

75th Annual Motley - Dickens Old Settlers Reunion



A group of cowboys photographed at one of the first Old Settlers Reunions.

(Tribune file photo)

*In the spirit of the first Old Settlers Edition,
printed August 25, 1938*

We dedicate this special edition

To the memory of the Pioneers
of Motley and Dickens Counties

Motley-Dickens Counties Old Settlers Special Edition

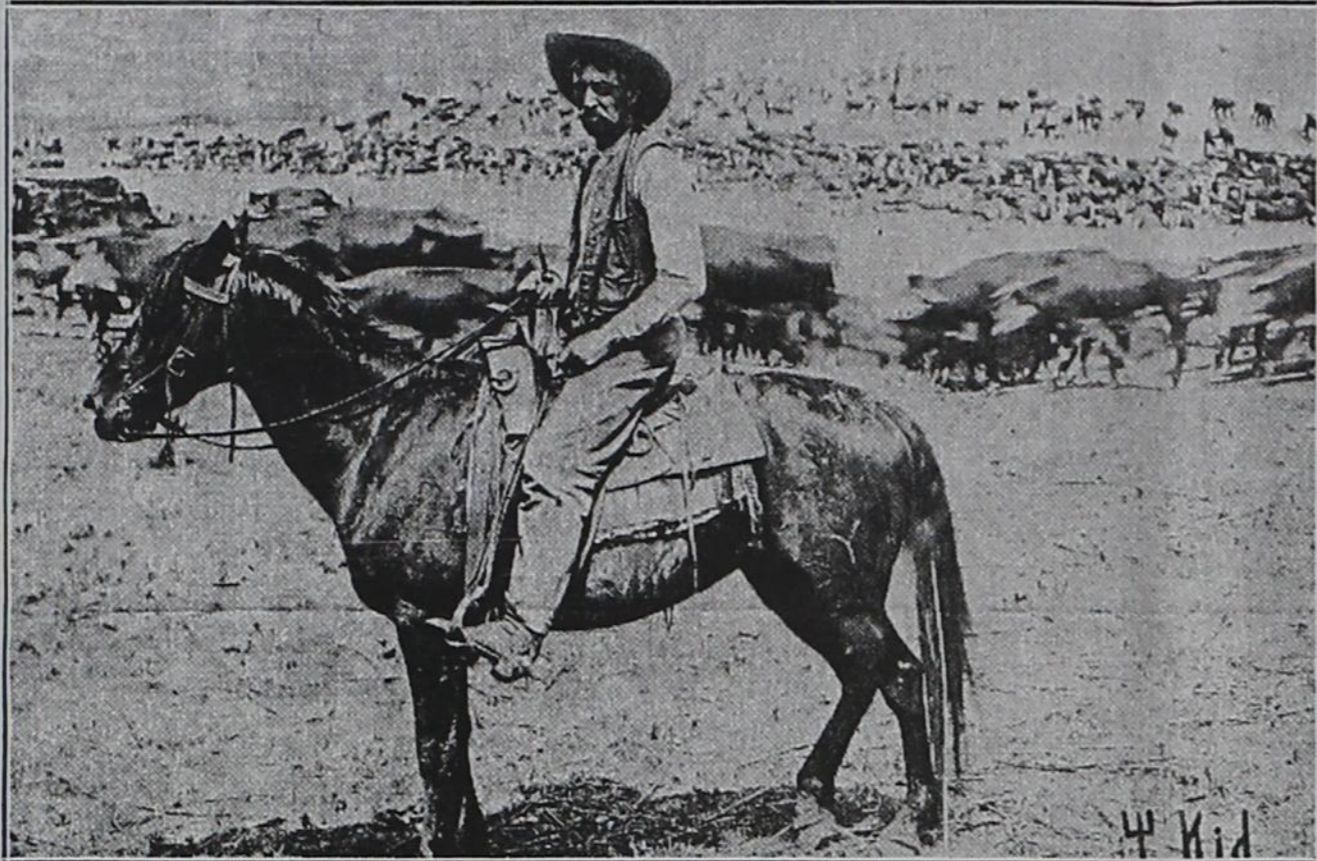
Matador Tribune

VOLUME 12, NO. 25

MATADOR, MOTLEY COUNTY, TEXAS, THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 1938

PRICE 10c

DIM TRAILS...



THE cattle no longer bellow for water and mill through mud-choked lakes on that range where Pitchfork Kid is riding; the needlegrass waves through lush, eternal spring; the saddle horses are sleek and sure-footed. Top hands are scarce in eternity.

Trails where he rode back on the old range are growing dim, lost beneath the tangle of furrows and lines of shining barbed-wire and the herds are vanishing. The jingle of spurs is like the echo of a fond memory.

To Pitchfork Kid and the others who have gone on and those who remain; to the magnificent men and women who gave their all in shaping the destiny of this progressive and fruitful land; to the Old Settlers, we respectfully dedicate these pages.

A Kansas City waltz who found his place on the plains was the Pitchfork Kid, shown above. Although his early history is obscure, all who knew him noticed, first that he was a very frightened boy when he came to this section in 1884, with a Mr. Lattimore and Frank Collison. Only about 13 years old, he had been picked up on the streets of Kansas City. He had no kinfolks, neither parents or brothers, or sisters, as far as was known. Later, it was learned that, up until he was 13, he had lived with two uncles. His feeling of fear was explained by the legend that these two uncles were killed for cattle rustling, and that the boy, either in imagination or actuality, had been involved in their depredations. At any rate he eagerly seized on the chance to come to West Texas.

He used the name "Billy Parks" when he first came here, but four years later, after a trip to Kansas City with a load of cattle, he returned with his real name, Billy Pardlow, which he had discovered through some friends. The kid stayed around on various ranches for two years, after his arrival, flunking for his room and board, without earning any wages. After he did get work, however, he made a top

hand, and became one of the most skillful ropers in West Texas. In 1897 he drew his first prize money, roping at the Seymour Cowboys' Reunion. Friends here recall that he used a big saddle with long pockets.

In 1892 Billy worked on the Pitchfork, gathering Matador Cattle. One day George Martin, who was with the wagon, saddled a horse and asked the Kid to "top him off". Billy, who had forgotten fear, mounted and received the fall that injured him permanently. Only about 20 years of age at the time, the Pitchfork Kid remained unconscious for 19 days, and was never completely normal again.

Silent, taciturn, uncommunicative, he continued with the ranch, an expert cowboy who was petted and humored by all the hands, until his death, nearly 30 years later.

He was killed in an accident out in New Mexico, and his body lies in a grave in Amarillo. His name still remains on membership rolls in the Matador Masonic Lodge.

Front page of the first special edition of the Matador Tribune, printed in 1938 for the 15th Annual Reunion. The issue was compiled by Ben and Lila Meador, and Miss Doris Mullins. (Story at right)

Young maiden comes to Matador in search of dream

Note: This is the story of Doris Mullins, the late wife of Joe Harlen, who passed away recently in Amarillo. He left all of his books and bookshelves to the Motley County Library in memory of his late wife. Mrs. Lila Meador gives this recollection of the young woman who came to Matador to pursue a dream.

edition, which was a tabloid issue with a small write-up of several pioneer residents and cowboys and featuring "Pitchfork Kid" on the cover.

By the time negotiations were completed with Naylor Publishing Co., of San Antonio to publish Trail Dust in book form, Doris did the proofreading of the copy submitted. Douglas went through the files of the Tribune to select the paragraphs he wanted in the book and the copy was set on the Tribune linotype. The book went on sale in 1940.

Doris Mullins was a college dropout, who came in 1938 to the Matador Tribune seeking employment in exchange for journalism experience. A native of Lubbock, she was the daughter of early-day residents, Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Mullins. Following high school, she chose the University of Missouri at Columbia, because, as she thought, it offered courses which she needed to pursue her choice of a career.

Later Doris was offered a job with the newspaper in Mountainaire, New Mexico, which she accepted. When World War II started she enlisted in the WACCS. After the War ended she had a government job in Amarillo, where she met Joe Harlan who was City Attorney, who later prospered in private practice. They married; Doris resigned from public work; they built a home in the Country Club area because Joe liked to play golf, which meant little to Doris, for she wasn't a "social climber" and still devoted her time to books and related organizations or groups. Mrs. Meador stated that she was amazed at their home. Every room seemed lined with books, even the kitchen.

After one year at the university, she convinced her father that it would be cheaper for him to pay her room and board than college expenses, if she could get a newspaper job and worked without pay just for the experience. She stopped at every town between Lubbock and Matador, but no jobs were available - and that included the Tribune. However, realizing his own frustrations in starting his career, Douglas Meador gave Doris a job on her own terms - that he would make out a check to her for \$5.00, to have for a keepsake of her first job.

Mrs. Meador was not informed of Doris' death. She heard only through a friend in Lubbock, Barbara (Ketchersid) Tilson, as she and her husband both grew up in Matador but were acquainted with John Mullins, Doris' brother.

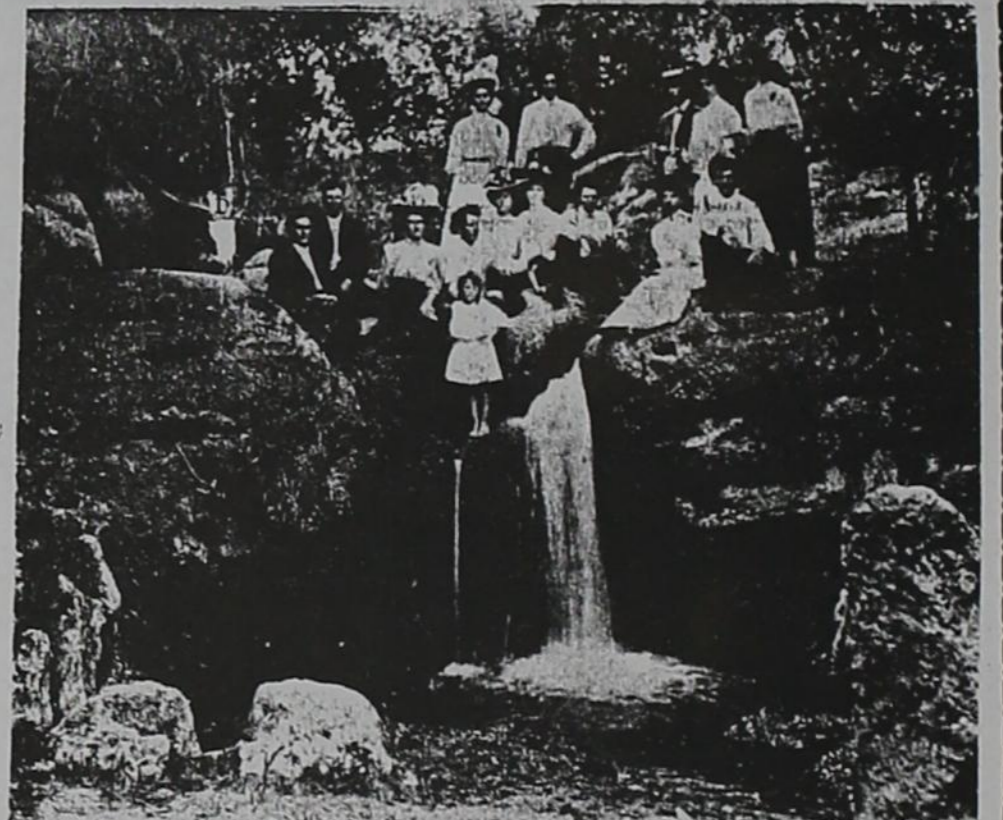
Doris got a room at the home of Mrs. I.F. Fish (now owned by Edna Ruth and Luther Green) which was handy, as the Tribune was at that time on the highway in the building now occupied by the Production Credit Association. The first thing she did after learning that Matador had a Library, was to get a membership card and check out - not one, but an armful of books. She was the most avid bookworm that I have ever known.

The little Library in Matador that Doris used was a project of El Progreso Club for donations from both the public and club members, with Miss Mary Keith as Librarian. The first location was an upstairs room in the former First National Bank building. After Miss Keith resigned, the club donated the books to the school library.

The first assignment was the 1938 Tribune's first Old Settlers special

WELCOME TO ROARING SPRINGS

75th Annual Old Settlers Reunion



PIONEERS AT ROARING SPRINGS.

Alexander Fuel

Roaring Springs



Douglas Meador, longtime Matador Tribune Publisher and Editor.

Welcome to Roaring Springs! and the 75th Old Settlers Reunion



Full Line of Deli Items
Cold Drinks ~ Ice
Grocery Items

City Grocery

Downtown Roaring Springs ~ 348-7228

OLD SETTLERS' DAY

Congratulations on the 75th Celebration of the Old Settlers Reunion!

Lighthouse Electric

Floydada, Texas



WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY

An Equal Opportunity Employer

WTU

A Member of The Central and South West System

Serving you with dependable electric energy from the Red River to the Rio Grande.

We would like to extend a BIG WELCOME to the 75th Annual Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion!



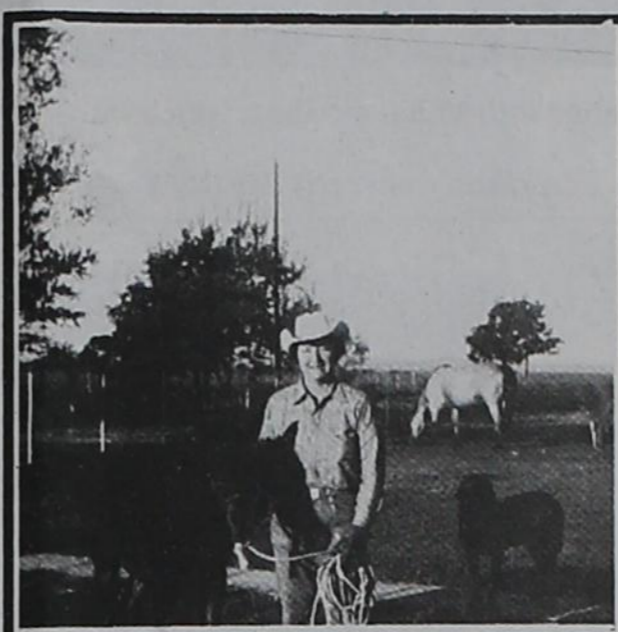
LEADING THE PARADE — Mervin Green, John Russell, and John Stotts (pictured left to right) lead the 1942 Old Settlers Parade.

(photo courtesy of J.M. "Sonny" Russell)



OLD SETTLERS PARADE IN 1945 — John C. Russell in front, with granddaughter, Marilyn.

(photo courtesy of J.M. "Sonny" Russell)



Viola Stinson, who came to Motley County to be a nurse at the Stanley Hospital in the 50's, poses with a colt she was training to show at the W.B. Barton stock farm.

(photo courtesy of Marisue Burlison Potts)



PARADE 1942 — J.E. Russell and Dud Beauchamp.

(photo courtesy of J.M. "Sonny" Russell)



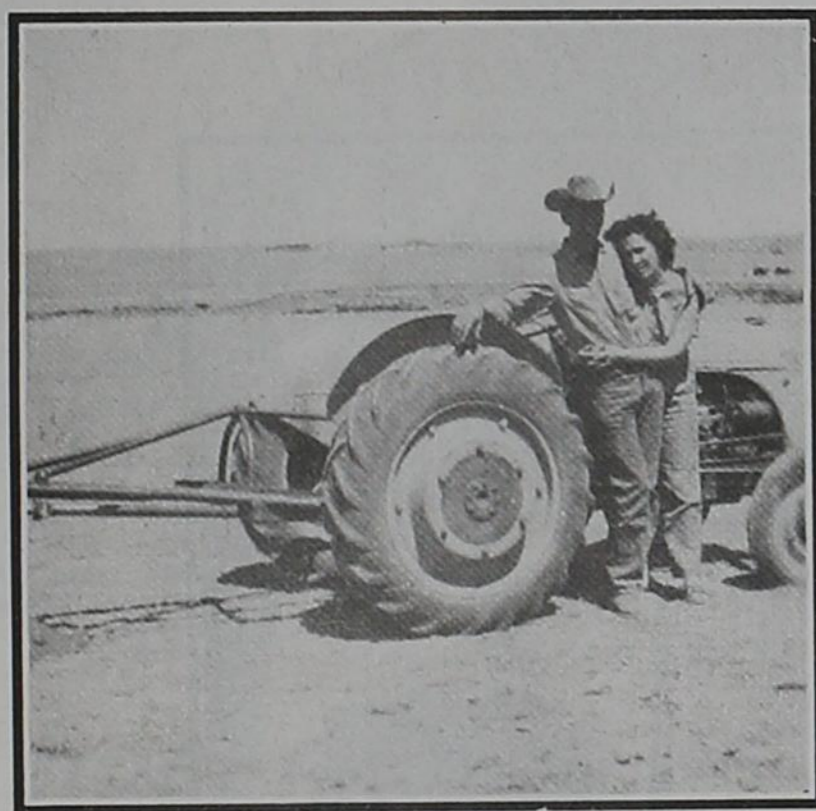
W.B. "Jake" Smith building fence on the Matador Ranch in 1950. He invented the fence wire stretchers he used to help with the wires, which were hard to stretch by hand. Mr. Smith ran the Blacksmith Shop owned by Bert Auldridge. He was a grandfather to local residents, Lee Smith and Denny Smith.

