

# MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

VOICE OF THE FOOTHILL COUNTRY

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"Spring Cattle"

by Ken Young

## MCISD to replace roof on old school

Superintendent Randy Brown announced at the school board meeting on Monday, May 19th that an educational foundation has been established in order to produce about \$50,000 a year in revenue for MCISD. A decision was also made to purchase a Duro-Last Roof for the old school building. Present at the meeting were school board members, Tina Brooks, Lewis Drum, Don Baxter, Ted Davey, Mark Seigler and David Stafford; Randy Brown, Superintendent;

William Cochran, Principal; Denise Ford, Business Manager and Laverne Zabielski, Motley County Tribune.

Before making their decision on restoring the old school or tearing down and constructing a new building the board obtained a report from Grimes and Associates Construction. This report pointed out what has been known for sometime regarding the problems in the old school. It confirmed the fact that the old building is in good condition

except for the roof, windows, and exterior brick. Brown stated, "We must decide whether to upgrade or demolish. If we do nothing about the roof, we will eventually lose the building."

GAC estimated that it would cost \$1.5 million for a new building to replace the old school. Brown said, "It's important to consider the new building cost in order to exhaust all possibilities before making a decision on repairing the old school. I think *continued on page 9*

## Former graduate pledges \$500,000

A former graduate of Matador High School, Class of 1940, has donated \$500,000 to establish an educational foundation that will produce about \$50,000 a year in revenue to "benefit the children of Motley County for generations to come."

The James and Oneita Titus Educational Foundation will dedicate about 75 percent of the money to scholarships, and 25 percent toward school programs. The long-term plan is to grow

the principle to a point of self-sufficiency, providing long-term sustainability. The donation will be made in December, 2008, for the spring, 2009 school term.

"We are so grateful and appreciative of Mr. Titus' generous donation," Superintendent Randy Brown said. "I don't know of any school in the state that has received such a generous private donation. We are very blessed," he said.

Mr. Titus survived the Great

Depression and graduated from Matador High School with the help of a community that invested in his future. "He said he had always felt a great debt to Matador and wanted to "give back" to the community," Brown said.

According to Brown, Mr. Titus and his nephew came to Matador in the summer of 2006, spoke with the superintendent, and asked him to compile a list *continued on page 3*

## MC 4th Graders receive prize from General Mills Box Tops Contest

On Tuesday, May 12, 2008, the 4th Graders from Motley County School finally received their prize for winning the 2007-2008 General Mills Box Tops Contest. Mrs. Alexander's students saved labels all year to win a trip to Mott Creek Ranch.

For their hard earned efforts, they were rewarded with a hike down Mott Creek, swimming,

canoeing and fishing, along with barbecued hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings.

To refresh everyone's memory, General Mills Box Tops are worth 10 cents each and will occasionally have triple box tops on certain items. All labels are collected at Motley County School where they are counted, bundled and sent to General Mills. In re-

turn, the school receives a check for the amount of box tops collected times 10 cents. This year Motley County students collected around 3000 box tops. This equals \$300 to be used towards educational field trips for each student. Since 2001, MCS has received approximately \$1650 from the General Mills Box Tops Program.



MC 4th GRADERS win trip to Mott Creek Ranch. Back Row (L to R) Mrs. Alexander, Matthew Faulks, Brant Bailey, Seth Markey, Lexy Gullede, Michael Seigler, Natalie Jameson, Bryant Taylor, Kaylee Woolsey, Marcus Ortiz & Mattie Brooks. Front Row (L to R) Bailee Perryman, Joshua Martin, Macie Marshall, Braden Pope & Thalia Quilimaco.

## Marisue Powell receives distinguished Resident Conservation Rancher Award

Motley County's own Marisue Powell was recently honored at the Area I Association of Texas Soil & Water Conservation Districts Awards Banquet held in Plainview Texas. The association represents all of the soil and water conservation districts in Texas. Marisue received the distinguished Resident Conservation Rancher Award for her sound conservation management on the Mott Creek Ranch.

The local Upper Pease soil and water conservation district nominated Marisue for the award. Marisue has been a district cooperater with the Upper Pease SWCD since 1979 and has completed extensive conservation work and renovation on the ranch.

Marisue has requested and received technical assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), The Upper Pease SWCD, Texas Parks & Wildlife (TPWD), U.S. Fish & Wildlife, and the Wild Turkey Federation. The prestigious award comes as a result of hard work and dedication by

Marisue to improve the natural resources of the land and practice soil stewardship for future generations.

Attending the award ceremony

along with Marisue was husband Ralph, Ronald and Wayne Clay, Mary Ellen Barton, James Bearden, James Gillespie, Jason Eckert and Jacob Shaffer.



MARISUE POWELL of Matador receives the outstanding rancher award from Scott Buckles of the Area I Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The award was presented at an Honors Banquet in Plainview on May 13<sup>th</sup>.

## THIS WEEK'S NEWS

### Good News

Jessie Powell invites you to her 100th birthday party, Friday, May 23, 2 p.m. at Hackberry Creek Care Center.

### Celebration

**Project Celebration 2008**, one last time for students to spend time together, will be held after graduation.

### Roaring Springs

Plans to repair the roofs on the old school buildings and makes donation to Motley County Library.

### School News

Isiah Archer wins scholarship. MCISD will have irregular dismissal times during the last week of school.

### Coming Back Home

Coming home wasn't a big leap for Beetle and Kay Bailey. "We would've never left if we could've figured out how to . . .



# Foothill Country Connections

Community, Diversity, Art

By Larry Vogt

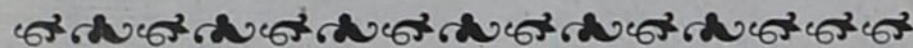
Can you feel the heat starting to come on? All you have to do is go into the second story of a house or building with little or no air conditioning to start to feel the heat from old sol coming through the ceiling from the attic. Now, if we could just capture some of this heat in some little bottles, and let it loose in the winter, wouldn't that be a trick?

However, it is still pleasant to sit outside on the porch and enjoy a meal or some visiting with friends. And, it is still cooling off at night so a little welcome breeze will let us sleep in relative comfort. We know we are in for some much warmer days as we get into June and July, but for now, the

shade of the trees and a bit of a wind is welcome to our senses.

Then there is the subject of humidity. As the humidity rises the heat index goes up, too. With a relative humidity reading of 80% the thermometer reading of 85 degrees F. will feel like 95 or so depending on the amount of breeze.

As long as the humidity only spikes during a shower we can expect to have higher thermometer readings and still be better off than the folks who live in places, like Kentucky, where the humidity stays above 80% most of the time during the summer. Me, I count my blessings, give me those low humidity readings and I won't complain.



By Laverne Zabielski

Big news this week! I attended my first school board meeting and I picked a good one to go to! I felt honored to be able to sit among the school board members and listen to Superintendent, Randy Brown announce that MCISD has just received a pledge of \$500,000 to establish an educational fund.

Motley County ISD will never be the same. There is something that happens when possibility presents itself. Students wanting to go to college will truly have the opportunity to receive scholarships for the hard work they put into their academic studies.

And it's apparent that MCISD wants to establish a "get a higher education mind-set" for its students. Field trips to colleges have been organized and opportunities to take college courses during high school are possible.

I can imagine that more families will be wanting to move to Motley County just so their children will be able to be exposed such an educational environment. And more students will request transfers.

Just as an athletic championship can empower a school and community, so will academic successes. It all begins by knowing what's possible. And an educational foundation can reduce the money concern. A scholarship doesn't pay for everything. It does, however, get your foot in the door.

Going to college wasn't really an option for me in 1964. My dad said, "Take shorthand and typing so if anything ever happens to your husband you can always get a job."

My mom knew about college, but didn't know how to pay for it. We knew nothing about student loans or scholarships. So I took shorthand, became the shorthand wiz, and won a secretarial scholarship for \$200.

Thirty years later, I discovered student loans and returned

to college. A mixed blessing. Bad news: I began accumulating a \$60,000 debt which eventually paid for my MFA in Writing. Good news: I am doing what I love to do; writing and publishing a newspaper and making small payments each month to pay off my student loan.

My advice to students, today: Get scholarships and pay as you go. Take longer if necessary. Just because you get a degree does not mean you will get a high paying job to pay off your debt.

Other big news this week! Two students win scholarships or honors and parents continue to show their support for students by organizing another Project Celebration for graduates.

My cousin, Bill Tilson, was juried into the prestigious Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. I remember the summer in 1960 when my family came to visit and Bill's sister, Linda, and I went on a double date to the Rogue theater. All three of us have become artists. Maybe it was the red dirt and hot heat that inspired us.

And what can be more exciting than to celebrate a 100th birthday. Jessie Powell's story is truly inspiring.

I have tried again to organize all the county news on pages four and five. The Sheriff has some very important information to share. And we desperately need a Matador correspondent. I know there is more happening than what gets reported.

As we celebrate Memorial Day we remember not only those who have served our country but also all those who are gone. In Writing Community, my friend, Joe Anthony, writes about losing his mother in law. And Dinah Young continues our May celebration of mothers with her poem. In June we will feature writing about our fathers. Tell us your stories.

This week's paper is action packed with local news. Thank you for sending it to us.

# Writing Community

## Son-in-law finds that a death is his loss, too

By Joseph G. Anthony

I miss my mother-in-law. I know. It sounds like the beginning of a Henny Youngman joke. You miss your mother-in-law? Take mine. Please.

No thanks. I miss mine. She died this past January. And people have been very kind. How's your wife doing? they ask. She's sad, I tell them.

A few. A very few ask how I'm doing.

She was just, after all, my mother-in-law.

I miss teasing her. She was an artist of great subtlety and breadth, but somehow my sense of humor eluded her. I remember her fussing at me once for noshing too close to dinner—she was a great cook and a wonderful eater. During dinner, I lay my fork down.

"I don't know why," I said, "but I'm just not hungry."

"Well of course you're not!" She began to scowl with indignation before being hushed by her daughter.

"Don't you know Joe yet?" my wife said.

I still chuckle at the memory.

She wasn't humorless. She laughed often and heartily. Sometimes at herself. After Poppy's death, her professor husband, I sat on the floor of his very cluttered office, going through literally thousands of papers.

"I've been after Siggy for years to clean up this office," she fumed.

"Well," I said, "he got out of it."

It was only a moment before she laughed. "He did, didn't he? The son of a gun."

You know what gets me? That this losing of parents is supposed to be assimilated smoothly, as just another rite of passage. My father died a year before Mom, and Poppy Mandel a half year before him.

I take it back. It's not a Henny Youngman joke. It's Lady Bracknell from *The Importance of Being Earnest*. "To lose one parent may be regarded as a misfortune— to lose two seems like carelessness."

What about losing three?

When I woke up last spring after an appendectomy, my first

operation, I was amazed at how much I hurt. I had had no idea that so much pain was involved in a regular old operation, one millions had had. I thought of those people with new respect.

I miss my mother-in-law.

I had a dream a couple of weeks ago. She was alive but in dream knowledge, everyone knew she was going to die that night. She was busy writing in Daniel's baby book, telling him how much she loved him. Because at 6, Daniel, our youngest, has been gypped the most. Poppy was on the phone, long distance, trying to get through and I, well, I just sat there thinking—she doesn't look that bad. Why can't we postpone this death thing? At least for a while.

When I told my daughter Sarah this dream, she told me of one of hers. We were all, Sarah, David, Daniel, Elise and I, visiting Nanny and Poppy at their Colorado mountain home. One last time. They were going to stop being dead just for our visit.

"Why was that?" I asked Sarah.

"Because it was too final," she

answered.

Because it was too final. Not a very original thought about death, but it sums up my feelings. When I think of my Dad and Poppy, when I look at a photo of my mother-in-law's smiling face in her last illness, it's the thought that dominates. It's all too final.

