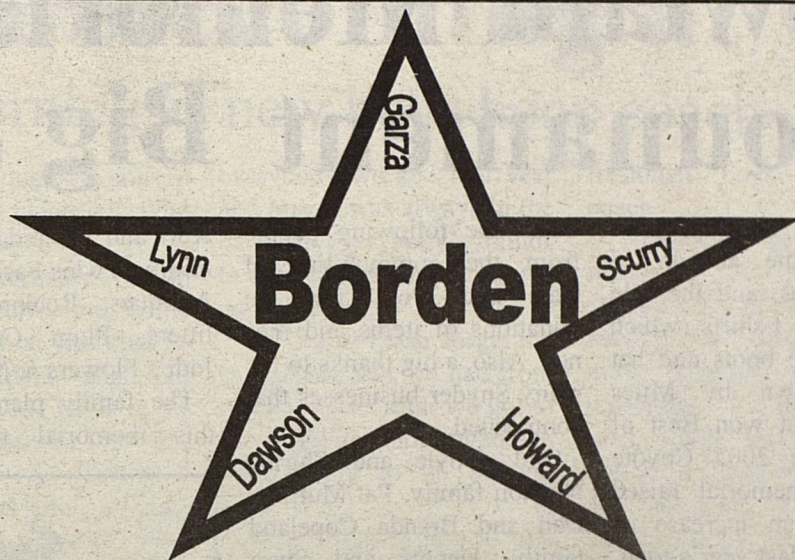


THE

Volume XXXV



STAR

May 30th, 2007

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

Former pupil now teacher

Richey named Avery's replacement at BC

By Dwight Heins,
Lamesa Press-Reporter

Borden County is getting a new head football coach.

But, this guy is anything but new to the Coyote fans, their athletes or — as far as that is concerned — even success.

Borden County Superintendent Jimmy Thomas made it official last week by naming Trey Richey as Bobby Avery's replacement as the Coyotes' head football coach. Richey has been Avery's right hand man at Gail by serving many years as his defensive coordinator, including on their 1997 state six-man championship squad, in addition to being their boy's basketball coach for 14 seasons.

"They way that we looked at it, if Trey wanted to make this transition then we definitely wanted to give him this opportunity to do so," Thomas said of Richey's hiring.

"He's already been such an

integral part of our football program. Our kids just seem to respond well to him just like they always did Coach Avery.

"A good example of that being how our football captains came into our office one day after we all found out that Coach Avery was going to be leaving us. They told me that day that they really didn't have any idea what we had in mind, but as far as they were concerned they wanted Coach Richey as their next head football coach."

Thomas also announced that former Borden County great Fernando Baeza will be returning to Gail, replacing Richey as their head boys' basketball coach. Baeza was a standout on that 1997 state championship grid team.

"We're looking at this guy as another good hire," Thomas said of Baeza. "He's a good young man who's coming to us highly recommended."

Borden County's head

football job became open last month after Avery resigned to take the head job at this high school Alma matter, Whitharral.

"Right now, we're just hoping to do it justice," said Richey.

"Bobby's just set the standards up there so high that it's going to be hard for anyone to match. We're just hoping to continue building on the success that he's developed out here."

During his 17 year reign Avery guided the Coyotes to 12 playoff seasons including to their 1997 state championship season and to the state runners-up trophy in 1998.

"Since we resigned out here, Coach Richey has already taken these guys this spring," Avery said. "He's been working them pretty hard, but these kids have also been working hard for him so we can see a smooth transition. We don't think they'll miss a beat."

Richey has already proven

Cont. to pg. 3



LaNita Avery photo

FOR THE GOOD TIMES

Bobby Avery (far left) and Trey Richey are pictured shortly after last year's playoff win over Dell City in Pecos, which turned out being this successful coaching duo's final win together on the same sidelines. Last month, Avery turned in his resignation to take the head coaching job at his high school alma mater of Whitharral. This week, Richey was named his long-time friend's successor in that coaching post at Gail.

Caden Nowlain Memorial Fishing Tournament Big Success

The 2nd Annual Caden Nowlain Memorial Fishing Tournament was held on Saturday, May 12, at Lake Belton near Temple. Seventy-five fishermen vied for the top prizes, and Borden county ex, James Bond, won the two-fish combined weight prize. Caden's family works hard to get all areas of this benefit tournament either donated or sponsored so that all money raised goes directly to the graduating seniors of BHS. This year was a tremendous success.

