

The

Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXIV

February 27, 2013

How It All Began, The History of Borden County Schools The West Point School

Editor's Note: The following school story was compiled by Mae Stephens for the Borden County Historical Newsletter. The date on this edition was not available but included a note that leads us to believe it was published in 1965.

West Point School

In the summer of 1909, E. S. Marley organized a school district in the western part of Borden County. With some help from the neighbors, he built a one-room school on the west side of his section and called it "West Point."

Mr. Marley had a teenage boy and girl and four grandchildren: Othello, Merrit, Stella, and Ella Carrol. There were three teenage Jones children who lived on Tobacco Creek who attended the first school. Kate Grigsby taught the first school and boarded with Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Orson.

The next summer they moved the school to a ridge southwest of the Buck Canyon Bridge. Ray Doyle, a niece of Mrs. D. Dorward, taught his term and it was attended by the Carrol children: Thelma, Dee, and Eunice Turner, children of Walter Turner. Mr. Turner owned part of the ranch which

was later bought by W. D. Johnson. Tama, Jim, and Ruth Pratt began school that year. They lived five miles north in the head of Buck Canyon. Lenora Rogers, who is now

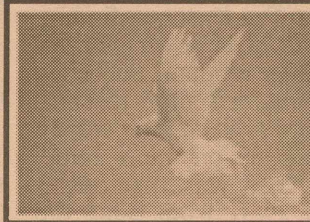
Mrs. Blanton Street, taught the third school and Mamie Fields the fourth. Mary Ingram taught the fifth school term.

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Borden County School

Dedication

The Board of Trustees and Administration of the Borden County JSD would like to extend an invitation to the community to attend the new school dedication to be held on
Friday, March 8th, 2013
at 10:00 a.m.
in the school auditorium.
After the ceremony, guests are invited to tour the school and eat lunch in the school cafeteria. There will be no charge.



Dare to Live Without Limits

By Bryan Golden

Breaking the Rules

We all grow up being indoctrinated with rules that limit us. The purveyors of this information are not malicious. They are simply passing along what they themselves have been taught.

You are probably aware of one or more of the following rules. Decide for yourself if you have been limited by any of them.

Don't rock the boat — This rule encourages conformity. Conformity offers a protection from criticism. But those who succeed don't care about criticism. They become adept at new or better ways of doing things in spite of opinions.

Nice guys finish last — According to this maxim, being nice is a recipe for failure. Therefore, if you want to succeed you may have to compromise your ethics. In actuality, those who consistently do the best are nice, considerate, and concerned about the well being of others.

It takes money to make money — There are so many examples of wealthy individuals who have started from scratch, that it's odd this rule still persists at all.

It's not what you know but who you know — Granted, networking with the right people can accelerate goal

achievement. However, if you connect with the right people but have no expertise, any edge will be lost and you will develop a reputation as a fraud. You don't have to start with connections. With persistence, you will meet the right people.

Be concerned about what others think — You have to do what is right for you. It doesn't matter what others say, think, or do. Follow your own path.

Don't take chances — Living is taking a chance. Nothing is guaranteed. If something doesn't work out as desired, adjust your strategy and keep going. Virtually all achievement is the result of taking chances.

It's the way things have always been done — If mankind had followed this rule, we would still be living in the Stone Age. Doing things differently leads to improvements. Ask questions. Don't perpetuate behavior that makes no sense.

Good things never last — Life has its ups and downs. With the right attitude, effort, action, and perseverance, you can have a lot more good than bad. Take an active role in what happens to you. Don't settle for what you don't want.

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Lady Coyotes Get Knocked Out, But What A Game!

By Coach Skelton

The last article of the year is always tough to write, and the girls must understand it because for the 2nd year in a row they have finished their season giving everything they have. Last season effort against Whitharral was one of the top 5 games I have been a part of, and this season the girls had several games that were great efforts. LCHS at home during our tourney, Grady at home, and the playoff game against Grady the other night will definitely challenge the all-time effort games of my career. Words cannot describe the joy I felt working on a game plan and seeing these young ladies do everything in their power to make those ideas work. We knew Grady was going to press us, and we knew if we handled it we could score. The game started just like we thought it would, and our guards handled the ball, and Kaylyn Dean proceeded to knock down her first five shots in the first quarter scoring ten of our fourteen. However as great as things were going the Lady Coyotes were down 16-14. However in the second quarter the Lady Coyotes rallied and flipped the first quarter scoring and tied the game 30-30 heading into the half.

