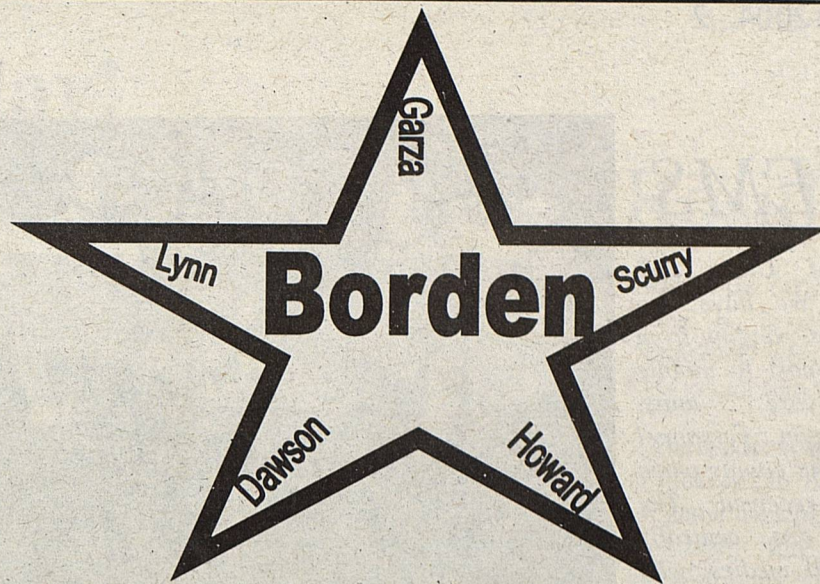


THE

Volume XXXII



STAR

July 14, 2004

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

A Settler's Life: Memories of John Gilmer Davis, Borden County Pioneer

By Janice Davis Northern

Part One of a series

Several huge, gnarled limbs from the ancient mesquite tree have given way over the years and now litter the ground, undisturbed where they've fallen over the decades. The tree is over a hundred years old, but its leaves are still green and alive, guarding memories of the house in southeast Borden County that once stood beneath its spreading limbs.

The house belonged to John Gilmer Davis, who settled in Borden County in 1899. No trace of that house remains on the Davis land today, no hearthstones, no imprint of the old foundation. Most of the people who spent their days here are gone, too; out of 14 children, only three — Melton Davis, Della Davis Brooks, and Lura Davis Perry — are still alive, all of them in their 80s now.

Son Melton E. Davis, a lifetime resident of Borden County, still lives on Davis land near the old home place, and he tells how his father settled here in 1899.

"My father bought two sections of land, 1,280 acres, for a dollar an acre from the state," Melton said. "He filed on the land. You had to live

on it for a certain length of time before it was awarded to you. The land he purchased started at the corner of section 80 and ran one mile due east and one mile south. The second section cornered in what is now Lake Thomas. It was section 68."

John Gilmer Davis came to Borden County looking for a new start. Born in 1868 in Grayson County, Texas, he married Rosa Sykes in 1896, only to lose her a year later when she died 12 days after giving birth to their daughter. John Gilmer's parents took the baby, also named Rosa, to live with them in Sterling City.

The widower and new father came to Borden County at age 31, alone. Once he'd filed on the land, John Gilmer wasted no time making a new life for himself.

"He gradually put the land into cultivation," Melton said. "I remember when my dad paid people \$8 an acre to grub mesquite down by the river. There were just a few mesquites, not like it is now. My dad grubbed a lot of it out of here."

The War of the Ribbons

Borden County was sparsely populated at the turn of the century, but the

number of people interested in claiming cheap land continued to grow. Some ranchers were not happy to have new settlers coming into the county because they were accustomed to letting their livestock graze freely on unsettled, state-owned land.

"When my dad came up here and filed on the land and built a little house, he moved 17 head of cattle with him," Melton said. "There were no fences in those days except small enclosures. If you fenced acreage across the Colorado River, it just washed out every time the river came up. A few big ranches would have a few sections of land and lots of cattle. They would let them graze everywhere. When people like my dad came in — small farmers — the big ranchers didn't like it," Melton added.

Between 1902-1904 the State of Texas released quite a bit of land for sale to new settlers, creating a land rush. During this time, John Gilmer Davis took part in an event called the War of the Ribbons. The "war" was actually a gentlemanly tussle over land-filing rights that took its name from the colored ribbons worn to distinguish the two sides —



Bettie Jane Melton Graham Davis and John Gilmer Davis stand in front of the house that John Gilmer built in southeast Borden County in 1903. (Date of photograph unknown, c. 1910-1920.) During their 43 years of marriage, the couple raised 14 children.

the cattlemen, sporting blue ribbons, and the settlers, who wore red.