Between the registration of fishermen, the auction of donated items, and the sale of sponsored t-shirts (which displayed the boots and hat artwork drawn by Miles Valentine that won Best of Show at the 2005 Coyote Opry) the memorial raised \$12,000.00, an increase of \$1,000 from last year's total. This money will be split evenly among the 2007 Borden County graduates who attend college this next fall.

The family would like to

thank the following people from the communities of Gail and Post for the donations of items and money. Also, a big thanks to the many Snyder businesses that contributed.

Gail: Doyle and Shirley Newton family, Pat Murphy, Dan and Brenda Copeland family, Dennis and Sheri Poole family, Joe Pat and Rhonda Harding family, and the anonymous truck driver who stopped at the Coyote Store.

Post: Mack and Jane Terry,

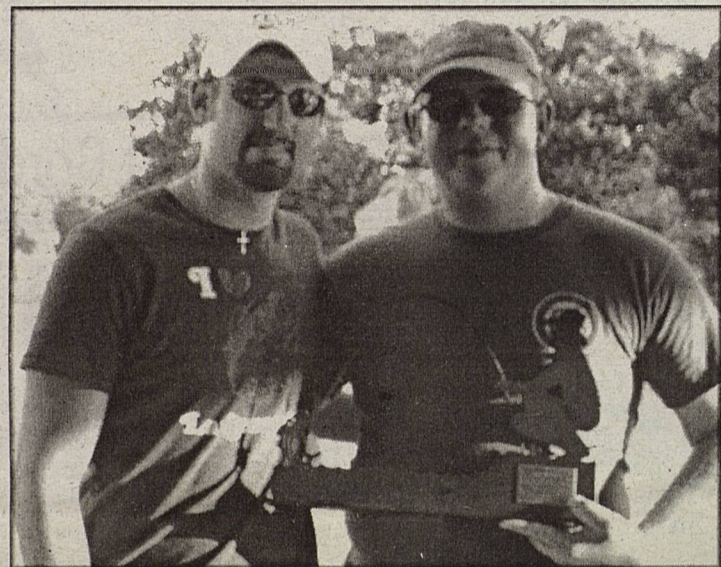
Kurt and D'Linda Chapman family, Twins Fashion, Wow Antiques, Rockin K Outfitters, Plum Crazy, and Jodi's Flowers & Nicknackz.

The family plans to hold this memorial tournament

each year in honor of Caden's memory and as a way to give back some of his helpful spirit to the youth of our community. The tournament is set for the Saturday before Mother's Day.



Six Borden County members of the 2007 senior class participated in the Memorial Fishing Tournament. Those attending were: (L. to R.) Symeron Rinehart, Clint Chapman, Taylor Peterson, Sarah Harding, Jacob Froman and Christina Soto.



Big Catch of the Day: Cody Nowlain presents ex-Borden County graduate James Bond with an award for winning the tournament with a two-fish combined weight.

All-District Honors Awarded

The District 3-1A All-District Baseball Team and honors were announced with several of the Coyote baseball team members receiving honors.

Those receiving recognition were: Co-Newcomer of the Year: Flynn Chapman, freshman;

1st Team Infield/Pitcher, BC senior, Clint Chapman, and junior Quentin Shafer. 2nd Team catcher, Zane Williamson.

The District 3-1A All-District Honorable Mention were all positions: senior Jacob Froman and junior Miller Valentine

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TPA MEMBER
2007
**TEXAS PRESS
ASSOCIATION**

Color Me Healthy Fun Day



You are invited to attend the
Color Me Healthy Fun Day
Wednesday, June 20, 2007
from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Borden County Community Room in Gail.

All youth age 4-7 are invited to join the fun!

We will play games, sign songs, make crafts
and snacks, and learn all about how to
Color Me Healthy!

For more information, or to RSVP, please
contact the Texas Cooperative Extension -
Borden County Office at (806)756-4336 or
borden-tx@tamu.edu.

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

Baeza's homecoming at Gail

Coyote standout returning as new boys hoop coach

By Dwight Heins

Lamesa Press-Reporter

Fernando Baeza helped provide lots of excitement for Borden County fans back in his hey day as a gifted all-around athlete for the Coyotes.

Now, as he prepares for his return trip back to his old stomping grounds, this 1999 Borden County High School graduate just hopes to retain some of that old magic at Gail.

After getting hired this week as a high school teacher and coach, Baeza will be renewed with one of his old coaches in Trey Richey.