(photo courtesy of Mrs. Lee Smith)



Pictured at left is J.C. "Doc" Burlison, posing before the home of his mother-in-law, Mrs. I.E. Martin, in Matador on a slick steed. Note the tapaderos on his stirrups to protect the boots from slipping through.

(photo courtesy of Marisue Burlison Potts)



Mike and Leona Smith helped Mike's father, "Jake" build fence for the Matador Ranch in 1961. Mike Smith is now deceased, and Mrs. Smith still resides in Matador.

(photo courtesy of Mrs. Lee Smith)

Welcome
home
Old Settlers



75th Annual
Celebration!

Vickie's Floral
&
Country Crafts
downtown Roaring Springs

Old Settlers Days

We offer a salute to our
Motley and Dickens County Pioneers
and say welcome as the
75th Annual
Old Settlers Reunion is celebrated.



At left is the first Bank building in Matador on Dundee Street and owned by L.J. Barkley.

(photo from Tribune files)

FIRST STATE BANK



Matador, Texas



Welcome Home
Old Settlers!
75th Reunion



Cowboy Boot Shop

Dood Damron

1113 Main — Matador — 347-2218



Roaring Springs

WELCOME
OLD
SETTLERS

75th Reunion

Zabielski
Company



Main Street scene in Matador about 1910. Note telephone lines leading into Millinery Shop, which was also the telephone exchange.

(Reprinted from early day Old Settlers edition of the Matador Tribune)

The William Carpenter Family



Walter and Derrick Carpenter

(photo courtesy of Dahl Clower)

Information from *Of Such As These* by Eleanor Traweek

In reminiscing about his family's early trek to Motley County, Arlie Carpenter says his kith and kin came out to this country "three or four months" ago in the year 1895. His papa brought three wagons from Scurry County "down between Snyder and Colorado City". They suffered the typical hardships of traveling by covered wagon, but to Arlie who was five years old, the biggest hazard of the trip was the big hill they had to pull near Dickens. "That hill," he remembered, "looked like a mountain". His papa had a hard time getting his wagons and trains over the top. When they arrived in Motley County they filed on a half section of land east of Matador, then moved to a married half-sister's house until they could get settled.

As a young man, Arlie drove one of the school wagons at Northfield, and remembered that the kids out there were as young and wild as the country. One little school kid who was smoking on the wagon accidentally set fire one day to some cotton that was piled next to the road. Scared half to death the kid was jumping up and down and turning the air blue with language that would have shocked a sailor. His daddy came running. And his first words to the boy were, "Where in the hell did you learn words like that!"

Children of William Carpenter's first marriage were Sally, Willie, Dave, and Clay Carpenter. William and his second wife, Frances, were the parents of 10 children, Welby, Lelia, Edgar, Derrick, Arlie, Walter, Lizzie (died as a child), Myrtle, Vera, and Theodore who died from a gunshot wound.

The John Rutledge Havis Family

Information from *Of Such As These* by Eleanor Traweek

Mr. and Mrs. John Rudledge Havis were married in 1875 in Bosque County. They lived in Hill County and in Dublin, Texas in Erath County before moving to Motley County.

It was a cold January day in 1907 when the family arrived in the Dutchman Community in the south part of the county and found what they thought would be a suitable, temporary place to live.

The five room rock house they located was built up against a protective bank and apparently nobody had lived there for a long time. But the children will never forget that on their first night there the family found other tenants. When Mr. Havis built a fire, the rattlesnakes which were dened up in holes in the walls for the winter, evidently thought Spring had come. They suddenly began to crawl out. It didn't take long to get the walls plastered.

One of the early settlers of Roaring Springs, the Havis family came

to the community before there were any stores. They had to do their trading in Matador. Six years later M.E. Keahey had a "pretty big" grocery store in Roaring Springs; Mr. Satterwhite had a hardware store; Mr. O.O. (Double Nothing) Love had a dry goods store; and Mrs. R.A. Lee (Lottie Havis) served meals at her house for the railroad hands. In all at this date there were three gins, a bank, two drug stores, three grocery stores, two dry goods stores and a population of 500 people which included other early families such as the Smiths, Colletts, Cliftons, Coopers, and McBroms.

A quiet but friendly man, John Havis was born in Franklin County, Mississippi and left home to be on his own when he was 17 years old. He was a stock farmer and also served as a County Commissioner in Motley County. He died in 1918.

Mrs. Havis, who lived most her life at Roaring Springs, died in 1944. She was the former Mary Bell Blackmore. Their children were Edgar, Andrew, Lee, Charlotte, Nena, Mary, Hazel, Kinnie, and Herman.



Lelia Carpenter

(photo courtesy of Dahl Clower)

Trail Dust

by Douglas Meador

It is not well to sound life to the core and question the glittering tinsel of hope orning the dreamer's heart, for many have asked too much and

faced the sentence of watching skeletons dangling from leafless trees by ropes of their own weaving. The most

wretched mortal this side of the stagnant bayou flowing into the River Styx is captain of that derelict hull adrift without sail to hold the winds of faith.

Trail Dust

by Douglas Meador

So much is sham in this world of make-believe, that much of an average life must be used as apprenticeship in order to determine the real from the false. Some of life's greatest lessons are concealed in thin, deftly shaped masks. Many of the world's greatest facts are so obvious that they are never found.

Welcome Old Settlers



DAILY LUNCH BUFFET

Friday night Fish Fry
\$6.95 All You Can Eat!
Saturday Night Special
Steak & Shrimp - \$10.95

Hours: 6:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Caprock Cafe

Dickens, Texas

Welcome to Roaring Springs



Street scene about 1917 at the First State Bank in Roaring Springs. The building now houses Thacker Jewelry.

(Tribune file photo)

Thacker Jewelry

Roaring Springs



Glenn Martin Companies

Spur, Texas

Welcome to the 75th Annual Old Settlers Reunion!

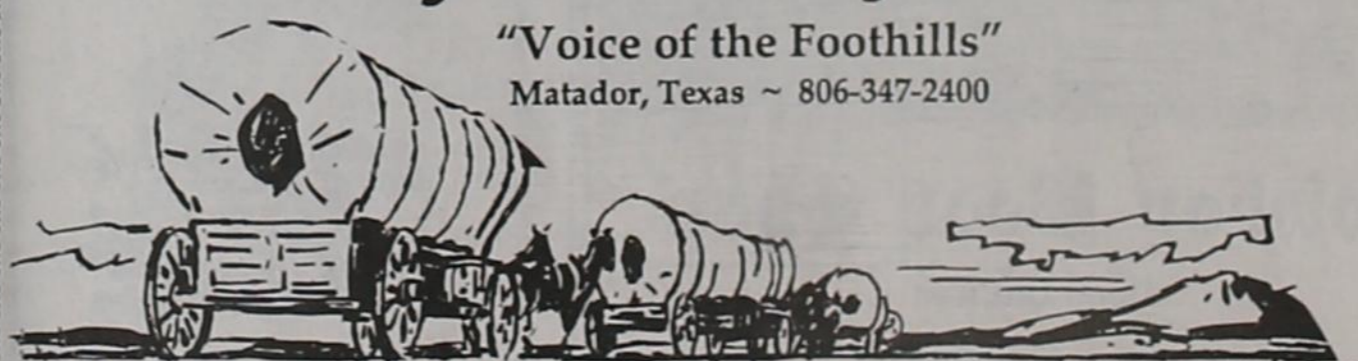


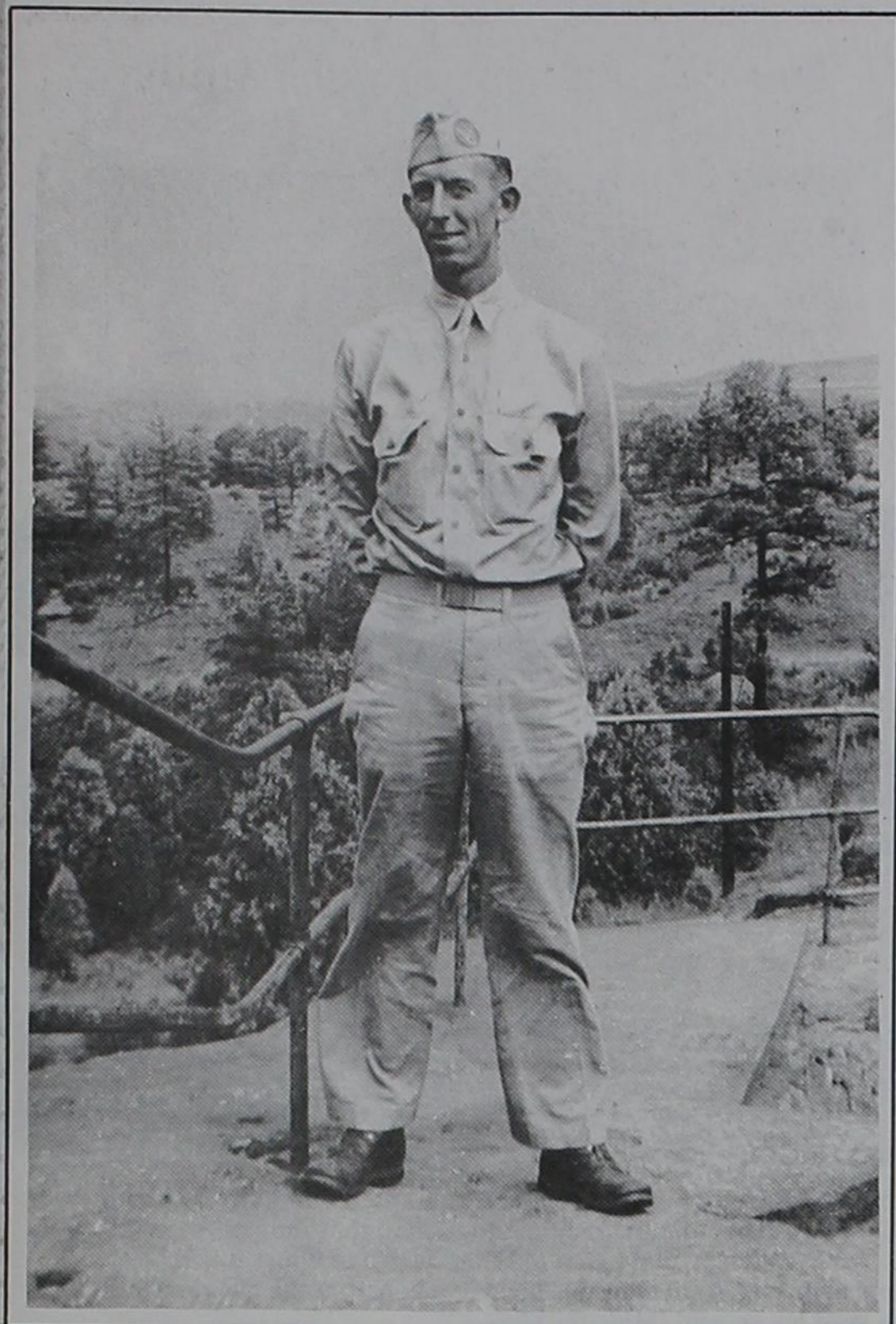
Douglas 'Ben' & Lila Meador, longtime publishers of the Matador Tribune. Photo taken in July of 1940.

Motley County Tribune

"Voice of the Foothills"

Matador, Texas ~ 806-347-2400





Charlie Meador in Guam during World War II. Charlie was born and raised in Motley County. He was the son of Doug and Chloe Meador. He married Dena Couch in 1955. They had five sons, Larry Dunn, Doug, Dan, Jim, and John Meador. Charlie died in 1984. Dena still resides in Matador.



Motley County Civil War Veterans. Date of picture is unknown.

The George W. Seigler Family



The Seigler twins: Eldred and Elbert. Or maybe its Elbert and Eldred.

Information from *As Such As These* by Eleanor Traweek

They were the parents of seven children, Guy Austin, Alma Lela (Mrs. O.S. Ethridge), Amy (Mrs. Clovis Vaughn), George Patrick, and Elbert and Eldred, twins.

The grandfather of George W. Seigler moved from South Carolina to Mississippi before the Civil War and in 1868 joined the wave of migration westward across the Mississippi River. He set out for Texas by Ox wagon, but died of Cholera before he reached his destination. He was buried in Vickburg and his family continued on their journey to Collin County, Texas. In 1870 they were followed by a son, James Patrick Seigler, his wife Mollie and baby, George. The next year Mollie died in childbirth, leaving three year old George as the only surviving child of her marriage. Three years later James married Mary Tennessee Moore. Little George grew up as the son of a substantial citizen of Farmersville, Texas. His younger half brothers were Alfred, Oliver, Liller, James, and a half-sister, Mary. Young George met his future wife, Jo Ida Kirby in Collin County in 1886. She was the 16-year-old daughter of William and Lucy Estes herby of Tennessee. The next September they were married. In 1890 the young couple moved to Oklahoma, living three years in Greer County, and four years in Roger Mills County before moving to Floyd County, Texas.

During the winter of 1899-1900, Mr. Seigler decided that the "breaks" east of the Caprock was better cattle country. He sold his holdings and moved his cattle to winter pasturage on the A.M. Bourland place.

In 1901 he bought his first land, three sections, in Motley County on the North Pease River. The ranch was later enlarged to 17 sections.

The fact that the water in this area was "gippy" was to his thinking outweighed by such advantages as year round green grass in the salt flats and the protection of his cattle in winter by the canyons and brush along the river.

The Seiglers went 18 miles to church and frequently took 25 or 30 friends home with them for dinner. This may account for the fact that Mrs. Seigler put up as many as 500 jars of fruit and vegetables each year.

Mr. Seigler was born in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi in 1868 and died in 1937. Mrs. Seigler was born in 1870 near Brownsville, Tennessee.

Trail Dust

by Douglas Meador

Time flicks off the days as ashes from a burning cigarette and there is no reconstruction of the past. The opportunity to speak an encouraging word or lighten the load of another rests with the transient minute. Shining as the eyes of a cat in the dark, are the human, thoughtful things we might have done yesterday.

75th Welcome to the 75th
Motley-Dickens Counties
Old Settlers Reunion

Paymaster Gin

Welcome Old Settlers
 75th Annual Reunion

Downtown Matador, late 60's.
Matador V&S Variety
 Downtown Matador - 347-2820

Welcome to Roaring Springs

Mrs. LaVoe Thacker, Mrs. Lem Miller, and Mrs. M.S. Thacker entertained with a skit at the afternoon program of the Old Settlers in 1966. Mrs. Miller and Mrs. M.S. Thacker are now deceased.
 (Tribune file photo)

Thacker Supply
 ROARING SPRINGS

Welcome to Motley County
and the 75th Annual
Old Settlers Reunion

All 30 pks. - \$14.99

Ponderosa
Grocery
& Barbecue

Dickens, Texas

We would like to welcome you to
 the 75th Annual Motley - Dickens
 Old Settlers Reunion



Roaring Springs has always been a favorite picnic spot, as shown by this picture, made many years ago.
 (photo taken from Tribune files)

Spur Security Bank
 SPUR, TEXAS

Each depositor insured to \$100,000
FDIC

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER



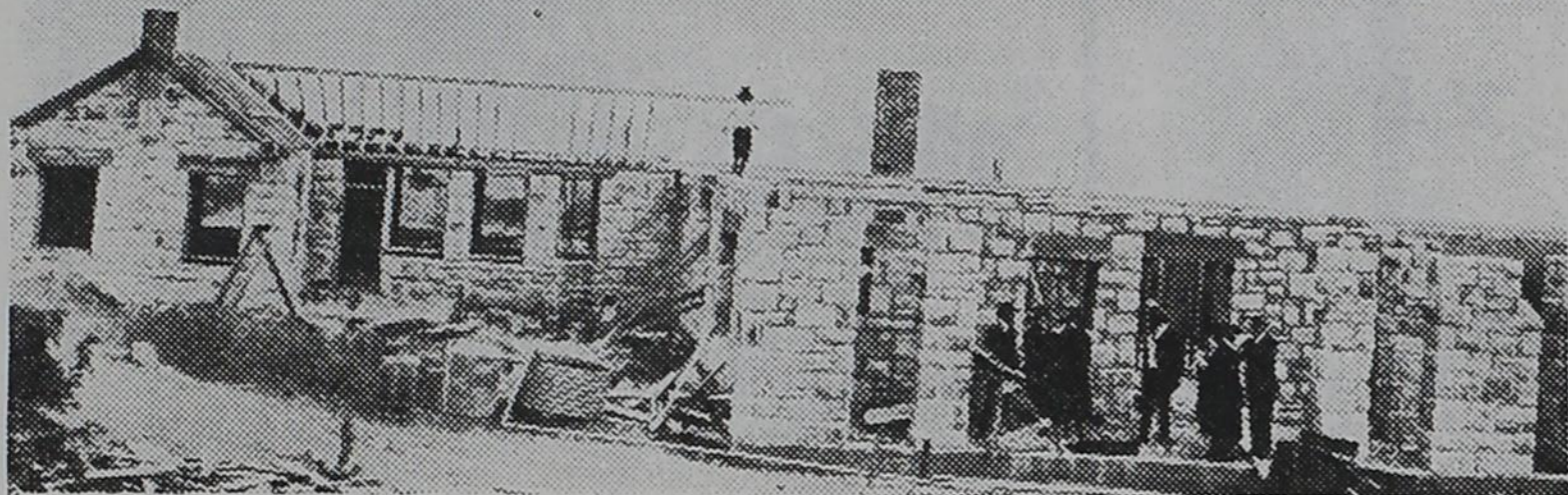
241 bales Qualla cotton grown on Wood Farm White Flat, Texas

WHITEFLAT GIN — This picture was recently donated to the Motley County Museum by Rosemary Bloodworth Anderson of Seminole. Mr. Wilburn Martin, Museum President, was kind enough to make it available to the Tribune to use for this special edition. The exact date the picture was taken was not available. Mrs. Anderson related to Mr. Martin that she inherited the gin property after her father's death. She sold the scales to a seed company. A Minnesota man, who is an engine collector bought the

old steam engine and starts all of them annually (one day) for a show. The Lumus Company took two wooden gin stands and sent them to Columbus, Georgia, where the same man that built them originally, restored and made one good one. Mrs. Anderson donated it to Texas Tech and hopes it will be on display when they get the gin portion opened. Mrs. Anderson was born in a house on the gin yard and played many happy hours on the bales, seed house, and inside the gin.

