

The Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXVII

February 25, 2009

BOYS' AREA PLAY-OFF BASKETBALL GAME

BORDEN COUNTY VS. PADUCAH
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH
AT FLOYADA AT 6:30P.M.

ADULTS: \$5

STUDENTS: \$3

BORDEN COUNTY WILL BE HOME TEAM

Gail FFA Celebrates National FFA Week

By Buddy Wallace

February 21 - 28th is the week chosen to celebrate 2009 National FFA Week by thousands of FFA members across the country. FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through Agricultural Education - this is the main goal of the organization. For more than 73 years, the FFA has continued to be an integral part of agricultural instruction by making classroom lessons come to life through realistic applications. From its beginning, in 1928, with 33 delegates at the first national convention, it has grown to encompass 451,997 members in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam and

Rota.

The Gail FFA Chapter is made up of 43 members in grades 9-12. The chapter is very active in community service, leadership training, career development events, mechanical applications, supervised agricultural experience programs, and many other activities. The chapter officers will be doing their part to promote National FFA Week by wearing FFA attire on Tuesday as they visit with prospective junior high students on the benefits of being in the FFA and Ag. Science Programs.

The Gail FFA Chapter wishes to thank the community for all of its strong support this year and the members are proud to represent Borden County in its FFA activities.

Division II Area Champions!



2009 Division II Area Champions! The Lady Coyotes defeated the Benjamin Lady Mustangs last Thursday. Pictured are (back row left to right) Krista Tarleton, Brittany Day, Head Coach Colt McCook, Bailey Anderson, Krystal Hobson, Olivia Key, Taylor Richey, Coach Peter Benavidez, (bottom row left to right) Stefanie Cooley and D'Nae Johnson.

Entity Changes After Sales Closing Could Have Crop Insurance Impacts

By Shawn Wade

Growers contemplating changes in the structure of their farming operations as a result of newly announced Commodity Program eligibility and pay limit rules should strive to have such changes in place before finalizing their

2009 crop insurance policies.

Growers need to be aware that even though the Farm Service Agency has extended the window during which entity structures can be altered for the 2009 crop, the Risk Management Agency has not made a similar announcement.

The dangerous water for growers who do make a change in their entity structure at FSA after March 15 and establishing their crop insurance policy under a different set-up is the potential termination of

(Continued to Page 8)

Lady Coyotes Defeat Robert Lee for Bi-District Title

By Coach McCook

The Lady Coyotes took on Robert Lee at Forsan last Tuesday as they began their 2009 playoff run.

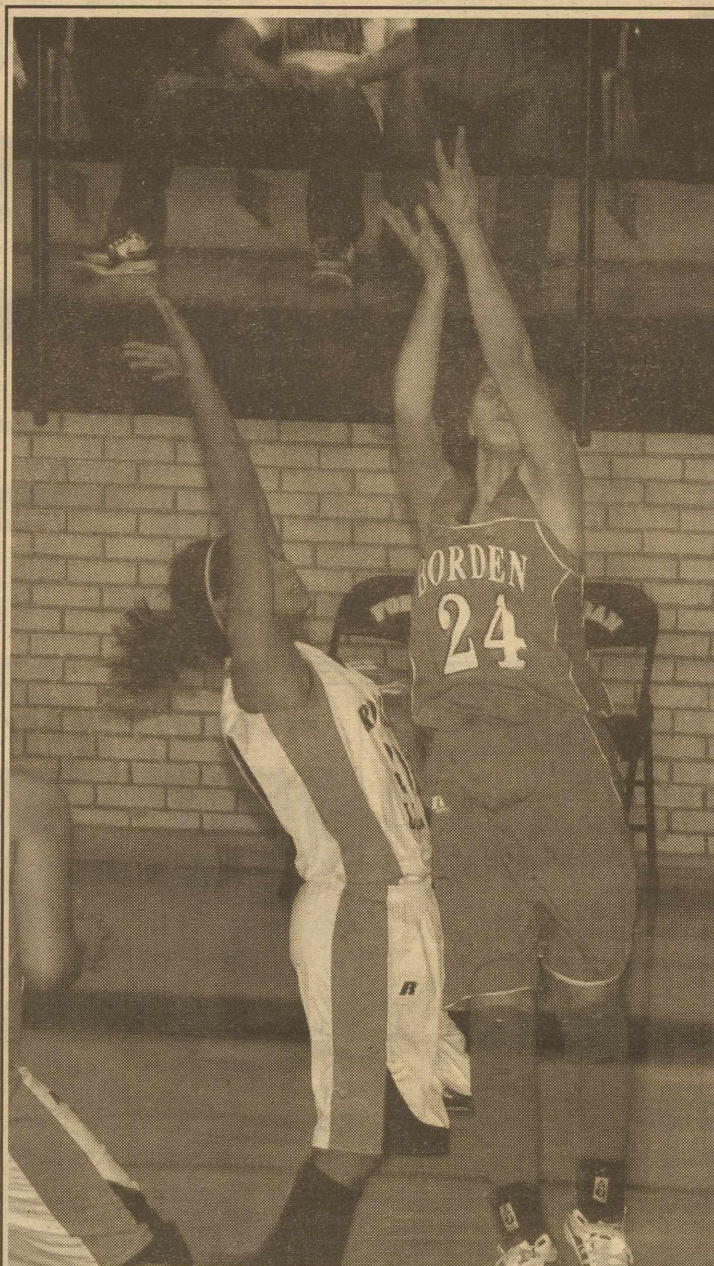
The Coyotes had faced the Steers earlier in the year and won by seven points. This time they took control early and never looked back.