Richey is now Borden County's head football coach and Baeza will become his replacement as the Coyotes' head boys basketball coach.

"We're a Coyote again!" Baeza said of his return.

This time, he will be bringing a wife with him back to Gail in Sharon, along

with their young twin sons in Martin and Gabriel who were born on Dec. 9.

If Baeza measures up to being anywhere close to the kind of coach at Gail that he was an athlete, this old Coyote should be a very welcome addition in this program.

Baeza was an all-state safety on the Coyotes' 1997 15-0 state six-man football championship team.

Fernando followed that up by being an all-state running back his senior year on Borden County's 1998 state runners-up team.

One of his teammates on the Coyotes' 1997 state championship football team was his older brother, Oscar who played end and cornerback.

"One of the biggest things that we'll always remember about that team was the camaraderie that we had," Baeza said. "We'll never forget just how hard

everybody worked that year and how it was always in the back of everybody's minds to get to the end that year — no matter what."

We'll also never forget the excitement that we had from week to week after we got to the playoffs about who we were going to be playing next."

As a Coyote, Baeza also played basketball and ran track for Richey.

In basketball, he was like a fixture on their all-district team.

In track, Baeza was a regional qualifier all four years.

After graduating from Abilene Christian University in 2004, Baeza did some student teaching at Snyder before being hired three years ago at Odessa's Nimitz Junior High. This year, he was that school's defensive coordinator on its ninth grade football team in addition to being their head

freshmen boys basketball coach.

"I remember getting an e-mail one day telling me about Coach (Bobby) Avery leaving, but back then we never thought about the possibility of going back home again," Baeza said.

With his old high school football coach Bobby Avery now coaching at Whitharral, Baeza admitted that it is still going to feel somewhat strange returning to Gail.

"It's still going to be tough going back home without Coach Avery being there," Baeza said. "It's not going to feel the same without him (Avery)."

"To me, him and his tradition of excellence were two of the constants at Borden County football is what it's been."

Baeza, however, is thrilled with the idea of getting the chance to work with another one of his ex high school coaches in Richey.

"The way that Coach Richey talked he always wanted to be football first and basketball second, so we're real glad that he's getting this opportunity," Baeza said of Richey.

"It's just going to be like a dream to be coaching with one of the guys who helped get me to thinking about coaching in the first place."

Baeza is also excited about coaching in the same place where he grew up.

"It'll be interesting to get back into that environment again and back around those people with their qualities, values and their great kids," Baeza said. We're also happy to be back around people who had a way of picking me up.

"There are good kids everywhere, but in those smaller schools you just seem to have fewer bad ones."

Richey named Avery's replacement

Cont. from pg. 1

that he has a Midas touch all of his own going back to his own high school playing days.

In a career that saw him roll up over 5,000 yards and score 101 touchdowns, Richey played a big role on Jayton's back-to-back state championship seasons in 1985 and in 1986.

Following his college football career at McMurry in Abilene, Richey began his coaching career at Sunray for one year.

Outside of one year at Stamford, Richey has coached 14 years at Gail.

Richey coached eight of his 14 Coyote boys hoop

squads to post-season appearances. Richey also coached eight boys track squads to district championships, including two State Champs in Trent Pepper in the 3,200 in 1999 and 2000 as well as Garrett Thomas to the 110-meter high hurdles in 2006.

This spring, Richey also coached the Coyotes to a winning season on the diamond.

Richey has also been their head golf coach where he missed going to regionals only once out of his 14 years.

In his only season as their tennis coach, Richey coached a girls doubles team to

regionals.

"We've been pretty blessed as far as getting the chance to be associated with some pretty good kids, good coaches as well as good teammates, along with some supportive communities, which only helped enhance our opportunities," Richey said.

Well aware of Avery's impressive record, Richey does not anticipate making any big changes on the gridiron.

Everybody wants to see what they can do to put their own stamp on something, but our motto's has always

been if something's not broke then why fix it?" Richey said.

As excited as Richey is about his first head coaching job he cannot help but feel like something will be missing whenever the 2007 football season kicks off this fall.

"It's been a match made in heaven," Richey said of his time with Avery.

"But, I guess I can't help but be a little excited about getting the chance to call some of our offensive plays. Hopefully, we'll be able to find a way to work some of the magic which Bobby always had on that (offen-

sive) side."

Getting Baeza back to Gail in the coaching ranks should be a definite plus for Richey this fall.

