

THE BORDEN STAR

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Serving the Counties of Borden, Dawson, Garza, Howard, Lynn & Scurry

Why your Natural Gas Bills are higher this winter

by Commissioner Charles Matthews
Railroad Commissioner of Texas

During the last year I have been traveling throughout the state discussing the challenges facing the Texas natural gas industry. As the demand for natural gas is increasing, we are seeing the tightening of supply.

Experts in the energy field expect the U.S. demand for natural gas to grow during the next decade. By 2010, it is projected to be more than 30 percent over the 1998 level. In addition to the national demand picture, Texas natural gas consumption has been increasing steadily over the last six years. The biggest driver for that growth is gas-fired electric generation.

On most residential and commercial gas bills, gas is a "pass-through" cost. Utilities make no profit on the cost of gas; they simply pass through top the consumer what it costs the utility to purchase the gas in the marketplace. When natural gas costs increase, consumers face higher bills. When natural gas costs decrease, consumers pay less. Utilities make their profit from distributing the natural gas to consumers. In most cases, the rate that a utility charges for distributing natural gas is approved by the city in which it serves, but in some cases

the rate is approved by the Railroad Commission of Texas.

The cost of natural gas is market based, subject to the forces of supply and demand, and changes frequently. The major cause of recent high natural gas prices has been uneasiness in the marketplace over natural gas supply. Simply put, the injection rate of gas into storage was too slow to comfort the market for this winter's heating season. Consumption of natural gas in the summer is usually relatively low, which allows excess gas to be injected into storage. However, gas that would otherwise have been injected into storage was being used to generate electricity to run air conditioners.

While natural gas imports have been rising significantly in recent years, the United States may be running into some short-term supply constraints. Several years of relatively low prices have slowed down exploration and drilling for new sources of supply. During the first downturn in 1986, the oil and gas industry lost over 500,000 jobs nationwide. In addition to that number, another 50,000 jobs were lost

Cont. to pg. 8

200,000 Texas children now enroll in CHIP; Program Announces Successful Enrollment Rate and Launches Media Campaign to Reach More Qualified Families

7 year-old Zachary Lopez and his 16 year-old sister Talia of Austin both suffered severe headaches last summer. For the first time in their lives their mother, Ida Lopez didn't hesitate to call a doctor because now that she and her husband enrolled their children in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in Texas, she can afford the expense.

"The CHIP program has given me great peace of mind," said Ida Lopez, a receptionist at the Austin based cable manufacturer. "Both my husband and I work, but our employers can't afford to offer health insurance to our children, but for just \$18 dollars a month CHIP covered the cost of my children's doctor's visits - even to the eye doctor. Now they have eye glasses, their headaches are gone, they can see clearly and they are studying hard in school."

Ida Lopez and her family represent one of the thousands of Texas families who have gained "peace of mind" since they enrolled in CHIP. Program officials are extremely pleased with the rate of enrollment and report that 200,000 Texas children

have enrolled since the program began last May. These numbers mean Texas has outpaced other comparable states in the initial months.

Today program leaders are announcing new initiatives to reach even more Texas families who may not be aware that they qualify for the program. These initiatives include a new multi-million dollar statewide advertising campaign, local community-based marketing initiatives and increased outreach involving business and community leaders.

CHIP was launched nine months ago with federal funds and money from the tobacco lawsuit settlement as part of the TexCare Partnership. Texas' umbrella children's health insurance initiative that also includes Medicaid and the Texas Healthy Kids Corporation. CHIP offers low-cost insurance to low-to-moderate income families.

Premiums are \$18 a month or less, depending on a family's size and income. For example, a family of four can make up to \$34,000 - or more (possibly up to \$38,000) if they have child-

care or other qualified expenses - and still qualify for CHIP.

"In less than a year, CHIP has made it possible for 200,000 children to visit the doctor when they're sick without their parents worrying about what it's going to cost," said Don Gilbert, Texas Health and Human Service Commissioner. "Still, there are thousands more families in Texas who are eligible to take advantage of this opportunity and may not know it. That's why we're taking some new steps."

CHIP offers a full range of health insurance coverage, including regular checkups, immunizations, prescription drugs, eyeglasses, lab tests, X-rays, hospital visits, dental care and mental health care, from a broad choice of doctors.

Families interested in CHIP or other TexCare partnership insurance options for their children may call 1-800-647-6558 toll free to ask questions or start the application process over the phone. They may also visit the program and download an application on the Web at www.texcarepartnership.com

Lady Coyotes go first half of district play undefeated; Shut down Westbrook, 98-37

By Sue Jane Mayes

Six Lady Coyotes hit in double figures to lead BHS past the Westbrook Lady Wildcats in district play Friday night, 98-37.

The win gives the girls sole possession of first place in the district as they begin second half play Tuesday at home against Grady.

From the tip-off, BHS was in control, jumping out to a 29-6 first quarter lead.

That lead increased to

50-10 by half-time as sisters Bobbie and Dalene Kempf were already in double digits with 13 and 14 points respectively.