The Coyotes began the game on fire from beyond the arc. Olivia Key hit three three-pointers to help propel the team to a 21-9 first quarter lead. While their shooting cooled off the remainder of the game, the Coyotes' defense remained red hot, limiting Robert Lee to only 2 points in the second quarter. In fact, the

Coyotes did not allow more than 9 points in a single quarter the whole game.

With such tenacious defense, the girls extended their lead throughout the game, bringing the final score to 49-26. With this win, the Lady Coyotes improve their record to 25-8.

Taylor Richey led all scorers with 18 points. Olivia Key contributed 15, and Krystal Hobson added 10. D'Nae Johnson had 6 points. Stefanie Cooley, Bailey Anderson, Krista Tarleton, and Brittany Day also made significant contributions, on both ends of the floor.



Lady Coyote, Taylor Richey (#24) stretches to put the ball in for 2 points against Robert Lee. Richey scored a total of 18 points in last Tuesday's game.

2009 Borden County Baseball Schedule					
Date	Day	Opponent	Time	Location	Scores
Feb. 16 th	Monday	Scrimmage:	TBA		
Feb. 19 th	Thursday	Scrimmage: Rotan	TBA	Rotan	
Feb. 24 th	Tuesday	Open	TBA		
Feb. 28 th	Saturday	Hermleigh	12:00	Snyder (Moffett)	
March 2 nd	Monday	Hermleigh	3:33	Snyder (WTC)	
March 5 th - 7 th	Thurs. - Sat.	Tourney @ Hamlin	TBA	Hamlin	
				Hamlin	
				Hamlin	
				Hamlin	
				Hamlin	
March 10 th	Tuesday	Anson	6:00	Anson	
March 13 th - 15 th	Thurs. - Sat.	Possible Tourney @ Plains	TBA	TBA	
March 16 th	Monday	Open	TBA	TBA	
March 20 th	Friday	Albany	TBA	Snyder (Moffett)	
*March 23 rd	Monday	Ralls	5:00	Ralls	
*March 28 th	Saturday	O'Donnell	12:00	Snyder (Moffett)	
March 31 st	Tuesday	Forsan JV	5:00	Snyder (Moffett)	
April 3 rd	Friday	Nazereth	6:30	Shallowater	
*April 6 th	Monday	Crosbyton	5:00	Snyder (Moffett)	
*April 10 th	Friday	Ralls	5:00	Snyder (Moffett)	
*April 14 th	Tuesday	O'Donnell	5:00	O'Donnell	
*April 18 th	Saturday	Tahoka (double Header)	12:00	Tahoka (DH)	
April 21 st	Tuesday	Lockney Varsity (tentative)	5:00	Lockney	
*April 25 th	Saturday	Crosbyton	4:30	Crosbyton	
April 27 th - 28 th	Mon-Tues.	Rain out dates			
Apr. 30-May 1 st	Thurs-Sat.	Tie Breaker Date			

* - District Game

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BC Coyotes Have Trouble With Eagles

By Coach Baeza

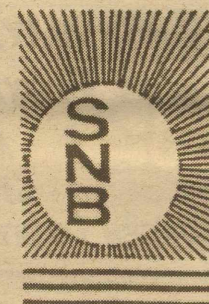
The Borden Coyotes travel to Post on Feb. 16 to take on the Seagraves Eagles in a practice game match up that was good experience for the Coyotes. The Eagles were a very athletic team that jumped out early on the Coyotes with full court pressure that led to many fast break points. The Coyotes responded better in the second quarter to the full court pressure by breaking their press and getting some good looks at the basket but still found themselves trailing by the big margin of 41-19 at half. The second half was much better for the Coyotes as they played

much better defense and had little trouble with the full court pressure. The Coyotes were only outscored by five points in the third quarter and tied the Eagles in the fourth to make the final score 72-45. Although the Coyotes did not win the game, this was valuable experience for the playoffs and it was good to see how they only got better as the game went on. Good Job Coyotes!

