

The

Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXVI

April 8, 2015



USDA To Issue Disaster Assistance to Help Honeybee, Livestock and Farm-Raised Fish Producers

Farm Bill Program Offers Producers Relief for 2014 Losses in Over 40 States Including Texas

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency today announced that nearly 2,700 applicants will begin receiving disaster assistance through the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) for losses experienced from Oct. 1, 2013, through Sept. 30, 2014.

The program, re-authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides disaster relief to livestock, honeybee, and farm-raised fish producers not covered by other agricultural disaster assistance programs. Eligible losses may include excessive heat or winds, flooding, blizzards, hail, wildfires, light-

ning strikes, volcanic eruptions and diseases, or in the case of honeybees, losses due to colony collapse disorder. Beekeepers, most of whom suffered honeybee colony losses, represent more than half of ELAP recipients.

The farm bill caps ELAP disaster funding at \$20 million per federal fiscal year and the Budget Control Act of 2011, passed by Congress, requires USDA to reduce payments by 7.3 percent, beginning Oct. 1, 2014. To accommodate the number of requests for ELAP assistance, which exceeded 2014 funding, payments will be reduced to ensure that all eligible applicants receive a prorated share.

Today's announcement was made possible by the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill>.

To learn more about ELAP, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/elap. For more information about USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) disaster assistance programs, visit disaster.usda.fsa.gov or contact your local FSA office at <http://offices.usda.gov>.



Dare to Live Without Limits

By Bryan Golden

The Good and Bad

Who wouldn't want only good fortune in their lives? A life devoid of problems is the foundation of many dreams. However desirable, an adversity free existence is not possible. Everyone encounters both the good and the bad.

Life is very much like the weather. There is a lot of variation and it's not always what you want. Gorgeous, clear weather with perfect temperature is always ideal. But nothing could survive without rain. Regardless of where you live, there is no way to escape inclement weather.

With the proper clothing and shelter, you can survive, if not be comfortable, in any condition. Your appreciation of beautiful weather is always enhanced after a stormy period. You marvel in how good you feel once the sun starts shining again.

Just as the earth needs both sunshine and rain to support life, both the good and bad in your life serve a purpose. The bad times in life give you more of an appreciation for the good times. Besides, there is no way to avoid life's challenges. Additionally, it is by overcoming hardship that you learn, grow and become stronger.

There is no reason to be apprehensive of bad times. With

knowledge and foresight you can minimize any impact. The key is to prepare during good times. When things are calm, you have the time and energy to strengthen the resources you will need to draw on during periods of challenge.

Here are some steps you can take during the good times to prepare for the bad ones. Since attitude and outlook are key to solving problems, your first priority should be to improve them. There are a variety of ways to do this.

Begin by discovering how others have overcome adversity. You can find biographies, articles, and news stories about the many ways people have weathered bad times. Read motivational books or listen to inspirational material on CD's. Various TV shows profile true stories of real people and how they overcame obstacles.

By filling your mind with examples of what other people have accomplished, you become focused on finding solutions, rather than being sidetracked by problems. This is mental conditioning. When the bad times hit, your mind will respond the way it was trained. Rather than being overwhelmed by adversity, your

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Borden County Junior High and High School Track Teams Show Success at Highland

By Coach Richey

The Borden County Coyotes continued an early successful track season by traveling to Highland for the 2015 Highland Hilltop Relays. They came up just a little short of the team title as district rival Ira outscored them by 7 points. Those 7 points can be traced quickly to the absence of Senior Frank Banman who had an emergency appendectomy Wednesday. Frank has consistently thrown a distance that would have won the discus and placed 2nd in the shot for 18 points, but the Coyotes rallied without one of their senior leaders and battled to the end, turning in some nice times during the meet.

The Coyote relays continue to improve as well as some continued quality times in the 800 and 300 hurdles by Korbin Martinez. Corbin Sumners also turned in a nice 200 time into the wind. The Borden County sprint relay ran a nice time considering the wind, those members are freshman Ryan Willborn and sophomores Sumners, Jayton Lewis and Hunter Jones. This same foursome ran their fastest time of the season in the 800 relay. Lewis, Willborn and Jones were joined by junior Korbin Martinez in the 1600 relay which ran their fastest time of the season as well. The 400 relay is sitting 3rd in the region, the 800 relay is sitting 2nd but Grady has yet to be full strength and the mile relay is sitting 3rd and again the unknown of Grady waits. The Coyotes will travel to Garden City next Friday to participate in the Bearkat relays for their final preparation for the district track meet hosted by the Borden County Coyotes.

Varsity Boys:

Frank Banman: did not participate due to illness. Shot Put and Discus.

Riley Herridge: Pole Vault-4th-10'0"; Shot Put-no mark and Discus-no mark.

Korbin Martinez: 800 Meter Run-1st-2:10.9; 300 Meter Hurdles-1st-42.66 and 1600 Meter Relay (52.79)-2nd-3:36.68.

Robert Jordan: Pole Vault-2nd-11'0"; 800 Meter Run-Did

not participate and 1600 Meter Run-5:59.2.

Colby Pennell: 400 Meter Run-58.79; 200 Meter Run and 1600 Meter Relay (57.37)-4th-3:51.2.

