

THE BORDEN STAR

VOLUME XXVIII

June 7, 2000

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

Borden County EMS- Here to make the difference

By Brice Key, EMS-Reporter

Borden County EMS members have elected new leadership to govern the volunteer organization into the new millennium. The officers for Borden County EMS are: Nelda Burnett, President; Buddy Wallace, Vice President; Carrie Hart, Secretary/Treasurer; and Brice Key, Reporter. These officers and members of Borden County EMS are dedicated to the pre-hospital health care of Borden County citizens. The following is a list of the members of BC EMS. Nelda Burnett, EMT-Paramedic; Carrie Hart, EMT-Paramedic; Kent Holmes, EMT-Paramedic; Danita Roe, EMT-Paramedic; Buddy Wallace, EMT-Paramedic; Mike Valentine, EMT Paramedic; Shirley Bennett, EMT-Intermediate; Tina Stansell, EMT-Intermediate; Bob Kempf, EMT-Basic; Brice Key, EMT-Basic; Chuck Kimmel, EMT-Basic; and Billy Gannaway, ECA-Emergency Care Attendant

Each one of these members has given of their time and energy to ensure that Borden County has a superior ambulance service.

There are three levels of EMT (Emergency Medical Technician), EMT-

Basic, EMT-Intermediate and the highest level is EMT-Paramedic. Each level has different sets of criteria that a student must pass to be able to advance to the next level. The criteria to become a Texas state-certified Paramedic is: a person must complete a minimum of 640 hours of classroom, a minimum of 180 hours in the emergency room, a minimum of 55 hours on the ambulance, a minimum of 18 ambulance runs, have shown proficiency in 40 emergency skills, plus pass 3 four hour state certification exams. Needless to say, being a Texas Paramedic does not happen over night. Borden County is lucky enough to have six outstanding paramedics with two more members becoming certified in the next year bringing the total to eight paramedics. Since Borden County has this level of training in their EMS organization, they are able to be ALS (Advanced Life Support) certified with the ambulance being MICU (Mobile Intensive Care Unit) equipped and licensed. This is unbelievable for a volunteer organization. Some larger cities aren't even ALS/MICU certified. In the beginning, Borden County EMS was only BLS (Basic Life Support).

The organization has truly evolved into a top rate service.

To become a EMT-Intermediate a person must have completed a minimum of 388 hours in the classroom, a minimum of 90 hours in the emergency room, a minimum of 50 hours on the ambulance, a minimum of 10 emergency runs, have shown proficiency in 25 emergency skills, plus pass 2 four hour state exams. At this point, BC has two EMT-Intermediates, with three

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Drought Conditions and Rabies

Rabies must be added to the long list of problems created by the drought. Due to the lack of water in many areas, animals tend to gather near those water sources that remain.

The concentration of infected and susceptible animals can result in more animals being exposed to rabies and developing the disease. These limited sources of water may be in remote areas on farm and ranch land or right in our backyards.

The average monthly cases of laboratory-confirmed animal rabies cases for this year in Public Health Region 9/10 is



2000 BC EMS Officers: (L to R.) Buddy Wallace, Vice President; Brice Key, Reporter; Carrie Hart, Secretary/Treasurer and Nelda Burnett, President.

double the monthly average for 1999.

The concentration of animals near available water sources may result in small but serious outbreaks of rabies. From November 1999 through March 2000 Terrell County reported twelve positive foxes and two positive bobcats in or near Sanderson. This outbreak resulted in one little girl being exposed to the disease by the attack of a rabid fox and receiving the Postexposure vaccinations.

Human exposures to rabies may occur even though no outbreak is recognized in the animal population. Pecos County

has reported only two rabid animals this year but one of these animals, a stray dog, exposed seventeen people to the disease.

Fortunately, no person in this region has developed this fatal disease in many years.

The drought is beyond our control. However, the risk of being exposed to rabies can be reduced.