Scoring for the Coyotes: Brendan Tarleton 14, Karl Lamming 10, Zach Telchik 9, Michael Cooley 5, Tony Soto 4, and Carlos Hernandez 3.

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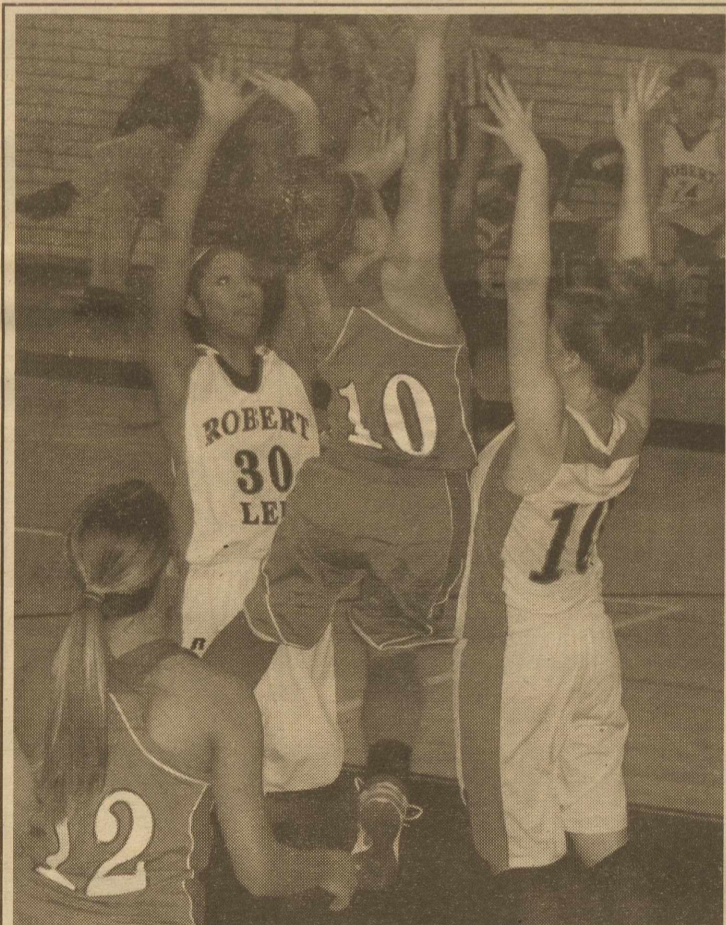
Lady Coyotes Take Area Play-off Game

By Coach Baeza

The Lady Coyotes defeated the Benjamin Lady Mustangs Friday at Merkel despite another off shooting night. For the second game in a row the girls had trouble putting the ball in the hole, yet for the second game in a row they made up for it by playing great defense. Once more they held their opponent to less than ten points in every quarter and outscored their opponent in every quarter, thus extending their lead throughout the game. The Coyotes led at halftime 20-14 and won by a score of 40-26. One key to their success was free throw shooting. The girls were 11 of 15 on the

night and 6 of 8 in the fourth quarter. This win brings the Lady Coyotes season record to 26-8.

Taylor Richey led all scorers with 18 points, 6 rebounds, and 2 steals. Olivia Key had 8 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 4 steals, and 1 block. Stefanie Cooley had 4 points 2 rebounds, 1 assist, and 2 steals. D'Nae Johnson had 4 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 4 steals, and 1 block. Krystal Hobson had 4 points, 4 rebounds, and 1 steal. And Bailey Anderson had 2 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist, and 3 steals. Krista Tarleton and Brittany Day also contributed to the teams effort.



D'Nae Johnson (#10) pushes through the Robert Lee defense to score 2 points for the Lady Coyotes. The Ladies came away with a 40-26 win.

Best Youth Actress



Borden County 6th grader, Tye Baeza, was recently awarded Best Youth Actress for her role as Alice in the production of "Alice in Wonderland" at the Garza Theatre's Willy Award ceremony held in Post on Saturday, February 14. This is Tye's second Willy Award. She is the daughter of Tommy and Trudy Baeza of Post.

BC Coyotes Take on the Ropes Eagles

By Coach Baeza

The Borden County Coyotes played host to the Ropes Eagles in our final practice game before the first round of the playoffs on Feb. 21 in Post. The Coyotes began the game well as they jumped out to a quick 12-4 lead in the first quarter. The Eagles were press did not look good during the first quarter which led to many easy baskets for the Coyotes. The Eagles however did a much better job of pressing during the second quarter and mounted a run on the Coyotes which brought the game to a score of 21-19 in favor of the Coyotes at half. During the second quarter the Coyotes did a much better job of handling the pressure that was put on by the Eagles but however the Eagle were able to take a one point lead going into the fourth. The Coyotes did an excellent job defensively during the fourth by shutting down Eagles top scorers and stepped up offensively as we out scored

the Eagles during the fourth 11-9. The game still came down to a last second shot by the Coyotes as Karl Lamming took a pass from Zack Telchik and drove into the paint and hit a jumper to put the Coyotes up by one with less than ten seconds left. The Coyotes then made one last defensive stand and took the game from the Eagles 42-41.

