

The Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXVIII

June 11, 2014

USDA Announces Programs to Conserve Sensitive Land and Help Beginning Farmers

Farmers, ranchers and land-owners committed to protecting and conserving environmentally sensitive land may sign up for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) beginning June 9. The Secretary also announced that retiring farmers enrolled in CRP could receive incentives to transfer a portion of their land to beginning, disadvantaged or veteran farmers through the Transition Incentives Program (TIP).

CRP provides incentives to producers who utilize conservation methods on environmentally-sensitive lands. For example, farmers are monetarily compensated for establishing long-term vegetative species, such as approved grasses or trees (known as "covers") to control soil erosion, improve water quality, and enhance wildlife habitat.

CRP consists of a "continuous" and "general" sign-up period. Continuous sign up for the voluntary program starts June 9. Under continuous sign-up authority, eligible land can be enrolled in CRP at any time

with contracts of up to 10 to 15 years in duration. In lieu of a general sign-up this year, USDA will allow producers with general CRP contracts expiring this September to have the option of a one-year contract extension. USDA will also implement the 2014 Farm Bill's requirement that producers enrolled through general sign-up for more than five years can exercise the option to opt-out of the program if certain other conditions are met. In addition, the new grass-land provisions, which will allow producers to graze their enrolled land, will enable producers to do so with more flexibility.

The Transition Incentives Program provides two additional years of payments for retired farmers and ranchers

who transition expiring CRP acres to socially disadvantaged, military veteran, or beginning producers who return the land to sustainable grazing or crop production. Sign up will also begin June 9. TIP funding was increased by more than 30 percent in the 2014 Farm Bill, providing up to \$33 million through 2018.

As part of the 2014 Farm Bill, participants meeting specific qualifications may have the opportunity to terminate their CRP contract during fiscal year 2015 if the contract has been in effect for a minimum of five years and if other conditions are also met.

For more information on CRP and other FSA programs, visit a local FSA county office or go online to www.fsa.usda.gov.



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Dare to Live Without Limits

By Bryan Golden

Ambition

Some people have ambition while others don't. But ambition isn't required for happiness. So, does ambition serve a purpose? Ambition is beneficial when it originates from your own desire. Ambition can be detrimental if it is externally imposed on you by another person.

A common example of externally imposed ambition is a parent's expectations for their son or daughter. The expectation of the parents may be at odds with what their child desires. When the child grows up and strives to please their parents, the child may feel frustrated and unfulfilled.

Cathy's father, Ben, was a successful accountant at a major corporation. When Cathy went off to college, Ben pushed her to major in accounting. His motivation was benevolent. Ben felt an accounting degree would allow his daughter to have a secure career.

Cathy did well in school, graduated, and went on to become a CPA. She got a good job which allowed her to live comfortably. The only problem was that Cathy didn't really like accounting and only went into the field because of Ben's encouragement.

As a result, Cathy wasn't

happy with her career. She had always wanted to be a teacher. Cathy did not have much ambition as an accountant. As the years passed by, her dissatisfaction with accounting grew. Ben was upset that Cathy wasn't happy.

