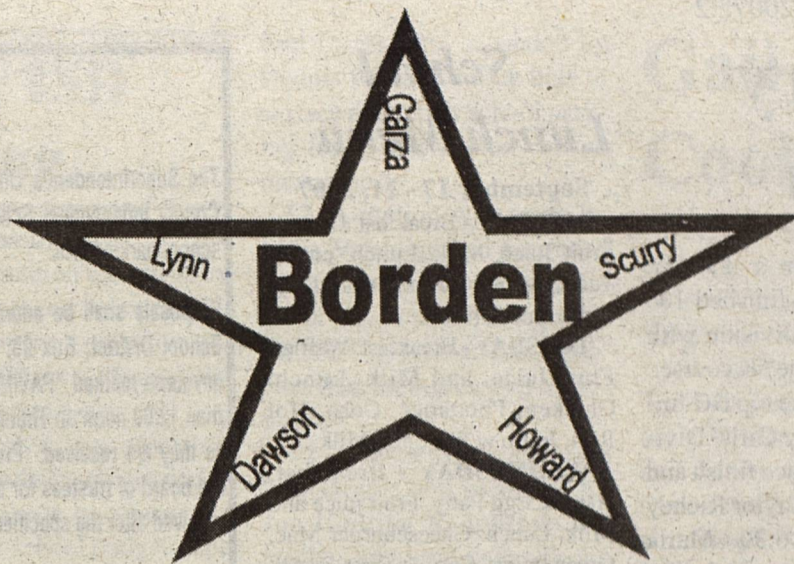


THE

Volume XXXV



STAR

September 12, 2007

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

USDA Announces Final 06 CC Payments

Other USDA Program Payments Soon To Be On Tap

By Shawn Wade

USDA Secretary Mike Johanns' announcement of final 2006 Upland Cotton and Peanut Counter-cyclical (CC) Program payment rates earlier this week was welcome news to cotton and peanut producers across the High Plains.

According to Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., USDA's decision to go ahead and issue the final 2006 CC payments provides timely cash infusions for growers preparing for the final leg of the 2007 growing season. In the announcement, USDA officials noted that eligible growers would begin to receive their final 2006 CC payments beginning September 5.

USDA's announcement also provides an opportunity to go over when payments from several other USDA programs will be made and what producers should receive when they do arrive.

In this week's announcement, USDA noted that the final CC payment rates for Upland Cotton and Peanuts would be the maximum amounts al-

lowed under the 2002 Farm Bill. USDA also announced that there would be no 2006 Counter-cyclical program payments for Corn, Grain Sorghum, Rice and Soybeans due to the strong market prices for those crops in 2006.

The final 2006 Upland Cotton payment rate was set at 13.73 cents per pound based on the fact that Upland Cotton market prices averaged well below the 52-cent-per-pound loan rate for the marketing year. This made it unnecessary for USDA to wait until October when the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) announces the final weighted average price for cotton.

Cotton producers who received first and second advance 2006 CC payments totaling 9.61 cents will receive an additional 4.12 cents per pound when final payments are issued. Growers that did not request advance 2006 CC payments will receive the full 13.73-cent payment rate.

The following table shows the average price re-

ceived each month by farmers and the calculated weighted average price based on prices and cumulative marketings from August 1, 2006 through July 31, 2007. With the addition of the July 2007 price and marketing figures the calculated Weighted Average Price received by growers for Upland Cotton during the 2006 Upland Cotton marketing year was 47.25 cents.

Based on the final weighted average national price reported by USDA NASS on August 31, the final Peanut payment rate will equal \$104 per ton. Peanut producers who received the first and second advance Peanut CC payments for 2006 will receive a final 2006 CC payment of \$31.20 per ton.

2007 Direct and CC Program Payments Also In The Works

Growers across the country will also soon be receiving the final installment of their 2007 Direct payment. For cotton the 2007 Direct payment rate equals 6.67 cents, 22 per-

(Continued on Page 7)

JV Coyotes Travel to Robert Lee

By Coach Baeza

The Coyote JV traveled to Robert Lee Sept. 6 in hopes of their second win of the season but was disappointed by the Steers with a final score of 41-7. The Coyotes started the first quarter sluggish allowing 20 unanswered points. The Coyote defense then stepped up in the second quarter only allowing the Steers only a single TD. Leading the Coyotes defensively in the first half were Clay Harding and Derek Tatum with four tackles each. The offense in the first half was not able to produce any points and was plagued by turnovers. Derrick Rodriquez led all Coyote rushers in the first half with 24 yard and Derrick Tatum with 17.

In the second half, the Coyotes saw more success but were only able to score one TD with 1:27 left in the fourth by David Rodriquez. The defense did a much better job in the second half by only allowing 15 in the two quarters combined.

This was a great learning

experience for young Coyotes which did a great job playing without one of their main contributors from last week.

Statistically for the Coyotes, David Rodriquez had 8 carries, rushed for 44 yards and 1 touch-down.

Derek Tatum had 10 carries, rushed for 32 yards, 1 extra point and 7 tackles.

Brendan Tarleton made 6 of 12 passing, rushed for 44 yards, 2 interceptions and 4 tackles.

Tyrell Massingill made 3 unassisted and 1 assisted tackles.

Skyler Williamson made 2 assisted tackles.

