

# THE BORDEN STAR

VOLUME XXVIII

August 23, 2000

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

## EMT students pass State Exam

Kent Holmes, Borden County EMS Educational Coordinator, has done it again! Kent has successfully taught and trained five students to pass the EMT-Intermediate state exam. Three of these students were from Borden County, one from Snyder and one from Jayton. The three students from Borden County were Chuck Kimmel, Bob Kempf and Brice Key. The Scurry County student was Kevin Tate, with Roxanne Wright being from Jayton.



2000 EMT-Intermediate Class Passes State Exam: (L. to R.) Chuck Kimmel, Bob Kempf, Roxanne Wright, and Brice Key. Seated: Kevin Tate.

The EMT-Intermediate certification is one step above EMT-Basic and one step below EMT-Paramedic certification. Two of the Borden County students, Chuck Kimmel and Brice Key, will continue on for their Paramedic certification this fall at WTC where Kent Holmes will teach the EMT-Paramedic course. Borden County Paramedic, Nelda Burnett, is also teaching an

EMT-Basic class at WTC this fall. If you would like to attend Nelda's EMT-Basic course, please contact WTC at 915/573-8511. The citizens of Borden County are ultimately the winners from these successes because these students will be able to provide quality pre-hospital care right here in Borden County. The emergency number for BC EMS is 806/759-5111.

## Meeting Planned

Ex-student Association Meeting

Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

7:00 p.m.

Community Room in Gail

Wrap up concerning reunion past and ideas for reunion future.

## Rural Water Well Screening Available

Residents of Borden and Water Conservation County have the opportunity to screen their wells for bacteria, nitrates, and salt. This is a voluntary, confidential, self-assessment program to assist rural residents to check the quality of their well water and learn how to reduce the risks of pollution associated with water wells.

This project is supported by the Borden County Agricultural Extension Service, Borden County Commissioners Court, Borden County EMS, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil

District, and the Big country Resource conservation and Development (RC&D) Area. In addition to the water screening, information will be provided to help rural residents assess the risk of ground water pollution and describe Best Management Practices that can help protect ground water. This information was developed by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service as the TEX\*A\*Syst program which includes a self-analysis questionnaire to

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## Meet The COYOTES 2000!

Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

6:00 p.m.

Home Scrimmage against Jayton Practice Field

Immediately following the scrimmage, all the High school students will be introduced.

Everyone is asked to bring either Home-made-Ice cream, or brownies, cookies & goodies to enjoy.

Don't forget to bring your lawn chairs and enjoy watching the Coyote scrimmage.

**Coyote Football Scrimmage with Dawson Fri. Aug 25<sup>th</sup> There - 6:00 p.m**

## 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

### 4-H Shooting Sports



### Jackson competes in National Competition

Brionne Jackson, a Junior division in the Nation. In the Sporting Clays division, Brionne scored 37 out of a possible 50 and received 17th in this division. In the Trap and Skeet Shoot in San Antonio, Texas

Congratulations on your placing but also good job on the development of your safe gun handling and shooting techniques.

Bill and Denise Jackson serve as Shooting Sports leaders and coaches. If you would be interested in participating in this area of 4-H, please give us a call and we will be glad to get you further information on this project. Shooting Sports activities normally take place from May through August each year.

In Skeet Competition, Brionne shot 72 out of a possible 75 targets to place 6th in the nation. In the Trap Division, out of a possible score of 75, he placed 24th with a score of 8. As you can tell competition was very stiff with only 7 targets splitting the difference from 1st place to 24th place.

Brionne had a combined score of 140 out of a possible 150 and received 8th place overall honors in the American Trap and Skeet

### Opry Talent Search



The 2000 Coyote Opry is just around the corner. In fact it is just 17 days away. Several key entertainers have been lined up, but there is still room for more. The talent committee is still searching for that "undiscovered act" to add to their star studded cast, so tune those pipes and make the call! Anyone interested must contact the Ben & Bud Talent Agency by September 8th. Due to the tight schedule "drop in" entertainment will not be accepted on opry night unless time permits. Back up music on tapes should be music and back up vocals only.

Ben Miller - 915/573-6004  
Buddy Walalce - 806/756-4478



9 - SEPTEMBER - 2000

GAIL TEXAS

SATURDAY NIGHT

# COYOTE OPRY

TAMALE SUPPER 5:00 P.M.  
Child Plate \$3.50 Adult Plate \$4.50

MUSIC 6:00-10:00  
by LOCAL AREA MUSICIANS

PENNY RAFFLES  
PIE, CAKE, COBBLER AUCTION  
YOUTH ART EXHIBIT

Proceeds To Benefit  
BCJLA  
4-H Youth FFA

### School Lunch Menu

Week of:  
August 28<sup>th</sup> -  
September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**MONDAY:** Fajitas, salad, beans, fruit & milk

