

The Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXVII

July 1, 2009

Representative Joe Heflin to Hold Town Meeting in Borden County

State Representative Joe Heflin has scheduled town meeting through out District 85 to discuss the issues and outcome of the recently-concluded 81st Regular Legislative Session. The regular session ended June 1 and Rep. Heflin has returned to the District to report to area residents about the session, to respond to their questions and to hear about their issues and concerns.

In announcing his town hall meeting schedule, Rep. Heflin said, "I consider this one of the most important parts of a state representative's job—to meet with and hear about the issues that are on the minds of con-

stituents in the district. It is essential both to keep voters informed of what is happening in Austin and to make sure that I can represent their interests to the best of my ability."

The first Town Hall meeting will be at the Borden County Courthouse in Gail Tuesday, July 7 at 8:30 a.m. Other meetings are scheduled in Glasscock County, Reagan County, Iron County and Sterling County.

Everyone is invited to come to one or more of these upcoming town hall meetings. "The more that people know and understand about the state legislature, the better I am able to ensure that state government can respond to and address the needs of West Texans," Heflin concluded.

Rep. Heflin represents Texas House District 85, including Borden, Crosby, Fishers, Floyd, Garza, Glasscock, Hale, Howard, Jones, Kent, Lynn, Iron, Reagan, Sterling, Stonewall and Terry Counties. Heflin may be reached at his Capital Office in Austin, 512-463-0604; his District Office in Crosbyton, 806-675-1583 or in Big Spring, 432-213-2897.

**THANK
YOU
FOR
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THE
BORDEN
STAR**

Cotton  **News**
from Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

2008-Crop PCG Support Levels Tops 85 Percent For Fourth Straight Year

By Shawn Wade

Serving the interests of High Plains cotton farmers has always been the top priority of Lubbock-based Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. (PCG). PCG's commitment to producer interests has earned the voluntary support of cotton producers responsible for producing 87 percent of the 2,933,700 million bales of cotton produced in the organization's 41-country service area in 2008.

PCG Executive Vice President Steve Verett notes that PCG's support is a direct result of High Plains cotton producers and ginners recognizing the significant value they receive from supporting PCG.

"This year's 87 percent participation rate is the fourth year in a row that PCG earned the support of over 80 percent of the cotton produced on the High Plains," said Verett. "It is also the fifth year out of the last six that PCG support has eclipsed the 80 percent level."

"The PCG Board of Directors and Officers appreciate the support of their fellow producers and remain committed to continue earning the respect

and support of every High Plains cotton grower," concludes Verett.

Voluntary support is the key that PCG's efforts are built upon and something that every member of the organization should be proud said Verett.

The key to maintaining the support of High Plains producers is based on three key components; a gin based leadership structure; taking a proactive approach to important legislative and regulatory issues; and communication.

Each of the three components compliments the others and improves PCG's ability to work on behalf of the High Plains cotton producer.

In the last year alone, PCG's blueprint for success has kept the organization at the forefront of many important issues including passage and implementation of the 2008 Farm Bill and an ongoing effort to develop a pilot insurance program to provide federal crop insurance protection for cotton seed.

An offshoot of the support PCG earns among its membership is the extent to which that

support allows PCG to work closely with other national and regional cotton and general agriculture interest organizations.

Working closely with groups like the National Cotton Council of America, which represents the U.S. cotton industry at the national level and plays a major role in the coordination of efforts within the U.S. cotton industry, has allowed PCG to be recognized as one of the most effective regional cotton producer organizations in the U.S. based on efforts like the ones mentioned above.

In carrying out its work on behalf of High Plains cotton producers, PCG also works directly with members of Congress to advance issues important to the High Plains.

Key areas of PCG activity include promoting the value and quality of High Plains cotton at home and abroad to textile mill buyers through support of Cotton Council International and Cotton Incorporated; development and promotion of

(Continued to Page 3)

What Makes America Great

By Bryan Golden

In less than 200 years, America grew from a handful of colonies to become the greatest nation in history. In a few hundred years, we surpassed nations that were many times older. What makes America great?

The two main elements that make America great are our people and our freedoms. Our people have a can do, nothing is impossible, spirit. Starting with the American Revolution, we have always conquered adversity, often in the face of overwhelming odds.

We have more rights and freedoms than anywhere else in the world. Our freedoms are considered inalienable rights, not privileges granted by government. Our freedoms are the envy of the world. Every item in the Bill of Rights is a precious jewel designed to ensure the immortality of our liberty.