Clay Harding made 4 unassisted and 2 assisted tackles and Michael Froman made 1 unassisted and 2 assisted tackles.

Good job Coyotes!



BC Cross Country Kicks Off Season

By Coach Turner

The Borden Coyote cross country teams kicked off their 2007 season at the Wilson Run Around last Saturday. In the Junior High Girls' division Mattie Turner finished 3rd with a time of 16:56 and Teryn Soto finished 4th with a time of 19:32. Blake Turner finished 7th in the Junior High Boys division with a 14:57. Tanner Richey ran a 15:53. Krista Tarleton finished 6th in the JV Girls' Division with an 18:27 and Phyneshia Rutherford finished

10th with a 19:01. Brendan Tarleton finished 10th in the JV Boys' Division with time of 29:41 on the 5K course. Olivia Key was the top BC finisher in the Varsity Girls' Division with an 8th place finish and a time of 15:45. Taylor Richey was 15th with a 16:30. Marla Crenshaw ran an 18:04. Congrats to all these kids for running on a very muddy course and doing a great job. Next up is the Slaton Meet on September 15th.

FFA Blue Light Special!

The Gail FFA Chapter still has several meat items left from their 2006-2007 Sale. Prices have now been reduced in order to move items prior to school beginning. Blue light special! Anyone interested in purchasing these items can contact Buddy Wallace: 806/756-4478 (home) or 806/756-4313 (school).

Items available: Tailgate Party Pack-\$11.00; Smoked Sausage Kolaches-\$12.00; Peppered Bacon-\$10.00; Smoked Turkey Breast-\$12.00; Golden Chicken Tenders-\$15.00; Pork Tamales-\$11.00; Chicken Fajita-\$9.00; Beef Fajita-\$9.00; Cajun Meat Pies-\$10.00; Smoked Turkey-\$15.00. The Gail FFA Chapter wishes to thank everyone for their fund-raiser support!

Smoked Briskets

Slow Cooked to Perfection

For Sale
\$35.00 each

to benefit
Borden County
Junior Livestock Association

Order yours by
Wednesday, September 12
Call the Borden County Extension Office to
place your order today! (806) 756-4336

Briskets will be available for pick-up on
Saturday, September 22nd at the
Coyote Opry to be held at the
Borden County Show Barn.

The Borden Star (USPS or PUBLICATION No. 895-520) is published weekly except Christmas and New Year's week for \$12.00 per year by the Borden Star, PO Box 137, Gail, Texas, 79738. Second-class Postage paid at Gail, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send Change of Address to the Borden Star, PO Box 137, Gail, Texas 79738

School Lunch Menu

September 17 - 21, 2007

MONDAY - Breakfast: Omelet, Fruit Juice, Milk. Lunch: coyote Taco, Refried Beans, Salad, Pineapple, and Milk.

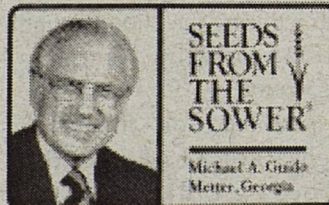
TUESDAY - Breakfast: Waffles, Fruit Juice, and Milk. Lunch: Chicken, Potatoes, Corn, Hot Roll, Jell-o w/fruit, and Milk.

WEDNESDAY - Breakfast: Ham & Egg Patty, Fruit juice and Milk. Lunch: Cheeseburger Mac, Green Beans, Carrots, Corn Bread, Fresh Fruit, and Milk.

THURSDAY - Breakfast: Biscuit w/gravy, Sausage, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Polish Sausage, Baked Potato w/ham & cheese, Steamed broccoli, Crackers, Ice Cream, and Milk.

FRIDAY - Breakfast: French Toast Sticks, Sausage, Fruit Juice, Milk. Lunch: Chicken on a Bun, French Fries, Salad Cup, Cookie, Milk.

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A mother had given her son two apples, saying, "Give your little sister her choice."

Later on she noticed that he had kept the big apple for himself. She asked, "Didn't you give your sister her choice?"

"I did," he answered. "I gave her a choice of a little one, or none at all. And she took the little one."

There's a lot of selfishness in all of us, isn't there? We're more anxious to hoard than we are to help, to get than we are to give, to be served than we are to serve. But the Living Bible says, "Don't be selfish. Be interested in others."

Forget yourself for others, and others will never forget you.

BORDEN COUNTY ISD PAVING BID REQUEST

The Superintendent's Office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District will receive bids for paving and repairs to school parking lots.

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 "PAVING BID". Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, September 13, 2007. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated researched, and presented to the board of trustees for their consideration at the next scheduled meeting. Bids received after the specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County ISD Board of Trustees 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 (office 806-756-4313) (cell 806-759-5467) (fax 806-756-4310)

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

BAKE SALE

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 13TH
JR. HIGH
FOOTBALL GAME

CAKES, PIES, COBBLERS
\$10.00 EACH

SPONSORED BY JR. HIGH
CHEERLEADERS & PEP SQUAD

BAKE SALE

Borden County ISD Board Meeting

Special Meeting August 28, 2007

The Board Of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District of Gail, Texas met in special session at 7:00 P.M. in the Borden County I.S.D. Cafeteria. Board Members present were John Anderson, Joel Dennis, Joe Harding, Randy Hensley, Carol Lewis, Dennis Poole, and Mike Valentine. Carol Lewis was absent. Superintendent, Jimmy Thomas was also present.

