

The Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXVI

March 2, 2016

Conaway: Agriculture Secretary Can Relieve Crisis in Cotton Country

By House Ag Committee Chairman K. Michael Conaway

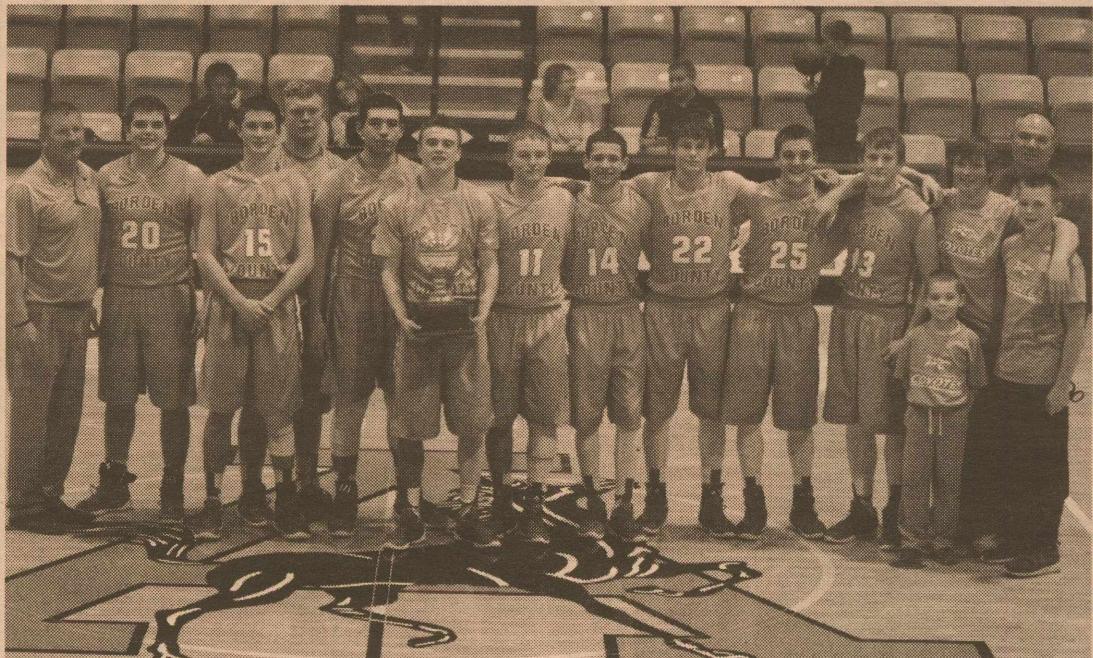
Cotton farmers in America are facing a crisis. Extreme drought, predatory

trade practices by countries like China and India, and the lack of a viable safety net are threatening the livelihoods of thousands of American farm families. While the general

farm economy is experiencing the largest three-year percentage decline in net farm income since the Great Depression, a

(Continued to Pg. 7)

Area Champs!



The Borden County Coyotes became Area champions last Thursday night after defeating the Grandfalls-Royalty Cowboys 94-34 in Andrews. Members of the Coyote team are (l to r) Assistant Coach Trey Richey, Trace Richey, Easton Edwards, Braxton Barnes, Diego Bernal, Korbin Martinez, Corbin Summers, Morgan Wilson, Hunter Jones, Nick Proulx, Ben Justice, Kale Yarbro and Head Coach Bubba Edwards. Also pictured are managers Theodore Skelton and Trey Edwards.

Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
Tumbleweed Smith

Harry Potter is Alive and Well in London

I almost hate to admit this, but I've never read a Harry Potter book and I've seen only one Harry Potter movie. I recently learned that I have really missed something. While we were visiting Scotland and England over the Christmas and New Year's holidays we toured the Warner Brothers Studio where the movies were made.

The large studio complex is about an hour away from London. Visitors pass a lot of countryside to get there. When the bus delivered us to the entrance around ten o'clock in the morning, the parking lot was filled and thousands of people were already there.

I thought Harry Potter was for kids. But there were many more adults, even though it was a holiday and schools were closed. Some hardcore fans wore costumes from the Harry Potter movies. In the gift shop, we saw one man with a shopping basket. He filled it with several items of Harry Potter merchandise. His total bill came to more than \$500. He and the woman with him were both dressed as wizards.

The tour took us through a series of rooms, each one big enough to hold a blimp. We saw the great hall, patterned after the great hall at the

Edinburgh castle in Scotland, which we had visited before going to England. While in Scotland, by the way, we took pictures of the Elephant House Cafe, where JK Rowling supposedly wrote some of the Harry Potter books. In the hall, the actual long dinner table used in the movie was set with silverware, food, plates and serving dishes.

Perhaps the main reason we were there was so our twelve year-old grandson Caleb could see it. He is a big Harry Potter fan and has read all the books and seen all the movies. He came home with some great memories and a wand purchased at the gift shop.