Freshman Shayla Gass and sophomore Kyliya Culp also added 3-pointers in the second period.

In the third quarter, the Lady Coyotes came through from the 3-point range as Kyliya Culp hit two 3's, Pati Rodriguez added one, as did Micah Hensley.

Senior Bekah Hensley would toss in two more 3's in the final period as BHS coasted to their fourth consecutive district win and their thirteenth of the season.

Scoring: Bobbie Kempf--22 pts., Dalene Kempf--16 pts., Kyliya Culp--15 pts., Pati Rodriguez--14 pts., Bekah Hensley--10 pts., Rika Copeland--10 pts., Micah Hensley--5 pts., Carolina Arellanos, 3 pts., Shayla Gass, 3 pts.

LATE RESULTS FROM MONDAY'S JR. HIGH GAMES

Girls	13	12	21	8	54
Ira	0	6	3	7	16

A. Ellison--2 pts., 2 reb., 1 assist; C. Rinehart--7 pts., 6 reb., 5 assists, 2 steals; E. Mayes--15 pts., 5 reb., 2 assists, 3 steals; L. Johnson--12 pts., 10 reb., 4 steals; T. Balaque--10 pts., 4 steals; C. Ogden--1 reb., 2 assists, 5 steals; B. Hudson--1 steal, 1 deflected pass; W. Anderson--2 pts., 1 reb., 1 assist; M. Brooks--6 pts., 1 reb., 4 steals; S. Pool--1 assist, 1 steal

Boys	6	9	6	4	25
Ira	6	14	6	6	32

D. Rodriguez--3 pts., 1 reb., 1 steal; C. Peterson--3 reb., 1 assist, 1 steal; G. Chapman--2 pts., 2 reb.; A. Carter--6 pts., 4 reb., 2 steals; C. Divin--3 reb., 1 steal; G. Thomas--2 reb.; A. Pigford--2 pts., 1 reb.; B. Roper--2 pts., 5 reb.; B. Griffin--6 pts., 5 reb., 1 steal; J. Minnick--2 pts., 1 reb., 1 steal, drew a charge; J.R. Gicklehorn--1 reb., 1 blocked shot; C. Nowlain--1 assist; A. Lamming--1 steal, 1 reb.

Despite 58-37 loss... Coyotes Give League-Leading Westbrook Boys All They Can Handle

By Sue Jane Mayes

It's been a long season, but Friday night's game with Westbrook had to encourage Coyote players, coaches, and fans.

Westbrook came into the game leading the district race, but the Wildcats soon discovered that the Coyotes were still going to play ball.

After one period, BHS trailed only 11-7. Five-of-seven free throw shooting kept the Coyotes within range.

The second quarter

More basketball action...

BC Jr. High Boys Beat New Home

By Sue Jane Mayes

Borden Jr. High's boys' team traveled to New Home January 8 and came home with a 27-24 win.

New Home actually led the after one quarter, 10-8, and at half-time, 16-14.

The Coyote Pups regrouped in the locker room and held New Home scoreless in the fourth quarter to take the three-point win.

Scoring: Billy Roper--8 pts., Andrew Lamming--5 pts., J. Ryan Gickelhorn--4 pts., Garrett Chapman--4 pts., Garrett Thomas--4 pts., Aaron Pigford--2 pts. Also seeing action was Caden Nowlain

Westbrook connected on seven field goals to take a definite advantage, leading 30-11 at half-time.

Another cold third quarter in which BHS could only muster two points really hurt the chances of making a close game.

Still, the Coyotes would come back, outscoring Westbrook 22-15 in the final period of play though it would be too little, too late.

Scoring: Kyle Pinkerton--13 pts., Talin Pepper--10 pts., Evan Winegarner--6 pts., Rowdy Dunlap--3 pts., John Stamper--2 pts., Dan Griffin--1 pt.

School Menu Week of: Jan. 29th - Feb. 2nd.

MONDAY: Fajitas, salad, beans, fruit & milk
Breakfast: Cereal, toast, juice & milk

TUESDAY: Meat & Gravy, potatoes broccoli & cauliflower, hot rolls, juice bar & milk. **Breakfast:** Pancake pups, fruit, juice & milk.

WEDNESDAY: Baked potatoes, w/cheese & ham, salad, crackers, jello & milk
Breakfast: Cinnamon toast, fruit, juice & milk.

THURSDAY: Turkey 'ala King, squash, salad, bread, fruit & milk. **Breakfast:** Eggs & ham, toast, juice & milk.

FRIDAY: Hot dogs w/chili, onion rings, beans, fruit, cake & milk. **Breakfast:** French toast stick, fruit, juice & milk

One Quarter Lapses cost BHS in non-district game With Brookesmith

By Sue Jane Mayes

In the boys' game, the Coyotes led 14-12 at the end of the first period, a position that has not been too familiar this year.

The euphoria did not last long as Brookesmith shut the Coyotes down in the second period, allowing no points.

BHS was unable to mount any type of comeback after the cold spell in the second quarter.

The bright spot in the second half came from beyond the arch, where Coyote players hit three 3-pointers.