1. The meeting was called to order by John Anderson.

2. There was no community input.

3. A hearing to discuss the 2007-2008 Borden County Independent School District Budget and proposed tax rate was conducted.

4. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Mike Valentine to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting August 28, 2007

The Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District of Gail, Texas met in regular session at 7:30 P.M. in the Borden County I.S.D. Board Room.

Board members present were John Anderson, Joel Dennis, Joe Harding, Randy Hensley, Dennis Poole, and Mike Valentine. Carol Lewis was absent. Superintendent, Jimmy Thomas was also present.

1. The meeting was called to order by John Anderson.

2. There was no community input.

3. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Randy Hensley to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2007, August 6, 2007, and August 13, 2007, Board Meetings. The motion

carried unanimously.

4. A motion was made by Joe Harding and seconded by Mike Valentine to approve the August 2007 bills. The motion carried unanimously.

5. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Joel Dennis to amend the 2006-2007 school budget. The motion carried unanimously.

6. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Randy Hensley to adopt the 2007-2008 Borden County ISD Budget. The motion carried unanimously.

7. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Joe Harding to adopt a maintenance and operations tax rate of \$1.03362 for the 2007-2008 Borden County ISD School Year. The motion carried unanimously.

8. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Dennis Poole to solicit bids for the purchase of a school bus. The motion carried unanimously.

9. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Joel Dennis to approve the bid from Lamesa Butane for Diesel and Gasoline for the 2007-2008 school year from United Fuel for Propane for the 2007-2008 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

10. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Mike Valentine to have the regular September board meeting on September 17, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.

11. A motion was made by

Joel Dennis and seconded by Dennis Poole to solicit bids to surface and repair school parking lots. The motion carried unanimously.

12. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Randy Hensley to appoint Carol Lewis as the delegate to the 2007 TASA/TASB Convention. The motion carried unanimously.

13. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Joe Harding to approve the teacher appraisal calendar for the 2007-2008 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

14. A discussion was conducted pertaining to local policy involving recent legislation about student rights, student responsibilities, and student expression. No action was taken.

15. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Randy Hensley to approve the 2007-2008 bus routes and bus drivers as presented by Mr. Thomas. The motion carried unanimously.

16. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Joe Harding to approve the Student Code of Conduct for the 2007-2008 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

17. Mr. Thomas gave a year to date financial report and reported that 162 students were enrolled as of August 27, 2007.

A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Joel Dennis to approve the superintendent's report. The motion carried unanimously.

18. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Mike Valentine to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

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Gail FFA Begins Cookie Dough Sale

The Gail FFA Chapter has officially started its' first fundraiser of the year with a cookie dough/cobbler sale.

The sale began on September 3 and will conclude on September 19th. The following items and flavors will be available: Chocolate Chunk, Oatmeal Raisin, Snicker Doodle, Peanut Butter, One Dozen Cinnamon Rolls, Pecan Cobbler-2lb., White Chocolate Macadamia, Chunky M&M Delights, Sugar Cookie and Chocolate Chunk Pecan.

All items will cost \$13.00 and customers may pay upon delivery in late September. Anyone wishing to purchase these items may contact a Gail FFA member or Buddy Wallace at 806/756-4313 ext. 7 (work).

The Gail FFA Chapter wishes to express a big "Thank You" to those who have supported their sales in the past and we look forward to working with our community in the future.

Gail FFA members for the 2007-2008 year include: Seniors-Heather Brooks, Sharelle Gass, Chelsea Minnick, Shelby Roberts, Quentin Shafer, Miller Valentine and Kate Wallace; Juniors-Clay Harding, Tyrell Massingill, Cory Teel, Jake Cooley and Baylee Benavidez; Sophomores-Eric Espinoza, Raylea Underwood, Chellsie Pigford, Shylor Rinehart, Lacey Roberts, Chasiti Rutherford, Brendan Tarleton, Annie Stribling, Jacie Eveland, Skylee Williamson, Drew Tyler and Katie Aaragos; and Freshman-Michelle Bass, Michael Froman, Kerianne Howard, Mandi Hudson, Kimerbly Proulx, Taylor Richey, David Rodriguez, Phyneshia Rutherford, Alvin Scheller, Krista Tarleton, Derek Tatum and Miles Valentine.



2007 Football Schedule Borden County Coyotes

Varsity

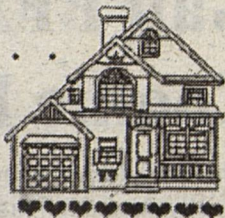
| | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------|------|
| August 24 | Scrimmage | Trent | 5:00 |
| August 31 | New Home | Here | 7:30 |
| September 7 | Robert Lee | Here | 7:30 |
| September 14 | Wellman-Union | There | 7:30 |
| September 21 | Dawson | Here | 7:30 |
| September 28 | Southland | There | 7:30 |
| October 5 | Aspermont | Here | 7:30 |
| October 19 | Open | | |
| October 26 | Trent | Here | 7:30 |
| November 2 | Hermleigh | There | 7:30 |
| November 9 | Jayton | Here | 7:30 |

Head Football Coach: Trey Richey
Defensive Coordinator: Peter Benavidez
Special Teams Coach: Fernando Baeza
Assistant Coach/Trainer: Bric Turner

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.

