

# THE BORDEN STAR

VOLUME XXVIII

June 14, 2000

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

## Saving the Rio Grande Before It Is Too Late

By Jennifer Atchley

When senior US and Mexican officials meet along the border this week (June 14<sup>th</sup>) to talk about the Rio Grande, the agenda will have nothing to do with immigration, drug interdiction or even water rights. As pressing as such problems are, there is another that dwarfs them all: Saving the river itself.

The Rio Grande, simply put, is dying. It has been dammed, drained, diverted and polluted for so long that it is very nearly the riverine equivalent of a desiccated longhorn lying in the desert, its sun-bleached bones the only evidence of its former life. Although in a few places it still harbors extraordinary bio-diversity, in most others there is precious little left to remind one of the iconic role this fabled river has played in both the history and the mythology of the Old West. Once a life-giving artery for one of the richest desert ecosystems in the world, the Rio Grande today is in places little more than a dry and dirty ditch.

It is not too late to save the Rio Grande, however. The patient is sick, but not incurably ill. Indeed, even a relatively

modest restorative effort could help keep the river alive, protect the outstanding animal and plant life still found in places like Big Bend National Park and produce tangible economic and quality-of-life benefits for the 9 million people now living in the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo basin.

It is with a vision of the river's once and future greatness in mind that Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt and Mexican Environment Minister Julia Carabias will be in Ciudad Juarez this week for a bi-national symposium on the impact that the depleted flows and poor water quality of the Rio Grande are having on biological diversity in the river basin. Bringing together scientists, conservationists and Federal and State officials from both sides of the border, the meeting will hopefully lay the groundwork for a joint initiative to save the Rio Grande for future generations of Mexicans and Americans.

But there is no time to lose. Human demand for both irrigation and municipal water use, already consumes nearly 95 percent

## 2000 Graduate signs with Howard College to Play Basketball

Lindsey Smith, daughter of Monte and Deidre Smith of Borden County, has signed a letter-of-intent to play basketball with Howard College next season.

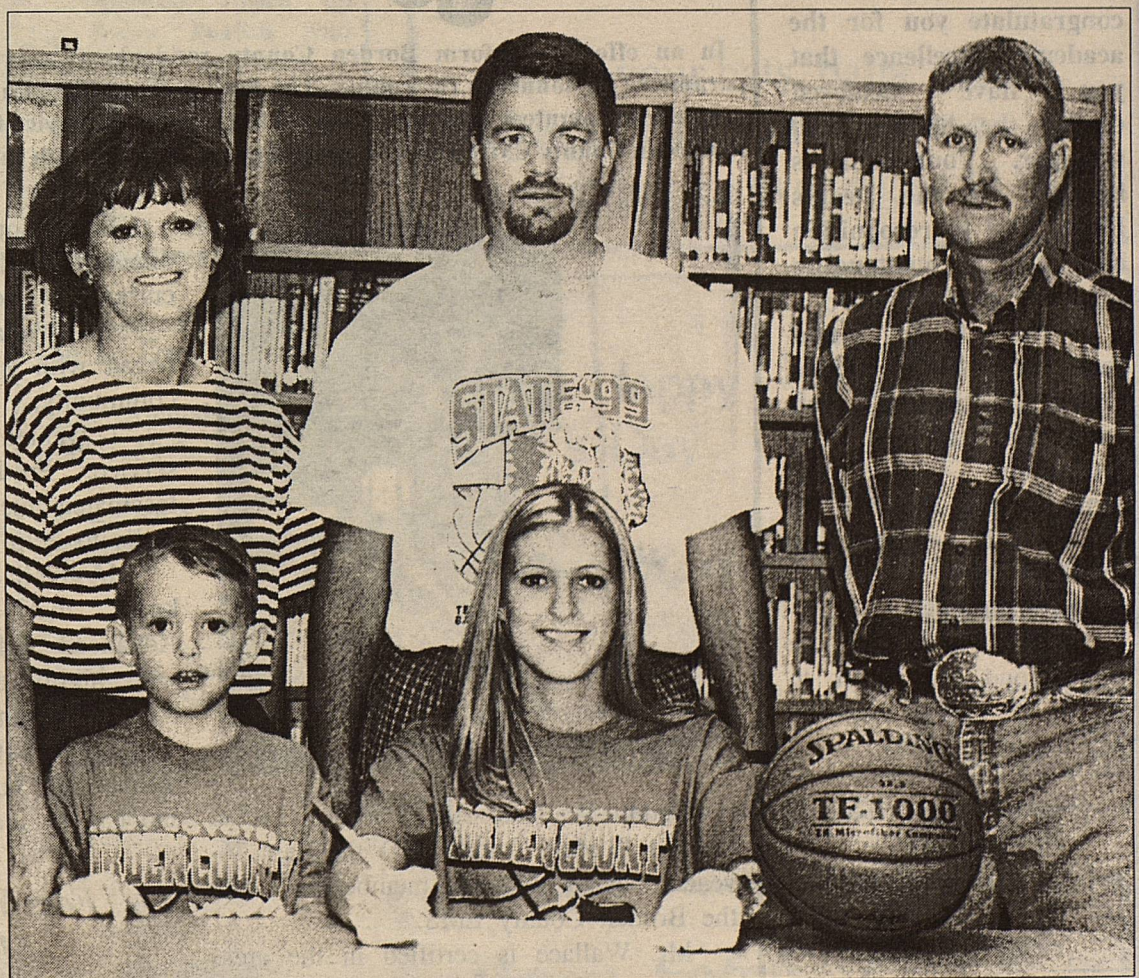
Lindsey was a member of the Final Four Team in 1999 and was named to various All-

Region and All-State teams during her high school career.

