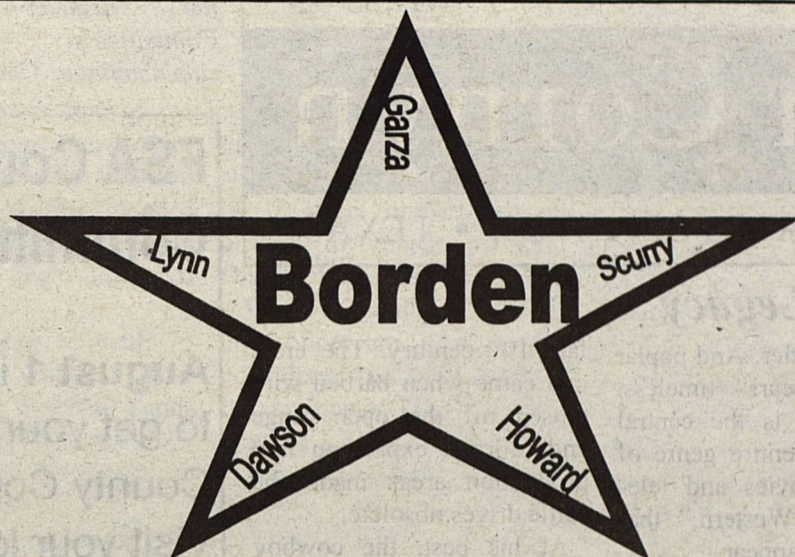


THE

Volume XXXV



STAR

July 25th, 2007

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

Football's Crystal Ball Picks

Return Playoff Seasons in Store for Eagles, Coyotes

Lamesa Press-Reporter

Dave Campbell's Texas Football magazine recently hitting the local news stands is another signal that another season of high school football is just right around the corner.

Bouncing back from last season's 2-8 finish will not be an easy assignment for the Tor gridders, especially in District 3-3A where that league's three playoff representatives are now ranked among the Top 20 Class 3A teams in the state.

With nine offensive and six defensive starters from last year's 9-4 regional semi-finalists, the Snyder Tigers are ranked third in the state by that pre-season poll.

Andrews was ranked 15th and Greenwood 20th by that poll after going three and four rounds, respectively, in last year's 3A state high school football playoffs.

The Golden Tor gridders are ranked to finish fourth again in 3-3A football this fall.

Listed among the players to watch on this year's Golden Tors are running back/linebacker Jacob Torbert, back Dustin White and lineman Chris Cortez.

The O'Donnell Eagles are picked to return to the Class 1A state football playoffs out of Class 1A's District 7.

O'Donnell's new coach, Kevin Sherrill, welcomes back seven offensive and six defensive starters from last year's club that finished at 4-6 overall, but 3-2 in its district.

With seven offensive starters and nine defensive starters from a ball club that went two rounds deep in the 1A state playoffs, the Sundown Roughnecks are being touted as the team to beat in 7-1A again this fall,

just ahead of O'Donnell and Seagraves.

Among the players to watch this fall on the O'Donnell Eagles, according to Texas Football, are quarterback Justin Forbes, defensive lineman Caleb Schneider, wide receiver Matthew Ramirez, tight end/defensive back Colby Gass, defensive lineman Trevor Halfmann and running back Justin Ramirez.

One of the reasons why Texas Football looks for the Eagles to make a return to the 1A state playoffs is their defensive line led by the likes of Halfmann and Schneider.

"Schneider and Halfmann give O'Donnell a strong presence up front," Texas Football said of the Eagles.

At Gail, Trey Richey's first season as a high school head football coach has the makings of something

Cont. to pg. 3

Avery To Be Reunited with Exes

By Lamesa Press-Reporter

While Bobby Avery will begin coaching at his own high school alma mater of Whitharral starting this fall, he will be reunited one final time with a couple of his old Borden County football players next weekend at Garden City.

Avery has been tabbed as the head coach for six-man's Division II all-stars, who will take on their counterparts from the six-man Division I ranks next Saturday in a contest that is being tabbed as the Texas Bowl.

Two of Avery's D II all-stars in that game will be quarterback-cornerback Clint Chapman and end Zane Williamson.

This will be Chapman's second all-star football appearance in the past two weeks. Chapman also played in this week's Texas Six-Man Coaches Association

Division II all-star football game at Lubbock.

This past fall, that trio helped the Coyotes enjoy a very successful playoff run that ended up going three rounds deep into the D II state six-man football playoffs.

Kick-off time for that inaugural six-man all-star game is 7:30 p.m.

Sands former running back/linebacker Garrett Nichols will be playing for the D I all-stars in that all-star game.

Petersburg's Clyde Parham, will be the D I football all-stars' head coach.

In the past, six-man athletes from outside of the Lone Star State were matched up against players from across the country in a game that was called the All-American Games.