(photo courtesy of Motley County Museum and Mrs. Rosemary Bloodworth Anderson)

MATADOR RANCH HOUSE



Matador Ranch headquarters under construction in 1918.

(photo from 1918 Matador Yearbook, courtesy of Motley County Museum)

The Millionaire Cowboy

Information from *Cow Country* by Tanner Laine.

In the mid 1870's a Mackenzie's Raiders chased out the Indians, opening the way for the cattlemen. Came the cowmen with their herds of long-horns and the stage was set for the thrilling eras of the West. The great 439,972 acre Spur Ranch was one of the first outfits at the Caprock edge and it was the home of "The Millionaire Cowboy."

Among the cowboys who worked for the Spurs in its early days was Jake Raines, who became known as "The Millionaire Cowboy."

Raines came from New Mexico with the Cross-L stock that was a part of the Spur Ranch stocking. Although the Spur Ranch changed hands four or five times, Raines was always retained by the new owners.

He was a line rider after barbed wire enclosed the range but he held every job on the ranch at one time or another. Eventually, he became an authority on cattle brands of the Southwest.

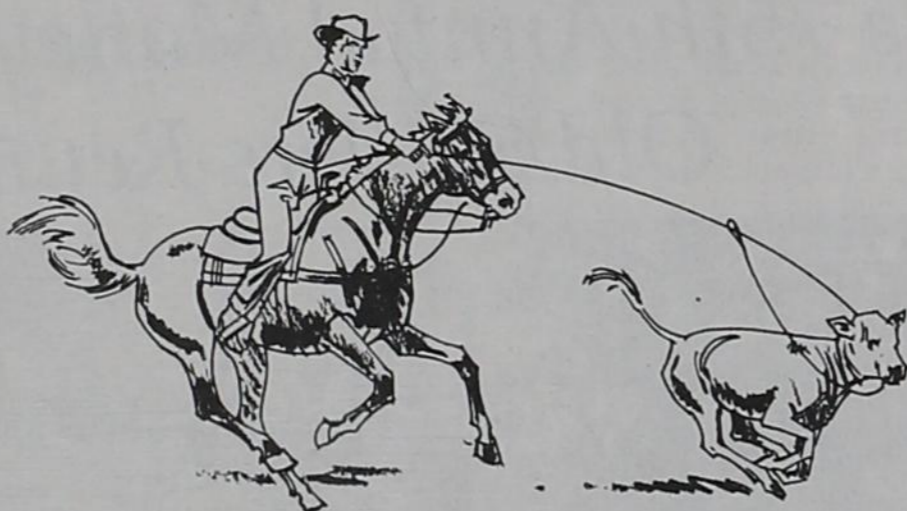
There is a story, one nobody ever had the nerve to prove. Jake Raines had a spur tattooed on his left hip and wore his hair long to conceal the underslope of his left ear.

His more than 30 years in the saddle for one cow outfit unquestionably qualified him as the top hand of them all in the Caprock foothills.

They called Jake a millionaire because of his reluctance to cash a paycheck. It is said that one time an excited hand rode up with the news "they can't pay us this month!" Jake drawled, "ain't they still feeding and bunking us?"

If they are, they've got one hand-me! He lived simply, never married and the paychecks piled up. He only cashed some of them when irate book-keepers insisted he cash some of them to keep their books in order. It is estimated that he accumulated \$35,000 to \$40,000 from wages and bonuses alone. He also inherited some money from relatives. He was known as Jake Raines of the Spurs, the greatest cowboy of them all - a "millionaire cowboy."

Welcome Home Old Settlers

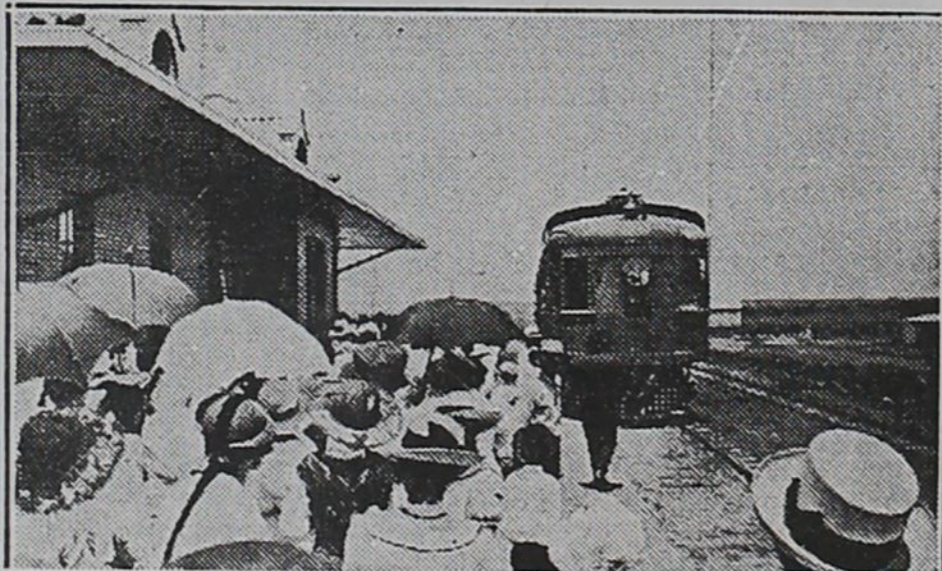


Congratulations on your 75th

Campbell Funeral Home

Spur, Texas

Welcome to the
75th Annual Old Settlers Reunion



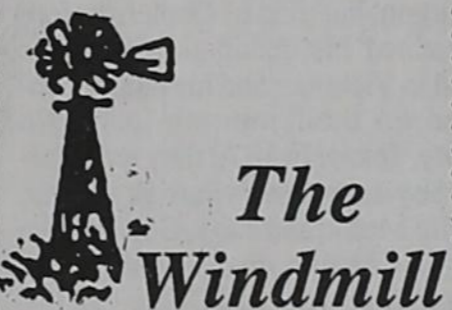
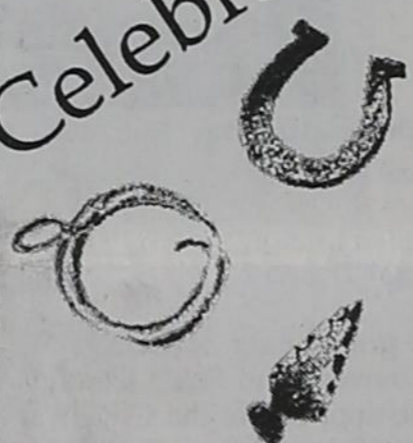
MOTOR CAR at Roaring Springs depot during early day trials in passenger service by Q. A. & P. Railway

Red Ball Gin

Roaring Springs

Welcome to the Old Settlers Reunion

75th Celebration



The Windmill

Let's Celebrate!

75th Annual Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion



Star Feed

Store

Spur, Texas



W.B. Barton at the Barton homestead on the North Pease River was known for his outstanding horses and mules which he once furnished to the U.S. Cavalry during World War II.

(photo courtesy of Marisue Burleson Potts)



Allie Barton Hart and Mollie Barton Burleson line up for the Old Settlers Parade in 1939.

(photo courtesy of Marisue Burleson Potts)

Trail Dust

by Douglas Meador

The Acolian harps of eternity will not be tuned to more peaceful music than the gentle breathing of cattle on their bed-ground in that translucent hour after the moon is gone and the stars are flagging in the dawn. Fear is stayed beyond the mysterious circle where Morpheus pulls gently at eye-lids that never quite shut. The munching of cud is softened by the stirring so slight that it might be the restlessness of the patterns of tomorrow touched by the swift hand of destiny.

Pioneers

We salute you for the courage of your great hearts which led to the conquest of this mighty empire.

We pay tribute to your vision; may we live to serve you and your principle.

We are proud to have you as our friends.



Palmer Service Center



These Matador cowboys seem to be having a good time! The exact date and location of this picture is unknown. But information given to Mr. Dahl Clower, of Amarillo, who was kind

enough to share the picture with us, indicated that the men are Matador cowboys, photographed at one of the Matador camps.

(photo courtesy of Dahl Clower)

Trail Dust

by Douglas Meador

It is pleasant to watch the lightning play in a remote rain cloud hidden by the darkness of a summer night. The roar of thunder and the

fury of the storm is lost in the wall-less canyons of distance while the magic silhouette reveals fantastic mountains pierced as bubbles by a glittering knife. Nature, the drunken genius, paints majestic beauty with blinding rapidity and then despoils forever with the angry black brush.

THANK YOU FOR READING THE MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE!

Trail Dust

by Douglas Meador

A bug wades across the canvas of the past when an automobile drives up to a chuck-wagon. The scene of three decades is smeared with modernity and deprived of its colorful glory when the roar of a motor drowns the cadence of loping horses' feet. The romance of distance is lot to nimble rubber tires that are tougher than the iron shoes on the chuck-mules. And there is no privacy in which to dream old dreams but that a cow trail is, ravished by the rolling feet of this strange mustang that does not flinch when slapped by the thorny mesquite limb.

Welcome Old Settlers

75th Annual Celebration!

QUALITY DISCOUNT OUTLET

HWY. 70 — MATADOR



RODEO TIME!

Welcome to the 75th Annual Old Settlers Reunion



Tip's Pkg. Store

Dickens

75th Old Settlers Reunion



Have Fun!!

Production Credit Assoc.

Alan Bingham — Matador, Texas

OLD SETTLERS' DAY



1919 FLOMOT COTTON FIELD: Those on wagon are Tede and Ora Blackshear, Earnest and Rul Everhart; on the ground are Mary B. and Viola Blackshear, Bessie and Stella and Mr. Everhart.

75th Annual Reunion

Flomot Gin

Trail Dust

by Douglas Meador

Those who seed to harvest most from the field of life learn early to sow the seeds of love for labor. There is no drouth or bitter failure that will not succumb to the courage of a new day driven by the power of joy in the heart.

Congratulations on your 75th Celebration of the Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion!



Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative, Inc.



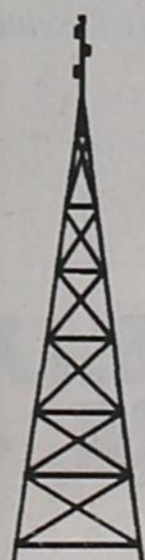
For Fun and Excitement..

COME TO THE

75th Old Settlers Reunion!

Caprock Cellular

The Clear Choice



Of Horses, Calf Roping and Sourdough Biscuits

by Garland Rattan



Ward Rattan

Ward Rattan, the twelfth child of pioneer parents Reverend and Mrs. William Hampton Rattan, was a lifelong resident of Motley County until his death in October 1992. He had an instinctive love for livestock and aspired to have his own ranch in Motley County. He accomplished that goal and eventually was able to register the same brand his father had registered in 1892.

In recollections of Ward, one must include his special love for horses. He rode and trained many good horses that sensed the presence of one who was capable and in control.

During the summers of 1928-1929 Ward earned an extra \$5 each month for riding the rough string of horses at the Matador wagon. Already a good bronc rider, Ward became even better with this experience. The Matador Ranch shipped many good horses from Montana to Motley County. Ward remembered the following horses from his youthful days as a cowboy. Yellow Belly and Pole Cat Blue were two good cow horses, and High Lokey was a good roundup horse. There was a gentle black horse named Freight Train, and there were two other good ranch horses named Montana Black and Satchel. He also remembered there were sorry horses, as the Tongue River Bay. This horse was prone to fall easily and Ward rode him only once.

An incident that happened at the Dugout Line Camp northeast of Whiteflat gave the name of Ward Rattan to local cowboy lore. Sunday was a day of rest for the cowboys at the wagon except for the prodding they received to try out unassigned horses from the remuda. The young cowboys were expected to help with breaking these extra horses. One Sunday afternoon Ward had chosen to ride a crazy brown horse with the reputation of being "bad to luck". After riding the brown until he had quit bucking and had started running, Ward attempted to recover the stirrups he had lost in the ordeal. When the spur hold was released, the horse doubled back and Ward sailed off. The wagon cowboys gleefully dubbed the spot where he hit the ground, Ward Rattan Flat. They then named the horse Ward Rattan Brown.

In 1930 this horse outlived with a cowboy who had come to Matador from the upper outfit near Channing. After bucking off this rider, the horse was loose in the one-hundred-section East Pasture. Over a month later the

horse came in for water at the Payne Place. He was captured by Slim Felts. The horse was still wearing his bridle, but his saddle was never found.

Justly rewarded the Ward Rattan Brown horse was condemned and shipped with the last of the mares and colts from Croton. Later a good colt was acquired by Ward from the Croton stock. He named this colt, Murdo, for Murdo Mackenzie of Denver who was the General Manager of the Matador Land and Cattle Co.

In 1959 the Channing community established the Matador Cowboys Association which sponsored a barbecue lunch and an afternoon roping contest. Ward and Pearl attended this celebration for many years. At one of these celebrations Ward learned that even though the Channing Matador Ranch cowboys didn't know Ward Rattan, they knew the story of the outlaw Ward Rattan Brown horse.

In August 1985 Ward was the recipient of the handmade trophy spurs presented by the Channing Matador Cowboys Association. On that day he was the person present who had worked at the lower outfit on the earliest date.

World War II provided Ward with the opportunity to be a sailor. He worked in the galley as a cook, but this was not his first experience cooking. In 1930 the Matador Ranch was not hiring any extra cowboys because of the drought. Ward drove to the Swenson Tongue River Ranch near Dumont to apply for a job. Dip Holmberg hired the young man as a cook, the only job opening. The beans, potatoes, steak, and gravy were easy to make, but the bread was a challenge. In Ward's own words, his first biscuits "weren't fit for a dog to eat." Boy Hand was working through with the Swenson cowboys gathering his own strays, and Mr. Holmberg asked him to teach Ward to make sourdough biscuits in a dutch oven. Ward learned from Boy Hand the "secret in the dough" and became proficient at making this kind of biscuits. Three of the cowboys he worked with there were Lucius Lancaster, Walter Edwards, and Jack Horton.

One of Ward's hobbies was calf roping. He built a roping practice arena where he trained his horse, Mexico, and practiced on the milk pen calves. Many cowboy friends visited that little arena and practiced. One event that made an impression on me was a matched roping contest in Quitaque between my dad and Snooks Beard. After nine calves each the score was so close that the tenth round

would determine the winner. My dad won, but by only two seconds.

Before he was drafted into the U.S. Navy, Ward participated in the Texas Cowboy Reunion in Stamford during the 1943 Fourth of July celebration. This was his best victory in calf roping. He won the best time on the first calf and had the best average time on both calves.

At the Motley-County Old Settlers Reunion that year, Ward tied his calf in 14 seconds flat. For a long time this was the record to top.

In 1947 Ward was elected Rodeo Director of the Old Settlers Association, a position he held for eight years.

There are some misconceptions about the glamour of cowboy life. At the age of ten I learned how things really are. The first shock was getting up at four in the morning. Next we drove eight miles to get our horses and saddle them. Then we rode the horses three miles to meet the Matador cowboys before daybreak. It was a thrill, however, to see thirty or forty cowboys riding in our direction. The

wagon boss gave some orders and with a loud "whoop" we were off to round an eight-section pasture. The work was done in cooperation and with teamwork.

Can you picture working cattle on a day when the temperature is 105 degrees? In the early 1970's I accompanied my dad to the Bud Simpson ranch in Northfield. There we spent a day made longer by the need to rest frequently in the heat. This is the real world of the cowboy and it is one chosen by many fine men. To quote Duff Green in the book *Of Such As These*: "And what can we say of the cowboy? All we know is that as long as he lived, he looked back into the past with pleasant sweet memories...There is satisfaction in contentment."