**Breakfast:** Hot pockets, hash browns, juice & milk.

**TUESDAY:** Chicken, corn, potatoes, hot rolls, fruit, & milk. **Breakfast:** Oatmeal, toast, fruit, juice & milk.

**WEDNESDAY:** Beef & bean burrito, potato wedges, salad fruit squares, fruit & milk.

**Breakfast:** Sausage gravy, biscuits, juice & milk.

**THURSDAY:** Lasagna, baby carrots, green beans, garlic toast, fruit & milk.

**Breakfast:** Breakfast burrito, hash browns, juice & milk.

**FRIDAY:** Rib on a bun, French fries, salad cookies & milk. **Breakfast:** Pop tarts, fruit, juice & milk

### 2000-2001 Football Schedule High School

Aug. 25	Dawson (scrimmage)	There	6:00
Aug 31	Jayton (scrimmage)	Here	6:00
Sept. 8	Trent	There	7:30
Sept. 15	Ropes	Here	7:30
Sept. 22	Sands	Here	7:30
Sept. 29	Wellman	There	7:30
Oct. 6	Whitharral	There	7:30
Oct. 13	**Lorraine	Here	7:30
Oct. 20	*Ira	There	7:30
Oct. 27	*Hermleigh	Here	7:30
Nov. 3	*Westbrook	There	7:30
Nov. 10	*Highland	Here	7:30

\*Denotes District Games - \*\* Homecoming

### Junior High and Junior Varsity Football Schedule

• Sept. 14	Ropes	There	JH & JV	6: & 7:30
• Sept. 21	Sands	There	JH & JV	6: & 7:30
• Sept. 28	Wellman	Here	JH & JV	6: & 7:30
• Oct. 5	Highland	There	JH & JV	6: & 7:30
• Oct. 12	Lorraine	There	JH only	6:00
• Oct 19	Ira	Here	JH & JV	6: & 7:30
• Oct 26	Hermleigh	There	JH only	6:00
• Oct. 26	Highland	@Hermleigh	JV	7:30
• Nov.	Westbrook	Here	JH	6:00

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## Parents Club News

### New Officers Elected

New officers for the Parents Club have been elected for the 2000-01 school year. They are as follows: President - Jana Underwood, 806-756-4412; Vice President-Tammy Valentine, 915/573-7879; Treasurer-Lee Roberts, 806/497-6373; Secretary/Reporter-Brandi Brooks, 806/439-6316

We could use **EVERY-ONES** help with school activities and fundraisers. Please call and volunteer!

### Room Mothers

Room Mothers have also been chosen. Some classes still need a Room Mother. Please call Jana Underwood @806-756-4412 if you would like to volunteer. The Room Mothers will still need help from all the parents in that class, please contact your child's Room Mother to see how you can help out.

K	NONE	5th	Kip Wallace 806/756-4478 Carol Wilson 806/756-4425
1st	NONE	6th	Brenda Copeland 806/756-4468 Kelly Dear 915/399-4637
2nd	Donelle Hensley 806/439-6350 Tammy Valentine 915/573-7879	7th	Brandi Brooks 806/439-6316 Tammy Clements 806/756-4433 Peggy Pigford 806/756-4394
3rd	Peggy Pigford 806/756-4394 Lori Stephens 806/4396673 Lara Payne 806/756-4338	8th	Kip Wallace 806/756-4478 Carol Wilson 806/756-4425
4th	Holly Benavidez 806/756-4322 Rhonda Harding 915/965-3420	9th	Brandi Brooks 806/439-6316 Sherry Gass 806/756-4403
		10th	Nan Sharp 806/756-
		11th	Brenda Copeland 806/756-4468
		12th	Jeanette Koehler 806/756-4466

### Recipe Book

The Parents Club is still in the process of constructing a Recipe Book with your favorite recipes to sell for a fundraiser. If you would like to add a recipe to the book please send the recipe to: Parents Club P.O. Box 331

Gail, Texas 79738  
DEADLINE: Sept. 15th.

We have several already submitted but we need more in the meat and side-dish categories. Proceeds from the sell of this Cookbook gill go to the Scholarship Fund.

### Fall Festival

The Fall Festival has been set for October 28th from 6:30 until 9:00 p.m. We will have the following booths:

K Fish Pond  
1st Christmas Walk  
2nd Sponge Throw

3rd Plinko  
4th Hayride  
Cow Patty Bingo  
5th Football & Basketball Throw  
6th Chicken Roulette  
7th Dart Throw

8th Golf  
9th Pie Walk  
10th Ring Toss  
11th Haunted House  
12th Concession Stand  
4-H Cake Walk

We will need ALL PARENTS to help so we can have a successful and fun festival. Money made from these booths goes toward your child's Senior Trip.

The Parents Club will have BINGO. We will need prizes

### Should I Care If Nitrates Are In My Ground Water?

(Part 2 of 5)

Cont. from pg. 1

highlight practices you may want to modify in your operation to reduce the risk of contaminating your ground water supply.