There are so many things to see in every nook and corner of each gigantic room. Everything is authentic including manikins dressed and made up to look like real characters from the movie. In one area there was a new coat. Next to it was another identical coat that had been made to show wear. The latter had rips and dirt spots. Racks held hundreds of costumes. There were cauldrons of all sizes, a goblet of fire that rose out of a golden cabinet, stairways to nowhere, flying brooms, silver knives that had

(Continued to Pg. 7)

Coyotes Bring Home Area Trophy With Victory Over Grandfalls-Royalty

By Coach Edwards

The Borden County hoopsters earned another gold basketball with a decisive, 94-34, victory over the Grandfalls-Royalty Cowboys in the Area round of the U.I.L. State Basketball playoffs.

In the nice confines of Mustang Arena, located at Andrews High School, the Coyotes put the throttle down early. Hunter Jones scored 10 points in the first quarter and Trace Richey, who scored a triple-double in the contest, added seven points. Borden led 24-8 and never looked back. Jaren Brooks, for the Cowboys, did heat up in the second frame scoring 11 of the teams 13 points. Easton Edwards knocked in five points in the quarter to give Borden a 40-21 halftime lead.

The Coyotes came out on fire in the third period outscoring Grandfalls 33-13. Four different Coyotes hit a three point bucket. Borden tallied 11 buckets from behind the arc for the game. The Coyotes blew the game wide open with a comfortable 73-34 lead. The impressive part was when Borden held the Cowboys scoreless in the final period to secure the victory and a spot in the Regional Quarterfinals for the second year in a row.

"I am so very proud of this team and what they accomplished throughout this game," Coach Edwards exclaimed. "We are making shots and playing great defense. That is a pretty good combination to make a long run in the playoffs."

The Coyotes will face Buena Vista in the Regional Quarterfinals at New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs, New Mexico.

Jones led the team in scoring with 22 points. Jones also had three steals. Richey's triple double consisted of 17 points, 10 rebounds, and 12

assists. Nick Proulx added 11 points. Korbin Martinez and Diego Bernal scored nine points. Easton Edwards and Braxton Barnes knocked in eight points. Corbin Sumners finished with six points.

Ben Justice and Morgan Wilson chipped in two points.

Borden is 21-4 on the season.



Junior Coyote, Hunter Jones moves a Grandfalls-Royalty player out of the way to score a goal for the Coyotes. Borden County defeated the Cowboys 94-34 for the Area trophy. Jones led the Coyotes scoring a total of 22 points against the Cowboys.

All-District Basketball Honors



Seven members of the Lady Coyote basketball team were among the selections for the 2015-2016 All-District Basketball Honors list. Included on that list were (back left to right) sophomore, Preslea Hall Co-Offensive MVP; freshman, Rayme Jones, Honorable Mention; senior, Zoie Key, First Team; senior, Kylee Dean, Second Team; (front left to right) sophomore, Braylee Walker, Honorable Mention and senior, Tatum Richey, Co-Defensive MVP.

Coyote Girls Recognized Among District 12-1A's Best

By Dwight Hines

Courtesy of Lamesa Press Reporter

After making their fifth straight playoff appearance in the Mike Skelton Era, the Borden County girls are well represented on the all-District 12-1A Basketball Team that was released this week.

Seven Coyote girls were recognized on this elite squad, including three young ladies who ended up getting that league's superlatives.

Borden County's sophomore guard Preslea Hall is 12-1A's Co-Offensive MVP.

Coyote senior guard Tatum Richey is 12-1A's Co-Defensive MVP.

Borden County freshman

guard Emma Key is 12-1A's Newcomer of the Year.

Borden County senior guard Zoie Key also was tabbed to that league's first team honor roll.

Coyote senior Kylee Dean made second-team all-district after averaging 4.5 points, 5.5 rebounds and 2.5 steals.

"She's up there because of her defense. She did a good job helping us shut down other people's posts like Ira's and Highland's," Coach Skelton said.

A couple of other Coyote

(Continued to Pg. 43)



Speech and Debate team members competing this past weekend at the Lubbock-Cooper Invitational are (left to right) Trent Collins, Tori Huckaby, Braxton Coor, Paige Holbrooks and Nathan Souder.

BHS Speech and Debate Bring Home Medals

If the past weekend is any indication, Borden County is well-prepared for the District 12-A Literary Meet scheduled for April 4.

At the Lubbock-Cooper Invitational, four students earned medals in their respective events.

Senior Nathan Souder brought home the bronze medal in Lincoln-Douglas debate. He defeated his teammate, freshman Paige Holbrooks, on speaker points.

In Extemp, freshman Trent Collins won Persuasive Speaking to earn the gold medal while junior Braxton Coor won

the silver medal in Informative Speaking.

Sophomore Tori Huckaby placed second in Poetry Interpretation. Also competing in Poetry was senior Lexi Cheatham.