"We were getting to a point where more and more people wanted to see more

Cont. to pg. 3



T E X A S ☆ T I M E S

John Cornyn

UNITED STATES SENATOR • TEXAS

The Cowboy – A Texas Legacy

Nothing has done more to define the American character than the image of the Texas cowboy. In the world's eyes, the cowboy is the personification of independence, grit, honesty, humility, geniality, and straight shooting, all displayed in wide open spaces with an unerring sense of right and wrong.

Other states had their pioneers and frontiersmen, but the cowboy was largely a Texas creation. For 300 years, well before Texas joined the United States, Mexican vaqueros ran cattle on horseback across the region. That included a few longhorns, originally imported from Spain.

But as the nation began to heal after the Civil War, Texas's first major industry was born. The bustling north needed beef. Texas had cattle. The trail drive phenomenon—moving herds across vast, unoccupied plains northward towards railroad loading points—was soon underway.

The cowboy's heyday lasted only about one generation. From the mid-1860's until the late 1880's. But his impact on the popular imagination is permanent. It started almost immediately. Dime novels began circulating in the eastern U.S. and Europe during the 1870's, vividly dramatizing life on the open range.

Within a few years, Buffalo Bill Cody and others had created Wild West shows to exploit fascination

with the frontier. And popular interest appears timeless. The cowboy is the central figure in an entire genre of literature, movies and television, the "Western," that will never disappear.

The cowboy remains America's most popular hero. One writer, William W. Savage, says the cowboy, "as a representative of an occupational group, has received more attention than any other workers in the world." In the popular myth, the cowboy combined conservative, traditional social values with hard-fisted frontier justice.

On course, in reality, life for a 19th century cowboy was hardly glamorous. The work was dirty, and often dangerous. Trail rides were long, and the pay was modest, from \$25 to \$40 per month for the average hand, up to \$125 per month for a trail boss.

Newly-settled parts of the U.S. wanted to join the cattle industry, so trail drives went all over the West. Lonesome Dove by Larry McMurtry chronicles an epic journey from South Texas to the new territory of Montana. One significant route, the Goodnight-Loving Trail, started in Fort Concho and ended in Pueblo, Colorado.

But the main drive was the Chisholm Trail that started near Fort San Antonio and moved north through Austin to the Red River and on to railheads in Kansas. Altogether, some five million head of cattle were moved northward from Texas in the

late 19th century. The era's end came when barbed wire closed off the open range and railroad expansion into production areas made the cattle drives obsolete.

At his best, the cowboy displayed strong, traditional values—courage in the face of the unknown, respect values live on. The U.S. congress has specified July 28, 2007 as the National Day of the American Cowboy.

In Texas, several churches are devoted to preserving those values and melding them with teachings of the Cowboy Church have a "Western trade day" this Hand Cowboy Church are staging a "Boots for Bibles" campaign and other celebratory events.

In Fort Worth, at the historic stockyards, an all-day celebration is planned for July 28, including living history presentations, a small cattle drive and parade.

The cattle industry remains a thriving bulwark of our traditional grasslands are occupied by wind farms herded by a cowboy flying a helicopter.

But the Texas horizon will forever include the silhouette of a lone soul, in a tall hat, sitting on a strong horse—helping lead cattle to market and moving Texas forward on the road to greatness.

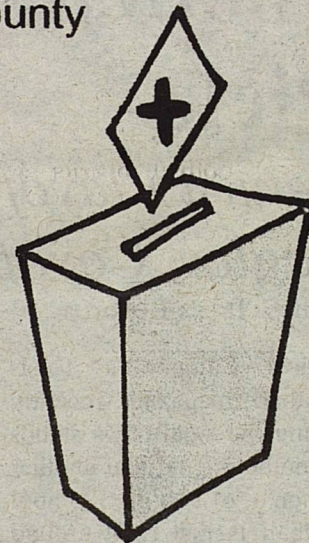
Sen. Cornyn serves on the Armed Services, Judiciary and Budget Committees. In addition he is Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Immigration, Border Security and

Refugees subcommittee and previously as Texas Attorney the Armed Services General, Texas Supreme Committee's Airland Court Justice and Bexar subcommittee. Cornyn served County District Judge.

FSA County Committee Elections

August 1 is the deadline to get your name on the FSA County Committee election ballot. Visit your local FSA office or USDA Service Center to learn how you can have a voice and take a seat on your area Farm Service Agency County Committee.

Visit us online:
www.fsa.usda.gov
for nomination forms and more information.



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Football's Crystal Ball Picks

Cont. from pg. 1
special.

The Coyotes will enter 2007 ranked as the best Division II six-man football team in the state by Texas Football.

Vernon Northside, with four returning starters on both sides of the football from last year's 14-1 club, comes into 2007 as the No. 1 ranked six-man team in the state in Division II.