Hunter Jones: High Jump-5th-5'8"; Long Jump-3rd-17'11"; 400 Meter Relay-2nd-45.44; 800 Meter Relay (23.36)-1st-1:34.61 and 1600 Meter Relay (54.81)-1st-3:36.68.

Corbin Sumners: 400 Meter Relay-2nd-45.44; 800 Meter Relay (22.94)-1st-1:34.61 and 200 Meter Run-3rd-23.65.

Jayton Lewis: 400 Meter Relay-2nd-45.44; 800 Meter Relay (23.56)-3rd-1:34.61 and 1600 Meter Relay (53.97)-1st-3:36.68.

Diego Bernal: Shot Put-1st-42'4" and Discus-2nd-108'2".

Ryan Willborn: Long Jump-2nd-18'6"; 400 Meter Relay-2nd-45.44; 800 Meter Relay (24.92)-1st-1:34.61 and 1600 Meter Relay (55.17)-1st-3:36.68.

Nathan Souder: 100 Meter Dash-12.47; 400 Meter Dash-5th-57.15 and 1600 Meter Relay (56.67)-4th-3:51.2.

Mason Coor: 100 Meter Dash-6th-11.99 and 200 Meter Dash-25.58.

Braxton Barnes: Shot Put-no mark and Discus-3rd-105'3".

Dylan Murphy: 1600 Meter Run-5:51.2 and 3200 Meter Run-5th-13:44.46.

The Borden County Junior Varsity Coyotes traveled to Highland Thursday to participate in the Highland Hilltop Relays. The JV team did not have its own division so they were forced to compete against all varsity teams. The Coyote JV managed 32 points in this division which was a very impressive showing for this group. The Coyotes will next travel to Garden City for the Bearkat Relays for their final tune-up before the Coyotes host the 2015 district track meet.

Junior Varsity Boys:

Ricky Torres: Shot Put-no mark; Discus-no mark and 100 Meter Dash-12.26.

Cayden Vaughn: Shot Put-no mark and Discus-no mark.

Kale Yarbrow: Shot Put-no

mark and Discus-no mark.

Caelan Thuett: Shot Put no mark and Discus-no mark.

Steven Carrillo: Shot Put-no mark; Discus-no mark; 100 Meter Dash-12.84 and 200 Meter Dash-26.59.N

Noah Morales: Long Jump-15'8"; 400 Meter Relay-4th-49.10; 800 Meter Relay-3rd-1:41.09; 1600 Meter Relay (58.89)-4th-3:51.2 and Triple Jump-34'4".

Nick Proulx: Long Jump-16'7¼"; 400 Meter Relay-4th-49.10; 800 Meter Relay-3rd-1:41.09 and 200 Meter Dash-25.89.

Morgan Wilson: Long Jump-16'6"; 800 Meter Run-2nd-2:26.9 and 1600 Meter Run-5:44.4.

Brian Torres: Long Jump; 400 Meter Relay-4th-49.10; 800 Meter Relay-3rd-1:41.09 and 100 Meter Dash-12.34.

Easton Edwards: 400 Meter Dash-60.89.

Trace Richey: Long Jump-4th-17'10¼"; High Jump-6th-5'6"; 400 Meter Relay-4th-49.10; 800 Meter Relay-3rd-1:41.09 and 1600 Meter Relay (57.15)-4th-3:51.2.

The Borden County Lady Coyotes continued their 2015 track season as they traveled to Highland. The field was tough and had several district and area teams participating but the Lady Coyotes saw some things that will prepare them for the district meet in a couple of weeks. The Ladies will travel to Garden City next Friday for their final tune-up for the 2015 track season. Below are the times, distances and results of the Highland Hilltop Relays.

Varsity Girls:

Bailey Robinson: Discus-6th-82'7" and 100 Meter Dash-15.49.

Eva Banman: Shot Put-no mark and Discus-no mark.

Karly Etheredge: 400 Meter Relay-6th-57.44 and 800 Meter-5th-2:02.74.

Kylee Dean: 400 Meter Relay-6th-57.44.

Tatum Richey: Long Jump; 400 Meter Relay-6th-57.44; 100 Meter Hurdles-4th-18.42 and 800 Meter Relay-5th-2:02.74.