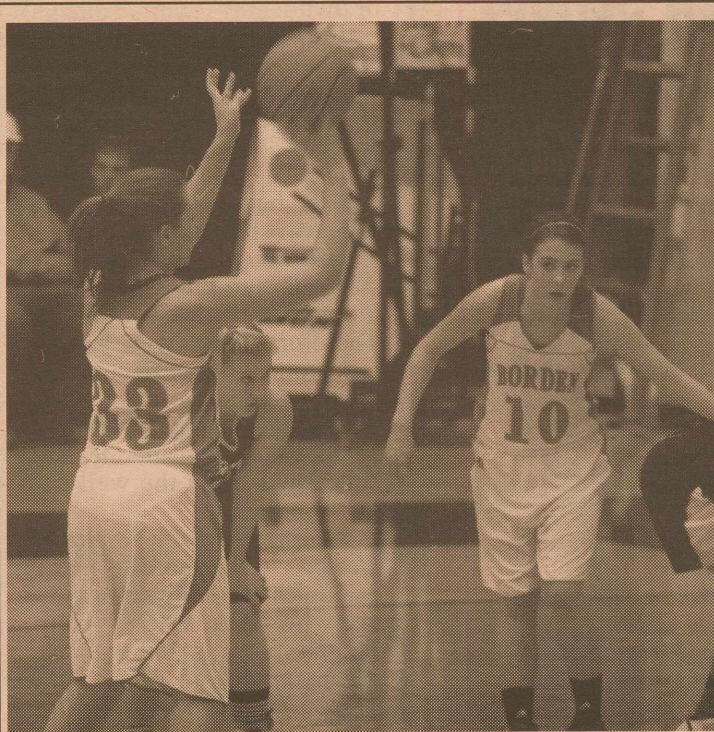
The Lady Coyotes came out and had opportunities early to score, but the shots just didn't seem to go in. The Grady Lady Wildcats pulled away a little going into the fourth quarter up 43-39. Then Kylie Voss found the zone scoring fourteen of her twenty-three points in the fourth quarter. She hit four 3's two of which were huge late game shots, and one tied the game up with roughly 47 seconds left to go in the game. However it just wasn't meant to be Grady came down the court took a shot missed off the long rebound managed to find the best player 25 feet away from the basket, and drained the shot with 6 seconds left to go in the game. Lady Coyotes' season came to an end in a dramatic fashion losing 58-55.

I couldn't have been prouder of these young ladies. They never quit every time Grady tried to pull away someone answered the bell. I remember thinking we need something to happen here, and on cue someone would do something. Clair Shafer getting a steal off the press, Taylor Gass or Tye Basquez finding the open player down the floor after a huge rebound, the bench selling out, or Seniors just battling hard to keep their season going for just one more game. Kylie Voss was just one 3 pointer away from tying the school record for most 3 point makes in a game held by Emliy Mayes and Olivia Key. It was an awesome effort and a great representation of just how are these girls work. The Lady Coyotes finished the season 25-9 and words can't express how proud I am of these girls and this team.

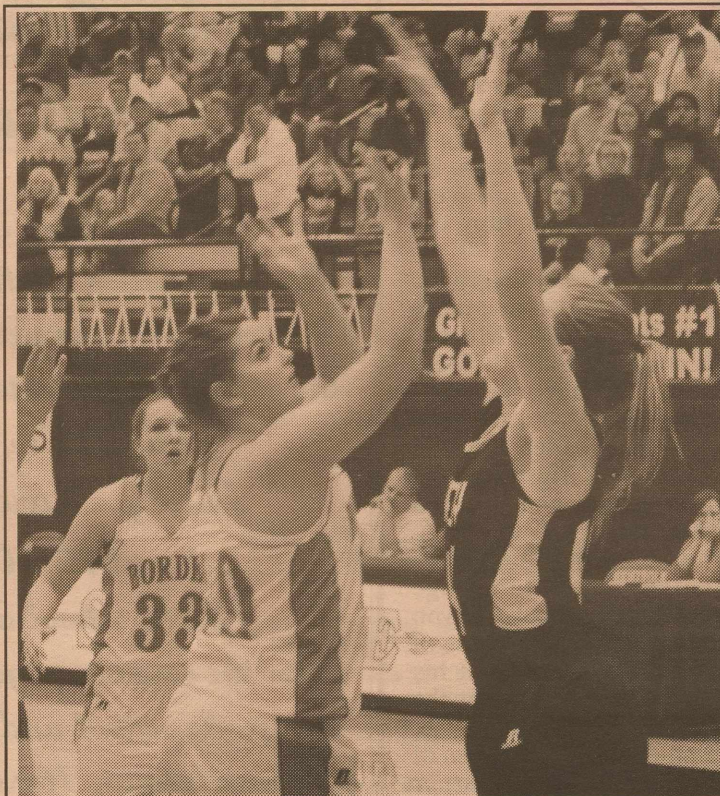
Scores: Kylie Voss 23, Kaylyn Dean 16, Taylor Gass 8, Tye Basquez 4, Clair Shafer and Mckenna Campbell 2



Lady Coyotes! The Lady Coyotes huddle up before going to battle against the Grady Lady Wildcats last week. The Ladies lost the nailbiter 58-55 when Grady's Ellyn Avery shot a 3 pointer with just 6 seconds left in the game. Congratulations Ladies on a great year!



Taylor Gass (#10) looks on as Senior, Kylie Voss shoots a freethrow during last weeks' Regional Semi-Quarterfinal game against the Grady Lady Wildcats.