Last year, Sands Coach Wayne Henderson referred to six-man's Division I District I as one of the toughest, if not the toughest, high school football district in the state.

After a 5-1 start, the Mustangs failed to win a game in an extremely tough six-man football district a year ago, which saw its two playoff reps (Fort Davis and Garden City) go two rounds into the playoffs.

Unfortunately for the Mustangs it does not look like that road is going to get much easier in 2007.

Rankin and Grady are

being pegged as two of the teams to beat in that district this fall with both the Red Devils and Wildcats loaded up with experience on both sides of the line of scrimmage.

After coming up with 73 tackles and four interceptions in 2006, Sands Jesus Gomez is considered one of the Mustangs to watch in 2007.

With their four offensive starters and five defensive starters, Borden County is being picked to make a return trip to the D II state six-man football playoffs out of District 4.

Among the Coyotes listed as players to watch are running back Michael Bullinger, fullback Quentin Shafer and running back Michael Cooley.

"Coach Richey, one the greatest six-man players of all time, finally takes the helm as a head football coach after 14 years at Borden County, with his biggest challenge being his alma mater and district rival, Jayton," Texas Football said.

Jayton, with three offensive and four defensive starters back from last year's D II state runners-up, is picked to repeat as the District 4 champs.

While Grandfalls-Royalty and Loop are once again considered the front runners in six-man's Division II District 3, Coach Brad Bell's Dawson Dragons are also getting some definite attention out of that district.

"The Dragons should reap the benefits of keeping the same team intact now for two full seasons and should vie for a playoff spot," said Texas Football.

Among the players to watch for the Dragons, according to Texas Football, are quarterback Drew Hunt, center Kyle Bell and backs Landon Brown and Ronnie Meadows.

With only one offensive and two defensive starters back from last year's 2-8 Klondike club, 2007 appears to be a rebuilding year for the Cougars.

"The Cougars' depth may be very limited as they may only suit up eight players," said Texas Football magazine.

Texas Football lists quarterback Dustin Ferguson and running back Randy Castilla as two players to watch this fall for the Cougars.

Gail FFA Meat Sale Items Available

The Gail FFA Chapter still has several meat items left from their 2006 -2007 sale. Anyone interested in purchasing these items can contact Buddy Wallace (home) 806/756-4478 or (school) 806/756-4313 or email at bwallace@bcisd.net.

Items available are as follows:

- Tailgate Party Pack- \$14.00
- Smoked Sausage Kolaches- \$15.00
- Peppered Bacon- \$14.00

- Smoked Bacon- \$14.00
 - Sausage Patties- \$12.00
 - Smoked Turkey Breast- \$16.00
 - Golden Chicken Tenders- \$18.00
 - Pork Tamales- \$15.00
 - Chicken Fajita- \$13.00
 - Beef Fajita- \$13.00
 - Cajun Meat Pies- \$15.00
 - Smoked Turkey- \$20.00
 - Pit Ham- \$23.00
- The Gail FFA Chapter wishes to thank everyone for their fund-raiser support.

Avery Unites With Exes

Cont. from pg. 1

Texas kids," said former Whitharral Coach Ken Hoskins, now the principal at that six-man high school.

"Plus, this past season, we ended up with only two kids from up at Canada and only five or six out of Texas, anyway."

Sands will be represented in two of next weekend's all-star games.

After playing in this weekend's six-man all-star basketball game at Lubbock, the Mustangs' Jarrod Fry will also be playing for the West all-stars in a contest coming up on Friday that was being called the Small School Shootout.

While next Saturday's all-star football game will be played at Garden city, both all-star hoop contests (boys and girls) will be played on Friday at Big Spring's Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, which is located on the campus of Howard College.

"In our basketball game,

we'll be dividing up the six-man high schools by the East and West," Hoskins said of next Friday's all-star basketball games.

The all-star basketball games are scheduled to tip off at 6 and 8 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett.

Fry's all-star coach in next Friday's all-star boys basketball game will be Garden City's Koby Abney.

Crowell's Rob Ogle will be the East all-stars coach in next Friday's all-star boys basketball game.

In next Friday's all-star girls basketball game, Garden City's Micky Baker will get the chance to coach four of his own ex players one last time in Julie Hirt, K'Lann Niehues, Marissa Schwartz and Lauren Plagens.

Westbrook's Cassie Petty will be head coach for the East in that all-star girls hoop tilt.

The price of admission for each of those three all-star games will be \$5 each for adults and \$2 each for students.



Borden County Back to School Swimming Party

Post Public Pool
August 11th, 2007
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Free to all Borden County students
ages PK - 12th grade

Bring snacks and drinks
Hosted by T.J., Tye,
and Thadd Basquez
Come join in the fun!!

Call 806/495-1066 for information.