My father Ward Rattan and my mother Pearl Rattan found contentment in being a part of the ranching heritage of Motley County. The respect I have for this county as well as the cowboy accountermets I possess are a legacy from my dad, Ward Rattan.

Alexander Dean Family



Ora Dean 1911

Information from *Of Such As These* by Eleanor Traweck

Maud Barrett graduated from Anson High School in 1900, attended summer school long enough to obtain a certificate to teach and was teaching in Jones County schools when she married Alex Dean in 1903. Soon after their marriage they purchased a farm west of Mangum, Oklahoma, where two of their daughters were born.

They had the urge to better their lot by pioneering. In January, 1907, they moved to Motley County where they bought a section of land, 2 1/2 miles northwest of Whiteflat. It was here that Opal was born. The family lived there until Mrs. Dean's death.

According to Ora, the Dean's oldest daughter, "Mother was postmistress when we first moved to Whiteflat. The mail files and business office occupied the front room of the house.

A mail hack came by once a week to deliver and pick up mail. Before my father's death, we never knew who or how many would be at our home for the noon meal. Peddlers and others passing by would stop to eat and my father would always feed and water the horse.

As a rule there were a few guests for the meal following the Sunday morning church service. On one occasion there were more people than usual when twelve came to partake of our hospitality, and only one chicken had been dressed for the meal. My mother hastily sliced a slab of salt pork, made a big bowl of gravy, had plenty of hot biscuits and with several pies she had made, provided an

improvised meal that all appeared to enjoy.

Ora and Vennie both remember that the first automobiles they ever saw were the two Franklins owned by Dr. A.C. Traweck and the Fish family. They recall seeing one of those cars coming down the road and being so afraid of 'the thing without a horse' that they ran into the house and hid behind their mother's skirt.

In 1917 the family moved to Matador where the Dean girls graduated from Matador High School and followed in their mother's footsteps by becoming teachers. Vinnie taught at Whiteflat and Jayton; Ora taught at Matador and in Jones County and Opal became a Kent County teacher.

Alex Dean was born to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Dean October 12, 1876 in Williamson County, Texas. He died at Whiteflat, Texas, on January 15, 1911. Mrs. Dean was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jefferson Barrett, Sr., born Feb. 28, 1882 in Wedowee, Alabama. She died in Lubbock in 1970. She is buried in Matador beside her husband and the youngest of her four daughters, an infant.



Opal Dean, left; Vennie Dean right 1911.

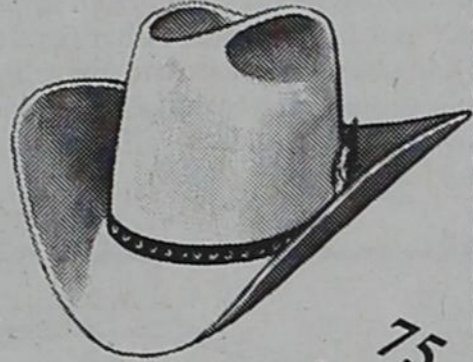
TRAIL DUST



☆☆☆

Those who seek to harvest most from the field of life learn early to sow the seeds of love for labor. There is not drouth or bitter failure that will not succumb to the courage of a new day driven by the power of joy in the heart.

Welcome Home Old Settlers



75 years!

Feed Trough Steakhouse

Downtown Roaring Springs

75 years!

Congratulations on the 75th Celebration of the Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion



This photograph was made about 1885 and shows the Preston Drace dugout on Turtle Hole Creek, about 24 miles northeast of Matador. From left to right are Alec Smith (note gun on belt), Preston Drace, Will and Adam Drace, Mrs. Preston Drace, Walter A. Walton, an unidentified man, and Joe Beckham.

(Reprinted from early day Old Settlers edition of the Matador Tribune)

Trail Dust

by Douglas Meador

It was many years later when a mutual friend told me that a girl I had thought very beautiful, had declared that she thought me about the ugliest boy she had ever seen. I was looking at her not long ago and there has been a change. She looks a little like a rose someone has stepped upon.

Welcome to Roaring Springs



75th Old Settlers Celebration!

CSR PolyPipe

Roaring Springs



FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF FLOYDADA

Member F.D.I.C.





CLEARING THE GROUND TO BUILD A CITY — This photograph was made in 1913, and shows the group of men who cleared the townsite of Roaring Springs. Men in photograph, are from left to right:

Crawford Snow, Jim Cloyd, Walter Carpenter, Jim Swaringen, Dalton Johnston, unknown, Nelson Pender, next three men are unknown, J.N. Plumlee, Oscar Callaway, and a Mr. Ketchum.

(Reprinted from early day Old Settlers edition of the Matador Tribune)

Taylor's

Horns & Feathers Restaurant & Catering
HWY 82 Dickens, Texas 806-623-5345

Welcome to the 75th Reunion!

The Jeff Morriss Family

When Jefferson Davis Morriss' family said he married half the girls in King County, he wasn't exaggerating. There were only two girls there. His marriage to Mary Nannie Gibson in 1889 was the first in that county and the ceremony took place in a dug-out five miles west of Guthrie.

Jeff Morriss was born in Missouri and came to Texas when he was a boy. At the age of 12, he ran away from home and joined a group of cowboys who were driving cattle up the old Chisholm Trail. The trail boss was an old family friend, so his parents, well aware of where he was, decided it was best to let him get this adventure out of his system. It was a wise decision. By the time he got home, he was ready to stay. Then for several years he worked on the Erath Land and Cattle Company Ranch and later was a cowhand on the Straight Eight Ranch in King County. He had been through this section of the country when he was 16, driving Lazy J Cattle to Deer Trail, Colorado. Evidently he liked what he saw, because about 3 years after their marriage the young couple moved to Motley County.

Mr. Morriss moved his family to Matador where Mr. Morriss was engaged in several businesses. Being an enterprising man he realized that in those times it took a "variety of things to keep going". He operated a mercantile business, a hotel, a livery stable and blacksmith shop, later a farm and in 1907, with Harrison Williams as a partner, bought the Matador Hardware Company.

Along with this business he ran an early freight line. His children remember that their mother used to cut out inner linings of newspaper for his jacket when he hauled loads of freight in cold weather.

Yet Jeff liked fun and he had a way with people. For sheer pleasure he often bought sugar stick candy in town and tossed them out the wagon to the neighborhood children as he passed by on the way home. And many a pioneer child will remember the fun of riding on Jeff Morriss' "flying ginny".

Early day grown-ups were regularly entertained at the social gatherings by Jeff Morriss' banjo. Everybody "heeled and toed" to his "Turkey in the Straw" and "Arkansas Traveler", and more than one cowboy swung his partner to Jeff's old hoe downs, "Hell Among the Yearlings"

or "Billy in the Low Ground." Old timers say he was "really a banjo player" and could fiddle with the best of 'em." His music was in great demand. Often Mrs. Morriss played duets with him on her guitar. Mr. Morriss' son Harry was a regular "player piano". At a dance at the old Spur Inn years ago, Harry played with the Orchestra. After the orchestra quit for the night, several of us asked Harry to play the piano so we could continue dancing. He was happy to accommodate.

The Morriss had seven children: Beatrice, Bess, Mildred, Malcolm, Carl, Harry and Nancy G. One grand-

child and one great-grandchild were given his full name.

Jeff Morriss was a Charter Member of both the Masonic and IOOF Lodges in Matador. Mr. Morriss died September 4, 1937 and Mrs. Morriss died in Matador Feb. 9, 1943.

A replica of Mr. Morriss' mule drawn merry-go-round of the early day picnics was scheduled to be a feature attraction at the Texas Centennial in 1936. Billy Rose gave a contract to use it but replace it with a "girlie show" It was, however, used at Old Settlers reunions in this part of the country that year.

Welcome Old Settlers



Matador Motor & Implement

RODEO

We would like to say "Welcome" to the 75th Annual Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion



Dickens Electric

SPUR, TEXAS



LUMBER YARD in Matador about 1910. The lumber was freighted from Paducah at this time (before Q.A. & P. Ry. built into Roaring Springs). On the second wagon is Gabe Garrison of Silverton, who was a freighter at the time. Location is near the present site of old Burton-Lingo yard (now owned by Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.) and white building in the background was Matador school, later replaced by three story brick building. The brick building was later removed and the school plants built in the southwest part of town.

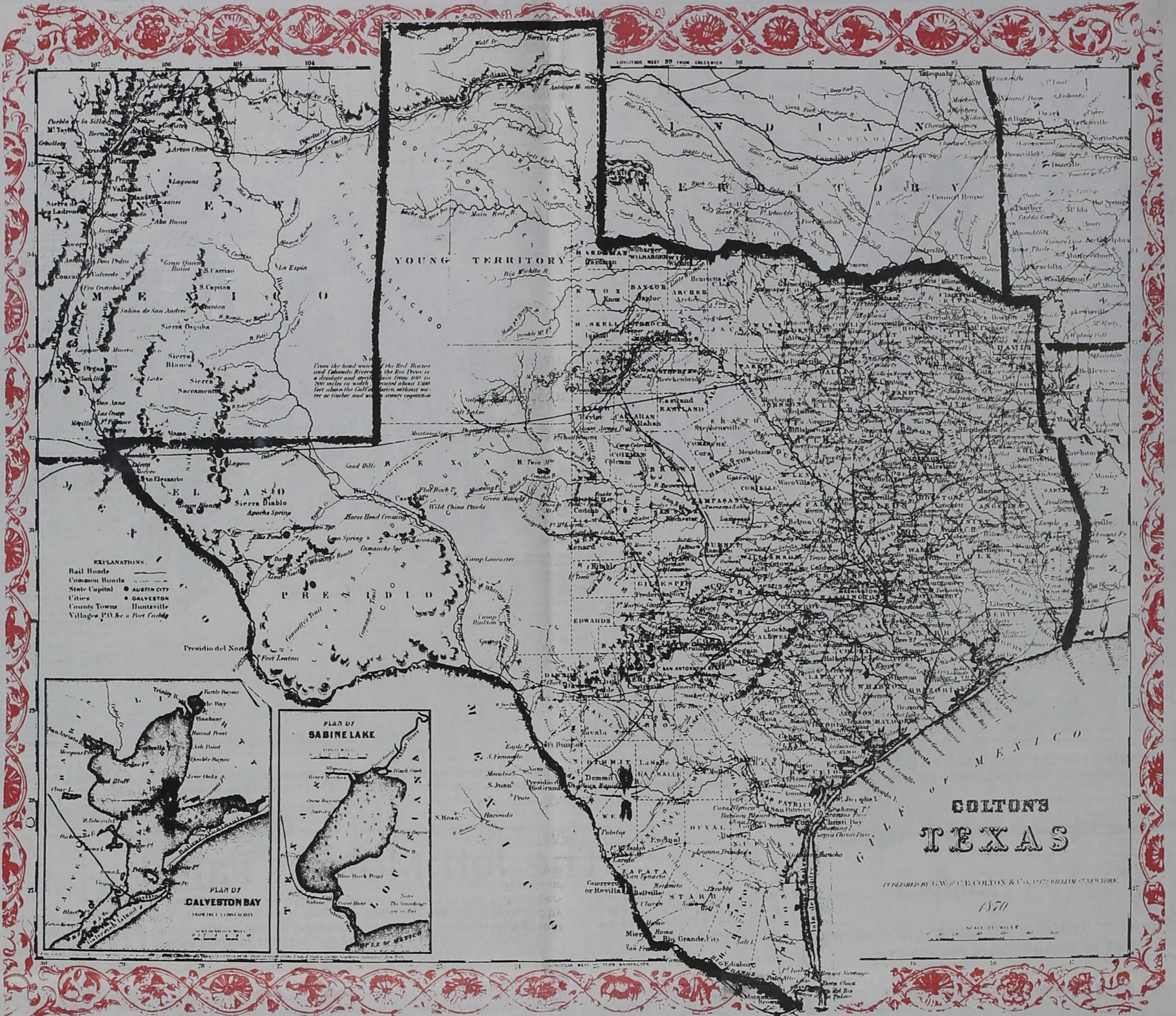
(reprinted from 75th Anniversary Edition of the Matador Tribune, August 25, 1966)

Welcome to the 75th Annual Old Settlers Reunion

We offer a tribute to our Pioneers!

Higginbotham-Bartlett

Matador — 347-2445

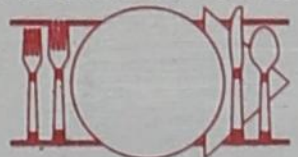


This rare Texas map was first printed in the Matador Tribune August 27, 1970. The cutline read that the original of the map was made about 100 years ago, which would have been 1870. It was owned by former Motley County resident, Tom Spray of Ft. Worth at that time, who had given the Tribune permission to copy it. It has many interesting features, especially in West Texas. No roads, railroads or towns are shown. The area shown as New Mexico was not a state until 42 years later. The plate from

which the map was made, was probably hand engraved. A notation by the map marker says: "From the head waters of the Red, Brazos and Colorado Rivers, to the Rio Pecos, is a desolate and sterile land, from 100 to 300 miles in width, elevated about 4,500 feet above the Gulf of Mexico, without water or timber and with a scanty vegetation."

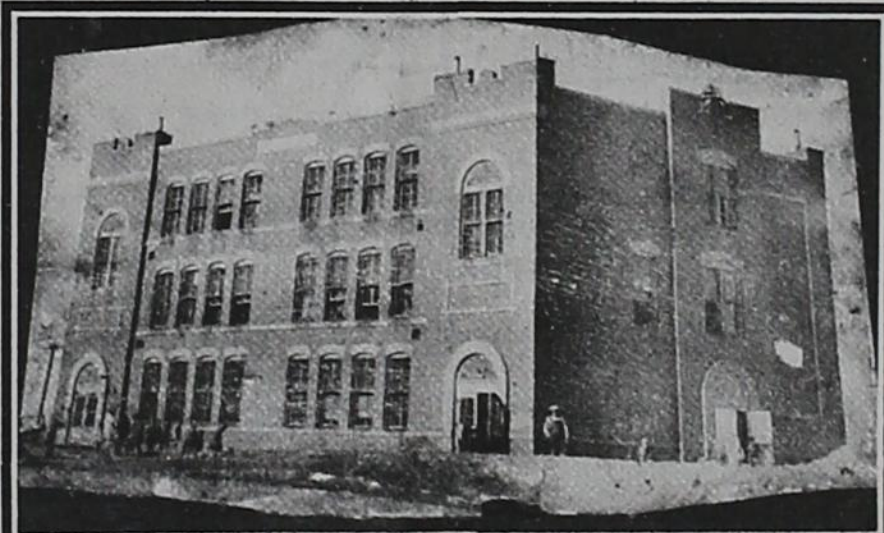
"And now abideth faith, hope, and love, these three, but the greatest of these is love." I Cor. 13:13

Welcome to the 75th Celebration of the Old Settlers Reunion
DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS!
FULL MENU!



GIFT SELECTIONS!
MAIN STREET

Welcome to Roaring Springs!



Roaring Springs School, 1911 - 1945

Long Insurance
 Roaring Springs

K. Jones was manager of Roaring Springs Hotel

Reprinted from 1940 edition of Matador Tribune

Manager of the first hostelry in Roaring Springs, K. Jones moved with his family to that city when it was

founded in 1913. The Travelers' Hotel was built the following year by Sam Lazarus, and was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Jones for several years.

In 1920, Mr. Jones owned a drug store, which was later operated by his son, Harold (Casey) Jones. Other children are Mrs. Paul Barrier of Lubbock and Fred Jones of Temple.

Mr. Jones passed away in 1932, and his wife continued to reside in Roaring Springs until her death.



Welcome Old Settlers

NEW TO YOU

"A Quality Clothing Consignment Shop"
 Downtown Matador ~ 347-2388

Old Settlers Days

Congratulations on your 75th Annual Celebration of the Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion!



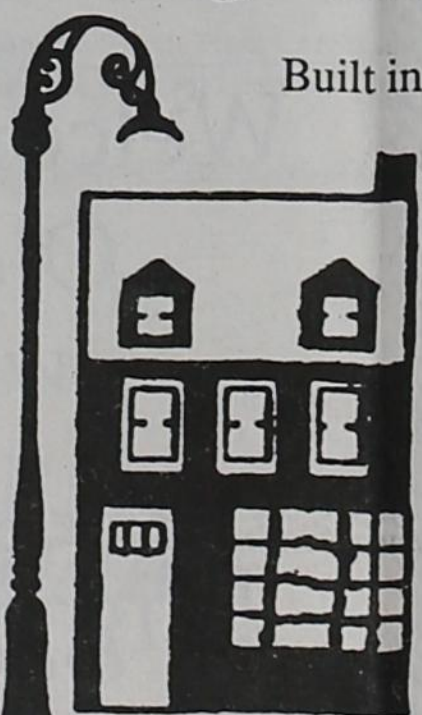
Jaye's Fashions & Flowers

706 N. Burlington ~ Spur ~ 271-3494

Welcome to the 75th Old Settlers Reunion!

Spur Bed & Breakfast

Built in 1914



4 Bedrooms
 Each room with unique decor

CARRIAGE HOUSE OPENING SOON!