Her senior year she averaged 12 points a game, five steals, and five rebounds a game.

She was also named to the All-Tournament team at the prestigious West Texas Tournament in July 22.

Lindsey is scheduled to play in two all-star games this summer: the TAHSCA all-star game in Arlington in July as well as the Six-Man Schools all-star game in Lubbock in July 22.



**Headed to Howard:** Borden County hoop standout Lindsey Smith has signed a scholarship agreement with Howard College at Big Spring. Also pictured are Lindsey's five-year-old brother Riley, mother Deidre Smith, Coyote head coach Gailan Winegarner, and father Monte Smith.

Cont. to pg. 8

# Borden Co Grads Continue to 'Ex' Cel

Where in the World is Tammy Cooley?

She's doing very well, thank you.

Tammy, a 1998 graduate of BHS and daughter of Joe and Pam Cooley of Gail, is attending South Plains College (Lubbock Campus) and majoring in Child Development.

While working full time at a day care center, Tammy has maintained an overall GPA of 3.33. In so doing, she was recently named to the Dean's Honor List at South Plains.

The Dean of Instruction at South Plains sent the following letter to Tammy:

"I want to congratulate you for the academic excellence that you have achieved during the Spring 2000 semester. Your name is included on the Dean's Honor List in recognition of your outstanding academic performance.

The faculty and staff at South Plains College commend you for the effort and dedication you have demonstrated in order to attain this outstanding academic accomplishment."

Mom and Dad are very proud and want to express their pride, too, in the teachers at BHS.



Cats actually sweat through their paws.

'97 BHS Grad Receives Associate Degree from WTC

Michele Rowe, daughter of Ylia Rowe of Gail, graduated from Western Texas College on May 5, 2000.

Michele earned an Associate in Applied Science Criminal Justice Degree and is continuing her education at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville where she has been enrolled since January.

# Driver Ed Class of 2000 headed for the Fast Lane While Teacher on her way to Recovery Center

Five students have graduated from the "Driving Crazy" Driver Ed. School. The following is the mandatory end-of-course public report.

The good news is that this was a small class; therefore, there were fewer near-death incidents.

The bad news is that one near-death incident is enough to make the instructor turn to drinking and eating—which is why she is on her way to a recovery center.


Here's the way it worked this year—the more they drove, the more I ate:

do-nuts, chick-o-sticks, lifesavers (that is not a coincidence), and tootsie rolls. You try driving around for six hours a day, sedentary, eating like that and not gaining weight.

The drinking was innocent—water, diet cokes, but on really frightful driving occasions, chocolate malts. I had lots of those chocolate malts.

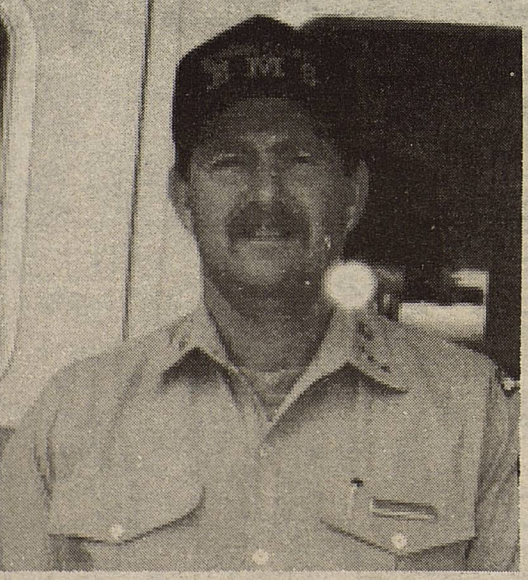
So, my five students are happy, their parents are happy, and I'm just fat. Oh well, after eating my cooking this summer, I'm sure to lose the weight fast.

**Drive Safely**  
*Watch for our Children*



## Borden County EMS Member Profile

In an effort to inform Borden County residents of current EMT, Intermediate, and paramedic personnel in the county, *The Borden Star* will run a summer series profiling these people who volunteer their time in providing a valuable service for this county. Special thanks to Borden County EMS Reporter Brice Key for his input with this article.



Buddy Wallace, Ag. Science Teacher for the Borden County ISD the past 16-years, has a 15-year membership with the Borden County EMS.

Mr. Wallace is certified in the areas of paramedic, pre-hospital trauma life support, and advanced cardiac life support.

He previously served as president and director of the local EMS chapter and currently serves as its vice president.

Mr. Wallace's interest in the EMS began with a desire to give back to the community.

"I wanted to perform a community service. Pre-hospital care has always fascinated me. Also, I wanted to learn skills to help my family if needed."