According to The Handbook of Texas Online Web site, the War of the Ribbons occurred in 1903, but a March 17, 1904, article

in the Borden Citizen, the county newspaper, describes the event as happening in 1904. This article was reprinted in September 1970 in the Borden County Historical Survey

Continued to pg. 4

EMS Profile: Borden County EMS

Profile submitted by Philena Farmer, LP

Number of Personnel: Borden County EMS has seven paramedics (including three NREMT-Ps, three LPs), one EMT-I and one EMT. Philena Farmer, LP/NREMT-P, serves as president and EMS director. All personnel are volunteer and all services are provided free of charge. Dr. John Griswold serves as medical director.

How Many Years in Service: BCEMS started service in 1975 with the help of the county judge and the superintendent of Borden County ISD. BCEMS, based in Gail, serves approximately 800 people spread out over about 900 square miles. The average response time is 25 minutes.

Number of Units and Capabilities: We have two front line units, ranging from basic life support to mobile intensive care units, depending upon personnel available in the county when a call is received. The ambulances are centrally located, so all medics, who live in various communities in the county, are first responders and equipped with crash kits and defibrillators. Twelve-lead capabilities are also available upon arrival of the ambulance. The closest medical facility is 45 miles away and the closest trauma center is 90 miles away in Lubbock. We rely on AeroCare (Lubbock) and Critical Air (Sweetwater) for transport of critical patients.



Borden County EMS includes, from left, Philena Farmer, LP; Kent Holmes, EMT-P; Carrie Hart, EMT-P; Tina Pewitt, EMT-P; Mike Valentine, LP; Buddy Wallace, LP; and Chuck Kimmel, EMT-P.

Since Borden County has no medical facilities, most patients are transported to the facility of their choice.

Number of Calls: in 2003, BCEMS responded to 93

calls with a monthly average of eight. Due to the aging population in our county, approximately 70 percent of our calls are medical.

Current Projects: BCEMS

acquired the capability of providing EMT classes last year when one of our members completed his basic coordinator credentials. Our first EMT class had three students, and began in April and ended in July. This class will allow BCEMS to become less dependent on the community colleges in our area. Without our courses, these students would have to drive a minimum of 45 miles to classes. BCEMS has four paramedics who are also TDH certified instructors, two of whom teach at a local community college. We have ongoing continuing education classes and provide standby ambulance support for sporting and other events within the county.

[This article was featured in Texas Department of Health's Texas EMS July/August Magazine]

Courthouse News

WHEREAS, On this the 28th day of June, 2003, the Commissioners' Court of Borden County, Texas, convened in Special Session in the Commissioners Courtroom at the Courthouse in Gail, Texas, the following members of the Court being present, to-wit:

DOUG ISAACS, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1; RANDY ADCOCK, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2; ERNEST REYES, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3; JOE BELEW, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; JANA UNDERWOOD, Deputy County Clerk and Ex-officio of the Commissioners Court.

with County Judge, Van L. York and County Clerk, Joyce Herridge, absent due to meetings, constituting a quorum, when the following proceedings were had, in accordance with the posted agenda

PRESIDING OFFICER

In the absence of the County Judge, Commissioner Reyes made a motion that

Doug Isaacs, Commissioner Precinct No. 1, be the presiding officer. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Adcock.

MINUTES APPROVED

Minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting of June 14, 2003 were read. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve said minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes.

ACCOUNTS ALLOWED

The current accounts were examined and Commissioner Reyes made a motion to approve and pay said accounts. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion.

BORDEN COUNTY WATER SYSTEM

Randy Hardman met with the Court and reported information he had on the water system. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to table the item at this time until further information was available. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion.

COUNTY BURN BAN

Commissioner Belew made a motion to implement the Order Prohibiting Outdoor Burning in accordance with Local government Code 352.081(h). Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion.

PERMANENT SCHOOL ROYALTY PROPERTY

Bill Chalfant visited with the court concerning the Andy O'Neal Family and royalty property. After discussion, Commissioner Belew made a motion to table the items until further information on the matter was received. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion.

COUNTY INDIGENT PROGRAM

Commissioner Reyes made a motion to not approve application Case No. 1-04 due to applicant exceeding income standards. Commissioner Belew seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION-ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Handicap assessable Restrooms for County Showbarn and Community room, Water System and Permanent

School fund Royalty Commissioner Adcock to Property. adjourn. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes and approved unanimously.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by

The Borden County Burn Ban has been lifted.

Green Acres is the place to be . . .
4-H fun day is the life for me!
Sponsored by Borden County 4-H



- Who:** Any youth entering Kindergarten through Fourth Grade
- What:** A Fun Day!
- When:** Thursday, July 15, 2004 - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Where:** County Show Barn in Gail
- Cost:** \$5.00 per child (to cover supplies)
- Activities:** It will be a full afternoon! We will be making crafts (leather craft, photo magnet, and garden project) and playing fun games. There will be more fun activities all related to gardening!