I miss my mother-in-law. And Henny, if you had had a mother-in-law like her, you'd miss yours, too.

This appeared in *The Boulder Daily Camera*, Boulder, Co., July 23, 1995. Dorothy Mandel was a well-known woodcut artist and a published biographer. She died in January of that year. Her husband, Siegfried Mandel, was a well known scholar and a professor at Colorado University.

Joseph G. Anthony is a professor at Lexington Community College in Lexington, Kentucky. His novel, *Peril, Kentucky*, is set in the Appalachian mountains where he and his family lived for five years. His Foothills Country Connection is that he is a long time friend of Laverne and Larry.



PENCIL PLANT from the home of Josie Raetz in Matador

## Mothers are the Glue

by Dinah Young

Mothers are the glue.  
My Mother was, and so are you.

We watch their pets – we sweep and dust  
We cook and sew – kissing boo-boos is a must.

We play dress up, and read fairy tales  
In the sand pile, we fill up their pails  
Make mud pies and strawberry cakes

We cook their favorite meals  
And clean up their spills.  
We try to prepare them for this world and all its stuff  
And hope and pray all the love will be enough.

Then before we know it our name changes  
From Mother to Grandmother –  
Grand Mothers are the glue.

## Letters to the Editors

Dear Laverne and Larry,

On May 3 of this year, my wife, Chrystal, and I felt called to visit Roaring Springs. While there we came across the *Motley County Tribune* for the first time and were impressed with its mission and content, as well with the pluckiness behind it. As a 1968 high school graduate, I especially enjoyed Dinah Young's article, "Woodstock 1969."

As a Christian writer and spiritual director, I was entranced and inspired by the article on Frieda and Dr. Clinton Lee Burns (and all the more so because my wife and I are currently discerning the possibility of obtaining a small house in

Roaring Springs vicinity for use as a writer's cottage-cum-rustic-gateway).

Although my father's family come from Cottle County, and I still have relatives living there (e.g., Roger Holley), so far as I know, I have no relatives or friends (yet) in Motley County. Nonetheless, I would like to have a year's subscription to your paper in order to learn more of the area and its people.

And congratulations on following your passion. Isn't it nice to remember that when we go through the door of heart, we always arrive at where God most wants us to be?

Joyfully in Jesus Christ,  
Larry Holley

Dear Editor,

I am writing this for the Roaring Springs Community Volunteers. We are planning our annual Fourth of July celebration. As most of you reading this letter know, we end the July 4th celebration with a beautiful fireworks display.

This year the fireworks have gone up in cost a lot. The display we usually have will cost over \$1000.00 this year. That is over a \$400.00 increase in cost. We are asking for financial help to buy the fireworks. To date

we have received \$400.00 in donations. If you plan to come and enjoy the fireworks this year, please send a donation; any amount that you can send will be help us continue to have this event.

Send your donation to the Roaring Springs Community Volunteers; P.O. Box 73; Roaring Springs, TX 79256 or hand it to any member.

Thank You,  
The RSCV

## Opinion Editorial

### Spiritual food served up at Blue Grass Gospel in Flomot

By Dinah Young

Diane and Seab Washington fed everyone brisket, beans, potato salad, onions and the best bread pudding with vanilla sauce on Thursday night. But that was just the beginning – the spiritual food came afterwards with bands from Portales and Artesia, New Mexico; Estelene, and Wickett, Texas playing banjos, guitars, steel guitars, mandolins, base fiddles, fiddles, and pure country harmony in their voices. You folks who didn't go really missed something special in Flomot. Feet were tapping, hands

were clapping and you could just nearly hear the angels singing in that old Flomot Community Center – gym. Usually they hold it outside, but threats of rain took them inside this time. The rest of the Blue Grass Festival was to be held outside in the field under the stars.

We are blessed to have folks like Diane and Seeb who work so hard to pull this all together. What a treat to have this quality of music and entertainment right at our doorstep for a very low price. Hope you all got to go for at least one night. It would surely have made your hearts happy.



TEXAS COUNTRY performs in Flomot on Thursday, May 15, 2008 at the 9th Annual Bluegrass Festival. Photo by Ken Young



## Motley County Tribune

Laverne Zabielski & Larry Vogt

Publishers & Editors

Carol Campbell, Feature writer



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# You can come home again!

There's glory enough for any man to live and die a Texan.  
 --Douglas Meador (Printed on the **MATADOR TRIBUNE** masthead during the 1950s)

By Carol Campbell

For this Coming Home couple, the Douglas Meador quote might well read: "There's glory enough for anyone to live and die in Matador, where every day is a holiday."

Both natives of Motley County, Linda Kay Rattan Bailey and Ronald Gene "Beetle" Bailey, say they have truly come "full circle." "Forty-three years ago, we started out on Eubank Street in a little house about a block from where we live now," Kay said.

But like all life fully lived, the journey home had a few pitfalls. In 1995, Kay suffered a brain aneurysm that derailed her successful real estate business in Eastland, Texas; and in 1997, Ron suffered a major heart attack, requiring quadruple bypass surgery. In 2004, a debilitating stroke required him to embark on another kind of journey: relearning and regaining skills of everyday life. "Following his stroke, Beetle announced he didn't know how many summers he had left, but he knew one thing: he wanted to spend them in Matador," Kay said. On March 19, 2005, they moved home.

The Rattan and Bailey roots in Texas go back almost 175 years, when both pioneer families took advantage of the availability of Texas' liberal land policy, Ron said. Why Texas? "My educated guess," Ron writes, "was the availability of cheap land and lots of it." He has published two books on the Rattan and Bailey family roots in Texas. Ron spent every holiday and most vacations conducting genealogical research. "My job was outside, so

when I got a vacation, I went to libraries."

Ronald G. Bailey was born March 21, 1941, in the Whiteflat community, north of Matador. Linda Kay Rattan was born September 1, 1942, and spent her first four years in Flomot, before her family moved to Whiteflat, then Matador.

**"Following his stroke, Beetle announced he didn't know how many summers he had left, but he knew one thing: he wanted to spend them in Matador," Kay said. On March 19, 2005, they moved home.**

Ron graduated from Matador High School in 1959; Kay in 1960. They were high school friends that first dated in 1958: "the biggest flop date of all time," Kay laughingly recalls. Four years later, after Ron attended Tarleton State Junior College; and Kay was a student at Texas Tech, they were married in Matador, February 4, 1962.

Ron transferred to Texas Tech, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in agriculture education in 1965. He taught school at Clarendon High School for three years and then went to work for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and worked at Anson, Abilene, Longview, San Antonio, and Eastland, before retiring in 1999 after 31 years of service.

"For 25 years, my job was a hobby," Ron said. "I had a lot of fun working." As a Resource Manager for the Soil Conservation Service, he presented "alternatives" to landowners for developing their land for ponds

or forestry projects; helping people manage their resources, like what type of grass to plant and how to control brush.

In Longview he learned how to "cruse timber," he said. He could estimate board-feet of lumber, and plan other resource projects. He won awards from the state for recommending more "feet

of terracing" than any employee in the state. "I recommended enough terraces (a million feet) to go from Anson to Lubbock," Ron said. He appeared in television and radio programs all over Texas, wrote newspaper articles on conservation, and provided programs to every service organization you can name, all over the state. He planned soil conservation banquets, and once picked Governor Ann Richards up at the airport, he said.

Ron was the state's "fair-haired child," Kay said. "They sent me to charm school several times," he added, "which obviously didn't take," she laughingly interjected. Ron was on a "fast track" career advancement straight to Washington D.C., when he took a detour.

He was promoted to District Conservationist at the head office in San Antonio; they moved with their three children from the small rural community of Eastland to San Antonio with a

population of two million. Ron went from casual to suit and tie. He was commuting two hours a day, Kay was home raising children that didn't want to move in the first place, and life got hard. Hindsight is 20-20, they say.

They decided to build a home in San Antonio, providing more "permanency" for the children. They only expected to be there for three years. Once you were in the San Antonio pipeline, you were headed out of state then straight to the top, she said. "This was a 'grooming position' for Ron."

The new home was built, Kay got to pick out the carpet and the colors. Then, she mused, "you never know what decisions you make that will alter your life forever." This was a simple decision. They opted to buy Mexico brick, because it was cheaper.

While visiting Eastland one weekend, the brick on the house was laid. "When I got back to San Antonio, every other brick on that house said MEXICO in big block letters," Kay said. "They (the contractors) said it wasn't a big deal, we tried to tell them that we were in a job that was subject to moving, and that we couldn't sell a house that had 'Mexico' in big letters all over it," she said. This was the straw that broke the camel's back. "We took this to be 'the omen' to go home," Kay said.

"We wanted the kids to have a hometown," Kay said. But finding that connection in San Antonio became increasingly difficult. Following a period of non-adjustment for the children, Kay and Ron finally moved their unhappy crew back to Eastland. Ron commuted for 15 months

between San Antonio and Eastland, waiting for a position in soil conservation to open up, finally moving home to his family.

Regrets? "I never looked back," he said, adding, "I am just one person in a family of five, I got out-voted, that's all." His three children all graduated from Eastland High School.

Kay earned her real estate license, and opened her own business in Eastland, Kay Bailey Real

Estate. During these busy years of raising her family she launched a successful career in real estate until her health sidelined her for a while. But bouncing back is a characteristic of both husband and wife, descendants of hardy early-day Texans. She went back to school and got her Real Estate Appraisal license, and following his retirement in 1999, she and Ron teamed up and launched a *continued on page 7*



LINDA KAY RATTAN and Ronald Gene "Beetle" Bailey cutting their wedding cake were in Matador on February 4, 1962.

*Continued from page 1*

**THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY RELAY FOR LIFE**

*Will be hosting a breakfast at First Baptist Church, Matador for Relay for Life Survivors on May 24th at 9 a.m. Donations accepted.*

Questions, call Pam Newman, Relay for Life Chairman, 806.348.7074

## Educational foundation established

of projects that he would like to see accomplished. One item on the list, Brown said, was an electronic information display sign, that currently graces the front of the school.

In the fall, Mr. Earl Morse, Mr. Titus' banker and friend, called in behalf of Mr. Titus, and said he wanted to establish an educational foundation in behalf of Motley County students to provide scholarships and other incentives for teachers and students. The superintendent and some local community members recently made a trip to Grapevine, Texas, to discuss the current donation.

"While this is just in the beginning stages," Brown said, "the possibilities are exciting." In addition to scholarships for students heading to college, the money could be used to allow teachers to apply for grants for

supplemental activities in the classroom, Brown said. "Perhaps some applications to integrate technology; or incentives for academic achievement; or accelerated reading programs," Brown said.

"We have great teachers and I want to give them the opportunity to dream big; to do special things in the classroom," he said. "We want to create a college-going climate." Currently, 13 out of the 14 spring graduates want to go to college," Brown said. "This donation will fit in perfectly with what we are trying to accomplish in Motley County ISD."

The foundation will be run by a board consisting of the superintendent, school board member, mayors of Roaring Springs and Matador; a community member at large, the county judge, Mr. Titus, and his grandson, Brown said.



MIKE CROWLEY

### SITUATION NEVER IN DOUBT

It was a time of doubt, perhaps even confusion. The Hebrew people had been lead by Moses for over forty years. Now that Moses has died, God has chosen Joshua to lead His people into the promised land. If ever there would be an opportunity for more doubt or confusion to arise, this would have been the time. During this change in leadership the potential of a change in direction was also present. Notice, however, the direction that is given to Joshua to follow. "Be strong and courageous" (Joshua 1:6) God calls upon the new leader of the Hebrew people to be a strong, confident leader. The source of Joshua's strength and confidence is his reliance upon the Lord rather than himself. God gave to Joshua the means of spiritual strength and success, not only for leaders but certainly for all of us within His kingdom.