Mr. Wallace wants the community to know that "we have a dedicated Advanced Life Support EMS Program with highly trained personnel who will help the community at any time."

Along with his wife Kip, Buddy resides in Gail with their two children, and can be reached at 756-4478.

**For Your Emergency Medical Needs**  
**Call Borden County EMS**  
**at: 806-756-5111**

**2000 DRIVER ED. AWARDS**

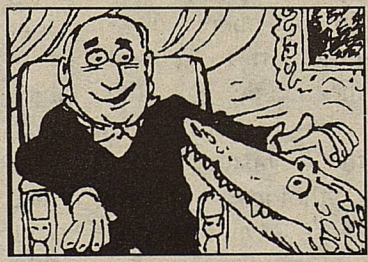
**T. J. Sharp**  
the "Jeff Gordon" Award for smooth handling, experience behind-the-wheel, and confident turns

**Raul Rodriguez**  
the "Low-Rider" Award for a relaxed driving posture that enabled him to stay loose and look cool

**Tanner Poole**  
the "Striped Shirt" Award for best imitation of a basketball referee ("Was that a stop sign I just ran?" and "Did I just stop in the middle of that intersection?"); recipient of the Lenscrafters Scholarship

**Michele Bond**  
the "Schizophrenic Award" for dual performances: With the driver ed. instructor, she was the model driver; when with her peers, she sped away

**Micah Hensley**  
the "Clueless Award" No explanation needed; also, recipient of the "Ford Motor Vehicle Video Series" Scholarship



President John Quincy Adams kept a pet alligator in the East Room of the White House.



## Grandmother and Granddad Lewis Introduce Jessie B

It would be an obvious understatement to say that the year 2000 has been eventful for the R. D. Lewis family.

The new year began with Carol having surgery followed by chemotherapy.

Then, second child Amy (a '90 graduate of BHS) announces she will marry Chad Martin in July.

To top it all off, BHS's English teacher and Borden County's sheriff now have their first grandchild—thanks to the efforts of older daughter Shelly (a '88 graduate of BHS) and her husband, Scott, of Snyder.

Miss Jessie B Bolton arrived Monday, June 5, at 7:17 a.m. in Lubbock.

She weighed in at 6 lbs. 12 oz, 21 inches long.

The story could end here, but it would be an incomplete one if Jessie B's namesake weren't

mentioned at this point.

For Borden County residents of many years, the name will be a familiar one. Jessie B. was Carol's mother's name, Mrs. Jackson, who was a lifetime Borden County resident.

Mrs. Jackson served as county clerk in Borden County and then retired as Gail's postmaster. Her most important role, however, was that as mother of three (Carol, Don, and Catherine).

She spent the last three years of her life battling Lou Gehrig's disease; those who marvel at how well Carol has fought her cancer need only look to her maternal side to see where some of that strength comes from.

As with all miracles, this one coming in the form of a beautiful little girl, they constantly remind

us of God's power in our lives: it is in life's most difficult and challenging moments that come our appreciation for some of our sweetest blessings.

If she has even just an ounce of her grandmother and great-grandmother's spunk, Miss Jessie B Bolton will be just fine.

And not to be left out in all of this is the proud, proud Uncle Shawn Lewis ('93 BHS graduate) who carried her into church Sunday morning in Snyder.

He's already paid her first-year dues in the Young Republicans organization.

Welcome, Jessie B! There's a really cute guy named Brandon Paul just waiting to meet you in Gail.

### MRS. LEWIS'S AP ENGLISH READING LIST FOR 2000-2001

Students signed up for Senior English with Mrs. Lewis will need to be prepared to discuss the following classics. (This list has been updated after June 5):

Anthology of Mother Goose Rhymes

The Cat in the Hat's Tips on Essay Writing

Farm Animals and the Sounds They Make

Big Bird's Book of Essential Vocabulary Words

The Three Little Pigs Teach the Big Bad Wolf All About Prepositions

Term Papers And Why They Made Many Little Boys Blue



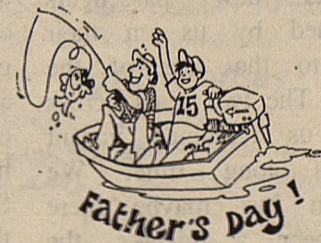
Granddad R.D. seems very proud of his new granddaughter Jessie B.

### FBC Youth Activities Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> Following evening services

Youth challenge the Adults in a game of Softball

Bring your bats, balls, gloves, freezer of ice cream and lawn chair and enjoy an evening of FUN!