Normally the cost of water sample tests to include salts, nitrates, and bacteria could run as much as \$50.00. If you choose to participate in this water well screening, the fee will be only \$3.00 per sample. As you can see, this opportunity will not only save you money on testing but also help ensure that your water is safe for you, your family or your livestock.

Water samples will be taken on September 20<sup>th</sup> and results will be available on September 21<sup>st</sup>. More detailed information will be released as the time draws nearer for this activity. Please give this project some consideration!

**What are nitrates?** Nitrates are salts or esters of nitric acid. Decaying organic matter, sewage, and fertilizers produce nitrates in the soil, which can leak into ground water.

**How do nitrates affect my drinking water?** High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause Blue Baby Disease (Methemoglobinemia) in humans and animals. Methemoglobinemia affects young children, pregnant women, and people in poor health.

to give away. PLEASE go to your surrounding businesses and get items donated. We have a tax ID# if needed. Call Jana @ 806/756-4412 to get a copy. If you do not have the time to get items donated you can send money and we will purchase prizes. Money made off the Bingo is for the Parents Club Scholarship. Send your donations to: Parents Club

P.O. Box 331  
Gail, Texas 79738

### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be October 2nd, at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. We will be discussing the Fall Festival, Cookbook Project, Teachers Luncheon and other fundraising opportunities. Please try to attend!!

For school news and information  
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Borden Star today!  
Only \$12.00 a year

Some Studies indicate that long-term exposure to high nitrate levels can cause cancer.

Nitrates also encourage the growth of algae and other organisms, which may produce undesirable tastes and odors in your water.

**What is the health standard for nitrates in my drinking water?** In humans, the level of nitrate that is safe to consume is not known, but health standards set a maximum limit of 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L) nitrates as nitrogen.

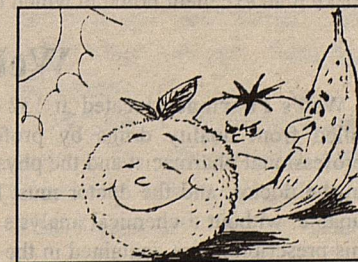
**Do nitrates affect my irrigation water?** Irrigation water should be tested for nitrates just as household water wells.

The nitrate content of the irrigation water should be credited for crop growth in the nutrient management plan.

To determine the amount of nitrogen in your irrigation water, a test for nitrates

should be conducted. The result from this test is expressed in mg/L nitrate-nitrogen. Multiply the mg/L or parts per million (ppm) by 2.7 to determine the amount of nitrogen applied per acre in a 12-inch application of water. To find out the number of pounds of nitrogen applied for each inch of irrigation water, multiply mg/L (or ppm) of nitrate-nitrogen times 0.225.

If you choose to participate in the Borden County Rural Water Well Screening, your water sample will be tested for nitrates. Screening date will be September 20<sup>th</sup>.



The fuzz on peaches protects them from sunburn.

### DID YOU KNOW...



Borden County EMS Educational Coordinator, Kent Holmes is not just a farmer and paramedic but also a Texas State Certified EMS Instructor. Kent has taught many classes over his 18 years with the EMS. At times, Kent has given instruction to nurses and doctors at Covenant & UMC. He has also given lectures on pre-hospital care to other Paramedics, EMT's, Teachers, Coaches, Firefighters, Lawyers, Commissioners & Judges. BORDEN CO. EMS 806/759-5111

## **Business & Professional Good Neighbor Review of Post**

**Trade with the firms that support Borden County**

### **Sonic Drive-In**



This excellent drive-in is located at 215 So. Broadway in Post. Be sure to stop here for a cold drink and a bite to eat the next time you are in Post for the day. They provide curbside service for your convenience. Just drive up to the **Sonic Drive-In** and you will be pleased with the excellent service they give you right in your own car. You will find they have easy in and out access and you will find a menu right by your window when you drive in. One of the most important points a person considers when he eats away from home is the sanitary conditions of the kitchen from which his or her food comes from. In this Good Neighbor Review we wish to commend the management of the **Sonic Drive-In** on keeping such a clean kitchen and the serving of really good food. When the management went into business it was with the idea that an establishment of this type would be greatly appreciated by the people of this area and this has been proven by reason of their ever increasing business. The management wishes to take this opportunity to thank all his Borden County customers for their past and future patronage. Phone 806/495-3440.

### **Citizens Bank**

This prominent bank is located at 210 N. Broadway, Post, phone 806/495-3545. The **Citizens Bank** is an institution of financial strength and safety and may well be termed "The Friendly Bank". It was founded by men of character and integrity who were very prominent in business and commercial activities and have progressed as this district itself has grown and progressed. Under the management of efficient and capable people they invite accounts of business men, women, farmers, laborers or all people who desire profitable connections with a modern banking institution. At this bank you will find strength, seasoned judgement, dependability, accuracy in handling details and breadth of vision - - - all to be applied to the management of your personal or commercial affairs. In making this Good Neighbor Review we wish to make the statement that at **Citizens Bank** you may at all times save with safety for they are a FDIC member bank.