Lady Coyote and senior, Kaylyn Dean, shoots over Grady's Ellyn Avery and scores for Borden County.

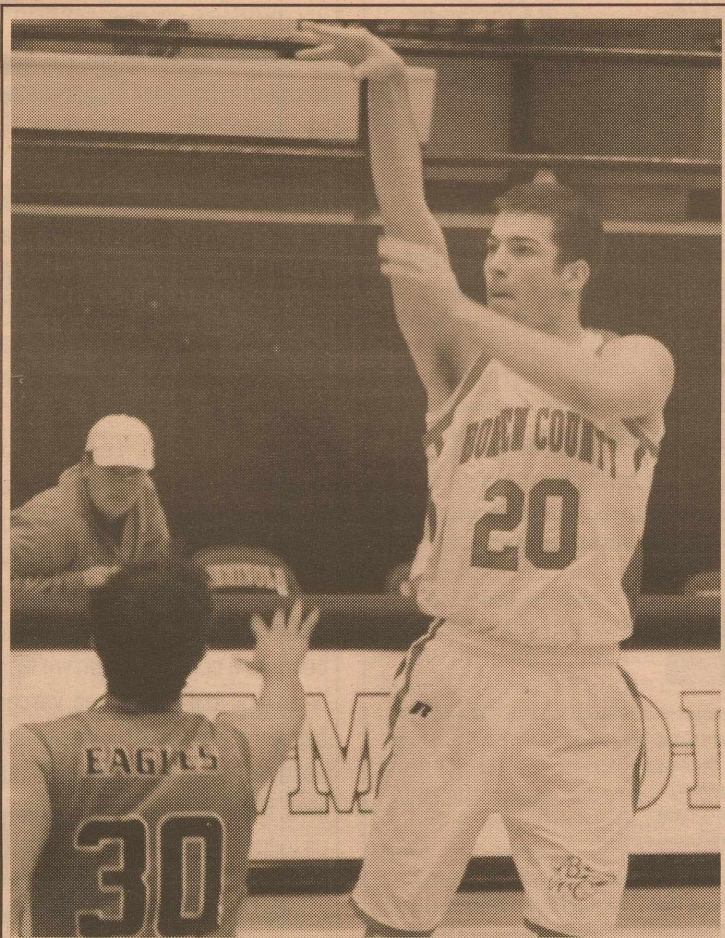
The Ropes Eagles Shoot Their Way to a 52-33 Win Over State Ranked Borden Coyotes

By Coach Edwards

After trailing 12-4 early in the first quarter, the Ropes Eagles went on a 26-2 run to help secure a Bi-District victory over the Borden County Coyotes. Ropes' defense pestered the Coyotes all night forcing them into 24 turnovers and kept them from getting into any kind of rhythm. Borden trailed 43-22 starting the fourth quarter and was able to cut the gap to 10 points, but the Eagles managed to make seven of nine free throws to end the Coyotes run.

Tanner Richey led the team in scoring with 13 points followed by Jared Smith and Helio Rosales with six points. Kurt Shafer added four points while T.J. Basquez and Korbin Martinez contributed two points.

Borden ends their season with a 22-7 record. Borden's seven losses come to the hands of Ropes, Grady, Sands, LCHS and Crowell which all still playing in the regional quarterfinals.



Although Coyote senior, Tanner Richey takes a shot and scores, Borden County is unable to stop the Eagles in what will be a loss for the Coyotes in last weeks' play-off game in Seminole.

Making the Grade!

4th Six-Weeks Beta Achievement

Senior: Shea Burkett, Jordan Day, Hanna Forbes, Tanner Richey, Matthew Roberson, Steelie Sanders, Jared Smith, and Riley Smith; **Junior:** Sydnie Day, Taylor Gass, Maeghan Herridge, Kalyn Maassingill, Mollie McMeans, Matt Proulx and Kurt Shafer; **Sophomore:** McKenna Campbell; **Freshman:** Samuel Raborn, Tatum Richey and Nathan Souder; **Eighth Grade:** Savannah Herridge, Kace Lott and Corbin Summers; **Seventh Grade:** Preslea Hall, Harley Merrill and Trace Richey; **Sixth Grade:** Myka Blissard, Madison Cole, and Paige Holbrooks.

4th Six-Weeks Honor Roll

Senior: Celina Guerrero and Kylie Voss; **Junior:** T.J. Basquez, Cassie Gaines, Mallory McMeans and Zach McMeans; **Sophomore:** Frank Banman, Bessie Rhodes Hurrikane Richter and Sean Tucker; **Freshman:** Holly Bradbury, Zoie Key, Caelan Thuett, Cheyenne Tucker and Merik Valentine; **Eighth Grade:** Madison Benavidez, Hayley Gray, Sydnee Jordan, and Avery Price; **Seventh Grade:** Carley Bell; **Sixth**

Grade: Lucan Grantham and Brooke Swaffar.