Preparing for Thunderstorms

Many of us think of the Spring as prime thunderstorm time, however, we seem to have been experiencing a growing number of severe storms recently - many with severe lightning. As part of National Emergency Preparedness Week, we would like to remind everyone about the severity of thunderstorms and lightning, as well as ways to prepare for thunderstorms.

All thunderstorms are dangerous. Every thunderstorm produces lightning. In the United States, an average of 300 people are injured and 80 people are killed each year by lightning. Although most lightning victims survive, people struck by lightning often report a variety of long-term, debilitating symptoms. Other associated dangers of thunderstorms include tornadoes, strong winds, hail, and flash flooding. Flash flooding is responsible for more fatalities—more than 140 annually—than any other thunderstorm-associated hazard.

Dry thunderstorms that do not produce rain that reaches the ground are most prevalent in the western United States. Falling raindrops evaporate, but lightning can still reach the ground and can start wildfires.

Facts About Thunderstorms

- * They may occur singly, in clusters, or in lines.
- * Some of the most severe occur when a single thunderstorm affects one location for an extended time.
- * Thunderstorms typically produce heavy rain for a brief period, anywhere from 30 min-

utes to an hour.

* Warm, humid conditions are highly favorable for thunderstorm development.

* About 10 percent of thunderstorms are classified as severe—one that produces hail at least three-quarters of an inch in diameter, has winds of 58 miles per hour or higher, or produces a tornado.

Facts About Lightning

* Lightning's unpredictability increases the risk to individuals and property.

* Lightning often strikes outside of heavy rain and may occur as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall.

* "Heat lightning" is actually lightning from a thunderstorm too far away for thunder to be heard. However, the storm may be moving in your direction!

* Most lightning deaths and injuries occur when people are caught outdoors in the summer months during the afternoon and evening.

* Your chances of being struck by lightning are estimated to be 1 in 600,000, but could be reduced even further by following safety precautions.

* Lightning strike victims carry no electrical charge and should be attended to immediately.

What to Do Before a Thunderstorm

To prepare for a thunderstorm, you should do the following:

* Remove dead or rotting trees and branches that could fall and cause injury or damage during a severe thunderstorm.

* Remember the 30/30 light-

ning safety rule: Go indoors if, after seeing lightning, you cannot count to 30 before hearing thunder. Stay indoors for 30 minutes after hearing the last clap of thunder.

The following are guidelines for what you should do if a thunderstorm is likely in your area:

- * Postpone outdoor activities.
- * Get inside a home, building, or hard top automobile (not a convertible). Although you may be injured if lightning strikes your car, you are much safer inside a vehicle than outside.

- * Remember, rubber-soled shoes and rubber tires provide NO protection from lightning. However, the steel frame of a hard-topped vehicle provides increased protection if you are not touching metal.

- * Secure outdoor objects that could blow away or cause damage.

- * Shutter windows and secure outside doors. If shutters are not available, close window blinds, shades, or curtains.

- * Avoid showering or bathing. Plumbing and bathroom fixtures can conduct electricity.

- * Use a corded telephone only for emergencies. Cordless and cellular telephones are safe to use.

- * Unplug appliances and other electrical items such as computers and turn off air conditioners. Power surges from lightning can cause serious damage.

- * Use your battery-operated NOAA Weather Radio for updates from local officials.

Avoid the following:

- * Natural lightning rods such as a tall, isolated tree in an open area.

- * Hilltops, open fields, the beach, or a boat on the water.

- * Isolated sheds or other small structures in open areas.

- * Anything metal—tractors, farm equipment, motorcycles, golf carts, golf clubs, and bicycles.

We hope that the information

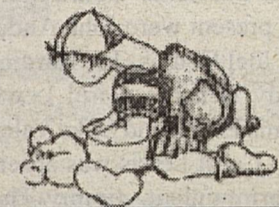
found in this article is useful to you and your family any time of year when thunderstorms are present. For more information on emergency preparedness, please visit the Texas Extension Disaster Education Network Site at <http://texashelp.tamu.edu/> or visit our

web site at <http://borden-tx.tamu.edu> and search under the Emergency Preparedness Links.

Source: FEMA Thunderstorms and Lightning Web site <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/thunderstorm/index.shtm>

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SCHOOL DAYS

Are Here Again!

A new school year is here again!!!! The time is right to begin with enthusiasm to forward your education & prepare for the future that lies ahead!!

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Arlen Morris, Mgr.

501 S. Lynn

Lamesa, TX

4-H News

4-H Re-enrollment Time

Anyone interested in being a 4-H member for the 2007-08 4-H year needs to complete a 4-H enrollment form. In order to be a member of 4-H, you must be enrolled in the 3rd grade and not be older than 19. These forms will be available at the 4-H meetings and are always available in the Extension office. *This is very important for any youth that plans to participate in a 4-H project, including a livestock project and the county stock show.* If you have not completed your enrollment form for the current 4-H year, please contact the Extension office immediately at (806)756-4336 or borden-tx@tamu.edu. We also have volunteer enrollment forms available for all volunteers that assist our youth in their projects. Please call or come by to get yours today!