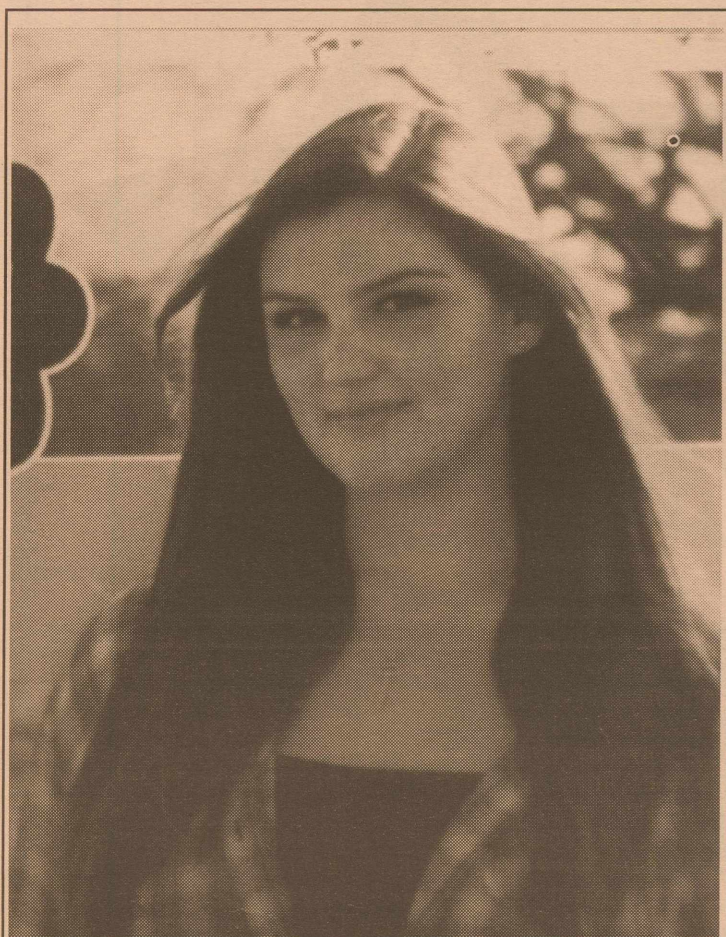
Cathy is just one example of a person who followed a path designed by someone else. Ben was thinking about Cathy's well being and Cathy wanted to please her father. Although their motivation was altruistic, neither Ben nor Cathy was satisfied with the outcome.

Matt was employed as a department manager for a small hardware store. He had worked there for many years, starting right out of high school. Matt never wanted to go to college. He was happy with his life. Matt lived comfortably, liked his job, the people he worked for, and the customers.

Matt's brother Stan, had taken a different career path. Stan had gone to college, went on to get a Ph.D. and was now a college professor. Stan thought Matt could be doing more with his life and wasn't shy about sharing his opinions with Matt.

But Matt didn't care about

(Continued to Page 2)



Miss Kaitlin York

Kaitlin York Graduates With Honors at LHS

Kaitlin York, daughter of Van and Kris York of Lubbock and granddaughter of Van and Barbara York of Borden County, graduated with honors from Lubbock High School on May 24th in a ceremony at the United Spirit Arena.

Kaitlin's father, Van York, Jr. and her aunt, Cathy York Amonett both graduated from Borden County School. Kaitlin also attended Borden County School during the spring of 2010.

She received the Helen Devitt Jones Scholarship and the Presidential Scholarship from Texas Tech University, where she is registered to attend classes this fall.

Kaitlin played volleyball for the Westerners, was in charge of planning and construction of the Westerner yearbook during her junior and senior year and was a second year academic letterman. She is presently employed by the Learning Tree Children's Academy.

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Dare to Live...

(Continued from Page 1)

what Stan or anyone else thought. He was content and didn't feel any need to change things. One could say Matt lacked ambition. Yet Matt was just as happy, if not more so, as people who were constantly driven to achieve more.

Ambition is good when it is based on your own goals. There is no shortage of those wanting to tell you what they think you should do. People may offer opinions, but you are not obligated to listen to them. You know what you want. You don't need to be told.

But ambition is only a starting point. You must take action to follow your ambition. If you don't, frustration or discontent will follow. Ambition without action is useless. In order to get something you really want, you must take the necessary steps to get it.

Just as you don't appreciate it when someone tells you what you should be doing, you should refrain from attempting to direct someone else's life. If asked for your opinion, give it. Others don't think like you nor can you make them.

If you have ambition, great. Do what it takes to turn your dreams into reality. If you have no ambition but are happy, that's also great. But if you are not happy with your situation, it is never too late to fire up your ambition in order to change direction. You will never be as young as you are today. Live your life the way you want to.

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

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Golden



Making the Grade!

6th Six-Weeks

Beta Achievement

Juniors: McKenna Campbell; **Sophomore:** Tatum Richey, Flint Roberts and Nathan Souder; **Freshmen:** Maddie Benavidez and Savannah Herridge; **Eighth Grade:** Carly Bell, Preslea Hall, Harley Merrill, Trace Richey, Ashlyn Tucker and MJ Van der Bank; **Seventh Grade:** Myka Blissard, Madison Cole, Katie Gray and Paige Holbrooks; **Sixth Grade:** Kaitlyn Cribbs, Zeke Lott, and Kaylee Walker.