Good job Coyotes!

Scoring for the Coyotes: Brendan Tarleton 10, Tony Soto 9, Karl Lamming 9, Zack Telchik 5, Michael Cooley 4, Carlos Hernandez 3, and Flynn Chapman 2.

School Lunch Menu

March 2-6, 2009

Monday - Breakfast: Oatmeal & Toast, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Chili con Carne w/ beans, Crackers, Salad, Peaches and Milk.

Tuesday - Breakfast: Muffin, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Popcorn Chicken, Potatoes, Corn, Hot Roll, Apple Slices and Milk.

Wednesday - Breakfast: French Toast,, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Fajitas, Salad, Pinto Beans, Jell-O w/Pears and Milk.

Thursday - Breakfast: Ham, Egg, Biscuit, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Meat & Gravy, Potatoes, Green Beans, Bread, Cobbler and Milk.

Friday - Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Cheeseburger, French Fries, Salad, Yellow Cake w/frosting and Milk.

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Heart and Home ...


by Julie Smith
 Borden County Extension Agent-Family and Consumer Sciences

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Take Control of Cleaning: Spring Cleaning with a Plan

The weather is teasing us into thinking that it is time for Spring, and many of us are making plans to begin our Spring cleaning routine. Spring cleaning may seem like an overwhelming task, but a few common sense guidelines can make it more manageable. First, *survey the job* and list what needs to be done. Then organize and prioritize the job into reasonable segments - by room, by task or by an hour or two each day.

Have the right tools, including a good vacuum cleaner, clean rags and the right cleaning supplies readily available. Bleach or other disinfectant cleaning solution, a non-abrasive, all-purpose cleaner, tub/tile/sink cleaner, glass cleaner and upholstery cleaner also belong in the collection of basic supplies. Read the labels carefully to match the right cleaning product with the right surface, be careful as to not mix cleaners and work in a well ventilated area.

Clear out the clutter - things will look better immediately and there will be fewer items to move and clean. Clean the dirtiest rooms first. Work top to bottom, beginning with ceilings and walls. Windows and furniture come next, then floors. This way, dirt won't filter down to previously cleaned areas. To prevent

streak marks when cleaning large vertical areas, such as walls, start at the bottom and work upward, overlapping and cleaning in a circular motion.

Use the proper cleaning product to make jobs easier. For floors, use a no-rinse product or use a general all-purpose cleaner and rinse the floor well after each cleaning. Spray glass cleaners on a cloth instead of directly on a mirror or picture glass. This will keep the cleaner away from the frame and prevent it from seeping onto a picture. Avoid using rags that have been subject to fabric softener in the laundry - they may leave a lint residue. Wait to dust furniture until after you have vacuumed and/or swept - the vacuum and broom stir up dust. Dust wood furniture using a clean cloth with furniture polish on it. Dusting with a dry cloth can scratch and dull the finish. When using upholstery cleaner, pretest it on an inconspicuous area first. The same advice holds true for painted surfaces, including walls, furniture and woodwork. Although these are usually washable, test the cleaning solution first, especially if the surface is newly painted.

Source: Cleanliness Facts: Tips and Trends from the Soap and Detergent Association: March/April 2002

March 4-H Meeting Dates



High School 4-H Club Meeting

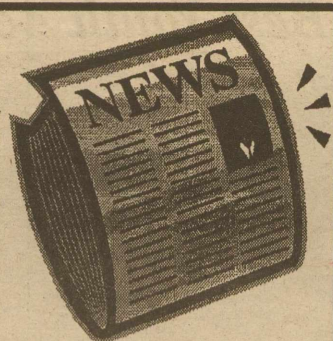
From 12:35 to 1:05 p.m. in the Conference Room at school
Wednesday, March 4

Cool Clovers 4-H Club Meeting

From 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at school
Thursday, March 5

Junior High 4-H Club Meeting

From 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at school
Thursday, March 5



Got News?

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Borden County 4-H News



Educational programs of the Texas 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

4-H Clothing Project Was "Sew" Much Fun!