Info to know: Refreshments will be provided. For more information, or to let us know that you will be able to attend, please call or e-mail the Extension Office at 805/756-4336 or borden-tx@tamu.edu.

We look forward to having YOU there!

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Happy Birthday!

A Surprise Party Held for Local Resident

A 79th Birthday party was held last Thursday at the Coyote Store for Johnny Kite, a long-time resident of Gail.

Johnny was really surprised . . . but not about the party, he figured Bertie would have a birthday cake, for him and his coffee drinking buddies, but the surprise came when 38 friends and neighbors showed up to wish him a happy birthday.

They presented him with a money tree. "He thought it was some kind of bush he would have to take care of" said Bertie Copeland, store owner. Bertie showed him that he had to pick it and then he realized it was a "Money Tree".

Johnny Kite came to Gail in 1960, when he moved from Lamesa after being hired at Borden County Schools by then superintendent S.P. Stewart. Johnny was hired as Maintenance Supervisor and became a part of Gail and Borden County Schools.

Johnny served as maintenance supervisor, but he did what ever anyone needed. He also was bus mechanic for 4 years along with being the electrician, maintenance man and anything else anyone needed him for, for the next 18 years. He became a very important fixture at Borden County School.



He and his wife Juanita lived in one of the school's houses for several years before buying their home in Gail. They had 2 children, Johnny Dale and a daughter Jackie that attended school and graduated from BHS. Johnny said he had a whole bunch of grandkids and even a couple of great-grand kids. "Don't ask me to count them

though", he said, "I don't want to leave any of 'um out". Johnny retired in 1978 after working 18 years for BCISD. After retiring from the school system, he worked in Lamesa for Tune Electric for 4 years. He also worked for Borden County Water Department. He is still around helping out in any way he can when County Judge, Van York or Water Maintenance man Bro. Randy Hardman needs help or information that he might know.

Johnny has never been known as one to run from work. In fact he is always willing to give anyone a hand that might need it. If you ever need something done just call Johnny and he will do what ever he can to help a friend or neighbor.

Johnny Kite was and is still a big part of this small town and community. Since there are so many ex-students living in Borden County, most have known him from when they were in school

back in the 60's and 70's. To some, he is still known as "Crackers" which, he told the kids to call him back then.

The students always wanted "Crackers" to drive the bus, on game trips because he was so much fun. No matter where Johnny was, on the bus or just walking down the hall, he always brought a smile to the students and they enjoyed him and his funny stories or remark.

Johnny has a great sense of humor and enjoys making folks smile. If you need a good laugh or just want to

visit with him, go by the Coyote Store in the afternoons and he will probably be there, telling funny stories. Johnny said that he could really tell some tales on some of the local adults here in Gail, since he knew most of them when they were kids, but he would just keep his mouth shut. Some may know who he talking about, so don't ask him too many questions.

Happy Birthday Johnny! We all love you and appreciate you for what you have done for all of us and our community.



38 friends gathered to wish Johnny a Happy Birthday:



Friends looking on as Johnny enjoyed the celebration and visited with everyone.



"I thought it was some kind of plant that I had to take then Bertie showed me it had money on it". Johnny shown beside his "Money Tree" given to him at his 79th Birthday Party held last week at the Coyote Store.

A Settler's Life:

Continued from pg. 1

By Janice Davis Northern
Part one of a two part series

Committee's newsletter, also named the Borden Citizen, and gives a lengthy account of the War of the Ribbons. The article is written somewhat tongue-in-cheek, calling the skirmish "a clash that rivals the War of the Roses" and describing the encounters between the two sides in military battle terms, though none of the men were armed and the "war" consisted mostly of pushing and pulling the opposition out of the courthouse.

"From what I remember my dad saying, they just tried to pull each other out of the courthouse to keep the other side from signing up for the land," Melton said.

The State of Texas was to put five sections of land up for grabs on March 4 and three more sections on the market March 11. A number of men had already picked out spots and settled on the available land, but the land grants worked on a first-come, first-served basis, and no one could file on the new sections until March 4. Anxious to be the first to file, settlers congregated around the courthouse in the days leading up to March 4.

The cattlemen decided to do what they could to keep the settlers from filing, and according to the 1904 article in the Citizen, "On Feb. 29 a large number of cow-punchers arrived in town from various parts of the country. They took in the situation at once, donned the blue ribbon and finding the enemy very weak they concluded to take advantage of the situation."

The Blues threw the settlers out of the courthouse in about ten minutes, but the article notes that the cattlemen had made their move too soon, as "it gave time for reaction and reaction came."

The Reds went out and recruited more men for their

side and returned on the evening of March 3, the day before the first five sections were to be available.