Joshua was told to not only be strong but also to be careful that he would heed the Law the God had given through His servant Moses. If he would follow the Law "neither turning left or right" then God said he would have success (Joshua 1:7) Joshua is instructed to meditate on the Law day and night, so that he may be careful to do according to all that is written in it (Joshua 1:8) God clearly declared to Joshua that he must adhere to the Word of God in order to be a pleasing leader.

God still teaches to you and I the very same principle. We must adhere to the Word of God in order to be successful before Him. We must thus turn to our Bibles and be careful to do everything according to His Word. If we will be faithful to the Scripture, turning neither left or right, then God will bless us as His people, a people of the Word.

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

Find your Graduation-cards and gifts at **Matador Variety**

# Memorial Day

**We honor the fallen**  
**May 26, 2008**

CapRock Tv  
 Caprock Cellular GSM  
 Cap Rock



# NEWS AROUND MOTLEY COUNTY

## Roaring Springs News

By Monta Marshall

Aren't the countryside and yards getting beautiful? There are so many flowers blooming in yards. Danna Kennedy's roses are in full bloom and Venus Fairley's peonies have been gorgeous. My amaryllises have been pretty; they are almost finished now but I still have roses and the daisies are beginning to bloom. A few hours yard work sure pays off more than a few hours inside work. Dishes, beds, laundry and sweeping don't last! The weather was so perfect for a few days I almost forgot this was West Texas and not paradise!

We were saddened at the passing of Joe House. Joe did not get out in the community but he was a very hospitable host if you stopped by his house. The day of his funeral, the weather was perfect and the cemetery was filled with birdsong. I am sure he would have loved that.

Joy Beeson is still not feeling up to par.

Barbara and John Alexander hosted their annual cook-out on Sunday after church. There were sixteen who enjoyed eating and visiting in their pretty yard. Barbara's garden is flourishing. She plants her garden in geometric beds of vegetables with flowers mixed in instead of rows with vegetables. Some

flowers are planted because they repel squash bugs or tomato worms the organic way.

Another organic gardener is Dinah Young. Her flowers are always beautiful and planted in interesting groupings.

Monday night was the first beans and bingo night at the Roaring Springs Volunteers Community Center. They hope to do this on a regular basis.

Corky Marshall attended another workshop in Spur on Monday for Rural Communities Sponsored by the USDA Rural Community Affairs.

Charlie Long remains in Amarillo as an outpatient. He got some encouraging news last week. He is improving and hopes to continue and be home before too long.

Becky Nichols is recovering at home after a set-back that required her to have to re-enter the hospital. She is the mother of Ross Graham.

Memorial Day services are planned in the Roaring Springs Park on Memorial Day, May 26th. Come out and honor our service men. Folks, our county is free because of these veterans and the young men currently serving in the military. God Bless America! It is still the best in my opinion.

## RSCV Bingo in Roaring Springs

The Roaring Springs Community Center was the location for a Bingo Party with a beans and cornbread supper sponsored by the Roaring Springs Volunteers on Monday evening, May 19. This was part of a series of fund raisers that the Volunteers are hosting to garner funds to sponsor the 4th of July fireworks this year.

The Bingo Party was a donations accepted event and there were many prizes donated by local and area merchants. Everyone had a good time, the food was delicious, and the Volunteers wish to thank all

who brought desserts and corn bread and a big thank you goes to Pearl Patten for the excellent pinto beans.

Those in attendance had a chance to win one or more of the many prizes and the grand prize of the evening was a couple of pieces of sterling silver jewelry from Thacker's Jewelry in Roaring Springs. This grand prize was given to the winner of a bingo "blackout" that was won by May Thomas of Matador.

Look for publicity on the next fund raiser and come out and have a good time!

## Memorial Day Program at the Veterans Memorial Park

There will be a Memorial Day Program at the Veterans Memorial Park in Roaring Springs, Texas on Monday (Memorial Day observed) May 26, 2008 beginning at 11:00 am.

The main speaker for the program will be Michael Crowley, veteran of the United States Marine Corps. Others in the pro-

gram include Corky Marshall, Clint Burns, Pennie Keltz, Suzanne Abbot, and Johnny Morris. All are invited to come and participate in this special annual event to honor those who have served our country as well as all our loved ones who have gone before us.

## God's Big Backyard

Pre-registration kick-off Sunday, June 1 @ 5:30!

June 2 - 6  
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

ALL KIDS  
3 yrs old  
through  
5th grade



For more info contact  
Randa Green

**First Baptist Church, Matador**

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<b>PROGRAM TRAILBLAZER THREE!!! TO CHOOSE FROM</b>	<b>2007 CHEVY COBALTS 3 LOW MILE PROGRAM CARS HIGH MPG</b>	<b>2007 CHRYSLER TOWN &amp; COUNTRY LOCAL OWNER LOW MILEAGE SUV</b>

## Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

### Overheard

This Memorial Day and always, be grateful for those that have and are defending the freedom of our nation. Let us not misuse these freedoms and may there be love, compassion and peace among our fellowman.

\*\*\*\*\*

Linda and Travis Kendall returned home Wednesday night following a trip to Oklahoma. They visited in Rush Springs with her aunt and uncle, Janell and Joe Jordon, in Midwest City with aunt and husband, Pat and Wayne Mendes. In Glencoe, they visited Ed and Evelyn March where they met her aunt, Mrs. Barbara March of Hermitage, Missouri to visit.

Waydette and Ronald Clay, Mrs. Geneva Martin, and Mrs. Kathy Shorter were in Canadian Saturday to attend a bridal shower honoring Taylor Weitzel of Plano. She is the fiancée of Clay Arrington, son of Mike and Debbie Arrington and grandson of Waydette and Ronald Clay.

B.T. O'Connell of Denton visited Mrs. Aleda Ross Saturday. B.T., a graduate of Texas Tech was en route home from Lubbock after attending a class reunion.

Weekend visitors of Jerry and Sandra Barclay were children and families, Mr. and Mrs. Lance Barclay, Colton and Kayla of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Cody Barclay, Lane and Ashley of Borger and Mr. and Mrs. Ty Barclay, Tylee, Trent and Trevor of Matador. They attended the funeral services Friday of Jerry's father, S.D. Barclay, 84, held at the First Baptist Church in

### Lockney.

Joey and Brenda Lee of Clarendon and Mrs. Shonda Lee of Flomot and grandson, Paxton of Dallas visited Ruth and Orville Lee, Sunday.

Weekend visitors of Cally and Will Sperry and children, were Jackie and Terry Sperry of Quitaque, Scarlett and Brianna Sperry and friend, Jessica Kirkendall of Lubbock. They enjoyed the Blue Grass Festival.

Clois and Kathy Shorter and his father, L.E. Shorter visited in Lockney Wednesday with Salina and Joe Marks and baby son, Grayson who made his arrival Tuesday night, May 13.

Visiting the weekend with Shonda and Roger Lee and enjoying the Blue Grass Festival were her parents, Wanda and Rex Davey of Plainview and sister, Penny Taylor of Floydada. Visiting them this week is grandson, 9-month Paxton of Dallas.

Visiting during the weekend with Linda and Travis Kendall was son, Cory Kendall and sons, Chancey and Connor of Midland. They also visited brother and family, Tim and Melissa Kendall, Jere and Jacob. They enjoyed the Blue Grass Festival.

Anna Beth and Joe Ike Clay, daughters and families, Mrs. Tina Carson, Walker, Raleigh and Parker and Mrs. Julie Edwards, Jaxon and Laney of Turkey attended the 8th grade graduation of grandson, Tanner Clay held Friday night at the Panhandle Junior High ceremony. They had a class party following the graduation. They visited Tanner's family Angelia and Larry Clay, Kelsey and Sarah.

## RS makes plans to repair school buildings

The Roaring Springs Economic Development Part B, Board held a public meeting at 6 pm May 12, 2008 in the City Hall to discuss using Economic Development Part B monies, to-for the repair of the roofs on the Roaring Springs High School and Grade School buildings. Six persons from the Roaring Springs area were present at the hearing. There was some discussion concerning the use of the monies and there was no opposition to using the monies for the aforementioned repairs and the hearing was adjourned.

The Roaring Springs City Council met at 6:30 pm May 12, 2008. Attending were Mayor Corky Marshall, Mayor Pro Tem, Alex Crowder, council members Kelly Keltz, Timmy Brooks, P. K. Green, City Secretary Zella Palmer. Guests at the meeting were Barbara Bogard, representative of Caprock Telephone, Les Woolsey, and

### Brandt Bearden.

After the pledge and invocation, the minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. Then the financial report and paying of the bills were approved.

Les Woolsey, fire chief of the Roaring Springs Fire Department gave a report on the progress of the department. Included in a financial report was the fact that there have been donations to the department. It was reported that the department responded to 12 fires so far in 2008. There was included in the report information about repairs on the Fire Department building and the need for replacing one of the trucks.

A motion was approved and seconded to donate money to the Motley County Library. There being no further business, the motion to adjourn was taken with a second and the meeting adjourned.

## Matador News

Ethel Smith spent Mother's Day in Dallas with daughter, Kathy Penick and attended the graduation of her grandson, Bob Smalling. He graduated from the University of Texas at Dallas with a major in Chemistry.

Tom and Deanie Edwards attended the wedding of her

great-niece, Christen Imhoff on Saturday. Christen is the granddaughter of Lonnie and Marianne Lynn of Childress, Texas. The wedding was held in the Baker Building in Downtown Lubbock. During the afternoon, Tom and Deanie visited with Marge Edwards at Ventura Place.

## Hackberry Creek Employee of the Month



Simona Chavez

"I Love my job at Hackberry Creek Care Center."

Simona is married to Efrén Chavez. She has eight children, Efrén Jr., Rosemary Chavez, Sandra, Amanda, Augy, Rinaldo, and twins, Armando and Joseph; and eight grandchildren.

Her hobbies are listening to music, computer, fishing and traveling. She attends Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Matador.

Simona has been employed at HCCC since it opened and is currently attending CNA classes.

## THANK YOU

The family of Rhonda Voy Norrell would like to express their appreciation for the kindness and concern shown during her long illness and at her death. There was so much love and compassion conveyed through cards, telephone calls, flowers, food, and visits.

May God bless you and yours.

Myrna Voy Stephens, Mike, Taelor, and Tanner Norrell, James, Ruthie, Jared, and Kenesaw Stephens  
Chad, Cheryl, and Lillie Stephens  
Wayne and Rita Norrell and Family

## SHOP AT HOME!

## Memorial Day Program

Veterans Memorial Park

Roaring Springs, Texas

May 26, 2008 11 a.m.

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## Relay for Life

June 21 & 22  
Motley County  
Football Stadium

*Survivor's Lap*

*Candlelit Luminaria Ceremony*





## Chamber News & Views

By Marie-Louise Liebe-Harkort



Consider:

A bear grows more alive with age. No one with one ounce of sensitivity could ever consign a bear to the dustbin.

--Johnnie Hague

While Johnnie Hague may have been thinking of Teddy Bears, his thoughts apply no less to the famous (infamous?) bear named Bruno, who achieved fame two years ago when he wandered into Germany from Italy.

People in Germany, far away from Bavaria, developed tender feelings for Bruno, as he wandered around the countryside, gobbling down sheep and chickens, and even raiding bee hives for the honey. The locals, however, saw things differently, when they took an afternoon stroll in the woods after a Sunday dinner, and came face to face with the bear. Not to mention the opinions of the farmers whose livestock provided dinner for the bear.

So what to do?

The animal-lovers and tree-huggers lobbied for a sensitive approach to the problem of Bruno, so bear-tracking dogs from Finland were imported, and, with a vet with a tranquilizer gun in tow, the jolly group went off in search of the bear. And they searched and they searched.

To the daily amusement of the German population, they not only didn't manage to anesthetize the bear, they couldn't even find

him. The chase went on for days, then weeks, with Bruno always outwitting his would-be captors.