121 E. Hill ~ Spur
 271-3940



Welcome to Old Settlers!

Come check our Weekend Specials!
 One Group of 1/2 price Sale items!

Rose Garden
 Floral & Gifts



Sylvan Dunn, Director
Southwest Collection Texas Tech
Lubbock, TX 79409

75th Annual Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION
Texas Tech University
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409

Old Settlers Schedule of Events

Page 3



Special Pioneer Edition Inside

Motley County Tribune

Voice of the Foothill Country

107 YEARS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1998

ISSUE NO. 35

50¢



A Look Back

Call

AUGUST 31, 1939

Reunion Breaks All Records
Vast Crowds Attend
16th Annual Meet

"The greatest reunion in the history of the Motley-Dickens Counties Old Settlers Association closed Friday night after crowds estimated at 12,000 had returned to their homes in this section of the Panhandle."

Around Town

News Briefs of area events

Men's Breakfast Saturday

The Motley County Men's Breakfast will start again with a fall kick-off at First United Methodist Church on Saturday, September 5. Time is 7 o'clock. There will be a special speaker to challenge our hearts, reports Charles Keith. Men, bring your sons or grandsons.

Motley County Spirit Rally September 3

The Motley County Spirit Rally will be held Thursday, September 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the football stadium.

Jr. High and High School football team members, the Cross Country team, Coaches, and Cheerleaders will be introduced.

Ice Cream and Brownies will be served. Come and bring a friend!

Cub Scout Rally September 1

A Cub Scout Rally will be held Tuesday, September 1, at 6:00 p.m. in the School Cafeteria. Boys, first grade through 5th grade and their parents are invited to attend. Registration fees will be collected that night. For more information please contact Darla Gwinn, 469-5272.

Roaring Springs First Baptist Church Planning 100th Anniversary

Plans are underway for a big celebration for the First Baptist Church in Roaring Springs, which will celebrate their 100th Anniversary, October 25, 1998.

Current mailing addresses of all former members and friends of the Church are being requested. Some invitations have been mailed.

Those interested in obtaining detailed information about the celebration, should send names and current mailing addresses to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 246, Roaring Springs, TX 79256.

What is - what was - Old Settlers?

by Marisue Potts

The Motley-Dickens Counties Old Settlers Association will celebrate its 75th year on August 27-29 in Roaring Springs. This year's Old Settlers Reunion & Rodeo promises four days of entertainment with a parade, rodeo, reunion and memorial service, two dances, and a Matador Cowboys Reunion for anyone who ever worked for any of the Matador Ranches.

The "Old Settlers Reunion", as it became known locally was originally just a gathering of a bunch of ex-Confederates, cowboys, and their families.

In a 1941 interview with Kara Hunsaker, pioneer teacher Mrs. Duff Green revealed that one of the early informal reunions was held on July 4, 1900, and consisted of patriotic speeches and political addresses. During the day the candidates presented their claims to potential voters, Masonic officers were installed, and a group of old soldiers were addressed by Col. John Green.

On the wide, sandy banks of the South Pease River, tournament riding, polo, roping, and bronc busting entertained the friends, relatives, and neighbors camping out there in tents. Folks, 40 or 50 of them, might get together and share freshly barbecued goat and beef and food from home to form a huge spread, a monumental "dinner on the ground."

"During the evenings," Mrs. Green said, "we gathered in various groups around campfires and talked about home-life or told cowboy yarns."

A formal organization did not come about until 1923, when the Charlie Birds and John Smiths were reminiscing about old friends they rarely had an opportunity to see. Two other couples, the Duff Greens and the D.C. Keiths, became involved, and a list was made and divided up. The word went out to everyone to meet at the springs, about halfway between the farm extremes of the two counties.

The idea hit a responsive note, and some 300 people showed up. Thirty had lived in one or both counties for over 25 years, qualifying as early or "old" settlers. Mr. Smith, having come to the area in 1879, was declared the oldest settler present. Amidst a picnic dinner, the melodies of the Matador Band, and speeches, the election took place. Members voted that the celebration should be repeated annually and Mr. Bird would serve as president and Mrs. Smith as secretary.

It should be noted that the first official celebration was not without controversy, however. Alta Smith (Duval), a modern 1920's gal, took the liberty to wear pants. Mrs. Henry Campbell took Alta's father aside and told him to go home and read a certain Bible verse. That particular scripture dictated that women should refrain from wearing men's apparel.

In 1933 the young organization voted to move the celebration from Roaring Springs falls and picnic grounds to the Roaring Springs school gymnasium, thereby obtaining more shade, seating and parking room for the growing number of automobiles. The public picnic spread (with its free barbecue) was abandoned for the old-fashioned basket lunch, whereby individuals provided for family and invited friends only. Ennis Moss' String Band performed for the dust bowl crowd.

The following year the sons and daughters of old settlers gave the program, and entertainment was provided by a ball, a baseball game, horse racing, and the racy Matador Band.

The '35 crowd crammed tournament riding, goat roping, a ball game, horse racing a softball tournament, square dancing, a basket lunch, a carnival, and skating on a rink all into one very interesting day.

With the state's centennial celebration in full swing in 1936 despite (or because of) the economic depression, Congressman George Mahon addressed the gathering and dedicated two important historical markers, Tee-

continued on page 3



As a child, Marisue Burleson, looked forward to going to Old Settlers with her dad, W.E. and her brother, Stanley.

"This ain't my last saddle"

by Carla Meador

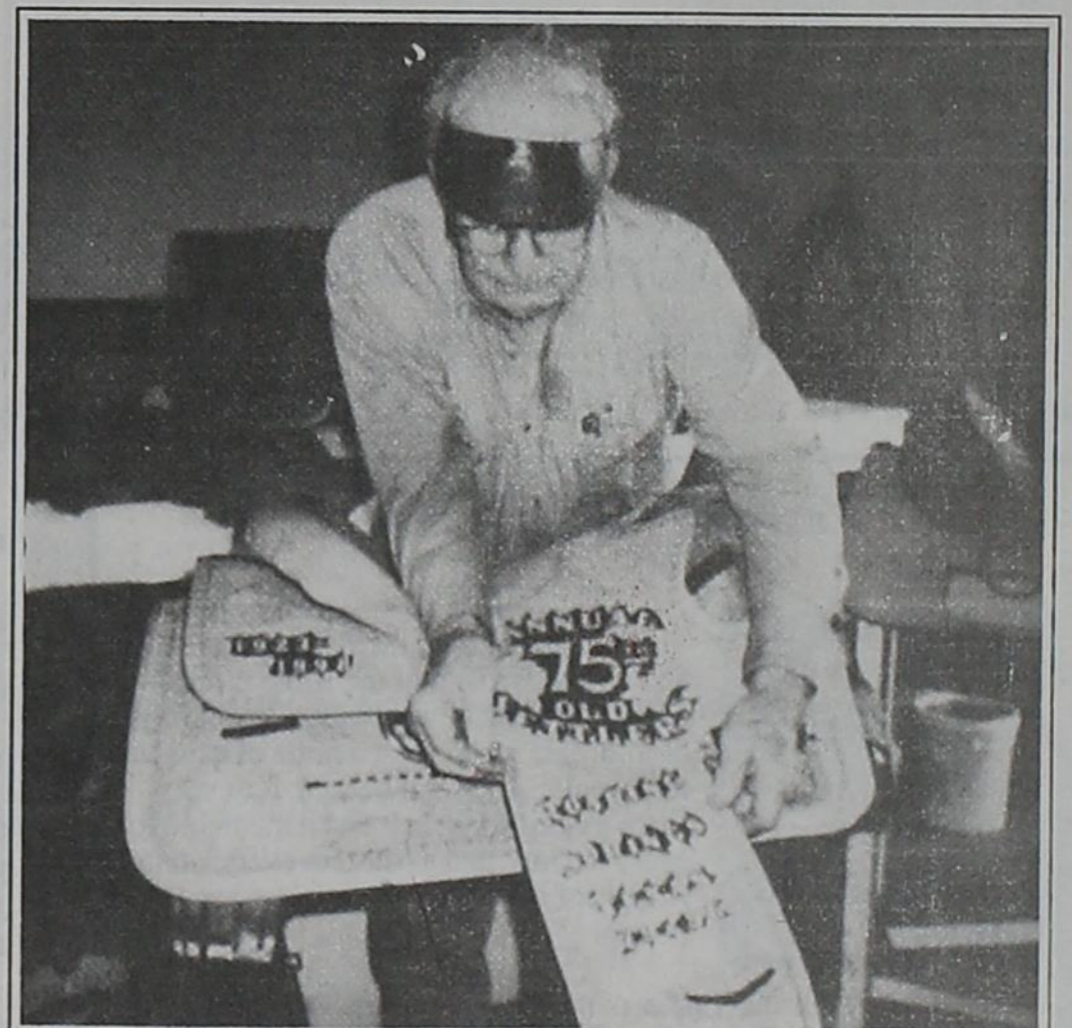
"This ain't my last saddle, I guess I'll make saddles 'til the day I die", was Alvin Durham's reply when asked if this was the last saddle he planned to make for the Annual Old Settlers Rodeo. Contrary to rumors floating around this year, Mr. Durham says he'll make that saddle until they "tell him they don't want him anymore."

This year's beautiful handmade stamped leather saddle is one of the best he's ever done. "I guess I could make a saddle in my sleep," Mr. Durham commented as we visited on a hot afternoon at his newly located shop, in the garage of his home. "I can keep an eye on my wife, here at home." Mrs. Durham, who is homebound with poor health, since an auto accident in 1988, needs the constant care of her husband, who makes a perfect nurse, tending his loving wife Adelle, of 58 years. The garage made a perfect location for the shop, with room for everything he needs for his leather work, and an intercom close by so he can hear Adelle.

"Adelle used to do the boot stitching for me. She was the fastest stitcher I ever saw. She could whip them boots out faster than you ever saw," Mr. Durham admiringly speaks of his wife, and the days when he and Mrs. Durham worked together in their leather shop.

When asked how long he'd been making saddles, he commented "ever since I got through potty training, I guess." He began career in his fine leathercraft art in 1933, when he started sweeping floors for an old Dutch saddle maker, Fred Wholen at Croton Breaks in Dickens County. He eventually worked his way up to learning the leather craft, under Mr. Wholen's direction.

For eighteen years he did contract work at Russellville for the Matador



Custom saddle maker, Alvin Durham, puts the finishing touches on the 1998 Old Settlers Saddle. The completed saddle is on display at the First State Bank in Matador.

Ranch, dividing his time between cowboying and making boots, saddles, halters and spur leathers.

He can tell some wild tales of his cowboying days. "Well, I worked with some of the craziest cowboys you ever heard of. At one time I worked with three men, who eventually went to prison, two Russian Indians, and two millionaires." "There was one 'ole cowboy who got into some trouble with the IRS. When the IRS man came to try and collect some money from the cowboy, he told some stories to the Internal Revenue man that made him think the 'ole cowboy was crazy." "I don't think he ever paid 'em a dime."

Mr. Durham began working with

leather full time when he opened his shop near Roaring Springs in 1960. He started making the Old Settlers saddles in 1956, when well-known saddlemaker, H.H. Schweitzer died. He and Paducah saddlemaker, Carl Darr, each made saddles every year for the Old Settlers until the late 60's when Durham began making all three trophy saddles, which were given away at that time. The Association gives away only one saddle now, 'the dollar saddle', which is given away during Saturday night's Rodeo performance, after the crowning of the Rodeo Queen. Queen contestants sell chances on the saddle, with each chance sold, counting as one vote for

continued on page 2



Shandra Jones



Kara Cash

Two girls vie for 1998 Old Settlers Rodeo Queen



Shandra Jones

Two young ladies will vie for the crown of the 1998 Old Settlers Rodeo Queen this year. The girls have been selling tickets on a handmade Alvin Durham saddle, with each ticket sold counting as one vote. The lucky winner's name will be drawn during Saturday night's performance of the Rodeo, after the 1998 Queen is crowned.

Representing Motley County will be Shandra Jones, the fourteen-year-old daughter of Casey and Deb Jones of Roaring Springs. Shandra is a



Kara Cash

freshman at Motley County High School. She enjoys running barrels and roping. She participates in many activities at school, including Track, Basketball, and Cross Country.

Kara Cash, nine-year-old daughter of Vance and Kelli Cash of Afton, is representing Dickens County. She is in the fourth grade at Patton Springs Elementary. She participates in PIP's and is a 4-H officer. She enjoys 4-H activities, reading, showing pigs, and riding and showing horses.



While going through the mounds of old papers we have in our office, searching for material to use in our Old Settlers edition, I have found so many interesting articles and pictures. I wish we had room for all of them. It's hard to pick and choose. I really love history. It was always my favorite subject in school. I guess that's why I enjoy doing these special editions so much. To me there's nothing more fun than researching and reading through old papers.

We appreciate the pictures that have been brought to our office. Again, I wish we could use everyone of them, but due to limited space, we just can't possibly do that. The amount of pages we can have is determined by the amount of advertising we have. We have used all that we can.

I would like to say thank you so much to those who have bought advertisement for this special edition. I appreciate your support of our little paper more than it is possible to write in words in this space. It is with the

support of our advertisers, our readers, those who contribute articles, pictures, etc., that keeps our little paper going. As I'm sure you all know, this Motley County paper is 107 years old. That's probably, if I'm not mistaken, the oldest business in Motley County, which has continuously operated. It makes me very proud to be a part of it. To publish this paper was a dream of mine for many years.

I hope everyone enjoys this special edition, the pictures and the little pieces of history in the articles. I hope you will take time to read each one, they are very interesting, sometimes sad, and sometimes funny.

As we take this time to celebrate the 75th year of the Motley-Dickens Old Settlers Reunion, let's remember with gratitude those who came to our land before us, and made it possible for us to be able to enjoy the things we do now.

Have a happy and safe 75th Old Settlers celebration!

Look Who's New



Teah Alana Patton

Derinda and Mark Patton of Silverton are happy to announce the arrival of a baby daughter, Teah Alana, at 3:26 p.m., Wednesday, August 12, 1998, at the University Medical Center in Lubbock. She weighed six pounds, fourteen ounces and was 20 inches long.

Welcoming her is brother, Thor, sister, Thory and grandparents, Mrs. Tommie Cruse of Flomot and Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Patton, Jr. of Silverton. Great grandmother are Mrs. Dona Browning of Rising Star and Mrs. J.E. Patton of Silverton.

Arts & Crafts Show



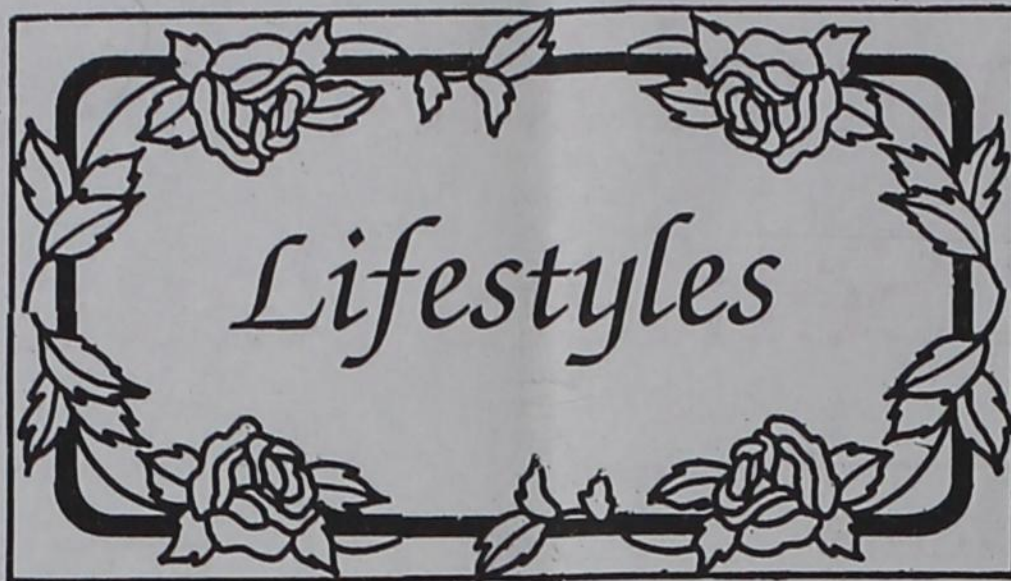
August 27, 28, & 29

sponsored by the Roaring Springs Community Volunteers

during the Old Settler's Reunion
10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

at the Roaring Springs Community Center

Food Crafts Music
Clothing Jewelry



Motley County Students Attend Drama Camp

Leigha Burns and Blair Thacker attended the Texas Tech University Theatre Arts Camp July 17-31, 1998. Both students had acting roles in the performances held in the University Theater on Thursday, July 30.

