

# THE BORDEN STAR

Volume XXIX

March 28, 2001

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

## Rich Anderson selected for special award by Ranching Heritage Center

BIG SPRING HERALD Staff Reporter

Longtime area rancher John R. "Rich" Anderson has been selected to receive the National Ranching Heritage Center's "Boss of the Plains" award for 2001.

Anderson, who owns the Muleshoe Ranch near Gail, will be honored in an award dinner set for April 28<sup>th</sup>.

The Boss of the Plains award recognized individuals who have been instrumental in the success of the national Ranching Heritage Center. Anderson has served for more than 20 years as a member, president and chairman of the Ranching Heritage Association and as president of the board of the endowment fund for the Preservation of Ranching Heritage of America.

Anderson was raised on the family ranch near Lovington, N.M. He later managed the family ranch until it was sold in 1998.

After graduating from the University of Oklahoma in 1951, he was employed at the Muleshoe Ranch. He became owner of the operation in 1957.

He initiated a number of practices to improve breeding, calving, milk production, calving and weight gain. He also supervised the ranch's



John R. "Rich" Anderson

production and marketing programs and improved her quality.

Quality of horse breeding stock was also emphasized by Anderson.

The ranch, under Anderson's guidance. Also implemented land management practices, which have received local and national recognition. These include rotational grazing, root plowing, reseeding, stock tank improvements and aerial spraying.

In 1992, he was recognized by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association with the Environmental Stewardship

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## Recurring Dreams???

Ever had one of those dreams that keeps coming back night after night? That is what is happening to the Borden County High School cast and crew of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

For the second year in a row, the Borden County High School One-Act Play has advanced to the Area Contest, therefore allowing the crazy messed-up dream of fairies and lovers to occur again for a third round of competition.

Borden County's production was selected to advance from the District 9-A Contest, along with two-time defending OAP state champion Highland.

Five individuals from the Borden County cast were chosen for individual acting awards. Named to the All Star Cast were D.J. Smith in the role of "Nick Bottom", Bekah Hensley as "Puck", & Cody Nowlain as "Lysander".

Honorable Mention All Star Cast nods went to Holly Thomas as "Hermia" and Kandace Kimmel as "Titania".

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## Gail FFA members kick off judging season

Several Gail FFA members officially began their 2001 judging season this past Thursday as they competed at the Tarleton State University Invitational Judging Event.

The Gail Chapter had 2 teams at the contest. Team members were: **Livestock:** T.C. Stipe, Shayla Gass, Kyle Pinkerton and Dan Griffin. **Horse:** Heather Crawford and Brandy Shafer.

The standout for the Gail Chapter was T.C. Stipe as he individually ranked 13<sup>th</sup> out of 942 participants in the Livestock contest. T.C. received a Tarleton cap and a



BHS Junior, T.C. Stipe

plaque for his efforts.

Heather Crawford also placed well as she ranked 32<sup>nd</sup> from a field of 849 horse

Cont. to pg. 2

## BJH Student wins First Place at Permian Basin Science Fair

8<sup>th</sup> grader Casey Divin of Gail has been recognized as having the top project in this year's NACE (National Association of Chemistry Education) Science Fair held March 24 at UTPB in Odessa.

Divin, competing in the junior chemistry division, won over 72 other projects from this region.

Acid and bases testing was the premise for Divin's project. He used a cabbage head boiled in



Casey Divin and Mr. Tom Lewis, BHS Science teacher

water and retrieved the purple pigments to serve as an indicator for either bases or acids.

Mr. Tom Lewis, science teacher, accompanied Divin as did another student who competed, J. Ryan Gicklehorn.

## Girls finish 4<sup>th</sup> with 65 points Jr. High Boys Capture second place at Highland Relays

Riding the momentum of points scored from medal-placing relays, the boys' jr. high track team brought home the second-place team trophy from Highland's junior high meet.

Coach Bobby Avery, assisted by Coach Rich Powers, put together a squad that scored 100 points, second only to Roscoe's 144 points.

Individual results are as follows for the boys' team:

**Jeffrey Minnick:** 1<sup>st</sup> in 2400m run (9:13.36), 2<sup>nd</sup> in 1600m run (5:51.28); **Casey Divin:** 3<sup>rd</sup> in 2400m run (9:34.96), 3<sup>rd</sup> in 1600m run (6:24.36), participant in long jump, triple jump (27'10 1/2"); **John Wilson:** 6<sup>th</sup> in 800m run (2:51.15), 6<sup>th</sup> in 1600m run (6:51.63); **Derek Gwinn:** 2<sup>nd</sup> in 800m run (2:39.80), 6<sup>th</sup> in discus (80'6"); **Andrew Lamming:** 5<sup>th</sup> in 800m run (2:47.84), high jump (4'4"), triple jump (27'5"); **Garrett Thomas:** 2<sup>nd</sup> in 110m hurdles (20.34), 1<sup>st</sup> in 300m hurdles (52.51); **Ben Griffin:** high jump, 3<sup>rd</sup> in pole vault (8'6"); **Tyler Wallace:** 6<sup>th</sup> in

400m dash (69.89), 100m dash (14.74), shot put, discus (64' 7 1/2"); **Aaron Pigford:** 100m dash (14.69), 200m dash (30.61), high jump (4'4"), triple jump (28' 11 1/2"); **J. Ryan Gicklhorn:** 200m dash (35.67), shot put, discus (52'6 1/4"); **Caden Nowlain:** 100m dash (15.27), 200m dash (32.78), long jump (12'8 1/4"); **Cade Peterson:** 3<sup>rd</sup> in 400m dash (65.63); pole vault (8'6"), long jump (14'4"); **Adam Carter:** 3<sup>rd</sup> in shot put (33'6")

The boys' 400m relay team had a time of 52.80 for their third place medal. Team members are Garrett Thomas, Casey Divin, Adam Carter, and Ben Griffin.