So finally, with no end to the chase in sight, the hunters were given the green light. It took them about six hours to track Bruno and, with one shot, the problem was solved. The name of the successful hunter was kept secret for fear of reprisals against him.

A howl went up in Germany-how cruel, the populace cried. The poor bear!

Children's tears flooded many homes, and parents had to try to explain that Bruno was not a teddy bear and a wild bear wandering around populated areas presented a danger.

So why bring up Bruno two years after the fact? Well, after his demise, the fight began over what to do with Bruno. The answer, of course, was taxidermy, but who gets to display the stuffed Bruno? Munich, because it is a big city, or the little town where he finally met his end?

At the end of March, 2008, the time had finally arrived. Bruno took his place, stuffed and with a blow-dry hair style, in the Munich Museum for Man and Nature. People still debate the manner of his passing, but new bears won the hearts and minds of the German population, so the case of Bruno is history. But you can go visit him, and relive the days when he topped the German news world.

## From the desk of the Sheriff

By Michael Crutchley



I was recently in a conversation with someone over what numbers to call in the case of an emergency. 911 will of course work in any situation. But most people don't realize that dialing 911 in Motley County puts you in contact with a dispatcher with Floyd County. Because of this, I thought it might be a good idea to give you a few of our local emergency telephone numbers. Dialing these numbers gets you in direct contact with who you need to talk to, and in many instances will yield a quicker response.

To reach the Sheriff's Office Emergency Line, please call

806.347.2728.

Or you can call either my cell phone 806.269.3588 or The Deputy's cell phone 806.269.3577.

To Reach The Ambulance Service in an emergency dial 806.347.2622.

The Number for a Fire Emergency is 806.347.2323.

Again, I have to tell you, If you forget what to dial, 911 will always work. Please take a few minutes and program these other numbers into your cell phone, or clip this out and stick it on your 'fridge. Just when you think you won't need them, you just might after all.



## Notes from the Library

By Buffy Crutchley

I want to take a few minutes this week and explain a little bit about one of the best services the library has to offer. Inter-Library loan. Most people don't know what this is, and that it is available for all patrons to use.

When you come into the library looking for a book, and find out that we don't have it, all hope is not lost. We can still get you the book. All I need is a little bit of information about the book. From there, I can place an ILL request, and the book will usually arrive in a week or two.

Because of the high cost of postage, we do require you to pay postage one way. This usually amounts to about \$2.50 or so. But if you think of the cost for you to drive somewhere and purchase a book that you will only read once, this is a really good deal.

And the sky seems to be the limit with what we're able to

request. I just found a book for someone that had been out of print since 1935! You sure can't find a book like that at Barnes & Noble!

Once the book arrives, you have the normal two week time period to read it. Then you simply bring it back to the library just like any other book. From there, I return it to whatever library has loaned it to us. It's that easy. So if you ever come in looking for something and don't see it on the shelf, don't give up before talking to me!

I want to thank everyone who participated in our "A Buffalo In The House" book group. As always, there was great discussion and debate about the book. I attended having not read the book, and walked away knowing just enough to wet my appetite. I believe I'll check it out today!

## Farm Service Agency Reminders:

Amy Hackler, CED

May 26 - Office closed in observance of Memorial Day

June 15 - Nominations begin for County Committee Elections

June 18 - Public meeting for County Committee Elections at USDA Service Center 9 a.m.

July 4 - Office closed in observance of 4<sup>th</sup> of July

July 15 - Acreage certification deadline for spring-seeded crops

August 1 - The last day to accept nomination forms for County Committee.

Please be reminded that if you have not yet signed up for 2005-2007 Crop Disaster of Livestock Compensation Program please do so ASAP. We currently do not have an end date for these programs but it could occur at anytime. Please call the office to schedule an appointment. Also, if you have not received a payment, please call

the office as there is probably something that we need from you in order to complete your application.

### COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS: NOMINATE AND VOTE!

June 15, 2008:

Nomination period begins. Nomination forms are available at your local FSA office or on the FSA homepage. [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

August 1, 2008:

Last day to file nomination forms at the local FSA Office.

November 3, 2008:

Ballots mailed to eligible voters.

December 1, 2008:

Last day to return voted ballots to the local FSA Office.

January 1, 2009:

Elected committee members and alternates take office

## County Garden Forum

The soil temperatures have finally risen enough to get the tomato and pepper plants that were set out a few weeks ago to start looking as though they might produce some fruit. The seeds that were planted also have a good germination rate and have us in anticipation mode.

When visiting with Josie Raetz in Matador I was shown a very nice Grampa's whiskers bush and a plant I had never seen before. A "pencil plant," which she had started from a shoot that a friend from Austin had given her, looked like a series of pencils on some central trunks of the plant. Check out the photo

on page two. She also has a nice fenced in vegetable garden with tomato, pepper, okra, peas, potatoes, and other vegetables coming along nicely.

I was particularly fascinated by her apricot trees which were started from apricot pits that she had from some trees that grew on property to the South of her garden, which busts the theory that you must grow fruit trees from grafted cuttings that cost lots of money from a "reputable" nursery.

Let me know how your garden grows and keep up the good work.

## County Agent's News

by Ryan Martin, Agri LIFE EXTENSION Agent



### Bee Awareness Seminar

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Motley County will be hosting a Bee Awareness Seminar on May 29, 2008 starting at 4:00 p.m. in the Motley County Library Annex Building. This seminar is to inform residents on bee populations in our area and the presents of Africanized bees. Topics that will be discussed also include safety around bees, how to prevent attacks, and what to do in case of a bee attack. Local representatives from Emergency Services will also be present to inform residents when they should contact Emergency Personnel and what they can do when residents encounter bees. If you have questions concerning bees or would like to know more about bees in your area, make plans to attend this meeting.

### Livestock Handling and Value Added Beef Conference

Dr. Ron Gill, Extension Livestock Specialist, will be here on June 6, 2008 to discuss with producers livestock handling techniques and value added beef. The conference will start at 9:30 a.m. in the Motley County Library Annex Building. In light of the recent videos published and studies done by the Humane Society on "downer cattle" at livestock auction barns, livestock handling has become a large issue with producers and consumers. "If we don't address this situation and educate producers on the importance of animal care and handling, this can be detrimental to the beef industry", stated extension specialists. In order to educate producers, conferences on livestock handling will be available throughout the state. Dr. Ron Gill is an expert on the livestock industry and will provide producers with information to better understand how to handle livestock and add value to your cattle and overall increasing your profit.

### Hantavirus in our environment

This serves as a reminder that hantaviruses are in our environment. As the weather warms up and people

begin cleaning out after the winter, we need to remind them, as well as ourselves, that HPS is but a dust particle away. Our region has had 18 confirmed cases since 1993 with eight deaths. The disease is rare but the case fatality rate is quite high.

Airing out areas which are contaminated by rodent urine and feces, using eye protection and an N-95 or HEPA filter masks are two keys to reducing risk. Applying a bleach solution or some other viricide and allowing it 30 minutes to act, then applying it again and cleaning the area up while damp are also important steps to take.

### Ranch Estate Planning Seminar

A Ranch Planning Seminar will be presented August 6-7, 2008 at the College Station Conference Center in College Station. This seminar is offered to provide participants enough information on tax and estate planning matters to help them make difficult estate planning decisions. Dr. Hayenga will give a thorough analysis of relevant income and estate tax rules as they affect families and agricultural businesses.

The seminar is designed for each of a married couple in that discussed estate administration and tax reporting requirements for the surviving spouse. It is useful for potential executors and trustees and is helpful to all who want to make their estate settlement less burdensome to their loved ones. For more information contact your local Extension Office or Sharon at 979-845-2226.

### Events Calendar:

- May 24 - 4-H Horse Club Playday
- May 29 - Bee Awareness Seminar
- May 31 - 4-H Shooting Sports
- June 2&3 - Horsemanship Clinic - Childress
- June 6 - Livestock Handling and Value Added Beef Conference
- June 7 - 4-H Horse Club Playday
- June 9-13 - State 4-H Roundup
- June 14 - 4-H Horse Club Playday
- June 18-21 - District 4-H Horse Show
- June 30 - 11 County Camp

## Birth Announcement

Joe and Salina Marks of Lockney, Texas, are proud to announce the birth of their son Grayson Davis Marks, born at 6:04 p.m. May 13, 2008. He weighed 8 lbs 15.5 oz. and was 21.5 inches long.



Grayson's grandparents are Connie Hurt of Floydada, Lee Hurt of Matador, Ed and Joyce Marks of Lockney and Louis and Beverly Shorter of Fort Worth.

His great grandparents are Dortha Grundy of Matador, Everett Shorter of Flomot and Tuck and Dora Mae Hurt of Matador.

## Relay for Life

June 21 & 22

Motley County Football Stadium

Survivor's Lap

Candlelit Luminaria Ceremony

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JUNE 21-22, 2008

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# TRAIL DUST

By DOUGLAS MEADOR



Matador Tribune  
May 22, 1958

Wealth is supposed to make enemies because of the jealousy it arouses. Personally, I would like to test the belief since I have been disliked for more unpleasant reasons.

When traveling a new road that unveils new horizons, I am unable to control a momentary feeling of revolt when I measure the distance by horseback.

At the death of each day when the tapers of the stars are lighted and darkness floods the sky, the faith of the world rises resolute from its bereavement. Nature has affirmed through the ages the plan of rebirth.

Necessity is the turpentine of life which the clumsy hands of circumstance are forever spilling on our vests about the time we get comfortable.

This is the age for the birds. Only a few mornings ago I witnessed a scissors-tail flying tree-ward with a ribbon of aluminum foil in its beak

Definition of a cocktail party: A meeting where people are so rude you can not hear your own shouting.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all who attended my 80th birthday celebration and to those that sent cards. A special thank you to Brenda Browning for the beautiful cake and Shonda Lee for her special touch with the decorations. It was a great time. I will always remember all of you who made it a wonderful day of memories.

May God bless you,  
Geneva "Bo" Martin  
and Family

WATCH A SUNSET

# RETRO NEWS

## Graduates Warned to Avoid Life of Drifting

Matador Tribune  
May 22, 1958

"The path of least resistance leads nowhere—the course of rivers and the lives of men become crooked with drifting," Matador High School seniors were told by Rev. C. W. Williams, in a Baccalaureate address Sunday night at the Methodist Church.

Rev. Williams used as the central thought in his impressive sermon, the dangers of drifting.

"Drifting, we have no control over life," he declared. A boat without oars is derelict. . . . My advice to you is to take the rudder in hand, chart your course on God's word, and do not be satisfied with second best. Be faithful to each task at hand, and give time for things of greatest value.."

The auditorium of the church

was filled to capacity for the occasion, with many coming from out of town to join local relatives and friends of the graduates.

High praise was accorded the choir special, "Jesus Shall Reign," which was directed by Mrs. G. E. Hamilton.

Other features of the service included Invocation by Rev. H. T. Harris; scripture reading by Rev. Gene Hawkins; announcements by Supt. Bert Ezzell; and Benediction by Rev. W. B. Vaughn. Processional and Recessional were played by Mrs. Roberta Jameson.

### Gift is Trophy Case

As their parting gift to the school, the seniors are leaving a new trophy case. Presentation of the gift was made by Richard Stafford, class president, in Commencement exercises Monday evening.

## Hospice Hands of West Texas

February Employee of the Month

Mary Rodriguez  
Business Office Manager



Mary is originally from Plainview and now lives in Lockney. Mary and her husband Dimas have one daughter Destina Martinez. Destina and husband Eric have three children. Mary enjoys spending time with her grandchildren. Mary has worked for Hospice for 7 years and says "Hospice has been a blessing"

Way to go Mary and thanks for all your hard work!  
Here To Help You...  
806-652-3000 or 888-795-1212

# DAYS GONE BY

## Anna's American Dream

From Motley County Roundup c. 1991 by Marisue Potts

Hard work, perseverance, and endurance were always a part of Anna Cooper's life. Born in Kristinstad, Sweden, Anna Benson Nelson lost her parents as a young girl. In a country where children without parents were customarily sold as slaves, Anna became indentured to her aunt and uncle.