"He was always a real inspired and fiery athlete who played at the level which most people don't see," Richey said of Baeza.

"He's been like a legend whos still highly thought of out here. Getting somebody like him in here is *definitely* a bonus in this deal."

Forgiving those who hurt us is the key to personal peace.

—G. Weatherly

Annual Awards Assembly

The Annual Awards Assembly was held on May 24th, at 2:50 p.m. in the school auditorium.

Mr. Jimmy Thomas school superintendent gave the welcome to all the students, teachers, parents and guest. He thanked the students for an outstanding school year and praised them for all their hard work and dedication to their school.

Mr. Bart McMeans, school principal announced the Perfect Attendance Awards. Those receiving Perfect Attendance were: **Elementary:** Kenley Dean, Macie Turner, Bryce Turner, Rhaeden Bland, Colby Pennell, Flint Roberts, Sean Tucker, Cayden Vaughn, and Matthew Proulx. **Junior High:** Valerio Hernandez, Riely Smith, Vivian Hernandez, Blake Turner, and Joseph McConnell. **High School:** Michael Cooley, Marla Crenshaw, D'Nae Johnson, Lacey Roberts, Drew Tyler, Shelby Roberts, Miller Valentine, and Christina Soto.

Ms. Sue Jane Mayes, then presented the Beta Club Members. These students had no grade lower than a 90 in a six weeks. The students receiving this award were: Tanner Richey, Mattie

Turner, Bailey Anderson, Taylor Richey, Rachel Wilson, and Becky Dobyns.

The Scholastic Achievement Awards were then presented by Mr. McMeans. These awards were presented to students with a 90 average with no grade lower than .85. Those students receiving this award were: Kayla Pepper, Matthew Roberson, Riley Smith, Teryn Soto, Austin Fields, Blake Turner, John Hensley, Krista Tarleton, Karl Lamming, D'Nae Johnson, Lacey Roberts, Brendan Tarleton, Katherine Froman, Krystal Hobson, Rowdy Clary, and Taylor Peterson.

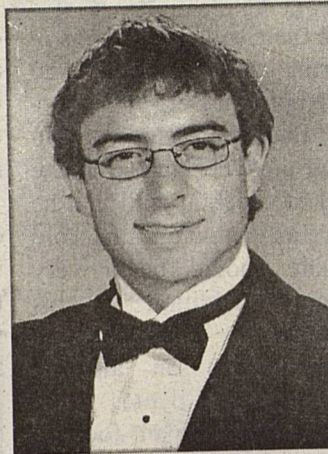
Mr. Bart McMeans then presented the Highest Grade Average. Those receiving awards were as follows: Becky Dobyns, 12th; Rachel Wilson, 11th; Katherine Froman, 10th; Lacey Roberts, 9th; Taylor Richey, 8th; Blake Turner, 7th; and Tanner Richey, 6th.

Mr. Thomas presented

Citizenship Award Winners



Christina Soto



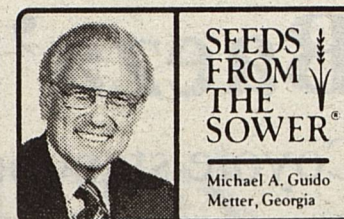
Clint Chapman

the new Beta Club Achievement Awards to the following: Kalli Poole, Lacey Newton, Clint Chapman, Sharelle Gass, Brendan Tarleton, Lacey Roberts, and D'Nae Johnson.

Each year the teachers' select a senior girl and boy they feel are suited to receive the Citizenship Award. This award is based on the students overall attitude towards teachers, fellow students and dependability and

helpfulness to the teachers. This year's Citizenship Awards were presented to Christina Soto and Clint Chapman.

The program was concluded by Mr. Thomas wishing all the students and faculty a safe summer.



A stranger was driving down a country road, and he came upon an old man looking at the ruins of his barn.

"What happened?" he asked. "Roof fell in," he answered. "It leaked so long it got rotten."

"Why didn't you fix it?" he wondered.

"Well," he said, "I never got around to it. When the weather was good, there was no need. When it rained, it was too wet to work."

Don't you think it's time you got around to receiving the Lord? Put it off and you'll perish.

The Bible says, "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the children of God, even to them that believe on His name."