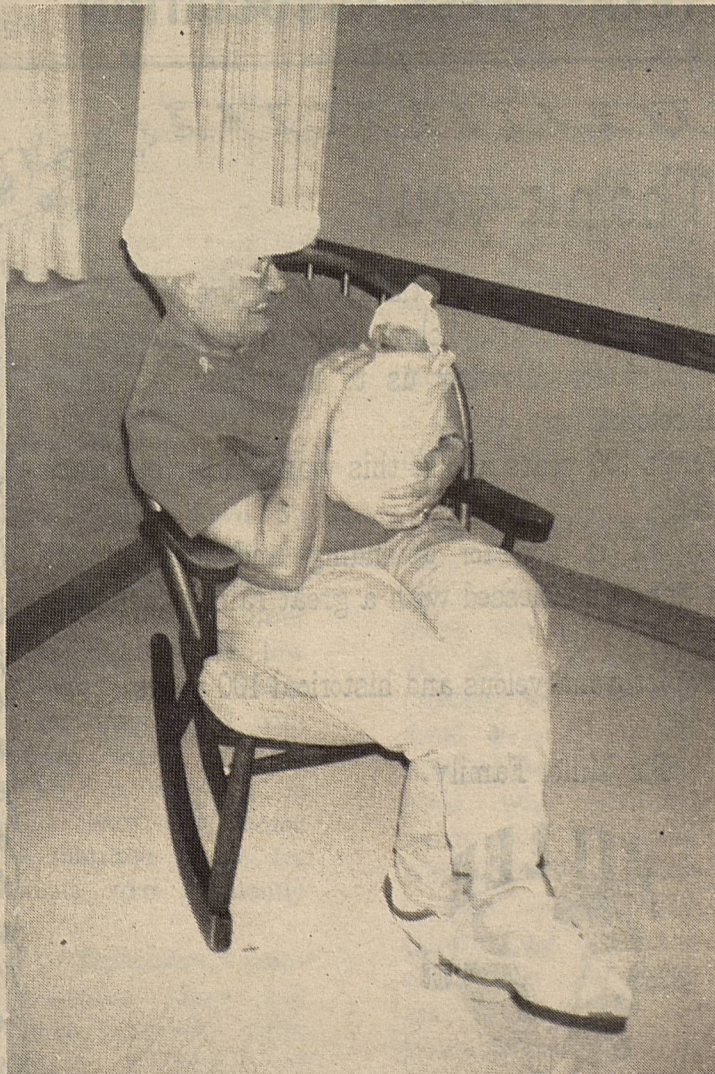
Have a Happy Father's Day From



Moore-Rains Insurance Frances Rains Stephens



701 8th Street O'Donnell, Texas 806/428-3335



OH! How Precious: Grandmother Lewis seems very please with new arrival to the Lewis Family.



Drive Safely



Watch out for the Children . . .



**Texas Stories**  
A showcase of the Texas Spirit



**Tumbleweed Smith**  
Part owner of Texas

## An Airplane Ride Like No Other

It started out nicely. We got on the plane at Midland and flew all the way to Las Vegas without a bobble. We sat in the very front of the plane, which was roomy because the two seats facing us were unoccupied. The stewardesses were most accommodating and kept cracking jokes all the way to Las Vegas.

There everything changes.

The stewardesses told us the plane would be full all the way to Los Angeles. Every seat was sold. We knew we would have people sitting in the seats facing us.

The stewardesses seemed to shift from their friendly, West Texas attitude to a more business-like frame of mind. No more jokes.

The new passengers streamed by us on their way to the rear of the plane. The two seats across from us remained vacant for a long time. We thought just maybe there had been a mistake, the plane would not be full and the two seats would remain un-occupied.

No such luck.

The last two people to

board took those two seats. One was a friendly man who took the aisle seat. The other was a woman who weighted about 300 pounds and was in a wheel chair. She was holding a barf bag and using it when we first saw her getting wheeled onto the plane.

She maneuvered herself into the window seat and immediately started asking for ice chips. The stewardess had seated herself for take-off and couldn't accommodate the woman right then. She got angry and asked me to get her a pencil and paper from one of the five or six small heavy bags she had with her. As she was writing she told us she wrote down all the time's people treated her badly.

As the plane took off, she screamed loud enough to drown out the plane engines. She asked me to get her an aspirin from another of her bags. I opened the package and handed her two aspirin. She took one and dropped the other. We looked all around the area for that aspirin, but could not find it. I suggested she take another from her aspirin box. It was nowhere to be

found. The little tin box just seemed to disappear. We spent several minutes looking everywhere without success. She discovered the aspirin box in her left hand where it had been all the time.

She used three more barf bags enroute to LA. When she wasn't throwing up she was talking. And she talked in a very loud voice. She talked and threw up all the way to Los Angeles. Sitting right across from me.

Soon after the plane reached cruising altitude we heard a ruckus about mid-plane. A passenger had put his seat all the way back and this bothered the person sitting behind him. A flight ensued. The stewardesses told the men to settle down, that she was calling the Air Marshall to be waiting for them when the plane landed.

The woman across from me screamed when the plane touched down in Los Angeles. We were glad that flight was over. We deplaned quickly.

## Valid data on supplements for osteoarthritis limited


While many older athletes are turning to glucosamine to help maintain healthy joints and cartilage, some sports medicine experts say its true effectiveness is still unknown.

"There is some information in the veterinary literature about the effects of glucosamine supplementation, but we still do not have any substantial scientific studies in humans," said Dr. Lon Castle, a sports medicine specialist at Baylor College of Medicine.

Glucosamine is a naturally occurring amino sugar involved in the formation of nails, tendons, skin, eyes, bones, ligaments

and hart valves. It is commonly combined with sulfate and taken as a dietary supplement. These supplements are reported to reduce pain and tenderness associated with osteoarthritis, reduce swelling, improve range of motion and help cartilage retain its "shock absorbing" property. In addition to supporting healthy joints, these supplements are also thought to assist the body in generating connective tissue.