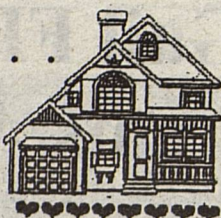
DRIVE SAFELY

Watch-out for
Our Children
Playing!

Heart & Home . . .

By Julie Smith

Borden County Extension Agent
Family & 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 Court of Texas Cooperating.

Being Active without a Gym

Maybe you decided to catch up on the yard work one Saturday, or clean out all the closets. Or perhaps you slid in a CD and danced the night away. The next day you were sore in places you didn't know there were muscles. You had been exercising!

Living in Gail, we do not get an opportunity to take advantage of having a gym to go workout in or a health club to join. For some people, exercise means a routine of jumping jacks, sit-ups and toe-touches. For others it means a trip to the gym. But there are many ways to get exercise.

In its broadest sense, exercise is physical activity that involves all forms of muscle movement. Most adults should engage in at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity

on most, preferably all, days of the week. And the good news is that you benefit whether you complete the 30 minutes in one session or in shorter sessions throughout the day. The important thing is to make physical activity part of your daily routine.

Begin by making a commitment to yourself to increase your physical activity. Set a goal for yourself the first week. Plan to begin slowly and gradually increase the intensity over the course of several weeks. Plan rewards when you meet goals.

Next, begin changing your concept of exercise and see it as fun activities you can do. Dance to a song or two. Chase and wrestle with the dog. Play golf, but walk, don't take a cart. If you prefer more structured activities, look for those that require a lot of physical

4-H News

4-H Achievement Picnic - August 20th

The 2006-07 4-H Achievement Picnic will be held on Monday, August 20th at 7:00 p.m. in the Show Barn. (Please note that this is a change from the original date sent in the July Newsletter.) All 4-H families and community members are invited to attend.

4-H'ers need to complete at least one project form in order to receive a project pin at the County 4-H Achievement Picnic. These forms may be picked up from the Extension Office. Once forms and projects are completed, they need to be turned in to the Extension Office by July 31st. Let us know if you have questions about completing these forms. (The forms are also at our website <http://borden-tx.tamu.edu> under 4-H publications.)

* * * *

movement. Whatever your preference, be active!
Source: *Matria Healthcare Your Health Newsletter, Summer 2007*

4-H'ers that have met their achievement points will also be presented with their certificate for ordering their 4-H jacket at the picnic.

For more information, please contact the Extension Office.



Got News?

Mail to:

P.O. Box 137

Gail, Tx.

79738

Email:

kdean@bcisd.net

Have a Great Summer!



Moore-Rains

Insurance

Frances Rains

Stephens

O'Donnell

806-428-3335

LOOKING FOR WORK

Will babysit, iron, or clean house.

Call Shylo at 756-4323.



Vacation Bible School

FBC - Gail

5:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

August 6th - 10th

ALL CHILDREN THROUGH 7TH GRADE

Bring sack lunch nightly

Join us Friday, Aug. 10th for a Midland Rockhounds baseball game.

For more information call 756-4416.

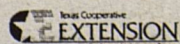
Living Well Summer Educational Programs

Join us for educational programming that will help improve your lifestyle and overall well-being to begin "Living Well in 2007."

Please note yet another DATE CHANGE, and a location change!! We have had to reschedule several events due to conflicts, please bare with us!

Saving the Fruits of Summer . . . Thursday, August 23rd @ 6:00 p.m. in the Extension Office Mtg Room
Have you always wanted to "put up" a few vegetables from your garden or the farmer's market? Now is the perfect opportunity to learn about up-to-date canning, freezing and drying techniques through this hands-on opportunity. Join us as we preserve some of the fruits of the summer garden. There will be a cost of \$10 per person to cover supplies (participants will get to take home the items that they preserve). The favor of a reply is requested to help plan for materials and supplies.

Sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension-Borden County
P.O. Box 155 Gail, TX 79738 Phone (806)756-4336 Fax (806)756-4486
jm-smith@tamu.edu <http://borden-tx.tamu.edu>



Obituary

Billie Sue Stephens 1946 - 2007

Services for Billie Sue Stephens, age 61, of Snyder Texas were held on Tuesday, July 24, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the East Side Church of Christ in Snyder. Mr. Tom Holcomb and Dr. Tommy Culwell officiated. Burial followed at Fluvanna Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Stephens died Saturday, July 21, 2007 at Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock, Texas after lengthy illness.

She was born March 2, 1946 in Scurry County to W.P. and Jimmie (Watson) Herring. She married Milton Stephens on October 25, 2001 in Snyder, Texas

She was secretary for Anderson & West C.P.A. in Snyder for 26 years and was also secretary for the Snyder Ministerial Alliance. She served on the Fluvanna Homecoming committee and served many years as a leader with the Borden County 4-H Club, hauling members many miles to

stock shows, fashion shows and other events.