4-H Food & Nutrition Project

The Food and Nutrition project meetings will be held on Monday, September 24, Tuesday, September 25, Monday, October 1 and Tuesday, October 2 from 3:45 to 5:15 p.m. (after school) in the Home Economics Department. This project is for all 4-H youth that are interested in learning about basic nutrition, eating healthy, basic food preparation skills, and much more. The County 4-H Food Show will be held on Tuesday, October 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room. The District 4-H Food Show will be held on Saturday, November 10 in Levelland. For more information, contact the Extension office at (806)756-4336.

South Plains Fair Youth Department

The youth department is for 8th grade and under. Entries for bread, cake, cookies, and candy are due Sept. 20th from 7 a.m.-noon. All other divisions are due Sept. 18th from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sept. 19th from 7 a.m. - noon. If you need more information about divisions contact the Extension office or visit the Panhandle-South Plains Fair Premium Book online at <http://www.southplainsfair.com/books/General.pdf>. 4-H'ers in 9th - 12th grade will be entered in the senior division. The Open crop exhibits is open to everyone and entries will be accepted on Sept. 21st from 3-7 p.m. and on Sept. 22nd from 8-11 a.m. Divisions include: cotton, grains & seeds, grain and sorghum heads, hay, corn, vegetables, fruit & nuts, and misc. crops

Borden County EMS Offers Class

In a county the size of ours it is important that we have as many First Responders as possible. With this in mind Borden County EMS will be offering an ECA (Emergency Care Attendant) class this September. Classes will be held in Gail and there will be no charge.

As a certified ECA you will be able to perform basic first aid, CPR, help Paramedics and EMT's with their duties, and most importantly you will be able to drive an ambulance.

The strength of Borden County EMS has always been the giving spirit of our residents. Your county needs you at this time so

please consider joining this class. For more information you may contact Carrie Hart at 806/252-4469.

Commissioner's Court Meeting

WHEREAS, On this the 28th day of August, 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 August 28th, 2007 were read. Commissioner Reyes made a motion to approve said minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Adcock. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS ALLOWED

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

SOIL CONSERVATION CONSTRUCTION AND ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Applications for Soil Conservation Construction of fireguards were received from Larry D Smith in Precinct No. 2 and Frank Beaver in Precinct No. 4. An Application for Road Construction was received from Frank Beaver in Precinct No. 4. Commissioner Belew made a motion to approve the applications at the rate of \$35.00 per hour for a motorgrader and \$65.00 per hour for a dozer. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Adcock.

COUNTY FEE ON VEHICLES

A motion was made by Commissioner Adcock to NOT COLLECT the optional county road and bridge fee for the year 2008 that can be collected on each vehicle registered in the County. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

BORDEN COUNTY WATER

Judge York gave an update on the Borden County Water

System. A discussion was held with no action taken.

BUDGET HEARING

At 9:30 A.M. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to recess Commissioner Court Meeting and to call the 2008 Budget Hearing to order, as advertised. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

JOEL DENNIS PRESENT FOR THE TAX INCREASE HEARING

A motion was made at 9:55 A.M. by Commissioner Smith that said Hearing be adjourned and reconvene the Commissioner Court Meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Belew. Motion carried.

2008 BORDEN COUNTY BUDGET

A motion was made by Commissioner Belew to approve the 2008 County Budget as proposed with Commissioner Reyes seconding the motion. Motion carried.

2008 TAX RATE

After notice and hearing, the following motion was offered by Commissioner Adcock and seconded by Commissioner Smith for Borden County Tax Rate to be set at the rate of

(Continued on Page 6)

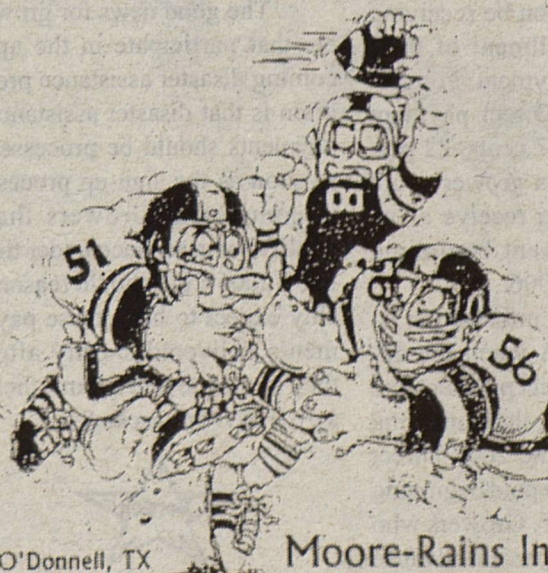
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Go Coyotes . . .



O'Donnell, TX
806/439-3335

Moore-Rains Insurance
Frances Rains Stephens

USDA...

Continued from Page 1
erage price for cotton.

Cotton producers who received first and second advance 2006 CC payments totaling 9.61 cents will receive an additional 4.12 cents per pound when final payments are issued. Growers that did not request advance 2006 CC payments will receive the full 13.73-cent payment rate.

The following table shows the average price received each month by farmers and the calculated weighted average price based on prices and cumulative marketings from August 1, 2006 through July 31, 2007. With the addition of the July 2007 price and marketing figures the calculated Weighted Average Price received by growers for Upland Cotton during the 2006 Upland Cotton marketing year was 47.25 cents.