1. All dogs and cats must be vaccinated against rabies every year.
2. Livestock which are in frequent close contact with people can also be vaccinated. In addition to

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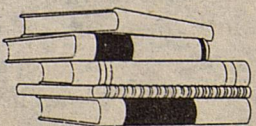
Borden County Grads Continue to 'Ex'Cel



Cathy Amonett, a 1986 graduate of Borden County High School has been chosen Teacher of the Year by her high school classroom students at Mertzon ISD in Irion County. This award qualifies Mrs. Amonett to apply for the Texas Teacher of the Year Award.

Cathy, daughter of Van and Barbara York of Borden County, was nominated for the Texas Teacher Excellence Award by her principal, Brenda Mendiola, in 1999. She has taught at Mertzon for the past two years. Her assignments include teaching English, AP English, ESL and a Business/Annual class. She also serves as annual sponsor, Beta Club sponsor and sponsor of various UIL events. One of her students served as The National Beat Club President in 1999.

Cathy is now attending San Angelo State University during the summer working toward a Master of Education degree which

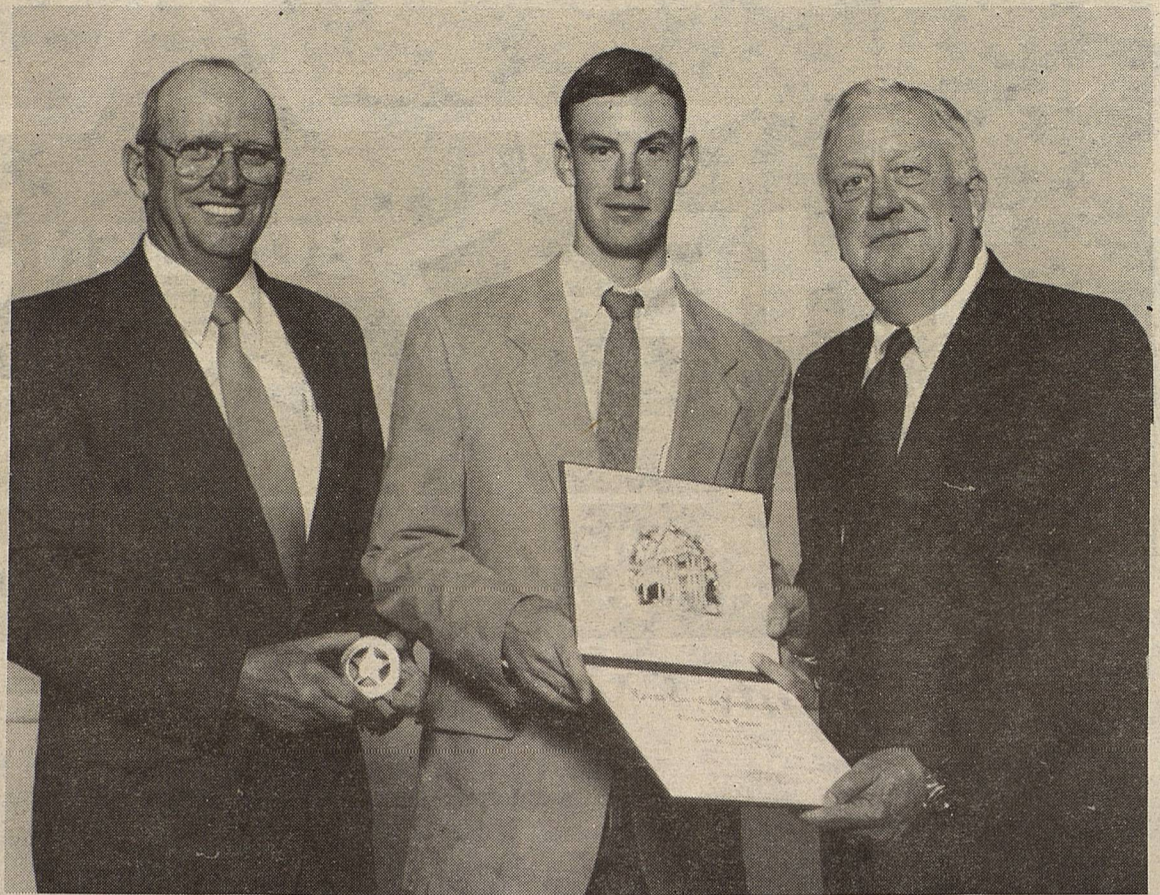


she will complete in August of 2001. She will complete an internship under her present principal for her administrative certification.