"After 20 minutes of rolling and pulling, exultant shouts and the waving of red ribbons told that the Reds had retaken the hall. The Blues did not make any effort to retake the hall, but leaving the Reds to file without any opposition, they departed, fully resolved to return with sufficient force to insure the filing of their applications for the land that should come on the market on the 11th," according to the Citizen.

Both sides spent the next few days recruiting help from neighboring counties, and by March 9 the Blues had 173 men and the Reds 125. The men began going at it at 10 a.m. that morning, and though the Reds were outnumbered in the beginning, more and more settlers poured into town until by that afternoon the settlers "were more than 200 strong."

"In the hall the Red Ribbon Reserves and the Blue Giants were fiercely struggling for supremacy. For a very few moments none of the results of this conflict were visible to the outsiders, but very soon the Blues were outnumbered, broken up and demoralized and the Reds began to put them out," the article continues.

The settlers then made quick work of the opposing side, and "the Blues were ousted in just 15 minutes."

The Reds fully expected the Blues to make another move to recapture the courthouse hall before March 11, the second filing day, but apparently the Blues knew when it was time to give up.

J.V. Stephens, "a strong blue ribbon man and manager of the US Ranch," gave his opinion of the land rush contest in the article: "Never a more gentlemanly set of men could be found than the Reds and the Blues. They are each striving for what they believe is right."

The article lists the names of 90 participants from Borden County for the Red side, including that of J. G. (John Gilmer) Davis. The list also includes 89 men from Scurry County, as well as men from Lynn, Garza, Fisher, Nolan, Gaines, Dawson, Howard and Mitchell counties. The losers were apparently not as eager for publicity; "We were not supplied with a list of the Blue Ribbons," the article says.

The newspaper couldn't resist a bit of editorializing toward the end, concluding, "Thus ended the biggest land rush ever in West Texas, and very probably the biggest one that ever will be anywhere."

Starting over — again

In addition to getting his farming enterprise under way and helping other new settlers claim land, John Gilmer was also busy raising a family in the early years of the new century. In 1903, he married May Mildred Hill, who lived between the Durham and Gail communities. The first order of business was building a house for his new bride.

"The house had three large rooms; one was a bedroom," Melton said. "A man named Smoot came from Gail to build the fireplace; it had to be built just right or it wouldn't draw."

The Davis family grew quickly. By 1909, he and May had four children: Marshall, Mildred, Edith, and Esther. Another child, F.M., was stillborn. May was not well following the birth of Esther, and after being confined to bed for months, she died in August 1910.

Davis, now 42, had buried two wives in less than 15 years, and he now faced the daunting prospect of farming, running a household, and raising four children — all under the age of eight — alone. Having already given up his firstborn child from his earlier marriage, Davis was determined to keep the rest of his family together.



Della, left, and Melton carry a cat in a dishpan while on their way to gather wood chips, to build a fire. This picture was probably taken around 1920, when Della was three and Melton was five. Pictured behind them is the Allard House, the sleeping quarters John Gilmer added on to his house to accommodate his growing family.

He went in search of a wife, and through mutual acquaintances, began a brief courtship with Bettie Jane Melton Graham, a 36-year-old widow with two young sons, who lived near Coahoma.

"He only went to see her two times before proposing," Melton said. "He told her, 'No matter how many times I come to see you, I'm always going to put my best foot forward. You won't know me any better than you do now.'"

John Gilmer also described the benefits of his homestead to his future bride, Melton remembers: "I've heard my mother say, 'He told me he had plenty of water and plenty of wood. But he didn't tell me that I'd have to haul the water and chop the wood,' she'd add with a laugh."

John Gilmer and Bettie Jane were married Nov. 21, 1910. With her two sons, Johnnie and Bethel Graham,

added to the family, the Davises now had a houseful of children, six in all.

Bettie Jane told John Gilmer she thought she was too old to have any more children, but six were born to them in quick succession: Ruth, Gilmer, Pearl, Melton, Della, and Lura.

Life on the farm was difficult and all the children in the large Davis family were expected to help, even the youngest ones. Just a couple of weeks after Bettie Jane gave birth to Ruth in March 1912, one of the girls, Edith, who was not yet five years old, was helping tend the fire under the wash pot. Her clothes caught fire and she took off running to get help from her older brother, Johnnie, who was hanging the wash on the clothesline. Johnnie, just 11, carried her back to the wash pot and put the fire out with water. A doctor came by buggy from 25 miles away, but he told the family that Edith had

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swallowed flames and there was nothing he could do. She died early the next morning.