What should you do to stop a friend from driving drunk? Whatever you have to. **Friends don't let friends drive drunk.**



Ray Underwood, right, and Jacquelynne Hendricks, center, employees in the Borden County maintenance section, were honored during a recent supervisors meeting in Abilene. Underwood, a crew chief in the section, was recognized for 20 years of service with the Texas Department of Transportation. Hendricks, the section's office manager, was recognized for her ten years with the department. They were presented framed certificates and service pins to pay tribute to their years with TxDOT. Underwood also received a roadside award kit while Hendricks got a black leatherette tote folio, their gifts of choice. Russel Lenz, left, Abilene District Engineer, presented the awards. (TxDOT photo by Mary Beth Kilgore)

Have a fun and safe summer!!

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you tried and you
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Branon Funeral Home

Lamesa, Texas

Coyote sluggers recognized

BC's Chapman named 3-1A top newcomer

By Dwight Heins,

Lamesa Press-Reporter - nitely a program on the rise in its very first season to even play a district schedule, Borden County's 2007 high school baseball squad did not go unnoticed when it came to the 2007 All-District 3-1A Baseball Team released this week.

In fact, one of the Coyotes players - freshman Flynn Chapman - was tabbed as that league's newcomer of the year, while two others - senior Clint Chapman and junior Quentin Shafer - also earned first-team all-district accolades and senior Zane Williamson picked up second team all-loop accolades at catcher.

Both Chapman and Shafer earned first-team all-district in the infield and on the mound.

Following his all-everything freshman year in high school, Flynn Chapman should be a player to watch in the next three years at Gail.

"This is especially a good honor for having as many good young players as we did in our district," Coyote Coach Trey Richey said of Chapman.

"He's very deserving. If he's worthy enough to make first team all-district as a freshman, then it's a no brainer as far as him also being newcomer of the year. Hamlin also had a freshman who made a huge impact on their team, but whenever you've got a guy who struck out only three times all season long you've done something."

Flynn was also named his league's newcomer of the year last fall in football where he played center and middle line-backer.

"He'll probably be our quarterback and middle linebacker in football, then also on our varsity basketball team before pitching half of our games in baseball next year," Richey said.

"If there's a way that he can improve on what he did as a freshman, he'll do it."

Chapman hit an amazing .663 with 23 RBIs as a freshman for the Coyotes, who at 9-8 enjoyed a winning season in only their second season in many years to even field a high school baseball team at Gail. Borden County's baseballers went 6-8 in a

tough district that was led by league champ Hamlin, which spent a majority of this season ranked as the No. 2 Class 1A baseball team in the state.

Flynn's hits included six doubles and two triples.

"He plays summer ball with the kids over at Post and I guarantee that's helped a ton," Coach Richey said.

"We're talking about a guy who struck out only three times all year."

Flynn's older brother, Clint, also made a big impact on the Coyotes' winning season.

Clint Chapman hit .510 as Borden County's lead-off man. He also drove in 11 RBIs.

He finished the season with 26 stolen bases.

"He got caught stealing only once all season," Richey said of Clint Chapman.

As one of their top pitchers, Clint also fashioned a 1.90 ERA with a 3-3 record. He struck out 47 opposing batters.

Richey summed up Clint Chapman's game in one word.

"Tenacity," Richey said.

"Whenever he got a hit he usually ended up turning it into a triple. Like his little brother (Flynn), Clint also struck out only three times all year. He's one of those kids who just finds a way to put the ball into play.

"Defensively, he was also tremendous at shortstop. He ended up making only four errors all year, which isn't bad, especially for that position.

"One of his biggest positives as a pitcher is that he threw strikes. He didn't walk many batters.

"He's just a real competitive rascal!"

Quentin Shafer finished the year with a .390 batting average. Four of Shafer's hits were doubles. He also drove in 14 RBIs.

On the mound, Shafer sported a 3-2 pitching record with two saves and a 3.25 ERA.

"In the last 12 innings that he pitched, the only thing that he gave up was one little dribbler hitter," Richey said. "Quentin pitched real well down the stretch. He probably had more

“ This is especially a good honor for having as many good young players as we did in our district.

- Trey Richey on BC's newcomer

” stuff than any of our other pitchers. He did a good job of setting up his fast ball with his curve as well as a knuckle curve. He ended up being one of our tougher pitchers in our district. In five innings against Ira, he didn't give up any hits and Ira was the second place team out of our district.

"He's just one of those players who's just so fundamental."

Zane Williamson hit .365 his senior year, including six doubles. He also drove in 16 RBIs.

"He played his position extremely well, especially for a guy who never played it before," Richey said of Williamson.