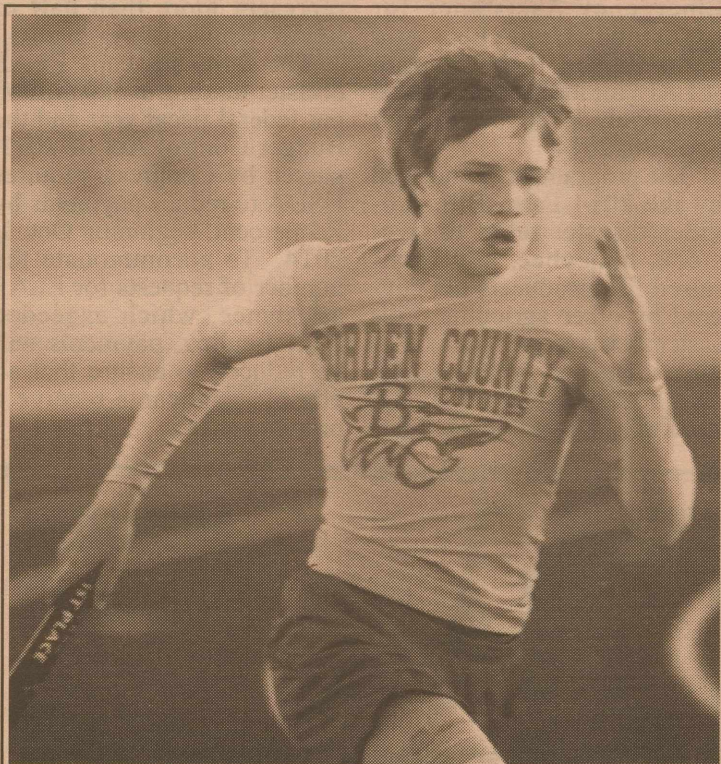
Zoie Key: 1600 Meter Run-4th-14:51.46 and 3200 Meter Run-4th-6:28.92.

Cheyenne Tucker: Shot Put- no mark. Relay-5th-2:02.74 and 200 Meter Dash.
Sydnee Jordan: 800 Meter

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Lady Coyote, 800 Meter Relay member, runs the last leg in Thursday's Highland Track meet. The girls came in 5th running a 2:02.74. The Ladies will next travel to Garden City.



Coyote Pup, JW Nix holds on tight to the baton while running his stretch in the 800 Meter Relay. The team placed 1st with a 1:48.33.

Coyotes Do Well at Highland Track Meet...

(Continued from Pg. 2)

Lexi Cheatham: Shot Put-no mark and Discus-no mark.

Brooklyn Cheatham: Shot Put-6th-25'6½" and Discus-no mark.

MJ Van der Bank: 100 Meter Dash-15.42 and 200 Meter Dash-34.84.

Preslea Hall: Long Jump-5th-13'11"; 400 Meter Relay-6th-57.44; 800 Meter Relay-5th-2:02.74 and 400 Meter Dash-3rd-70.25.

Braylee Walker: 100 Meter Dash-15.61; 200 Meter Dash-34.33 and 400 Meter Dash-75.74.

Maddie Benavidez: Shot Put-no mark.

Jamayleigh Gray: Shot Put-no mark and Discus-no mark.

Hayley Gray: Shot Put-no mark and Discus-no mark.

The Junior High Boys traveled to Highland on Thursday to compete in the 2015 Highland Hilltop relays. The Pups again surprised the field by winning all three relays on their way to capturing the team title with a total of 148 points, 10 better than runner-up Robert Lee.

Below are the results of the meet. The Pups will next travel to Highland on Thursday for the district track meet, in hopes of defending their title.

Junior High Boys:

Ben Justice: Long Jump-2nd-16'3½"; Triple Jump-1st-35'6½"; 400 Meter Relay-1st-51.34; 800 Meter Relay-1st-1:48.33 and 1600 Meter Relay-1st-4:09.40.

Payton Merket: Long Jump-13'8"; High Jump-2nd-5'0"; 400 Meter Relay-1st-1:48.33 and 1600 Meter Relay-1st-4:09.40.

Riley Lewis: Long Jump; Triple Jump-3rd-29'8½"; 400 Meter Relay-injured DNR; 800 Meter Relay-injured DNR and 200 Meter Dash-3rd-29.13.

Will Yarbrow: Shot Put-28'3" Discus-no mark; 400 Meter Relay-1st-51.34; 800 Meter Relay-1st-1:48.33 and 1600 Meter Relay-1st-4:09.40.

Jeremy Souder: Discus-6th-81'11½"; 2400 Meter Run-3rd-10:21.03 and 800 Meter Run-2:58.1.

Lukas Grantham: Long Jump-14'1½"; 400 Meter Relay-1st-51.34; 300 Meter Hurdles-3rd-52.89 and 1600 Meter Relay-1st-4:09.40.

Trent Collins: Shot Put-no mark; Discus-no mark; 200

Meter Dash-15.09 and 400 Meter Dash-35.3.

Jake Avey: Pole Vault-4th-6'6"; Long Jump; 100 Meter Dash-6th-13.92; 300 Meter Hurdles-62.15 and 200 Meter Dash-31.69.

JW Nix: 800 Meter Run-3rd-2:36.51; 800 Meter Relay-1st-1:48.33; 1600 Meter Relay-1st-4:09.40 and Triple Jump-2nd-32'7".

4:09.40 and Triple Jump-2nd-32'7".

Junior Gray: Shot Put-5th-28'7"; Discus-no mark and 100 Meter Dash-18.87.

Chris Bell: Shot Put-no mark; Discus-no mark; 100 Meter Dash-15.08 and 400 Meter Dash-74.77.

Connor Wagner: Injured,

did not participate. 800 Meter Run; 400 Meter Dash and 200 Meter Dash.

Brad Thomas: Shot Put-no mark; Discus-no mark and 100 Meter Dash-20.20.

Jason Robinson: 800 Meter Run-3:11.1 and 300 Meter Hurdles-66.47.