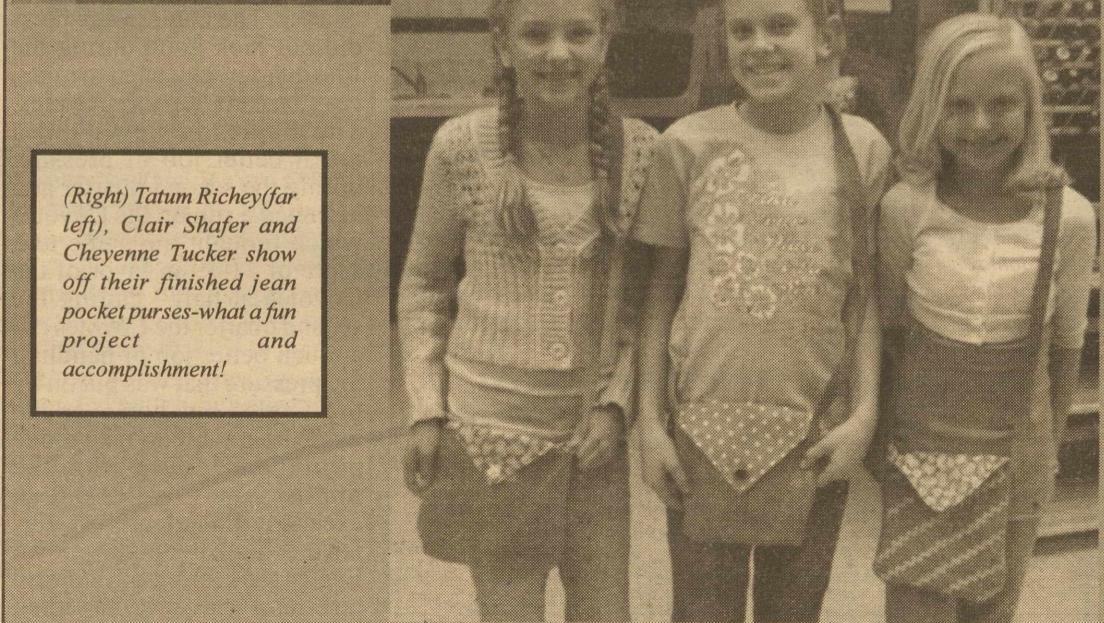
The 4-H Clothing Project was held in February in the Home Economics Lab. There were four participants complete the project (Cheyenne Tucker, Clair Shafer, Zoie Key and Tatum Richey). Volunteer leader Ollie Holmes and County Extension Agent-Family and Consumer Sciences Julie Smith led the project lessons. Participants learned about the parts of a sewing machine, basic sewing skills, pattern and fabric selection, and how to cut out and read a pattern. During the project workdays, the participants made a baked potato baker for the microwave and a recycled jean pocket purse.

Special thanks goes to Ollie Holmes for her time and expertise given to the clothing project. We would also like to thank Borden County ISD for allowing us to use the Home Economics Lab and sewing machines.

Best wishes to Clair Shafer and Cheyenne Tucker as they prepare for the District 4-H Fashion Show on April 9th.



(Left) Zoie Key (left) and Cheyenne Tucker (right) show off their finished baked potato bakers.



(Right) Tatum Richey (far left), Clair Shafer and Cheyenne Tucker show off their finished jean pocket purses-what a fun project and accomplishment!



Agriculture News
by Cody G. Hill
Borden County Extension Agent -
Agriculture

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San Antonio Stock Show Results

Borden County 4-H and Gail FFA members recently exhibited their animal projects at the 2009 San Antonio Stock Show. Results are:

Steers: Thomas Nix exhibited the Champion Brangus steer.
Lambs: Merik Valentine - 7th place Medium Wool and Miles Valentine - 9th place Medium Wool. Also exhibiting were Kagan Benham and Kylie Voss.

Swine: Shylo Rinehart - 2nd Place HW Duroc; Garrett Hill - 3rd Place LW Duroc; Hunter Jones - 6th Place LW Cross. Also exhibiting swine were Baylee Benavidez, Riley Smith and Sean Tucker.

Congratulations to all 4-H'ers and their families.

SKYWARN

Class To Be Held

The Borden County Sheriff's Office will host a SKYWARN weather spotting training class on February 26, 2009, from 7 PM - 9 PM in the Community Building. A meteorologist from the National Weather Service in Midland will cover topics such as tornadoes, cloud forma-

tions, and severe thunderstorms. The class is free and open to the public. If enough attend a drawing will be held for an Emerson AM FM weather radio. For more information contact the Borden County Sheriff's Office at 806-756-4311.



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Champion Brangus Steer



Borden County 4-H'er, Thomas Nix (far right) exhibited the Champion Brangus Steer at last weeks' San Antonio Stock Show. Shown with Thomas is (left to right) Dalton Nix, J.W. Nix, Becky and Daniel Nix.