Brookesmith took the non-district game, 58-32.

The leading scorer for the Coyotes was Talin Pepper with 15 points, including three 3's.

Trent Pepper netted eight points, while several Coyotes added support: Brionne Jackson, three points; Jacob Zant, two points; John Stamper, two points; Evan Winegarner, one point; and Kyle Pinkerton, one point.

The girls' game was a thriller, as the Lady Coyotes led the entire game, only to see it elude them in the final quarter, thanks in part to missed free throws.

Brookesmith, ranked #2 in the state, Class A, scored 21 fourth-quarter points to steal the win, 53-49.

Borden County took a 24-18 lead into half-time, but the lead wouldn't hold as the Lady Coyotes went 5-of-12 from the free throw line in the fourth quarter.

That window would be all Brookesmith would need to climb back in to the game.

Bekah Hensley and Dalene Kempf paced the scoring with 11 points each.

Rika Copeland added ten, Bobbie Kempf nine, and Micah Hensley (five points) and Kyliya Culp (three) also contributed to the scoring attack.

Borden County EMS
806/756-4311
Alternate No. 806/759-5111



Surprise Party: The 3rd grade students surprised their teacher, Mrs. Shirley McMeans last week when Flynn Chapman arranged to bring a beautiful birthday cake that had everyone's name on it. It remained hidden all morning under his coat. All the 3rd graders knew it was there, but did not say a word. The students had everything set up when Mrs. McMeans returned to class after lunch. Mr. McMeans said this was her first ever surprise birthday at school. Pictured along with their teacher are: Eric Espinoza, Skyler Williamson, Lacey Roberts, Shylo Rinehart, Chelsie Pigford, Flynn Chapman, Chelsea Stephens, Rachel Payne and Karl Lamming. Not pictured are Olivia Key and Raylea Underwood

From the Counselor:
by Mary Airhart

TAAS Test Dates Fast Approching!

TAAS Testing is scheduled statewide as follows:

- Tuesday, February 20th** – Writing for grades 4th, 8th & 10th.
- Wednesday, February 21st** – Math for grade 10 only
- Thursday, February 22nd** – Reading for grade 10 only

NOTE TO PARENTS:

TAAS testing will begin promptly at 8:15 a.m. each of these days. The tests are untimed, and students will be allowed as much time as needed. Most students will complete the tests within the first three hours of the day, but some students will require more time. Please schedule medical and dental appointments around these testing dates so that **all**

students who are not ill may be present for testing. Teachers have prepared the students mentally and academically for success. Please add your encouragement and insure that the students are rested and eat a good breakfast.

As always, we appreciate your help and concern to keep our school academically strong. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me.

Financial Aid Workshop Rescheduled

Ronnie Barnes, who was supposed to present a Financial Aid Workshop last Wednesday, January 10, and then rescheduled for Wednesday, January 17th, called to cancel again due to weather conditions there in Lubbock. Barring further

FFA Meat Items Available

The Gail FFA Chapter would like to let the public know that there is a few extra meat items left for sale from their meat sale earlier this year.

Meat items available:

Smoked Wheeler Hams	\$20.00
Spiral Turkey Breast	\$22.00
Peppered Ham	\$20.00
Pork Loin	\$16.00
Beef Fajita	\$ 9.00
Chicken Fajitas	\$ 9.00
Spiral Sliced Ham	\$30.00
Candied Nuts	\$ 9.00
Brisket Kit	\$20.00
Snack Sticks	\$ 7.00
Smoked Turkey	\$15.00

If you would like to purchase any of these items you may contact any FFA member or Buddy Wallace @756-4313.

Scholarship available from Poka Lambro

Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is now accepting applications for three \$2,500 scholarships to be awarded in March of this year. Entry deadline is March 2, 2001.

The son or daughter of any member of Poka Lambro Telephone Cooperative, Inc. graduating from an area high school is eligible. Scholarship recipients are selected based on academic achievement, involvement in extra-curricular activities and financial need.

Applications have been sent to area high schools and may also be obtained from Poka Lambro. Scholarship presentations will be made at

complications, the workshop will be held next Friday, January 26th at 11:20 in the conference room. All seniors, juniors, their parents, and other interested parties are invited to attend. Sorry for the repeated inconvenience.

With Love, On Valentine's Day

Your Child's or Children's Name
Parents
Grandparents

Make your loved one happy by seeing his/her picture in the paper. Bring or mail a cute picture of your child or grandchild and I will place it on a Special Valentine Page in the Borden Star on February 14th.

The Cost is Only \$10.00 per picture

The deadline is noon on Tuesday February 13th

The Borden Star
Box 137
Gail, TX 79738

Two BHS Graduates named to Dean's List

Wayland Baptist University: Julie Mayes, a 2000 BHS graduate was named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at Wayland Baptist University. To qualify for the honor, students must carry at least 12 semester hours and achieve at least a 3.5 GPA. Julie is the daughter of Sue

Jarie Mayes and Gail and David Mayes of Snyder.

Poka Lambro's Annual Membership Meeting in March. For additional information, please contact Amy Preston at 1-800-442-2387.