Fifth Grade: Jake Avey, Chris Bell, Kaitlyn Cribbs, Fallon Forbes, Dymon Gomez, Anthony Lopez, Zeke Lott, Hailey Lowery, Makenzie Milhauser, Olivia Reyes, Jason Robinson, Brad Thomas, Tatum Treadwell, Connor Wagner, Brittany Walker and Kaylee Walker; **Fourth Grade:** Kylie Barnes, Keigan Benavidez, Mason Cole, Sydni Coor, Trey Edwards, Connor Etheridge, Haddie Flanigan, Kaci Hudson, Tommy Kingston, Klancey Kleck, Trent Lewis, Ashlyn Lott, Maggie Miller, Erin Nix, Morghan Oaks, Gunner Shofner, Gabriella Skelton, Maddye Summers, Kennedy Tucker, Leandre von der Bank, Justin Willborn and Miles Wilson; **Third Grade:** Savannah Avey, Rae'Lynne Clement, Noemi Garcia, Brooklyn Gray, Tatum Harrison, Jadeyn Merrill, Shelby Milhauser, Lindy Miller, Ryann Phillips, Charli Snell, Kelly Spencer, Ethan Stephens and Rachel Thomas; **Second Grade:** Callie Edwards, Rebekah Kiefer, Jaclyn McNeely, Dallie Miller, Isaiah Mitton, Allie Murphy, J. Tom Price, Oliver Skelton, Shane Todd and George Wagner.



Kurt Shafer dribbles past a Ropes opponent toward the goal.

School Lunch Menu

Mar. 4 - 8, 2013

Menu Subject to Change

Monday - Breakfast: Pop Tart, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Chicken Parmesan, green Beans, Salad, Apple Slices, Breadstick, and Milk.

Tuesday - Breakfast: Cereal & Graham Cracker, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Tangerine Chicken, Brown Rice, Baby Carrots, Steamed Broccoli, Snowball Salad, and Milk.


Wednesday - Breakfast: Biscuit & Sausage, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Tex-Mex Stack, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, Garden Salad, Salsa, Hot Cinnamon Apples and Milk.

Thursday - Breakfast: Egg Patty & Toast, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Stuffed BBQ Potato, Baby Carrots, Texas Toast, Fresh Fruit Bowl and Milk.


Friday - Breakfast: Muffin Variety, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Hamburger, Hamburger Garnish, Potato Rounds, Western Beans, Diced Pears and Milk.

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Heart and Home...

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Genetically Modified Food

I have recently had several people ask me about Genetically Modified Foods, so here is a little background on them. This article was written by our specialists.

What is a genetically modified food?

Genetically modified foods are foods that have been created with or derived from genetically modified organisms (GMOs). A GMO is an organism (micro-organism, plant, fish or mammal) whose genetic material (DNA) has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally. This technology is often referred to as biotechnology or genetic engineering. It allows selected individual genes to be transferred into or removed from an organism.

What are the benefits of genetically modified foods?

Genetically modified foods are developed and sold because there is a perceived advantage to the farmer, producer, or consumer. For example, the first genetically modified food was the Flavr Savr™ delayed ripening tomato. This benefitted the farmer, producer, and consumer. The farmer and producer had more time to sell a fresher product. The consumer received a fresher product, which had a longer shelf life. Moreover, genetic engineering helped protect the Hawaiian papaya crops from the devastating papaya ringspot virus—this was a benefit to the farmer who could have lost a lot of money had his crop died. For consumers, genetically modified crops can be enhanced to improve the nutritional value of foods, such as increasing levels of beta-carotene in rice to reduce vitamin A deficiencies.

What are the governmental regulations for genetically modified food? Are they safe?

The regulation of genetically modified foods varies

based on the country. Some countries do not regulate these foods. In the US, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) work to ensure that genetically engineered crops produced for commercial use are properly assessed to safeguard that they pose no significant risk to consumers or the environment. Products are regulated according to their intended use; some products being regulated by multiple agencies. For example: in food safety specifically, new traits in genetically engineered plants are inspected by both the EPA and FDA. The proteins produced by the altered genetic material are tested to determine whether they may be potentially toxic or cause an allergic reaction.

Some examples of the information that the FDA reviews include:

- The name of the food and the crop it is derived from;
- The use of the food;
- The source, identities, functions and stability of introduced genetic material;
- The purpose or intended effect of the genetic modification and its expected effect on composition or characteristics of the food;
- The identity and function of any new products encoded by the introduced genetic material;
- A comparison of the composition or characteristics of the genetically engineered food to the original food or other commonly consumed variety;
- Information on whether the genetically modified food altered the potential of the food to induce an allergic reaction; and,
- Other relevant information for the safety and nutritional

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Thought for the Day

Faith is the avenue to salvation. Not intellectual understanding. Not money. Not your works. Just simple faith. How much faith? The faith of a mustard seed, so small you can hardly see it. But if you will put that little faith in the person of Jesus, your life will be changed. He will come with supernatural power into your heart. It can happen to you.
 -Billy Graham

Dare to Live...

(Continued from Page 1)

Don't put all your eggs in one basket — This isn't necessarily a bad rule. The danger is that it detracts from your focus. Often it is better to put your eggs in one basket, and then put all of your energy into guarding that basket.

