

# The Borden Star

Borden ★ Dawson ★ Garza ★ Howard ★ Lynn ★ Scurry

Volume XXXVIII

July 15, 2015

## Coyote Among Six-Man Stars Herridge on TSMC's Elite Guest List

Courtesy Lamesa Press Reporter  
By Dwight Hines

Some of the state's best small high school athletic talent will be crashing Wichita Falls once again this coming week for the Texas Six-Man Coaches Association's all-star game.

One can add a Borden County Coyote to that mix. Borden County's Riley

Herridge will put on his pads one last time this Friday in the Division I six-man all-star football game, which is set to kick off at 7:30 p.m. at Midwestern State University's Memorial Stadium.

Most high school athletes only dream about getting this opportunity to finish up their

high school athletic careers by mixing it up against their game's best. After starting out as one of that all-star football game's alternates, Borden County's Herridge could not help but think this opportunity would be much more than just that for him.

Borden County's Frank Banman originally was selected to represent their league in this all-star game. Family ties ended up pulling Banman out of this all-star game, while opening the door for his Coyote teammate, Riley Herridge, in the process.

"As much as we're looking forward to seeing Frank get this opportunity to play again, he's got a cousin who's getting married this same weekend," Borden County Coach Trey Richey said. "As it's turning out, now we're happy to see Riley getting this opportunity.

"Riley's another great kid, who not only accepted his role in our program, but embraced it. After talking with Riley about this game, you could tell that he wanted this chance to play just one more time."

Whenever this opportunity knocked, it did not take Herridge long to open that door.

"Talk about being something totally unexpected! It's definitely an honor for me to

Austin Steen of Crosbyton was a teenager when he parachuted into a barrage of German gunfire during World War Two. "We were shot at all the way down," says Austin. "We lost 65 percent of our division." Another enemy was the two feet of snow that covered the ground in 1945. Austin fought in the Battle of the Bulge, which had the highest casualties during the war. In March of this year, Bastogne, a city in Belgium where the battle was centered, staged a 70-year commemoration to honor veterans who fought there. Austin went over there with his two daughters and five grandchildren.

At the Frankfurt airport where the group landed, when the customs agent learned that Austin was a veteran of World War Two, he shook his hand and said, "Thank you for saving the world." That set the stage for the rest of the trip. Everywhere the group went they were treated with respect and appreciation. "We didn't go anywhere that he wasn't treated like a king," says Vicki Cole of Big Spring, Austin's daughter. "A lot of people in Belgium called him a rock star."

The group thought the 90-year old Austin would like to get some rest occasionally because he's usually in bed by 6

PM. "But he wore us out wanting to go to all the places he remembered," says Dusty Cornelius, Austin's grandson. "When we would go into a café the manager would come over and visit with us." On the wall of one restaurant there was a picture of Austin taken during his war years. A tree was planted in his honor. Vicki says the people in Belgium and Luxembourg are extremely appreciative of Americans. "Everywhere we went they would say 'thank you, America. You saved our life. You've given our children their freedom.'"