All literary contestants will now spend the next month getting ready to defend their 12-A District title. The contests will be held here in Gail on Monday, April 4. Regional competition will once again be at Angelo State University, on April 22-23. State competition will be May 23-25 on the University of Texas campus.

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YOUR BANK. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR SECURITY

Coyote Junior Varsity Undefeated as Westbrook Wildcats Prove to be Easy Prey

By Coach Edwards

The Borden County Junior Varsity squad defeated the Westbrook Wildcats in the season finale to crown themselves as the 2016 district champions.

The Coyotes finished 7-0 in district play.

Borden opened up a big lead in the first quarter, 16-4, which ended up being a huge difference in the game. Westbrook outscored the Coyotes in the second period but trailed 22-12 at the half.

The Coyotes struggled scoring in the third quarter

putting up only six points, but the defensive remained strong allowing just three points to extend its lead, 28-15. Borden held on in the final frame to win the contest, 34-24.

Ryan Willborn led all scorers with 10 points followed by Payton Merket with eight points. Kale Yarbro added six points. Riley Lewis and Trent Collins chipped in four points. Noah Morales finished with two points.

The Coyotes finished the season with a record of 11-6.

School Lunch Menu

Mar. 7 - 11, 2016
Menu subject to change

Monday - Breakfast: Strudel & Cheese, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Spaghetti Bowl w/ Breadstick, Garden Salad, Tuscan Vegetables, Sliced Peaches, Vanilla Pudding and Milk.

Tuesday - Breakfast: Pancakes & Yogurt, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Chili & Cornbread, Broccoli Bites, Garden Salad, Orange Smiles and Milk.

Wednesday - Breakfast: Kolache & Cheese, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Pork Chop w/Gravy, Roll, Baked Potato, Glazed Carrots Fruit and Milk.

Thursday-Breakfast: Breakfast Taco, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Chicken Quesadilla & Salsa, Mexicali Corn, Charro Beans, Cinnamon Applesauce and Milk.

Friday-Breakfast: French Toast & Nut Butter, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Popcorn Chicken w/ Roll, Sweet Potato Waffle Fries, Cucumber Dippers, Fresh Fruit, Cookie and Milk.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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, POSTMASTER: Send Change of Address to the Borden Star, PO box 137, Gail, Texas 79738.

2016 Borden Track Schedule			
High School			
Day	Date	Meet	Location
Friday	February 26 th	Long Sleeve Relays	Hamlin
Friday	March 4 th	Cougar Relays	Klondike
Thursday	March 10 th	Sands Relay	Ackerly
Friday	March 18 th	Kenneth Rasco Relay(spring break)	Robert Lee
Thursday	March 24 th	Blackwell Relay	Blackwell
Thursday	March 31 st	Coyote Relay	Gail
Thursday	April 7 th	TBA	TBA
Fri./Sat.	April 14 th - 15 th	District/Area 11-12 Track Meet	Hermleigh
Thursday	April 20 th	Regional Qualifiers Meet	Gail
Fri./Sat.	April 29 th - 30 th	Regional	San Angelo (ASU)
Thur/Fri/Sat.	May 12 th - 14 th	State Meet	Austin: UT

Junior High			
Day	Date	Meet	Location
Thursday	February 25 th	TBA	TBA
Thursday	March 3 rd	Cougar Relays	Klondike
Thursday	March 8 th	Sands Mustang Relays	Ackerly
Mon-Tue	March 22 nd -23 rd	TBA	TBA
Thursday	March 31 st	Coyote Relay	Gail
Thursday	April 7 th	District Meet	Highland

**TEXAS A&M
AGRICULTURE
EXTENSION**

Heart and Home...



Julie Mumme Smith
Borden County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences
P.O. Box 155 or 140 East Wilbourn, Gall, TX 79738 (806)756-4336
julie.smith@ag.tamu.edu <http://borden.agrilife.org>
Facebook: Borden County Extension and 4-H
Blog: <http://agrilifeextensionbordenfc.wordpress.com>

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

Be Roadwise in the Dark Safety Tips for Driving at Night

According to research from the National Safety Council, driving at night is more dangerous than any other time of day, with traffic deaths three-times greater at night compared to daytime hours. The reason for this is that driver vision — the most important sense necessary for driving — is compromised at night, including depth perception, color recognition, and peripheral vision. Additionally, the glare from an oncoming vehicle with their high beams can temporally blind a driver.

Headlights on vehicles can only illuminate about 500 feet (with high beams), and 250 feet for normal headlights. With visibility limited, there is less time to react to something unexpected in the roadway. Driving at high speeds at night with reduced visibility makes the situation even more dangerous. Drivers should not "out-drive" their headlights. In other words, do not drive faster than you can stop within the distance illuminated by your headlights. At 50 miles per hour it takes about 268 feet to slow down, including the distance traveled during reaction time. That would easily "out-run" the illumination of your normal headlights. Remember that the posted speed limit is the highest legal limit under ideal conditions and not necessarily the highest safe speed. One of the best plans for night driving is to simply drive slower.