You have to be lucky to succeed — Of course luck helps. But the harder you work, the more luck you'll have. Luck determines lottery winners. Effort determines success in life. Passively sitting around waiting for circumstances to improve won't yield any positive results.

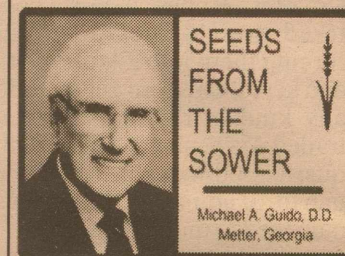
Money is the root of all evil — People use this one to justify why they are not earning as much as they would like. The original statement is that love of money is the root of all evil. Money is simply a tool that can be used for constructive or destructive purposes.

Money is earned as a result of one's service to others.

Don't daydream — Dreams are the foundation for all accomplishment. Thoughts of situations that don't yet exist are a great motivator. Dreams give a person a vision of what could be. All that has been accomplished throughout history started with a dream.

Don't hesitate to break any rules that limit your success. If a rule doesn't help you or someone else, ignore it.

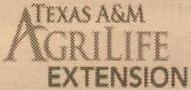
Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at bryan@columnist.com. © 2005 Bryan Golden



Charley Boswell was an outstanding football player for the University of Alabama. He also excelled in baseball and dreamed of one day becoming a professional baseball player. Unfortunately, he lost his eyesight during the Second World War. However, losing his eyesight did not destroy him, it drove him onward. He became the National Blind Golf Champion seventeen times!

One day he said, "I never count what I have lost, I only count what I have." When we enter a time of difficulty and distress we can rise to the challenge and become a champion or we can cringe and become a coward. When we face hardships and heartaches, we can become better if we have faith and believe that God is at work in our lives. Having faith in God will enable us to turn what could be a tragedy into a triumph, a problem into a solution and what seems to be the end into a new beginning.

Visit us at: SowerMinistries.org


 SPRING
 into Simple...


You are invited to join us on **Tuesday, March 19th** at 6:00 p.m. in the Borden County Event Center for a Spring program focusing on **simplifying** your life through meal planning, budgeting and home organization.

Enjoy a sampling of a few simple recipes and make an easy take-home project (for even the least creative people).

Cost is \$15 per person (will cover supplies and recipe/idea booklet).

Please RSVP by Friday, March 15th (to allow for enough supplies) at 5:00 p.m. to (806)756-4336, via Facebook or julie.smith@agnet.tamu.edu

[The date has been changed due to the rescheduling of District 4-H Food Challenge Contest from February 25th to March 4th because of inclement weather.]



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Early Schools of Borden County

By Lisa Dennis Mahler

Schools have always been an important aspect of life in Borden County. Not only do the schools provide an excellent education, they also provide a much-needed sense of community for our sparsely populated county.

Created in 1876, Borden County wasn't organized until 1891. Beginning in the late 1870s, a few cattlemen and their families braved the remote Borden County frontier to establish ranches. With the last of the Comanche tribes contained, the sight of wide-open country filled with tall grass welcomed Borden County settlers. These early cattlemen often hired a school-teacher to live on their ranches and teach their children and those of the many ranch hands required to support these far-flung operations. One early teacher was Minnie Russell who taught the Doyle and Shaw children at the Salt Springs School. Minnie later married David Dorward, a local cowboy. David later became a self-taught druggist for the county; his building still stands north of the courthouse.

The first County Commissioners Court convened on April 1, 1891. For that first year, the Commissioners emphasized roads, bridges and schools; taxes were levied to pay for these county improvements. Another early emphasis was the control of predators and farming pests. Listings of bounty money paid for the scalps of wolves/lobos, coyotes, bobcats, prairie dogs and rabbits filled many pages of court minutes.

Education was an early priority in Borden County. On May 11, 1891, T. W. Greer and 24 others petitioned the Commissioner's Court to hold an election to levy a tax of 15 cents per \$100 valuation. (Commissioner Court Minutes, Book 1, page 7) Money raised through this tax was to fund all schools in the county and specifically for District #1 (Gail).

The first schoolhouse in Gail was built prior to 1891 and was a large, two-story wooden structure located

northeast of the present courthouse; this schoolhouse served elementary through high school students. The Borden County Museum has in its collection an original invitation to the May 19, 1911 Gail High School commencement. The program included an essay delivered by Myrtle Mattie Smoot, a declamation by Oscar Paul Spears and an oration by Louis M. Fields. The ceremony was held at the Union Church in Gail. Dr. J. H. Hannabass awarded school diplomas. The class flower was the white rose, the class colors were lavender and gold, and the class motto was "not for school, but for life we learn."