The 1600m relay ran a 4:34.45 for third place. Members include Griffin, Divin, John Wilson, and Adam Carter.

Below are individual

results for the junior high girls' team:

**Shiloh Pool:** 100m dash (16.17), 4<sup>th</sup> in triple jump (26'9 1/2"), long jump (10'6 1/2"); **Ashley Ellison:** 100m dash (16.82), discus (42'4"); **LaShae Johnson:** 100m hurdles (23.82), triple jump (26'9 1/2"); **Thelma Balaque:** 100m hurdles (DQ), 5<sup>th</sup> in 300m hurdles (63.78), triple jump (26' 1/2"), 3<sup>rd</sup> in high jump (4'4"); **Emily Mayes:** 2<sup>nd</sup> in 800m run (2:59.35), 2<sup>nd</sup> in 400m dash (73.51), 2<sup>nd</sup> in 200m dash (31:49), 2<sup>nd</sup> in long jump (13' 3 1/2"), 2<sup>nd</sup> in triple jump (28' 11 1/2"); **Whitney Anderson:** 800m run (3:23.27), discus (47' 1/4"); **Megan Brooks:** 5<sup>th</sup> in 800m run (3:17.46), discus (45' 1 1/2"), 200m dash (34.25); **Mika Peterson:** 2<sup>nd</sup> in 100m dash (20.70), 300m hurdles (DQ)

Next track meet for both junior high teams is scheduled for March 31 at Klondike.

## Recurring Dreams???

Cont. from pg. 1

The technical crew of the production was also given the Technical Merit Award for outstanding performance. Clay John Anderson, Jessica Ellison, and Shawna Ellison comprise the crew.

Also participating in the One-Act Play are James Bond, Krystle Lee, Rowdy Dunlap, Laura Stamper, Jacob Zant, Michele Bond, Kevin

Ellison, Micah Hensley, Talin Pepper, John Stamper, and Evan Winegarner.

The Area Contest is slated for April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2001, at Eden High School in Eden. The Borden County production will be one of six plays competing and performance and rehearsal order is still being established. An updated schedule will appear in next week's *Borden Star*.

## Parents Club News

### Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Thursday, April 12, 2001. The preschool kids will hunt Easter eggs at 2:30 p.m. with the older kids hunting at 3:05 p.m. Families of each child will need to bring one dozen plastic Easter eggs and to fill them with candy (no chocolate).

Parents Club scholarship. It was a general consensus that the scholarship be rewritten with the following criteria: Academic Achievement, Extra Curricular Activities, Need, Church and/or community Involvement, Employment, Other School activities, and an essay explaining what you have learned from these past experiences and how would it be applied to your life.

### Parents Club Scholarship

The Parents Club Scholarship was discussed. Criteria for this scholarship was discussed at length. It was a consensus that the scholarship be awarded to a student who had attended at least two semesters at Borden County High School and they must be a member of the Borden County 2001 graduating class.

It was discussed to have a scholarship committee to "grade" the scholarship applications. The students applying for the scholarship would put their name on the scholarship application and their name would be blocked out and application numbered prior to giving application to committee members.

It was discussed to re-write the scholarship applications. Several scholarship applications were provided to compare with the current

### FFA Judging

Cont. from pg. 1

judging participants.

The remaining Gail members all did well as they ranked in the top one third of their respective contests.

The Tarleton Judging Contest is the states largest youth competitive event as there were 4,000 students competing.

Mr. Wallace stated that he was extremely proud of T.C. and all of the Gail members for their work. The teams will travel to Canyon and Clarendon this weekend for more judging competition. Be sure to watch next weeks paper for results of their competition.

## Keeping an Eye on Texas

### Slamming solutions

"Slamming" is when a consumer's telephone provider - local or long distance - is switched without his knowledge or consent. Texas law requires companies engaging in such practices to pay the cost of switching customers back to their original provider, provide billing records to the original provider and, in some cases, pay fines of up to \$5,000 a day for each slamming violation.

#### Tips for prevention:

- Request a Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC) freeze from your phone company to prevent a change in long distance service without a written request.
- Inspect your phone bill each month and report unfamiliar charges to your phone company.
- Contact your phone company to confirm your preferred long distance carrier.

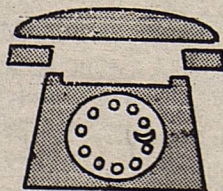


SOURCES: Carole Keeton Rylander, Texas Comptroller (www.window.state.tx.us) and the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

### Your Local Pastor

Is as near as your PHONE . . .