Age is also a factor when it comes to night vision, which is the ability to see in low light. At 50 years of age, a driver needs twice as much light to see as well as a 30 year old driver. At 60 years of age and older, night vision is further reduced, making evening driving a risk — especially on unfamiliar roads.

Nighttime also brings on fa-

tigue, and with the fatigue comes reduced alertness. Driving long periods of time late at night can further reduce reaction time. The only safe cure for fatigue is to get some sleep. Driving while sleepy is not only dangerous for the driver, it also puts other drivers and passengers on the road at risk.

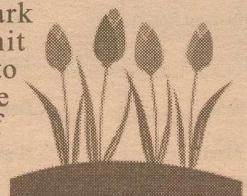
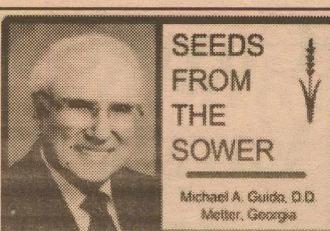
Drivers should follow these safety tips for nighttime driving from the National Safety Council.

Drivers of all ages:

- Aim vehicle headlights correctly, and make sure they're clean
- Dim lighting on dashboard
- Look away from oncoming lights
- If eyeglasses are needed, make sure they're anti-reflective
- Clean the windshield to eliminate streaks
- Slow down to compensate for limited visibility and reduced stopping time
- Stop driving when you are fatigued

Older drivers

- Have annual vision exams
- Reduce speed
- Take a driving course; even experienced drivers can benefit from a refresher course, and some of the rules have probably changed
- Minimize distractions at night, like talking with passengers or listening to the radio
- Check with your doctor about side effects of prescription drugs
- Be honest about your ability to drive after dark and limit driving to daytime hours if necessary

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

A salesman complimented a young mother on her well-behaved son, adding, "I have eight children of my own."

"Eight kids!" she exclaimed in disbelief. "I can't imagine dividing my love by eight."

"I don't divide my love," he said, "I multiply it!"

How like God. We read in His Word that "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...for everyone." His love is unlimited and all inclusive. And we would never know how much He loved us until it was seen in Scripture. Love began with God, was seen in Jesus and ends with us. There is no way to know, experience or understand the love of God except through the Son of God.

As we put our lives into His hands, He will put His love into our hearts. And as we come to understand His love we will realize that He has a lot of love for us to share with others, and we can help to multiply His love as we serve others.

Visit us at: www.SowerMinistries.org

Borden County Farmer Directs Donation to Borden County 4-H

Borden County 4-H has received a \$2,500 donation from America's Farmers Grow Communities, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund and directed by local farmer Randy and Donelle Hensley of Borden County. The donation will help the organization enhance a variety of 4-H projects (including robotics, clothing, food and nutrition, livestock and wool judging, etc.), develop leadership activities and pay for camping opportunities.

For six years, America's Farmers Grow Communities has collaborated with farmers to donate over \$22 million to more than 8,000 community organizations across rural America. Winning farmers will direct donations to nonprofits to help fight rural hunger, purchase life saving fire and EMS equipment, support ag youth leadership programs, buy much needed classroom resources, and so much more.

America's Farmers Grow Communities partners with farmers to support local nonprofit causes that positively

impact farming communities across rural America. Grow Communities is one program in the America's Farmers community outreach effort, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund. Other programs include America's Farmers Grow Ag Leaders, which encourages rural youth to remain in agriculture and provides \$1,500 college scholarships to high school and college students pursuing ag-related degrees and America's Farmers Grow Rural Education, which works with farmers to nominate rural school districts to compete for \$10,000 and \$25,000 math and science grants. Visit www.AmericasFarmers.com to learn more.

About the Monsanto Fund

The Monsanto Fund, the philanthropic arm of the Monsanto Company, is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where farmers and Monsanto Company employees live and work. Visit the Monsanto Fund at www.monsantofund.org.

'America's Farmers Grow Communities' Donation



Borden County 4-H members are pictured with Randy Hensley (back left) who directed a donation of \$2500 sponsored by Monsanto to the club. Members pictured are (back l to r) Hensley, Morgan Oaks, Kennedy Tucker, Kaylee Walker, Ryann Phillips, J.W. Nix, Thomas Nix, (front l to r) Erin Nix, Maggie Miller, Rexie Sanders, Dallie Miller, Jenna Holbrooks, Brooklyn Gray, Tres Spencer, Ben Nix and Kasen Oaks.

Making the Grade!