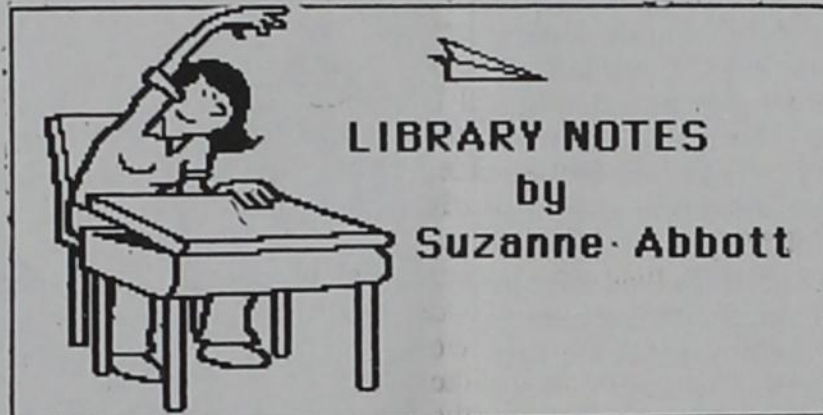
Each morning the participants attended acting classes and the afternoons and evenings were filled with rehearsals and group activities. Forty-eight students from around the area attended the camp.

Leigha Burns, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Burns of Matador, played a mourner, slave and a subservient woman in Richard Emil Braun's translation of Sophocles' ANTIGONE, directed by Mr. Tal Lostracco. As a Freshman, Leigha played one of Cinderella's sisters in the Motley County High School One Act Play contest play last Spring, receiving Honorable Mention and All Star Cast Honors in her performances.

Blair Thacker, daughter of Mr. and

Mrs. Jeff Thacker of Roaring Springs, portrayed Nina in Jonathan Marc Sherman's WOMEN AND WALLACE, directed by Dr. George Sorenson. Blair was one of only three students selected to receive a scholarship from the Texas Tech Drama Department. She received this honor for demonstrating special promise as a theatre student. Dedication and achievement in theatre arts were criteria for receiving the scholarship. Blair plans to attend Texas Tech and major in Drama after her graduation from Motley County High School next spring. Blair has been active in the Motley County High School contest plays since her Freshman year, receiving Honorable Mention and All Star Cast Honors each year.

Both girls stated that they had enjoyed their camp experience very much and felt that their acting skills had been improved dramatically from the lessons which they learned at the Tech drama camp.



What wonderful friends the Motley County Library has! Eight dedicated people spent two days last week in a hot building painting bookcases for the Library. Thanks to Opal and Charlie Johnson, Marihelen Wason, Ruby and D.A. McGuire, Patricia Green, Betty Moore, and Cynthia Stafford for this priceless labor. The bookcases are beautiful, and soon you will be able to see them full of books in the Library.

We appreciate the donation to the Library by Richard Knowles, new Matador resident.

Come by the Library and look at our Old Settlers display. Betty Moore enlarged some of Patricia Green's photographs of sites in Roaring Springs and we have them in the Library display case along with several books written by or about Old Settlers.

These pictures are spectacular and we appreciate Betty Moore for getting them for the Library.

The Motley County Library is a mail drop for the special Old Settlers 75th Anniversary stamp cancellation. However, today, Thursday, is the last day that this mail drop will be open since I must take it to Roaring Springs tomorrow to be canceled and mailed. Bring in your cards and letters, with correct postage, and drop them in our Old Settlers Mail Box.

We are looking for a photograph for the Northfield school. We will make another photograph of this picture for our use. We are trying to get pictures of all the Motley County Schools. If you have such a photograph that you will lend us, please call the Library.



Real Pizza. Real Cheese. REAL FAST!

at the Arts & Crafts Show • Roaring Springs

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

August 27, 28, & 29

THE GUIDEBOOK



Thomas Cuthrie, the Scottish preacher and writer, wrote that the Bible is an armory of heavenly weapons, a laboratory of infallible medicines, a mine of exhaustless wealth. It is a guidebook for every road, a chart for every sea, a medicine for every malady, and a balm for every wound. Rob us of our Bible and our sky has lost its sun.

Dan Dozier adds that books of science, literature, and history may enlighten us, but no book gives life except the Bible. Indeed, it is a living Word. People will never be transformed into Christ's likeness unless they encounter Him in the Word of God. God's Word is truth (John 17:17). The world's perspective of reality is a false one. Only Scripture paints a true picture of reality. Satan has blinded many people to the truth, leading them to believe that Scripture is irrelevant to their modern lives. George Barna writes, "Until people see the Bible as a practical guidebook for their everyday existence, it will probably continue to remain on the shelf next to *The Complete Works of Shakespeare or War and Peace.*"

Christians must be drawn back into the inspired pages of Scripture. Reading Scripture is necessary both individually and collectively when we assemble to worship, for it is in Scripture that we encounter the Lord and begin to grow up in Him. Franklin Segler writes, "The Bible is the life book of the church. It provides objective content for worship. It points man to God, the source of truth and life."

We cannot appreciate the God of the Word until we appreciate the Word of God.

Roaring Springs Church of Christ

Bible Study - 10 a.m. Michael G. Crowley, Sr. Worship - 9 a.m.

"Ain't my last saddle"

from page 1

the contestant.

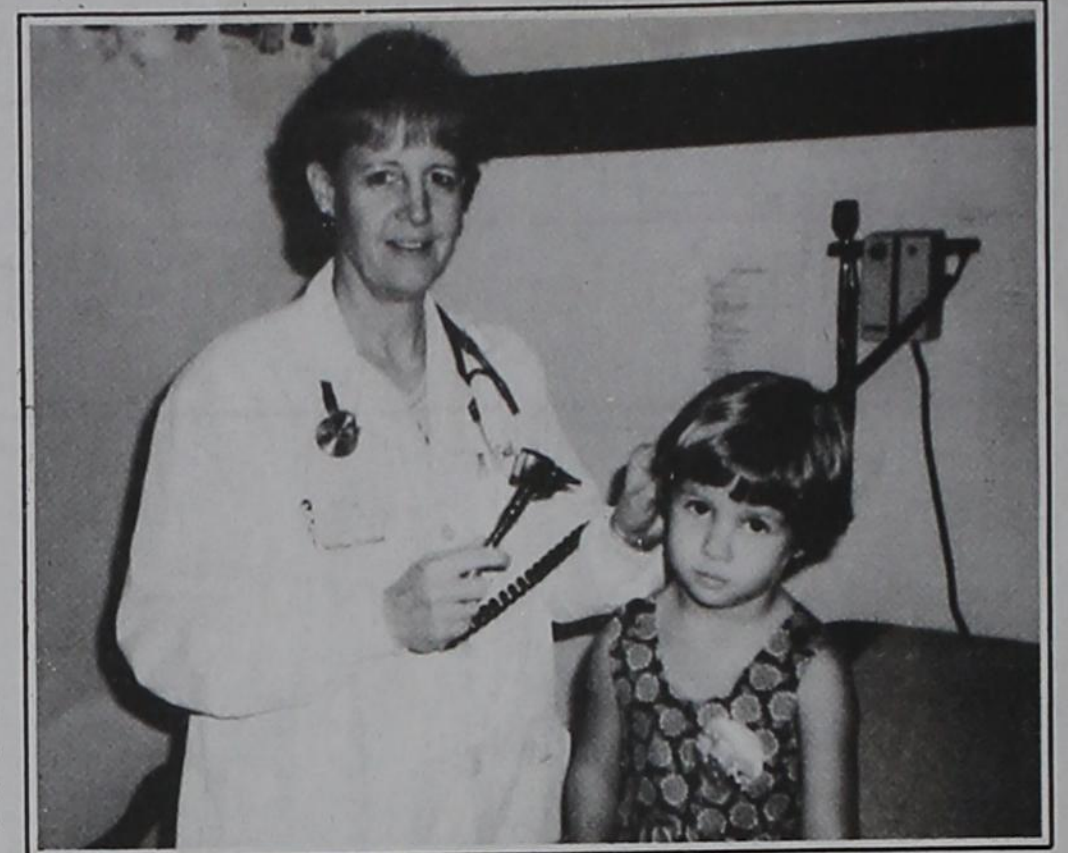
He also made saddles for the Floydada Rodeo for nineteen years. He has made saddles for rodeos in Abilene and the Texas Tech Rodeo, and for people all the United States.

Durham laughs as he relates some saddle stories of years gone by, such as the time he accidentally stamped the saddle with the word, "TAXES", instead of "TEXAS", picking up the wrong lettering stamp, reversing the E and the A. But it was too late to change anything. But he felt the new Governor who took office soon after that made the saddle appropriate!

He also told of a saddle he traded one time for a washer and dryer to Thacker Supply. "Buzz told me one time he had been offered \$1200 for that saddle." I guess that was a pretty good trade."

Durham says he tries to make each saddle different, making it exactly as the customer orders, but each one unique. "I guess I'd make these saddles even if I didn't get paid for it." Words of a man who truly loves his art, I'd say.

Motley County Clinic welcomes new Physician's Assistant



Gail Ream, the new Physician's Assistant at Motley County Clinic, examines little Lexie Osborn. An Open House will introduce Gail to Motley County, September 2.

The Motley County Clinic will hold an open house Wednesday, September 2, 4:00 until 6:00 p.m. to welcome new Physician's Assistant, Gail Ream.

Mrs. Ream, with her family, husband, Chuck, and their twin daughters, 12-year-old Charli and Mandi, come to Matador from LeMars, Iowa. They also have another daughter, Callie, 21, who was married in June, and lives with her husband, Scott Hodgson in LeMars, Iowa, and a son, Gabe, who is 18, and graduated from high school in May, and also lives in LeMars.

Gail's father served in the Navy for 20 years, so she has lived from Newport, RI, where she was born, to California, Washington, and several places in between. She has worked in Health Care for 27 years, beginning as a Psychiatric Aide. She loved working with people and returned to school for her nursing degree. She became a Licensed Practical Nurse and later a Registered Nurse. She was a Home

Health Nurse for three years. After that she was a Director of Nursing at a long term care facility for six years. She again went back to school and graduated from the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Rural Health as a Physician Assistant.

The Ream family feels they were welcomed to Matador with open arms. They find the people of Motley County to be some of the friendliest people they have ever met. They are members of the First United Methodist Church in Matador, and look forward to growing and being a part of the community.

Gail Ream, Physician Assistant Certified, is now accepting patients at Motley County Clinic.

The long awaited time has arrived, Mrs. Ream is now available at the Motley County Clinic for your primary health care needs. Appointments can be made by calling 806-347-2641 and are available Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 to 12:00 p.m. on Friday's.

Church News



First United Methodist Church to sponsor barbecue dinner

Sunday, August 30, following the church service, will be the annual Barbecue hosted by the trustees of First United Methodist Church. The public is cordially invited. This is their only fund raiser for the year. The

money will be targeted for the new roof and soffit on the Educational Building and for a sprinkler system. Brisket is cooked by Gale Stafford, and the church ladies will furnish dessert.

Cafe RS

in beautiful downtown Roaring Springs

Closed Sunday, August 30
for Fifth Sunday



Open Friday Night

6-9 p.m.

beginning September 4

75TH CELEBRATION!

We congratulate you on the 75th year of your annual Motley - Dickens Counties Old Settlers Reunion!



Lawrence Bros. Grocery

Spur, Texas

What is - what was - Old Settlers?

continued from page 1

pee City and Roaring Springs. An amateur talent contest offered up entertainment of sorts.

Several thousand showed up the following year to check out the newly paid-for tabernacle, complete with seats and piano. Yarn-spinning seniors

could now sit in the shade in comfort. A rodeo with a roping contest, goat roping, and a trick pony vied for the assembly's attention against a baseball game, a softball game, a carnival, a square dance and the Stephens String Band. A possible protest against

dancing was posted by vandals who damaged the wooden dance floor.

Death had the last waltz with C.D. Coke Garrison, early day cowboy on the Matador Ranch, who suffered an apparent stroke at the pavilion in 1938.

Perhaps it was the Riley Rigsby Hillbilly Band, composed of Ed D. Smith, Bud Alsup, Dude Mize, Burl Alsup, Furman Vinson, and Joe Berry Meador, that boosted the next years attendance to a record 12,000. 200 horses snaked through the streets of Roaring Springs in the long parade.

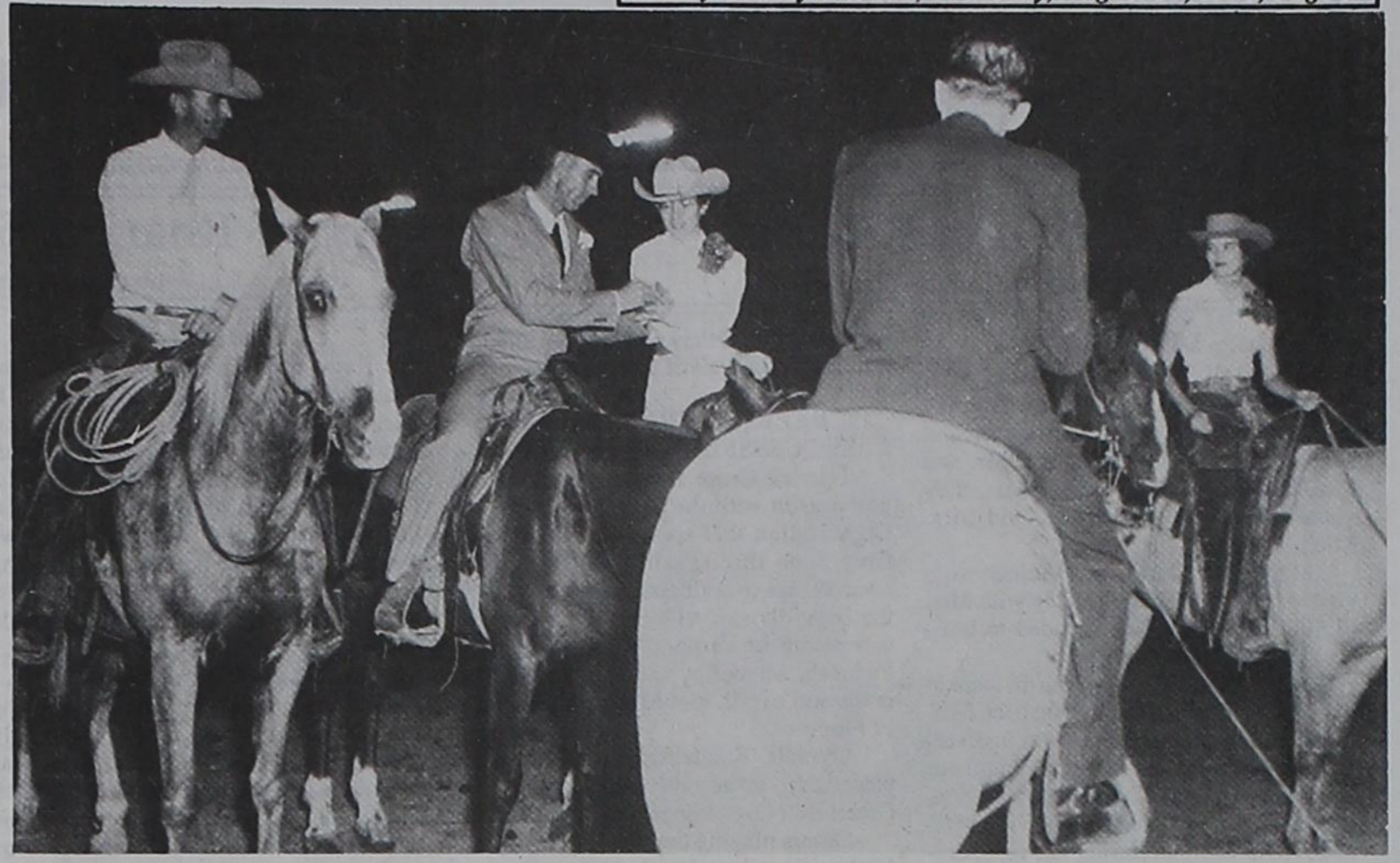
A 2-day free rodeo in 1940 included a girls' calf roping contest, won by 17-year-old Dude Barton. Other entertainment included a Western cowboy pageant, a reading, and baseball games.

The 1941 celebration was cut to one day meeting due to the war-time rubber shortage. The revival of square dances, polkas, and schottishes vied with the tamer pursuits of renewing acquaintances, recalling bygone days. The rodeo entrants, restricted to Motley and Dickens Counties, faced wild cow-milking, calf flanking, and a girls' sponsor contest in which the Matador Ranch was well represented by Dude Barton.

In tribute to those local cowboys in World War II military service, 35 riderless horses were led around the arena in 1943. The next year, despite a good showing of 125 riders in the parade, the Dutchman Creek was on the rise, and the rodeo was rained out.

To this child of the 40's, Old Settlers was a mixture of anticipation, excitement, thrills, and exhaustion payed out with our friends on the rodeo grounds at Roaring Springs. All year long I looked forward to riding in the parade, the opening night's Grand Entry, and kicking and prodding my fat mare around the barrels in the semblance of running a race.