During the grim frigid winter days when the sun remained above the horizon for a few hours only and the long summer days of endless toil Anna worked. She helped her uncle with the hog killing and the making of blood pudding, a high protein food made by stirring the freshly stuck hog's blood into a hot oatmeal mush. From the land of lakes and evergreen forests, she helped cut wood on the mountain side, haul it down the mountain, and load it on a wagon. In an outdoor oven in the yard she helped bake knakkebrod, wheel-like loaves of rye bread.

In Sweden during the mid-1800's rich people owned most of the land and many farmers could not pay their debts or raise

a surplus on the thin soil, no matter how hard they worked. When crop failure persisted, starving people ate leaves, nuts, and bark for bread, and many died. Crowding into the cities, thousands of Swedes were forced to emigrate. They, like Anna, dreamed of a better life, a home, and land of their own.

Sailing from Stockholm in 1865 before the worst of the famines, seventeen year-old Anna docked at Hull, England, then crossed the British Isles to catch a steamer at Liverpool for New York.

Often crowded into the hold of a ship, cut off from light and air, the passengers faced a lack of fresh food and weeks of sailing the stormy Atlantic. The brave and desperate said goodbye to all that was familiar and passed the time with wild stories of America where gold was just lying about and pigs lived like lords.

Swedish settlements in Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota beckoned to the emigrants who banded together in small communities. Those who could sent money

home for an "America chest," encouraging the one out of four who left for the New World to join them.

Saving whatever she could, Anna worked in Chicago as a housekeeper, an occupation in keeping with stereotypical Swede who tends to be neat, orderly, and well scrubbed but on the shy and reserved side. Within Illinois, she worked her way to Galesburg, then landed in "Curcroak" (perhaps Keokuk), Iowa, before going on to Lawrence, Kansas, and Denver, Colorado.

In December of 1878 in the mile high city, Anna met and married Arthur Byron Cooper, a rare and wise scout who it was said retired from the service of General Custer's command shortly before the fatal Battle of the Little Big Horn in June of 1876. The newlyweds soon took the train to Kansas City and then to Dallas, headed for the frontier of Texas where Cooper had scouted while in the army.

to be continued May 29, 2008

## Commissioner Staples introduces new initiative to promote rural Texas

AUSTIN – Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples today announced the launch of the GO TEXAN Rural Community Program to promote rural Texas communities through reimbursable funding programs, tourism, education and networking initiatives.

"Our rural Texas communities are a tremendous source of pride and are vital to the health of our state's economy," Commissioner Staples said. "These communities have much to offer, and it is the mission of the GO TEXAN Rural Community Program to encourage Texas citizens, as well as visitors, to discover the bounty of our outlying cities and towns."

The GO TEXAN Rural Community Program replaces Texas Yes!, an initiative launched by TDA in 2003 to promote the

growth and prosperity of rural Texas. Better designed to capitalize on the unique culture and distinctive flavor of rural Texas, the new GO TEXAN Rural Community Program will help rural communities leverage marketing dollars to boost economic growth and prosperity.

Program participants are designated as certified or associate members. Certified membership is open to counties or cities with a population of less than 20,000, and whose city limits do not adjoin another city or group of cities' boundaries with an aggregate population of 50,000 or more. Associate membership is available to chambers of commerce, economic development corporations, councils of government, convention and visitors bureaus, sole proprietors, etc. whose principal place of

business is in Texas, with a rural location.

Benefits of program certified membership include reimbursable funding through the Texas Department of Agriculture's Hometown STARS (Supporting Tourism and Rural Success) program and the Bootstrap Bucks program, which offer recipients up to \$10,000 and \$2,500, respectively. Other program benefits available to all members include promotion through GO TEXAN marketing campaigns, informative workshops and networking opportunities.

To learn more about the GO TEXAN Rural Community Program, visit [www.gotexan.org](http://www.gotexan.org) or contact Natalie Houghton, TDA's Marketing Coordinator for Rural Texas Communities, at [natalie.houghton@tda.state.tx.us](mailto:natalie.houghton@tda.state.tx.us) or (512) 463-6490.

**Relay for Life**  
June 21 & 22  
Motley County Football Stadium  
Survivor's Lap  
Candlelit Luminaria Ceremony

## Save on energy efficient electric appliances this Memorial Day Weekend

AEP Texas urges electricity users to consider shopping tax-free this Memorial Day Weekend. That's right, as part of legislation passed in Texas (energy provisions in House Bill 3693), a sales tax-free holiday has been set up for certain ENERGY STAR® appliances and systems purchased over the three days.

This significant "tax-free" event offers you the opportunity to take advantage of savings on these ENERGY STAR certified energy efficient products only: refrigerators (with sales price not to exceed \$2,000), dishwashers, clothes washers, ceiling fans, dehumidifiers, incandescent or fluorescent light bulbs and programmable thermostats. Central and room air conditioner units also are eligible if the sales price does not exceed \$6,000.

The tax-free appliance sales apply only to eligible purchases made between 12:01 a.m. Saturday, May 24 and 11:59 p.m. Monday, May 26 (Memorial Day) per the legislative restrictions. The ENERGY STAR program is a joint venture of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE). AEP Texas is proud to be an ENERGY STAR partner.



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## MRI Dye Alert

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The FDA has issued a warning regarding MRI dyes containing Gadolinium - which causes Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis (NSF) and (NFD). Symptoms include: skin rashes, lesions, thickened skin, red/dark patches of skin, skin with a woody or orange peel texture, stiff joints, muscle weakness, tight skin and muscle contractures. Some NSF patients also have kidney failure and renal insufficiency.

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# Coming Home, Linda Kay Rattan Bailey and Ronald Gene "Beetle" Bailey

continued from page 2

real estate appraisal business in Eastland.

Everyone that knows Ron "Beetle" Bailey (a nick-name given to him by Emmitt Jenkins in the early '50s; dropped in his professional life; and picked up again in retirement) knows that this high-energy, positive-minded survivor has forgotten more history than most people ever absorb in a lifetime. "Beetle" is the go-to guy for Motley County history. "I'm really not a historian, I'm a researcher, that is what I love," he said.

Keeping busy has never been a problem for Ron Bailey. He is Past Master of the Eastland Masonic Lodge and a member of the Matador Masonic Lodge. He was the former director of the Eastland United Way, a past director of the Middle Trinity Water Conservation District; was in charge of the Eastland Teenage baseball program for six years; past president of the Eastland Quarterback Club, and chairman of the Eastland County History Book Committee which published a 784-page history of the county in

1989. He served on the Eastland County Historical Commission, and presently serves on the Motley County Historical Commission; the Senior Citizens board; and the board of the Friends of the Historic Motley County Jail.

Ron earned the mason's highest honor, a Golden Trowel award for exceptional service to the Grand Lodge of Texas A.F. & A.M.

Kay served on the school board in Eastland for 10 years; ran and won a position with Matador City Council in 2007, and currently serves on the Friends of the Historic Motley County Jail board and the 4B Economic Community Development Board. Both Kay and Ron are co-chairs of the Motley County Ex-students Association.

Their son Lance, his wife Sherry and son Jason live in Lamesa where Lance teaches economics, government, and geography. Kevin, and his wife Sherry and sons Dillon and Kolton live in Sundown. Kevin is the office manager for Agriliance, a fertilizer company. Andrea and her son

Brant currently live in Matador, where Andrea subs as a teacher while looking for full-time employment closer to family.

When asked if they had any regrets about moving back to Matador? "It took us about 24 hours to adjust," Ron said. "Having lived other places," Kay added, "I can truthfully say that Matador has the best people on the planet."

"We had more confidence to move back because we followed Ed D. and Pat Smith, and Tom and Deanie Edwards. In fact, Kay said, "out of the 17 people that graduated in the Class of 1960, 11 have homes in Matador."

Ron also noticed the community pride generated by the state championship football team. "It is just like in the '50s," he said.

The biggest surprise was the Matador Clinic. "It is well-manned with competent individuals, and with our health problems, we feel we get as good of care as anywhere we've lived," Ron said. The Senior Citizens Center is like a high school reunion for Ronnie.

Coming home wasn't a huge leap for the Bailey's. "We would've never left in the first place if we could've figured out how to make a living here," Kay said.



"Every day's a holiday in Matador," Beetle said. "It's just like your first date, you don't know what to expect, but you know it's going to be exciting."

## COW POKES

By Ace Reid



"I hear a lot about the population explosion, but the only thing that has multiplied around here in forty years has been rabbits and coyotes!"

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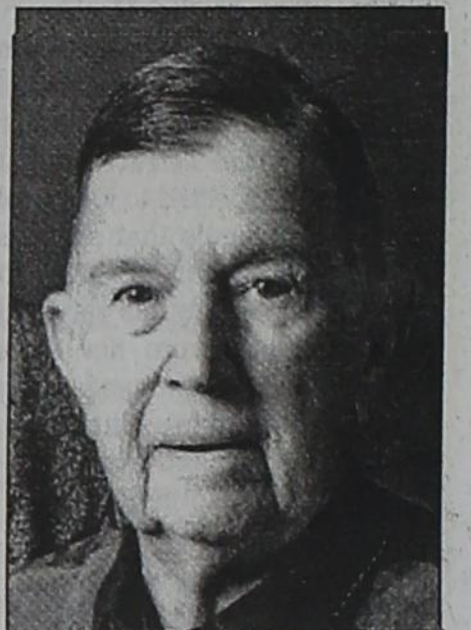
## OBITUARY

### Joseph Wade House

Joseph Wade House went to be with his Lord and Savior on May 15, 2008 in Lubbock, Texas. He was born in Asherton, Texas on April 5, 1928 and was a graduate of Sanderson High School. He served in the United States Navy during the Korean War. His final 12 years in Roaring Springs were spent peacefully doing what he loved best.

He is survived by his wife, Pauline of Roaring Springs; two daughters, Cynthia House of Edinburg, Indiana, and Kathleen Wason and husband Mark of Lubbock, Texas; one son, Joseph P. House and wife Liz of Annapolis, Maryland; four brothers, Jim, Bill, Colby, and Tom; eight grandchildren, Charity, Rachel, Jesse, Christina, Dalton, Valeena, J.W., and Colten; and one great-granddaughter, Autumn.

He was deeply loved by his family and will be remem-



bered for his unique and many strengths. Graveside services were held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, May 17, 2008 at the East Mound Cemetery in Matador with Johnny Morris, officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

### John "Jake" McKinley

DECORDOVA -- John "Jake" McKinley, 87, passed away Friday, May 16, 2008, at his DeCordova residence.

A memorial service was held at 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 19, 2008, at the Acton Baptist Church. A reception was held at the church following the service.

Mr. McKinley was born Sept. 28, 1920, in Post, Texas, to Verner Lee McKinley and Mary Haynes McKinley. He married Fausteena Fulfer, June 29, 1946, in Lubbock. He grew up in Lubbock and was a graduate of Lubbock High School. Mr. McKinley was a US Army veteran of World War II. He retired from Texaco refinery after 30 years of service. Mr. McKinley was a member of the Scottish Rite and the Masonic Lodge in

El Paso and was a member of the Men's Golf Association at DeCordova Bend Estates. He also was a member of the MGA at Vista Hills Country Club in El Paso and was a member of the 36th Division Association. Mr. and Mrs. McKinley have resided in DeCordova for the past 9 years and are members of the Acton Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by his parents and two sons, Johnny McKinley and Ronnie McKinley.

