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# Peace in the New Year

## Matley County Tribune

“VOICE OF THE FOOTHILLS”

50¢

Thursday, January 2, 2003

ESTABLISHED 1891

Issue No. 1



### Honored on Retirement

Lucretia E. Campbell, Matley County and District Clerk for 27 years, was honored with a Retirement Party at the Courthouse, December 20. She is pictured here receiving a special commendation from Matley County Judge, Ed D. Smith.

## 2002 Headlines in Review

by Amanda Hurt

Most news was good news in Matley County for the year 2002. The following is a look back at the headlines.

### January 3:

City Attorney advises Council on renting upstairs rooms  
Senior Citizens Center off to good start

Senate halts Farm bill debate  
Roaring Springs awaits letter of authority for Depot funding

### January 10:

What is Market Matador, Inc.?  
“Market Matador is a non-profit 501c corporation formed for the promotion of economic development for the city of Matador.”

Average Rainfall for County not timely to benefit crops

### January 17:

Water Superintendent gives year-end report

Matley County Commissioners meet in regular monthly court session

### January 24:

Head-on Collision claims life of

### Matador man

“A head-on collision which occurred Saturday morning, January 18, claimed the life of long-time Matador resident, L.H. ‘Dick’ Dirickson.”

Superintendent given vote of approval by School Board

“Matley County ISD gave a nod of approval to its superintendent Rick Copp with a favorable review, an extension of contract, and a cost of living salary increase.”

Fire Destroys Home in Roaring Springs

“A fire completely destroyed the home of Foy and Linda Nipp of Roaring Springs, Friday, January 18.”

Matley County Elementary Students Celebrate 100th Day of School

### January 31:

Motley County Heart Fund Campaign is set for month of February

One-Vehicle Accident results in Matley County’s second fatality in two weeks

“A one-vehicle accident on Saturday night resulted in the second fatality in two weeks for Matador: Bert Landrum, 65, of Matador was killed after losing control of his 1991 Plymouth Lazer.”

Matador landfill saves money for residents

### February 7:

Local student selected to participate in Down Under Bowl

### February 14:

Myllinda and Ginger Gilmore named Mother & Daughter of the Year

Determination and Vision resulted in Depot Funding

Kayla Copp exhibits steer at Exposition Show

### February 21:

Drop Box to be installed at Matador City Hall

### February 28:

Superintendent Reports on Student’s Success

### March 7:

Matley County receives some moisture and contrasting temperatures in February

62nd Annual Matley County Livestock Show to kick off Saturday morning

Brenda Gillespie advances to State Powerlifting Meet

Continued next week

## Injured Roaring Springs man making miraculous improvements “The Miracle on 24th Street”

### Lighting contest winners announced

Texas Highway 70 Association has announced the winners of their first annual Christmas Lighting Contest.

Roaring Springs residential winners were Joe Martinez, first place; J.N. Fletcher, second; and Vince Taylor, third.

Graham Supply was the commercial winner in Roaring Springs.

Residential winners in Matador were Jerry Johnson, first; Roy Hobbs, second; and Betty Henry, third.

Main Street Cafe was the commercial winner in Matador.

First place winners in each division received \$50. Second place winners received \$25 and third place winners received \$15.

Grand prize winner was Joe Howell of Spur, who received an additional \$50.

NOTE: This article first appeared in the December 24th edition of the Plainview Daily Herald, by Herald Editor Danny Andrews.

They’re calling it “The Miracle on 24th Street.”

Devonne Dillard, a woman of faith, believes God chose to work a miracle there for her son, Don, last Saturday in response to many prayers on his behalf.

The 45-year-old Roaring Springs rancher had barely communicated since being struck by a hit-and-run driver as he crossed the street while leaving the South Plains Fair in Lubbock about 9:30 p.m. on Sept. 25.

He sustained serious brain damage and had been in University Medical Center for about a month before doctors decided there was nothing more they could do for him.

He would, they said, not get significantly better.

But his family, especially Devonne Dillard, refused to believe that. For the past two months, she has made the drive almost every day

from the small community 60 miles southeast of Plainview to sit with him, work with him and encourage him at Plainview Healthcare Center (Heritage Home) at 24th and Yonkers.

Last Saturday morning, having been barely responsive even to his own mother, his eyes fixed in a far-away gaze, a feeding tube in his arm, Don Dillard suddenly called out a phone number and mumbled, “I had an anniversary.”

Trying to help him walk a little bit, two aides were both surprised to hear him speak and not sure the numbers meant anything.

But they called on a cell phone and spoke with Dillard’s wife, Marsha, in Roaring Springs.

“I was shocked; I couldn’t believe it,” Marsha Dillard said.

“I said, ‘hello’ and he said, ‘Hi, honey.’”

“I said, ‘You remembered our anniversary (actually on Dec. 12 — “we got married on the 12th day of the 12th month at 12 noon so he wouldn’t forget it,” she said with a laugh.)’ He said he was trying to get to Lubbock to buy a present but I told

him I would be coming to Plainview. I knew he didn’t have any money, but I got my present,” she said with a big grin.

