with us until we get everything organized and working on schedule. Thank you for your understanding.

After attending a library meeting in Lubbock last week, Texas libraries are under the gun, to voice our concerns about cutting most and/or all funding to libraries. These are funds used to purchase books, organize summer reading programs, computer classes, interlibrary loans and, computer and internet access. So I encourage all of our patrons to write to their representatives "What the library means to me." For your convenience, I have preprinted cards available at the library for you to complete, just stop in to pick one up.

County Agent's News



by Ryan Martin, Agri LIFE EXTENSION Agent

Cottonseed Variety and Mesquite Control Meeting to be held March 2

On March 2, 2011 there will be a meeting at the Library Annex Building beginning at 11:30am to discuss cottonseed varieties for the new crop year and mesquite control methods. Various cottonseed company representatives will be on hand to discuss new varieties along with seed supplies for the upcoming crop year. Results from the 2010 Motley County Cotton Variety Trial will also be presented to inform producers of the best performing varieties in Motley County.

Mrs. Rebecca Koenig from Tarleton State University will also be making a presentation on mesquite control methods and new chemicals along with surveying landowners on the importance of mesquite control in Motley County. 3 CEU's will be offered to licensed private pesticide applicators and a catered lunch will be served. If you are planning on attending, please contact the Motley County Extension Office at (806) 347-2733.

Motley 4-H Members compete in Major Stock Shows

On January 27, 2011 Motley 4-H members Danielle Gwinn, Seth Baxter, Cassidy Turner and Carley Turner traveled to Fort Worth to compete in the 2011 Fort Worth Stock Show. They were accompanied by their parents, Darla Gwinn, Don and Colleen Baxter and Craig and Cathey Turner and Ryan and Jamie Martin.

Danielle competed in the lamb show where she placed 17th with one of her lambs. Seth also competed in the lamb show where he placed 8th and 21st. Cassidy, Carley and Seth competed in the goat show and Seth placed 13th. Cassidy and Carley also competed in the showmanship class where they did an excellent job showing.

On January 31, despite bad weather, Chloe and Dode Gleg-

horn traveled to Fort Worth to compete in the Fort Worth Steer Show. They were accompanied by their parents, Tommy and Kim Gleghorn and brother Teg, Kenneth Gleghorn, Dwight Gleghorn and Ryan and Jamie Martin. Chloe competed in the Polled Hereford Division and Dode competed in the Angus Division. Fighting bad weather all week, these girls did an excellent job as Dode placed 15th in her class.

Danielle and Darla Gwinn also traveled to San Antonio on February 13 to participate in the 2011 San Antonio Stock Show with her lamb. Unfortunately, Danielle did not place with her lamb.

Rounding out the month of February, Cassidy and Carley Turner, Seth Baxter, Danielle Gwinn, Sage and Tatum Guerrero, and Natalie and Emily Jameson traveled to San Angelo to compete in the 2011 San Angelo Stock Show. They were accompanied by Craig and Cathey Turner, D'anna Russell, Don and Colleen Baxter, Darla Gwinn, Gilbert and Zacka Guerrero, Danika Jameson and Ryan and Jamie Martin. On February 18, Cassidy and Carley competed in the Texas Star Doe Show, a new show introduced this year. They did an excellent job as Cassidy placed 4th, 8th and 9th with her three does and Carley placed 8th, 8th and 9th with her three does. On February 20, Seth and Danielle competed in the lamb show. Although they did not place, they did an excellent job showing. Also on February 20, Seth, Cassidy and Carley showed in the goat show at San Angelo. Seth and Carley were able to place in the top 30 of their class. On February 22, Natalie, Emily, Sage and Tatum competed in the CTBR Texas Star Gilt Show with their pigs. Unfortunately, no one was able to place as this was a very tough show.

Congratulations to these Motley 4-H members as they represented our 4-H Club in these major stock shows and did an excellent job.