Borden County EMS-

EMT-Basic going to test on June 20th to become certified EMT-I; bringing the total to five Intermediates.

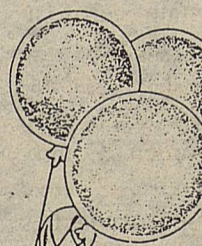
To become a EMT-Basic, a person must complete 176 classroom hours, 40 emergency room hours, 5 emergency runs on the ambulance, show proficiency in 20 emergency skills and pass the four hour state certification exam. These hours are completed by the student on their "own" time without compensation. The only compensation that a Borden County EMS member receives is the satisfaction in knowing that they have given back to their community and may have made a significant difference in someone's life. Being a volunteer organization, BC EMS doesn't receive one penny from the people that are



TCU Announces Ranch Management Graduate: After successfully completing degree requirements this spring, Clint Cowart of Vealmoor recently graduated from TCU's Ranch Management program in Fort Worth.

Clint, the son of Clay and Amy Cowart, and a 1998 graduate of Borden County High School was one of 30 students honored at a ceremony May 12th at the Brown-Lupton Student Center Ballroom on the TCU campus.

Happy 18th Birthday



Kaci

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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.

Baby Avery Crosses the Goal Line

by Sue Jane Mayes

After nine months of intense indoor workouts, Brandon Paul Avery, newborn son of Coach Bobby Avery and LaNita, began his 2000-2001 schedule on May 30.

LaNita won the pre-game coin toss at 10 p.m. May 29 and chose the birthing room delivery. She immediately went on the offensive, laboring throughout the night.

Coach Avery called plays from bedside. He, of course, chose "sweep right" when those labor pains were on the left side.

During halftime, which came about 4 a.m. on the 30th, Coach Avery gave LaNita several pep talks, told her that she had "worked hard to get to this point and not to give up now."

After halftime, the labor was plagued by penalties. Offsides was called by the doctors on one nurse who lined up in the neutral zone. One doctor tried to flag Bobby with interference until he realized that Bobby was indeed the father and had every right to be in the way.

As the game clock winded down, game officials met with both parents to discuss possible overtime conditions.

It was jointly decided that in order to finish the labor and delivery without a delay of game penalty, doctors would perform a Cesarean.

At 8:06 a.m. Brandon Paul dove into the end zone from one yard out, and went for two extra points because of his size: 8 lbs. 15 oz., 22 three-quarter inches long.

Fans who had quickly gathered went wild, cheers went up from the crowd, and Coach Avery and LaNita headed

for the locker room to enjoy the moment—the birth of their first child.

In a postpartum interview, Brandon was quoted as saying, "Weh..."

A LETTER TO BRANDON PAUL

As Dr. Seuss wrote, "Do You Know How Lucky You Are?", it's a thought for you to remember the rest of your life.

You are surrounded by a host of family and friends who will love you and be your grandstand for years to come. Appreciate them and enjoy their presence because so many children today go a lifetime without ever hearing the words "We are proud of who you are."

You are surrounded by a community that upholds the virtues that are so needed in this world today. Watch and learn from these examples of courage, honesty, decency, and loyalty.

You are surrounded by God's presence, as seen in the love that your mother and father have

for each other. Their dedication to their marriage will provide the stability and security that will be your strongest foundation.