“I guess we talked for about 10 minutes.”

Don spoke with Marsha twice on the phone before she arrived in Plainview and he visited with his father, Bennie Dillard, five times.

“He said he needed to talk to his daddy because his daddy told him he loved him,” said Devonne Dillard with an ever-present smile.

“He was talking about other people and things he remembered,” she said.

Don still appears to have to “process” what is being said to him before responding verbally or with a nod.

Recalling the accident, Marsha Dillard said she, her husband, their son, 13-year-old Cameron Jeffcoat, and Cameron’s friend, 14-year-old Jacob Johannes of Matador, were starting to cross the street after leaving the fair when Mrs. Dillard spotted a car coming off the access road at a high rate of speed.

continued on page 2



Don Dillard of Roaring Springs is surrounded by his wife, Marsha (left); mother, Devonne Dillard, and his son, Cameron Jeffcoat, at Plainview Healthcare Center (Heritage Home) where he has resided since Oct. 29, about a month after being hit by a vehicle in Lubbock

(Plainview Daily Herald photo by Danny Andrews)



**Library Notes**

by Suzanne Abbott



We appreciate the donation to the library of a gift subscription to Guideposts by Jim and Judy Cooper. All our patrons enjoy reading this inspirational magazine.

We appreciate the donation to the library by Rita Groves in memory of Charlie Keith. Charlie was a good Friend of the Library.

New books in the library include the latest Sharon Creech, *Ruby Holler*. It can be found in the Juvenile Fiction section of the library. Also in the Juvenile section is *Hank the Cowdog The Case of the One-Eyed Killer Stud Horse* by John R. Erickson.

Annie Proulx won a Pulitzer Prize for her novel *The Shipping News*. We have this book as well as her latest, *The Old Ace in the Hole*. New audio tapes include a set of three mysteries, *The Dark Room* by Minette Walters, *Margin of Error* by Edna Buchanan and *The Cereal Murders* by Diane Mott Davidson. Each of these mysteries is just right for a trip to Lubbock and back.

We also introduce a new mystery/adventure writer: PT Deutermann and his latest novel, *Darkside*. Mystery buffs and police drama readers will enjoy this author.

**Predicta Study Club enjoys annual Christmas party**

by Lula Swim

Predicta Study Club members enjoyed their annual Christmas party in the home of Mrs. LaVoe Thacker, Tuesday evening, December 17. Mrs. Joyce Smith and Mrs. Jeff Thacker shared hostess duties. Mrs. Joyce Smith read a poem from a Kenneth Wyatt book, *The Cowboy*, entitled "I Remember Christmas Eve."

Mrs. Thacker's home was beautifully decorated with Christmas. The table was beautiful as well as full of goodies and coffee and hot punch.

Those enjoying the evening, in addition to those already mentioned, were Mrs. Callie Giesecke, Mrs. Nona Long, Mrs. Jo Crowder, Mrs. Grace Zabielski, Miss Lula Swim and guest, Mrs. Donald Letkeman, Mrs. Billy Hand, and Mrs. Joe Bruce King.

**Miraculous improvements**

from page 1

She got the boys back to the curb and shouted to Don, but the car - believed to be a teal-colored 1994-96 Ford Escort - hit Dillard and he sailed over the vehicle, striking his head on the pavement.

The car never slowed down and has not been located, Marsha Dillard said.

Oddly enough, Don suffered no fractures, only a couple of lacerations on his forehead.

But the head injuries were significant.

Unfortunately, Dillard had no insurance and no place to go when his time at UMC was up.

However, Plainview Healthcare Center, which works closely with his aunt, Dr. Della Dillard of Hale Center, stepped in.

He moved into a room on Oct. 29. While her husband stayed home and tended to the family ranch and her daughter-in-law continued to work as a special education teacher for the Motley County schools, Devonne Dillard made the trip to Plainview every day to talk with her son, try to get him to talk and exercise his legs and "help the nurses any way I could."

And she prayed. And prayed some more.

"Some days I said, 'Lord, I can't go much further. But He kept giving me the strength. I'm so glad I know him at this time,'" said Mrs. Dillard, a member of the close-knit congregation of Full Gospel Church in Roaring Springs.

"Everybody from all over has been praying for Don (including the Church of Christ in Roaring Springs, where he is a member)," Devonne said.

"I have read many stories about people in Don's situation waking up and being OK - I prayed and hoped for that to happen. He's taken some baby steps before but today he took a giant step," she beamed.

He pulled his (tracheotomy) tube from his throat and he's been trying to eat a little solid food."

Don also has been talking with some friends and relatives, including his sister, Dana Graham of Roaring Springs.

"He kept saying, 'I have a little sister' She had asked and asked him if he knew her," Devonne said.

A golfer at Matador High School, Don says he is a fair player and wants to get back to the game some day. He had resumed playing only a short time before he was injured.

He also wants to ride his sorrel, Slocum, and go turkey hunting with Cameron, his "huntin' buddy." Don is proficient with a gun as well as a bow and arrow.

The family gathered in Don's room on Christmas Day and gave thanks for answered prayers.

And the "Miracle on 24th Street."