### **Golden Plains Care Center**

The convalescent home is most conveniently located for this area, offering complete care for the aged, sick and convalescent. They are located at 605 W. 7th in Post. Their buildings are located and arranged in such a manner that the occupants will receive plenty of sunlight, fresh air and are free of the traffic and city noises. Heating, ventilation and sanitary arrangements are most completely planned for the comfort of the patients. All methods are approved by the supervising authorities and the health association. Their menu is planned by dietitians and prepared under the most sanitary methods and conditions, giving the patients well balanced, nourishing and appetizing meals which help maintain and rebuild the health and strength so necessary for the aged, sick and inactive person. Their rooms are light and cheerily decorated, which has a good psychological effect on the patient. This with the pleasant, sympathetic and understanding nurses creates lovely surroundings and make it an excellent home in which to live. Phone 806/495-2848.

### **Well's Pharmacy**

**Well's Pharmacy** located at 132 W. Main in Post is where prescriptions are accurately filled from quality drugs by professional pharmacist. The relationship between the professional pharmacist and the physician is very close. The people should have confidence in the doctor, and the doctor must have implicit confidence in the pharmacist, for his is unable, without a chemical analyst to determine whether all the ingredients called for in his prescription are contained in the compound and if they are pure and fresh. Moreover, the pharmacist, in many cases is the medium through which the physician gains certain of his knowledge. To be progressive he is expected to know all the newer preparations that are available. As soon as any biological or medical discovery is proven of worth, he will have a supply on hand for the doctor and the public use. We the compilers of this Good Neighbor Review highly recommend **Well's Pharmacy** for all your pharmaceutical needs. Phone. 806/495-2535 and your prescription will be ready for you when you arrive.

### **Holly's Drive Inn**

This restaurant is located at 615 S. Broadway in Post and is one of the finest and most popular in this section. They have gained a name that has spread over a large area as a place where both the local and traveling public can well satisfy their demands in good eating. The menu consists of many tempting dishes served with courtesy and a pleasant smile. It is indeed refreshing to find such an up-to-date restaurant as this. It is unsurpassed by any eating place in the way of fast service and good food. Here you will find inside dining in nice surroundings or if you wish they have curbside service where by you may eat in the convenience of your own car, or if its take-out you want, you may phone 806/495-2704 and they will bring it out to you when you arrive. Everyone will find this a pleasant place to visit while in Post, whether working or shopping for the day.

### **Wells Fargo Bank**

**Wells Fargo Bank**, located at 216 W. Main in Post is a member FDIC bank. A strong bank instills confidence in a community. Grow with your local bank. This bank is not only able but will care for every reasonable want of its customers. Our readers will find this bank a friendly bank, providing all of the facilities and services of a large city bank together with personal interest in every customer. So be prepared to take advantage of opportunity by depositing a reserve in this strong bank. When you are contemplating making an investment of any kind, it is a safe plan to consult the officers of this bank before you make that investment. A great deal of credit is due the officers and directors, who have done their best toward the developing of the farming, ranching and other interests of their area. The Community Board Members of this bank are fine, public spirited men who believe in this area and feel that there are better days ahead for the energetic person who works with a plan backed by sound judgement and reasoning. We are pleased to recommend to our readers this outstanding bank in Post.

### **McDonald's of Post**

**Bill Cohen - Owner**

**McDonald's** is always recognized as a social center for travelers and the public in general. They are known by those who visit them as headquarters for "Good Eats". Come in and bring your friends, for here you are always welcome. There is always a friendly atmosphere and their patrons, seen from every walk of life make these popular places their regular eating place. You will find their inside dining area always clean and orderly arranged. Or if you wish take out service they have a convenient drive up window. **McDonald's** in Post is the cities newest business. When Bill Cohen had the idea of opening a **McDonald's** in Post it was with the idea that this modern restaurant would be greatly appreciated by the people of Garza county and the surrounding area, and we, the writers of this Good Neighbor Review of the Post business firms predict this will be proven to be true. Bill Cohen wishes to take this opportunity to invite the people of Borden County as well as all the surrounding area to come in and visit them and see what they have to offer you. Phone 806/495-0495.

### **The Norman Agency**

For all kinds of insurance call on **The Norman Agency**, located at 204 E. Main in Post. This firm represents some of the largest companies and they are ready to serve you in your every insurance need. They are now serving a great number of people in this section with auto, accident, property and life insurance. There are so many things over which we have no control, both of a personal and property nature, that you owe it to yourself and your family to insure against these things which do happen. When you think of insurance, think of **The Norman Agency**. Go over your needs with them and they will be able to assist you in selecting the kind of insurance suited to protect you adequately. Once they have made a study of your problems, you will be advised how best you can meet that need at a minimum cost. You are invited to come in and discuss insurance with no obligation on your part and see for yourself if your protection is sufficient for all your needs. In this review we feel a sense of satisfaction in recommending this firm in Post for insurance of all kinds Phone 806/495-3050 for any information.