Austin College: Borden County 1999 graduate, Jeffrey Dennis, the son of Joel and Betty Dennis, has been named to the Austin College Dean's List for the 2000 Fall semester, according to Austin College Registrar Phyllis Rieser.

All students named to the Dean's List earned a semester grade point average of at least 3.71 on a 4.0 scale and

Cont. to pg. 6

Lewis/Martin exchange vows

Amy Lynn Lewis and Joe Chad Martin, both of Arlington, were united in marriage in a double-ring ceremony at 1:00 PM on July 8, 2000, in the Farmers Branch Church of Christ, Farmers Branch, TX. Keith Pickett, friend of the couple from Hurst, TX officiated.

Parents of the couple are R. D. and Carol Lewis of Gail, TX, and Dennis and Janice Martin of Bogata, TX.

Columns on the outside of the church building were decorated with large tulle bows, as were the pews of the center aisle. Two spiral candelabra and two giant ferns adorned the front of the church.

A chorus presented a vocal prelude before the ceremony began. Vocalists included Pam and Whitney Pickett of Hurst and Shawn Lewis, brother of the bride from Abilene. Catherine Tanner, bride's aunt from St. Joseph, MI, sang "Candle on the Water," which Amy sang in Catherine's wedding in 1982. Special relatives and parents were seated to "The Blessing Song." Candle-lighters Jeremy Mankins, groom's cousin from Detroit, TX, and Bryan Jackson, bride's cousin from Abilene, TX, lighted candles to "Gentle Shepherd." The groom and his attendants entered to "Only God Could Love You More" recorded previously by Amy, Pam, and Whitney. Bridal attendants entered to "Jesus, Joy of Man's Desiring."

The bride, presented in marriage by her father, wore a white satin gown by Venus featuring a v neckline and short sleeves with a deep v back. The entire bodice was detailed with Alencon lace and pearls. The empire waist floated onto a simple chapel train that had a border of matching Alencon lace. Amy wore



Mr. & Mrs. Joe Chad Martin
...nee Amy Lynn Lewis

a tiara that her mother wore in her wedding; attached to it was a fingertip veil of tulle accented with seed pearls and sequins. A detachable cathedral length veil was also worn.

In keeping with tradition, for something old the bride carried in her bouquet a handkerchief belonging to her maternal great-grandmother, carried in other family weddings; her gown was new; her mother's tiara was borrowed; and she wore a blue garter, a gift from Vance Crowe. Her bouquet was a nosegay style, of white Virginia roses with touches of lavender freesia and purple statice.

The bride's attendants included matron of honor Shelly Bolton, sister of the bride from Snyder, TX; bridesmaids Kristi Cawley, friend of both the bride and groom, of Atlanta, GA; Leah Bowie of Ft. Worth; Amy Jimenez of Woodbridge, VA; Cheryl

Brannon of Irving; and Keri Campbell of Lewisville. They carried nosegay bouquets of pink roses, purple statice and freesia, with satin-wrapped stems, and wore long dresses of purple matte satin featuring a draped neckline. Flower girls were Teresa Tanner of St. Joseph, MI, and Attie Jackson of Abilene, cousins of the bride, and Blakely Martin of Mt. Pleasant, cousin of the groom. They wore tea length white satin dresses with wide purple satin sashes.

Erric Martin of Arlington, brother of the groom, was best man. Groomsmen were Andy Zimmerman and Mark Ostoits, both of Atlanta, GA, Jerad Guest of Arlington, Aaron Martin of Bogata, brother of the bride, and Cody Guest of Arlington, cousin of the groom. Ushers were Scott Bolton, Clay Pirtle, Jerry Francis, and Joey Hanna. The men's tuxedos were Oleg Shawl with silver

rainbow vests and drop rose topiaries and various ties. The groom's boutonniere was a white rose with lavender and ivy; the other men wore boutonnières of a single white rose with ivy. Ring bearers were Jesse Hanna of Bogata and Dalton Martin of Mt. Pleasant, cousins of the groom. They were attired in tuxedos.

Nancy Tanner, cousin of the bride, of St. Joseph, MI, and Katie Mankins, cousin of the groom, registered guests in the church foyer at a round table covered with a white floor length cloth, centered with a silk white rose topiary.

A reception was held in the atrium of the Embassy Suites Hotel in north Dallas. Various cold and hot hors d'oeuvres were offered on a separate buffet, decorated with a fresh flower topiary of roses, purple statice, and freesia. Beverages served included lemonade, tea, and coffee, and a champagne toast for the bride and groom. Tables were decorated with silk white

rose topiaries and various floral centerpieces. Guests ate to the accompaniment of piano music performed by Linda Moon. The bride's table featured both lemon and almond wedding cakes shaped as packages of various sizes, decorated with ribbons in shades of purple. The groom's chocolate cake, created by Mary Jo Whatley, aunt of the groom, featured fresh strawberries. Waiters offered guests a choice of cake flavors.

A rehearsal dinner was hosted by the groom's parents at The Trail Dust Steakhouse in Dallas. The couple's weeklong honeymoon trip was to Alaska, and they are now at home in Arlington.