**SCHOOL MENU**

**MONDAY JANUARY 6**

Breakfast: hot cereal, toast, cold cereal, fruit milk.

Lunch: bean/beef burrito, green salad, Spanish rice, chips, jello, milk.

**TUESDAY JANUARY 7**

Breakfast: biscuit, sausage, gravy, cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: pepperoni pizza, green salad, pineapple chunks, vanilla wafers, milk.

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 8**

Breakfast: cereal, toaster pastry, fruit, milk.

Lunch: chicken nuggets, creamed potatoes, gravy, corn, rolls/honey, milk.

**THURSDAY JANUARY 9**

Breakfast: waffle, sausage, syrup, cereal, toast, juice, milk.

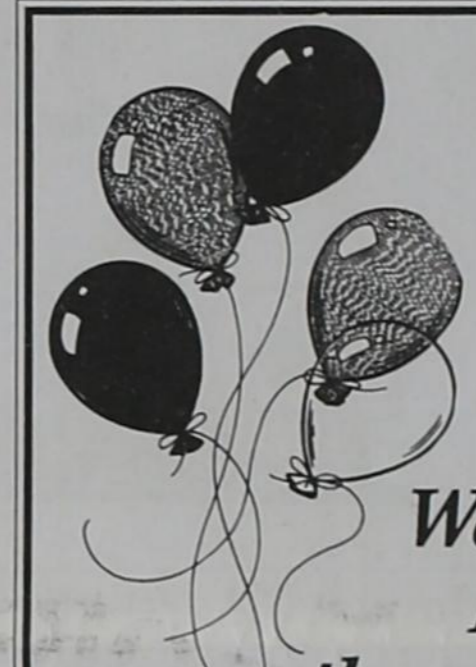
Lunch: king ranch casserole, green beans, biscuits, veg sticks, fruit fluff, milk.

**FRIDAY JANUARY 10**

Breakfast: biscuit, scrambled eggs, bacon, cereal, toast, juice, milk.

Lunch: hamburger, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onion, fries, brownie, milk.

**Happy New Year!**



**Ring In The New Year**

*We will be closed  
December 29  
through January 6*

*Watch for our  
JANUARY CLEARANCE  
SALE*

*New to You*

Downtown Matador ~ 806-347-2388

**A NOTE OF THANKS**

We would like to thank everyone who sent cards to us and made donations at the death of my sister, Joyce Ellis.

Sincerely,  
Billy & Faye Slover

**Storewide Clearance  
20% off**

*A sincere thank you to  
my loyal customers for  
your support!*

**Petticoat Junction**

Devonne Dillard

Downtown Roaring Springs 806-348-7056

**New Opportunities**



It is here. The year 2003 has arrived and with it new situations, circumstances and opportunities. Sure, it will take time to get used to the new number. There will be cross-outs and strike-overs and other corrections as we adapt to the new calendar.

Yet I still look forward with a certain amount of anticipation for what comes in the months of 2003. There are no doubt some difficult if not dangerous times ahead of our nation. Yet, there are some

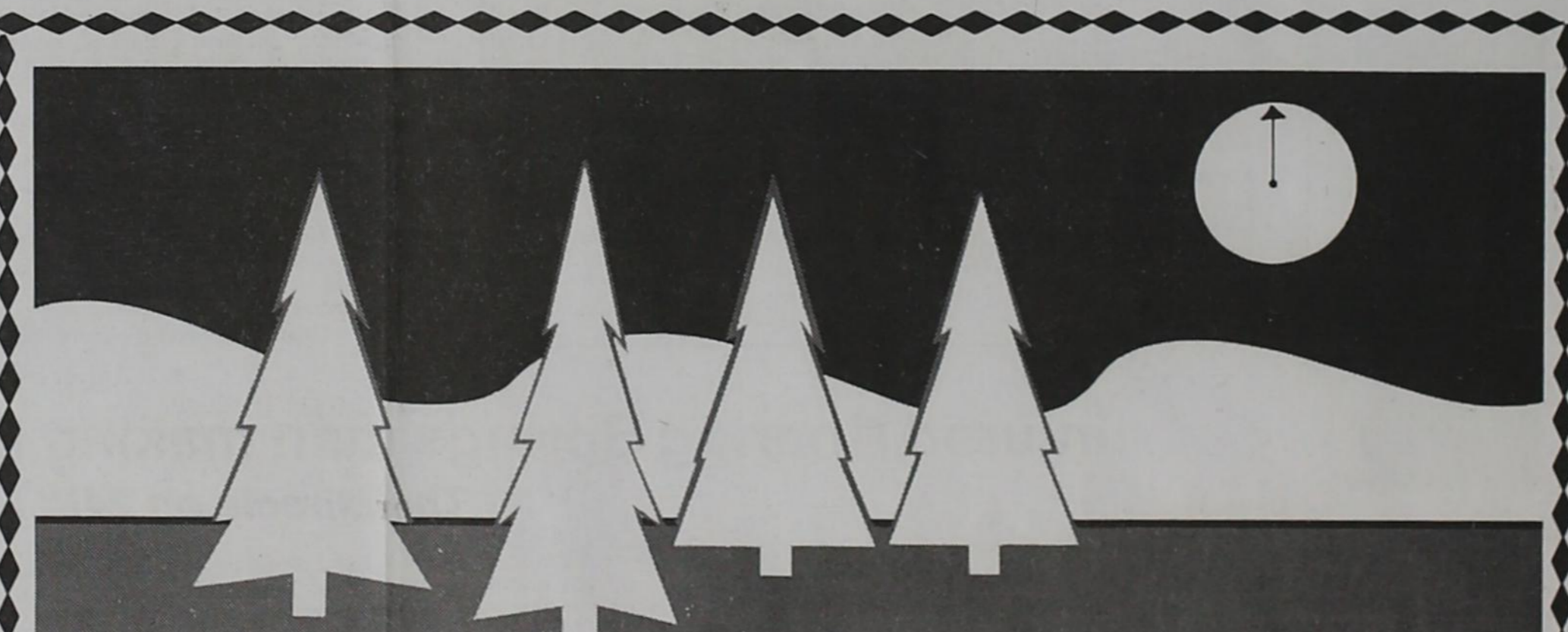
indicators that seem to point to a renewed confidence in things that are dear to us. The so called, "old fashioned" ideas seem to be growing in popularity again and our interests seem to point us in the same general direction.