Borden Coyotes Have Six Game Win Streak With Wins Against Ira and Hermleigh

By Coach Edwards

The Borden Coyotes added two more district wins this past week including a six game win streak. Borden defeated Ira 10-8 and Hermleigh 17-1.

The Coyotes trailed the Bulldogs 5-0 early in the game. Borden closed the gap in the second inning scoring four runs making it a 5-4 score. Trace Richey's two out single in the bottom half of the fourth scored two runs to give the Coyotes a 6-5 lead. The Bulldogs scored one run in the fifth and one run in the sixth to give them a 7-6 lead. Hurricane Richter led the bottom half of the sixth with a walk and Jayton Lewis got on with a single. With runners on second and third base, Richey executed the suicide squeeze play to tie the game 7-7. Kale Yarbrough singled to right field plating two more Coyotes runs. Ryan Willborn singled to add another run giving the Coyotes a 10-7 lead. Ira scored one run in the final inning and left bases loaded to end the game.

Hunter Jones was the winning pitcher. Jones struck out 7, walked 5, and allowed 14 hits. Richter came in and got the save.

Kale Yarbrow went 3 for 3 with a rbi. Richey went 2 for 4 with 3 rbi's. Jayton Lewis had a single and a double with 2 rbi's. Willborn finished with two hits and Braxton Coor had a single with a rbi. Korbin Martinez finished with a

double and a rbi. Jones and Mason Coor each had an rbi.

The Coyotes picked up their sixth district victory over the Hermleigh Cardinals. Borden scored five runs in the top half of the first inning and never looked back. The Coyotes added three runs in the second, one in the third, one in the fourth, and seven in the fifth. Hermleigh scored one run in the fifth. The game ended on the 10-run rule.

Borden finished the game with nine hits. Mason Coor,

Hunter Jones, and Braxton Coor each had two hits. Jones had 3 rbi's, Braxton Coor had 2 rbi's, and Mason Coor had one rbi. Trace Richey had a hit and a rbi. Korbin Martinez finished with a single and a rbi. And Hurricane Richter added a hit and a rbi.

Mason Coor was the winning pitcher. Coor struck out six, allowed two hits, walked two, and hit two batters.

The Coyotes are 8-3 on the season and 6-1 in district play.



Coyote baseballer, Ryan Willborn slides into home and is called safe during last weeks game against the Ira Bulldogs. The Coyotes defeated the Bulldogs 10-8 and with a win against the Hermleigh Cardinals the Coyotes are in a six win streak.

School Lunch Menu

Apr. 13 - 17, 2015

Menu subject to change

Monday - Breakfast: Blueberry Muffin & Yogurt, Fruit Juice, Fruit and Milk. **Lunch:** Chicken Sandwich, Hamburger Garnish, Potato Rounds, Western Beans, Diced Pears and Milk.

Tuesday - Breakfast: Pancake Wrap, Fruit Juice, Fruit, Milk. **Lunch:** Asian Chicken & Rice, Baby Carrots, Steamed Broccoli, Chilled Pineapples, Sugar Cookie and Milk.

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

Thursday - Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Juice, Fruit and Milk. **Lunch:** Steak Fingers & Gravy, Rol, Oven Fries, Corn Carrtos w/ Ranch, Fresh Fruit and Milk.

Friday - Breakfast: PB&J, Fruit Juice, Fruit and Milk. **Lunch:** Chicken Parmesan, Breadstick, Green Beans, Salad, Apple Slices and Milk.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Heart and Home...



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Preparing for Thunderstorms

Spring is generally prime thunderstorm time. 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 minutes 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 lightning 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.

Thought for the Day

If you feel insecure, then it must be that you are looking inward at yourself rather than upward at Jesus Christ.
-Howard Kelly

Dare to Live...

(Continued from Pg. 1)

will immediately seek out ways to overcome obstacles.

Next, when times are good, develop your problem solving skills by practicing on minor issues that are part of daily routines. Welcome each problem and the opportunity to practice. This attitude enables you to find solutions far more readily than if you get frustrated and angry at every annoyance.

When times are good, there isn't a lot of incentive to prepare. There is the analogy of the man whose roof always leaked when it rained. When asked why he never fixed it he replied, "When it's raining, the roof is too slippery to go up and fix it. When