Based on the final weighted average national price reported by USDA NASS on August 31, the final Peanut payment rate will equal \$104 per ton. Peanut producers who received the first and second advance Peanut CC payments for 2006 will receive a final 2006 CC payment of \$31.20 per ton.

2007 Direct and CC Program Payments Also In The Works

Growers across the country will also soon be receiving the final installment of their 2007 Direct payment. For cotton the 2007 Direct payment rate equals 6.67 cents, 22 percent of which a grower could have elected to receive as an advance payment beginning December 1, 2006.

Based on information issued by USDA when the advance 2007 Direct payment rate was announced, the remaining 78 percent of the 2007 Direct payment will be paid beginning October 1, 2007. Growers who received the 22 percent advance

can expect their final 2007 Direct payment to equal approximately 5.2 cents per pound.

In regard to the 2007-crop Counter-cyclical Program, previously released USDA information reminded growers that the 2002 Farm Bill altered the timing and amount of 2007 CC advance payments.

Through the 2006 program year growers had the option to request either two 35 percent advance CC payments in December and February, respectively, during the marketing year or a single 70 percent advance in February.

The 2002 Farm Bill changed that for the 2007 CC Program, replacing the dual advance payment option with a single 40 percent advance payable in February of 2008 following the first six months of the 2007 Upland Cotton marketing year that began August 1, 2007. The maximum possible 2007 Upland Cotton CC program remains 13.73 cents.

Don't Forget About Disaster Assistance

As noted in recent weeks, USDA has also announced that sign-up for the 2005/2006 Crop Disaster Program (CDP) is supposed to commence on or around October 15. Actual sign-up dates in individual counties could be different depending on how quickly USDA can train State and County level Farm Service Agency employees to administer the new program.

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Commissioners Court

(Continued from Page 5)

26784 cents (\$.26784) per One Hundred Dollar \$100.00 valuation. Motion carried.

TAX DISCOUNTS

Commissioner Belew made a motion to allow discounts of 3% for October, 2% for November and 1% for December for early payment of taxed. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2008 TAXES-SPLIT PAYMENTS

A Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to NOT ALLOW SPLIT PAYMENT OF TAXES. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

REINVESTMENT ZONE HEARING

At 10:00 A.M., Commissioner Reyes made a motion to recess the Commissioners Court Meeting and call the Reinvestment Zone Hearing to order as advertised. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Adcock. Motion carried.

Jos Nicholas, Lars Dorr, Mathew Baird, Orlando Puig, representatives of Eurus Energy America Corporation met with the Court. Joel Dennis was also present. A discussion was held concerning designating certain property in Borden County as a Reinvestment Zone which would be eligible for Tax Abatement under Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax Code.

At 10:35 A.M., Commissioner Adcock made a motion to close the Public Hearing and reopen the Commissioners Court Meeting. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REINVESTMENT ZONE

Commissioner Belew made a motion to approve the Order Designating Reinvestment

Zone for certain land in Borden County for the purpose of granting Tax Abatements (Chapter 312 Texas Tax Code). Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Mr. Orlando Puig, Jos Nicholas, Matthew Baird, and Lars Dorr, representatives of Eurus Energy America Corporation met with the Court. Motion carried.

BULL CREEK WIND'S APPLICATION FOR TAX ABATEMENT AND DESIGNATION OF



REINVESTMENT ZONE, BORDEN COUNTY is hereby placed of record:

DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Election Judges and Alternate Judges to be appointed. Abatement Agreement to be considered.

ADJOURN

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

THE FOREGOING MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 11th day of September, 2007.

"Mail Bag"

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The Postal Store is your very own retail Post Office online. It's got everything but our smiling faces!

At The Postal Store, you can buy stamps and stationary, philatelic collectibles and other gift items. You can order free shipping supplies, print mailing labels with or without postage, and even design and mail cards and letters without ever leaving your computer.

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find commemoratives, definitives, sets by subject and a library of information about past, present and future stamp issues. Even foreign postal administrations are accessible through The Postal Store. A listing of international links opens the door to the world of stamp collecting.

When it comes to stamps, stationary, and shipping materials, save time and gasoline by letting your fingers do the typing. Go to shop.usps.com and see for yourself!

BORDEN COUNTY ISD BUS 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 school bus.

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 "BUS BID". Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, September 13, 2007. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated researched, and presented to the board of trustees for their consideration at the next scheduled meeting. Bids received after the specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County ISD Board of Trustees 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 (office 806-756-4313) (cell 806-759-5467) (fax 806-756-4310)

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

Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
Tumbleweed Smith

Cruising the Baltic

In an effort to stretch out summer as long as we can, we usually plan a trip in late August. This time we went to Russia.

The flight from Dallas to Amsterdam was about nine hours. There we boarded Holland America's Prinsendam and left for a two week voyage to the Baltic. We cruised along the Kiel Canal, one of the most fascinating bodies of water I've ever seen. It is the world's busiest artificial waterway, linking the North Sea with the Baltic.

The Kiel is barely wide enough for the Prinsendam, one of the few ships small enough to navigate the unique waterway. It must be a real treat for the people living along the 60-mile body of water to see a cruise ship in their little canal. All along the route, crowds of people were waving at us. A trumpet player in a small sailboat serenaded us. It was a festive event, with spectators in tents and umbrellas, lined up on top of hills.