Survivors: Wife, Fausteena Fulfer McKinley of DeCordova; daughter, Dottie Marcom and husband, Tommy, of Waco; son, Bob McKinley and wife, Cecily, of Austin; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brother, V.L. McKinley of Stanford; sister, Mary Ellen Short of Lubbock.

# Alternative work proposal approved for historic jail

By Carol Campbell

The recent bid process on the jail renovation consisted of masonry, windows, general construction and roofing. "Only one of the four categories was within the bid budget," Architect Hugh Welch recently reported to the Commissioner's Court.

Welch recommended to the court that they formally reject all the bids, and renegotiate with interested parties. This motion passed by unanimous vote on April 14.

Welch spoke to the court on the recent mandatory asbestos study and the current status of the bid proposals on the renovation of the historic jail. Welch said that minute quantities of asbestos were found in the tile mastic and in the glazing of the windows.

He said he was requesting an alternative work proposal from the Texas Historical Commission consisting of sash replacement procedures whereby, the entire sash in the window would be removed.

Since most of the sash repair work involves disturbing the glazing compound, compliance with the Texas Asbestos Health Protection Rules (TAHPR) procedures is mandatory. Therefore, Mr. Welch recommended that the entire sash be removed, and disposed of properly, and that new sashes be built.

The architect estimates that a minimum of \$10,000 above and beyond presently allocated funds would be required for abatement work alone.

On May 5, Quana Childs, the

project representative from the Division of Architecture, Texas Historical Commission, said following a lengthy discussion by the THC board on sash replacement rather than sash rehabilitation, that "THC recommends that we take care of the roof and mortar work first, then rehabilitate the windows, repairing the worst ones first, and when the money runs out, board up the others and repair them in the future."

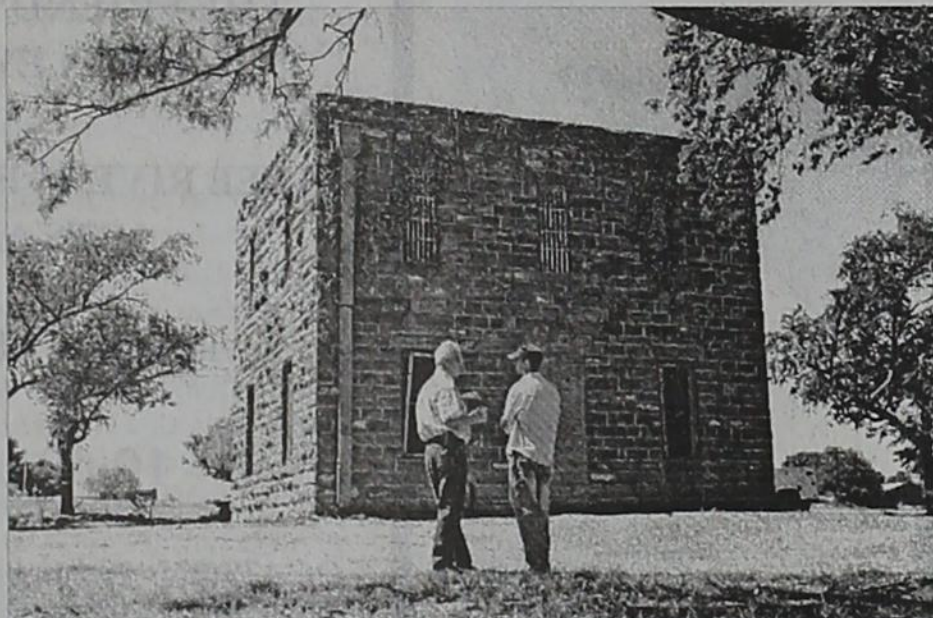
This was a very disappointing development, and will require additional grant writing to secure funds for the rehabilitation of the windows. Welch met with Judge Ed D. Smith and Project Manager Carol Campbell on May 13, to formulate a plan for going forward.

"In view of the procedural

and monetary cost of doing the asbestos abatement to comply with TAHPR, we have come up with a plan to go forward with the immediate work of securing the building," Welch said.

"The short range plan of action is to cover the window units and leave all of the asbestos containing materials alone," he said. "We can make choices in paint colors for the covering and bars to minimize a garish 'under repair' look."

"This is not what we wanted, but this is where we are," Welch said. "We are currently negotiating with a local contractor to repair the roof and provide general contracting work, and we have a firm bid on the masonry restoration. We hope to have it all finalized very soon."



LOCAL CONTRACTOR, Rick Collet and restoration architect, Hugh Welch of Abilene discuss the working plan for restoration of the Motley County Jail. Roof repair and repointing of mortar joints is slated to begin soon on the historic building, an official Texas Historic Landmark. Photo by Hanaba Welch

## Birth Announcement



**Allie Brecklyn Archer**  
 May 1st, 2008 9:58a.m.  
 6 lbs. 7 oz. 18 inches

Proud Parents  
**Derrick & Jodie Archer**  
 Big Brother  
 Cooper, 20 months

Grandparents  
**Bob & Wanda Kilmer**  
 Sherrilyn Archer

Great Grandparents  
 Foye Kilmer  
 Bobbie Dillow

## MCISD School dismissal time changes

School dismissal time changes for last week of school:

**May 26-29**  
 Monday-regular start time and regular dismissal time.

Tuesday- regular start time and dismiss at 2:30

Wednesday-regular start time and dismiss at 1:30

Thursday-regular start time and dismiss at 12:20

Buses will run in the morning at the regular time and breakfast will be served at the regular time.

**ALWAYS SHOP AT HOME FIRST!**

# Motley County Shining Stars



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Dode Gleghorn

Elementary Student of the Month  
 Daughter of Tommy and Kim Gleghorn  
 Activities: Gymnastics, honor student, Girl Scouts, PIPS Future Plans: "When I grow up, I want to work in a restaurant and cook desserts."



Austin Taylor Jr.

High Student of the Month  
 Son of Shane and Wendi Taylor  
 Activities: Football, Basketball, Track, Golf, FFA, 4-H, Stockshows, school and Student Council. Future Plans: Win a couple of state championships, go to college and get a good education, a good job so I can afford gas. Be Successful.



Shane'a Russell

High School Student of the Month  
 Daughter of J.D. and D'Anna Russell  
 Activities: Basketball, Track, Cross Country, Cheerleading, 4-H, FFA, and Rodeoing. Future Plans: Attend WTA&M in the fall of 2009 and receive a degree in AG Com.



# Care Center Resident Celebrates 100th Birthday



JESSIE POWELL celebrates her 100th birthday. Photo by Ken Young

By Marisue Potts Powell

On May 23, 2008, Jessie Powell will mark her 100th birthday with a party at the Hackberry Creek Care Center. Friends from Midland, including members of a Sunday School class she once taught at Fannin Terrace Baptist Church, are expected to join local family and friends that she has made since she moved here in October 2007. She has received congratulations from her alma mater, College of Industrial Arts now Texas Woman's University, from Rick Perry, and from President and Mrs. George Bush.

Born in 1908 in Seymour, Texas, to John and Fannie Ellis Blanks, Jessie and her family later moved to Denton so the children could attend the state universities. Her mother had attended College of Industrial Arts soon after it opened in 1901 and Fannie was determined her children would be college educated. Jessie's father was a barber to the rich and famous, including Amon G. Carter, Ft. Worth newspaper tycoon. His name Amon was given as a middle name to her son, Ralph who lives in Matador, and a grandson, Ralph Jr. who lives in Midland. A great-grandson,

John Thomas, lives in Columbus, Georgia.

At age 16 while still in high school, Jessie enrolled at North Texas State, and in 1925 entered CIA, now known as TWU, as a sophomore. In 1927 she took her first teaching assignment, teaching first grade in La Hoya school district in the Rio Grande Valley.

"In every way I was a 'greenhorn,' and I felt as if I had just been dropped in Never-Never Land." Her experiences in the Valley included attending a Mexican wedding where she and her teacher-room mate were guests of honor.

She attended summer school and in 1928 received her Bachelor of Arts in English and a Bachelor of Science in Education. Her next teaching assignment was in Megargel where she met her future husband, Eugene Powell. They were married in 1929 and traveled through several states as Eugene worked for an oil company as a geologist. During the Depression the company discontinued all exploration work. Laid off and without the use of a company car, Eugene bought a Model T Ford for \$35.

"With gas at only eight cents a gallon, in his pocket a five dollar bill in Gene put and headed for the only place we could go—to the farm in Megargel. I did everything I could to help make a living. I sold butter. . . I raised chickens. . . I kept laying hens. . . then I tried raising turkeys. We stayed with it and tried, but we didn't have much success."

"The climax of our personal Depression came when I was cleaning clothes with casein head gas one winter afternoon. The friction created spontaneous combustion and the house caught on fire."

Jessie was badly burned, saved only by a heavy coat she was wearing at the time, and her husband's courageous act of grabbing her and stamping out the

fire. She was hospitalized and then spent six months in her mother's care as she healed. This burn experience later prompted her to make toys for the children going through similar experiences at the Shriner's Burn Center in Galveston.

Farming continued to be a struggle with wheat selling for only five cents a bushel. She remembered her husband saying, "If we just had ten dollars a month, we could live all right, but we don't have ten dollars." Finally, the company rehired their geophysicists and geologists. "Believe me, a job looked good!"

After several jobs, they were sent to Syracuse, Kansas, the center of the Great Dust Bowl. Jessie relates experiencing massive dust clouds, some that produced such an inky blackness that she learned to turn on the light before it hit. There amid the dust bowl, a baby boy, Ralph, joined the traveling troupe as they searched for oil across Arkansas, Alabama, Wyoming, and Texas. But once it was time for the boy to attend school, the Powells settled in Midland where Gene's job was liaison geologist, compiling information from geophysics as well as geology. They experienced a small town going through an oil boom.

Mrs. Powell began teaching again when her son was in the 6th grade. She continued to teach second grade at South Elementary for over 25 years. The family bought a ranch in Artesia, N.M., where Gene spent most of his retirement years. He died in 1974 in Midland.

Jessie stayed busy after retirement. She taught Sunday School all of her adult life and when she retired from that she took up a tape ministry that she ran from her home. Neighbors have reported that she even repaired her own roof and worked on the air conditioner. For many years she had a beautiful rose garden.

Up until she was 99 1/2 years old, she lived by herself and did her own cooking, dishwashing, housekeeping, and laundry.

When the time came, it was with trepidation that Jessie approached living in a care center. She had vowed to never go there, but self-preservation and a survival instinct that has led her to such a long, productive life won out and she moved to Matador to Hackberry Creek Care Center.

Not long after her arrival in October she had the misfortune of falling in the bathroom and hitting the toilet, cracking her sternum. The painful injury kept her in bed. At that time she suffered severe depression.

"It was the worst three days of my life," she said. "I prayed but God didn't answer. He had never deserted me before. Then I realized I had only been thinking about myself. I vowed to put other people first. And once again God was there for me."

This positive attitude, along with determination and assistance by caring personnel, therapy, and therapy equipment provided by a matching grant from the Meadows Foundation, has helped Jessie go from bed-bound to walking with her walker and wheeling around in her child-size wheel chair. Her favorite past

time, when she's not reading or writing letters, is sunning on the patio.

When asked how she has kept her mind active all these years, she gives the credit to her daily crossword puzzles. Her lively curiosity has her reading atlases, geography books, and big print books from the library. She recently prepared information for her CPA, adding up long columns of figures with a pen and paper, and then submitted the data for an income tax report. When the CPA mailed the completed return to her, Jessie knew right away the professional had made a mistake. Not often does a 99 years-old client catch a certified public accountant in a mistake.

Jessie can not say enough about the warm reception she's had in the community and at the care center. "I am amazed at how many friends I've made since I've been here," she said in a recent interview. "I couldn't be in a better place." As she wrote in her memoirs in 2001, "Life has been good to me, because God is in control."