**Bro. Randy Hardman**  
Gail Baptist Church  
Call: 806/756-4363  
Mobile No: 759-9472



## School Menu

Week of:

April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>, 2001

**MONDAY:** Pizza, corn, salad, fruit & milk **Breakfast:** Muffin, fruit, juice & milk

**TUESDAY:** Chicken fried steak, potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, fruit & milk.

**Breakfast:** Waffles, ham, juice & milk.

**WEDNESDAY:** Chicken nuggets, green peas, carrots, rolls, fruit & milk **Breakfast:** Sausage, biscuits, juice & milk.

**THURSDAY:** Fajitas, salad, beans, fruit & milk.

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

**FRIDAY:** Cheeseburger, salad cup, French fries, cookies & milk. **Breakfast:** Pancake pup, fruit, juice & milk.

## Riding in an open pickup bed is Dangerous

Texans love the open road – the sky achingly blue above, the blacktop highway straight and true, the breeze ruffling through the driver's hair . . .

Texans Willie Nelson even sings about it: "On the road again . . ."

Could anything sound better?

Just don't try to fulfill that tempting picture in the open bed of a pickup. And don't ever let a child ride back there, say safety officials.

"Every year in Texas there are crashes involving children or adolescents riding in the bed of a pickup truck," said Marlene Albers, program manager for rural passenger safety education for Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Most often victims who survive these crashes sustain head injuries, which can take years of recovery, she said.

"These incidents take place not on the highway, but in neighborhoods," residential areas or school zones, and many times at speeds of 30-miles an hour or less, she added.

One common scenario involves a pickup, a young high-school age driver and a load of his or her friends who are headed to a fast-food place on their lunch break from school. Someone will invariably sit on the edge of the pickup's bed or on the wheel well, and when the vehicle hits a bump or turns a corner, that person is thrown from the pickup.

"Whenever refer to (these incidents) as accidents," Albers said, "because accidents are predictable, and if someone is riding on the bed of a pickup, you can predict that's an incident waiting to happen."

"It's preventable by not riding in the open bed of a pickup."

In Texas, where pickups are a favorite mode of transportation, incidents such as this are not uncommon.

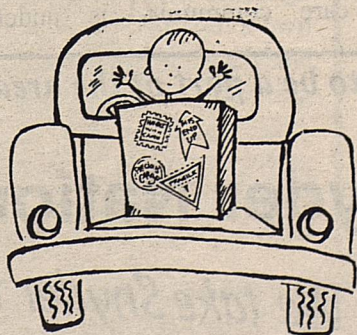
Senior Trooper Eddie Carmon of Bryan, with the Texas Department of Public Safety, Safety Education Service, has seen his share of crashes, wrecks – incidents – involving people riding in the back of pickups. Too many of them involve young people who are killed or who receive life-long injuries.

"Teenagers like to ride in the open bed of pickups," Carmon said. "Even at 30 miles an hour, it can kill you if you fall out."

And the tragedy is incidents like this can be prevented by not allowing anyone to ride in the back of a pickup.

Unfortunately, for some people it's not that simple. "Pickups, in Texas, are one of the most common vehicles you see on the road," Carmon said. In many families, especially those who live in rural areas, the pickup may be the *only* family vehicle.

Because riding in the open bed of a pickup is so dangerous, it's also illegal. Texas law, Section 545.414 states: "Riding in open beds; Offense (a) A person commits an offense if the person operates an open-bed pickup truck or an open flatbed truck or draws an open flatbed trailer at a speed of more than 35 miles per hour when a child younger than 12 years of age is occupying the bed of the truck trailer. (b) An offense under this section is punishable by a fine of not less than \$25 or more than \$200. (c) It is a defense to prosecution under this section that the person was operating or towing the vehicle in an



kids aren't cargo

emergency."

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service is working to prevent this kind of incident by educating drivers and the general public on the price paid for the ride in the back of a pickup, Albers said. Through a Rural Passenger Safety Program, a brochure called "Kids Aren't Cargo" tells of the dangers of riding in the open bed of a pickup and how those dangers can be prevented.

According to the brochure:

- "Children and teenagers account for more than half of the deaths of passengers riding in the bed of a truck."
- "Most non-collision deaths in a pickup truck bed are caused by swerving, braking or rough roads."
- "Children in covered pickup beds are exposed to carbon monoxide poisoning from exhaust."

Prevention is simple. As the brochure states: "Buckle up everyone, every time, every trip!"

## Children's Health Alert

### Children's Nosebleeds – Rarely a Cause for Alarm

By Dr. John Hellerstedt

**Nosebleeds are common in children. They can be scary but they're rarely dangerous. If your child gets a nosebleed, stay calm, and help your child sit quietly. Gently pinch the end of the nose shut for ten minutes and, afterwards, try to keep the child as inactive as possible.**

A common cause of nosebleeds is very dry air in the home caused by central air conditioning and heating. It's a good idea to humidify your child's room with a vaporizer if the nosebleed persists.

It is important to call your doctor or go to the emergency room if:

1. Your child gets a nosebleed as the result of a blow to the head or a fall.
2. You are unable to stop the nosebleed.
3. Nosebleeds are frequent or they last longer than fifteen minutes.
4. The nosebleed causes your child to have difficulty breathing.
5. The nosebleeds start or occur more frequently just after your child has begun taking a new medicine.
6. There is a foreign object stuck in your child's nose.

The Children's Health Alert is presented as a public service by this newspaper and the TexCare Partnership: connecting Texas families with children's health insurance for \$18 a month or less. Call 1-800-647-6558 for information or to apply.