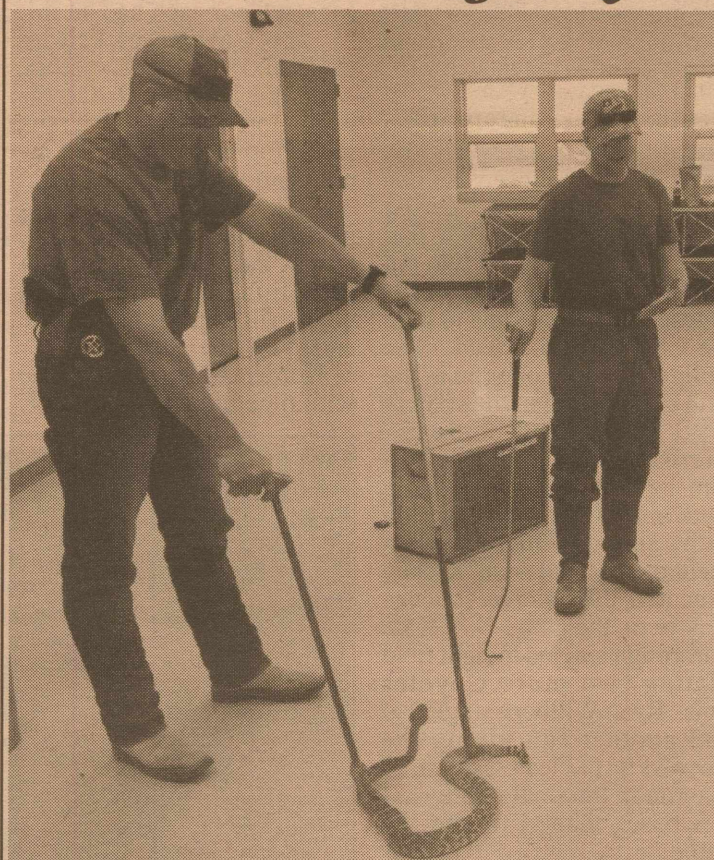
the weather is nice, my roof isn't leaking, so there is no need for repairs."

Don't be like this hapless fellow. Act when times are good so that you are ready for when the bad times hit. Bad times will pass. You will make it through. Those who are prepared emerge in better shape, and faster, than those who aren't.

Enjoy and appreciate the good times in your life. Don't stress over the bad times. You can't avoid them so you may as well make lemons out of lemonade. Within you lies all you need to overcome any obstacle.

Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at bryan@columnist.com. © 2007 Bryan Golden

Snake Safety




Texas Parks and Wildlife Game Wardens Brent Tucker and Matt Woodall presented a very informative program on rattlesnakes and snake safety for our 4-H members during our 4-H meeting on March 30th.

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SEEDS FROM THE SOWER

Michael A. Guido, D.D.
Metter, Georgia


A man sold a mule, saying, "He'll do anything you want him to do, but first you'll have to hit him with a stick to get his attention!"

Some of us are like that mule. The Lord has to afflict us to get our attention!

Think of the prodigal. He wouldn't have gone home had it not been for his hunger. Hager was haughty in Abraham's home. But she became humble by her heartaches in the wilderness. And didn't the Psalmist say, "Before I was afflicted I went astray; but now I keep Thy Word."



Troubled? That's the Lord getting your attention. To impair you? No, to improve you.

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 Borden County 4-H News
 

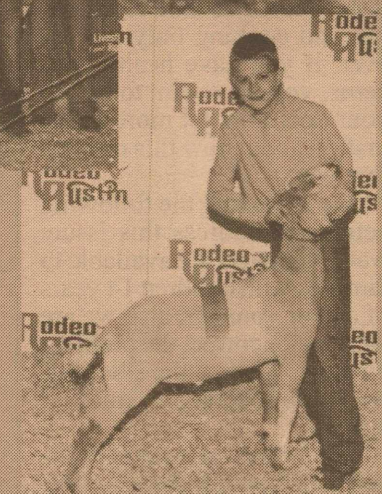
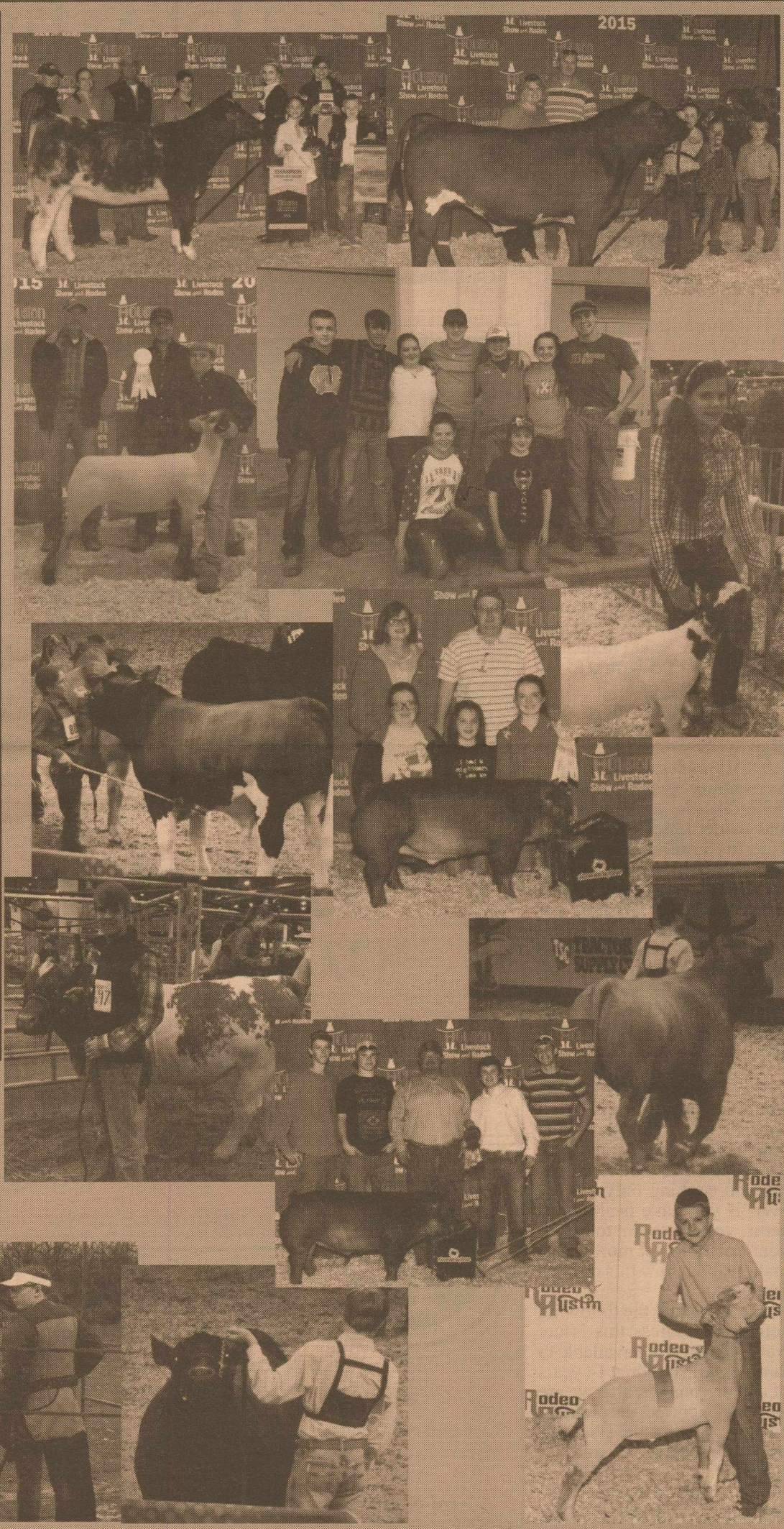
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Borden County 4-Hers 'Fire It Up' at Angelo Shoot