2nd Place Duroc



Borden County 4-H'er, Shylo Rinehart (center), received 2nd place with her heavy weight Duroc in last weeks San Antonio Stock Show. Pictured with her are (left to right) Baylee Benavidez, Michael Porter, Kagan Benham, Jim Rinehart, Amy Rinehart, Holly Benavidez, Borden County Extension Agent, Cody Hill, Philip Benavidez and Borden County Ag instructor, Buddy Wallace.

The
Borden
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Thought for
the Day

"Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver."

-Barbara De Angleis, Ph.D

Legal Notice

Sealed proposals addressed to the Honorable County Judge and County Commissioners of Borden County will be received at the County Courthouse, 117 East Wassom Gail, Texas 79738 until **2:00pm Tuesday March 17th, 2009** for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence and labor for the painting of the Borden County Ground Storage Tank for Borden County, Texas, including other incidental items of work as called for in the specifications. All bid summaries shall be read aloud at the County Courthouse on the date listed above.

Bidders must submit a Cashier's or Certified Check issued by a bank satisfactory to the Owner, or a Bid Bond from a reliable Surety company, payable without recourse to the order of Borden County, Texas, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the largest possible bid submitted as a guaranty that the bidder will enter into a contract and execute bonds and guaranty in the forms provided within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract to him. Bids without the required Check or Bid Bond will not be considered.

The successful bidder will

be required to furnish a Performance Bond, and Payment Bond, each in the amount of the contract, written by a responsible Surety Company, authorized to do business in the State of Texas and satisfactory to the Owner.

All lump sum and unit prices must be stated in both script and figures. In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating the prices in the bids, the Owner reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or to reject the bid. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive formalities, and to accept the bid which seems most advantageous to the County's interest.

Bidders are expected to inspect the site of the work and to inform themselves regarding all local conditions under which the work is to be done.

Payment for the work performed on this project will be paid by Borden County. Information for Bidders, proposal forms, plans and specifications are on file at the office of the County Judge, Borden County, Texas and Oller Engineering, Inc., 2517 74th Street, Lubbock, Texas, 79423, (806) 748-5700.



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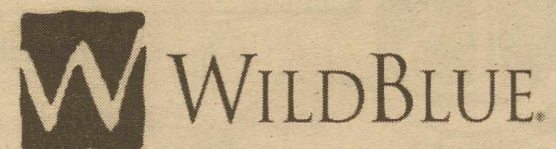
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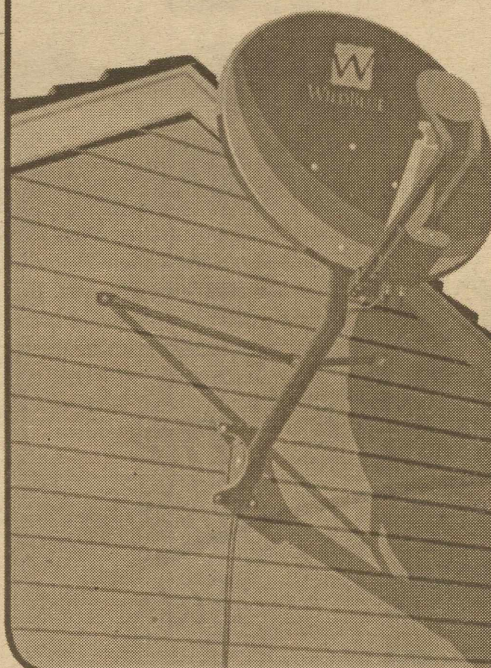
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Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
Tumbleweed Smith

Adventures in the Sky and on the Ground

Dr. Shannon Covington of Colorado City was the first person in Texas to be certified to teach emotionally disturbed students with high IQ's but low grades in school. He spent 34 years with the Houston school district. He has had several successes.

"John Stewart McDonald was a boy that was in trouble all the time. They sent him into me and I worked on him one on one in my office daily. He went on through high school and joined the Navy. One day I saw a Navy car in front of the school and a Naval Officer got out and came into my office and told me he was sent over to tell me something. He told me John Stewart McDonald had won the Congressional Medal of Honor and wanted me to know about it."

Shannon has had an interesting life, earning his Eagle Scout award while he was a teenager in his hometown of Goodrich, near Livingston. Several family members were pilots and he became one of the flying master sergeants of World War Two. He worked with the Office of Strategic Services for a while, going behind enemy lines to do espionage work. After the military, he earned a Ph.D. degree in psychology.

He always maintained an interest in flying and was an active member of the Confederate Air Force. His home is filled with memorabilia and honors he has received. Among his favorite items are letters from pilots Chuck Yeager and Hap Arnold.

After retiring from teaching

in 1980, he went to the Rio Grande Valley and started a citrus farm. It was not a successful venture.