4th Six-Weeks Beta Achievement

Seniors: Tatum Richey, Nathan Souder and Caelan Thuett; **Juniors:** Hayley Gray and Savannah Herridge; **Sophomore:** Carley Bell, Preslea Hall, Harley Merrill, Trace Richey, Ashlyn Tucker and M.J. Van der Bank; **Freshmen:** Myka Blissard, Madison Cole, Katie Gray, Paige Holbrooks and Rayme Jones; **Eighth Grade:** Kaitlyn Cribbs, Camden Edwards, Callie Hargrove, Hailey Lowery and Kaylee Walker; **Seventh Grade:** Mason Cole, Haddie Flanigan, Maggie Miller, Erin Nix, Gunner Shofner, Kennedy Tucker and Leandre Van der Bank; **Sixth Grade:** Paige Parker, Ryann Phillips, Ethan Stephens and Rachel Thomas.

4th Six-Weeks Honor Roll

Seniors: Karly Etheredge, Samuel Raborn, Kyrsten Rebeles and Merik Valentine; **Juniors:** Madson Benavidez, Jamyleigh Gray, Hunter Jones, Avery Price and Corbin Sumners; **Sophomore:** Braxton Barnes, Easton Edwards, Thomas Nix and Braylee Walker; **Freshman:** Reina Hernandez, Kami Key and Brooke Swaffar; **Eighth Grade:** Lindsay Brantley, MaKenzie Milhauser, Tatum Treadwell and Brittney Walker; **Seventh Grade:** Kylie Barnes, Trey Edwards, Kaci Hudson, Justin Willborn; **Sixth Grade:** Brooklyn Gray, Jadeyn



Pre-School Day Set for Mar. 25th

Pre-School Day will be Friday, March 25th. If your child will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2016, he/she is invited to visit the kindergarten class on this day.

After you have taken your child to the kindergarten class, please go to the library to complete your child's registration packet. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate, social security card, and immunization record.

WE WILL BE HAVING AN EARLY DISMISSAL AT

12:30 ON PRE-SCHOOL DAY. Pre-School students will attend school from 8:05 - 12:30. The school will provide lunch. If your child would like to ride the bus, please contact the bus driver in your area.

Please note that if you do not reside within the district, you will need to call

for prior approval in order for your child to attend on this day.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 806-756-4313.

Thought for the Day

*I count all that part of my life lost which I spent not in communion with God or in doing good.
-John Donne*