### **Mason Warner & Co., P.C.**

**Terri Cash, C.P.A.**

Today's Certified Public Accountant is more than just a tax professional. A CPA is a business advisor, keeping abreast of legislation which affects the businessman and woman, the individual and the professional. They are an invaluable "SILENT" partner in helping you improve your business and financial status. Laws affecting your business can change yearly and forms required by various agencies are overwhelming to many businesses. Terri Cash of **Mason Warner & Co.** is competent in matters that could be beneficial to your business. She can be reached at 108 S. Ave. I in Post or phone 806/495-2872. We recommend this competent CPA firm as an experienced and professional adviser to business people and professionals in our area. We believe that expertise of a CPA is a necessity in today's complex economic and business environment. When thinking of a CPA, think of Terri Cash of **Mason Warner & Co.**

**We're always here for you  
in case of an Emergency!  
Just Call Us . . .**

**BORDEN COUNTY EMS  
806/759-5111**



## Fiddlin' Frenchie Burk featured entertainer at Snyder Chamber of Commerce banquet

Fiddlin' Frenchie Burk will be the featured entertainer at the annual Snyder Chamber of Commerce banquet on August 26th in the Scurry County coliseum. Serving will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Burke was among the entertainers at Snyder's West Texas Western Swing festival earlier this year and has been invited back for the 21001 Festival set for June 6-9. He was named Instrumentalist of the Year in 1981 and plays at the State Fair of Texas each year.

Also featured will be Emil Schattel and the West Texas Express. Plaques recognizing special service to the community will be presented and Chamber officers will be introduced.

"We want to make this a really special, enjoyable evening," Donna Fowler, Chamber director, said. "The colorful coliseum decorations will feature a Mardi gras theme, with a canopy of balloons overhead and the food will feature Cajun dishes since Frenchie is Cajun."



Tickets are \$12.50 for adults and \$7 for children. They must be purchased by 5 p.m. on August 23 at the Chamber of Commerce office at 2302 Avenue R. Checks for tickets can be mailed to the Chamber at P.O. Box 840, Snyder TX 79550. Additional information can be obtained by calling the Chamber at 915/573-3558. The e-mail address is snychcom@snydertexas.com

## Growers asked to post fields when treating for aphids

Cotton growers are asked to notify the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation if they use Furadan to treat cotton fields for aphids.

By law, fields that have been treated with Furadan must have warning signs posted, cautioning people not to enter the field for 15 days.

Fields can be entered after 48 hours if personal protective equipment is worn, but it is important that growers post signs to advise that a field has been treated.

In the interest of protecting employees, the Foundation asks that all growers notify

their nearest boll weevil office to advise of fields that have been or will be treated. Cooperation by growers will ensure that proper precautions are taken to protect the health and well being of all individuals who need access to affected cotton fields.

## Mrs. Reddell is living in Snyder and would like to hear from you

Winonah Reddell is now in Snyder Healthcare Center. Most of you know she suffered a massive stroke in January and up until June had been staying in Lubbock. You may visit or send cards to her in care of Snyder Healthcare Center, 5311 College Avenue, Snyder Texas 79549. She would enjoy hearing from you.

## Bluegrass Festival to be held at Wagon Wheel Guest Ranch

The first Bluegrass festival will be held at the all new Wagon Wheel Music Park, Friday, September 29th and 30th, show time TBA. A sunrise Sunday Service October 1st, plus a Chuck Wagon Breakfast.

Headlining this great Bluegrass show will be the New King of Bluegrass, Jimmy Martin and Band. The show will feature "The Lost and Found", one of the top groups in Bluegrass today.

There will be lots of local talent used and they should contact, Tommy Allsup at the


Wagon Wheel Ranch (915/573-2348). All bands must sent Bio's and a CD or Tape.

The New park will be one of the great outside showplaces in the southwest.

Ticket prices will be one day advance \$25.00, 2 day advance \$40.00 and tickets at the gate will be \$30.00

Parking is free, so order your tickets early and bring a chair.

The park will have food, drinks and lots of space for camping.



### 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.

## Upcoming Events

Two agricultural events will be taking place at the Fluvanna Community Center this week. On Wednesday, August 23, 2000 we will be having a Wheat Production/Stocker Cattle Seminar. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Speakers will be Kent Mills of Ezell-Key Grain, Derik Thamm, Lubbock Feeders, Dr Ted McCollum, TAEX Beef Cattle Specialist, and Dr. Calvin Trostle, TAEX-Agronomist. Lunch will be served at noon.