She is survived by her husband, Milton Stephens of Snyder, Texas; four daughters, D'Lyn and husband, John Biggs of Houston, Texas; M'Lys Lloyd of Midland, Texas; A'Lise Kern of Dallas, Texas; Tobi and husband, Gordon Daman of Midland, Texas; two sons, Todd Stephens of Lueders, Texas; Terry and wife, Theresa Stephens of Snyder, Texas; one sister, Nelva Jones of Fluvanna, Texas; one brother, Ray Herring of Fluvanna, Texas; six grand children, Abbie Grayce Biggs, Kaitlyn Biggs, Raylee Daman, Emma Daman, Brantley Stephens, Abbey Stephens, and step-mother LaVerne Herring of Snyder, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society at www.the3day.org/dallas07/teantiara.com or the Fluvanna Cemetery Association.



Kembra Jones Earns Radiology Certificate

Kembra Lea Jones graduated on June 28 from Covenant School of Radiology.

She is the wife of Kirk Jones, the daughter-in-law of Gary and Judy Jones of Lamesa, and the daughter of Nancy and Johnny Kemp of Post.

Jones completed the two-year program and is now licensed and certified by the "American Registry of Radiologist Technologists" as a registered technologist.

She will be employed at Medical Arts Hospital in Lamesa, beginning in August.

Education is a progressive discovery of our own ignorance.
—Will Durant

HOUSE FOR SALE

4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath on 6 acres with pool.
3075 sq. ft. Large game room, w/pool table that stays. \$142,000.00
On Gail Road-Hwy. 669
Call Pat: 432/270-8277
United Country HOCR

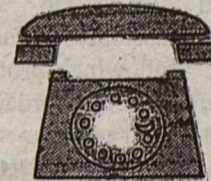


Ragtown Gospel Theater presents Glenn Polk in the premier season of "Peter the Rock." Nestled in a crescent, just below the rim of the caprock, Ragtown Gospel Theater also features a southern gospel music concert prior to each dramatic production. The theater is a site to behold, featuring the architecture of a centuries old Jerusalem plaza.

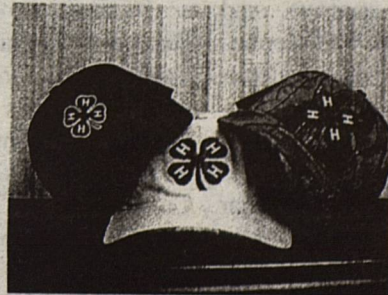
Peter the Rock
Performances:
Friday 8 pm
Saturday 8 pm
1st Sunday Monthly 3 p.m.
1-877-RAGTOWN
877-724-8696
www.ragtown.com
Please call for reservations or more information
Tickets: \$20
(Children 12 & Under 1/2 Price)
Ragtown Gospel Theater is located off U.S. Hwy 84, 2 miles northwest of Post, Texas (follow signs).

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Bro. Randy Hardman
First Baptist Church Gail
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Mobile No. 795-9472



4-H Caps now available at the Texas Cooperative Extension Office!



Get YOUR 4-H cap NOW
while supplies last:
(quantities are limited)

These would make a
GREAT gift for that special
4-H'er or Volunteer Leader!

Just \$15!

Three styles to choose from—
Camo, black and khaki!

For more information, contact the Extension Office at
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Lamesa, Tx

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Commissioner's Court Meeting

WHEREAS, On this the 10th day of July, 2007, the Commissioners' Court of Borden County, Texas, convened in Special Session in the Commissioners Court room in the courthouse of Gail, Texas, the following members of the court being present, to-wit:

VAN YORK, County Judge, Presiding; **MONTE SMITH**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1; **RANDY ADCOCK**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2; **ERNEST REYES**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3; **JOE BELEW**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; **JOYCE HERIDGE**, County Clerk and Ex-Officio of the Commissioners Court when the following proceedings were had, in accordance with the posted agenda.

MINUTES APPROVED

Minutes of the Commissioners Court meetings of June 26th, 2007 were read. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve said minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Belew. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS ALLOWED

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

BORDEN COUNTY REPORT

The County Reports were examined. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to accept the submitted County Reports. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried.

ANNUAL REPORT

Commissioner Smith made a motion to accept the Annual Report of financial conditions of Borden County for the fiscal year beginning

January 1, 2006 and ending December 31, 2006 as submitted by county Treasurer Kenneth P. Bennett. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

COUNTY ROAD

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Commissioner Belew for the approval of existing signs to be left in tack on R. Miller Road. Motion was seconded by commissioner Adcock. Motion carried.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Commissioner Belew made a motion to appoint Benny Allison as the Borden County emergency Management Coordinator to begin August 1, 2007. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BORDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Commissioner Smith made a motion to renew the Retirement Plan for the Borden County Employees with The Texas County and District Retirement System with no changes being made. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2008 BUDGET

A budget work session was held.

DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR FUTUTE AGENDA

No new items were presented to the Court.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes and approved unanimously.

THE FOREGOING MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 24th day of July, 2007.

Athletic Physicals Scheduled

Borden County athletic are scheduled to take athletic physicals **Saturday, August 4th at 10:00 AM in Abilene Texas.**

They depart from Gail at **8:00 AM.** You will need to have your physical form signed and filled out before leaving school. The doctor will not sign it if your parent or guardian does not sign it. You will need to wear shorts and a T-shirt for the physical.

The physicals will be at the Action Sports Medicines and Physical Therapy Clinic in Abilene. The telephone number there is 325/676-5633. The address there is 1717 Pine Street. Easy directions are, as you come in on Interstate 20 you will take the Hardin Simmons exit. Stay on Pine Street and it will be on your left, just a few blocks past the hospital.

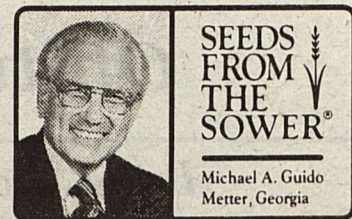
If you would like to meet them so you can stay and

shop in Abilene that would be fine. You will need to bring some money to eat lunch. We will try to be back in Gail by **3:00 PM.**

If you plan to play a sport this year of any kind during the upcoming school year, you are required by our school district to take a physical. The school furnishes the physical at this time. If you can not make this date then you will need to get a physical on your own and at your expense.

Also you will find in this letter an **Acknowledgment of Rules Form** and a **Steroid Form**, read them, have your parent read them, sign them both and bring all of the paperwork with you. The medical release, will allow us to seek emergency treatment for you if there is a need during the school year.

We are truly excited about the upcoming year and we look forward to seeing all of



SEEDS FROM THE SOWER
Michael A. Guido
Metter, Georgia

A Canadian newspaper carried this statement: "Darryl Raymaker is a longtime part worker."

It should have read: "Darryl Raymaker is a longtime party worker."

But there are many "part-time" workers in our churches.

They go to church, if they don't have some other place to go.

They give to the church, if they have some money left over.



They work in the church, if they don't have something else to do.

When the Lord needs them, they're conspicuous by their absence.

But the Living Bible says, "Give yourselves completely to God - every part of you. Be tools in the hands of God, to be used for His good purposes."

your smiling faces. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at home or on my cell. Trey Richey: (806)756-4417 (home) and (806)759-3335 (cell.) Take care and enjoy the remainder of your summer.

Welcome to...4-HEarth!

Sponsored by Borden County  and 

- Who: Any youth entering Kindergarten through Third Grade
- What: A Fun Day!
- When: Wednesday, August 8, 2007 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Where: County Show Barn in Gail
- Cost: \$5 per child (to cover supplies)
- Activities: It will be a full afternoon of many fun activities related to the planet Earth! We will be making crafts and playing fun games.
- Info to know: Afternoon refreshments will be provided, but please feed your child lunch before dropping them off.

For more information, or to let us know that you will be able to attend, please call or e-mail the Extension Office at (806)756-4336 or borden-tx@tamu.edu.
NOTE: You do not have to RSVP to participate, it will just help us get an idea of how many supplies to prepare.

We look forward to having YOU there!

We will seek to provide all reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for any Extension program. We request that you contact the Texas Cooperative Extension office as soon as possible to advise of auxiliary aid that you will require.


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, US Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

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At 8:
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Texas Stories
A showcase of the Texas Spirit



Tumbleweed Smith
Part owner of Texas

Spectacular, Extraordinary Blue Hawaii

There were ten of us in a beautiful place. We chose Hilton's Waikoloa Village on the Big Island of Hawaii for our annual family reunion. Our two sons and their families had separate condos. Susan and I stayed in the hotel.

It is indeed a village. A small shopping center a few blocks down the shady boulevard has restaurants and stores and a stage where we saw a demonstration of hula dancing.

The flight from Dallas to Kona took seven hours. Two movies helped pass the time.

We arrived around 8 PM. At 8:02 our three-year-old grandson Caleb was in his bathing suit ready to hit the pool. So we did. The swimming complex at his condo had a special pool for children and a larger one for adults. The water temperature was perfect. Caleb loved it.

The next day everybody came to the hotel and explored the grounds. It has three residence towers (Lagoon, Palace and Ocean) and a convention center. It also has about a dozen restaurants and bars, a flamingo sanctuary, a Dolphin Learning Center, an aviary for the state bird (the Nene) and spectacular gardens, kopi ponds and lawns throughout the complex. Tall palm trees sway in the constant tropical

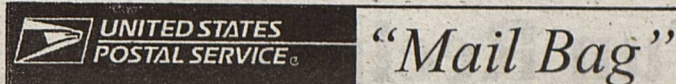
breeze. The three swimming pools have waterfalls, beaches, slides and a sandy bottom pool for youngsters. To get from one place to another you can take a boat or a tram. They both come by your stop every ten minutes.