BORDEN COUNTY HERITAGE DAY

~~~Need Volunteers~~~  
June 11, 2016

Contact Lisa at  
[bordencohistory@gmail.com](mailto:bordencohistory@gmail.com)

For all your school and County News & Information.  
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## Borden Star

Only \$12.00 a year!

Call: 806/756-4313 ext. 275 or Send a check to  
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## STEP UP SCALE DOWN

### Lunch and Learn 12 Lesson Series

Tuesdays from  
12:00 -1:00 p.m.  
(Beginning March 8th)

Borden County  
Courthouse, Gail

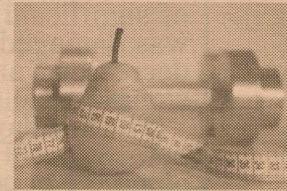
Bring your lunch!

\$20 course fee

RSVP by Friday, March 4th!

#### Step Up & Scale Down Objectives:

- Prevent and/or reduce overweight and obesity through improved eating and physical activity behaviors.
- Control total calorie intake to manage body weight. For people who are overweight, this will mean consuming fewer calories from foods and beverages.
- Increase physical activity, and reduce time spent in sedentary behaviors.
- Learn to make healthful and realistic choices based on an individual's lifestyle, with the goal of creating an eating plan that can be followed for a lifetime.



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service—Borden County  
P.O. Box 155 Gail, TX 79738

Phone: 806-756-4336  
Fax: 806-756-4486  
<http://borden.agrilife.org>  
[jm-smith@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:jm-smith@ag.tamu.edu)

Facebook page: Borden County Extension and 4-H

TEXAS A&M  
AGRICULTURE  
EXTENSION

If you need any type of accommodation to participate in this program or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact your local Extension office at least 1 week prior to the event.

## Legal Notice

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS  
OIL AND GAS DIVISION  
DISTRICT 8A Rule 37  
Case No. 0299597.

DATE OF ISSUANCE: Feb 8, 2016 Status/Permit No. 812313

NOTICE OF PROTEST  
DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Mar 14, 2016

Address: Railroad Commission of Texas

ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit  
P. O. Box 12967  
Austin, Texas 78711-2967  
Fax: (512) 463-6780  
E m a i l :  
SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the O'BENCO, INC., [RRC Operator No. 617512] has made

application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission

Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the

DISTANCE BETWEEN WELLS requirement for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 518, Bk. 97, H&TC RR

CO / JONES, D A Survey, A-1172, FLUVANNA Field, BORDEN County, being 3 miles NW direction

from FLUVANNA, Texas. PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may

be granted WITHOUT A HEARING if no protest to the application is received within the

deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons

include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and

tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a

hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A

Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear

at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the

application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of

evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing

procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848.

If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512)463-6751.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST

BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR

E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Mar 14, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED

WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE

GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: FLUVANNA

Lease/Unit Name : FLUVANNA (MISSISSIPPIAN) UNIT

Lease/Unit Well No. : 108H

Lease/Unit Acres : 1320.0

Nearest Lease Line (ft) : 660.0

Nearest Well on Lease (ft) : 1107.0

Lease Lines : 620.0 F S L,

509.0 F W L

Survey Lines : 620.0 F S L,

509.0 F W L

Wellbore Profile(s) : Horizontal

Rule 37 Case No. 0299597  
(Dist. 8A) Page 1

Lateral: TH1

Penetration Point Location

Lease Lines: 860.0 F W L

660.0 F S L

Terminus Location

BH County: BORDEN

Section: 535 Block: 97 Ab-

stract: 945

Survey: H&TC RR CO /

JONES, D A

Lease Lines: 860.0 F W L

660.0 F N L

Survey Lines: 860.0 F W L  
660.0 F N L

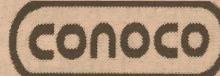
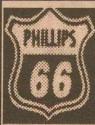
Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

FLUVANNA : OIL Special Rules 660/1200, 40.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 8200 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Heather Haynes, at (318)8658568, x118.

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Got News?

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P.O. Box 137

Gail, Tx. 79738

Call: 806/756-4313

Ext: 275

Email:

kdean@bcisd.net

Borden County Appraisal District Reminds Businesses to Render their Taxable Property by

April 15

If you own tangible personal property that is used to produce income, you must file a rendition with the Borden County Appraisal District by April 15.

A rendition is a report that lists all the taxable property you owned or controlled on Jan. 1 of this year. Property includes inventory and equipment used by a business. Owners do not have to render exempt property, such as church property or an agriculture producer's equipment used for farming.

"The appraisal district may use the information submitted in the rendition to set property values," said Chief Appraiser Judy Harris

You can also file a report of decreased value to notify the appraisal district of significant depreciation of your property. "For example, if your property was damaged by a storm, flood or fire last year, you should file a report of decreased value. The appraisal district will look at your property before assigning a value," said Harris

The last day to file a rendition or report of decreased value is April 15. A 10 percent to 50 percent penalty may be imposed if a rendition is filed late, incomplete or not at all. Property owners who need more time to file their renditions may file a written request with the chief appraiser on or before April 15 to receive an automatic extension to May 15 or the next business day. The chief appraiser may also grant an additional 15 days after the postponed deadline, if necessary.

For more information about rendering property, deadline extensions, penalties and rendition forms, taxpayers may contact the Borden County Appraisal District at P.O. Box 298, Gail, TX 79738 or call 806-756-4484. Information is also available from the Comptroller's Property Tax Assistance Division's website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxinfo/proptax/.

# Crisis in Cotton Country...

(Continued from Pg. 1)

whopping 56 percent, the cotton industry is facing an existential threat.

It is against this backdrop that Secretary Vilsack wrote a column this week stating he does not have authority under the Farm Bill to declare cottonseed as an other oilseed. I submit there are a variety of reasons why that is simply not the case.