"The first year I had it, a freeze killed 2800 Ruby Red Grapefruit trees. I lost a lot of money."

He heard that Chance Vought, an aircraft manufacturing facility, was looking for some design engineers, so he went to apply. He was told he would have to take a week of tests along with the other 500 people who were applying. "Mr. Alderman, in charge of the engineering department, asked me where I got my aircraft design degree and I told him I didn't have one, but had studied it in college. He reminded me I was in competition with people with degrees in the field. For some reason he let me take the tests and when they were over, he told me to go home and he would contact me in a few months. I hadn't been home three days and he called me and told me I was number three out of that 500 and he wanted me to come to work right now."

Shannon was behind the wheel of his car when he was hit head-on by a car going 90 miles an hour. The engine of Shannon's car ended up in his back seat. He was severely injured and stayed in the hospital for more than two years. "They told me that I would be able to limp along and I told them I would be able to run along. Today I don't even limp, even though I have a metal bone in my leg."

Shannon is waiting for his next adventure.

Commissioners Meeting

WHEREAS, On this the 10th day of February, 2009, 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:

VAN L. YORK, County Judge; **MONTE SMITH**, Commissioner Precinct No. 1; **RANDY ADCOCK**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2; **ERNEST REYES**, Commissioner Precinct No. 3; **JOE BELEW**, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; **JOYCE 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.

MINUTES APPROVED

Minutes of Commissioners Court Meeting of January 27, 2009 were read. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve said minutes. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COUNTY OFFICE REPORTS

The January 2009 County Reports consisting of Treasurer's Office Financial Report and Investment Report; Tax-Assessor/Collector Report of Tax Collections for Current Tax Year; Extension Office Report of past Month's Activities and Programs; District/County Clerk Office fees Report; and Texas Wildlife Damage Control Report, Year to Date Activity (10/1 to 12/30) were presented to the Court. After examination of reports, Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve the reports as submitted. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BORDEN COUNTY WATER SYSTEM

Mr. Rick Oller, representing Oller Engineering, met with the court concerning water system repairs. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve maintenance on Well #2 and authorize Oller Engineering to draw plans and advertise for bids on repairs and painting of the exterior and interior of tank #1 as required by TECQ standards. Bids to be

opened on March 17, 2009. Commissioner Belew seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WATER PIPELINE

Commissioner Belew made a motion to authorize Oller Engineering to submit and Judge York to sign the application for the 2010 Drinking Water Revolving Fund from the Texas Water Development Board for grant and loan funds to replace the eight mile section of AC pipeline that is in need of replacement. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2008 BUDGET AMENDMENTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the 2008 Budget Amendments. Commissioner Belew seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BORDEN COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Commissioner Adcock made a motion to reappoint the Historical Commission for 2009 and 2010 as is recorded in Commissioners Court Minutes-Vol. 12, Page 888 with Doris Steadman as chairman. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DIVISION ORDER

After consideration of the Division Order for the Borden County ISD Permanent School Fund, Commissioner Belew made a motion to approve Division Order of the Gay Wade Lease in Martin County from Endeavor Energy Resources LP and authorize Judge York to sign Order. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried.

BURN BAN

The Court reviewed the Burn Ban Order for clarification. The Order stands as being a total Burn Ban.

SOIL CONSERVATION CONTRUCTION

Applications for Soil Conservation Construction of fireguards were received from Scott Clayton of the 49 Ranch in Precinct No. 1; Mark Boardman of the Beaver Valley Ranch, Inc. in Precinct No. 2; and Eric Roberson in Precinct No. 3. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve the applications at the rate of \$35.00 per hour for a motor grader and \$65.00 per hour for a dozer. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Motion carried.

BORDEN COUNTY ISD PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND

Mr. Jimmy Thomas, Superintendent of Borden County School, met with the Court. A discussion was held concerning the Borden County ISD Permanent School Fund. Motion carried.

DEPOSITORY BID

A discussion was held pertaining to the County's Depository Bid.

ACCOUNTS ALLOWED

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

No new items were presented.

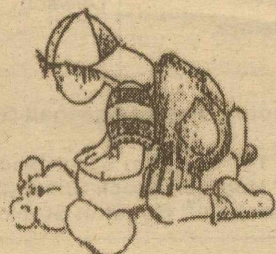
ADJOURN

Commissioner Adcock made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and was approved unanimously.

THE FOREGOING MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 24th day of February 2009.

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Farm Bill Ups Enterprise Unit Premium Subsidy Levels...

(Continued from Page 1)

insurance coverage on all of their farms

Anyone contemplating a change in their entity or farming structure is advised to try and get those changes put in place BEFORE March 15.