The bride graduated from Borden County High School and Abilene Christian University. She is employed with Sunbridge Healthcare as a Regional Marketing Director. Martin is a graduate of Riverside High School and Austin College. He is employed with Concentra Medical Centers as a Health Services Manager.



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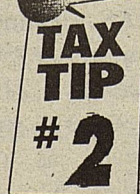
P. O. Box 102
GAIL, TEXAS 79738

Who must file a 2000 return?

Generally, you must file a 2000 tax return if your gross income exceeds the following limits:

Married filing jointly	\$12,950
Head of household	\$ 9,250
Single taxpayer	\$ 7,200

Different limits apply for seniors and in special situations.
Call us for details or assistance.



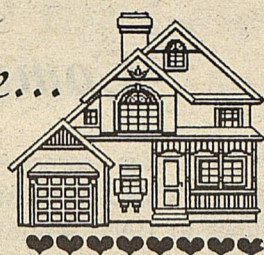
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Heart and home...

By Julie D. Mumme
Borden County Extension Agent -
Family and Consumer Sciences



Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. the Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

The Skinny on Fad Diets

What is a fad diet? A fad diet is a popular "crash" diet that is designed for quick weight loss. In most cases, fad diets are not supervised by a doctor or registered dietitian. Fad diets are popular because they appeal to individuals who want immediate weight loss, who want an easy way to lose weight, and who want to lose a lot of weight in a short period of time.

The Dark Side of Fad Diets: Despite some claims that they can help you "lose 30 pounds in 30 days," fad diets have little, if any, long-term success. They tend to be too boring or restrictive to follow for a significant period of time. In addition, such diets often fail to promote permanent healthful changes in one's eating and physical activity behaviors. As a result, most people who lose weight on fad diets usually regain the weight as soon as they go back to their old eating and physical activity habits.

Some fad diets are linked to adverse health risks: People who lose a lot of weight in a short period of time risk losing lean body tissue (i.e. muscle).

Muscle helps control our metabolism. When we lose muscle, we often lower our metabolism. This is one reason why most people regain their lost weight when they go off of a diet. **Gastrointestinal (GI) problems:** Diets high in protein and low in carbohydrate often lack dietary fiber. A lack of fiber increases the risk for developing constipation. **Inadequate intake of nutrients:** Some fad diets lack one or more essential nutrients, especially those that either eliminate specific food groups or require large amounts of one specific food. **Increased risk of**

osteoporosis: Diets low in calcium (the majority of adult women don't consume enough calcium) combined with high intakes of animal protein may increase the rate at which calcium is lost from the bone.

Remember, our bones are about as strong as they will be by the age of 30!

How do I know if it is a fad diet? Give it the "WOW" test. Read some of the claims used to advertise a weight-loss diet. Popular claims include: "Easy," "Miraculous," "Exclusive," and "Amazing." If the claims on a weight-loss diet cause a person to say "wow," it's probably a fad diet. Questions to ask to determine other signs of a fad diet include:

Does the diet...promote fat-burning foods, promise rapid weight loss, claim one can lose weight without exercising, include large amounts of one specific foods, use the results of a single study to prove its success, promote strict menus and specific times to eat, include the use of supplements or special products, promote changing eating habits for just a short period of time, label foods as either "good" or "bad," does not include a warning for persons with chronic disease to check with their doctor before starting any weight loss diet? Then it's probably a fad diet!

Healthful alternatives to fad diets: It is hard to compete with fad diets that promise rapid weight loss in just a few weeks, despite the fact that most nutrition experts recommend a rate of weight loss that



Texas Stories
A showcase of the Texas Spirit

Tumbleweed Smith
Part owner of Texas



Stop Smoking by Phone

"Buffalo Gap is where a lot of characters can live and not stick out." Those are the words of Tenna Yoes, who lives in Buffalo Gap and helps people stop smoking. She calls her business WELLPOWER.

In 1990, Tenna was

is no more than 2 pounds per week. Yet those extra pounds didn't come on overnight. So why should we expect them to leave immediately? Consumers who want long-term success with weight loss should consider adopting the concept of "weight management." With this concept, obesity and over-weight are chronic diseases; therefore, they are treated for life. This means consumers have to adopt realistic weight goals and embrace healthful eating and physical activity habits for life. Adopting these behaviors will help us reach a healthy weight while reducing our risk for other chronic diseases simultaneously.

If you would like more information about weight management or nutrition and health, please contact the Extension office at (806)756-4336.

working at a hospital in Abilene as an accountant. The hospital was putting a non-smoking policy into effect. So Tenna decided she would either have to quit smoking or quit her job. She did both.

She took a course from Smoke Stoppers to learn how to stop smoking. The person who taught the class was leaving town, so Tenna expressed an interest in taking over her job.

She traveled to the tobacco belt around Albany, Georgia, received her training in how to teach the class and within six months after she had quit smoking, she taught her first group of people interested in quitting the tobacco habit. They were employees of the Abilene Independent School District. "The superintendent was hovering over me the entire time I was teaching," says Tenna. "I thought I needed a cigarette to get me through this."