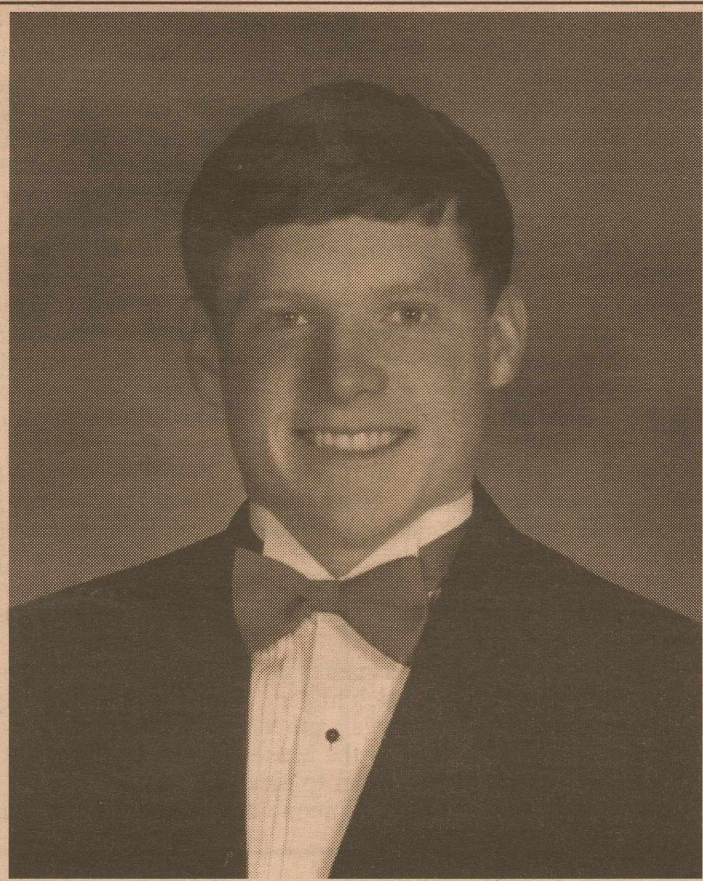
Austin signed more than a hundred autographs a day. Lots of people brought him military helmets or articles of clothing to sign. Some would shake his hand and cry. Austin and three other veterans went to an elementary school where the students asked questions and listened intently to the answers. Austin told how he could dig a foxhole 3 feet deep in just a few minutes.

The eight members of the group all wore matching shirts with "team granddad" printed on them. They created quite a spectacle during the 12-day trip. Austin brought home a bag of souvenirs that people gave him, which he keeps on display in his living room along

## Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit  
Tumbleweed Smith

### Return to the Battlefield



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# Herridge Listed Among All-Stars...

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be to be going," Herridge said. "We never even been to one of these games before. After listening to Coach Richey, it sounds like a pretty cool experience. We're really looking forward to it."

No wonder this summer's area all-star reps are so fired up about making their first trips to Wichita Falls.

What already had been another banner season in the Coyotes' athletic program just got better for Borden County's Herridge.

"He went to regionals in track and golf. He also played on our playoff football and basketball teams out here. He definitely made a hand for us," Richey said of Herridge.

While most people connect football with the fall, Herridge is quick to admit that it could be a little tough in that July heat.

"I can only imagine how tough it's going to be out there, especially now being a little out of shape. I better start betting in a little running but I'm excited about it, especially since I felt that I was already pretty much done until I got that phone call from the president of the Texas Six-Man Coaches wanting to see if I'd be interested in playing one more time," Herridge said.

After visiting with his parents about this opportunity, it did not take long for Herridge to make up his mind.

"Mom really wasn't too thrilled about it at first, but dad's been all for it. Back in high school, dad was also in alternate for the all-star game following his senior year, but he didn't get this chance that I'm getting now so he's pretty excited for me," Riley said.

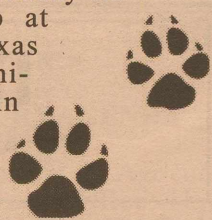
Herridge is just as glad that he got the chance to grow up on the six-man game.

"Probably, the only spot that I didn't get the chance to play was running back. From my eighth grade to junior year, I played a lot at center and quarterback. I also played three spots up front on the line. It would have been a lot tougher on me playing 11-man (foot-

ball), being out there with all those big 300-pounders, especially at my position," said the 180-pound Herridge.

After Herridge officially finishes up his high school sports careers this weekend at Wichita Falls it will be off to college for the 2015 high school graduate.

Herridge will begin his college studies at South Plains College in Levelland before eventually finishing up at West Texas A&M University in Canyon.