We have been granted, by His grace, another year. In this new year we will make choices. Looking at all the material available we can conclude that we need Jesus. Yes, our choice will be not to side with "culture" or "so-called science" and say there is no Savior. The choice is clear. Make no mistake. God exists. Jesus is Lord. In 2003 opportunity will present itself in which we can demonstrate our faith. Let us do so. Let us proclaim by our lives that Jesus is the Lord of our lives.

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

RADIO PROGRAMS, K-96 FM

BIBLE STUDY, 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP, 9:00 A.M.



Enjoy the best of the past.  
Look forward to what's yet to come.  
Celebrate the New Year and all it holds in store.



**CapRock Telephone  
Cooperative, Inc.**

# Motley County BASKETBALL



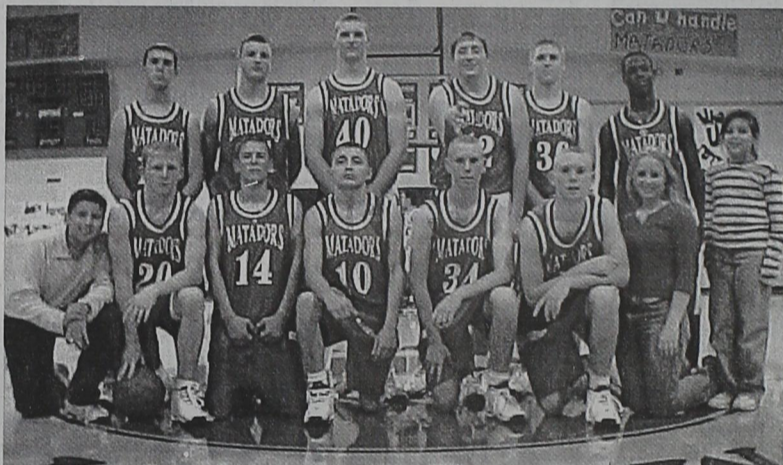
LADY MATADORS: Standing left to right, Emily Hurt, Emily Fonseka, Ashlee Green, Susanna Mendoza, Sabrina Osborn, Angie Marvel, Sierra Atherton; (middle row) Mandi Ream, Cassie Campbell, Brittany Moore (Sr.), Brittany Moore (Soph.), Stachia Baxter; (front) Charli Ream, Brittany Donaldson, Clarissa Elizondo, Chasity Holman, and Amanda Ashby.

## DISTRICT SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Jan. 3	New Home	there	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 7	Southland	there	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 10	Wilson	here	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 14	Spur	there	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 17	Patton Springs	here	5:00 p.m.
Jan. 21	New Home	here	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 24	Southland	here	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 25	Valley JV Tourn.	there	TBA
Jan. 28	Wilson	there	4:00 p.m.
Jan. 31	Spur	here	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 4	Patton Springs	there	5:00 p.m.

**GO  
MATADORS!**

**We support the MC Matadors  
& Lady Matadors:**



MOTLEY COUNTY MATADORS: Beginning at back, left to right, Chance Bingham, Kenny Johannes, Clint Cooper, Kevin Elder, Colton Russell, Seagram Sims, Clarissa Elizondo, Manager's assistant; (front) Xavier Elizondo, Manager's assistant, Quinten Rose, Matt Henzler, Lorenzo Salazar, Cody Cooper, Clay Cooper, Kittie Campbell, Manager.

Motley County Tribune  
Jim & Carla Meador

Meredith Construction  
Gas & Supply

First Ag Credit of Texas, PCA

Calico Treasures  
Decorator's Studio

South Plains Electric Coop.