The Secretary argues that Congress removed cotton from Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) in the 2014 Farm Bill and, thus, his hands are tied. Here's what Congress actually did in the 2014 Farm Bill: As a result of a WTO settlement with Brazil, Congress effectively removed cotton lint from ARC and PLC. Cottonseed has not historically been a covered commodity, and Congress never discussed adding cottonseed to the list of covered commodities. Rather, Congress left intact the Secretary's authority to designate any oilseed as an "other oilseed."

The Secretary has elsewhere argued that canons of statutory construction prevent him from acting. That is not the case. The statute in question plainly states that an "other oilseed" includes "any oilseed designated by the Secretary." There is only one canon of statutory construction necessary to move forward with designating cottonseed as an "other oilseed": the ordinary meaning of the statutory language. This is the canon the U.S. Supreme Court looks to before all others.

The Secretary has also argued he cannot designate cottonseed as an oilseed because the provision is reserved for "emerging oilseeds." That is also not the case. The Farm Bill defines an oilseed as "a crop of sunflower seed, rapeseed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe, sesame seed, or any other oilseed designated by the Secretary" (emphasis added). The Farm Bill does not restrict this authority to "emerging oilseeds." The Secretary imposes this limitation on himself.

The Secretary further claims he cannot designate cot-

tonseed as an oilseed because USDA already made a decision to make cottonseed eligible for STAX instead. While USDA may have accommodated the industry's request, that does not change the fact that the law says nothing about cottonseed being eligible for STAX.

Finally, the Secretary has argued that Congress did not designate cottonseed as a covered commodity because of the cost of doing so. That is simply not correct. Congress never considered adding cottonseed as a covered commodity. That prospect arose long after passage of the 2014 Farm Bill and only after the predatory trade practices of China and India started decimating world cotton markets, rendering STAX ineffective.

To his credit, the Secretary is not without solutions to offer. However, there are real problems with the solutions the Secretary has laid out.

The first solution involves Congress lifting a prohibition on his ability to use what are called Section 32 funds in emergency situations like the one we are in today. I was neither active in removing this authority nor do I solely possess the ability to restore it. This requires an act of Congress, which takes time—something we are very short on if we are to provide

timely help. This is also unnecessary in the current circumstances because, as I have pointed out in this reply, the Secretary already has all the authority he needs to act now.

The second solution regarding ginning cost share is temporary in nature and, I am afraid, much more a band-aid than a cure. While the Secretary has the authority to deliver that assistance now, it would not stop the bleeding and barely cover the wound.

I confess that all of the smoke and mirrors have been very frustrating to those of us who are deeply concerned about the crisis that is unfolding in farm country and for all of the livelihoods that are at stake. I am committed to standing up for America's farm families. We would appreciate the Secretary fully leveraging the authorities currently available to him.

(PCG EDITOR'S NOTE: This article can be found online at <http://www.agweb.com/article/conaway-agriculture-secretary-can-relieve-crisis-in-cotton-country-naa-agweb-guest-editor/>. You also can see Secretary Vilsack's column on AgWeb at <http://www.agweb.com/article/vilsack-explains-why-cotton-can't-qualify-for-arcplc-naa-usda/>)

## Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit  
Tumbleweed Smith

(Continued from Pg. 1)

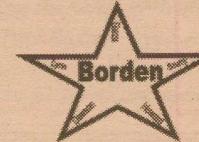
hand worked filigree, and an apothecary laboratory.

One room had the Hogwarts Express locomotive. At the end of the tour was a room full of snow-covered buildings used in the filming. Just spectacular. Dozens of portraits hung on the walls. Crewmembers donned costumes and posed for many of these. The place is a tribute to creativity and ingenuity.

The entire visit was a tour of fantasyland. The care that went into every phase of the

productions was evident in every prop and set piece. The visit showed how the people who worked on the movies became like a family. They were together ten years.

*Tumbleweed Smith is never desperate for an interview, but he's always looking for a good story. Contact him at ts@tumbleweedsmith.com.*



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Big Spring Lamesa O'Donnell



## Lady Coyote All-District Honors...

(Continued from Pg. 1)

hoopsters who earned honorable mention all-district are sophomore Braylee Walker and freshman Rayme Jones.

Having that much representation on this 12-1A squad, Skelton believes is another good sign of his program.

"It proves once again right there how hard people think we work at it. No, we're not very flashy or very tall. Our tallest out here isn't even 5-foot-9, but we still make everybody work for everything that they get against us," Skelton said.

"We still wish that we would have made a better showing against Grady. But look where they're going this weekend. They made it to regionals so we still can't be too disappointed."

Skelton believes his Coyote girls are worthy of that kind of attention.

"We ended up splitting with Highland and we had Ira beat at home. The frustration part of our whole season is how we beat Klondike and they had a shot at going to the regional tournament. We played Roby twice this past season and both times within single digits and they're at our regional tournament this weekend," Skelton said. "We've been playing good people. We're not quite there, yet, but we're moving in the right direction."

"Without any senior next year, it's going to take some of our young kids to step up and

filling those roles."

Borden County's Hall averaged 15.5 points, six rebounds and three steals per game for the Coyotes this past season.

"Preslea's one of those kids who just seems to keep getting better all the time. As long as she continues to do that, we can see her getting that (12-1A) MVP here not too far off," Skelton said.

Richey averaged 10 points, five steals and six rebounds her senior season at Gail.

"We've had the chance to coach Tatum since her eighth grade year out here," Coach Skelton said of Richey.

"Her leadership and constant effort will definitely be missed."

BC's Emma Key should be one of the young guns to watch in the years to come at Gail. In her freshman year at high school, Emma averaged eight points, 2.5 assists and three steals per game.

"Emma and Preslea will be at the tip our spears. It takes a lot going into making one of those weapons, but I guarantee those two will be at the tip of that spear," Skelton said.

"Again, we won't have a girl who even stands as tall as 5-foot-9 out here, but that still won't keep us from getting after people again."

Zoie Key averaged six points, two rebounds, 2.5 steals and two assists per game.



## Dare to Live Without Limits

By Bryan Golden

### Miracles

"There are two ways to live: you can live as if nothing is a miracle; you can live as if everything is a miracle." —Albert Einstein