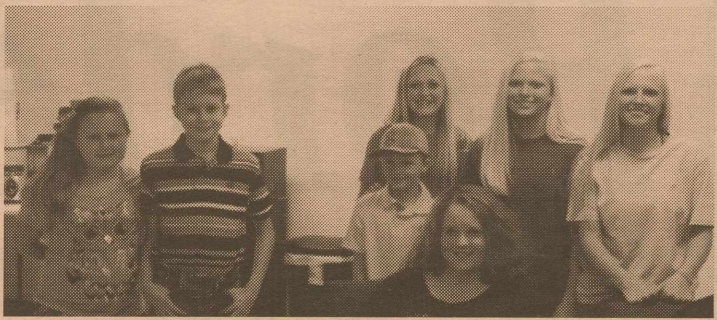
Borden County 4-H'ers participated in the District 2 4-H Food and Nutrition Tour and Leadership Workshop in Plainview on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Those that participated include: Laney Stansell, Tres Spencer, Kasen Oaks, Morghan Oaks, Kennedy Tucker and Ashlyn Tucker. Special thanks to volunteer, Esther Stansell, for participating as well! During the Food and Nutrition Tour, the participants toured Fox Dairy, made butter, toured Casa Rica Tortilla Factory and Amigos United. The Leadership Workshop included leadership and recreation training, and an introduction to Wool Judging, Entomology and Trashion projects.

 **BORDEN COUNTY 4-H** 

Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service—Borden County  
P.O. Box 155 or 140 East Wilbourn, Gall, TX 79738  
Phone (806)756-4336 Fax (806)756-4486  
julie.smith@agnet.tamu.edu OR cody.hill@agnet.tamu.edu  
http://borden.agrilife.org Facebook: Borden County Extension and 4-H



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*The  
Borden  
Star*

## Mount Rushmore of the South

So, let's say that some artist/sculptor drives though Gail someday, stops for lunch in either of our two eating establishments, and then sees it: Gail Mountain. His (or her) heart races and his (or her) palms sweat and the vision slaps him (or her) in the face. Why not a Mount Rushmore of the South?

Chances are, this scenario will never play out, but just for fun and because *The Borden Star* needs some stories in the summer, it would be fun to think about whose faces could be blasted and chiseled and sculpted on Gail proper's favorite landmark. Mushaway Peak is off limits—too much national historical significance and not as close to the highway.

Folks with Borden County connections could come up with a whole host of local people who should be honored on the Rushmore of the South. For sure, Quanah Parker earns a spot for his and his Comanche nation's presence in this county. His grandsons—some of whom have visited Borden County—no doubt would applaud the decision.

Longtime Borden County Sheriff Sid Reeder would be a great choice, too. The display in the Borden County Museum shows reminders of a man who served this area faithfully and wisely for many years. He was sheriff of Borden County for 26 years, from 1937. Before his untimely death in 1963, Sheriff Reeder received numerous honors in the law enforcement field—many of which are displayed in the Borden County Museum.

All small towns have characters, those people who are rural symbols of our way of life. Buster Taylor, Pat Porter, Bertie Copeland, and Fiddler Herridge come to mind for our county. These three are/were beloved for the simple fact that what you see/saw is what you get/got. Their contributions to Gail and the county are more aesthetic than anything—their colorful presence (and actions and language) adds (added) to our unique identity.

Finally, there would be no rule that says we have to have a *person* on our Rushmore. It makes perfect sense to blast a howling coyote on the side of Gail Mountain. How daunting would that be on a Friday night when the opposing team looks up and sees the predator's huge glaring eyes peering over Coyote Stadium. This would take home field advantage to a whole new level.

Of course, so many other names come to mind. This community and county have a rich history, one graced with many individuals who easily deserve a spot on Gail Mountain. Next time you are in Gail, stop by the Museum. You can get a BC Historical Commission member to meet you and let you in.

Maybe you'll read about someone else who "rocked" our world here in Borden County.



### Living in the Now, Preparing for the Future

For many of us, our goals in life remain constant: financial independence and providing for family. Striking a balance between saving for goals, such as education and retirement, and allocating money for daily expenses can be challenging. But you can do it.

Learn how you can redefine your savings approach toward education and retirement. Call or visit today.



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

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### Children at Risk in Hot Cars

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service would like to remind parents that with summertime heat, the danger of children dying from being left unattended in vehicles increases.

Temperatures in parked vehicles can rise very quickly. According to San Francisco State University's department of geosciences, in just 10 minutes the temperature can increase by almost 20 degrees. A child's body temperature rises three to five times faster than an adult's, making children more vulnerable to a deadly condition known as hyperthermia or heat stroke. At a body temperature above 104 degrees, heat stroke can occur.