New to You

Flomot Gin

Arvis Davis Chevrolet  
Paducah

CapRock Telephone

Matador Floral - Designs by Vickie

Higginbotham-Bartlett

Thacker Jewelry

First State Bank

City Auto  
Floydada

Matador Implement

Matador Variety

Graham Supply

Parson's Brokerage

J.D., D'Anna & Shane'a Russell

Russ & Andrea Henzler

Tony, Sherry, Sean & Shea Rose

James, Kathy, Robert & Brenda Gillespie

Dale & JoEtta Bumgardner

Tommy, Kate, Tommy & Zachary  
& Amanda Hurt

Billy, Brenda, Sam & Alexis Osborn

Chuck & Gail Ream, &  
Grandpa & Grandma Rice  
Grandpa & Grandma Ream

Charlie & Mary Renfro

Alan & Kay Bingham

Terry & Ronda Miller & Ryan Moore

Doris, Kyle, Jeannie  
& Brandon Moore

# News Around the County

## Roaring Springs News

By Odessa Mullins

### CHRISTMAS EVE GATHERING

Joe and Joyce Meredith enjoyed a Christmas Eve gathering in the home of their daughter and family, Tony and Sherry Rose and Shea in Matador. Family members enjoyed a delicious meal, visiting and exchanging gifts. Also enjoying the evening were Sean Rose, Jeremy, Whitney, Morgan and Judson Jones, all of Lubbock, Jim and Carla Meador, Jack and Shirley Smith and Steve Smith, Randy and Holly Meredith, Wylie and John, Yancy, Daphne and Parker Meredith.

Enjoying Christmas Day dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Meredith were Kenneth Ashley, Randy and Holly Meredith, Wylie and John, Jack and Shirley Smith, Steve Smith, Jim and Carla Meador. Joining them later that afternoon were Sherry and Shea Rose.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

Mrs. Audrey Jones hosted a Christmas party in her home, December 20. Lots of goodies, games and an ornament exchange was enjoyed. Those attending were Dora Hurt, Brenda Hurt, Mitzi Christopher, Crystal Salazar, Sarah Marvel, Barbara Marvel, Joyce Meredith, Shirley Smith, Carla Meador, Daphne Meredith, and Sherry Rose.

Mr. and Mrs. J.T. Swim and Lula Swim had Christmas dinner in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Swim of Lubbock. They were joined there by Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Swim of Abilene and Miss Emily Swim of College Station.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Letkeman and Lula Swim met Monte and Noma Wike of Sudan for lunch at Logans in Lubbock on Friday.

Mary Lumsden had early Christmas with her sons, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Largent from Lubbock and local residents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Largent, on Sat-

urday before Christmas.

Zella Palmer spent Christmas week in Lubbock at the home of her granddaughter, James and Jennifer Adams. Mrs. Palmer took care of Ty while Mrs. Adams took her other son, Dillon to Dallas for surgery. He is home now and doing well. Mrs. Palmer celebrated Christmas there with the Adams family and her son and families, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Palmer and Miranda, also of Lubbock, and Mr. and Mrs. Scotty Palmer and son of McAdoo.

Christmas Day guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Mullins were Mary and Emily Ramos, Virginia Rodriguez, Jose and Jessica, John, J.R., Emilio and Andy and Christopher Lara of Lubbock, Virginia Perez of Dallas, and local resident, Odessa Mullins. Saturday guests were Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Mullins, Michael and Christopher, and Brandy and Wess Lee of Midland.

Odessa Mullins spent a week in Covenant Methodist Hospital for knee surgery. She is recuperating at home and doing very well.

Dorothy Lee has been dismissed from Covenant Hospital and is now at her daughter's home for six weeks recuperation. She reported that she is doing good but is still unable to walk. Her address is Dorothy Lee, 5731 64th St., Lubbock, TX 79424.

Enjoying an early Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Leon Burton were Scottie, Tammy, Misty and Miranda Burton from Memphis; Cynthia, Chris and Lacie Burton of Levelland; Doyel and Deb Lee from Tahoka; Robbie Haney, Cheryl and Robbie Jr., from Slaton; Avis Haney from Muleshoe; Lendon Haney from Memphis; Connie Kemp, Craig and Janie Symer, Keisha and Gunner Russell, all of Lubbock; Jennifer and Jason Cardinas from Lubbock.

## Matador News

Mr. and Mrs. C.D. Garrison and houseguests, grandson and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Garrison of Big Spring were guests Christmas day in Childress of Mr. and Mrs. David Garrison and their children and families. Also a guest was Mrs. Debra Scott of Matador.

Mrs. Juanita Cooper visited Christmas Eve with her daughter and family, Ken, Kay and Kourtney Dunnam of Amarillo. Juanita and the Dunnams drove to Plainview and visited Christmas Day with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dunnam. They returned to their respective homes in the afternoon.

Arthur Harmon of Amarillo visited in Matador with his sister, Juanita Cooper and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gordon, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 26,

27 and 28. Lynn and Pat Minton of Grandbury visited her mother, Mrs. Juanita Cooper, December 27-29. Also visiting was Mrs. Cooper's granddaughter, Mrs. Ben (Cheryl) Rockwell and children, Elizabeth and Andrew of San Antonio, Mr. and Mrs. Van Bradford and granddaughter, Chelsea Reed of Gruver and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gordon of Matador.

### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

Dennis Letkeman celebrated his 60th birthday, Saturday, December 28, with a party at the Jameson building in Matador. Musical entertainment was provided by The Great Unknown. Lots of friends, young and old, came by for a great time.

## Whiteflat News

By Earlyne Jameson

The Thursday before Christmas, Mrs. Frances Dixon and daughter, Mrs. Elaine Risser of Matador met Adrian Risser of Wheeler in Childress and enjoyed lunch and visiting. Christmas day, Fred and Elaine Risser of Matador and daughter, Kaci Risser, student at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, were guests of Mrs. Dixon.

Visiting during the Christmas holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Hal Martin were Mrs. Seritha Pearce, Katie Hamilton and Tiffany Cole of Amarillo; Mrs. Kathryn Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Martin of Matador.

Wilda and Spencer Dixon and houseguest, her mother, Mrs. Ted Hester of Lovington, N.M. were in Lubbock, Dec. 19 for Wilda to have stitches removed from her injured arm following surgery. Wilda will be under medical care until the middle of January, so Mrs. Hester is remaining to visit until she regains use of her arm.

Mr. and Mrs. James Gwinn, Fannin and Danielle joined family members at Gwinn home in Matador, Friday Dec. 27, to celebrate Christmas. Those attending

were Aly Gwinn of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Holcomb of Floydada, Chris Gwinn of Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Raetz, Charles "Chig" Gwinn, Mrs. Sarah Hurt and Emily of Matador.

Mr. and Mrs. Hal Martin were guests at a holiday luncheon, Saturday in the home of his mother, Mrs. Kathryn Martin in Matador. Other guests were Mrs. Carol Gilbreth and Susan of Sundown, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Davis and Kristy of Fritch and Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Martin of Matador.

Holiday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. H.R. "Skeet" Jameson were her brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Laughlin of Midland.

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Shannon and daughter, Nellie Bly, visited during the holidays in Farwell with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Eubank. Other visitors were her sisters, brother and families, Mrs. Rhonda Cowgill and Kasey of Carrollton and D'Lynn and John Hale, Alyson and Walker of Lubbock, and Mr. and Mrs. Alan Eubank, Carson, Taryn, and Kayla of Pampa.

## Flomot News

By Earlyne Jameson

Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin visited in Borger, Dec. 22 and were guests of daughter and husband, Marilee and Fred Cooper. Other guests were their grandchildren, Cole Martin, A&M University student in College Station and Lindsay Martin, student at Texas Tech, Mr. and Mrs. Cory Cooper and son of Borger.

Holiday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Calvert and Glen Calvert were Alvia Joe Calvert of Dumas, daughter, Ashley Calvert, student at Texas Tech, son, Justin Calvert and friend, Grace Smith of Amarillo; Mr. and Mrs. Dan Foster and Mr. and Mrs. Tim Mandrell, Dustin, Shae and Peyton of Lubbock.

Visiting during the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ike Clay were Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Kleibrink, Karlee and Kyler of Clifton, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Carson, Walker, Ryleigh and Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Edwards and Cayden of Turkey, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clay, Kelsey, Tanner and Sarah of Flomot.

Mrs. Ann Metcalf of Panhandle visited the past week with daughter and family, Angella and Larry Clay. Angella returned home recently from Lubbock following surgery.

Guests Christmas day in the home of Tommie Jo Cruse were Brand, Jodie and Branson Cruse of Clarendon, Chancey and Christy Cruse of Lelia Lake, Talon, Roegan and Keane Cruse of Turkey; Regina, Chad, Allison, Quaid and Macy Seaward of Goldwithe; Deidra, Larry and Skylar Clifton of Cisco; Tanner, Monica and Cutter Smith of Floydada; Derinda, Mark, Thor, Tory, Teah, and Tally Patton of Silverton; Leah Cruse of Lubbock; Mrs. Dona Browning and E.J. Browning of Rising Star, Darla, James, Fannin and Danielle Gwinn of Whiteflat; Brenda, Darrell and Derrick Cruse, Judy and Donnie Cruse of Flomot.

Mr. and Mrs. Cory Kendall, Chancey and Conner of Midland visited during the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Travis Kendall, brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Kendall, Jere and Jacob.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Cruse and Derrick were guests Christmas Eve in the home of her mother, Mrs. Marihelen Wason of Matador. Other guests were Charla and Bennie Marricce of Snyder, Mark, Kathleen and Dalton of Casper, Wyoming; Shahala Marricce and fiancé, Allen Hoelscher, Leah Cruse and Kaycee Marricce of Lubbock.

Visitors during the Christmas holidays of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Lee were Mr. and Mrs. Joey Lee and Mrs. Margie Row of Clarendon, Jason Lee of Amarillo, Mrs. Teresa Lee, Kellan and Kacee and Ernie Lee of Turkey, Mrs. Shonda Davey, Jenny and Rochelle of Plainview, Justin Wilkes of Memphis, and Roger, Josh and Brandon Lee of Flomot.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee J. Browning, Malcolm and Jessica and houseguests, Whitney and Jason Browning of Canadian attended a holiday luncheon in Childress, Saturday in the home of her mother, Mrs.