John Hellerstedt, MD, FAAP, is the Medical Director of the Children's Health Insurance Program.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 HS Tennis District	3 HS Tennis District continued	4	5	6 HS District Track @ BC	7 Area II Texas Tech Judging
8	9 HS District Golf @ Big Spring	10 Cheerleading Applications due by Noon	11 HS & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Sundown Band Contest	12 5 <sup>th</sup> Six Weeks ends & Area Track Meet @ Hamlin	13 HOLIDAY	14 State Judging Texas A & M
15	16 Bad Weather Day (HOLIDAY)	17 Cheerleading Tryouts	18	19 JH Zone Track West Zone @ Sands	20 Elementary/JH Floydada Band Festival	21
22	23	24 TAAS 3-8 Math	25 TAAS 3-8 Reading	26 TAAS Social Studies 8th	27 TAAS Science 8 <sup>th</sup>	28 State Judging Texas Tech JH Tennis
29	30					

**DRIVE SAFELY!**  
Watch out for the Children . . .



## The suspension bridge at Regency

There has been a bridge across the Colorado River between Mills and San Saba counties since 1903. It's located near the village of Regency. Besides being a convenience for farmers hauling crops to market in Brownwood and Comanche, the bridge became the pride of the area and a social gathering place. Youngsters went there to picnic, dance and sing.

In 1924, the bridge caved in while a herd of cattle was crossing it. A nine-year-old boy, Raymond Burns Jernigan was killed in the accident. His horse and several cattle also perished.

In the late 30's a flood washed the bridge away. A new bridge was built in 1939, mostly by hand labor. Cecil Egger of Goldthwaite worked on it.

"It was pretty well under way when I was hired on," says Cecil. "I was working on a ranch for a dollar a day and I got thirty cents an hour at the bridge, so I doubled my pay and a little over."

It was not easy work.

"First morning I went to work up there was the fifth day of July. They had the framework and cables up then, and they had a walkway across the middle of the bridge. It was three three-by-eight's, which means the walkway was twenty-four inches wide. The boss asked me if I could carry a can of water across there and I said I guess so. That ten-gallon can had about fifteen pounds of ice in it. When I got to the other side, My arms were nearly pulled out of their sockets, but I never noticed it being heavy, I was scared so

bad. Twenty-four inches is pretty wide down on the ground, but several feet in the air it ain't very wide."

He worked on what are called the banister posts.

"I had a three-by-eight and I would stick it out there about five feet suspended in mid-air and chain it down on the back end. I'd lay out there on my stomach and drill holes back in there to bolt those posts on the west side of the bridge all the way across there."

The suspension bridge, 340 feet long, is supported by cables attached to towers at either end. The towers, thirty feet tall, were sent on concrete foundations buried ten feet into the banks of the Colorado.

The cables are made of 475 stands of number nine galvanized wire, each of which passed over towers at both ends of the bridge.

Work on the bridge started on April 19, 1939 and concluded in October of the same year. It has been bypassed by paved roads and remains as one of the last suspension bridges in Texas.

"I stayed there a week after everybody else had left, just going over everything, tightening bolts and things like that. Then I went to Colorado City and worked on a railroad bridge. I was there two weeks and the Army stopped us from getting any steel and we had to come back and go to picking cotton."

Cecil Egger served as Mills County judge fourteen years. The bridge at Regency is on a gravel road eighteen miles west of Goldthwaite. It was rebuilt in 1999.

## Outreach Health Services Lunches Statewide TeleHomecare Program for Homebound and Chronically ill patients

Outreach Health Services, a statewide leader in home healthcare, is launching its new TeleHomecare program for homebound and chronically ill patients in Lubbock and the surrounding South Plains area.

The new program, one of the first of its kind in Texas, uses state-of-the-art computer equipment to monitor patient's health and emotional status in the home environment. The equipment integrates live audio/video images and sound with medical peripherals to provide a complete, real-time picture of the patient's condition, concerns and their compliance with treatment protocols.

The system electronically transmits voice, video and patient medical data over ordinary phone lines and allows home health professionals to monitor the patients' medical condition, teach new information and reinforce previous health education.

Patients can be evaluated both visually and verbally, then in more detail with measurements that include heart, lung, bowel sounds and blood pressure. High-resolution video also lets nurses and home care providers view wounds and dressings, IV pumps and more. Additionally in-home patient equipment monitors weight and uploads glucose and blood pressure readings to a telehealth nurse at the central station.

"In addition to our in-person home care visits, this new program allows us to

improve the quality of care for our patients," says Sherry Cummings, assistant director of Medicare Services for Outreach Health Services, adding, "It allows us to provide early intervention and empowers patients to more actively participate in their own care."

There are many benefits from the TeleHomecare program for patients, caregivers, providers, and the health care system as a whole. For patients, it offers better access to care, early detection and intervention and helps maintain independence. For hospitals and health care systems, it decreases emergency room visits and advertises re-admissions for chronically ill patients. For physicians, it improves functional outcomes for patient treatments and allows for a better continuum of care.

The new program at Outreach Health Services is especially beneficial for treatment of the medically underserved urban and rural patients. According to Tony Gallardo, chief operating officer for Outreach Health Services, "An important aspect of this new service is to address the needs of medically underserved patients who tend to be of low financial resources and those who live in areas where specialized care is not easily accessible. Our new TeleHomecare program will help reduce the gap I access to medical care and provide better outcomes for our patients."

In recent months, the health care community is under

pressure to reduce and control costs while maintaining or improving quality of care, patient census, patient satisfaction and market share. Other considerations are a rapidly increasingly aging population coupled with a growing nursing shortage. In order to continue to be able to provide high quality care, the health care industry must maximize its human and capital resources. TeleHomecare is increasingly recognized as an effective solution to these challenges.