Though this older sister died three years before Melton was born, he remembers his dad talking about her. "She had red hair. I remember my dad saying he liked for her to open the gates for him because she would slip around quietly and not scare the cattle," Melton said. Drought strikes

Other difficulties soon hit the family. During World War I, a horrible drought struck West Texas. The family struggled to get by, but with no water for crops it was impossible. Times got so bad toward the end of the drought that John Gilmer took three of the older children and went to Arizona to look for work. This was probably around 1917.

"My daddy, Marshall, Mildred, and Esther went in a Model T Ford to Tempe. They left my mother and the little kids behind," Melton said. "Later they sent us money and we came out on a train. They picked long-staple cotton. Somehow it was used in making ammunition for the war."

Marshall returned home to help Bethel tend the cattle, but the drought continued.

"Finally they took the cattle to New Mexico where they paid a man to feed them, but there was a blizzard there," Melton said. "They took 51 head and 26 of them froze to death in the blizzard. He would have been better off just to shoot them, but he kept thinking we would get rain."

The drought lasted from about 1914 to 1918. John Gilmer was forced to go deeply in debt during this time.

"He borrowed money from Snyder National Bank at 10 percent interest," Melton said. "Eventually, he found himself \$10,000 in debt. He had to make payments of \$1,000 a year just in interest, which was a lot of money in those days. He finally took a loan out from the Federal Land Bank

at a cheaper rate and paid off the first loan."

The damage had been done, though. John Gilmer was so far in debt that he spent most of the rest of his life paying it off. The family returned to the Borden County homestead from Arizona in the spring and the rains came at last.

"We raised 90 percent of what we ate"

By the mid-1920s, John Gilmer had added on to the house to accommodate his large family.

"He moved what we called the Allard House (named for the previous owner) next to the house," Melton said. "It was a half-dugout. He finished the bottom part and made it into the kids' sleeping quarters. It had four or five beds in it."

The Allard House was as rustic as a bunkhouse. It had no insulation, was unheated, and didn't have a finished ceiling, just "two-by-fours under the wood shingles," Melton said. "You could see sky through it and snow would fall on our quilts in the winter."

Bethel and Johnnie were out on their own by this time, but that still left a family of 12. Daughter Della Davis Brooks, who now lives in Loop, Texas, recalls one of her daily chores as a young girl was to help prepare breakfast for the large family.

"I remember when I was about nine, making the biscuit every morning," Della said. "I used nine cups of buttermilk. We had a huge pan. We'd make enough for the whole day. We took it to school in our lunches, too."

The family lived almost entirely on what they grew.

"We raised 90 percent of what we ate," Della said. "About the only things we bought were sugar, flour, baking powder, soda, and salt. For some reason, we didn't raise Irish potatoes, but we raised lots of sweet potatoes. We'd have half a wagonload down in the cellar and I would take a big dishpan down and fill it up.

That's how many we cooked for one meal."

A huge corn crop supplied both people and livestock with food.

"We'd shuck corn all day

and run it through the sheller," Della said. "We had a box as big as a dining room table and we couldn't quit until the box was full. Everybody had a job and

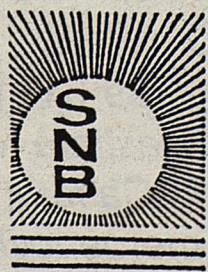
that's just what you did. There was no griping."

Watch for Part Two next week: slaughtering hogs, harvest time, brush arbor revivals and more.



Melton and Martha Davis share memories of Melton's father, John Gilmer Davis, at the Davis homestead. They are standing behind the cistern where the Davis family once collected rainwater. Behind them is a hundred-year-old mesquite tree which once shaded the house built by John Gilmer Davis.

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Pinkerton pursues dream

BC all-stater eager to take shot at college football

By Dwight Heins
Lamesa Press-Reporter

After finishing his high school football career at the top of his game, Borden County's Kyle Pinkerton admits that he now feels like he is starting over as he prepares to pursue another one of his dreams by playing college football at Hardin-Simmons University at Abilene.

Pinkerton, Borden County's all-state defensive end, will not play his first down of the 11-man game until on the collegiate level as an HSU Cowboy.

"After going through two knee injuries to get all-state at defensive end this past season, I'm not about to let anything get to me now," Pinkerton said of the adjustment from high school's six-man game to college's 11-man game.

"I know I've got a big transition ahead of me, but a lot of that's mental. If you want something bad enough, then you can get it.

"You've got to know that you can do something before you can do it."

In addition to his dream of playing college football, the chance to play at a proven winner also appealed to Pinkerton when it came to picking Hardin-Simmons.

Last season, the HSU Cowboys went 8-2 and shared a piece of the American Southwest Conference championship.

"They've also got a nice campus," Pinkerton said.

"It also looked like a chance to get a pretty good education, too."

Pinkerton, however, also sees making Hardin-Simmons' football team a little more challenging.

"It sounds like they'll have around 100 out for football, while McMurry might have somewhere around 60," Pinkerton said.