"The bottom line is that we don't know a lot about glucosamine, but it does not seem to be harmful," Castle said. "However, not every person is going to get the results they hope for."



**MEMBER 1999**

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

## Thank you!

The Miller Family would like to extend our thanks to Judge Van York, the Borden County Commissioners' Court, School Superintendent Jimmy Thomas, and the School Board for allowing us to use their wonderful facilities for our centennial celebration.

It all started in Gail, Texas 100 years ago so this was the perfect place for our celebration to be held.

We are so grateful to all of you for attending and making our celebration so special. We were even blessed with a great rain, which was a celebration within itself.

Thank you Borden County for a marvelous and historical 100 years.

The Miller Family



### NOTICE

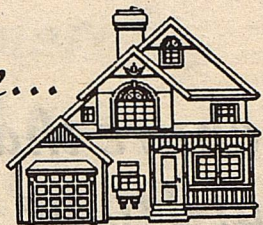
There were four umbrellas left in the show barn during the Centennial celebration. If you will call Dewey Fay Miller at (915)573-7774, she will get them back to you

\*\*\*\*\*

T-shirts from the Miller Bros. Ranch Centennial are still available for \$12.00 each. Contact Dewey Fay Miller at the above number.

## 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.

### Watching the Waistline when Eating Out

Americans love to eat out. In fact, almost 45 cents of every food dollar is spent on food that is prepared outside the home. Increases in the number of working women, two-family incomes, and fast-food restaurants are some of the factors believed to be driving this trend. Unfortunately, eating out may come at the cost to our nutritional health. A recent report from the United States Department of Agriculture found that foods prepared outside the home were higher in calories and fat than foods prepared at home. Some restaurants serve meals that weigh in with up to 2,000 calories each. That is enough energy to fuel some adults for a full day. Of course, it is okay to treat yourself to a special meal every once in a while but eating high calorie, high fat meals on a regular basis can lead to unwanted weight gain, especially when physical activity is not increased.

The rise in the number of meals and snacks eaten outside the home is not expected to slow down. So what can a waist-watching consumer do? Many restaurants already offer tasty entrees that are low in fat and calories. These foods are often noted with a special mark on the restaurant's menu. In addition, here are some helpful nutrition advice for individuals who frequently eat out:

(1). Remember, complimentary chips and bread are not really "free". A basket of these foods can add as many as 1,000 extra

calories to the table. If you need a little snack to tide you over until your main meal comes, ask for plain corn tortillas instead of chips or bread without added butter. Another alternative is a lettuce and tomato salad with dressing on the side. Dip you fork in the dressing, then stab your salad. You will still taste the dressing but only get a fraction of the calories.

(2). Just say NO! to value-sized portions. For a few cents more, consumers can get a larger portion of fries but that also means more fat and calories. Is that really a value? Stick with smaller sized portions.

(3). If restaurant portions are too generous for your needs, consider splitting the entrée with a friend and ordering extra vegetables or salad. You can also ask for a doggy bag and take part of the entrée home for next day's lunch. Some restaurants will even let you order off of a child's menu. Just ask.

(4). Read the menu carefully and don't be timid about requesting substitutions. Choose pasta with marinara sauce over fettuccini Alfredo and you can save as many as 800 calories and 80 grams of fat. For hamburgers, ask for mustard or ketchup instead of mayonnaise. Ask for steamed vegetables

instead of ones sautéed in butter.

What about dessert? Is that a forbidden food at restaurants today? We can still have our favorite desserts. The key is to plan for them. For example, if you know that your want to have cheesecake for dessert, choose lower fat, lower calorie foods for the main entrée. Also, some restaurants serve dessert portions that feed more than one person. Consider asking for an extra plate and fork and split the treat with a County EMS or the Lubbock, Amarillo, or Portales Children's Homes.

"Chocolate" and plain ice cream, the ice cream is probably the healthier choice. Other healthful choices for satisfying that sweet tooth include fresh fruit and sherbet.

By making healthful food choices and exercising control with portion sizes, consumers can continue to dine out without risking an expansion of the waistline. To learn more about selecting nutritious foods when eating out, contact the Extension office at (806)756-4336.



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## Obituary

### A.B. Telchik 1913-2000

Services for A.B. Borden County in 1941 Telchik, 86, of the Plains from Palo Pinto County. Community in Borden He was a retired farmer County was held at 2 p.m. and a longtime school Thursday, May 18, 2000 at board trustee for Borden Lamesa Church of Christ County ISD. He was a with Joe Woodrum and member of the Mesquite Mark Hackett officiating. Church of Christ for 58

Burial was held in the Gail Cemetery under direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Mr. Telchik died Tues., May 16, 2000 at Juanita's Rocking Chair Care Home.

He was born May 4, 1913, in Palo Pinto County. He married Effie Lee Cowan on February 9, 1934, in Ranger. She died June 27, 1991.

They moved to the Mesquite Community in

years.