Borden County 4-H was well represented at the 2015 San Angelo Stock Show Trap and Skeet Shoot held March 20, 2015 in San Angelo Texas. Representing Borden County 4-H was Ryann Phillips and Kaylee Walker. These ladies competed against over 500 contestants throughout the contest. Kaylee walker placed 3rd in Trap and Ryann Phillips placed 5th also in Trap Shooting competition. Congratulations to these 4-Hers on an outstanding performance.

4-Hers Are Successful in Houston and Austin

Borden County 4-H was well represented at the 2015 Houston and Austin Livestock Shows. 4-H Youth exhibiting were Clayton Addison, Aubree Blissard, Myka Blissard, Braxton Coor, Mason Coor, Sydni Coor, Brooklyn Gray, Hayley Gray, Katie Gray, Lucas Grantham, Jayton Lewis, Riley Lewis, Trent Lewis, Payton Merket, Ben Nix, Erin Nix, JW Nix, Thomas Nix, Flint Roberts, Tres Spenser, Laney Stansell. Placings were Myka Blissard- Champion JR. Shorthorn Heifer (Houston) Aubree Blissard - Division Winner Simmental JR. Heifer(Houston) Lucas Grantham- 3rd MW Lamb (Houston), JW Nix - 5th HW ABC Steer (Houston), Tres Spenser- 5th Southdown Lamb (Austin), Tres Spenser - 6th lw Goat (Austin), Katie Gray - 7th lw Duroc (Houston), Clayton Addison - 8th hw Duroc (Houston), Thomas Nix - 8th hw Gert Steer (Houston), Laney Stansell - 8th Shorthorn Steer (Houston), Ben Nix - 12th lw Maine Steer (Houston), Erin Nix - 13th mw ABC Steer (Houston). Congratulations to all 4-H members and their families for an outstanding 2015 Stock Show Season !!!!!!!!!!!



Public Notice

Mandatory Public Notification Language Notice of Drinking Water FLUORIDE Violation

March 2015

The Texas Commission On Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the Borden County Water System that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for FLUORIDE. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL FLUORIDE at 4.0 mg/L, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for FLUORIDE indicates a compliance value in quarter one, 2015 of 5.4 mg/L for EP001.

This is not an emergency. However, some people who drink water containing FLUORIDE in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling, also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.

An alternate source of water should be provided to the affected population, which consists of children less than nine years old. The alternate water should be used for drinking and cooking only. However, if you have health concerns, you may want to talk to your doctor to get more information about how this may affect you.

We are taking the following actions to address this issue: water vouchers are available to families with children 14 years of age or younger, also we are working to correct the problem by investigating the possibility of connecting to another system.

For further information contact the County Judge's Office,

Borden County Courthouse,
117 E. Wasson, Gail, Texas
79738, phone 806/756-4391
Ross D. Sharp, County
Judge
Public Water System ID #
0170010
P.O. Box 156
Gail, Texas 79738

USDA's Prospective Plantings Report Reveals Cotton Acreage Drop

By Mary Jane Buerkle
Texas cotton growers are expected to plant about 5.7 million acres of upland cotton in 2015, down 8 percent from 2014 but only a little less than the 5.8 million acres planted in 2013, according to the United States Department of

Agriculture's Prospective Plantings Report released on Tuesday.