Just the fact that he has never played a down of 11-man football is quite a challenge of its own.

"I've seen quite a few of them, including a bunch of playoff games," Pinkerton said of the 11-man game.

"I've had a lot of friends who went to the 11-man schools. I've seen a lot of their old videos, too."

Borden County coach Trey Richey is no stranger to making the adjustment that Pinkerton now has ahead of him.

After an all-everything high school career at Jayton, which has earned him his induction into Texas Six-Man Hall-of-Fame this summer, Richey gave college football a shot himself — first at Texas Tech before transferring to McMurry University where he was four-year starter for the Indians. After playing running back his freshman year, Richey moved to McMurry's defensive secondary where he played his sophomore and junior years at free safety before finishing up his college career playing cornerback.

"It was hard on me, especially in the beginning," Richey recalled of his own college football career. "Coming out of a small school like I did, I wasn't used to seeing that



Kyle Pinkerton

many guys who could play on this level all out on the field at the same time until after I got to college.

"They probably get 115 to 120 kids out for football over there at Hardin-Simmons. They really eat this game up over there. It'll be a totally different environment for Kyle, especially when he first gets there."

Because of the fact that he has never played a single down in an 11-man game, Pinkerton can already see some adjustments between the six-man and 11-man games.

"I think in the 11-man game, you've got to be even more dedicated to playing your position," Pinkerton said. "In six-man, you can move around and still be able to make plays out there.

"In 11-man, if you mess up there's a real good chance that you're going to mess up the whole play, even if there are more people out to help make a play."

Richey, however, can also see Pinkerton making the same adjustment he once did from the six-man game to collegiate football.

"Kyle's not only got the size to play this game on that level, but also the intelligence to adjust to that style," Richey said of Pinkerton, who currently stands around 6-foot-2 and weighs 225 pounds.

"Seeing him up in our weight room this summer, you can already tell that he's pretty eager about doing this. He's already a pretty big kid, but once he gets into a really good weight program we feel like he's really going to bulk up. We can see him putting on another 20 pounds without losing any of his quickness.

"If this is what he really wants and he's willing to stick it out, we can see ending up being a pretty good player on that level."

Pinkerton is grateful to the support he has already received from Richey as he pursues this dream.

"He's been supporting me all the way in this deal," Pinkerton said of Richey.

"He's told me how it was for him, but he's also told me how much he believes in me, which only has me believing in myself that much more."

“

I realize I'll probably spend all of next season just learning the 11-man game, but whenever you really dedicate yourself to doing something then you're also going to be willing to do whatever it takes to be successful at it.

— BC's Kyle Pinkerton on college football

”

Visits with Richey have helped Pinkerton prepare for the totally different game on the gridiron.

"It (the 11-man game) might be more specialized but I still think you've got to be in better shape to play the six-man game," Pinkerton said. "In 11-man, you've only got to play one side of the ball, so it sounds like I might have a little more rest than I did back in high school.

"Last year, I played every single down."

Kyle's older brother, Kevin, has also been a big source of motivation for his younger brother.

Kevin, a 2000 Borden County graduate, who played his final six-man game in the all-star tilt at Lubbock, also tested himself in the college waters by playing safety and punting at Sul Ross University.

"I've always looked up to him," Kyle said of Kevin. "He was an outstanding football player back in high school. I grew up always wanting to be as good as him."

Kyle said Kevin has now been very supportive of him in this deal. "He's also all for it," Kyle said.

"Everybody knows how big brothers can be at times, but deep down they always want their little brothers to do well, too.

"It's all about family pride."

After being an all-state defensive end his senior year with the Coyotes, Pinkerton is hoping to get a shot at middle linebacker in the Cowboys' defensive scheme.

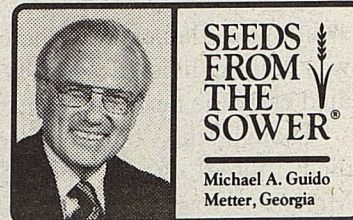
"I think that would be fun," Pinkerton said. "It seems like I've always watched that position.

"The middle linebacker just seems like the cornerstone or foundation of every defense."

Pinkerton officially begins his dream in the HSU football program on Aug. 16, the Cowboys' first day of practice.

"We've already been working out every day as far as doing weight training, speed and agility drills," Pinkerton said. "Right now, I feel like I'm basically on a three-month course this summer to get in the best shape of my life, mainly because I know it'll help pay off for me this fall.

"I realize I'll probably spend all of next season just learning the 11-man game, but whenever you really dedicate yourself to doing something then you're also going to be willing to do whatever it takes to be successful at it."



Handling a toy in a store, a little boy broke it.

"Son," cried the owner, "put that toy back together again, or pay for it!"

Frightened and confused, he couldn't. He only made it worse.