If I was lucky I was sure to get my photo made with my dad in the photo booth. If I was luckier still I might get stuck at the top of the Ferris wheel at the carnival. In the meantime, I could run loose and play in the swirls of dust thrown up by the traffic. Then, thirsty or hungry, this little porker could always sample the copious food Mom brought from home as we crowded around the turtle shell at the back of our Fleetwood. Far into the night, exhausted, I would collapse in the back seat of the coupe. When my brother showed up to claim the bench seat, I slept, perched precariously on the ledge above the seat. We bounced the forty miles home and crossed the Tom Ball in the breaking hours of



An Old Settlers Wedding, completely carried out on horseback, August 29, 1952. Bride and Groom, center, are Slim Durham and Mary Norman. Best man, left, Sheriff John Stotts, and Maid of Honor, right, is Dorothy Traweck. The Rev. Marvin Brotherton, with back to camera, read the vows.

(photo courtesy of Motley County Museum)

dawn. Being a kid of ten, I must have been playing in the dirt or just been too short to see when the biggest event of any Old Settlers that occurred in 1952. The largest crowd to attend a single performance came, not for a rodeo, but for a wedding. And it wasn't the one-act play, "The Wedding", performed by local female thespians which depicted a totally manless ceremony. (Boy, were they ahead of their time!)

The big draw was a real wedding, one completely carried out on horseback. In a romance that began in the saddle, G.B. "Slim" Durham and Mary Norman were wed on August 29, 1952. Members of the Matador Quadrille, their group of square dancers on horseback, were attendants. Sheriff John Stotts was best man, and Dorothy Traweck was maid of honor. H.C. Norman of Crowell gave the bride away. The Rev. Marvin Brotherton read the vows and tied the loop. The bride wore white: white riding trousers, a white western shirt and tie, a white hat, and white boots. Her handmade spurs matched the groom's. The silver letters read:

"Old Settlers, 1952." The groom's read, "Slim, the Groom", and the bride's read, "Mary, the Bride".

Now this year's 75th Old Settlers Reunion & Rodeo promises four days of entertainment. Open team roping on Wednesday, then a parade, the Motley-Dickens Counties events in cutting, team roping, junior team roping, barrel race and a flag race for youngsters on Thursday.

Terry Walls of Stephenville will

provide stock for bareback, saddle bronc, calf roping, barrel race, steer wrestling, women's breakaway, team roping and bull riding and the junior's break away and flag race on Friday and Saturday. A working cow horse competition on Saturday is sanctioned by the Ranch Horse Association of America.

Each night, just as in years past, two separate dances will cater to different tastes. At the Old Folks dance, "Ranch Dance Fiddle Band" and Frankie McWhorter will cater to the traditional, while at the Young Folks dance, "Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys" will do their magic.

No doubt, this Old Settlers and future celebrations will produce outstanding events, but I figure that manless wedding and the wedding on horseback were some kind of historic moment. What Old Settlers Was.

Old Settlers Schedule

Wednesday, August 26:

Team Roping at the Old Settlers Rodeo Arena. Books open at 6:30 p.m. Rope at 7:30 p.m. Breast Collars to average winners.

Thursday, August 27:

Parade in downtown Roaring Springs, 10:00 a.m. Memorial Service in the Tabernacle, beginning at 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting, 1:00 p.m. Motley-Dickens County Rodeo Events. Books open at 4:30. Handmade ranger buckle set awarded to the winner. Free Dance, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Carnival, Bracelet night, 3 hours of rides for one price. Old Folks Dance, featuring the Ranch Dance Fiddle Band with Frankie McWhorter, 8:30 p.m.

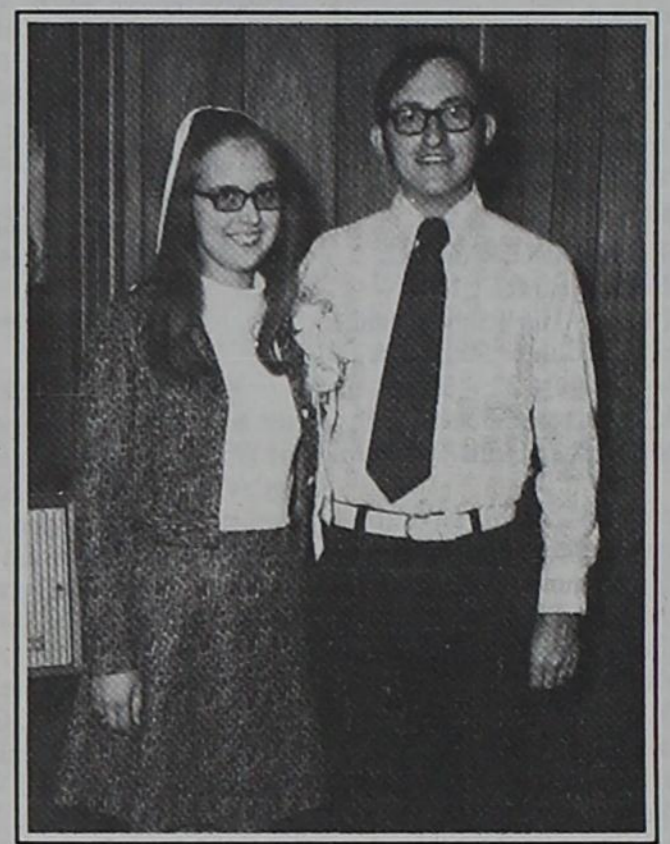
Friday, August 28:

Senior Team Roping. Books open at 8:00 a.m. Rope at 9:00. Contestants must be 45 or older. Saddle to winner. Free Dance, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Carnival Old Folks Dance, Ranch Dance Fiddle Band, Frankie McWhorter, 8:30 p.m. Cowboy Church Services Rodeo, 8:00 p.m. Dance, featuring Jody Nix and the Texas Cowboys 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 29:

Working Cow Horse Competition, 10:00 a.m. Matador Cowboy Reunion, 11:00 a.m. at Green's place in Roaring Springs, down the street from Old Settlers Free Dance, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Carnival Old Folks Dance, Ranch Dance Fiddle Band, Frankie McWhorter, 8:30 p.m. Cowboy Church Services Rodeo, 8:00 p.m. 1998 Rodeo Queen will be crowned during the Rodeo performance and the winning ticket will be drawn for the handmade Alvin Durham saddle. Dance, Jody Nix & The Texas Cowboys, 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

There will be Concessions on the Grounds. Roaring Springs Community Volunteers will sponsor an Arts & Crafts Show all three days and nights.



HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY!

Congratulations on the 75th Celebration of the Old Settlers Reunion!

Come Ride Lowe's Train! "FREE" Rides Saturday, August 29 10 am - 2 pm

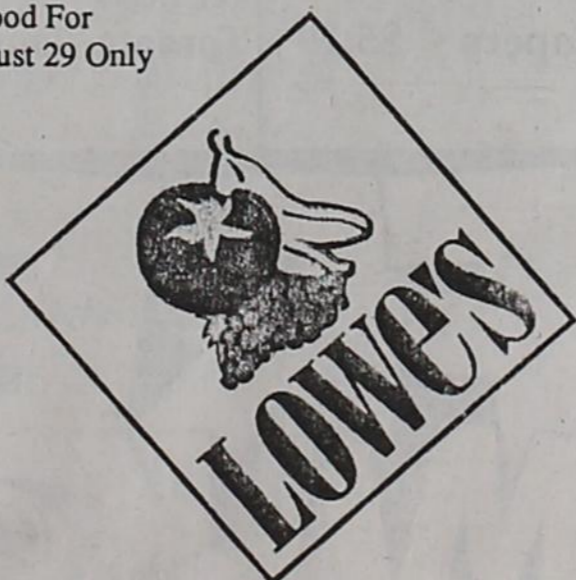
Hot Dogs 10¢ "FREE" Coke 10 am to 2 pm Saturday, August 29

Van Camps Pork & Beans 3/\$1.00 Starkist 6 oz. Oil or Water Tuna .69¢

48 oz. Wesson Oil \$1.99 5 oz. box BBQ Vermicelli 5 for \$1.00

6 pk. Asst. Lowe's Drinks .88¢ 12 oz. Decker Bacon \$1.69

Prices Good For Saturday, August 29 Only



MATADOR, TEXAS — 347-2331

School Menu

- MONDAY, AUGUST 31
Breakfast: Cereal, Pro Ball Donut, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Country Steak, New Whole Potatoes, Green Beans, Hot Rolls, Honey, Milk.
- TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1
Breakfast: Waffles, Sausage, Syrup, Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Assorted Sandwiches, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickle, Veggie Sticks, Potato Chips, Jello, Fruit, Milk.
- WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
Breakfast: Cereal, Buttered Toast, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Macho Nachos, Green Salad, Whole Kernel Corn, Applesauce Cake, Milk.
- THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
Breakfast: Biscuits, Bacon, Eggs, Juice, Milk.
Lunch: Hamburgers, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Pickle, Onion, French Fries, Juice Bars, Milk.
- FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Fruit, Milk.
Lunch: Oven Chicken, Creamed Potatoes, Gravy, Pea Salad, Homemade Bread Slices, Milk, Banana Pudding.

Just arrived MORE BEANIE BABIES

at Rose Garden Floral & Gifts

MOVIE SPECIALS!
Wednesday & Saturday Special!
ALL MOVIE RENTALS ONLY \$2.00
Movie Rentals now good for 2 days instead of 1!
Please Note: A fee will be charged for all late movies (No Exceptions!)

NEW MOVIES ARRIVING THIS WEEK!

NEW HOURS: Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Downtown Matador ~ (806) 347-2711

You are invited to attend an Open House to introduce you to our new Physician's Assistant Gail Ream Wednesday, September 2, 1998, 4 - 6 p.m. at the Motley County Clinic Come meet Gail and enjoy refreshments! Motley County Clinic

News around the County

Flomot News

by Earlyne Jameson

DELAYED

Mrs. C.W. Starkey and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Starkey were in Amarillo, Tuesday for medical appointments. They visited Mr. and Mrs. Z.D. Starkey and Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Reid. En route home, they visited in Canyon with Mr. and Mrs. Michael Starkey.

Mary Ellen Barton and Viola Stinson visited in Floydada Wednesday with Mrs. Mollie Burleson. They attended to business in Plainview, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin were in Lubbock, Friday to be with her sister, Mrs. Wanda Lane of Lockney, who had surgery at Methodist Hospital. Joining them there was Mrs. Lula Cramer of Arlington. Mrs. Cramer returned home with Mrs. Lane to be with her during her recuperation.

Mrs. Tommie Cruse is visiting in Silverton with her daughter and family, Derinda, Mark, Thor, Tory and new baby daughter, Teah Alana Patton.

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Morris visited from Sunday until Wednesday night in Breckenridge with son and family, Tommy, Sandy and Lane Morris.

Bill D. Washington was in Lockney, Monday for medical tests.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross were in Lubbock during the week to be with his sister, Mrs. Dorothy Carson of Olton, a patient in ICU at St. Mary Hospital. They visited daughter and husband, Elisa and Stan Wigley. Joining them in Lubbock to be at the bedside of Mrs. Carson was Mrs. Jan Whitener of Arlington, Virginia. Mrs. Carson died at 4 a.m., Sunday.

Donnie Rogers accompanied his daughters, Natalie and Brooke Rogers to Lubbock, Airport, Monday for their return home to Athens, Georgia after visiting their summer holidays here.

MEMORIES RENEWED AT 1948 THS CLASS REUNION

The 1948 Turkey High School senior graduation class held their 50th class reunion Saturday, August 22, 1998 at the Turkey Hotel. They were greeted with a colorful balloon bouquet with "Welcome Home."

Nine members of the seventeen graduating seniors attended. Two members deceased are Jimmie Don Guest and A.E. Jacobs, Jr. Gary Johnson at the keyboard entertained the group with a Bob Wills number he tabbed the Turkey Anthem. Joyce Guest, talented pianist played musical numbers that included a class favorite, Mares Eat Oats with the guests singing. A barbecue luncheon was served.

Graduating class members attending besides Mary Jo Lyles Calvert and husband, Doyle, of Flomot were from Fort Worth, Ruidoso, N.M., Amarillo, Jal, N.M., Wilmington, Delaware, Comanche, and Harold Ham of Turkey.

Nine ex-classmates attending included Tommie Jo Browning Cruse of Flomot and others from Wellington, Clovis, N.M., Lubbock, Amarillo, Quitaque, and Levelland. Eleven visitors registered from Graham, Arkansas, Rising Star, Stinnett, Turkey, and Quitaque. They had such a good time reminis-

ing and visiting, they plan to have another reunion in the Fall of 1999.

DERRICK CRUSE HAS A SUCCESSFUL GOLF SEASON

Derrick Cruse finished a successful golf season with the Green Belt Jr. Golf Organization that sponsors tournaments from June through July. Derrick was awarded an overall first place trophy in the boys division (12-13 year old) after competing in Vernon, Motley County, Paducah, Memphis, and Wellington. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Cruse of Flomot.

Overall, Rachel Smith of Matador placed third in the girls' High School Golf Green Belt Org. competition.

Others playing the tournaments were Chance Bingham, Isaiah Archer, Dayton Grundy, Keane Cruse, Rachelle Renfro, and Brook Decker.

ATTEND FUNERAL OF SISTER IN OLTON

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross attended the funeral services of his sister, Mrs. Dorothy Carson, 83, of Olton held Tuesday, August 18, at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Olton. She died Sunday, Aug. 16, 1998 at St. Mary Hospital in Lubbock. Joining them there were daughter and husband, Elisa and Stan Wigley of Lubbock.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Cruse had a family luncheon in their home, Monday, August 24, to celebrate the birthday of their daughter, Leah Cruse. Her favorite cake, gifts and best wishes added to the happy occasion. Guests were her grandmothers, Mrs. Marihelen Wason of Matador, and Mrs. Tommie Jo Cruse of Flomot, great-grandmother, Mrs. Dona Browning of Rising Star.

Leah left for Lubbock, Tuesday where she will be a sophomore student at Texas Tech.

Kathy and Clois Shorter met daughter and husband, Keri and Kevin Sehon of Wolforth for lunch in Plainview, Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Shorter continued to Amarillo and attended the Gospel Concert held at Northwest Baptist Church, Saturday night. The featured guest was the outstanding vocalist, Michelle Lee Gibbons.

Dickie Cloyd of Memphis visited his mother, Mrs. Annie B. Cloyd, Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin visited in Anson, Tuesday and Wednesday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Moss. They honored Mrs. Retha Moss on her 90th birthday with a luncheon and 22 guests attended. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. John Gilbert before returning home. Mr. Gilbert is in a Nursing Home.

Billy and Cindy Green of Matador visited her parents, Wendell and Nelva Morris, Sunday and celebrated Nelva's birthday.

Buich and Janice Hughes visited from Friday until Sunday in Nevada, Texas with son and wife, Bengie and J.J. Hughes.

Patsy and Bill Rucker of Quitaque visited Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers, Saturday.

Whiteflat News

by Earlyne Jameson

OVERHEARD

Try to keep a bounce in your walk, but not in your checks!

Mrs. Kathryn Martin was in Lubbock, Monday for a medical appointment. She visited at Heritage Oaks with her mother, Mrs. Josie Martin who is having therapy treatments following knee surgery.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Turner visited in Stephenville, Friday and Saturday with son, Cobey, a student at Tarleton University.

Bill and Jay Flowers of Aspermont visited during the week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T.W. Jennings. Visiting them Sunday were Tim and Matthew Jennings of Haskell.

A Note of Thanks

IN GRATITUDE

With deepest appreciation we wish to express our gratitude for all the calls, cards, flowers, acknowledging the death of our beloved Donnie Ed James, June 5th.

Thank you for all the donations sent to the Donnie James Memorial Fund at the Mesquite Police Department. These donations will continue to let his spirit of Godly love and works continue on for others.

To all that traveled to be with us, the love, assistance in so many ways. Reverend Rickey Lawrence, for a most beautiful eulogy, "God given" perfect. To Carla Meador and the Motley County Tribune for printing all the tributes. Don's heart never left "home". Thank you all for the honor and remembrances in tribute.

The Family of Donnie Ed James

Dear Friends,

Through Clyde's illness of eight years and his death you have been a great comfort. We appreciate each kindness shown with visits, calls, cards, food, and flowers.

May God Bless You,
Nona Williams and family

We appreciated the prayers, cards, letters, visits, phone calls and yard work while Luther was hospitalized. He is now at home and doing fine. Friends and family are wonderful.

Thank you,
Luther and Edna Ruth

Don't Drink & Drive!

Roaring Springs News

by Odessa Mullins & Rita Groves

DELAYED

Kay Lewis Smallwood visited Cleo Watson this week while in town to tend to business of disposing of her mother Roxie Lewis' house. It was probably the last good house A.B. Nichols helped to build. I remember visiting Mrs. Lewis in that house when her girls were small, and we were all very poor, but she was working away on earning her Masters Degree. She showed me the things Santa Claus would bring the children - all made by hand - her hands. She was a unique character. I admired her complete fearlessness. She gave up the luxury of being afraid early in her life. But she never forgot that I was her pupil. The last time we were together, she quoted many classics. She passed the time during her lonely days and nights by remembering great writers and their works. She never, to my knowledge, resorted to profanity to express her opinions. I knew her strength for over 70 years.