Growers on the Texas High Plains usually plant about two-thirds of the state's acreage, which places the estimate for PCG's 41-county area at about 3.75 million acres, which is close to the long-term average.

Nationwide, the USDA says that upland cotton producers intend to plant 9.4 million acres, down 13 percent from 2014. Texas growers are expected to plant more than 60 percent of the nation's cotton acreage in 2015.

The largest drops by percentage are expected to be in Arizona and Tennessee. Oklahoma was the only state in the Cotton Belt reporting an increase, although slight, in cotton acreage from 2014 to 2015.

The USDA estimates are slightly higher than those in

the National Cotton Council's 32nd Annual Early Season Planting Intentions Survey, which was released in early February. The NCC survey indicated a 15 percent decrease in upland cotton acreage nationwide and a 13.8 percent decrease in Texas.

"These estimates were not a surprise to us," PCG Executive Vice President Steve Verett said. "All options are on the table for our producers, and they have to determine what's best for their operation. We were expecting a slight acreage decrease, based on what we're hearing from our growers."

"However, our soil moisture situation at this point is better than it's been in the past several years, which certainly is a positive going into the new crop," he said. "Additional rainfall in April would give us even more of a boost."

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Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
Tumbleweed Smith

Rock Hunts in the Mountains

When you go inside the Antelope Lodge in Alpine, you notice a room off the lobby that is filled with sparkling pieces of rock. They include quartz crystal, amethyst, citrine, jasper geodes and world-class agate. It's a museum created by Teri Smith, who has owned the motel for more than twenty years. "It started out just as a display case," she says. "Then I had two display cases, then I had this room."

She is a rock hunter. "Around here, you don't have to dig or do any hard rock mining to find beautiful rocks," she says. "You can just walk around and pick them up."

She takes people on rock hunting trips. "There are several private ranches that allow me to do field trips on them. It depends on what the individuals are looking for, what their physical capabilities are and how much time they have. There is a ranch down near the entrance to Big Bend National Park that takes about two hours to get there and you have to be able to do some climbing. On the other hand, I can take people to a ranch that's just ten minutes away." People make arrangements for a rock hunt by contacting the motel or her website, terismithrockhunts.com.

She says there are plenty of rocks in the Texas mountain region. "We'll never run out. There are so many good agates in some of these places that you could walk the same path every day and find something new each day. The light might be different, people are at different heights or maybe they're walking in another direction and previously missed a real treasure under a cedar or some sage. Every time it rains the dust is moved and you see another whole set of rocks. The agate here is easy to find. It's all over the ground."

She guides rock-hunting trips at least once a week. On good years, the number of excursions might exceed 100. "My deal with the landowners is they get the money and I get to go rock hunting for free. That means I love the rocks more than I love the money."

Most people hunt for agate. "We have a fine agate here. It's beautiful because there are lots of other little trace minerals in it. The trace minerals make the colors. The patterns occur because of the way the agate forms. So when you have different minerals in different layers, it can be absolutely spectacular."

She says some of the agate found around Alpine has been in shows all over the world. She gets hunters from several states and a few foreign countries. "Texas being almost all private land has not been hunted extensively like states west of us that have a lot of public land. There are several places you can go to hunt rocks but there aren't that many rocks to find because it's been hunted for sixty or seventy years. There are some ranches around here where you can literally not walk without stepping on agate."

Geodes are everywhere. "I can take people to where they can pick up at least half a dozen in a single day."

Tumbleweed Smith loves to listen to Texans tell their stories. Contact him at ts@tumbleweedsmith.com

**THANK
YOU
FOR
READING
THE
BORDEN
STAR**

Obituary

Pearl Wilbourn Wells 1938 - 2015

Pearl Wilbourn Wells, 77, of Big Spring, died Saturday, March 28, 2015 at her residence. Funeral services were held at 10:00 AM Wednesday, April 1, 2015, at Myers & Smith Chapel with Derrick Looney, pastor of Spring Creek Fellowship, officiating. Burial followed at Gail Cemetery in Gail, Texas.

She was born March 17, 1938 in Corpus Christi, Texas to Birdie Mae (Pearce) and John Wilbourn. She married Carl Wayman Wells on May 21, 1959. She was a resident of Big Spring for about 50 years. She was a seamstress and had worked at Walls Industries. She collected antiques and enjoyed garage sales and flea markets. In addition to clothing, she made blankets and quilts. In her younger days, she sang in the family Gospel Band, "The Wilbourn Twins and the Gospel Strings." She also played the harmonica and whistled all the time. She was a believer in Jesus Christ.