In 1914, the Gail community voted to issue a school bond for the purpose of purchasing a site and constructing a second school of brick, stone or cement block. Minutes from County Commissioners Court, book 2, page 579 reads "On this day came to be considered the returns of an election held on the 18th day of July 1914 in common school district No(#) one of this county upon the question of issuing Twelve Thousand (\$12,000.00) dollars of schoolhouse bonds for said district running Forty (40) years and bearing five percent interest and levying a tax on all taxable property of said district sufficient to pay the current interest on said bonds and provide a sinking fund sufficient to pay the principal at maturity and it appearing that said election was in all respects legally held and that said returns were duly and legally made and that these were cast at said election." Not one of the 30 votes cast was a "no".

Unfortunately, the commissioners designated April 10, 1914 as the bond's date of issue. As the date of issue was prior to the election (July 18, 1914), the state attorney general deemed the issuance of these bonds null and void in August 1914. Not until November 10, 1914, when the commissioners straightened out the confusion, were the bonds officially available for purchase (page 589-591, book 2, Commissioners Court min-

utes).

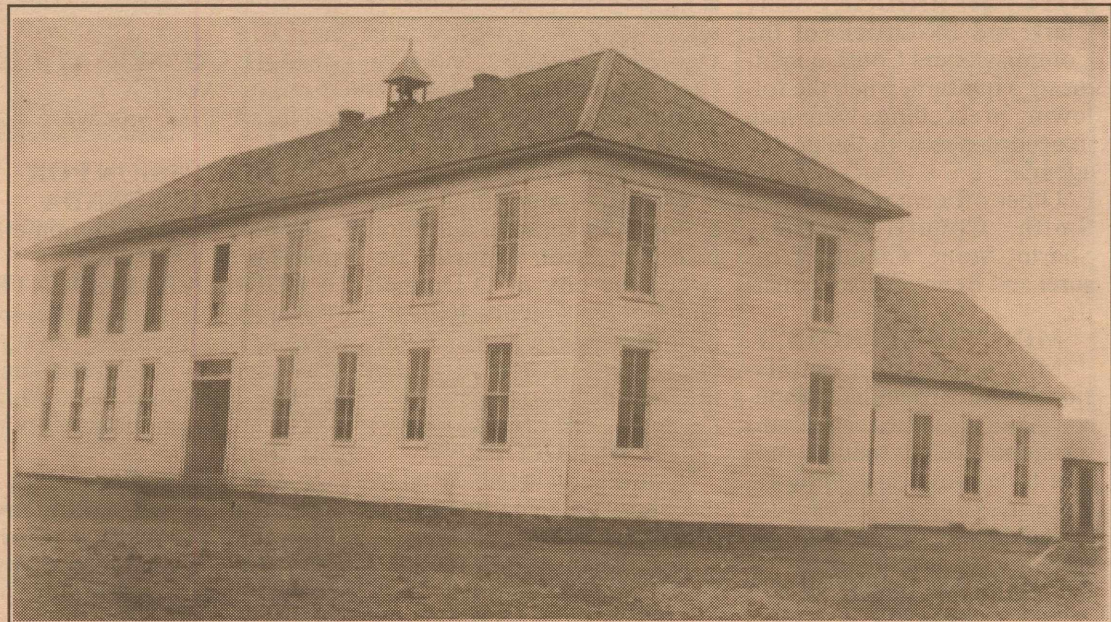
The new three-story school building was finished in 1915; approximately 75 students were in attendance on the first day. Over the next 97 years this school building went through multiple renovations, including removal of the third floor. Many Borden County graduates remember this building as their elementary while others will remember it as the loca-

tion of science, home economics and agriculture classes.

Many districts existed at one time or another in the early years. Most of these school buildings were simple wooden structures; a few were brick. The names of these school districts in Borden County were: Sealy, Gavett, Mesquite, Union, Durham, Gail, Snelling, Glen Creek, West Point, Jumbo, White Flat, Berry,

Hackberry, Howell, Grape Creek, Hicks, Fairview, Willow Valley, and Abney. A 1921 tax assessor list shows the following active districts and the students enrolled: Gail (67), Sealy (13), Durham (12), Glen Creek (4), Mesquite (45), Snellings (26), Jumbo (15), White Flat (7), Berry (40), Hackberry (20), Gavett (4), Union (14), Midway

(Continued to Page 8)



Gail school, circa 1890's



Gail school, circa 1915.

Commissioners' Court

WHEREAS, On this the 12th day of February, 2013, the Commissioners' Court of Borden County, Texas, convened in Regular Session in the Commissioners Court room in the courthouse of Gail, Texas, the following members of the court being present, to-wit:

ROSS D. SHARP, County Judge, Presiding; **MONTE SMITH**, Commissioner, Precinct N. 1; **RANDY ADCOCK**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2; **ERNEST REYES**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3; **JOE BELEW**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; **JOYCE HERRIDGE** County Clerk and Ex-Officio of the Commissioners Court, constituting a quorum, when the following proceedings were had, in accordance with the posted agenda.

Other officers present: Ben Smith, County Attorney; Sharlot Stone, County Treasurer and Benny Allison, Sheriff.

MINUTES APPROVED

Minutes of the Commissioners Court Meeting of January 22, 2013 were read. Commissioner Belew made a motion to approve said minutes. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BORDEN COUNTY WATER

Mr. Steve Dennis of Burgess & Niple, Inc. met with the Court concerning the assessment of Borden County Water. No action was taken.