Everyone is invited to join Jessie Powell in her celebration of life on Friday, May 23, at 2:00 p.m. at Hackberry Creek Care Center.



Hard working, gentle hands.

Photo by Ken Young

## Bill Tilson to exhibit at Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

May 24-August 17, 2008 Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) will present Craft-Texas 2008, the fifth in a series of juried exhibitions showcasing the best in Texas-made contemporary craft. Formerly known as CraftHouston, the show's new title, CraftTexas, more accurately reflects the participating artists from all over the state who work in the media of clay, fiber, glass, metal, wood and found/recycled materials. Bill Tilson, the great grandson of W.R. Tilson, a Motley County pioneer was chosen as one of the featured exhibitors.

Eighty-four works ranging in style from traditional to cutting-edge contemporary were selected from a pool of over 370 submissions. Objects were judged on criteria such as technical proficiency or craftsmanship, creative and innovative use of medium and innovation in style and/or concept. Jane Sauer described the entries for CraftTexas 2008 as "the strongest body of work that I have ever seen in a regional show—truly amazing and outstanding."

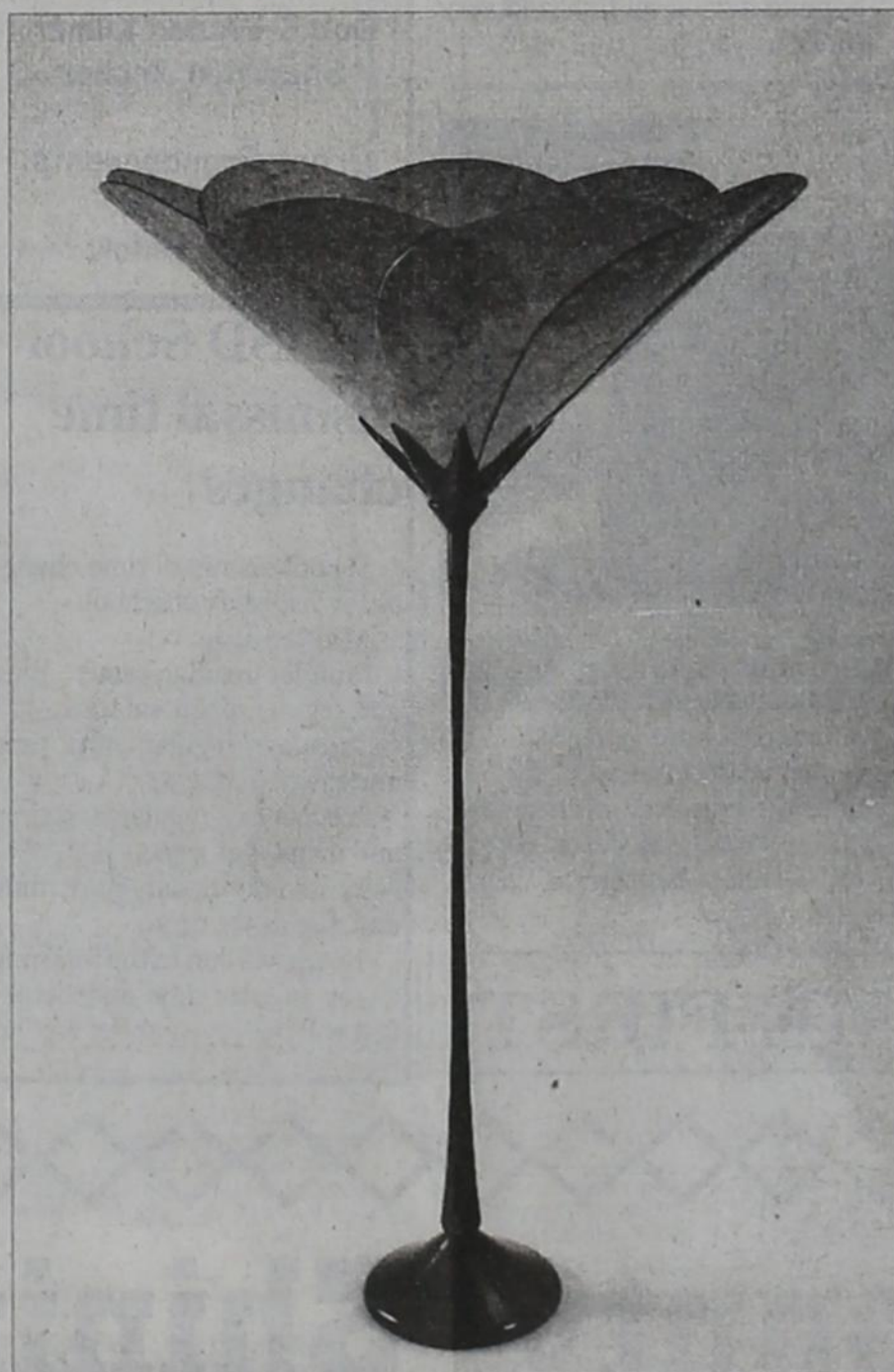
Houston Center for Contemporary Craft is dedicated to advancing education about the process, product and history of craft. HCCC provides exhibition, retail and studio spaces to support the work of local and national artists and serves as a resource for artists, educators and the community at large.

### Artist Statement

"With what's happening in the world today – depleting of earth's resources, global warming and deforestation – I wanted to do my little part to help offset effects caused by us (mankind). One way to do this is to create a vessel that would capture a large volume using minimal amount of material with minimal waste and using recycled material where possible. I've been experimenting with flower forms for a while and I came up with this original design and process that I believe stylizes a flower. I hope that you enjoy not only the visual experience but also the pleasing feeling of my pieces."

Tilson lived in Motley County at three different times while growing up. In 1953, during first grade, 1960 during eighth grade and graduated from Matador High School in 1964. "Moving around gave me a different perspective. Living in small towns and large cities and experiencing a variety of cultures makes it easier for me to accept new ideas," Tilson said. The colors in the canyons and the old red dirt in Whiteflat have found their way into his art.

Located in the Museum District at 4848 Main Street, HCCC is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM, and Sunday Noon – 5 PM. Admission is free. Accessible parking is available directly behind the facility.



BILL TILSON Flower Petal Vase, 2008. Wood. 12" x 7" x 7". Photo courtesy the artist. Bill Tilson - Huntsville, TX

**THE FRIENDS OF THE HISTORIC MOTLEY COUNTY JAIL AND THREE RIVERS FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS AND SCIENCES**

Invite you to a FREE Chili Dog Supper

7:00 – 10:00 p.m., Saturday, June 7

LOCATION: North of the courthouse on the square, in front of the historic Motley County Jail, east of Pioneer Park. Bring your lawn chair.

**EVENTS:**

- 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Ongoing Jail Tours
- 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. FREE Chili dogs, chips, and drinks
- 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Drum Circle Art Performance – experience the beat of African drums, courtesy of Three Rivers Foundation of the Arts and Sciences
- 8:30 p.m. Recognition of the Diekempe Family
- 8:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Orientation to the Night Sky, Three Rivers Foundation of the Arts & Sciences
- 9:00 to ??? p.m. View the universe through world class telescopes, courtesy of 3RF

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# Motley County student wins National poster contest honors

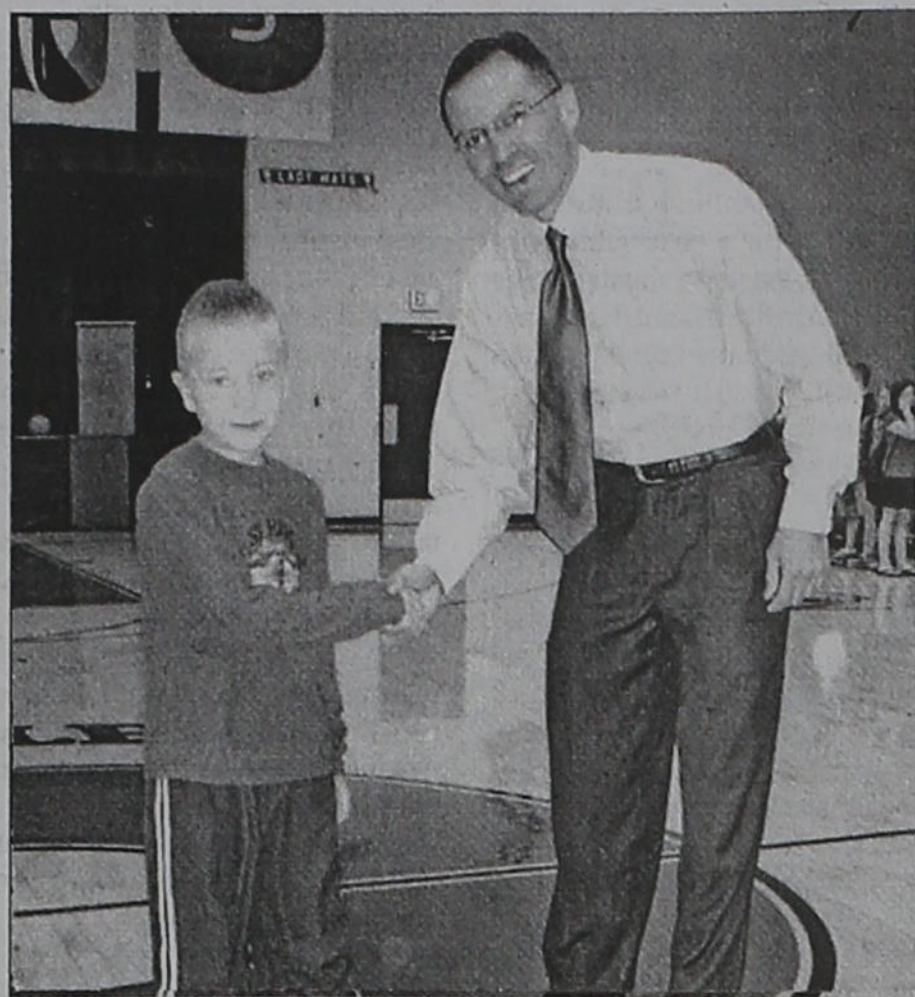
Motley County Elementary student, Cade Drum received National honors in the Telcom Insurance Group National "Facts About Smoking" Spring Art Contest. The poster contest is co-sponsored by Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Cade placed first with his poster in the Under 8 year old category. He received \$100 for his winning entry from the Telcom Insurance Group.

A list of all national winners and pictures of their winning posters can be viewed at [www.TelcomInsGrp.com](http://www.TelcomInsGrp.com).

Hundreds of students from all over the United States entered the contest, broken into three age categories: under 8 division, 8-10 division, and 11-14 division. The poster contest is a fun approach encouraging students to learn and think about the dangers of smoking as they design their posters.

Cap Rock is extremely proud of all participants. Cap Rock... Your Cooperative, Your Community, Our Commitment.



RICKY MARTINEZ, Public Affairs Coordinator for Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative presents Motley County student, Cade Drum with his \$100 for winning first place in the National "Facts About Smoking" Spring Art Contest.

# Cap Rock Announces Winner in National College Scholarship Program for Rural Youth

Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is pleased to announce that Isiah Archer is the recipient of a \$2,500 college scholarship from Cap Rock and the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association's (NTCA) Foundation for Rural Service (FRS).