She is survived by her husband Carl Wells of Big Spring; children: Sandra Hector and husband Jimmy of Big Spring, Edward Wayman Wells and wife Michele of Big Spring,

Perry Wayne Wells of Pflugerville, Katharine Pearl Wells of Lewiston, ME and Lloyd Wells and wife Chelsea of Big Spring; grandchildren: Jarod Wells of Coahoma, Drew Cleavinger of Comanche, Carl Wells, Pflugerville, Cristina Wells of Copperas Cove, Hali Jo Wells, Spencer Neil Wells, Tatum Neel, David Hector and Erica Rios, all of Big Spring, Nikki Hector of South Plains, Sherada Potter and Cody Jones of Big Spring, Kayla Sanchez of Hesperia, CA, Kimberly Waddell of Coahoma, Ronnie Porter and Josie Porter both of Maine; 17 great grandchildren; siblings: Edward Wilbourn of Russellville, AR, Jack Wilbourn of Midland and her twin Mearle Wilbourn of Clyde; Lola Dale of Macomb, OK, Annie Mae Wilbourn of Big Spring and Dorothy Pearce of Moosomin, Saskatchewan, Canada.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one grandson Caleb Hector; brothers: Elvin Wilbourn and J.I. (Tex) Wilbourn; sisters: Fern Pearce and Lois Crawford.

Pallbearers were Jarod Wells, Spencer Wells, David Hector, Cody Jones, Ronnie Porter and Bubba Dale. Honorary pallbearers will be Jonathan Pearce, Johnny Wells and T. J. Cleavinger.

Arrangements were by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Booster Club Meeting

The Booster Club will be holding a meeting in the

**Coyote Room
at 6 p.m.
on Monday,
April 20th.**

We hope to see you there!

TA MEMBER 2015
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Borden County Community Gathering

Sunday, April 19, 2015

from 3:00-6:00 p.m. (come & go)

Borden County Event Center

Join us for a time of fellowship and fun!

This is a wonderful opportunity for county

friends to reunite together to meet

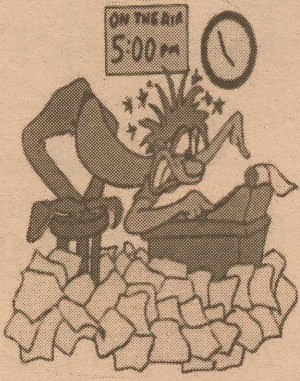
NEW and LONG-TIME friends.

Please feel free to bring finger foods, snacks and games.

Water and tea will be provided.

Let's get together!

All are Welcome!



Got News?
 Mail to:
P.O. Box 137
Gail, Tx. 79738
 Email:
kdean@bcisd.net
 or call
806/756-4313
ext. 275

FFA Extra Meat Items for Purchase


The Gail FFA chapter has the following extra meat/dessert items for sale.

- Pumpkin Roll (1)-\$15
- Red Velvet Roll (1)-\$15
- Apple Crisp Cobbler (2)-\$15 each
- Pecan Cobbler (1)-\$15
- New York Cheesecake (3)-\$20 each
- Variety Cheesecake (1)-\$20
- Pepperoni Pizza Kit (2)-\$15

- Hickory Smoked Turkey (3)-\$25 each
 - Spiral Ham (2)-\$25 each
 - Peppered Bacon (1)-\$15
 - Sausage Grilling Links (5)-\$15 each
 - Kolache (1)-\$15
- Please call Kaylee Farquhar, ag instructor at 806/549-6740 for more information on purchasing.

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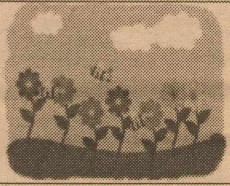
Are your children Buckled Up Correctly?
More than 8 out of 10 are installed incorrectly!

WHEN: Friday, April 10, 2015
 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
WHERE: First Baptist Church Parking Lot
 801 S. 1st Street, Lamesa

- Bring your child and know child's weight and height
- For more information contact Courtney Levens, Dawson County Extension, 806-872-3444 or Julie Smith, Borden County Extension, 806-756-4336

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Save a Life

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status.

|  | | April 2015 | | | | |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
| | | | 1 EOC English II | 2 JH/HS Track @ Highland OAP Practice-5:30 | 3 Pre-K Day Early Release-12:30 V Baseball @ Hermleigh-2:00 | 4 | |
| 5  Easter | 6 Holiday V Baseball @ Forsan-7:00 District HS Tennis @ BC OAP Practice-5:30 | 7 HS Golf @ Sweetwater Freshman Foundation Night-7:00 | 8 District Tennis @ BC | 9 Bi-District OAP @ Sands JH District Track @ Highland | 10 End of 5 th 6 weeks HS Track @ Garden City | 11 V Baseball @ Lubbock Monterey-4:00 FFA CDE Contest @ Texas Tech University | |
| Scholastic Book Fair | | | | | | | |
| 12 | 13 Beginning of 6 th Six Weeks HS Regional Golf @ San Angelo | 14 V Baseball vs. Rotan-5:00 HS Regional Golf @ San Angelo 8 th Grade PGP Night-7:00 | 15 | 16 | 17 District Track @ BC | 18 FFA Area CDE Contest @ Texas Tech University | |
| 19 | 20 STAAR Math-grades 5,8 | 21 STAAR Math-grades 3,4,6,7 STAAR Social Studies grade 8 | 22 STAAR Reading-grades 3,4,6,7 STAAR Science-grades 5,8 | 23 Area Track Meet @ Hermleigh | 24 V Baseball @ Ira-5:00 | 25 Regional UIL @ Angelo State University | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 V Baseball vs. Hermleigh-5:00 | 29 | 30 | | FFA State CDE Contest @ Texas Tech University | |