Virgie O'Daniel and her guests. Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin visited in Anson Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Moss, Mrs. LaRay Gilbert and Mr. and Mrs. Keith Gilbert and children.

Guests Christmas day of Mr. and Mrs. Bill D. Washington were Mr. and Mrs. Coy Franks of Flomot and their holiday houseguests, Cory, Amy and Madison Franks of Bastrop, Cary Franks and Sorrel Schmidt of Lubbock and Cara Franks of Canyon; Mrs. Sandra Barclay of Flomot and her houseguests, Lance Sherryll, Kayla and Colton Barclay of Jacksonville, Cody, Mandy, Lane and Ashton Barclay of Borger, Tim and Deana Washington, Matt, Ashley and Brazos Washinton of Roaring Springs; Conway, Lacy, Caleb, Mickey, and Kenzie Clarey, Ty Barclay and Brittany Perryman of Matador Special guest was Santa Claus. The families also visited Edith Washington during the holidays.

Visiting during the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Shorter, Mrs. Geneva Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter were Mrs. Judy Rhodes of Conroe Lake, Cindy and Chad Calvert of Carrollton, Christi, Dwan, Emily and Haley Milam of Petersburg, Keri, Kevin and Brain Sehon of Ropesville, Salina Elliot of Floydada, Louis, Beverly and Megan Shorter of Mansfield, Bobby, Jennifer, Allison, Matthew and Austin Moncrief of Roaring Springs.

Visitors of Mrs. C.W. Starkey during the holidays were Mr. and Mrs. L.T. Starkey and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd T. Starkey of Ralls, Mrs. Ersie VanCleeve of Dougherty, Mrs. Phylis Gladson and Tonya of Austin and Nola Mary and Joe Long of Winnewood, Okla.

Holiday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers were Ronnie Rogers, Jimmy, Shay and Seth McDaniels of Lubbock, Donna Sue and Stanley Degan of Calgary, Donnie Rogers of Flomot and his house guests, daughters, Natalie and Brooke Rogers of Lindale.

Visiting during the holidays with Judy and Lynn Stark were children, Wes Stark, stationed with the Airforce in Del Rio and Mindy Stark, student at the University of Texas in Austin.

Aleda Elaine Ross of Castroville, Elisa and Stan Wigley and Mrs. Ruth Williams of Lubbock visited during the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ross.

Mrs. Sheila Gilbert, son and family, Jeremy and Amy Gilbert, Caitlin and Alexander of Jacksonville, Alabama visited during the holidays with her mother, Mrs. Leona Degan. They also visited in Quitaque with Mrs. Christeen Gilbert.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee J. Browning, Malcolm, Jessica, Chastity, Whitney and Jason visited in Rising Star, Dec 29-31 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Browning and grandmother, Mrs. Dona Browning.

Mrs. Velma Moseley of Lamesa, former Flomot resident, suffered a recent stroke. She is undergoing rehabilitation treatments. Her address is 810 N. 9th, Lamesa, TX 79331.

## OBITUARIES

### Larry Jackson

Services for Larry Michael Jackson were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15, 2002, in Van, TX. Burial was at Union Chapel Cemetery in Van. Larry passed away at the age of 38 on December 10, 2002, in Divernon, IL from an auto accident.

He was born June 6, 1964, in Lemoore, CA. He has been a resident of Dallas all his life. He was a self-employed business owner in the auto industry and graduated from high school in Keller.

Survivors include his parents, Shelby and Betty Jackson of Jemez Springs, NM; mother, Bertie Ann Abdel-Hafiz of North Richland Hills; two sisters, Tracie Jackson of Bedford and Kari Jackson of Dallas; grandparents, E.L. and Roberta Martin of Van, TX; two nephews, Julito Cano and Jonathan Bowling; and one niece, Shelby Bowling.

### Joyce Ellis

Graveside services for Joyce Ellis, 74, of Wichita Falls were held at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 19, 2002, at the Garden of Memories Cemetery in Paducah with Rev. James Mantooth, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Paducah officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Paducah.

Joyce died Tuesday, December 17, 2002, in a Wichita Falls hospice center.

She was born May 21, 1928, in Paducah to Harbert T. and Florine Smith Angell. She married Kenneth Ellis on December 20, 1951, in Paducah.

Joyce was a homemaker and a member of the Missionary Baptist Church in Paducah. She moved to Wichita Falls from

Paducah in 1981. She is survived by her husband, Kenneth Ellis of Wichita Falls; one daughter, Tammy Sue Smith of Wichita Falls; her mother, Florine Angell of Wichita Falls; one brother, Bobby Ray Angell of Bellview; three sisters, Faye Slover of Matador, Evelyn McPherson of Burkeville, and Betty Smith of Dallas; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Joyce was preceded in death by two brothers, Harbert T. Angell, Jr. on Jan. 27, 1950, and Wilbert Lee Angell on Feb. 2, 1966.

The family suggests memorials to the Paducah Cemetery Association.