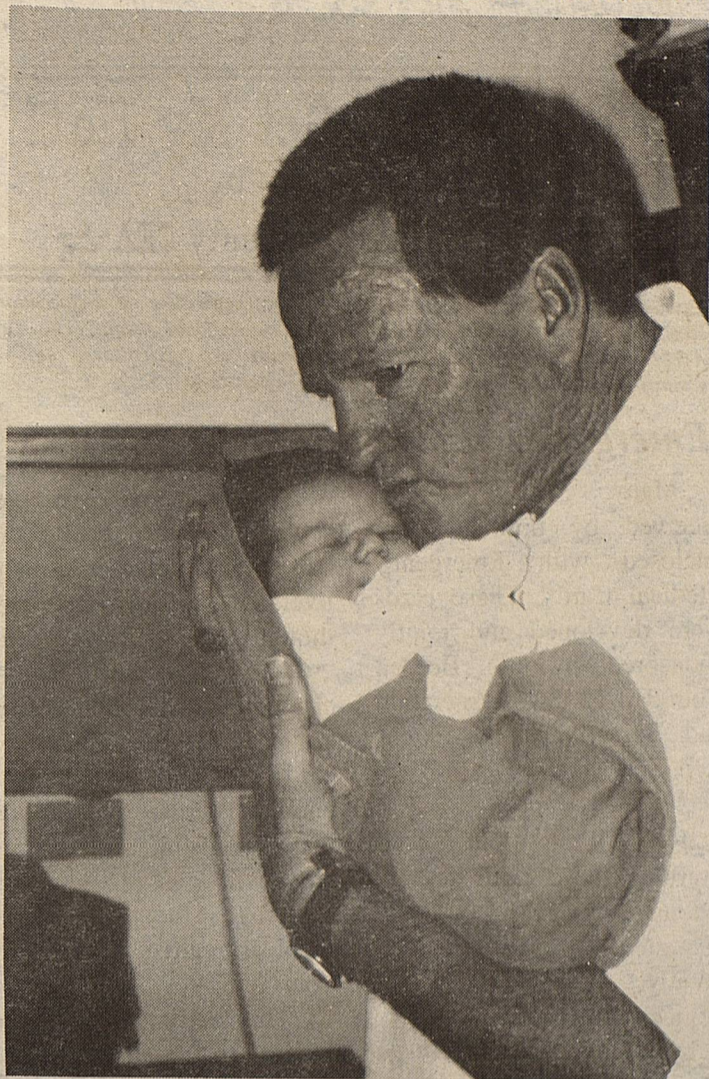
And finally, your name is a legacy of honor to two best friends who enjoyed their few years together in Borden County. Brandon Adcock and John Paul Harris and who your father coached in his first years in Gail.

When Brandon died, the heartache was felt so deeply in this community, but of course, it would be his mother and father and sisters and his best friend who would grieve the most.

You are your own person. You will not be judged by your namesake's standards, but you should aspire to meet the challenges as he so often did.

So, Brandon Paul Avery, you have the love of God, of parents and family and community, and the spirit of comraderie between two best friends already etched into your being.

Do you know how lucky you are?



Engagement Announced



Brande Wells and Don Creswell, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bennett of Gail and Mr. & Mrs. Reggie Wells of Abilene announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Brande Aaron to Don Creswell Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. Don Creswell of San Antonio.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Borden County High school in Gail. She is a student at TSTC.

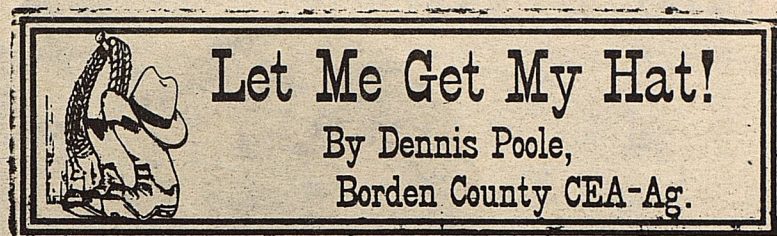
The prospective groom is employed at All American Chevrolet in San Angelo.

The couple will exchange vows on June 24th, 2000 at San Angelo State Park. The couple will reside in San Angelo.

Vacation Bible School

Time: 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Date: June 5th – 9th
Place: First Baptist – Gail

Bring a sack lunch for your evening meal



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 Court of Texas Cooperating.

Emergency Medical Cards

Many of you have received by now a letter enclosed with Emergency Medical Cards. These cards were developed and jointly sponsored by the Borden County EMS Association and Borden County Extension Service.