On Thursday, August 24,

2000, we will have the annual Borden/Scurry Farm Tour. This educational event will also begin at 8:30 a.m. The tour will include the drip irrigation variety trial, minimum tilled ploy, broadcast cotton plot, and BMR forage sorghum plots. Eric Best of Paymaster Tech Services, Dr. Randy Boman, TAEX Agronomist, and Dr. Calvin Trostle, TAEX Agronomist will be presenting the program. Lunch will be served at noon.

## Panhandle South-Plains Fair

Exhibitors interested in showing animals in the junior and open Livestock Shows at the September Panhandle-South Plains Fair face a Monday entry deadline, reports Steve L. Lewis, fair manager. Lewis stressed that all livestock entries must be postmarked no later than August 21st.

During the 83rd annual event, set for Sept. 22-30, livestock exhibitors will compete for more than \$120,000 in prize money in 15 livestock shows. Junior competitions for 4-H or FFA club members include market goat, swine, beef heifer, dairy, lamb and steer shows. Open competitions include beef cattle, dairy cattle, Southdown sheep and Boer goat shows.

A non-refundable entry fee of \$25 for junior beef heifer entries, \$20 for Open Boer goat show entries and \$15 for all other livestock animals

should accompany each animal entry.

Judges from around the country have been selected for the livestock competitions which begin with the junior market goat show at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 23rd, and end with junior beef heifer, lamb and steer shows Saturday, September 30.

Milking demonstrations, open to the public and featuring cattle competing in the Open and Junior Dairy shows, will take place at 5:00 pm. each evening of the dairy shows, Sept. 23-26. The Milking Parlor is located west of the cattle barns.

Livestock breeders interested in showing animals at the fair can obtain entry forms at the fair office, 105 E. Broadway, or by calling the fair office at 806/763-2833.

Panhandle-South Plains Fair operates as a 22 county regional fair and is located at the corner of 4th St. and Avenue A in Lubbock, TX



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

**Tumbleweed Smith**  
*Part owner of Texas*



## A personal Star Wars adventure

I put off writing this column for a couple of days. I'm glad I did. The wait changed my attitude about things.

We took our son BZ to see the Star Wars movie when it first came out 24 years ago. He flipped out over the film. Even though he was only eight years old, he started collecting Star Wars toys, books, games and movie poster. His collection grew and grew. He acquired Star Wars T-shirts, records, bubble bath, picture cards, soap, cookies, even sheets and a bedspread with pictures of Star Wars characters on them.

He displayed the items on shelving in his bedroom. Once he walked past the door to his room and glanced at his collection for a split second. He noticed a small gun missing from one of his figures. I mean the gun was maybe half an inch long. He told us he would like to keep the door to his room locked when the cleaning lady came because she messed with his stuff. We obliged him. The tiny gun was found.

He kept an accurate account of everything he had. His inventory list was in a notebook along with receipts for items he purchased and description sheets for his larger things.

Every gift-giving occasion we gave him a Droid Maker Factory or Imperial Troop Transport or Millennium Falcon or an Ice Planet.

BZ left his collection in our care when he went off to college. He helped us put everything in their original boxes and stack them in a

storage shed behind our house where we keep the lawnmower. The collection stayed there for years. I went to the shed last Sunday to put up a weed eater and discovered the lock to the storage building was gone. When I opened the door, I saw only empty shelves. Everything had been stolen.

We were devastated. The collection represented our son's childhood. Everything I went to the shed for the lawnmower, I would look at all the boxes and have good thoughts about BZ.

We called the police, placed ads in the newspaper and local TV Cable offering a reward for the return of the items. The local radio station did a heart-wrenching story on the loss. We prepared fliers and took them to neighbor's homes. We told everyone we could about the theft. We figured the items were taken sometime the previous Saturday while we were out of town for about three hours.

It was hard to call BZ and tell him what happened.

About 7 o'clock Wednesday morning, in the midst of our grief, I walked up to the front yard to work on a sprinkler head. I noticed a bunch of boxes and bags in our yard. My first thought was, "Now what... Somebody has dumped garbage in our yard." But that thought lasted only a second. I realized the boxes and bags contained the stolen Star Wars collection.

Someone's practical joke? A conscience attack? Some parents' concern? I don't know. I do know that when I

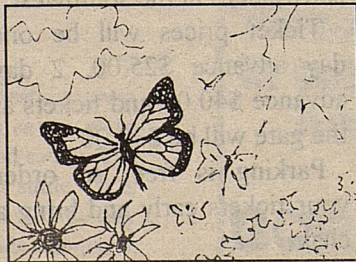


## Hot Air Balloons on their way back to Alpine Labor Day

The hot air balloons are on their way back to Alpine with full force on Labor Day Weekend! Put together by the Alpine Chamber of Commerce, the annual Alpine Invitational Balloon Rally is set for September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. With at least 30 balloons attending, Alpine's West Texas skies will be colorfully painted.

"Dr. Tim Brady," President of the Tri-County Balloon Association in central Texas, "will be serving as this year's balloonmeister," says Chamber President Johnny Carpenter. "Tim is

called BZ and told him about the stuff being returned, he was ecstatic. I told him we were sending it all to him.