Our founders came from societies where government controlled its citizens. They had a solid understanding of the consequences of unchecked power. Our constitution was crafted specifically to limit the scope of government to prevent its infringing on individual liberties.

Our constitution is a brilliant document, filled with

foresight and understanding, that has withstood the test of time. The principles embedded in the constitution are the foundation of our greatness.

In America, each citizen can control his or her destiny without fear of interference by government or others. Our government was formed to serve the people rather than vice versa. Our government was designed to play a minimal role in people's lives.

Our doors have always been open to people from anywhere in the world who want to come here to work hard, contribute, and assimilate into our society. America's reputation as a melting pot is derived from the fact that people from every walk of life can work together to create an unstoppable force for good.

In America anything is possible. America is great because it offers its people unlimited opportunity to succeed by bringing their dream to reality. In America, success requires hard work, determination, and persistence, not permission. We are constitutionally protected to prevent government from confiscating the results of our labor.

American is an engine for unprecedented productivity.

Our economic system has been responsible for civilization transforming innovations and discoveries. No other country has even come close and many other systems have failed miserably.

Americans have a big heart. Whether in this country or elsewhere, we help those who cannot help themselves. Americans are first on the scene in the wake of natural or civic disasters. We are there with food, supplies, medical aid, and money. Our brave soldiers travel the globe defending those who can't defend themselves.

In America there are no problems that we can't solve. Any obstacles we may face do not taint our greatness. It is our greatness that enables us to overcome adversity and become even stronger in the process. Everyday, be thankful that you live in American and benefit from it's greatness. Don't take for granted that which people in other countries can only dream about. Be proud to be an American.

Bryan is a self-development expert, syndicated columnist, author of "Dare to Live Without Limits," and professor. E-mail Bryan at BryanGolden.com

Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Columbia Blue

By Sue Jane Mayes

It's been a few years since a Borden County current faculty member got married. Most employees come already hitched.

Several Borden County residents gathered this past Saturday in Wichita Falls to witness a little bit of history as Darrin Ard joined the hitched group. He and a certain Veronica Arey are now man and wife, so that's the new part of our story.

But let's back up a bit and talk about the old.

Mr. Ard isn't old. He came here straight from Angelo State University, a fresh-faced 22-year-old ready to teach.

What's "old" about him are his old-fashioned values, his old-school way of teaching, and his old soul that waited until the woman of his prayers and dreams came along.

Despite the good-natured teasing from his peers and students, Mr. Ard is one of our favorite sons. For those of us from Borden County, it was pretty evident that the new Mrs. Ard is as well-loved as Mr. Ard is. The joy on their faces Saturday was priceless, as was the shade of red when one of the ministers offered some fun advice.

And for all of you students out there, yes, Mr. Ard can and

did kiss on cue.

So what's the borrowed in the Darrin and Veronica love story? Not money—that guy is as frugal as your great-great grandmother was. Borrowing something implies returning it; maybe what these two have borrowed is all of the well wishes sent to them on their special day. The return will come when Mr. and Mrs. Ard do what comes naturally for them: give encouragement, positive reinforcement, and advice as they work with the students in Borden County. Talk about a return on an investment.

And it will be Mrs. Ard who soon finds out about something Columbia Blue. T-shirt sales, anyone?

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AgriLIFE EXTENSION

On the Wild Side of Life
by Cody G. Hill
Borden County Extension Agent –
Agriculture

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.

Borden County Youth Horse Club

The Borden County Youth Horse Club will begin practice nights on Tuesday, July 7. Practices will be held at the Borden County Arena located east of the show barn beginning at 6:30 p.m. Membership will be \$20 per child. Age groups are lead line, 8 & Under, 9 – 12, and 13 – 18. For more information, please contact the Borden County Extension Office at (806) 756-4336.

Steer Validation Workshop

A Borden County Steer Validation Workshop was held on June 24, 2009. The workshop was conducted at the Borden County Show Barn. The workshop was from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon and 4-H'ers learned the proper techniques to validating their steer projects. Also 4-H'ers were given hands on experience in validating and properly weighing their steer projects. Borden County Extension Agent, Cody G. Hill, provided leadership by conducting the workshop and provided 4-H'ers education in validating, feeding, weighing, grooming and showing their steer projects.