The concept of home telemedicine was first pioneered in 1993 with the first unit consisting of an aluminum box with a blood pressure meter and old-style videophone. Today the technology includes live audio/video with integrated, electronic medical peripherals so sensitive that heart and lung sounds and other detailed medical information can be transmitted to nurses and health care providers sometimes hundreds of miles away.

Outreach Health Services has provided quality home care to patients and their families throughout Texas since 1975. Today their services address a wide range of health needs of the elderly, chronically ill and disabled. With more than 6,000 employees statewide, Outreach Health Services provides efficient, affordable home health care services through many different payer sources such as Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance and private pay.

We're proud to be a part of the area since 1905.



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# 4-H News

## Texas 4-H Reaches Million-Member Milestone

Each child in Texas 4-H is now literally "one in a million."

Enrollment figures announced at a Capitol news conference show that nearly 1.2 million Texas children age 5-19 took part in one or more 4-H programs last year.

In reaching the million-member milestone for the first time, Texas 4-H also leads the nation in participants, accounting for one-sixth of the total national enrollment of 6.6 million.

In Texas, 4-H is administered by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service in partnership with the Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the county commissioners courts of Texas.

Texas 4-H began in 1908 with a 25-member boys' "corn club" in Jack County west of Forth Worth. Formed initially to reach rural children new methods of agricultural production and food preservation, 4-H has evolved into an organization dedicated to the development of young people themselves.

"4-H is about more than just numbers or enrollment totals - it's about the whole child, providing education, leadership opportunities and character development that will help each 4-H'er grow into a leader of tomorrow," said Dr. Chester Fehlis, Extension deputy director and associate vice chancellor for the Texas A&M system.

Texas 4-H remains rooted in the heart of rural communities, he noted, but it thrives in the cities - where most young people in Texas now live.

In fact, more than half of the Texas children in 4-H live in Houston and surrounding Harris County, the state's

largest population center. Harris County actually has more 4-H'ers than any other state in the country.

Many of these urban kids participate in 4-H through such school-based enrichment programs as Blue Skies Below My Feet (aerospace), Hatching in the Classroom (embryology), Something's Fishy (aquaculture), Talking with TJ (conflict resolution) and Junior Master Gardeners (horticulture), plus programs that teach leadership, nutrition and consumer skills.

Texas 4-H has more than 68,000 members of 4-H clubs, the cornerstone of the organization in which young people elect officers, meet and work on projects outside of school. But much of its rapid growth in total participation - more than 700,000 since 1993 - has been through special interest groups and in-school educational programs.

"Whatever the educational setting, "Fehlis said, "4-H programs continue to focus on 'learning by doing' experiences that each lifetime skills in communication, confidence, leadership and decision - making, among others."

"They have so many (activities within 4-H) that you can join!" said Kristyn Reinders, 15, of Miliam County, who has been around 4-H for 10 years, since she was 5 and attended meetings with her sister, Kristyn's own projects have been as diverse as photography, shooting sports, food and nutrition, consumer decision-making and safety. She currently is learning about animal

surgical procedures in a veterinary science project.

"I never knew anyone thought of me as a leader," said Mary Wong of Houston, who credits a county 4-H leadership program with giving her a positive self-image and the confidence to lead others.

"4-H is not just for rural kids anymore; it's for kids everywhere," said Enrique Saucedo, principal of the Douglass Elementary School in El Paso. "Every kid - and lots of adults - needs to know the concepts and skills 4-H teaches."

According to the latest Texas enrollment figures, 954,000 4-H participants live in larger cities and suburbs, and another 217,000 live in rural areas and cities with less than 50,000 in population.

Texas 4-H is active in every county, led by county faculty of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service working with 55,700 youth and adult volunteers statewide.

While the 4-H Pledge remains a constant - Head to clearer thinking, Heart to greater loyalty, Hands to larger service and Health to better living - 4-H members today face a world vastly different from the one of a century ago.

"In this new, more complicated world, everyone needs to appreciate each other's uniqueness and share the dream of a better future," Fehlis said. "Young people are our best help for building that future, and 4-H is giving them the tools to be successful."

## Clifton F. Igo Former Pastor honored for 50 years in Ministry

The Children of Reverend Clifton F. Igo and wife Norma of 62 years will honor him with a reception on the occasion of his 50<sup>th</sup> year in the ministry March 31, 2001 which is also Rev. Igo's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. The reception will be in the Activity Building at the Second Baptist Church, 1705 North Bryan Street, Lamesa, Texas, from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. Friends are invited to attend. Please no gifts; your presence will be cherished. Letters, cards or videos will be appreciated for a projected



Clifton & Norma Igo

memory book. The Igo's currently reside at 115 North 17<sup>th</sup>, Lamesa, Texas 79331.

## 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.

## Walk Across Texas

We will kick off *Walk Across Texas* on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. If your would like more information or are interested in participating,

please contact the Extension Office at 806/756-4336.

More information will be provided in next weeks Borden Star.

## Weight Management Group Meeting Monday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Community Building

Program: Food Labels: What do They Mean?

For more information contact the extension office at 756-4336

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The Borden Star (USPS or PUBLICATION NO. 895-520) is published weekly except Christmas and New Year's week for \$12.00 per year by the Borden Star, P.O. Box 137, Gail, Texas 79738. Second-class Postage paid at Gail, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send Change of Address to the Borden Star, P.O. Box 137, Gail, Texas 79738.