COUNTY OFFICE REPORTS

After examination of the County Offices' reports, Commissioner Belew made a motion to approve, accept and file submitted Reports in the County Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Belew made a motion to adjourn Commissioners Court and to enter into Executive Session. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Commissioner Smith made a motion to close the Executive Session and Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Reyes made a motion to reconvene the Commissioners Court Meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Belew. Motion carried.

COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve the members of the County Historical Commission as on submitted list. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TEXAS FORESTRY SERVICE

Commissioner Smith made a motion to renew contract with the Texas Forestry Service. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Belew. Motion carried.

RURAL FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Rural Fire Protection Contract between the city of O'Donnell and Borden County with the proposed corrections. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

A new vehicle to be used by the Sheriff's Department was discussed. No action taken.

2012 COUNTY BUDGET

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Line-Item Transfers of the 2012 County Budget. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

2012 COUNTY BUDGET

Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve the Order to amend the 2013 County Budget. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PRIVATE ROAD CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE

An application for Road Construction/Maintenance as needed was received from John Anderson in Precinct No. 2. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve the application and Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SOIL CONSERVATION WORK

No applications were received.

DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE AGENDA

County Surplus Equipment and Sheriff's vehicle.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Reyes to approve and pay said current accounts. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

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

THE FORGOING MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 26th day of February, 2013.

How It All Began

The West Point School

(Continued from Page 1)

The Turners had moved away by this time and the Massengills were living at that place. Dee and Bart Massengill attended this term. Flora Cox taught the sixth term. After the Massengills moved, the doc Howells took up residence where that had lived. Daisy, Elga, and J.W. Howell and the four Pratt children and Robert Lee Gray were students that year. The Grays lived on the Cross C's, and it was Robert's first year. Miss Flora taught a second term and by this time all of the families who had school children had moved away except for the Pratt children, and they

had transferred to Mesquite School.

"West Point" or "Humpty Dumpty" as some called it, stood a lonely vacant building for a few years until it was finally carried away or used for firewood by campers.

NOTE: In about 1920, Frank Miller and a cowboy were moving some cattle and had to spend the night in the "West Point" school. There were no doors or windows and during the night a heavy snow fell. Next morning both men became a little upset upon finding bobcat tracks across their bedrolls!

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Tumbleweed Smith

Stan Cobb: Dentist, Painter, Humorist, Professor

Stan Cobb was born in Dallas. After his training to become a dentist, he moved to the Panhandle town of Spearman. "We picked Spearman out on the map. Actually went there and visited for one hour and decided to move there. We had young kids and wanted them to grow up in a real community where we could get to know people."

He was in Spearman fifteen years. While there, he became fascinated with small town radio. "Big city radio stations could learn a lot from small town radio. As you travel away from the big cities and you start listening to stations in smaller places, the more intimate the radio becomes. You get reports and news just like the big city, but there's less national news and more local news about the people you know. Of course they mention the birthdays of people in town who died five years ago and send anniversary greetings to couples who've been divorced for ten or fifteen years. They announce the school lunch menus and who's in the hospital and why they're there. The announcer might tell you that Stumpy Black is in room six up at Hansford General with a hemorrhoid operation, so don't expect Stumpy to be back in the saddle anytime soon. You might hear that Brandy Johnson's water broke on aisle four at Thriftway and she tried to cover it up by breaking a jar of Hellmann's Mayonnaise on the floor to kind of distract everything.

Later the station announces that Bobby and Brandy have a new daughter and her name is Crystal Hellmann Smith."

Stan, who attended divinity school, makes after dinner speeches all over the country. He teaches ethics to students

at Baylor College of Dentistry. The students gather at his home once a week for a good home-cooked meal that his wife Pam prepares. Stan also paints, something he learned to do in Spearman. "Those panhandle winters are cold and bitter, so I painted and wrote stories about funny stuff that happened."

His paintings are on large canvases and portray ranch scenes in bold colors. "I've enjoyed painting and do it a lot. I've got paintings all over the house and people are calling me to paint these brightly colored cowboy pictures."

He says he never wanted to paint in a realistic way but he doesn't care for abstract art. "I thought that any art, whether it's written, played, spoken or painted was better than manufactured stuff. When I first started writing, speaking and traveling I realized how many talented and gifted people there are in the world. They were not known nationally or anything, but when they sat around a campfire, a living room or makeshift studio, beauty and magic happened. So I decided to paint cowboys, cows, Indians and horses in colors I liked. Growing up in the sixties, colors were vivid and evoked emotion. I didn't know any art stuff; I just painted what I liked. I think I'm a Representational Expressionist. My desire is to enjoy it, express that joy and have people feel something when they see it. When somebody buys one of my paintings, I think they're paying me to get better. God made me for a purpose but he also made me creative. When I paint, I feel His pleasure. Pam feels pleasure when a painting sells and gets it out of the house."