6th Six-Weeks

Honor Roll

Junior: Bessie Rhodes; **Sophomore:** Holly Bradbury, Karly Etheredge, Samuel Raborn, Caelan Thuett, and Cheyenne Tucker; **Freshman:** Hayley Gray, Jamyaleigh Gray, Sydnee Jordan, Kace Lott and Avery Price; **Eighth Grade:** Braxton Barnes, Easton Edwards and Braylee Walker; **Seventh Grade:** Lukas Grantham, Reina Hernandez, Rayme Jones, Emma Key, Brooke Swaffar

and Emily Todd.

Sixth Grade: Lindsay Brantley; **Fifth Grade:** Kylie Barnes, Mason Connor Etheredge, Haddie Flanigan, Kaci Hudson, Ashlyn Lott, Maggie Miller, Erin Nix, Gunner Shofner, Gabriella Skelton, Kennedy Tucker, Leandre' and Justin Wilborn; **Fourth Grade:** Savannah Avey, Rae' Lynne Clement, Brooklyn Gray, Tatum Harrison, Jadeyn Merrill, Shelby Milhauser, Lindy Miller, Paige Parker, Ryann Phillips, Charli Snell, Kelly Spencer, Ethan Stephens and Rachel Thomas; **Third Grade:** Haley Carpenter, Callie Edwards, Jaclyn McNeely, Dallie Miller, Isaiah Mitton, Michael Morris, Allie Murphy, Hayden Niell, J. Tom Price, Oliver Skelton, Shane Todd and George Wagner; **Second Grade:** Aubree Blissard, Luke Carpenter, Jenna Holbrooks, Kadence Lowery, Bailey Pennell, Jordan Ramos, Agatha Skelton, Laney Stansell, Kendall Swaffar, and Kenzie White.

Richey Receives Award From ASC

Courtesy Lamesa Press Reporter

Borden County standout Taylor Richey has picked up another honor from the American Southwest Conference.

Richey, a senior track and field student athlete this spring at Sul Ross University, has been named as the Lobos' recipient of the ASC Scholar-Athlete Medal of Honor for the 2013-2014 season. That award is presented annually to graduating seniors who excel in academics, athletics and leadership during their college career.

Richey recently graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Biology while earning a 3.72 cumulative grade point average. Richey earned ASC Academic All-Conference honors and was nominated as an ASC Academic Distinguished Scholar Athlete. This spring, Richey twice was named as the ASC Women's Track and Field Athlete.

Richey was a leader on both Sul Ross's cross country squad this past fall and the school's track team this spring.

In last fall's ASC Cross Country Championships, Richey fin-

ished 42nd overall with a time of 29:55.24.

This spring, Richey finished first in the 10,000 meters at both the Trinity Open and McMurry Invitational. She finished sixth at the ASC Outdoor Track and field Championships in the 1,500 meters (6:15.96), 5,000 meters (24:26.11) and 10,000 meters (52:02.83).

Last season, Richey also played for Sul Ross women's basketball team where she averages 5.8 points and 3.3 rebounds while seeing action in 18 of their games.

"Taylor's a hard worker and is very intelligent," said Sul Ross interim head track and field coach Antuan Washington. "She always did her job and always brought a computer on our trips to make sure she got her work done."

"Taylor is a great person overall and we're going to miss her."

Richey is the daughter of Borden County's Trey and Hayley Richey.

Taylor is a 2011 Borden County High School graduate, where she was her class's valedictorian.

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Heart and Home...



Julie Mumme Smith

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When Can My Child Ride in the Front?

We are all guilty of occasionally rewarding our children's good behavior with special indulgences. Think about the extra candy bar or the special trip to the fast food restaurant to be entertained with not so healthy treats. But perhaps the most dangerous reward parents give their children is letting the child ride in the front seat!