### Mutual funds can be taxing

Keep the income tax on your mutual funds as low as possible. First, choose the best method for calculating cost when you sell some shares in a fund. Second, don't forget to add reinvested dividends and capital gain distributions to your tax basis (cost) in the fund. For assistance in minimizing mutual fund taxes, call us.

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#11



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## Chili Peppers look promising on South Plains

The Texas South Plains is fertile ground for cotton and grain production. But some farmers here are working with Texas A&M University researchers and Extension specialists to develop a hot new crop – chili peppers.

In 1998, with a United States Department of Agriculture Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) grant, researchers began studying crops and non-traditional crop rotation systems that are productive and profitable for area growers. Chili peppers fit this scenario nicely.

"Chile peppers are very well adapted to the High Plains of Texas," said Dr. Roland Roberts, Texas A&M Extension horticulturist. "We have a very fertile soil. We have high quality water, and the ability to irrigate frequently.

"We also have high levels of sunlight. This high light intensity is what is required to build quality into the chile pod."

So far, farmers like what they see and produce with this crop.

Lynn County producer Glen Brosch started raising jalapeno peppers in 1993. In recent years, he has added chile and other peppers to his regular rotation of cash crops such as cotton and grain sorghum. Brosch is just one of several South Plains farmers who work with Roberts and Dr. David Bender, Texas Agriculture Experiment Station vegetable researcher, in testing chiles as a viable rotation crop.

"I've been growing peppers here on the South Plains since about 1993," Brosch said. "It's proven a good rotational crop for us. Many of the herbicides and pesticides we use to grow cotton are also compatible with chile pepper production.

"We plant chiles in the spring . . . using either small transplants that are raised right here on the farm, or in a

green house; or through direct seeding. We plant peppers in wide plots, on irrigated ground, and separate the plots with windbreaks. We use tall, headless forage sorghums as our windbreak crop."

Brosch manages his chile crop much like his other grain or fiber crops. Regular field scouting tells him when to irrigate, fertilize or apply a spray to combat insects or plant disease.

He uses a combination of methods to harvest his pepper crop. Farm workers provide seasonal labor for hand-picking, and they also operate a mechanical picker. Brosch is able to harvest some peppers, such as jalapenos, using a slightly modified cotton stripper.

Brosch markets most of his pepper crop through direct contracts with buyers. This year, however, he and other area growers are trying a new method.

"We built our own chile roaster, so we can sell direct to the public," Brosch said. "We take the roaster to area festivals, and we roast the chiles and sell them direct to consumers. They can buy as much, or as little, as they want to take the peppers home in plastic bags. Then they can cook with the peppers right away or put them in the freezer for later use."

There is a great deal of demand for chiles on the South Plains and in the Southwest, Roberts noted.

"As these growers steadily develop their markets, through buyer contracts and direct marketing, they stand to realize a great deal more

income than might otherwise be possible from traditional crops such as wheat, grain sorghum or soybeans," Roberts said.

Chile and other peppers are more management – and input-intensive than other crops – especially at harvest. Even so, it's not unusual for a skilled grower to realize as much as \$2,500 per acre in gross income from this rotation crop.

After several years of work with this crop, researchers are optimistic about the future of chile peppers on the South Plains.

"The yields have been good," Bender noted. "In our annual test plots, we have generally exceeded average yields commonly reported in other chile-producing regions in the Southwest. Part of this is due to the crop's resistance to plant diseases common on the South Plains and the fact that chiles are a relatively new crop.

"Plant diseases found in other chile-producing regions simply haven't had time to build up and become a problem on the South Plains. With wise rotation, we hope to keep it that way."

He said grower reaction to chile peppers have been very favorable.

"They are interested in anything (crops) that will work well with their present cotton and grain production systems, and potentially return a profit. They've really accepted this crop very well."

Researchers and Extension specialists at Texas A&M's Lubbock center plan to continue their work with South Plains chile growers. Their goal is to develop chile peppers as a viable, profitable, long-term rotation crop that compliments other crops and cropping systems.

## Assistant Zone Manager named to Northwest Plains

Johnny Justiss has been named as the assistant zone manager for the Northwest Plains Eradication zone. Justiss, who is from Coahoma, joins zone manager Stanton Mote in overseeing operations for the NWP.

Justiss joined the Foundation in 1999 and worked most recently as a field unit supervisor in the Permian Basin Zone. He has 25 years of experience in the banking industry, specializing in agricultural lending. Justiss also owned a cattle feed supplement business.

Justiss' ties to the cotton industry reach back to his boyhood in Roby, where he grew up on a cotton farm. He

has continued to lend a hand in the family business over the years and understands the critical issues facing today's cotton producers.

Justiss began his duties as assistant zone manager in mid-March. He and his wife will be relocating to Muleshoe.

## Rich Anderson

Cont. from pg. 1

Award. And in 1994, the Trans Texas Heritage Association recognized him as the private conservationist of the year.

Recipients of the Boss of the Plains award receive a sculpture, crafted by Channing artist Don Ray. The bronze depicts a rancher astride his favorite cowhorse.

This is only the third year that the award has been presented. Interestingly, Anderson presented the others – to Tom and Evelyn Lineberry in 1999 and to John Lott in 2000.