When you consider that the entire island is made of lava, it takes plenty of vision to imagine a world-class resort on a bunch of porous rocks or slabs of molten lava. Tons and tons of topsoil had to be imported. The resort took 26 months to build at a cost of 360 million dollars. It was finished in 1986.

Although the Big Island has many interesting things to do and places to see, we stayed around the resort most of the time. My sons Kevin and BZ and my 16-year-old grandson Jackson went snorkeling one day at a state park beach a few miles down the road. Susan and I, along with BZ, his wife Margaret and their sons, four-year-old Max and 19-month-old Aiden went for a ride on a glass bottom boat and saw all sorts of colorful fish and reefs. We took Jackson to see the Mauna Loa volcano.

On the way, we stopped at a coffee plantation. We explored some petroglyphs just down the road from the resort.

We headquartered at Kevin and Jill's condo. That's where we had most of our meals. The first full day the



Top 5 Mailing Questions (Psst! The Answers are here, too!)

We get a lot of questions about the mail. Most of the time, we have the answers! Here are some of both.

"What's the ZIP Code for this address?"

You're right to ask, because every piece of mail needs a ZIP Code. Don't guess at the number, or leave it off—no ZIP Code, or the wrong one, could delay delivery. To find a ZIP Code, just go to the Postal Service web site—www.usps.com—and click on "Find a ZIP Code" in the upper left-hand corner. Or you can call 800-ASK-USPS (800-275-8777).

"How much postage do I need for my package?"

The answer depends on the weight of the parcel, the distance it will travel, and how fast it goes. Your local Post Office can weigh your parcel and compare services and prices for you. If you already know how much your parcel weighs, you can to www.usps.com and hit "Calculate Postage." And while you are online, you can use Click-N-Ship service to print shipping labels, with or without postage. Go to www.usps.com and look under "Shipping Tools" for

girls made a grocery run to Waimea, a small town twenty minutes away with good grocery stores.

It was an idyllic time. Our three youngest grandsons got to laugh and play and make memories. All three families got to visit each other away from work or any special holiday. We put on leis and had our picture made. We're all wondering where we'll get together next year.

"Click-N-Ship"
"How long will it take for a letter to get to...?"

Generally, items sent via First-Class Mail to an address in your local delivery area should arrive the next day. Mail destined for addresses within 400-600 miles generally is delivered in two days. Coast-to-coast service, on average, is accomplished within three days.

"How big (or small) can my piece of mail be?"

Parcels tend to be the biggest items mailed, and they cannot weigh more than 70 pounds. Except for Parcel Post items, parcels cannot be more than 108 inches in combined length and "girth" (circumference). Parcel Post packages mailed at the "oversized rate" can be no

more than 130 inches in combined length and girth.

As for the smallest mailable items, all mail must be at least 0.007 inch thick. Letters ¼ inch thick or less must be at least 3 ½ inches high, 5 inches long and rectangular in shape.

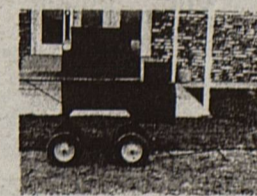
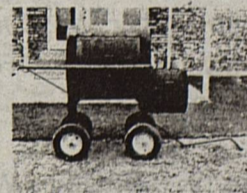
"How late can I mail a letter to get today's postmark?"

Schedules vary by Post Office. If you are mailing your letter at the Post Office, ask the sales associate or Postmaster for the last pickup time. The last pickup time is posted on all street collection boxes. Mail your letter prior to the designated time to get today's postmark.

For the answers to many other frequently asked mailing questions, get a copy of A Customer's Guide to Mailing (DMM 100). Stop by your local post Office or get a copy online at www.usps.com/customersguide.com

Buy your chance to win a... B-B-Q Pit with Smoker

custom made by Roscoe Massingill



**Proceeds to benefit:
Borden County Jr.
Livestock Association**

Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20

Please see any BCJLA Director for tickets.

**Drawing to be held at the Coyote Opry
on Saturday, September 22, 2007
at the Borden County Show Barn in Gail.
You do not have to be present to win!**

Summer Fun Recipes

Cake In a Mug

1 Cake mix any flavor
1 small instant pudding mix (not sugar free), any flavor

Combine and blend well. Measure $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of mix into a sandwich bag.

Glaze mix:

$\frac{1}{3}$ cup powdered sugar

$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp dry flavoring—lemonade mix, orange breakfast drink mix, cocoa.