That was ten years ago. Tenna has modified the program somewhat and inaugurated her own system of teaching people how to be tobacco-free. People taking the course have to be ready to quit.

She makes her classes fun and has an amazing ninety-five percent success rate. "Not only do the people I teach quit smoking, but they also learn how to be comfortable as a non-smoker."

When she quit, she thought she would never have fun again, that only smokers have fun. She learned that is not true.

Her program is in three phases. First is a free introductory session. Then you get ready to quit. The third phase is quitting. She spends a lot of time teaching people how to stay quit. "I go into stress, problems solving and how not to gain weight. I give them cards to read ONE WILL HURT and THE URGE TO SMOKE A CIGARETTE WILL GO AWAY WHETHER OR NOT YOU SMOKE A CIGARETTE. These have been real helpful. I tell them that this thing burning on fire will not change anything."

She says it only takes four days for the nicotine to get out of your body. "After that, the urge goes away. Conquering the habit gives you confidence."

She helps users of smokeless tobacco, too. She is now going up to tobacco users and telling them if they're interested in quitting smoking, chewing or dipping they can come see her. "Sometimes I give them a card and run."

She teaches the classes in her home, or on site where people hire her. "I do require one meeting face to face. And since I have clients all over the state, I conduct some sessions by phone. I've had a lot of good success by phone. Especially with men. They don't like meeting."

She does follow up by email. Tenna Yoes has helped thousands to quit smoking. The course is one hundred dollars and includes six sessions. Her phone number is 915/572-3976.

FCS Study Group Meeting

Monday, January 29th

6:00 p.m.

Community Building in Gail.

This month's program will be:
Getting the Skinny on Fad Diets
Refreshments will be provided

A meeting about beginning a weight loss group will follow the program For more information contact Julie Mumme at 756-4336.

The Pipeline Group Public Education – Contractor Awareness Program

The Pipeline Group's annual "Public Education – Contractor Awareness Program" will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 8, 2001, at the Howard County Fair Barn, at Big Spring Rodeo Grounds on old West Highway 80, in Big Spring, Texas. The program will be sponsored by a group of companies with a common goal of preventing accidents and damages to underground pipelines and utilities. A free dinner will be catered by Big Jon's Feed Lot for all persons involved in excavation related activities in Borden, Glasscock, Howard, Mitchell, Scurry and Sterling Counties. Following the dinner, a brief safety program will be presented which stresses the importance of accident prevention by identifying pipeline and utility rights of way, use of one-call systems, and the importance of working with pipeline and utilities companies to safely excavate in the vicinity of underground facilities. The Texas law requiring notification to a one-call system before excavating will be discussed. Sponsors will provide promotional materials; including notification information for their companies, safety related brochures and other safety reminders.

Each year many lives are injured or lost, plus millions of dollars in repairs and lost products are incurred due to "third party" incidents – someone digging into a pipeline. Thousands of

communications, some life threatening, may be disrupted when expensive fiber-optic cables are damaged or severed. These types of excavation can be financially devastating to the responsible party. This safety program is an attempt to help those who do excavation work to avoid such situations.

Sponsors for the program include: Alon USA LP – BP Amoco – Chevron Pipe Line Co – Diamond-Koch Pipeline LP – DIG TESS – El Paso Field Services Inc – El Paso Natural Gas Co – EOTT Energy Pipeline Limited Partnership – Equilon Pipeline Co LLC – Kinder

Morgan CO₂ Co LP – Mitchell Gas Services LP/Southwestern Gas Pipeline Inc/ACACIA Natural Gas Corp – Navajo Pipeline Co – Northern Natural Gas Co – ONEOK Westex Transmission Inc – Spring – Sun Pipe Line Do – Teppco Crude Oil LP – TXU Fuel Co/TXU Lone Star Pipeline – Western Gas Resources Inc – Williams Energy Service/Mid-America Pipeline Co/Seminole Pipeline Co/Mapco Gas Inc.

For more information call (800)982-8752 or visit our web site at www.pipelinegroup.com.

OBITUARY

Lorene Jones 1912-2001

Graveside services for Lorene Mildred Jones, 88, of Clovic, N.M. were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, January 24, in the Gail Cemetery with the Rev. Clifton Igo officiating.

Arrangements were under the direction of Branon Funeral Home of Lamesa.

Mrs. Jones died Sunday, Jan. 21, 2001.

She was born June 27, 1912, in Greenville. She married Jasper Jones. He died Nov. 5, 1991. She owned and operated a café in Gail for

many years. She was a member of Gail Baptist church.

Survivors include a daughter Gealene Hodge of Clovis, N.M.; two sisters, Ava McWhorter of Athens and Edna Rice of Johnson City; three brothers, Melvin Dunbar of Carlsbad, N.M., Guy Dunbar of Lamesa and Kay Dunbar of Woodward, Okla; a grandchild; four great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

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The U.S. Treasury reports about \$500 billion in currency currently in circulation.