"He ended up throwing out four runners, including two from his knees. He's just got a rocket for an arm.

"He's another competitor. He's one of our kids who didn't grow up playing baseball, but he stepped in and ended up playing it real well, so it was good to see him get rewarded for it."

All of this season's success should help give the Coyote sluggers something to build on in the future on the diamond.

"Our guys competed real well. We didn't do anything to embarrass ourselves and we've got a good nucleus to come back and build around next year," Richey said.



MOUND MASTER

Borden County's Quentin Shafer is one of four Coyote athletes named to the all-District 3-1A Baseball Team released this week. The Coyotes' other honorees are Flynn Chapman, Clint Chapman and Zane Williamson.

A Benefit Luncheon

A Benefit Spaghetti Luncheon for Brenda Copeland will be held on Sunday, June 3rd at the First Baptist Church in Gail following morning services from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00. The benefit is to assist with medical expenses.

Brenda was taken to Lubbock on Friday, May 18th after suffering severe burns and will be unable to work for several weeks.

The menu will consist of spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and desert. Everyone is invited to dine-in or carry-out. Donations may also be sent to the FBC at PO Box 297, Gail, TX 79738. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

Commissioner's Court Meeting

WHEREAS, On this the 8th day of May, 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 L. 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 constituting a quorum, when the following proceedings were had, in accordance with the posted agenda.

MINUTES APPROVED

Minutes of the Commissioners Court meetings of April 23rd, 2007 were read. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve said minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS ALLOWED

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

BORDEN COUNTY REPORTS

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

EXTENSION AGENT

Jet Majors, District Extension Agent, and Julie Smith, Family and Consumer Sciences Agent Position, met with the Court. Commis-

sioner Adcock made a motion to accept Cody Hill as Borden County Agriculture Agent starting June 1, 2007. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CAUSE NO. 1158

Commissioner Adcock made a motion to retain legal counsel of Allison, Bass and Associates, L.L.P. to defend Borden County in Law Suit, Cause No. 1158, Kent W. Holmes and Ollie J. Holmes vs. Borden County, Texas. Commissioner Belew seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DEPOSITORY BANK

As advertised, bids for Depository Bank for a period of two years for Borden county Public Funds were opened at 9:00 a.m. Bids were received from Snyder National Bank, Snyder, Texas; American State Bank, Snyder, Texas; West Texas State Bank, Snyder, Texas; and State National Bank, big

Spring, Texas. After reviewing the bids and making comparisons for services and interest on payments and accounts, Commissioner Belew made a motion to accept Snyder National Bank's bid. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried.

BORDEN COUNTY WATER

Upon recommendation of Rich Oller, with Oller Engineering, Inc. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to accept Triple L. Utilities bid for work on the water tanks at a total cost of \$308,500.00 for the project. Work should begin about June 1, 2007. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FUEL BIDS

AS advertised, bids were opened at 9:30 a.m. for the purchase of Fuel and Propane. A bid was received from United Energy of Snyder. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to table the bid. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR FUTUTE AGENDA

No new items presented to the Court.

ADJOURN

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

THE FOREGOING MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 22nd day of May, 2007.



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Email:
vadcock@bcisd.net

HOUSE FOR SALE

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Frances Rains Stephens
O'Donnell
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Legal Notice

The Commissioners' Court of Borden County will receive bids on the following until 9:30 a.m., June 12, 2007.

- 1.. Fuel for 2007
 - a. unleaded
 - b. diesel
2. Propane for Courthouse, and Precinct #2 Barns

For specifications and information on the above, contact the office of the County Judge, Borden County Courthouse, 806/756-4391.

Bids should be submitted to the Office of the County Judge, P.O. Box 156, Borden County Courthouse, Gail, Texas 79738.

The right is reserved by the Borden County Commissioners' Court to accept or reject any and all bids.

For the Borden County Commissioners' Court
Van L. York,
County Judge
Borden County

Submit bids to: County Judge's Office
P.O. Box 156
Gail, Texas 79738

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: **Abilene**
Contract **6132-43-001** for "ON DEMAND" MBGF REPAIR in FISHER County, etc. will be opened on **June 21, 2007** at 2:00 p.m. at the District Office for an estimate of **\$271,082.50**.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Pre-qualified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div. Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 23588

State Office
Constr./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office (s)
Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, TX 79604-0150
Phone: 325-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Texas Stories

A showcase of the Texas Spirit

Tumbleweed Smith
Part owner of Texas



It's Amazing What One Person Can Do

JG Baker of Friona has a lot to show for his time on earth. "I've always wanted to see what was around the next corner," he says. "By the time I was seventeen I had been to 28 states riding freight trains.