Invitations to the award dinner will be mailed this spring. A reception is set for 6:30 p.m., followed at 7 with dinner and the award presentation in the DeVitt-Mallet Main Gallery, 3121 Fourth St. in Lubbock.

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## Gypsy Pavers arrive on the South Plains

Just like the winds of spring, the "gypsy pavers" have blown into the South Plains. These traveling families usually drive new or nearly new pickup trucks from out of state and peddle their "leftover" materials outside the city limits. Over the years, they have gotten smart and started using "Texas" license plates and may even set up temporary offices with a business

license to make themselves look legitimate, but the Bureau advises that you do you homework before giving them any money.

Here are a few tell-tale signs that they may be 'conning' you:

- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is;
- If you are being pressured into making a decision;
- If you are not being given straight answers OR not

being given an answer to a direct question;

- Will not submit any information in writing or put promises in a contract;
- They want cash or make check out to an individual and to be paid in full, up front;
- They "name drop" (always check references);
- They refuse to give you a phone number or address where their "company" is located.

If you have been contacted recently by someone appearing to be a gypsy traveler, or have had recent dealings with someone purportedly selling left-over materials to pave

your road or driveway, call the sheriff's office in your area or if they are selling within the city limits, call the police department immediately.

As always, call your Better

Business Bureau at 763-0459 or 800-687-7890 to check them out BEFORE you do business. You can also check the company's reliability by logging onto our web site at: [www.bbbsouthplains.org](http://www.bbbsouthplains.org).



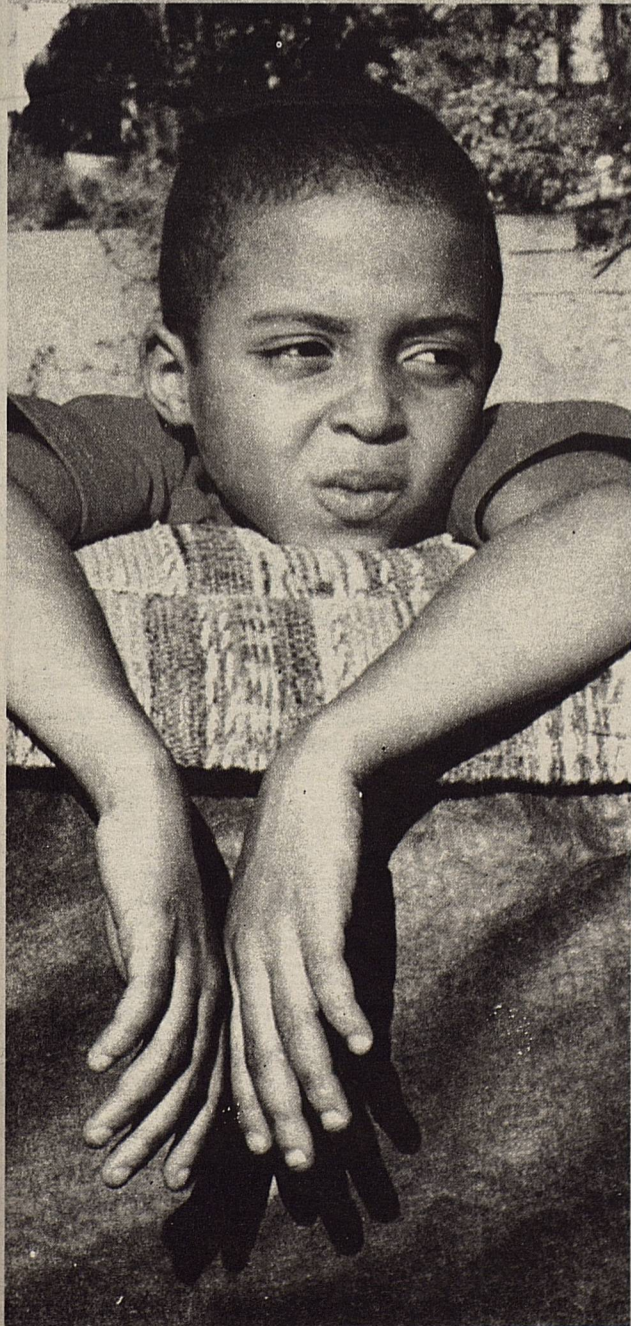
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## Kids Need You.

They don't know when there is danger unless you show them. They need their parents' help to get safely through each day.

- ✓ Watch out for your kids so they stay away from things that are not safe: traffic, hot stoves, electric outlets. Explain what can happen and why they should be careful.
- ✓ Move medicine so kids can't climb and reach it. Even aspirin can kill!
- ✓ Lock up guns. Lock up poisons like liquor, gas, bug spray, bleach and cleansers.
- ✓ Do not leave young children alone in a bathtub, swimming pool or car, even for a minute.
- ✓ Keep kids healthy. Wash hands, faces and bottoms each day. Brush their teeth. Clean all cuts or scrapes with soap and water. Go to the doctor or clinic if they are hurt or sick.
- ✓ Change your baby's diaper often. Diaper rash can be serious -- treat it with the right medicine. Take your baby for all his shots and checkups. Ask the nurse or doctor any questions you have.

✓ Don't leave small children alone or in the care of other kids. Make sure older kids left at home know how to call you -- and how to call for help if they need it.

✓ Make sure you really know the people who take care of your children when you can't be with them.

✓ Be in charge of what your kids eat! Feed them 3 meals of good food each day. Feed them rice and beans, milk, meat, and peanut butter. Give them fruits, vegetables and juice.