Congressman Randy Neugebauer Visits



Congressman Randy Neugebauer met with members of the Borden County community last Wednesday for a question and answer session. While here Congressman Neugebauer presented Borden County Judge Ross Sharp with an American flag that was flown over the Texas capital on the day Sharp was sworn into office for County Judge.

Thank you for reading
the Borden Star



Got News?

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Borden County EMS and Volunteer Fire Department Receive \$2,500 Grants




The Borden County EMS and Volunteer Fire Department each received a \$2,500 grant that was directed to the services by local farmer, Randy Hensley. Hensley won the money from America's Farmers Grow Communities sponsored by Monsanto. Pictured with the checks are (front left to right) Cody Cooley, Mike Valentine, Randy Hensley, Donelle Hensley, (back left to right) Ross Sharp, Dinah Gannaway, Monsanto representative and Van York.




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Genetically Modified Food

(Continued from Page 4)

assessment of the genetically modified food.

How can I tell if I am buying a genetically modified food?

FDA does not require that food labels indicate that a food is genetically modified. They believe that neither a scientific nor a legal basis exists to require such labeling. Therefore, you cannot tell by looking at the product unless the manufacturer has volunteered that information.

However, any significant differences in the food (such as composition, nutritional content, or requirements for storage, cooking, and preparation) will be disclosed on the label. Using our examples from earlier, although the product is genetically engineered, the label would not indicate that information. However, the label would show that there is an increased level of vitamin A compared to the other varieties. For the tomatoes or papayas, if the nutritional content, composition, and requirements for storage, cooking, and preparation are the same, then the label may not be different from the other products at all.

Controversies still exist about whether genetically modified foods are safe, whether they should be labeled, and whether genetically modified crops are needed to address the world's food needs.

Contact Julie Smith, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Borden County Family & Consumer

Sciences Agent for more information.

Resources:

Biotechnology: Frequently asked questions about biotechnology. United States Department of Agriculture. [http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=BiotechnologyFAQs.xml&navid=AGRICULTURE)

[contentid=BiotechnologyFAQs.xml&navid=AGRICULTURE](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=BiotechnologyFAQs.xml&navid=AGRICULTURE).

Crawford LM. Regulations of Food Derived from Plants. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. 2003. <http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm161037.htm>.

Food Safety: 20 questions on genetically modified foods. World Health Organization. <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/publications/biotech/20questions/en/>.

Prepared by Wesley Danielle Daniels, BS, Dietetic Intern, Texas A&M University and Mary Kinney Bielamowicz, PhD, RD, LD, Regents Fellow, Professor and Nutrition Specialist, Department of Nutrition and Food Science, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M University System. November 2012.

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The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

Early Schools...

(Continued from Page 5)

(1), Fairview (13) and Willow Valley (6).

The earliest school record book found in the courthouse includes lists of board trustees, teachers, and bills paid for the 1915-1916 school year. Teachers for these districts included Mary Bledsoe, C.H. Allen, Winnie Bacon, W. Hutson, Velma Webb, Maude Williams, Annie Wood, Flora Cox, Charles Nunnally, Annie Wills, Beulah Weems, Mattie Jones, J.T. Steele, Docia Sealy, Laura Jagers, Stella Welch, Gladys Wilson, Ethel Bridges, and Essie Rigney. Monthly pay for these teachers ranged from \$57.50 to \$85.00. C. E. Reeder was paid \$20.00 per month to serve as Ex. Superintendent.

In the late 1940s, Borden County citizens began discussing consolidation of the many far-flung schools in the county. The culmination of those discussions led to creation of the Borden County ISD; the school building for the consolidated district was dedicated on March 8, 1953. The Glen Creek/Miller, Murphy and Plains districts kept their elementary schools. Eventually they too would join into the one county school.

An article on the events leading up to and surrounding school consolidation will be in next week's *Borden Star*.

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Borden County EMS members Carrie Hart (center left) and Philena Farmer (center right) attended the annual South Plains EMS Conference where they accepted the Volunteer Provider of the Year award. Also pictured is Dr. John Griswold (far left), Medical Director for Bor. Co. EMS and Wendi McNabb, director of trauma services at UMC.

Borden County EMS Named 'Volunteer Provider of the Year'

Borden County EMS was recently honored at the annual South Plains EMS Conference as the Volunteer EMS Provider of the year. This award honors an organization that is staffed by volunteers that assumed a leadership role in EMS by achievement in areas of patient care, public access, medical control, disaster preparedness, public education and training.

In order for an organization to receive this award, the staff does not receive compensation for responding to emergencies and our patients do not receive a bill for our services. Borden County EMS

receives support from the Borden County Commissioners Court, Borden County ISD and through community donations. This allows BCEMS to continue to provide Advance Life Support care to the citizens of Borden County Free of charge.


BCEMS is very fortunate to have Dr. John Griswold serving as our medical director. Dr. Griswold allows BCEMS to provide medical care that is tailored to rural Areas. BCEMS currently has thirteen members that volunteer their time to serve Borden County. Congratulations to these members on a job well done.

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