We have a choice as to how we view the world. Our perception is indeed our reality. It is sad that some people decide life is nothing but problems. This outlook actually repels happiness. Rather than seeing all of the miracles we are immersed in, they discern only flaws. Regardless of what you currently believe, everything is indeed a miracle.

The miracles start with you. Your existence is truly a marvel. Your body is astonishing. It is made up of 10 trillion cells (10,000 billion) working together. To understand the mag-

nitude of this number consider there are approximately 6 billion people in the world.

The processes required to sustain you are incredible. You breathe about 20,000 times each day. Your heart beats over 100,000 times per day pumping 5,500 gallons of blood through more than 60,000 miles of blood vessels. If stretched out, your blood vessels would circle the earth more than twice.

Your brain is another miracle. It has around 100 billion neurons. While you are awake, your brain generates 10 watts of power — enough to illuminate a small light bulb. Your brain is more powerful than the world's biggest supercomputer. Your mind is

capable of functions that defy explanation.

Every aspect of our planet is a miracle. It has the perfect combination of climate, atmosphere, and elements necessary to sustain life. It provides us with everything we need. There are untold secrets yet to be discovered that will enable us to solve many problems.

Nature also abounds with miracles. How do birds navigate when they migrate? How does instinct work? How does a tree grow from a seed? From the smallest organism to the largest animal, there is no aspect that is not miraculous.

I haven't even scratched the surface in identifying the virtually infinite number of miracles surrounding us. So

how is it possible some people live as if nothing is a miracle? One possible explanation is that they take all the good for granted and thus focus only on what they consider to be problems.

Those who see no miracles transform minor annoyances into major dilemmas. When it comes to legitimately significant challenges, they are convinced there are no solutions. These people erroneously believe they are powerless to influence their quality of life.

If you live as if everything is a miracle, it is impossible to sustain a negative attitude. Most of the obstacles you face will shrink in significance when compared to the wonders around you. By reducing the size of your challenges, solutions appear much more readily.

When you find it easier to solve problems, you become less apprehensive of difficulties. As this happens, you are able to keep things in perspective. You are consequently creating a positive spiral where

you find it easier and easier to find solutions.

Since there is no disputing that everything is a miracle, you may as well acknowledge it. There are no negative side effects whatsoever to this recognition. You will be happier and get so much more enjoyment from your life. Things that used to bother you will fade away to insignificance. You will have a positive attitude which will attract good people and circumstances to you.

Your outlook is up to you. If you are unhappy with how you feel, change your perspective. Open your eyes and look at all the miracles. Your life will be positively transformed in countless ways.

*Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at bryan@columnist.com or write him c/o this paper. © 2007 Bryan Golden*



# MARCH 2016



| Sunday                                    | Monday                                                             | Tuesday                                                                                                                               | Wednesday                                  | Thursday                                                                                                             | Friday                                                                                          | Saturday                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                           |                                                                    | <b>1</b><br>Boys BB Regional Quarter Final vs. Buena Vista @ Hobbs, NM-7:30                                                           | <b>2</b>                                   | <b>3</b><br>BC Baseball Tourney<br><br>Cougars JH Relays @ Klondike                                                  | <b>4</b><br>Cougar HS Relays @ Klondike                                                         | <b>5</b><br>BC Baseball Tourney<br>UIL Meet @ Plains<br><br>FFA Officer Workshop @ Lubbock |
| <b>6</b>                                  | <b>7</b><br>OAP Practice-6:00<br><br>HS Golf @ Big Spring          | <b>8</b><br>OAP Festival @ Ropes<br><br>Baseball @ Big Spring-5:00<br><br>Sands JH Relays @ Ackerly                                   | <b>9</b>                                   | <b>10</b><br>Sands HS Relays @ Ackerly                                                                               | <b>11</b><br>Progress Reports<br><br>Early Release @ 12:30                                      | <b>12</b><br>Softball vs. Sundown                                                          |
| <b>13</b><br>Daylight Savings Time Begins | <b>14</b><br>Softball @ Tahoka                                     | <b>15</b><br>Softball vs. Forsan                                                                                                      | <b>16</b>                                  | <b>17</b><br>Baseball vs. ACHS-11:00                                                                                 | <b>18</b><br>Kenneth Rasco HS Relays @ Robert Lee                                               | <b>19</b>                                                                                  |
| <b>SPRING BREAK</b>                       |                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       |                                            |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                 |                                                                                            |
| <b>20</b>                                 | <b>21</b><br>Baseball vs. Big Spring-5:00<br><br>OAP Practice-6:00 | <b>22</b><br>Softball @ Westbrook<br><br>TELPAS Reading Test                                                                          | <b>23</b><br>STAAR Staff Training          | <b>24</b><br>District OAP @ Westbrook<br><br>Blackwell HS Relays @ Blackwell<br><br>FFA Judging Contest @ Sweetwater | <b>25</b><br>Early Release @ 12:30<br><br>Pre-School Day<br><br>Blackwell HS Relays @ Blackwell | <b>26</b><br>Softball vs. Seagraves                                                        |
| <b>27</b><br><i>Happy Easter</i>          | <b>28</b><br>Holiday                                               | <b>29</b><br>STAAR Writing grades 4,7<br><br>STAAR Math Test Grades 5,8<br><br>STAAR EOC-English I<br><br>Baseball vs. Hermleigh-5:00 | <b>30</b><br>STAAR Reading Test Grades 5,8 | <b>31</b><br>STAAR EOC-English II<br><br>Coyote JH/HS Relays                                                         |                                                                                                 |                                                                                            |