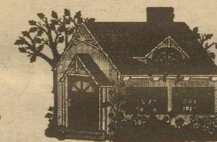
AgriLIFE EXTENSION

Texas A&M System

Heart and Home ...

by Julie Smith

Borden County Extension Agent-Family and Consumer Sciences



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

Picnic Table Protocol

Hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, corn-on-the-cob . . . pull up a seat at the picnic table and enjoy some easy summer fare. But wait! Before you do, look down and make sure that the surface you're about to dine on is clean and germ-free. Summer brings with it many opportunities for a great picnic! Here are some ways to keep the picnic table clean and germ-free.

Picnic tables in public spaces are busy places that can be breeding grounds for germs. Even picnic tables at home may be subject to the unwanted attention of birds and other elements of nature, not to mention the challenge of spilled food.

On the Go

Make disinfectant wipes your summer traveling companion! Use them for quick wipe downs on public picnic

tables and benches.

On the Home Front

For general cleaning, soap and warm water may suffice. However, if you plan to use the table for food preparation—or if juices from meat, seafood or poultry have spilled on the table—the next step is to sanitize it. Mix a solution of three tablespoons of chlorine bleach to one gallon of water. Apply the solution to the surface of the table and let stand for two minutes. Rinse with a solution of one tablespoon of chlorine bleach per gallon of water.

Hand Hygiene

Clean hands are as important as a clean picnic table. If soap and water aren't available, use a disposable hand wipe or a hand sanitizer to clean your hands.

Source: *The Soap and Detergent Association Cleaning Matters July/August 2007*

Borden County ISD Board Meeting

June 15, 2009

Regular Board Meeting June 15, 2009

The Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District of Gail, Texas met in regular session at 7:00 P.M. in the Borden County I.S.D. Board Room. Board members present were John Anderson, Randy Hensley, Carol Lewis, Dennis Poole, and Mike Valentine. Superintendent Jimmy Thomas, and Principal Bart McMeans were also present. Guests present were Buster Taylor, Ross Sharp and Cody Cooley. Joe Harding and Joel Dennis were absent.

1. The meeting was called to order by John Anderson.

2. There was no community input.

3. Members of the Borden County Volunteer Fire Department met with the board to discuss plans to move the location of the present fire station. The Borden County I.S.D. Board of Trustees assured the Borden County Volunteer Fire Department that the Borden County Independent School District would take care of all expenses incurred in relocating the Fire Station to a new location.

4. A motion was made by Carol Lewis and seconded by Randy Hensley to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2009 and May 26, 2009 Board Meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

5. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Mike Valentine to approve the June 2009 bills. The motion carried unanimously.

6. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Carol Lewis to take action to approve Option 3 & 4 Agreements with the State to equalize wealth, fund a technology consortium, and obtain an efficiency credit for the 2009-2010 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

7. A motion was made by Dennis Poole and seconded by Carol Lewis to approve the 226-Day Secretary Pay Scale for the 2009-2010 school year as recommended by Mr. Thomas to give a raise of \$100 per month plus the tax sheltered annuity for Terri Buchanan, Joan Marshall, and Amy

Rinehart. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Results of the 2008-2009 Reading Inventory Instrument for grades K-2 were reviewed.

9. Results of the 2009 TAKS Tests were reviewed.

10. A motion was made by Dennis Poole and seconded by Mike Valentine to solicit bids for school propane and vehicle fuel for the 2009-2010 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

11. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Dennis Poole to set the regular July 2009 meeting for July 20, 2009 to begin immediately after the Borden County Appraisal Board Meeting that is set to begin at 6:30 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.