Survivors include three sons, Buddy Telchik of Borden County, James Telchik of Lamesa, and Kenneth Telchik of Arlington; one daughter, Frances Rhea of Amarillo; 12 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to Borden County EMS or the Lubbock, Amarillo, or Portales Children's Homes.

### EMS Memorials

Donations for the Borden County EMS have been made In Memory Of:

#### Karan Key

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Merritt  
Dorothy Dennis  
Mr. & Mrs. Russ Pinkerton  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Beaver

#### Adolph Telchik

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Smith  
Margaret & Shirley Stephens  
Ray & Karen Stephens  
Stephany & Steve Meek  
Gae Ludecke  
Lisa Ludecke  
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Burkett

Robert & Diana Henderson  
Bertie Copeland  
Verna Faye Ogden  
K.D. & Glenda Vestal  
Steve & Dorothy Barrington  
Edgar & Margaret Ray  
Alvin & Doris Bradshaw  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Brown  
Buck & Nita Ellis  
Jerry Eaton  
Norma Moore  
Huffaker & Furlow

#### Juanita Hunnicutt

Mr. & Mrs. Duddley Arnett  
Mr. & Mrs. C.B. Arnett

#### Effie Collins

Florence Schooler  
Johnnye Smith

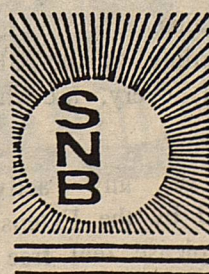
### Branon Funeral Home

Serving this are since 1922

Phone: 806/872-835

Lamesa, TX

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



## Snyder National Bank

We take Snyder to Heart!



Member FDIC

1715 25th

573-2681



## Let Me Get My Hat!

By Dennis Poole,  
Borden County CEA-Ag.

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.

### West Texas Ranchers In Need of Pasture and Hay

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs today reminded farmers and ranchers if they have pasture-land with available water supplies for lease or hay to sell to call the Texas Department of Agriculture's Hay and Grazing Hotline at 1-877-429-1998.

"We are still receiving calls from ranchers in the Edwards Plateau and West Texas who need grazing acreage as well as hay to feed their livestock," Combs said. "Some areas of the state have not seen rain since early last year and are going into summer with forecasts calling for above-normal temperatures and below-normal rainfall."

"One producer in Concho County said he had never seen it this dry in 50 years," Combs said. "With most of Texas still in moderate to extreme drought and 63 percent of our ranges and pastures rated in fair to very poor condition, the situation is still critical for many producers. We've even

heard from one rancher who is looking for 50,000 grazing acres since there is no forage on his land."

Producers in and out-of-state can list their pasture for lease or hay for sale by calling the toll-free Hay and Grazing Hotline at 1-877-429-1998 or by visiting TDA's website at [www.agr.state.tx.us](http://www.agr.state.tx.us). Ranchers or farmers needing a list of pastures for lease, hay suppliers or a hay transporter can also call the hotline number or visit TDA's website to obtain any of these updated lists.

Since a majority of Texas hay is grown in fire ant quarantined areas, hay being transported to or through a non-quarantine county should be stored in a barn or off the ground to prevent the spread of fire ants. Additional information on fire ant quarantined counties and rules is on TDA's website at [www.agr.state.tx.us](http://www.agr.state.tx.us) in the "Producer Information" section under "Alerts."



### BORDEN COUNTY 4-H NEWS

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

### Horse Project Nights

Summer is here and the Borden County 4-H Horse Project is going strong. There are 25 participants in this project. We begin at 7:00 p.m. on the following nights and invite you to come to the Gail Arena and watch the competition and visit with new and old

friends.

Tues., June 13	Practice
Tues. June 20	Point
Thurs. June 22	Practice
Tues. June 27	Point

and Co. Horse Show

If you have any questions about the horse

## BBB offers brochure that Targets Modern Work-at-Home schemes

Work-at-home-schemes are nothing new, but today's con artists are turning to a new tool – the computer keyboard – to lure potential victims. Work-at-home offers used to be advertised mainly through community newspapers, "back-of-the book" magazine advertisements, and the U.S. mail. Now, with the rise of the Internet and e-mail, con artists can transmit the phony promotions to a wider audience more cheaply and quickly. And, they frequently tailor their pitch to those interested in making money via computer-related opportunities.

To help people protect themselves from modern-day con artists who promise easy riches, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) has updated its Work-at-Home Schemes publication. This brochure, which is also posted on the BBB central website, arms consumers with the very latest descriptions of common work-at-home scams and the ways they can be avoided.

"The Better Business Bureau suggests using extreme caution when responding to any such offer to make easy money from the comfort of your home. While such promotions claim high earnings and short hours with little or no experience, Bureau files nationwide indicate no evidence of anyone making the promised money," said Nan Campbell, president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau of the South Plains.

According to the BBB, rarely, if, every, are these

project or any activity sponsored by the Extension service, please feel free to contact the office at (806)756-4336

ads an offer of legitimate employment. Generally, these "jobs" require upfront fees for information or supplies, and only the person who ran the ad makes any money. "Consumers should also be aware that they risk investigation and possible prosecution by postal or other law enforcement agencies if they become involved in promoting one of these schemes," Campbell warned.