✓ Taking care of your children is a hard job, and it's harder if you feel all alone. Talk with someone who will listen.

Sometimes parents can't provide the right care because they are in trouble themselves: depression, drugs, alcohol. If an adult in your family is in this kind of trouble, the kids may not be safe. Protect your family by finding help.

[www.itsuptoyou.org](http://www.itsuptoyou.org)

Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services

## Roadways are rid of litter during *Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off*

Everything is bigger in Texas, and community clean-ups are no exception as more than 100,000 volunteers take to the roadways on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, to declare war on trash. As participants in the 16<sup>th</sup> annual don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off, these proud Texans will be going to extreme measures to pick up after those who have dared to trash the Lone Star State. "We're extremely grateful

for the way Trash-Off volunteers demonstrate their Texas pride, but it's hard work for 100,000 volunteers to pick up after 17 million people," said Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT); Travel Division Director Doris Howdeshell.

Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off volunteers will

pick up an estimated 2 million tons of litter in time for the spring wildflower season. This massive statewide cleanup is organized by TxDOT and fueled by volunteers from AAH groups and Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) communities around the state.

The Adopt-a-Highway program is open to civic-minded groups and organizations that would like to keep their

roadways clean of unwanted trash. Groups signs contact to pick up trash at least four times in a contract year. Contracts are for two years and minimum length of roadway assigned is two miles. Signs are placed and maintained by TxDOT. If you are interested in this program, call Mary Beth Kilgore, Abilene district AAH coordinator, at 915/676-6806.



**CAPITOL COMMENT**

U.S. SENATOR  
**KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON**



### TRACKING SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS

Texas parents, Texas teachers, Texas school boards and the state government have put a lot of thought and energy into improving our schools. Their efforts have paid off. The Lone Star State is leading the way in setting academic standards and holding schools accountable for achieving positive results.

Students' scores are improving across the board in reading, language skills and math. We have made amazing strides in showing it is possible to boost the performance of all students, regardless of income, background or ethnicity.

The centerpiece of Texas' educational renaissance has been the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) exams; more than 78 percent of all students passed their TAAS exams in 1999, compared to 55 percent in 1994. We know we're doing better. The next part of the challenge is to effectively convey to parents the strengths and weaknesses of their children's specific schools and to identify the strategies used in successful schools so they can be shared with those that are not as strong.

The availability of fair and accurate information is essential to empowering parents with the information they need to make the best choices for their children. Here's why, in the words of Joe Humphry, Director of Academic Programs for the Abilene Independent School District:

"For many years, the testing data we received compared our schools to high-profile schools in Plano or Highland Park. We knew our teachers and students were doing well in some areas, poorly in others, but a fair comparison was not always possible."

So Mr. Humphry hooked up with an organization called Just For Kids, which, since 1997, has been analyzing and publishing data on the performance of each school in the state. They provided the Abilene district with information on schools in similar communities.

"Once we could show our staff how we were performing in a fair comparison to similar schools, we were able to convince everyone involved that we had room for improvement," Mr. Humphry said.

"This information let us identify the districts with which we could share information... A number of our teachers visited schools in districts with high test scores that were identified as our peers.

"The final step... (is) for our staff to incorporate the 'best practices' we have seen into our instruction."

It's a simple but profound concept: determine what approaches are working in the most successful schools, and help them to share their methods.

I am introducing legislation, entitled "The Parents' Right-to-Know Act," which would allow states to meet the existing, burdensome, federal data-collection requirements by issuing a clear and comprehensive "report card" on every public school. This would include accurate records of school performance, teacher certification and other information relating to educational achievement. States would then make that information available to parents and the public on the Internet and through other means that ensure its broad distribution.

The bill also provides \$50 million for FY 2002 to help states which choose to make this information available to parents.

One of the most important lessons we've learned in Texas is that accomplishment is possible in all schools. We've put a lie to the idea that only some kids can meet high standards, and that only some schools can be improved.

The Just for Kids organization took raw data and put it into a user-friendly format that allowed the Abilene Independent School District and others throughout Texas to strengthen their programs. We want to replicate that success nationally, so all children will have the advantage of the teaching methods and educational experiences that work best.

(To find out how your child's Texas school is doing, go to the Just For Kids website at [www.just4kids.org](http://www.just4kids.org) and enter the name of the school. The site contains information on all of Texas' elementary, middle and most high schools.)

**END OF GAME NOTICE**

# Silver Dollars and Sweetheart Cash are getting scratched April 30th.




On April 30th, 2001, two Texas Lottery instant games will close – Silver Dollars (#123) and Sweetheart Cash (#187.) You have until October 27th, 2001, to redeem any winning tickets for this game. You can win up to \$25,000 playing Silver Dollars and up to \$1,000 playing Sweetheart Cash. You can claim prizes of up to \$599 at any Texas Lottery retailer. Prizes of \$600 or more are redeemable at one of the 22 Texas Lottery claim centers or by mail. Questions? Call the Texas Lottery Customer Service Line at 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).

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NOTICE: A Scratch Off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. For current information on prizes remaining in a Scratch Off game, call 1-800-37-LOTTO. Overall odds of winning any prize in Silver Dollars are 1 in 4.53 including break-even prizes. Overall odds of winning any prize in Sweetheart Cash are 1 in 4.76 including break-even prizes. Must be 18 years or older to purchase a ticket. © 2001 Texas Lottery.