The truth is that the back seat is always a safer choice – not just for children but for everyone! Most crashes are frontal crashes, so just by virtue of being in the back seat you are further away from the point of impact. Children are not just small adults. Their bones and ligaments are still developing, and they are more vulnerable to crash forces than a full-grown adult. Studies have shown that restrained children in rear seats have the lowest risk of dying in fatal crashes. Even in side-impact crashes, properly restrained children in the back seat do better than children sitting in the front. Frontal air bags can also pose a danger to children, just as they can to small adults.

So what is the minimum age when a child can ride in the front seat? The American Academy of Pediatrics continues to recommend that children under 13 years of age sit in the back seat for the best protection. Children under 13 are always safer buckled up in the back seat in the appropriate car seat for their age or a seat belt

if they are big enough to fit correctly.

Unfortunately, the law in Texas does not address seating positions. The law simply states that children under age 8, unless taller than 4'9", must be in a child safety seat according to manufacturers' instructions. The law is always the minimum. Parents and caregivers want the maximum safety for their children.

Parents and caregivers need to remember to keep children rear-facing until age two or until the limit of their rear-facing convertible seat is reached, which is usually 35-40 pounds. Also, children should stay in a 5-point harness system until they are mature enough to ride in a booster seat. Booster seats are for children who are at least age four and 40 pounds or more. Finally, keep children in a booster seat until the seat belt fits correctly. This is usually sometime between ages 8 and 12 years old when the child reaches 4'9" tall and the lap and shoulder belt fit correctly. The average child reaches 4'9" at age 11!

Next time you are thinking about rewarding your child, think about treating them like a VIP and keeping them in the back seat! Explain how the back seat is more protective, buckle them up correctly, and take them out for a healthy fruit smoothie!! Remember, children under age 13 are safest in the back seat buckled up on every trip!

Thought for the Day

Hospitality consists in a little fire, a little food, and an immense quiet.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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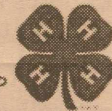
For more information please call
806/759-9811



Summer Day Camps

District 2 4-H2O Camp

Join us as we travel to Caprock Canyons State Park in Quitaque for a day of fun! There will be rotating sessions on canoeing, kayaking, archery, leather craft and campfire cooking—as well as a chance to fish and meet NEW friends! Cost is \$20 per 4-H'er and \$4 per parent/adult. Please RSVP by 6/16 if you would like to go. Open to all 4-H'ers! We will leave about 8:00 a.m. and return by 7:00 p.m.



Kids in the Kitchen Cooking Camp

This is open to all youth in the county! Youth entering 5th-8th grades will be held on Monday, June 23 and youth entering 3rd-4th grades will be held on Wednesday, June 25. Both days will be from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Event Center. Cost is \$15 per participant and each day is limited to 10 youth. RSVP by Friday, June 20th so that we can plan for supplies.

Arts and Crafts Fun Day

Join us on Wednesday, July 2nd from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Borden County Event Center. Cost will be \$20. This will include supplies for several projects to make and take home, as well as refreshments. Youth need to bring a sack lunch. Fun Day is open to all BC youth ages 8-18. Please RSVP by Friday, June 27th so that we know how many to buy supplies for.



4-H is for all youth who like action, learning, and FUN!

District 4-H Leadership Workshop

Join us for a fun day of learning about leadership and recreation on Thursday, July 10 in Plainview! We will leave about 8:00 a.m. and return around 10:00 p.m. The day will be filled with learning about the new Duds to Dazzle contest, various leadership and recreation projects and activities, and end with a dance! Cost is \$20 (unless you attend the H2O camp—it will be free). Please RSVP by Monday, July 7th if you wish to attend! Open to all 4-H'ers!



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We will seek to provide all reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for any Extension program. We request that you contact your Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service office as soon as possible to advise if you require auxiliary aid.

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

Public Notice

Property Owner Protest Hearings Are Set for July 11, 2014

Property owners who disagree with the Borden County Appraisal District's appraisal of their property for local taxes or for any other action that adversely affects them may protest their property value to the appraisal district's Appraisal Review Board (ARB). The ARB will begin hearing taxpayer protests on July 11, 2014 in the Borden County Courthouse.

After the ARB completes its hearings and approves final property tax appraisals, local governments will use these appraisals to set 2014 property tax rates.