Algie and Rita Groves drove to Temple last week for their last medical checkups with the doctor friend who has been seeing them annually for over twenty years. (It's good to have young friends with memories. Jerry Green told me I went to Scott and White first in 1957, when I took him and Pat Groves to Boys State.) The good doctor sent us home with a loaf of homemade bread and a jar of fig preserves "not as good as his grandmother made" and promised to send our records to the doctor of our choice. It'll "blow his mind" when we tell him he's an elderly man who plays a saxophone!

The leaves are dropping again, probably more from drought than an indication of fall. I went East only once to see the "fall colors." The most beautiful leaves, were in Texas where the cottonwood and shinnery oak trees flame. Our cloud formations, the sunrises, sunsets, and full moons don't have skyscrapers between us and them. And you don't need to travel to find them.

So don't be bothered about what you don't have, just think about the things we do have. "You can read; you can write; you live in the United States." Don't give up on your dreams; live until you die.

Matador News

Visiting Cora Hall recently were Mr. and Mrs. G.W. Ratcliff of Chillicothe, MO, and son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Rusty Ratcliff of Cottage Grove, WI, Rusty Birchfield of Roaring Springs, and local resident, Larry Markham.

Reba Burkes had as her guests last weekend son Larry of Afton, and grandson and family, Jeffrey and D'Ann and great-grandson, Skee, of McLean.

CELEBRATES FIRST BIRTHDAY

Gage Renfro, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Renfro, celebrated his first birthday with a party at the Roaring Springs Ranch, Saturday, August 15, 1998. After entertaining guests when opening his gifts, birthday cake and swimming were enjoyed.

Those attending were his grandmothers, Mary Renfro and Ann McFall of Matador; great grandmother, Eunice McFall of Quitaque; great grandfather, Bud Barton and John of Paducah; Beverly Barton and Blake, Nesa McFall, Brenda Osborn and children of Matador.

Sr. Citizens News

by Cora Hall

The Matador Senior Citizens met for lunch on August 11. There were 15 present. Nora Belle Dunning said the blessing for our lunch. We all signed cards for Daisy Smith and Mrs. Blevins. Mrs. Blevins had an accident in her home. We were so sorry to hear about it. Hopefully she will recover real soon. She is such a sweet lady. We miss you, Mrs. Blevins.

Rosie Rendon, LNHA Administrator for Lockney was at our lunch. Her address is 103 South Main, P.O. Box 118, Lockney, TX 79241, for any of you who would like more information. Her phone number is 1-806-652-3000 or 1-888-759-1212. She is with Hospice Hands of West Texas, which provides services to nine counties.

Obituaries

Esther Bee "Dottie" Bradley

Esther Bee "Dottie" Bradley, 90, of San Angelo died Tuesday, August 11, 1998 in a local nursing center.

Graveside services were held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, August 13, 1998 in East Mound Cemetery in Matador with Ted Kingery, minister of Silverton Church of Christ officiating. Arrangements were by Johnson's Funeral Home.

Dottie was born December 22, 1907 in Ryan, Oklahoma to James W. and Willie Roseetta Dewbre. She was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ.

Dottie was married to William Floyd Bradley on December 12, 1944 in Matador, Texas. He preceded her in death on October 20, 1968. She was also preceded in death by her parents, three brothers and one sister.

Survivors include two sisters-in-law, Mrs. Jim "Jimmie Lee" Dewbre of San Angelo and Mrs. F.C. "Frenchie" Dewbre of Graham, TX; four nephews, six nieces and several great nieces and nephews.



CAPTURING A BABY EAGLE — The two above pictures were taken in March of 1965, when Q.D. Williams, Jerry Noles, and Stan McDonough captured a baby eagle, whose nest was apparently very hard to get too, on the Caprock west of Matador. There are more pictures in this group, and we hope to print the set, larger, when space permits.

(photos courtesy of Q.D. Williams)

Great Deals Open, Fast & Friendly

ALLways

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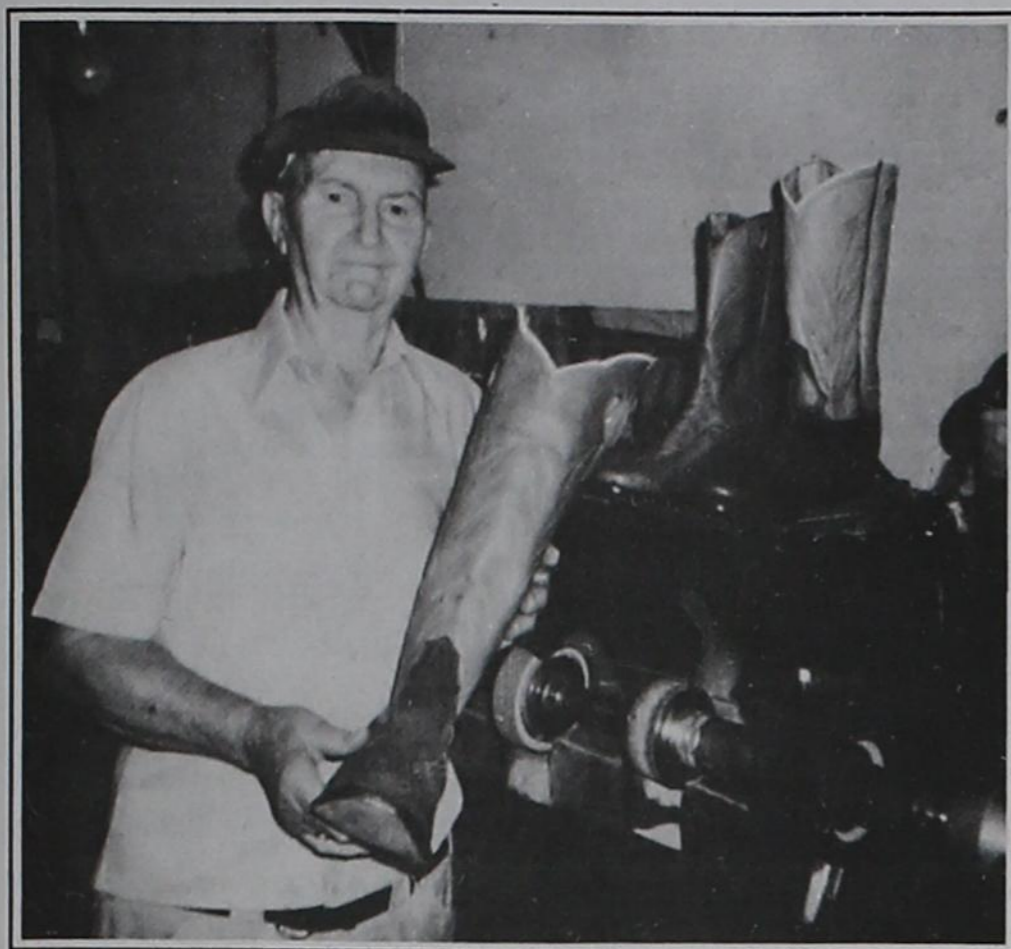
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Cowboy Boot Shop part of Motley County history

Bootmaker still making boots after 58 years in business



Bootmaker, D.L. "Dood" Damron, longtime Motley County bootmaker, is pictured here in his shop in downtown Matador, with some of the fine leather boots he has crafted.

by Carla Meador

Note: Some information for this article is taken from a previous Motley County Tribune article, printed in 1987, by Michelle Bearden.

As we celebrate 75 years of the Old Settlers Reunion, who could be more appropriate than acknowledging some of Motley County's famous pieces of history, such as Cowboy Boot Shop in downtown Matador.

D.L. "Dood" Damron has been making boots since 1940. A self-taught artist in this fine work of leather crafting, Mr. Damron started his business in a shop his dad purchased from Mr. Fred Fuller in Matador for \$100. He immediately accepted the gift from his father, and began work refining his craft. The first boot he ever made, now on display in a tiny glass case in his showroom, is a perfect 3 1/2" miniature western boot made of soft Kangaroo leather. He has been busy in the business ever since, except for an 18 month stint in the Army in 1942 and 1943.

He spent some time cowboying for some of the ranches in Motley County, before beginning work for H.H. Schweitzer, working out of the "Hole in the Wall", a tiny building cradled between the old Matador Hotel and what is now a grocery store. He knew this was his calling, developing a love for leather work and the finished beauty of a fine boot.

When Dood returned to Matador from the Army, he had his business located in the Giesecke building and the Riley Day building, before mov-

ing to his current location, on Main Street, in 1952.

Although Damron's equipment is far from new, it has a more modern association than the over 100 year old siding-up horse an old bootmaker by the name of Bell Hendrick used many years ago. This ancient looking, but still useful piece of equipment, had at one time contained a bowl in its front region, used as a beeswax holder. Through years of use the bowl now is nothing but a hole in the old siding-up horse.

Damron uses a Landis finisher that was new before 1940 with its line of seven sanders and burnishing brushes used to bring out the smoothness of the leathers and apply the shine to the finish of boots. He also uses a Landis curved needle Stitcher to place precise stitches in the boots he makes.

Dood says he has made boots for people all over the United States, with some old cowboys placing an order for a new pair of boots every year, "whether they need them or not." In fact Mr. Damron has several customers "who've laid up a supply of the handmade boots for themselves." The old-time quality workmanship is still in demand and highly prized.

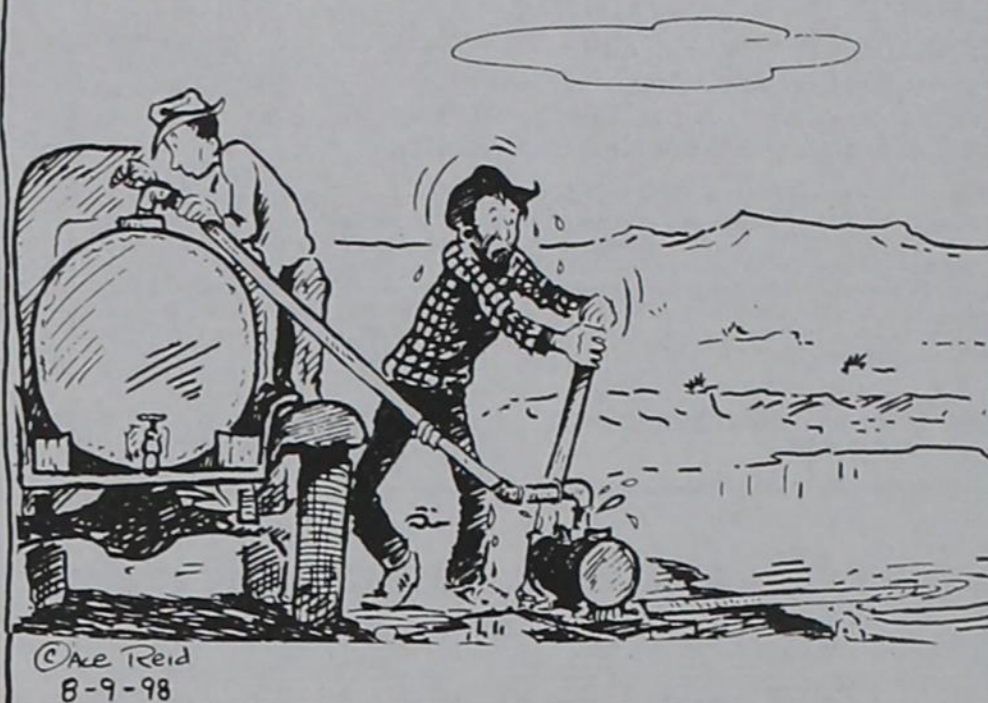
Dood and his wife of 33 years, Maye, just live down the street from his boot shop. He will celebrate his 84th birthday August 30, and still makes some of the finest handmade boots in Texas.

He has two daughters, Christine Rickard of Universal City, and Marianne Damron of Wolfforth, and a step-daughter, Claire Sudduth of Muleshoe.

COW POKES

By Ace Reid

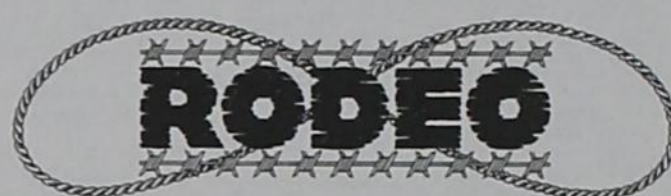
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R.P. and Effie Olive (Criswell) Moore
my Moore Great-Grandparents
W.R. and Mary Elizabeth (Bell) Moore
and my Criswell Great-Grandparents
John Henry and Letitia Josephine (Jones) Criswell

From Billie Beth Moore

Matador City Council sets lower tax rate

The Matador City Council met at 7:30 a.m. August 13. All Council members were present with the exception of Travis Jameson.

The invocation was given by Rodney Williams.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gary Lancaster.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Bill were paid.

The 1998 Ad Valorem Tax Rate was set at .336897, which is lower than last year's rate of .35.

City Employee Health Insurance was discussed. The insurance will

have a premium increase.

City Water Superintendent Steve Barton gave reports on waterworks, wastewater and sanitation. Mr. Barton informed the Council that a methane gas meter will have to be purchased for the Landfill. This was tabled until the October meeting.

Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (TNRCC) has informed the city that they will have to build an intruder prohibiting fence around the water tower. Construction on this will begin immediately. Meeting adjourned.

Tri-County Peanut Field Day set for September 10

by Michael Lee
County Agent

The annual Tri-County Peanut Field Day will be held on Thursday, September 10. The Field Day is sponsored by the Agriculture Committees in Motley, Hall, and Briscoe Counties, in conjunction with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. There will

be three (3) hours of CEU's offered to anyone needing certification hours for private, noncommercial or commercial applicators license.

The Field Day will start at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 10th at the Valley Peanut Growers in Turkey. After registration and introduction of sponsors and special guests, we will visit the weather station and then travel to various peanut result demonstrations being conducted in the area. Throughout the tour, Extension and Research Specialists will discuss various topics related to peanut production.

Guest speakers for this years Field Day include Dr. Robert Lemon, Extension Peanut Specialist Statewide - College Station; Dr. Todd Baughman, Extension Agronomist - Vernon; Emory Boring, Extension Entomologist - Vemon; Dr. Mike Shubert, Peanut Research Agronomist - Lubbock; Jim Wells, Assistant Extension Plant Pathologist - Stephenville; and Mary Webb, Texas Peanut Producers Board - Gorman.

Lunch will be served at the Quitaque Community Center and catered by the Sportsman club. The Rolling Plains production Credit will sponsor the meal for the Field Day.

Please R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, September 8th if you plan to attend. For further information or to R.S.V.P., contact Michael Lee - Motley County Extension Agent at 347-2733, Brad Schnitker - Hall County Extension Agent at 259-3015, or Pammy Millican - Briscoe County Extension Agent at 823-2131.



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2tc-36

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ROARING SPRINGS RANCH MEMBERSHIP for sale. \$950 (includes transfer fee). Current ranch price is \$1295. Please call 806-792-6188.

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1tp-35

ROARING SPRINGS RANCH MEMBERSHIP: Golf fees, cart storage, and a 1991 EZGO 4-wheel gas cart for sale. \$2,100.00. Nordic Track E7 with heart logic monitor. Like new, \$500.00. Set of offset irons 1-Lob, and 1, 3, 5, & 7, Offset Woods Matching graf. Shafts. \$450.00. Call 347-2627.

2tp-35

Garage Sale

SILVERTON CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE: September 5 & 6, 1998. This will coincide with the Silverton Jamboree on the first Saturday of every month. Sales will begin at 8:00 a.m. and continue until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 12 noon - 5 p.m. on Sunday. No early sales please. Maps will be available at business locations.

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Public Notice

Motley County Booster Club meets every Monday night at 7:00 p.m. in the School Cafeteria

PICTURE SALE: The Motley County Tribune has lots and lots of pictures that have been printed in the paper, maybe of your kids or grandkids, or just someone you would like to have a picture of. SALE, SALE - all pictures now only .75¢ each. Come by the office and browse through our picture drawer.

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1tc-35

Bid Notice

BID NOTICE
Motley County Precinct #4 is accepting open bids for a Motor Grader Diesel Engine, 4 cycles 150-185 H.P. with a trade in of a 1988 Cat 140 G. Also a 120G. Bids will be accepted until September 4, 1998. The County reserves the right to accept or refuse any bid. Preferred specifications are available in the County Judge's office.

4tc-37

Wanted

HUNTING LEASE WANTED: Small group of responsible hunters looking for hunting lease. Any size. Call 806-795-5708 after 6:00 p.m.

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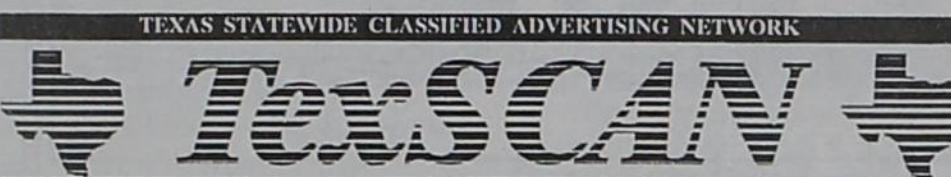
Vehicles for Sale

WANTED: Someone to take over payments on a 1993 Astro Van. If interested call 806-347-2202.

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