But a young lady walked over to him, and slipping her arm around his, she whispered something into his ear. Together, they fixed the toy.

"It's okay now," she said. "He's my brother. He understands me because I love it into him."

That's what God did. The Bible says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Got News:

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Jim Runge is Finally Getting the Attention He Deserves

Jim Runge's "Running of the Bull" Festival in Eldorado is a big breakthrough for him. Newspapers, magazines and television stations all across Texas and beyond are planning to cover this year's event slated for July 24th & 25th around Eldorado's courthouse square.

The festival follows the Running of the Bulls in Pamplona, Spain by a few days. But, as Runge says, "in our festival, entrants are judged on who can run their mouth with the most bull... in several categories."

For years, Runge has staged some of the most unique events ever to occur in the Lone Star State. But hardly anybody noticed. Two years ago, Jim took up residence in his hometown of Eldorado and started the EOBOC, the Eldorado Olympic Bid Organizing Committee. A loose knit organization to serve as the vehicle for a tongue-in-cheek bid on the winter games of 2014 and the summer games of 2016. Jim says the underlying goal is the revitalization of the visibility and spirit of this once vibrant village in the middle of nowhere with numerous offbeat stunts, displays, spoofs, skits, pranks, eccentric attractions and other roadside shenanigans.

He stages the Elgoatarod, a takeoff on the Iditarod dog sled race in Alaska. At the Elgoatarod, goats pull carts around the courthouse square. The Tagoo Festival revolves around a mysterious bird that is found only to Eldorado. He created a hysterical district

near downtown with all sorts of spoofs and plays on words. The district has a very rare albino bat colony.

In the past, Runge has staged yarn and weaving festivals in McKinney and a llama kissing contest in Fredericksburg. He held an April Fool's Day event in Art, Texas.

But the Running of the Bull is becoming a Texas festival landmark. Now, only in its second year, requests for press credentials have come from San Antonio Express News, Houston Chronicle,

Southern Living, Texas Monthly, Saver Magazine in New York City, Texas Co-op Power and several TV Stations including WFAA in Dallas.

Last year's inaugural event drew some formidable talent: Dennis Gaines, a national award winning cowboy poet, a clogging group from San Angelo that performed in "heifer outfits; and 'forth vendors.

The event features the Biggest Lie Contest (Cock & Bull), musical routines, animal acts, impersonations, costuming, skits and stunts, extemporaneous speaking, legal mumbo jumbo, (Film Flam), the longest talker without stopping, salesmanship (medicine shows, autos), tongue twisters, backwards talk, fastest talker, Burma Shave, cowboy poetry, rhyming poetry, double

talk/mangled English, parodies, punning, shaggy dog stories (long story with twisted punch line) and true personal stories.

Judges include western novelist Elmer Kelton, Kathy

Straach of the Dallas Morning News, Doug Rogers of Ghostlight Production and others.

Contact Runge at shoothebull@hotmail.com or 325-85302434

Your Local Pastor
Is as near as your PHONE...

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



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the APACHE CORPORATION, 6120 S. YALE SUITE 1500, TULSA OK 74136 has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code Section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to distance between well to directional drill Well No. 2, Murphy, W. Ed "RB" Lease, 1588 Acres, Sec. 81, Bk. 25, H & TC RR CO Survey, A-37, Von Roeder, W. Clearford Field(s), Borden County, being 8.3 miles in a north direction of Vincent, Texas. The location of this well is as follows:

SL: 900' from the south line and 30' from the west line of lease.
900' from the south line and 30' from the west line of survey.

BHL: 1675' from the south line and 850' from the west line of lease.
1675' from the south line and 850' from the west line of survey.

Field rules for the Von Roeder, W. (Clearfork) field(s) are 660/1320, 80 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 4620 feet

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Rule 37 (h) (2) (A), this application may be granted administratively if no protest to the application is received. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative Bill G. Spence, consultant, at 512-495-6416. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission at (512) 463-6899.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE BY August 01, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

VBS

First Baptist Church Gail



July 25th - 29th, 2004
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Family Night

5 p.m. Sunday, July 25th
Meal & Fellowship followed by
First VBS Class
Ages: Pre. K - Youth

BORDEN COUNTY ISD BID REQUEST

The Superintendent's Office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District will receive bids and/or quotes for propane, diesel, and gasoline for the 2004-2005 school year.

Proposals shall be addressed to Jimmy Thomas; Borden County Independent School District; Box 95; Gail, Texas 79738, and shall be delivered in a sealed envelope marked appropriately as "Propane Bid" and/or "Gasoline/Diesel Bid". Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, July 16, 2004. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated, researched, and selected by the Board of Trustees or its designee as appropriate. Bids received after specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County ISD Board of Trustees or its designee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposed bids, to waive any and all technicalities, and to accept the proposal that will best serve the needs of the District.