The ARB is a group of citizens who live in the appraisal district and are appointed by the appraisal district's board of directors, except in Harris and Fort Bend Counties where a local administrative judge makes the appointments. Property owners may protest any of the following issues to the ARB:

- the appraised or market value of the property;
- unequal appraisal of the taxpayer's property compared to similar property in the district;
- inclusion of the property on the appraisal records;
- denial of a partial exemption, such as a homestead exemption;
- denial of special appraisals, such as agricultural or timber productivity appraisal;
- determination that agricultural or timber land has had a change of use and is subject to a rollback tax;
- identification of the taxing unit or units in which the property is located;
- determination that the taxpayer is the owner of the property; or
- any other action of the appraisal district that adversely affects the owner.

A property owner must file a written notice of protest before June 1, 2014 or within 30 days after the appraisal district mails the taxpayer a notice of appraised value, whichever is later. The ARB schedules a hearing and sends the protesting property owner written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing. The law contains specific timelines and procedures for the owner and the ARB throughout the appraisal protest process. These are detailed in the state Comptroller's publication *Property Taxpayer Remedies*. Copies are available from the BORDEN COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT at 120 E. Wilbourn (PO Box 298) Gail, TX 79738 or 806-756-4484. The publication is also available on the Comptroller's website at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/ or by calling 1-800-252-9121 and press "2" to access the menu and then press "1" to contact the Information Services Team.

Public Notice

Notice of Drinking Water FLUORIDE Violation

The Texas Commission On Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the Borden County Water System that the drinking water being supplied to customers had exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for FLUORIDE. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has established the MCL FLUORIDE at 4 mg/L, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for FLUORIDE indicates a compliance value in quarter one, 2014 of 5.41 mg/L for EP001.

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

brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.

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

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

For further information contact the County Judge's Office, Borden County Courthouse, 117 E. Wasson, Gail, Texas 79738, phone 806/756-4391

Ross D. Sharp, County Judge

Public Water System ID # 0170010

P.O. Box 156
Gail, Texas 79738



You are cordially invited to the dedication of the

Dorward Drug Historical Marker

(Located at the corner of FM 669 and Hwy 180)

Saturday, June 21

2:00 p.m.

Gail, TX

A reception at the Borden County Event Center will be held following the ceremony.

Please bring a chair, and an umbrella for shade.

The museum will be open prior to the ceremony.

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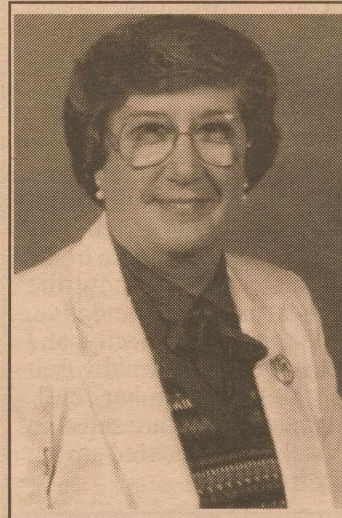
Tatum Richey

at

806/789-3582



Obituary



Sue S. Smith 1934 - 2014

In loving memory of Sue S. Smith, born June 5, 1934 in Snyder, Texas.

She passed away peacefully surrounded by her children on April 21, 2014 in Las Vegas, NV.

She is survived by her son, Richard and his wife, Motts of Las Vegas, NV; brothers: Ed Stephens of Weatherford, Texas and Mike Stephens of Vega, Texas and sisters-in-law: Sadie Ludecke of Borden County; and Joyce Smith of Lamesa, Texas; nieces and nephews: Monte Smith of Borden County, Paula Woods of San Angelo, Texas; Josie Taggart and Delva Robb of Lubbock, Texas and nephew Sam Branch of Coleman, Texas.

She was preceeded in death by her parents, Allen and Opal Stephens and her dear husband Rube Smith who is waiting for her to join him in Heaven.

Sue was a beloved teacher's aide for the Borden County Independent School District for thirty years, retiring in 2003.

A memorial service and celebration of her life will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, June 13, 2014 at the Borden County Event Center on Willow Valley Road in Gail, Texas.