He left home in 1931 when he was sixteen.

"There'd been sometimes as many as three hundred burns of freight trains back then."

He learned an important lesson about getting on a moving train.

"Never try to catch a train you can't outrun."

He says during depression years nearly everybody was out of work.

"I've worked for as little as a nickel an hour and done a lot of it. Money was scarce. Fifty cents a day was a good wage for several years. First fourteen months me and my wife was married we spent a total of 74 dollars for gas and oil and groceries. Now you spend that every other day."

He started a custom grain harvesting business that took him all over the western states. As a hobby he made furniture.

"Run them old combines all summer and come home in winter and work in my woodwork shop."

JG's workmanship is of a high quality. He makes church furniture and gives it away.

"I give it to churches that had some sort of disaster, I

try to give away a set every year and I've done that several years. A set has a pulpit, communion table, two chairs, two lecterns, and two flower stands."

He has made 1,250 clocks and given most of them away. He gave me one and it's in a prominent place in my office. His name is on every clock he makes. JG carves things. He made a pocketknife with two blades from one piece of wood. People ask him to make things, like a pool cue or oversize dominoes for a man with limited sight. He has made dozens of pet caskets. He made 175 meat blocks, 54 during one winter season. Mr. Baker has a store in downtown Friona filled with furniture he has made. His workshop is the size of a hangar. Of course he built it by himself. Mr. Baker plays the didgeridoo, raises geese, collects Indian baskets and has a large garden filled with rhubarb, asparagus, okra, tomatoes and peppers.

JG Baker is 90 years old. He has made some of the tools and equipment he uses. His daughter bought an old hotel and turned it into a residence. Mr. Baker helped with the renovation and made a lot of the furniture in it. When I asked him for an interview I told him I had about 30 minutes to spend with him. I left about three hours later. It was time well spent.



Go west young man! The eerie sounds of Indian raids, gun shots, and the tales of life on the frontier held the elementary students interest. The third, fourth, and fifth graders toured Frontier Texas in Abilene on May 22nd for their spring field trip. Life on the frontier of Texas was exciting, but treacherous. Students enjoyed climbing aboard a stagecoach, as they heard the tales of life on the Frontier of Texas.

What's Killing Our Teens?

U.S. Survey Describes The Factors Contributing to Vehicle rashes

(NAPS)—From cell phones to chatty friends, teens are driving under very risky conditions that contribute to motor vehicle crashes, their No. 1 killer. According to nearly 6,000 high school students surveyed by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and State Farm, most teens recognize the hazards of drinking and driving, but there is a long list of distractions and other factors that lead to teen auto crashes. In the National Young Driver Survey, teens admitted to driving under extremely dangerous conditions, including while talking on cell phones, text messaging, driving fatigued, riding with multiple passengers, having high emotions, speeding and not wearing seat belts.

"Research has told us a lot about which teens get into crashes, but we don't know enough about the why," says Laura K. Winston, M.D., Ph.D., co-scientific director and founder of the Center for Injury Research and Prevention at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and principal investigator of the National Young Driver Survey. "With this survey, we asked teens directly: What is happening when your peers drive that is making them unsafe?"

Key findings about teen experiences in cars show:

- 75 percent of teens see peers driving fatigued
- 90 percent see passenger behavior that distracts the driver
- 20 percent of 11th graders report being in a crash as a driver in the past year

The survey also revealed the important role that the teens see for their parents:

- 66 percent say that they care about their parents' opinions on cell phone use while driving

- 56 percent of them rely on parents to learn how to drive
- 39 percent of their parents provide total financial responsibility for their driving.



In 2005, almost 7,500 15- to 20-year-old drivers were involved in fatal crashes, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The fatality rate for drivers aged 16 to 19, based on miles driven, is four times that of drivers aged 25 to 69 years.

"Our goal is to help young drivers become better drivers and to make the roads safer for all," says Laurette Stiles, vice president strategic resources at State Farm. "We want to provide the tools and resources to help teens avoid haz-

ards, make better decisions and ultimately to save lives. By combining the research expertise of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the vast resources available at State Farm, this multi-year research and outreach initiative will make a difference in saving lives."