Butterflies need sunlight to regulate their body temperature.

thoroughly versed in the safety aspects of hot air balloons and will be overlooking the entire event. As a pilot he has logged more than 1,000 hours of flying, and has flown and instructed all of the major type of balloons," he added. This year Tim also plans to hold a balloon glow and a community concert.

Launchings for the hot air balloons will continue to be held on the open field next to the Ramada Limited. Scheduled time for the balloon launches will be Saturday, Sunday, and Monday at 7:00 a.m. Other activities include opening ceremonies will be held at 6:30 p.m. each morning.

The Friday night registration and reception party will

kick off the schedule of events for pilots and crewmembers. Saturday will continue on with a morning competitive flight, an afternoon reception, an evening balloon glow, and a community concert. Sunday includes a post-flight basket competition among sponsors.

"It was a blast last year... and we are looking forward to bringing the balloons back to Alpine," said Guy Combs, Executive Director of the Alpine Chamber of Commerce. "What can be better than waking up in the morning to a beautiful sky full of color," he added. "We hope that this year the balloon burn will be remembered as one of the most interesting parts of the events."

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## Take Control Following An Auto Accident

According to the Insurance for Highway Safety there are an estimated 35 million auto accidents each year in the United States. Your chances of being involved in at least one accident are higher than you might expect. Being prepared for such an unpleasant possibility, however, can have a huge impact on the outcome.

It's helpful to think through the decisions you will face and the actions you will take in a typical accident situation. Who is your auto insurer? Do you have different policies for multiple vehicles? How can you be certain that you will be able to quickly contact the right insurance provider in the wake of an incident?

Also be familiar with your auto insurance policy. A few minutes spent reviewing the coverage summary provided by your insurer can help you resolve a number of important issues, such as whether you should have the damaged vehicle towed by the nearest independent service or need to contact your insurer for the name of an approved provider.

"Review your policy to be sure you know what you're covered for," said Willy Graves, President of Progressive County Mutual of Texas. "And understand what your insurance company would like you to do in the event of an accident. Some, like Progressive, ask that you

call them right away -- even from the accident scene. Others may want you to call on the next business day."

In the event of an accident you should:

1. Promptly notify the police and wait for their arrival. Immediately inform the police of any injuries, so they can arrange for the appropriate medical assistance. Do not try to move anyone with an injury; this can cause additional damage. You can, however, cover an injured person with a blanket and try to make them more comfortable.

2. Contact your insurance provider. It's important that the insurer know about the accident; failure to report the incident could violate the terms of your policy. Your insurance provider also can provide important advice so you don't inadvertently waive some of your legal rights.

3. Cooperate with the police by providing any information they request. Ask for a copy of the officer's accident report; you may need this documentation to support an insurance claim.

4. If you can safely do so, make reasonable efforts to protect the accident scene and your vehicle from additional damage. Try to move your vehicle out of the flow of traffic. Or, set up flares or other reflective devices you may have.

5. Don't accept responsi-

bility for the accident or agree with the other party to "forget about it." Don't discuss the accident or details of your insurance coverage with anyone but the police and your insurance provider.

6. Do, however, exchange appropriate information with the other driver or property owner. This information should include names, addresses, telephone numbers, drivers' license numbers, license plate numbers, makes/models/years of vehicles, insurance company names and policy numbers. Also get names, addresses and telephone numbers of any passengers, victims and witnesses, plus names and badge numbers of police officers and emergency personnel. These can all be important if there are questions about who is at fault.

7. Take notes about everything at the scene, including details of the accident, time of day, weather and road conditions, positions of all vehicles before and after the

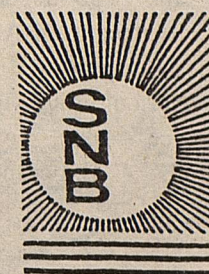
accident, and the locations of the signs, streets and other landmarks. Also note any apparent damage to all involved vehicles. If you have a camera and can safely do so, take photos of the scene.

8. Have your insurance company inspect and appraise damage before doing anything to repair it. Progressive offers its policyholders Immediate Response claims service that, if requested, dispatches a claim representative to the accident site.

9. Save copies of all documents relating to the accident in case you need them to file a claim or protect yourself from legal action.

"Even if you do everything right at the scene, being in an accident is upsetting. Be sure you understand the claims service your auto insurer provides, and whether it's the level of service you need and want," Graves said. "If you want 24-hour service and your current insurer doesn't provide it, shop around for one that does. After all, that's what auto insurance is for."

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## CAPITOL COMMENT



U.S. SENATOR

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

### HELP FOR OUR HOSPITALS

Too many hospitals in Texas and across the country are on the brink of financial disaster. As a result, institutions that are the cornerstones of their communities may have to reduce or eliminate many of the vital services they provide in order to stay afloat.