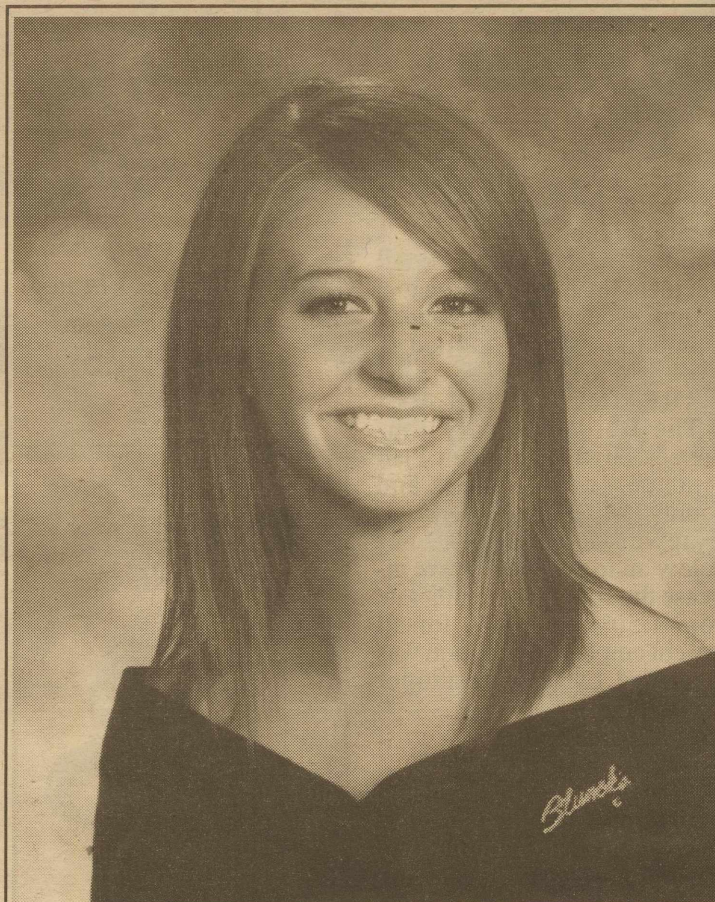
12. A motion was made by Carol Lewis and seconded by Dennis Poole to approve the 2008-2009 Borden County I.S.D. Budget Amendments as recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

13. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Mike Valentine to take action to adopt a resolution expressing the intention to make expenditures for the projects approved at the May 9, 2009 Bond Election prior to the issuance of the voted bonds and to subsequently reimburse such expenditures from proceeds of the bonds. The motion carried unanimously.

14. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Randy Hensley to hire Sarah Clement as a professional employee for the 2009-2010 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

15. Mr. Thomas gave a year to date financial report, a construction report, a personnel report, a failing report, a Beta report, an honor roll report, and reported that 209 students were enrolled as of May 29, 2009. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Dennis Poole to approve the Superintendent's Report. The motion carried unanimously.

16. A motion was made by Dennis Poole and seconded by Carol Lewis to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.



Hilari White Receives Diploma

Hilari BreAnn White is a 2009 graduate of Coahoma High School. She is the daughter of James and Monica White of Coahoma and granddaughter of Bob and Cookie Dyess of Borden County. Monica was a former student at Borden County.

Hilari was very active at Coahoma High School. She was a member of the bans/color guard, varsity basketball and tennis. She was a member of many clubs including National Honor Society; Student Council and was a member of "Who's Who Among All-American Scholars". Hilari also participated in many community service programs throughout high school.

She was a Homecoming Court Nominee her senior year and was voted class favorite for three consecutive years. Hilari is currently employed by Inspirations Flowers and Gifts in Big Spring. She plans to attend Howard College in Big Spring this fall and then transfer to University of North Texas in Denton, TX in two years and study Photography/Business.



403 N. Austin Avenue
Lamesa, Texas 79331
806-872-8335 Fax: 806-

3rd & 4th generations still serving this area.

Drive Safely.
Watch for our playing children.

Cotton News...

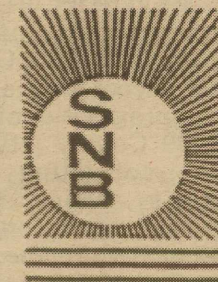
(Continued from Page 1)

sound risk management options for producers though the federal crop insurance program; and working closely with allied industry representatives to insure that every phase of the cotton production, processing, handling and merchandising chain have the best possible understanding of the impact each individual segment has on the others.

Dear Borden County Parents:

We have numerous jackets, shirts, jewelry, etc., which have been turned in to lost and found. We will be sending these items to a charitable organization on July 15th. If you think your child may be missing something, feel free to come to the school to go through these items. Thank you,
Borden County School

Snyder National Bank



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Member FDIC

1715 25th
915/573-2681

Commissioners Meeting

WHEREAS, On this the 9th day of June, 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.

BORDEN COUNTY WATER SYSTEM

David Perkins and Keeton Walden, representatives of Oller Engineering, Inc., visited with the Court giving update on the Borden County Water System.

SHOW BARN & RODEO ARENA

Chess Carthel, CES and Lonnie Howard of Howard Construction, discussed using their firm for the relocation and building of the Show Barn and Rodeo Arena.