Commentary

I recently ran across this Commentary in the Stanton Messenger where they listed the Best (or Worst) Newspaper Headlines in 1999. While I had my share of typos and badly worded sentences, I am happy to report that none of these were taken from my publication. Of course, there's always next year!

1. *Included Your Children When Baking Cookies*
2. *Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Experts Say*
3. *Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers*
4. *Drunks Get Nine Months in Violin Case*
5. *Iraqi Head Seeks Arms*
6. *Is There a Ring of Debris Around Uranus?*
7. *Prostitutes Appeal to Pope*
8. *Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over*
9. *British Left Waffles on Falklands Islands*
10. *Teacher Strikes Idle Kids*
11. *Clinton Wins Budget; More Lies Ahead*
12. *Miners Refuse to Work After Death*
13. *Plane too Close to ground, Crash Probe Told*
14. *Juvenile Court to try Shooting Defendant*
15. *Stolen Painting Found by Tree*
16. *Two Sisters Reunited after 18 Years in Checkout Counter*
17. *War Dims Hopes for Peace*
18. *If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It may Last a While*
19. *Couple Slain, Police Suspect Homicide*
20. *Man Struck by Lightning Faces Battery Charge*
21. *New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group*
22. *Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Space*
23. *Kids Make Nutritious Snacks*
24. *Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half*
25. *Typhoon Rips through Cemetery, Hundreds Dead*

Dean's List

Cont. from pg. 3

are ranked in the top 20 percent of the student body.

If your graduate has been given a special honor, in college or in employment, please send us the information. We would like to keep up with all former BHS students and their progress.



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FDIC

Cautious Cause for Celebration: Texas' Brucellosis-Infected Herd Count: 0 (For Now)

Texas cattle producers are starting the new year with a big zero, and livestock health officials say it's cause for celebration and strengthened resolve to keep it that way.

"For the first time in the 50-plus year battle against brucellosis, none of Texas' 153,000 cattle herds are under quarantine," said Dr. Terry Conger, state epidemiologist for the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), the state's livestock health regulatory agency.

Dr. Conger said this brings the state a giant step closer to wiping out the bacterial infection that struck more than 8,300 cattle herds in the state during the past 14 years. More than 20,000 Texas cattle herds were infected in the mid-1950's, when brucellosis eradication efforts were initiated. While infection can cause cows to abort, deliver weak calves or produce less milk, he said, most affected cattle display no signs of disease. This can create a frustrating situation for producers and animal health officials alike, he said, as infected animals, despite appearances, must go to slaughter.

"In the past 12 months, we found six infected herds — one each in Panola, Henderson, Orange, Medina, San Patricio and Navarro Counties," said Dr. Max Coats, who heads TAHC's field operations. "These herds were depopulated, and the owners received an indemnification for their animals, from a combination of state and federal funds, and the slaughter value of animals."

"I don't know how long

Texas will stay at zero quarantined herds, since we're actively testing and looking for those last hard-to-find infected herds," said Dr. Conger, a 15-year veteran of brucellosis eradication. "Now is the most important time to be vigilant for this disease." He predicted that several infected herds will be found before the state will stay 'clean' and qualify for the "Free" classification. Dr. Conger said adult cattle are required to be tested prior to change of ownership or entry into the state, and slaughter plants collect blood samples from adult cattle for testing. When an infected animal is detected, information from backtags and eartags is used to trace it back to its herd of origin. The herd is tested for the disease, and neighboring and "at-risk" herds also may be tested.

"South Dakota has just achieved their victory over cattle brucellosis, joining the other 45 states classified as 'Free' of the disease. Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Florida are in the final stages of eradicating the disease," said Dr. Jon Lomme of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services in

Texas, which works closely with the TAHC. To earn the U.S. Department of Agriculture's "free" designation, a state must have no infection for 12 consecutive months, while maintaining a high level of disease surveillance.

Dr. Lomme explained that cooked meat from infected animals is safe to eat. Depopulation of infected herds, he said, prevents the spread of disease to other herds and 'speeds up' the eradication program by avoiding the minimum one-year quarantine period and testing program for the infected herd. "By depopulating an infected herd, a producer can be back in business shortly with clean cattle," he said.

"Our program can be directly credited to producer cooperation and the testing team comprised of TAHC staff, U.S. Department of Agriculture veterinarians and private veterinary practitioners committed to this disease eradication program," said Dr. Coats. He also gave kudos to the state-federal laboratory system, which runs more than 2.5 million blood and tissue samples yearly, and to the RB-51

vaccine, which provides protection against brucellosis but does not cause confusing "false-positive" laboratory test results.


"We are so close to eradication," said Dr. Conger. "If we become complacent


now and leave even one infected herd out there, we could lose all this progress — and compromise the sacrifices producers have made through the years. In the new year, we must remain resolved to eradicate brucellosis."



Nicole Rodriguez was killed by a drunk driver while walking next door to play with her friend.