We visited Rostock, Germany, a large, busy, picturesque city, with architecture very reminiscent of Amsterdam. Most of Rostock's downtown is pedestrian only, no cars. The town square was busy with booths selling all kinds of merchandise. We climbed a tall lighthouse in nearby Warnmunde, a resort city. I saw a teenager with bright green spiked hair. His legs were tattooed in a leopard pattern. The real purpose of the trip was to visit Riga, Latvia. My wife's grandmother came from there. Riga is a beautiful city with ancient buildings, some of which are in need of repair. The city, like so many cities in Eastern Europe, is still recovering from World War Two. But re-

building is occurring. We saw lots of construction cranes.

The port at St Petersburg, Russia (where my father-in-law sailed out of Russia in 1912) is not too pretty. Tons of ship-loading equipment and thousands of containers are on wharves that go on forever. The city has lots of canals and is known as the Venice of the North. We visited the Hermitage, which has the second largest art collection in the world. The feeling of oppression we had in Russia left when we reached Helsinki. It is a lively, modern city with little war damage. It has a wonderful free-spirit feeling.

Changing of the guard in Stockholm is an hour and a half spectacle featuring a band on horseback, jumping soldiers and a parade of blue-uniformed men and women wearing polished silver helmets.

The most charming place we visited was Visby, a walled Swedish town on a small island called Gotland (good land). Narrow cobblestone streets meander between colorful houses with flower boxes. We arrived there early when it was quiet, serene and peaceful. The water was calm. Concrete statues of rams are throughout the city.

We met friends in Copenhagen and had our pictures made by the statue of the Little Mermaid in the harbor. We sailed on a fiord in Norway and saw ski-jump high on a mountain. What a way to say goodbye to summer.

Got News?

Mail it to:
P.O. Box 137
Gail, TX 79738
806/756-4313
ext. 275
email:
kdean@bcisd.net

USDA...

(Continued from Page 1)

cent of which a grower could have elected to receive as an advance payment beginning December 1, 2006.

Based on information issued by USDA when the advance 2007 Direct payment rate was announced, the remaining 78 percent of the 2007 Direct payment will be paid beginning October 1, 2007. Growers who received the 22 percent advance can expect their final 2007 Direct payment to equal approximately 5.2 cents per pound.

In regard to the 2007-crop Counter-cyclical Program, previously released USDA information reminded growers that the 2002 Farm Bill altered the timing and amount of 2007 CC advance payments.

Through the 2006 program year growers had the option to request either two 35 percent advance CC payments

The BORDEN STAR, Wed., September 12th, 2007...7

in December and February, respectively, during the marketing year or a single 70 percent advance in February.

The 2002 Farm Bill changed that for the 2007 CC Program, replacing the dual advance payment option with a single 40 percent advance payable in February of 2008 following the first six months of the 2007 Upland Cotton marketing year that began August 1, 2007. The maximum possible 2007 Upland Cotton CC program remains 13.73 cents.

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posed to commence on or around October 15. Actual sign-up dates in individual counties could be different depending on how quickly USDA can train State and County level Farm Service Agency employees to administer the new program.

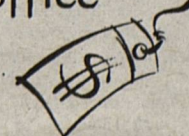
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\$20.00 each



22 - SEPTEMBER 2007

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BRISKET SUPPER 5:00 PM
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YOUTH ART EXHIBIT
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BETA

PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS SPECIAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 6, 2007

PROPOSITION 1 (HJR 103)

HJR 103 would update the constitutional reference to Angelo State University to conform with the statutory transfer of that institution from membership in the Texas State University System to membership in the Texas Tech University System.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment providing for the continuation of the constitutional appropriation for facilities and other capital items at Angelo State University on a change in the governance of the university."**

PROPOSITION 2 (SJR 57)

SJR 57 would authorize the legislature to permit the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to issue up to \$500 million in general obligation bonds to finance educational loans to college and university students, and to enter into bond enhancement agreements.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of \$500 million in general obligation bonds to finance educational loans to students and authorizing bond enhancement agreements with respect to general obligation bonds issued for that purpose."**

PROPOSITION 3 (HJR 40)

HJR 40 would authorize the legislature to limit the maximum appraised value of a residence homestead for property tax purposes in a tax year to the lesser of the most recent appraisal valuation, or 110 percent, or a greater percentage as determined by the legislature, of the appraised value in the preceding tax year.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide that the maximum appraised value of a residence homestead for ad valorem taxation is limited to the lesser of the most recent market value of the residence homestead as determined by the appraisal entity or 110 percent, or a greater percentage, of the appraised value of the residence homestead for the preceding tax year."**

PROPOSITION 4 (SJR 65)

SJR 65 would authorize the legislature to permit the Texas Public Finance Authority to issue up to \$1 billion in general obligation

bonds, the proceeds of which would be dedicated to maintenance, construction, repairs, and equipment purchases, as authorized by the legislature for the following state agencies: the Texas Building and Procurement Commission; the Parks and Wildlife Department; the Department of the Adjutant General; the Department of State Health Services; the Department of Aging and Disability Services; the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired; the Texas Youth Commission; the Texas Historical Commission; the Texas Department of Criminal Justice; the Texas School for the Deaf; and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of up to \$1 billion in bonds payable from the general revenues of the state for maintenance, improvement, repair, and construction projects and for the purchase of needed equipment."**