Vanilla powder (sold by coffee flavorings)

Place the glaze mix ingredients into a sandwich bag. Label this bag "glaze mix" and attach it to the other bag with a twist tie.

Place one baggie cake mix and one baggie glaze mix I each coffee cup. Attach the baking instructions to each coffee cup.

Mug Variation

Personalize the mug with the recipients name, an abstract, yet colorful, design. Buy a plain white or solid colored mug and DecoArt craft paint. Follow the directions on the label.

Project Tip

Be sure to select a large mug to hold $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of water. The mug must be microwavable.

Flavor Options

Lemon cake mix-lemon pudding

Yellow mix-chocolate pudding

Devils food mix-chocolate pudding

Pineapple mix-coconut pudding

Butterscotch mix-butterscotch pudding

Attach the following note to the gift:

Cake In a Mug
Mist inside of coffee mug with cooking spray. Empty cake mix into cup. Add 1 egg white, 1 Tbsp. oil, 1 Tbsp. water. Mix well microwave on full power 2 minutes.

Empty Glaze Mix into a small bowl and add 1 tsp. water. Mix well. Pour glaze baked cake.

Bubble Bath

1 c. shampoo (I like to use generic tear free baby shampoo)

$1\frac{1}{2}$ c. water
food color (optional)

Squeeze bottles or jars (dish detergent

bottles or shampoo bottles are my favorite)

Optional: $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp glycerin (purchase at drug store)

Optional: essential oil (scented oils like vanilla or citrus)—available at most craft stores

Or optional: a few drops of strong perfume

Directions:

1. Pour shampoo and water into your bottle.
2. Add a couple drops of food color.
3. Optional: add glycerin and essential oil or perfume.
4. Shake well to mix.
5. It will get foamy when you shake it, but will settle down and look like bubble bath.
6. Squeeze a good amount into the tub as you are running the water.

Pointers for Parents

Encouraging Children To Read

(NAPS)—It would be hard to overemphasize the importance of literacy in a child's life—and experts say one of the best ways to get young kids turning pages early is to read aloud to them regularly.

Try these tips for engaging youngsters in reading:

- Make reading a habit before bedtime, after lunch or after naptime.

- Snuggle with your child and her favorite blanket or toys as you read.

- Look for books that are about things that interest your children.

- For example, does your child like cars, insects or animals?

- Don't be afraid to ham it up when reading. Use different voices for characters. Get comfortable by practicing ahead of time.

- Point to words as you read. Ask children to find specific words or words that have a particular letter.

- Read stories again and again. Children enjoy repetition and it helps them become familiar with the way stories are organized.

When you don't have time to sit down with a book, there are lots of other ways to help your child learn how to read—and have fun doing it. For instance:

Watch Together

You and your child can tune in to television shows such as "Between the Lions," which airs daily on PBS Kids. The program was designed to foster the literacy skills of its viewers, while playfully demonstrating the joys of reading. The series features many popular book titles, and the new season, beginning September 17,

includes an award-winning series of books for emerging readers from Candlewick Press: "Brand New Readers." Kids can use the books at home to read along and experience the excitement of seeing the characters come to life on television.



Favorite characters can help interest young children in reading.

For more information, visit www.pbskids.org/lions.

The Name Game

Hand-print labels in your child's room (chair, table, window, books, etc.) to help get her reading. You can also use labels on her clothes, lunch box, bike or virtually anything else you can think of. The key is to get your youngster involved.

Make Letters

Make letters out of modeling clay, pipe cleaners or cooked spaghetti. Then use the letters to spell your child's name, names of family members and pets, and other familiar words. You can also have your child form letter shapes with his body to spell out words—or try acting out the chorus of the song "YMCA" with him!

Did You Know?

(NAPS)—Blueberries are so easy to use, you can get the kids in the kitchen to help make their own snacks. For recipes and information, go to www.blueberry.org. To get a free copy of a leaflet filled with kid-friendly recipes and fun facts, send a SASE to: Welcome Aboard! Leaflet Offer, U.S. High-bush Blueberry Council, 2390 E. Bidwell St., #300, Folsom, CA 95630.



Students can get help with homework the moment they need it through Tutor.com's on-demand tutoring. Rather than requiring a session to be scheduled in advance, it lets students connect to a professional via the Internet the moment they need help.

If you or a loved one struggles with hearing loss, talk to your doctor or see an audiologist and get your hearing tested. People need to make it a priority to get their hearing screened once a year, and take preventative measures to protect the hearing they have. For more information on hearing loss and hearing aids, as well as the batteries that power them, visit www.energizer.com or www.audiology.org.

Pet owners can use over-the-counter products such as Sergeant's Gold Flea and Tick Squeeze-On for Dogs to control flea and tick infestations. Sergeant's says the product kills fleas and ticks faster than the leading vet brand and costs about 50 percent less. Visit www.sergeants.com.