Getting this work done before the crop insurance sales closing date will help mitigate the chance that entities referenced on a growers insurance documents and the entities on file at the county FSA office match.

Farm Bill Boosts Subsidy Levels For Enterprise Units

The 2008 Farm Bill may have given an insurance coverage option that most High Plains growers rarely considered a new lease on life in the world's biggest cotton patch.

Interestingly enough the

changes may be enough to encourage a few High Plains growers to rethink their crop insurance program in 2009.

The change that was made involves a complete reworking of the premium subsidies applicable to the "Enterprise Unit" coverage option.

Among the many changes made in the 2008 Farm Bill was Congressional authorization for the USDA Risk Management Agency to boost the premium subsidies available to farmers insuring crops at an aggregated level through the "Enterprise Unit" designation.

The new subsidies are significantly higher than the subsidy levels in place for "Enterprise Units" in 2008. Prior to 2009 a single premium subsidy schedule applied to all multi-

peril, crop revenue and revenue assurance insurance policies.

In 2009 producers choosing to insure their crop under the "Enterprise Unit" coverage option will benefit from a completely different subsidy rate schedule, which may prove advantageous to growers. The new and old premium subsidy levels are shown on the following table.

In year's past there was little incentive for a grower to take on the additional risk associated with lumping all of their cotton acreage under a single umbrella policy. The trade-off for a modest 10 percent premium rate cut and a small savings on their overall federal crop insurance bill, was losing the ability to have

each farm or eligible sub-farm unit stand alone. In most cases growers on the High Plains choose to invest in the more expensive "Basic" or "Optional" unit coverage options that provide individual protection to each insured unit.

With only a few weeks left before the March 15 sales closing date for cotton, it may be worth a call to see the very real differences in cost between an optional unit Multi-

peril or Crop Revenue Coverage policy with the same policy applied at the "Enterprise" unit.

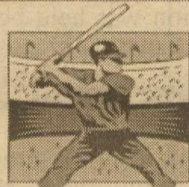
Every farm's situation is different and growers are advised to consider their options carefully before making a decision one way or the other.

"Cotton News" is a weekly publication of Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. For additional information contact PCG at 806/792-4904.

2008 & 2009 Premium Subsidy Rates by Unit Coverage Option

Coverage Level	2008	2009	
	Subsidy Rate	Subsidy Rate	
	All Unit Structures	Basic/Optional Units	Enterprise/Whole Farm Units
50%	67%	67%	80%
55%	64%	64%	80%
60%	64%	64%	80%
65%	59%	59%	80%
70%	59%	59%	80%
75%	55%	55%	77%
80%*	48%	48%	68%
85%*	38%	38%	53%

* Where applicable; Source: USDA RMA



March 2009



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Baseball vs. Hermleigh @ Snyder (WTC) 3:33	3 TAKS Reading 3 rd , 5 th , 8 th , 9 th TAKS Writing 4 th & 7 th TAKS 10 th & Exit Level (11 th) ELA	4 HS (9 th -12 th) 4-H Meeting in Conference Room 12:35-1:05	5 FFA Chapter Meeting during Tutorials Baseball Tourney @ Hamlin Wildcat JH Relays, Grady Cool Clovers Meeting in Conference Room 11:30-12 JH (6 th -8 th) 4-H Meeting in Cafeteria/New Gym 12:30-1	6 Baseball Tourney @ Hamlin Canyon Reef HS Relays, Snyder	7 Plains UIL Meet (no debate) Baseball Tourney @ Hamlin
8	9	10 Baseball @ Anson 6:00	11	12 Blackland Divide JH Relays, Roscoe Possible Baseball Tourney @ Plains	13 Blackland Divide HS Relays, Roscoe End of 3-week grading period Possible Baseball Tourney @ Plains	14 Possible Baseball Tourney @ Plains
15	16	17	18	19	20 Baseball vs. Albany @ Snyder (Moffett) TBA	21 Piper HS Relays, Hamlin
SPRING BREAK!!!!						
22	23 * Baseball @ Rails 5:00 Golf	24 Zone OAP @ Borden County Progress Reports mailed	25	26 CDE Judging Tarleton CDE Judging TTU Lubbock Dragon JH Relays, Dawson	27 CDE Judging WTAMU Canyon Dragon HS Relays, Dawson	28 * Baseball vs. O'Donnell @ Snyder (Moffett) 12:00 CDE Judging Clarendon
29	30 JH District Track Meet, O'Donnell Golf	31 District OAP Youth Board Meeting Baseball vs. Forsan JV @ Snyder (Moffett) 5:00	<p>* Denotes District Baseball Game</p> <p>March 9th - 14th Houston Stock Show (Steers) March 10th - 13th Houston Stock Show (Goats & Lambs) March 14th - March 20th Houston Stock Show (Swine)</p>			