By filling out and returning these cards to the Extension Office, you will be greatly assisting our already top notch EMS services in Borden County. If by chance an emergency situation should occur involving you or any other family member, our EMS personnel will have on file the emergency medical card which contains your medical history which could assist them in analyzing the situation prior to arrival to the location where emergency assistance is needed.

We have received several letters back that had incorrect or undeliverable addresses, even though we utilized the "911" addresses. If by chance you did not receive your emergency medical cards or did not receive enough cards, please call the Extension office and we will assist you in securing the emergency medical cards needed for your family.

This activity, like many others, is your "choice". We hope you will consider participating in this program to further enhance the emergency medical care Borden County is so fortunate to have.

Should you have questions or need further information, please call the Borden County Extension service office at (806)756-4336.

New Guidelines for Validation Program

ATTENTION all Texas Junior Livestock Show Exhibitors. New guidelines have been adopted through the Texas 4-H/FFA validation programs. DNA fingerprinting analysis will be implemented for steers, lambs, barrows and meat goats to be entered in Texas livestock shows. This is a positive step in continuing to keep the Texas Junior Livestock Show program a positive learning experience for our youth in Texas. In addition to the DNA analysis being included in the validation programs for steers, lambs and swine, a validation program for junior meat

goats will be implemented this fall. The validation deadline for junior meat goats will be the same as for lambs...by October 31.

If any 4-H/FFA family will be feeding and exhibiting goats for any of the major livestock shows, please contact Buddy Wallace or Dennis Poole so that we may order goat validation tags along with our lamb validation tags. If you need to contact us at the Extension office, our telephone number is (806)756-4336.

Your assistance with this part of our validation process is greatly appreciated.

28th Annual County Treasurers' Seminar Held May 8th 11th

Kenneth Bennett joined more than 250 Texas County Treasurers and Deputy Treasurers for the 28th Annual County Treasurers' Continuing Education Seminar at Texas A&M University in college Station on May 8 - 11, 2000.

The annual continuing education seminar at Texas A&M is sponsored by the V.G. Young Institute of County Government, which is part of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System, in cooperation with The County Treasurers' Association of Texas, The Office of Continuing Education, Texas A&M University and The Texas Association of Counties. The Institute provides the seminar to help Texas County Treasurers complete their state-mandated, minimum continuing education requirements.

The theme of the seminar was: "Celebrate 2000! Turn Knowledge Into Action!" Included on the Educational program were workshops on "Becoming an 'E' County," other future technology issues. Records Management, Human Resource Issues, Electronic Trading and Preparing for the 77th Regular Texas Legislative Session.

"Many County Treasurers serve as investment officers for their counties," explained Richard Avery, Extension Specialist with the Institute. "In addition to serving as the chief custodian of public finance, many Treasurers also perform the duties of county personnel officer."

"Before the seminar, County Treasurers sent in questions on points of law, office procedure and everything else they had questions about. Panelists divided the questions up

and spent time researching them to present answers at the seminar. "We have found that some of the best education occurs during this event other offices," Eric Cartrite, Publications Editor with the Institute said.

The V.G. Young Institute of County Government was created by the 61st Texas Legislature to provide information, educational and technical assistance to Texas County officials.

"Texas is one of a very small number of states that requires all elected county officials to earn continuing education credits as a legal requirement for holding office," explained John Gilmartin, Extension Coordinator of the Institute. "We provide that service to County Commissioners, Judges, Treasurers, Tax Assessor-Collectors and County and District Clerks here at College Station and across the State."

Treasurers who attended all of the sessions will receive 20 hours of continuing education credit.

Drought and Rabies

Cont. from pg. 1

protecting our pets and livestock, their vaccination creates a protective barrier between people and infected wild animals.

3. Never attempt to handle wild animals.
4. Never handle domestic animals with which you are not familiar or that are acting strange. This applies even to those pet animals offered for adoption and which have an unknown health and vaccination history.
5. The populations of stray or unowned dogs and cats must be reduced. This can

be as basic as requiring owners to confine their pets to their property.

6. Do not leave dog or cat food and water in areas accessible to wild animals such as skunks, foxes and raccoons.

Rabies is an extremely serious disease and, combined with the drought conditions, becomes even more dangerous.

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