Questions regarding bid specifications and additional information shall be directed to Jimmy Thomas by writing the above address; by e-mail to jthomas@bcisd.net; or by calling 806-756-4313. Transmissions by fax may be sent to 806-756-4310.

By Order of the Board of Trustees
Borden County Independent School District
Mike Valentine, Secretary

Kitchen Korner

Salads With A Kick

(NAPS)—On a warm day, nothing beats the heat better than a cool, crisp salad. From colorful garden salads, to those with more of an exotic flair, nature's bounty of seasonal produce offers nearly endless possibilities. Precut produce and salad greens are great time-savers, making it easy to whip up a light, healthy meal anytime.

Here are a few tips to add a little zip to your salad routine:

- Add a wide variety of toppings to your traditional salad greens. Use vibrant Mandarin oranges, sweet and tangy Ocean Spray® Craisins® Sweetened Dried Cranberries and pecans to create an exotic Mandarin Cranberry Salad.

- Make your salad pleasing to both the eye and the palate. There's a huge assortment of colorful fruits and vegetables available. Choose from pastel melons, red and blue berries, green grapes, yellow peppers, orange carrots and rich, red tomatoes.

- Spice up a traditional chicken salad by adding curry powder and Craisins® Sweetened Dried Cranberries. The wonderful color and sweet, tangy taste of



Craisins® add an unexpected sweetness to this favorite. Whip up this salad the night before to allow the sweet and savory flavors to blend. Serve on a bed of lettuce or as a sandwich spread.

- Shelve the iceberg lettuce! Experiment with and enjoy a variety of salad greens. Try a savory Cranberry Spinach Salad with Warm Honey Dijon Bacon Dressing. This salad combines tender baby spinach and sweetened dried cranberries with a warm bacon, honey and Dijon mustard dressing.

Whatever your favorite flavor, Original, Cherry or Orange,

Craisins® Sweetened Dried Cranberries are great anytime of day for a quick snack fix or tasty ingredient. Just sprinkle in your favorite foods or recipes and enjoy.

For more salad recipes, visit www.oceanspray.com.

Cranberry Spinach Salad with Warm Honey Dijon Bacon Dressing

Salad Ingredients

- 1 6-ounce package salad spinach
- ½ cup Ocean Spray® Craisins® Original Sweetened Dried Cranberries
- Red onion slices

Dressing

- 4 slices bacon or turkey bacon, cooked crisp and crumbled
- ½ cup plain or orange-flavored honey
- ½ cup lime juice
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

Wash and clean spinach. Divide evenly among 4 salad plates. Top each with 2 tablespoons sweetened dried cranberries and onion slices.

Combine dressing ingredients in a small glass mixing bowl using a wire whisk. Heat in the microwave on HIGH for 1 minute or until warm.

Makes about 1 cup.

Thank You!

I would like to thank everyone for the Birthday Party and "Money Tree" that you gave me last week. It was a real surprise. I want to especially thank Bertie and Brenda for having everyone at the store and making plans for the party. I really enjoyed seeing ol'friends and neighbors and the visiting. You all made it a Special Birthday for me.

Thanks Again,
Johnny Kite

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Face
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BORDEN COUNTY ISD BID REQUEST

The Superintendent's Office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District will receive bids for a 2004 pickup for the Agricultural Science Department according to the following MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS:

- New 2004 Fleet-Type 4-Door Pickup with Single Rear Wheel
- No Carpeting on Floor
- Vinyl Seating
- Heavy Duty Chassis and Heavy Duty Suspension with GVW Rating of 9000 Pounds or Greater
- Gasoline Engine Not Less Than 6.0 Liter
- Automatic Transmission
- Long Wheel Base
- Trailer Towing Package
- Radio- AM & FM
- Axle- Anti Spin Differential- Ratio 3.73 to 4.10
- Gauges- Amp, Oil Pressure, Temperature
- Air Conditioner
- Tilt Steering
- Cruise Control

Proposals shall be addressed to Jimmy Thomas; Borden County Independent School District; Box 95; Gail, Texas 79738, and shall be delivered in a sealed envelope marked appropriately as "Pickup Bid". Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, July 16, 2004. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated, researched, and selected by the Board of Trustees or its designee as appropriate. Bids received after specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County ISD Board of Trustees or its designee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposed bids, to waive any and all technicalities, and to accept the proposal that will best serve the needs of the District.

Questions regarding bid specifications and additional information shall be directed to Jimmy Thomas by writing the above address; by e-mail to jthomas@bcisd.net; or by calling 806-756-4313. Transmissions by fax may be sent to 806-756-4310.

By Order of the Board of Trustees
Borden County Independent School District
Mike Valentine, Secretary