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**FARM AND RANCH NEWS**

**Combs urges producers to stand up and be counted**

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs recently urged Texas producers to be on the lookout for the 2002 Census of Agriculture surveys, which were mailed Dec. 16, and promptly fill out the report forms on behalf of their operations.

"Watch for a large white envelope with the words 2002 Census of Agriculture printed in green on the outside. This is definitely not junk mail - this is the largest information-gathering project for agriculture, and we need producers across Texas to put pen to paper and be counted among the nation's farmers and ranchers," Combs said.

Farm and ranch organizations use Census data to evaluate and propose programs that help producers. Policymakers refer to the data when

they draft agricultural legislation. State and local governments use the information for rural development planning, while researchers use the data to develop new technologies to keep agriculture progressive.

"It's a change for farmers and ranchers to shape the way agricultural policies meet the changing needs of today's producer," Combs said. "The information comes straight from the source - the producer."

Not only is it in the best interest of producers to fill out the survey, U.S. law requires a response from all producers who receive a Census report, even if they did not operate a farm or ranch in 2002. This same law also guarantees that their informa-

tion is kept strictly confidential. Completed forms are due by Feb. 3, 2003.

The Census of Agriculture is conducted once every five years and gathers information about land use and ownership, acres irrigated, crop acreage and quantities harvested, livestock and poultry inventories, value of products sold, participation in federal farm programs and more.

New to the 2002 Census will be questions on computer and Internet use and on new commodities such as bison, elk, llamas, deer, emus and ostriches.

For more information on the 2002 Census of Agriculture, visit the National Agricultural Statistics Service web at [www.usda.gov/nass](http://www.usda.gov/nass) or call (888) 4AG-STAT.

**TDA accepting nominations for Rural Heroism award**

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs announced today that the Texas Department of Agriculture is now accepting nominations for TDA's 2002 Rural Heroism Award.

Candidates must have performed a heroic, lifesaving act within Texas during 2002. The heroic deed should be related to farming or ranching and occur in a rural area. Automobile accidents or accidents caused by negligence will not be considered.

Nominations should include a written account of the incident and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of everyone involved. If

available, newspaper clippings and photographs should accompany all nominations.

Nominations must be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2003, and mailed to Lola Lemmon TDA Safety Coordinator, Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas 78711. For additional information on qualifications, contact Lemmon at (512) 475-1611.

The 2002 recipient will be announced March 31 at the Texas Safety Association's annual conference at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Houston.

**Composting improves land**

Composting, or the biological process of converting organic waste under controlled conditions into a product that provides organic matter and nutrients to the soil, is an important issue concerning agricultural producers.

When an agricultural producer combines bedding materials, weeds, manure, grass, leaves, and other agricultural products, the result can be beneficial for the producer and the land.

One benefit of composting is improved soil structure. The soil structure is improved by creating passageways in the soil for air and water.

Composting holds moisture and reduces erosion, as well as immobilizes and degrades pollutants by binding to heavy metals, pesticides, herbicides and other contaminants, reducing leachability and absorption by plants. It provides organic matter to the soil, stimulating the increase of organisms, which promotes root development and growth of earthworms and other major-organisms whose tunneling increases water infiltration and aeration.

Composting also suppresses soil

borne disease and plant pathogens, as well as supplies slow release nutrients to plants such as nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, and sulfur.

There are many benefits of composting that relate to industries of agricultural production from farming to ranching. For example, returning organic materials to the land can increase water quality and quantity, reduce nonpoint source pollution, and increase crop production.

Composting manure can also play an essential role in bringing many Texas rivers, streams, and lakes up to environmental standards in watersheds where confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs) are concentrated. Composted manure provides a viable and sustainable opportunity to move large volumes of organic material from the concentrated areas to other areas that need organic soil amendments.

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) is involved in composting support project in the Bosque River watershed. The project coordinates composting activities in the Bosque and Leon River watersheds between the dairyman, composters, haulers, TSSWCB, local soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS).

The TSSWCB encourages all agricultural producers to take the initiative to compost materials such as animal bedding, weeds, manure, plants, grass clippings, leaves, and any other agricultural products that are grown on the agricultural operation, with the exception of meats, fats, and dairy products. Composting is a safe, effective, and efficient way to fertilize the soil. Many agricultural producers will discover that compost is all that is needed to keep the land fertile and highly productive.

For more information on composting, please contact Jason McAlister at the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board at (254) 773-2250.

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 CORRECTION  
 The Motley County Tribune inadvertently noted that the story on JB's Barbecue in the Dec. 19th edition was by Earlyne Jameson. It should have read story and picture by Vince and Laura Taylor of the Valley Tribune. We apologize for the mistake. We thank Mrs. Jameson for making us aware of the new business.

**Bid Notice**  
 LOTS FOR SALE  
 Motley County is offering for sale, Lots 6, 7, 8 and 9, Blk. 124, Original Town, Matador. The lots are located on Bailey Ave. between Louise and Willow Street. Submit sealed bids to the Motley County Judge by end of business, January 10, 2003. The bids will be opened at Commissioners' Court on January 13, 2003. The successful bidder will pay all costs of sale and legal fees. Motley County reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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