MINUTES APPROVED

Minutes of the Commissioners Court Meeting of May 26, 2009 were read. Commissioner Belew made a motion to approve said minutes. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COUNTY OFFICE REPORTS

After examination of the County Offices Reports, Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve submitted May, 2009 County Offices Reports consisting of Treasurer's Office past month's Financial Report and Investment Report, the Tax Assessor-Collector Report of Tax Collections for current tax year, District/County Clerk for fees collected for past month and the Texas Wildlife Damage Control year to date activity. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FUEL LEGAL NOTICE

As advertised, bids on gasoline, diesel and Propane were

opened at 12:20 p.m. A Bid was received from Lamesa Butane Company of Lamesa, Texas. Commissioner Belew made a motion to accept the bid for all precincts for fuel and propane. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COUNTY

RETIREMENT PLAN

The Borden County Employees 2010 Retirement Plan with the Texas District and County Retirement System was reviewed. Commissioner Belew made a motion to increase the county matching rate from 1.50% to 1.75% for all present employees. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes.

Motion carried.

BORDEN COUNTY REDISTRICTING

State and Federal Constitutional Law require redistricting/reapportionment to be completed by September 1, 2012. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to enter into a Contract with Allison, Bass and Associates, L.L.P. to assist Borden County at a set fixed fee program. Commissioner Smith seconded to motion. Motion carried.

SOIL CONSERVATION CONSTRUCTION

Applications for Soil Conservation Construction of Fireguards were received from Sam Hunnicut in Precinct No. 4 and from Glen Grey in Precinct No. 3. Commissioner Belew made a motion to approve the applications at the rate of \$35.00 for a motor grader and \$65.00 per hour for a dozer. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS ALLOWED

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

DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE AGENDA

No new items were presented.

ADJOURN

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

THE FOREGOING MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 9th day of June, 2009.

Thought for the Day

The older I get, the surer I am that I'm not running the show.
--Leonard Cohen

Your Local Pastor
Is as near as your
PHONE...



**Bro. Randy
Hardman**

First Baptist Church
Gail

Call: 806/756-4363

Cell: 806/759-9472

Legal Notices

APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD FOR THE BORDEN COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT, TEXAS

PO Box 298
Gail, Texas 79738
(806)756-4484

Notice of Public Meeting of the Appraisal Review Board:

Notice is hereby given that a public meeting of the Appraisal Review Board of the Borden County Appraisal District will convene at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 10, 2009, at the meeting room in the Borden County Courthouse.

The board will hear and determine taxpayer and taxing unit appeals on all matters permitted by Texas Property Tax Code.

The Appraisal Review Board will be in session on other days, notice for which will be duly posted, until all timely filed appeals are heard and resolved.

This notice is given pursuant to the Open Meeting Act, Chapter 551, Government Code.

Ross D. Sharp, Chief Appraiser
Borden County Appraisal District

County of Borden)(
State of Texas)(

PUBLIC HEARING

The Commissioners' Court of Borden County will hold a public hearing beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at the Courthouse in Gail, Texas on the Borden County Water System. This public hearing is required by TCEQ to provide public participation.

Any interested persons are invited to attend and present oral or written comments.

BY ORDER OF THE BORDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Van L. York
County Judge
Borden County

*The
Borden
Star*

BORDEN COUNTY ISD BID REQUEST

The Superintendent's Office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District will receive bids and/or quotes for propane, diesel, and gasoline for the 2009-2010 school year.

Proposals shall be addressed to Jimmy Thomas; Borden County Independent School District; Box 95; Gail, Texas 79738, and shall be delivered in a sealed envelope marked appropriately as "Propane Bid" and/or "Gasoline/Diesel Bid". Proposals may also be submitted by fax and/or by e-mail to the numbers or address listed below. Proposals will be received up to but no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, July 16, 2009. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. Proposals will be tabulated, researched, and selected by the Board of Trustees or its designee as appropriate. Bids received after the specified date will not be considered.

The Borden County ISD Board of Trustees or its designee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposed bids, to waive any and all technicalities, and to accept the proposal that will best serve the needs of the District.

Questions regarding bid specifications and additional information shall be directed to Jimmy Thomas by writing the above address; by e-mail to jthomas@bcisd.net; or by calling 806/756-4313. Transmissions by fax may be sent to 806/756-4310.

By Order of the Board of Trustees
Borden County Independent School District
Mike Valentine, Secretary