The following are just a few of the work-at-home schemes this BBB publication highlights:

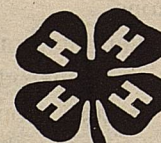
**Online Home Business:** Trying to capitalize on the e-commerce boom, this scam advertises useless printed guides on computer-related, work-at-home jobs.

**Medical Claims Processing:** This scam involves

advertisements that doctors' offices or insurance companies will pay top dollar for outside claims processing workers. Most victims end up with high cost training sessions and no way to earn any money.

**Assembly Work At-Home:** This scheme requires the investment of hundreds of dollars for instructions and materials and long work hours, but leaves victims with merchandise that is difficult or impossible to sell.

To get a free copy of this pamphlet, call the BBB at 763-0459 or for long distance, call (800)687-7890 and ask for the Work-at-Home Schemes pamphlet. You can also send an email to [info@bbbsouthplains.org](mailto:info@bbbsouthplains.org). You can also check us out on the web at [www.bbbsouthplains.org](http://www.bbbsouthplains.org)



## Borden County 4-H Horse Project

### BAKE SALE MONDAY, JUNE 26<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon



Borden County  
Extension Office  
Conference room

# TRAVELING TEXAS

## Be Safe and Smart In Preparing for Your Family's Next Summer Road Trip

The summer months bring warm temperatures and more time to spend with your family, but before you set out on the open road for a memorable family vacation, Progressive Insurance recommends you follow these steps.

### Before Departing:

Take the time to prepare for your trip. You and your family will have a more enjoyable vacation if you plan carefully.

- Know where you are going. Lost or confused drivers are more vulnerable in dangerous situations. Call ahead for proper and safe directions to get you to your destination safely and have maps of the area on hand to help you navigate once you are off the main road.
- Take precaution with a cell phone. Cell phones can be a lifesaver when you need immediate access to emergency services after an accident. Keep your phone within easy reach and get to know its features. However, use it prudently. Reports suggest that driving while talking on the phone increases accident rates.
- Wear your seat belt. Seat belts should always be worn as a safety precaution.
- Protect your car against theft. Steering wheel locks, switches that disable fuel or ignition systems and electronic tracking devices can help deter criminals from stealing your car; they will move on to another car that is easier to take. Slip your business card or address

label down the window channels of door panels, under floor mats and behind seat cushions; this aids in theft recovery. Check with your local Police Department to determine if they offer free VIN etching; this process puts your vehicle's identification number on glass and other panels of the car and helps in the recovery of a stolen vehicle.

### Maintain your car can keep you cool:

Keeping your car maintained can help prevent breakdowns and accidents.

- Check the air conditioning system. Leaks may have formed over the winter, so have your air conditioning system serviced. A good mechanic can look for and repair any leaks in your system and can replace refrigerant that the air conditioner uses to keep your car cool.
- Test your car's battery. Because hot weather can shorten the life of a car's battery, weak or old batteries should be tested and replaced if necessary.
- Make sure your tires are ready for the road. Examine tires for uneven or excessive tread wear. Make sure all tires, including the spare, are inflated properly.

### If you're in an accident:

Taking immediate steps if you've been in an accident can protect your family and your car from further damage.

- Stop immediately and make sure your car is not blocking traffic.

## Boll Weevil Traps, Important Tools of the Trade

Area residents may have noticed yellow-green fluorescent objects on top of wooden sticks around cotton farms. The device is

- Turn off your car to keep it from overheating or catching fire.
- Warn oncoming cars. Use road flares or orange triangle reflectors if they are accessible.

After you have protected yourself and your family, call your insurance company immediately. The sooner you insurance company is aware of damage to your car, the sooner they can get to work to get you back on the road. Progressive, one of the country's largest auto insurers, offer policy holders in-person claims service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Most important, be alert when you are on the road. If you stay focused behind the wheel and plan carefully, you will have a summer road trip to remember.

a boll weevil pheromone trap, and it is the first line of defense against the cotton boll weevil.

The main role of the trap is detecting weevil populations in the area. Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation program personnel check all traps on a weekly basis, and the number of weevils caught by the trap provides important data about levels of infestations in various fields. These data are then used to make decisions about treating fields.

In addition to detection, these traps remove significant populations of boll weevils.

If traps have been destroyed, removed or knocked down, eradication personnel will not have adequate information to determine levels of infestations in fields and will have to be more aggressive with treatments to prevent weevil populations from multiplying.

Lack of good information is costly for growers. Larger weevil populations cause greater damage to crops, result in a greater number of treat-

ments and extend the amount of time needed to eradicate the weevil from the area. Add to that the cost of replacing damaged or destroyed traps and the man-hours needed to replace them.

Foundation officials ask growers to be aware of the traps placed around their fields and to make any workers on their farms aware of the traps' importance. Every effort should be made to avoid damaging or knocking over traps during field operations. Downed traps in good condition should be replaced in their original positions, and damaged or destroyed traps should be reported as soon as possible to the appropriate field unit supervisor or the district office.