PROPOSITION 5 (SJR 44)

SJR 44 would authorize the legislature to permit cities with a population of less than 10,000 to hold an election to allow the city to enter into an agreement with a property owner to temporarily freeze taxes on property either in or adjacent to an area approved for funding under the Downtown Revitalization Program or the Main Streets Improvements Program administered by the Department of Agriculture.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit the voters of a municipality having a population of less than 10,000 to authorize the governing body of the municipality to enter into an agreement with an owner of real property in or adjacent to an area in the municipality that has been approved for funding under certain programs administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture under which the parties agree that all ad valorem taxes imposed on the owner's property may not be increased for the first five tax years after the tax year in which the agreement is entered into."**

PROPOSITION 6 (HJR 54)

HJR 54 would authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem tax one motor vehicle owned by an individual that is used by the individual for both business and personal use.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional**

amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation one motor vehicle owned by an individual and used in the course of the owner's occupation or profession and also for personal activities of the owner."

PROPOSITION 7 (HJR 30)

HJR 30 would allow a governmental entity to sell property acquired through eminent domain to its immediately previous owner at the original purchase price, if the public use of the property has been canceled, if no progress is made toward that public use by a prescribed deadline, or if the property is unnecessary to accomplish that public use.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to allow governmental entities to sell property acquired through eminent domain back to the previous owners at the price the entities paid to acquire the property."**

PROPOSITION 8 (HJR 72)

HJR 72 would clarify home equity loan procedures and protections and make conforming changes to the written disclosure provided to the borrower at the loan closing. The amendment would establish that the status of whether property is an agricultural homestead for the purpose of receiving homestead protection, would be determined by whether it was designated for agricultural use on the date of the loan closing. The amendment would provide that a declared state of emergency (e.g., following a natural disaster) would justify execution of a second home equity loan on the same property less than one year after the first home equity loan. It would provide that non-substantive omissions on a loan application would not affect the agreement. It would require a borrower to receive a copy of all executed loan documents, and a disclosure list of fees and costs at closing. It would prohibit the use of preprinted checks for the use of unsolicited loan advances to obtain a home equity line of credit.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to clarify certain provisions relating to the making of a home equity loan and use of home equity loan proceeds."**

PROPOSITION 9 (SJR 29)

SJR 29 would authorize the legislature to exempt all or part of the market value of the residence homesteads of veterans certified as having a service-connected 100 percent

disability rating. SJR 29 would also clarify the progression of property tax exemptions available to veterans who are less than 100 percent disabled.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt all or part of the residence homesteads of certain totally disabled veterans from ad valorem taxation and authorizing a change in the manner of determining the amount of the existing exemption from ad valorem taxation to which a disabled veteran is entitled."**

PROPOSITION 10 (HJR 69)

HJR 69 would remove constitutional references to the former office of inspector of hides and animals.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to abolish the constitutional authority for the office of inspector of hides and animals."**

PROPOSITION 11 (HJR 19)

HJR 19 would require a vote taken in either house of the legislature to be recorded by record vote, if the vote was on final passage of a bill, other than local bills, a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment, or any other resolution that is not purely ceremonial. The record vote must be archived and available for public viewing on the Internet for at least two years.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to require that a record vote be taken by a house of the legislature on final passage of any bill, other than certain local bills, of a resolution proposing or ratifying a constitutional amendment, or of any other nonceremonial resolution, and to provide for public access on the Internet to those record votes."**

PROPOSITION 12 (SJR 64)

SJR 64 would authorize the Texas Transportation Commission to issue up to \$5 billion in general obligation bonds for highway improvement projects, the proceeds of which will be used to pay for projects, costs, and payments owed under related credit agreements.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of general obligation bonds by the Texas Transportation Commission in an amount not to exceed \$5 billion to provide funding for highway improvement projects."**

PROPOSITION 13 (HJR 6)

HJR 6 would authorize the denial of bail to a person who violates conditions of release

in a family violence case and permit the legislature to authorize the denial of bail to a person who violates certain court orders in a family violence case.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the denial of bail to a person who violates certain court orders or conditions of release in a felony or family violence case."**

PROPOSITION 14 (HJR 36)

HJR 36 would limit a state justice or judge's service to December 31st of the fourth year of the term if he/she is elected to all or part of a six year term, and reaches mandatory retirement age during the first four years of said term.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment permitting a justice or judge who reaches the mandatory retirement age while in office to serve the remainder of the justice's or judge's current term."**

PROPOSITION 15 (HJR 90)

HJR 90 would require the legislature to establish the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas, and would provide for its management, duties, and powers. It would authorize the issuance of up to \$3 billion in general obligation bonds to be used for operations and grants for the purpose of scientific research of all forms of human cancer.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment requiring the creation of the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas and authorizing the issuance of up to \$3 billion in bonds payable from the general revenues of the state for research in Texas to find the causes of and cures for cancer."**

PROPOSITION 16 (SJR 20)

SJR 20 would authorize the issuance of up to \$250 million in general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board to provide financial assistance to economically distressed areas of the state to help provide adequate sewer and water supply services for residential use.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of additional general obligation bonds by the Texas Water Development Board in an amount not to exceed \$250 million to provide assistance to economically distressed areas."**

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