COWPOKES®

By Ace Reid



"Jake, I'm gittin' plenty of exercise, I bet I run to this icebox a hundred times a day!"

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Obituary

Aubrey Stephens

Graveside services for Aubrey "Cotton" Stephens, 88, of Roswell were Thursday, February 24, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. at South Park Cemetery. Military honors were provided by Roswell Veterans Honor Guard.

Cotton was born July 30, 1922, to Clifford Stephens and Grace Lynch in Matador, Texas. He attended Bethel Baptist Church until he became ill, and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He served in U.S Army in World War II from 1942-1945. He was a cowboy for a large portion of his life on the Matador Ranch and loved to go back to the Old Settlers Reunions. He retired from Waide Sand and Gravel in 2009. He was united in marriage to Max-

ine King on March 9, 1959, in Roswell, N.M., who preceded him in death.

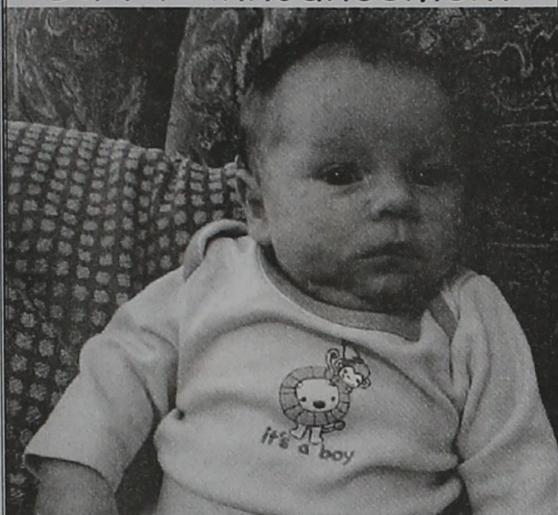
Those left behind to cherish his memory are his two sons, Billy Mac Duke of Ponder, Texas, and Cliff Stephens and wife Elizabeth of Little Elm, Texas; sister, Doris Piper of Stephenville, Texas; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Honorary pallbearers were James Waide and the employees of Waide Sand and Gravel Company.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers; and one sister.

Arrangements were under the direction of Anderson Bethany Funeral Home and Crematory.

Birth Announcement



Another Potts boy! Richard and Gina Potts of Southlake, Texas, announce the birth of their son, Ben, on January 24, 2011 who weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. and was 19.5 inches long. He joins a lively household of big sister Emma, 8, and twin brothers, Sam and Cooper, age 4. His grandparents are Marisue Potts of Matador, Frank Potts of Floydada, and Dennis and Dianne Viktorin of East Bernard, Texas. Ben's paternal cousins are Jay, Neal, and Grant Potts of Motley County and Sully Horn of Galveston.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

- March**
- 1 Matador Lions
 - 2 Kids Praise 5:30 pm for all 3 yrs thru 5th grade
 - 3 Roaring Springs Lions
 - 5 Senior Citizens showing the movie "Secretariat" for a donation-only popcorn and other goodies event, 6:30 p.m.
 - 9 Hospital Bd meets in EMS building, 7am
 - 10 Matador City Council
 - 10 Matador Chapter of the Eastern Star, Floydada, Meal at 6:30pm, meeting at 7:30 pm
 - 14 Commissioners' Court
 - 14 Roaring Springs City Council
 - 14 HCCC Board
 - 15 Matador Lions
 - 17 Matador Masonic Lodge, 6:30 pm
 - 19 Spaghetti Supper at the Senior Citizens. Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce for the community and for guests that will be flooding in for the Boondocker's Race.
 - 19-20 West Texas Boondockers Motorcycle Races
 - 21 MCISD School Board, 7:30 pm
 - 21-23 Computer Class, Library, TBA

Senior Citizens showing the movie "Secretariat" for donation-only popcorn and other goodies
 6:30 p.m. March 5

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