As the first phase of this research, State Farm and The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia conducted the National Young Driver Survey. The findings represent 10.6 million ninth-, 10th- and 11th-grade students in all public high schools in the United States.

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and State Farm have a proven track record in conducting research and implementing programs that have helped reduce injuries and fatalities of children in motor vehicle crashes through Partners for Child Passenger Safety. Parents and teens can learn more about the latest research and recommendations on safe driving for teens at www.chop.edu/youngdrivers and www.statefarm.com.

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GREAT GRILLING

Fire Up For Grilling Season

(NAPS)—Firing up the grill is a great way to get outside and enjoy the weather with family, friends and, of course, delicious food. And while the classic cookout spread of hamburgers and hot dogs will always be on the menu, this year you may see more non-traditional foods and flavors gracing grills. Grilling expert and host of "Barbecue America" on PBS, Rick Browne, has noticed a trend in home cooks trying new grilling ingredients to create unique dishes and encourages everyone to take the leap.

"There is no limit to the various tastes and flavors that can be used in outdoor cooking," Browne says. "Grilling is about exploring new seasonings and marinades to create an overall unique and delicious taste."



Partnering with Bush's Baked Beans, Browne created a series of recipes that combine fresh flavors with hearty entrées. The recipes, along with cookout tips, party-planning ideas and ingredient checklists, are featured in the online "What to Grill Guide," available free at www.bushbeans.com/grillingguide. Here is a sneak peak at one of the new recipes.

I've learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends on our dispositions and not on our circumstances.

-Martha Washington

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Chipotle Orange Glazed Chicken With Original Baked Beans

Serves: 6

Preparation time: 10 minutes
Cooking time: 20 minutes

Glaze*

½ cup frozen orange juice
concentrate, thawed and
undiluted
2 tablespoons chipotle
pepper sauce
1 tablespoon honey

Mix orange juice concen-
trate, chipotle pepper sauce
and honey until blended and
set aside.

6 chicken breasts (8 ounces
each)

1 orange, cut into wedges
1 can (28 ounces) Bush's®
Original Baked Beans

Start grill and bring to
medium heat (350° F). Place
chicken breasts on grill and
cook, turning occasionally,
until they reach internal tem-
perature of 170° F.

Brush chicken generously
with orange glaze sauce and
grill for 5 additional minutes.
Squeeze orange wedges over
chicken and serve with a gen-
erous side of Original Baked
Beans.

*Glaze variations:

For orange honey glaze:
Omit chipotle pepper sauce
and increase honey to 2 table-
spoons.

For orange honey mustard
glaze: Omit chipotle pepper
sauce and add 2 tablespoons
of Dijon mustard.



Got News?

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Grilling Tips From Grilling Guru Rick Browne:

- **Put a lid on it!** Taking too many peeks at the food is the primary grilling mistake people make. Every time you open the lid, you lose 15 minutes of cooking time.
- **Don't get too saucy.** Never put on barbecue sauce until the last 10 minutes to avoid an unappetizing crust on the food.
- **Safety comes first.** For safe grilling, use a meat thermometer to test the internal temperature.
- **Sweeten the platter.** Dip pineapple, pears or peach halves in melted butter, sprinkle with a brown sugar-nutmeg-cinnamon mixture and grill for a wonderful dessert.
- **More than a side.** Make any grilling meal complete with America's favorite side dish, Bush's Baked Beans. Serve alone or use to add extra flavor to your favorite dish. For more grilling tips and tricks, check out the "What to Grill Guide" at www.bushbeans.com/grillingguide.



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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."

Summer Sizzle

Do you enjoy the Home for the Holidays programs each year? Then you will LOVE what we have coming for you this Summer! Come join us for our first Summer Sizzle program with wonderful light and tasty recipes, tips for cooking with herbs, easy summer decorations, food safety, and family fun ideas! There will be a cost of \$5 per person to cover supplies and the recipe book. The favor of a reply is requested to help plan for materials and food.

Please note the date change!

Thursday, June 14th @ 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room

Home Water Conservation

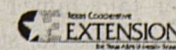
Our most precious resource is something we cannot imagine living without. However, we must conserve today in order to have a water source for tomorrow. Join us as we learn about basic practices that you can easily implement in your home to conserve water today.

Monday, July 16th @ 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room

Saving the Fruits of Summer

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.

Monday, August 13th @ 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room



Sponsored by Texas Cooperative Extension-Borden County
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