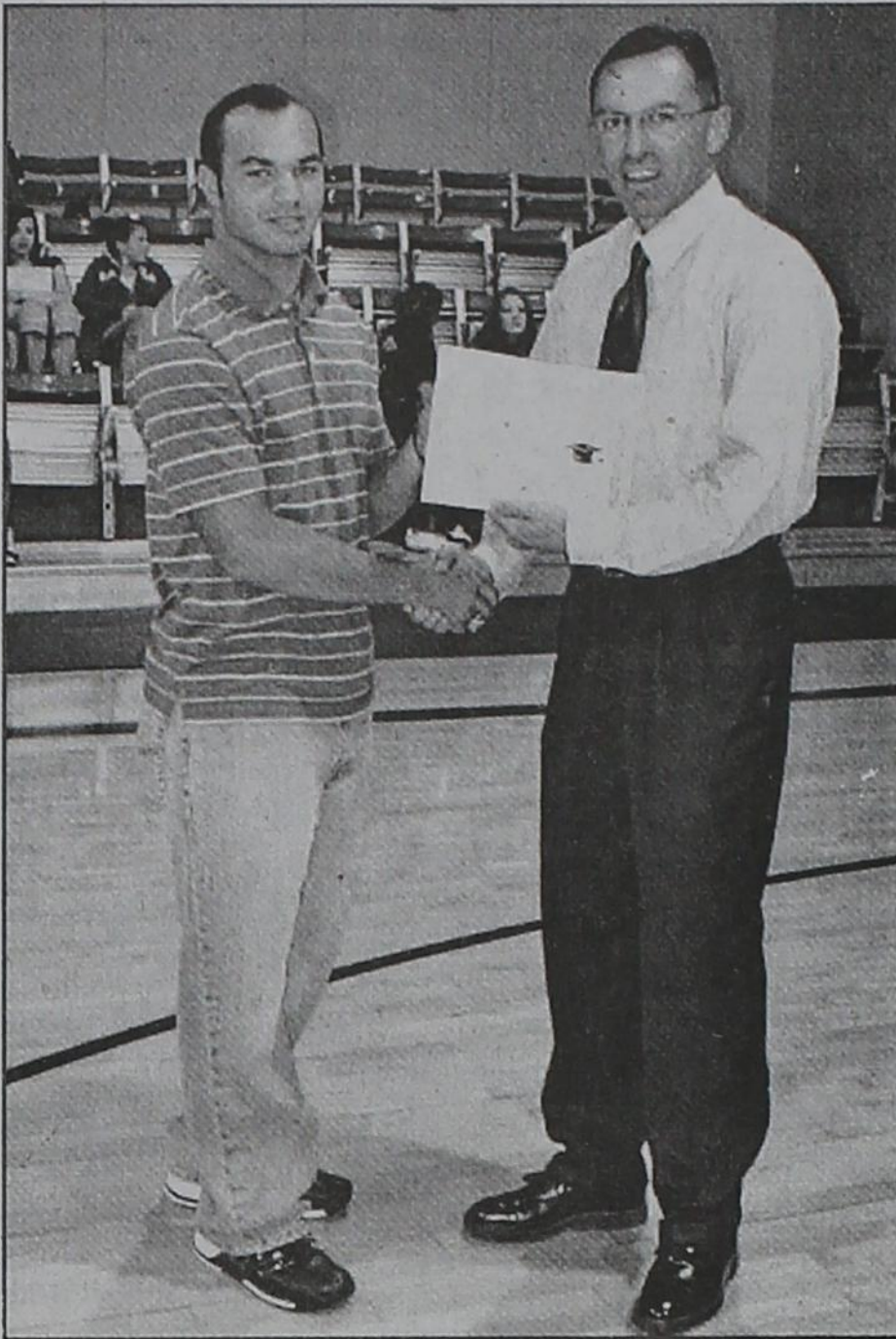
The FRS scholarship program annually awards \$75,000 in scholarships to rural youth across the United States. Out of over 1,200 applications received this year, 30 scholarships were awarded. The goal of the scholarship program is to help further higher education opportunities among rural high school students. Cap Rock strongly supports the youth of our community and is thrilled to sponsor this worthy program.

Scholarship recipients were selected by an independent team of reviewers from the education field. To be eligible, recipients must be sponsored by a NTCA member system, and must indicate a desire to return to their rural communities once their collegiate studies have been completed.

"We are thrilled to offer this program, with the goals of leveling the playing field for rural students who often face financial obstacles in their pursuit of higher education," said Jim Whitefield, Cap Rock General Manger. "The FRS scholarship program enables rural telecommunications providers to show their support of the youth living in the communities they serve. It is a source of tremendous pride for us and for the entire community of Motley County."

The scholarship program is open to all graduating high school seniors that receive local telecommunications service from Cap Rock. Applicants

must be enrolled in an accredited two-year or four-year college or university, or vocational technical school, and have at least a C-grade point average.



RICKY MARTINEZ, Public Affairs Coordinator for Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative presents Motley County student, Isiah Archer a \$2,500 college scholarship from Cap Rock and the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association's (NTCA) Foundation for Rural Service (FRS).

# Motley County High School Project Celebration 2008

### How it all began

Originally called Project Graduation, the concept originated in Maine in response to the deaths of 12 teenagers in alcohol-related highway crashes. Seven of the teens were from one community. Parents in the community were devastated and determined not to let this happen again. In an effort to prevent the incapacitating injuries and deaths that are often the result of teens driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs, the parents organized Project Graduation. From that school the idea spread. By 1985, 95% of the high schools in Maine were hosting successful chemical-free parties.

### In Texas

How did this drug-free celebration originate in Texas? While attending a traffic safety conference in the early 80's, John McKay, now a retired TxDOT employee learned of Maine's success with sponsoring over-night chemical-free Project Graduation events following graduation ceremonies.

Working with the Maine Department of Education and Cultural Services Alcohol, Drugs, and Highway Safety Program Coordinator, TxDOT utilized the original Project Graduation concept, ideas, and experiences and adapted it for Texas high schools. The concept was endorsed by The Congress of Parents and Teachers, Texas's War on Drugs, Texas Department of

Health, Texas Safety Association, Texas Education Agency, Texas Center for the Judiciary, Inc. and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Two schools piloted the program during the 1983-84 school year. Later, senior prom activities were also identified as a potentially deadly time for teen involvement in alcohol-related traffic crashes. In 1987, the name changed from Project Graduation to Project Celebration. These changes enabled schools to hold events during the time of year which put their students at the greatest risk for alcohol-related vehicle crashes.

Project Celebration is now a statewide program and the parents of Motley County Parents Club have been working hard for months trying to keep this tradition alive for their school and kids. It has been going on since the early 1990's.

Plans have been made for an awesome night with the kids. Check-in time on graduation night, May 31<sup>st</sup> is 10:30 pm to 11:00pm and go home time is approximately 5:00 am so as you can imagine that it takes considerable food, activities and prizes.

This is the last chance for many of the students to spend quality time together before they go off to college or start their future. The community has been very supportive. Donations are appreciated and can be made by contacting D'anna Russell at 347-2601.

## School Menu

### Thursday, May 22

**Breakfast:** Biscuit, sausage, gravy, or cereal, toast, juice, milk.

**Lunch:** Chicken nuggets, french fries, salad, toast, fruit, milk.

### Friday, May 23

**Breakfast:** Cereal, toast, juice, milk.

**Lunch:** Hamburger/cheese, potato chips, lettuce, tomato, pickle slices, cookie, peaches, milk.

### Monday, May 26

**COOK'S CHOICE ALL WEEK**

*continued from page 1*

this report shows us that the cost of tearing down the old school and building a new one to replace it is too great."

Two bids were received for a Duro-Last Roof. GKS Commercial Forester bid \$87,500. Lewis Drum said that he was familiar with the high quality of their work. DK Haney bid \$82,200. Brown said that he had received good reports from references for both companies. The board chose DK Haney to install the new roof.

The Contraband Inspections Contract from R.A.I.D. Corps, Southwest, Inc. was approved. Brown stated, "Even though it is \$100 higher, it is valuable for us and a good deterrent." The student transfer list was also approved.

Considering the low attendance on February 6,7,8 due to illness, the Low Attendance Days Waiver was approved. This will help with Average Daily Attendance and funding.

William Cochran, Principal, reported that attendance is currently at 97.4% with 176 students. In an effort to heighten a college bound mind-set for all students, Cochran addressed the dual credit courses that are designed to allow high school students to take college courses. He stated that some students are leery about taking these courses because they receive a letter grade and the students

# School board meets

feel it might affect their GPA. To alleviate this concern Cochran has implemented a dual credit grading policy. A number grade will be assigned for each letter grade which will be factored into the student's GPA and counted toward ratings for class rankings: A=98, B=93, C=85, and D=78. UIL eligibility, however, will not be affected by the dual credit grades.

It is hoped that by removing this obstacle more students participate in this opportunity. "Especially since MCISD is paying for the tuition and books for these college courses," Cochran stated. Ted Davey asked if junior high students might take high school courses. Cochran said that currently high school health and speech are already available to junior high students.

Cochran also reported on the field trip for 6th graders, juniors and seniors to West Texas A&M University. Each class received tours of the college, enjoyed lunch and were able to go bowling on campus. He pointed out the experience was especially beneficial for the 6th graders.

In the superintendents reports Randy Brown advised the board that the Appraisal District Appeal was granted. This appeal was made as a result of appraisal values not being in range. He also said the MCISD still has the Pre-K Expansion grant. However, in 2009-2010 it will be

on a competitive basis. Therefore, preparation must be made for the possibility of not receiving the funding since only about 30% of the schools in the state will be funded. Brown said, "We know that Pre K is affective. If we want to see it available for all students in the state we need to write our legislatures and let them know about its effectiveness. We want our district to be attractive and must offer it."

Brown reported on Coach Wiederstien's resignation and accepted Ted Davey's resignation from the school board by presenting him with plaque honoring his service.

Brown also reported that the Reading First grant was approved and our consortium was awarded with slightly more funds than were asked for. This is great news and allows us to move forward with the employment of a Reading First coach for next year."

During executive session the board approved contracts for Marilyn Hicks as Reading First coach and Mike Hendrickson as teacher coach. Coach Hendrickson is coming to us from Higgins ISD. He will teach social studies and will coach football, basketball, and track. He has sixteen years of experience and will have sons in grades 11, 9, and 7 and a daughter in 5th grade next year. His wife has worked as a substitute teacher.

## Senior Citizen Menu

**THURSDAY, May 22:** Battered catfish, baked beans, hushpuppies, coleslaw, fresh fruit.

**FRIDAY, May 23:** Beef fajitas, lettuce/tomato/salsa, grilled vegetables, refried beans, tortillas, pineapple cake.

**MONDAY, May 26:** CLOSED

**TUESDAY, May 27:** Salisbury steak, vegetable of the day, rice, roll, fresh fruit.

**WEDNESDAY, May 28:** Chicken salad sandwich, lettuce & tomato, cucumber salad, potato chips, fruit parfait.

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## Events Calendar

May

- 22 Matador Eastern Star, 6:30 p.m.
- 23 Writing Workshop, Library, noon
- 23 American Legion Flag placement in community cemeteries
- 25 Baccalaureate, 7p.m., FBCM
- 25 Senior Supper, Matador Hotel, TBA
- 26 Memorial Day Program, Roaring Springs, 11 am
- 27 Senior Breakfast, Methodist Church, 8 a.m.
- 27 Elementary Joyland Field Trip
- 28 Do-Gooders Club quilting at Flomot Community Center, 1 p.m.
- 29 Last Day of School
- 29 Elementary Awards Program
- 30 8th Grade Grad 7 pm
- 31 HS Graduation 7pm

June

- 3 Matador Lions, Methodist Church, 12:30 p.m.
- 5 Roaring Springs Lions, Hitchin Post, 11:30 am
- 7 Men's Breakfast, Methodist Church, 7 a.m.
- 7 Jail Star Party and Drum Circle, Matador
- 4 Do-Gooders Club quilting at Flomot Community Center, 1 p.m.
- 9 Roaring Springs City Council, City Hall, 6 p.m.
- 9 Commissioners Court, 9:30 a.m.
- 10 RS Volunteers, Community Center, 7 p.m.
- 11 Do-Gooders Club quilting at Flomot Community Center, 1 p.m.
- 12 Matador City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 18 Do-Gooders Club quilting at Flomot Community Center, 1 p.m.

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