Field unit supervisors place traps around field using specific guidelines and will work with growers within these guidelines to place traps so they cause the least amount of disruption to farm operations. Growers may direct questions about trap placement to their field unit supervisors or their

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**Caution:**

**School's Out**

**Watch for Children**

Message brought to you by this newspaper and the Texas Highway Patrol Association

## Saving the Rio Grande

Cont. from pg. 1

of the Rio Grande's annual flow. Thanks in part to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), a manufacturing and population boom is likely to more than double current demand within 15 years. With ground aquifers already tapped to their limits, there is not going to be enough water for human use, let alone for the migratory birds and other riparian wildlife that draw tourists from around the world.

Fortunately, the problem is not insufficient water so much as it is inefficient water use. Agricultural uses currently claim 80 percent of all the water drawn from the Rio Grande and much of that is wasted - lost to evaporation and seepage from antiquated and inefficient irrigation canals. Evaporation from Elephant Butte Reservoir in New Mexico, where the Rio Grande is dammed, alone accounts for enough water to meet all of Albuquerque's needs.

The challenge ahead is daunting, but not insurmountable. Saving the Rio Grande will require solutions that are bold and

ambitious, but not unrealistic. An initial step should be to ensure that 10 percent of the annual runoff from the Rio Grande and its tributaries is reserved for in-stream flows by the year 2010 to support wildlife habitat and aquatic species. This will not restore the river to its former greatness, but it will slow the degradation and perhaps begin the healing process.

To accomplish this and to ensure that growing human needs are met - the US and Mexico must devise a bilateral strategy for the protection and restoration of biologically important stretches of the river. They must identify and undertake projects to improve the efficiency of agricultural and municipal water systems. And above all, they must create a transparent, flexible and inclusive process to oversee the implementation of these tasks - one that is open to participation by local governments, lending institutions, development agencies and the public.

The appointment of a high-level Mexican-American panel to determine how these recommendations

might be translated into action would be a good first step.

Somehow between the arrival of the first Conquistadors and the present day we, the people

of the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo basin, lost a great river. Now the future of our children depends on our joining hands and embarking together on a journey to find it.

Jeffifer Atchley is head of World Wildlife Fund's Chihuahuan Desert field office in Las Cruces, NM. Readers may write to her at World Wildlife Fund, 600 Montana Ave., Suite E, Las Cruces, NM 88001

### Don't Get Scammed On Your Way To College

With tuition bills skyrocketing and room and board going through the roof, students are looking for ways to help finance their expensive but valuable college education. Unfortunately, those efforts have fallen victim to many scholarship and financial aid scams claiming to find free money for all promising scholars.



Tips from your Community Banker-

Don't get deceived. Keep a watchful eye on companies that GUARANTEE a scholarship for an advance fee. And even those money-back guarantee offers can be a setup when accompanied by a list of conditions that make it impossible to receive a refund.

To better understand this con game, review the following points before applying for financial aid or scholarships.

- Be wary if you are selected as a "finalist" for awards that require an up-front fee, especially if you did not enter a contest.
- Companies may ask for a student checking account to "confirm eligibility," only to debit the account without consent. Other companies quote a small monthly fee and ask for the authorization to debit your account without disclosing the

length of time they will be depleting funds.

- Pay attention to phrases resembling, "The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back," "You can't get this information anywhere else," "We'll do all the work," "The scholarship will cost some money" and "I just need your credit card or a bank account number to hold this scholarship."
- Ask how much the service will cost and exactly what you will get for your money. Remember to get the details in writing. As noted before, shady refund policies may keep you from recovering all of the money you invested.
- Talk with your guidance counselor or college Financial Aid Department before spending money. You may be able to get the same assistance for free. In fact, many systems can be accessed through the Internet, the fastest growing information source today.

• Ask companies for a list of local students who have used the same service in the last year. Once in hand, ask participants if they were satisfied with the services they received.

However, know that legitimate companies do provide access to lists of scholarships in exchange for an advance fee and others charge for comparing a student's profile with a database of possible scholarships and offer an outline of qualifying awards. The difference is the participant will still be responsible for applying to programs and there are no promises.

Investigate before committing any money. Talk to your guidance counselors, past graduates, experienced parents and teachers and research scholarship programs and financial aid on the Internet. By doing some research, you will find the names of the most reputable companies to trust and help you achieve your educational goals.

Provided as a public service by the Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT)

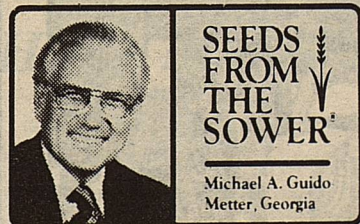
## Boll Weevil Traps

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district offices.

In the Permian Basin Zone the district offices are located at: 1401 W. Interstate 20, Big Spring,

915/263-1200; 112 CR 19, Lamesa, 806/872-0778 and 708 North Lamesa Highway, Stanton, 915/756-3900.



One night I saw an old friend who was so lit up that I could read by him.

He was staggering from car to car, and I asked, "Are you lost?" "No, preacher Guido," he mumbled, "but my car is."

There are many like him who are lost, and they won't admit it. If you have wandered away from the Lord, you're lost.

But you don't have to find Him. He has come to seek and to save you.

You're not further than one step from Him. That one step is turning around. When you turn around, you'll find yourself in the arms of the seeking Christ who loves you and longs to save you.

You'll turn to Him, won't you?

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