A good example of how this is unfolding can be seen at Henderson Memorial Hospital in East Texas. This facility, which serves the 45,000 or so residents of Rusk County, has experienced a 10 percent increase in patients this year. But as a result of changes in the way Medicare reimburses hospitals, Henderson Memorial is collecting less money than it did the year before: realizing only 51 cents for every dollar it bills. You don't need an accountant to figure out that this picture is drawn in red ink.

The Texas Hospital Association estimates that 70 percent of the hospitals in our state will be in the red by the end of this year if planned adjustments in Medicare payments continue as scheduled. The biggest dollar pressure on hospitals is a proposed reduction in the annual inflation adjustment for standard Medicare payments — what the hospitals are paid for treating Medicare patients with specific illnesses.

Last year Congress passed legislation restoring nearly \$17 billion over five years to scheduled cuts in Medicare reimbursement payments. While some of the proposed cuts were mandated by the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, which laid the historic foundation for the balanced federal budget we enjoy today, many were a direct result of

policies set by the Health Care Financing Administration, not Congress. All told, Medicare providers faced an estimated \$200 billion in reduced payments over the next five years, far in excess of the 1997 Balanced Budget Act estimate of \$116 billion in savings.

All this spells disaster for hospitals — the backbone of our nation's health care system. Last year, I and many of my colleagues began to hear from hospital administrators, trustees and health professionals about their struggles to maintain the quality and variety of the services they provide patients in their communities. As a result of cuts that the Health Care Finance Administration was imposing, many highly regarded, efficiently run hospitals were beginning to run deficits.

So earlier this year I introduced the "American Hospital Preservation Act," a bill aimed at boosting Medicare reimbursements to hospitals struggling with higher than expected medical and administrative costs. This legislation is designed to get them back on their feet by giving hospitals the same "cost-of-living adjustment" other federal programs recipients get each year.

Last year, we passed my bill to restore the cost-of-living adjustment for "sole community provider" hospitals, where the hospital is the only such health-care facility serving a community. This year, I hope to extend that same relief to all hospitals. If passed into law, my bill could restore approximately \$2 billion to Texas hospitals over the next 10 years.

Our hospitals continue to struggle to meet continued increases in personnel costs, to purchase high-tech equipment and to maintain their higher-cost blood supplies, just to name a few of their routine outlays. At the same time, they are also being squeezed by the rapid expansion of cost-conscious, managed-care private insurance. While Medicare should not be called upon to shoulder the burden of cuts in private-sector payments, the program does need to pay for what it costs to provide care for the nation's seniors.

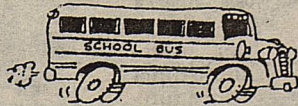
We are lucky to be living in an era of medical breakthroughs, the likes of which previous generations of Americans could only dream. We must continue to invest in the core infrastructure of our nation's health delivery system — our hospitals.

## School has Started!

Be careful and Watch Out for the Children!

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BACK TO SCHOOL

## High Plains Sunflower Field Day set on Aug. 29

Farmers on the High Plains can learn more about sunflower production at an Aug. 29th field day sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

"Sunflowers are an alternative crop often grown in rotation with cotton, corn, grain sorghum and other crops. Many farmers also grow sunflowers as a late-season catch crop," said Calvin Trostle, Extension agronomist based at Texas A&M's Lubbock Research and Extension Center. "The Experiment Station at Halfway, in Hale County, will host the field day. The Halfway station is 12 miles west of Plainview on U.S.

Hwy. 70.

"We will review common producer concerns about growing sunflowers, and discuss how producers can successfully use sunflowers as rotation crop with cotton and other crops."

The field day begins at 1:30 p.m. and will feature these speakers and topics:

\*West Texas Sunflower Agronomy: Common Production Problems, Travis Miller, Extension agronomist, College Station.

\*Sunflower Insects and Control, Greg Cronholm, Extension Integrated Pest Management agent, Plainview.

\*Fertility for Sunflowers in a Cotton Rotation, Calvin

Trostle.

"We will move to the turnrow at the Halfway Station at about 3 p.m. where producers can examine the latest conventional, confectionary and oilseed hybrids first hand. Representatives of Red River Commodities, Triumph Seed and Cargill Hybrid Seeds will be on hand to profile these hybrids growing in Texas

A&M's sunflower field trial.

"We will wrap up the field tour with a producer feedback session on sunflower production problems and commodity support needs, and query them on how we can make our research and extension educational programs more responsive to their needs and concerns. Producers can earn one

general Continuing Education Unit (CEU) at this field day."

For more information on this event, call Trostle at 806/746-6101, or the Hale County Extension office at 806/291-5267. Red River Commodities, Lubbock; Triumph Seed company, Ralls; and Cargill Hybrid Seed, Plainview, are co-sponsors of this event.



END OF GAME NOTICE

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Overall odds of winning Double Doubler 1 in 4.79. Must be 18 years or older to purchase a ticket. © 2000 Texas Lottery