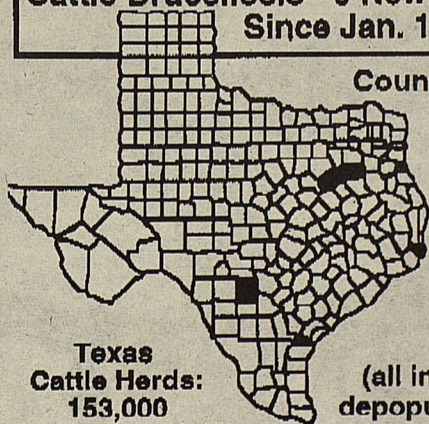
What should you do to stop a friend from driving drunk?
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 U.S. Department of Transportation

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YOU LOSE

 Ad
Council

Cattle Brucellosis - 6 Newly Detected Herds Since Jan. 1, 2000



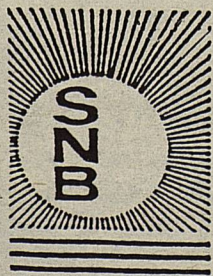
County and date detected:

- Panola 2/15/00
- Henderson 4/24/00
- Orange 5/30/00
- Medina 6/02/00
- Navarro 7/14/00
- San Patricio 7/21/00

(all infected herds were depopulated by Dec. 27, 2000)

Texas
Cattle Herds:
153,000

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BID NOTICE

Borden County Commissioners' Court will receive bids until 10:00 a.m., February 12, 2001 for the purchase of a new 2001 automobile for use in the Borden County Sheriff's Department. Bids will be opened and considered in the Borden County Commissioners' Courtroom in the County Courthouse. Specifications may be obtained at the office of the County Judge, 806/756-4391 or the Sheriff's Office 806/756-4311. Borden County Commissioners' Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive all formalities.

BY ORDER OF THE BORDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT.
Van L. York, County Judge
Borden County

Why your Natural Gas Bills are higher this winter

Cont. from pg. 1

during the most recent downturn of 1998-1999, which lasted over 18 months. The recent higher prices should be causing an increase in drilling opportunities, and in fact rig counts have increased significantly from a year ago. However, at the Commission we are seeing a decline in drilling permits and completion permits for natural gas wells. This should not be happening. This shows that we have lost talented, qualified people in the industry who have the ability to identify and explore new fields drill new wells, and increase production. The new wells that will be coming on line may not begin to yield significant increases in actual production until later in the year.

The demand for natural gas most certainly exists, and the resource is in the ground. The problem is how to stimulate production and ensure that the necessary infrastructure to move gas to consumers remains available. In the long run, the market will answer most of these concerns. But regulatory and legislative policies will certainly influence how quickly the market responds. I believe that with the growing demand for gas by electric generation in Texas, the Railroad Commission and the Texas Legislature should be considering policies to increase the production of natural gas.

This legislative session, I will suggest we address this issue of high natural gas prices by looking long range.

Political policy is sometimes looked at as a short-term fix when prices are either too high or too low. We should view energy issues from a long-term perspective and seek to help stabilize the industry, which should result in lower prices for consumers and businesses. The legislature will need to look at what we can do to help revitalize the industry, encourage people to invest their money

in Texas energy projects and encourage the skilled labor to return.

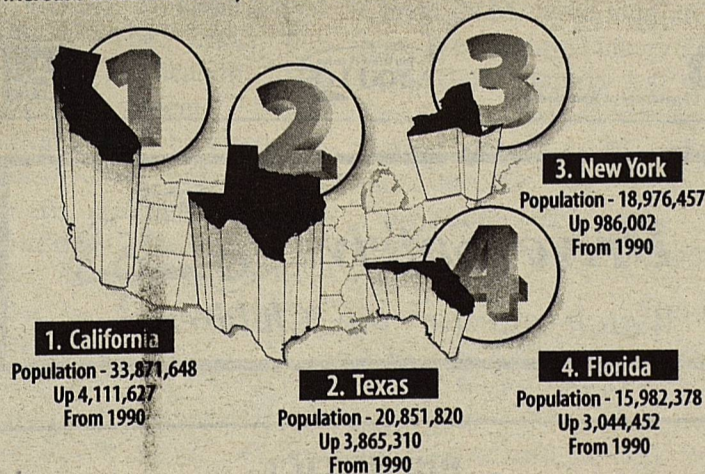
I have testified to the legislature about policies and incentives for investing capital in the Texas oil and gas industry. This will ultimately lead to competitive electric rates for Texas consumers and businesses and the reassurance that enough supply of natural gas is available to meet electric

and human needs. I have confidence that the natural gas exploration and production companies will eventually increase production, however that will take time. I will continue working with industry on how technologies and opportunities can be applied today to ensure that Texas can meet the challenge of providing the natural gas to fuel electric generation and other growing demands.

Keeping an Eye on Texas

Climbing the Ranks

The U.S. Census 2000 reports Texas is the second most-populated state, with figures that show 20,851,820 residents as of April 1, 2000. Texas gained nearly 4 million people in the 1990s, and the state's 22.8 percent increase boosted Texas past New York to the No. 2 position.



SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (www.window.state.tx.us), the U.S. Department of Commerce and U.S. Census Bureau.

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