Although even mild outside temperatures can be dangerous, with Texas temperatures climbing into the upper 90s each day, the danger becomes even greater.

Here are some safety tips from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:

Never leave infants or children in a parked vehicle, even if the windows are partially open.

Do not let children play in an unattended vehicle. Teach them that a vehicle is not a play area.

Make a habit of looking in the vehicle – front and back – before locking the door and walking away.

If you are dropping a child off at childcare, and normally it's your spouse or partner who drops them off, have your spouse or partner call you to make sure the drop went ac-

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ording to plan.

Ask your childcare provider to call you if your child does not show up for childcare.

Do things to remind yourself that a child is in the vehicle, such as writing yourself a note and putting the note where you will see it when you leave the vehicle; placing your purse, briefcase, shoe or something else you need in the back seat so that you will have to check the back seat when you leave the vehicle. Another reminder is to keep an object in the car seat, such as a stuffed toy. When the child is buckled in, place the object where the driver will notice it when he or she is leaving the vehicle.

Always lock vehicle doors and the trunk, and keep keys out of children's reach.

If a child is missing, check the vehicle first, including the trunk.

If you see a child alone in a hot vehicle, call the police.

If a child is in distress due to heat, get them out of the vehicle as quickly as possible. Cool the child rapidly. Call your local emergency number immediately. (In Borden County that number is 806-759-5311.)

While there are already some electronic gadgets on the market to help prevent these needless tragedies, the best precaution is to be vigilant and follow these safety recommendations.

### Tumbleweed...

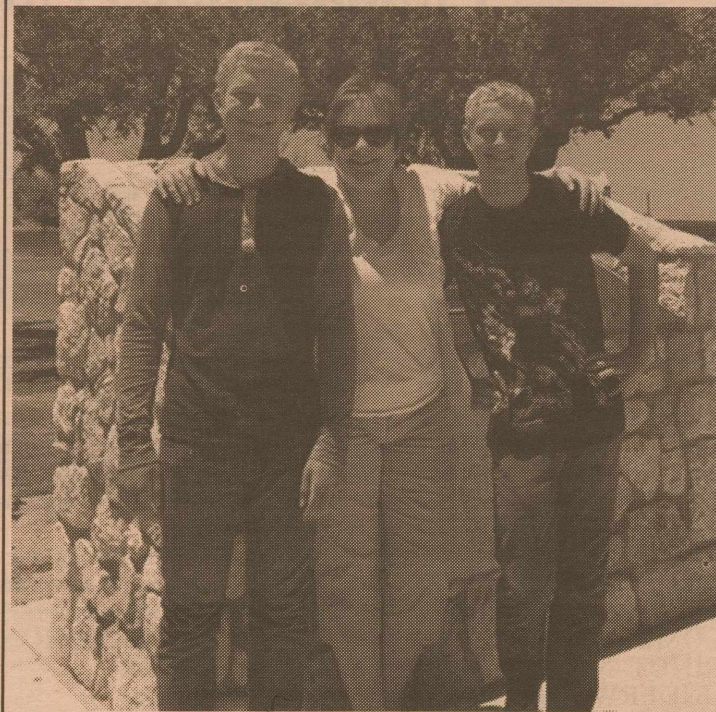
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with his two purple hearts and bronze stars.

Austin suffered frostbite and was in the hospital a month. "It makes your feet turn black," says Austin. "If they turn black all the way to the heel, they take your feet off. Mine just reached halfway and finally healed." When he entered the Army he chose to be a paratrooper because it doubled his pay from 50 to 100 dollars a month. His landing in Germany on March 24, 1945 was the largest airborne operation in the war. It involved 10,000 paratroopers and thousands of aircraft. Germany surrendered on May 7, 1945. A few months later, Austin was on a troop ship headed for Japan when he learned the war had ended.

Tumbleweed Smith has a curiosity that takes him to some of the most interesting people and places in Texas. Contact him at [ts@tumbleweedsmith.com](mailto:ts@tumbleweedsmith.com)

### Former Student Visits



1983 graduate (and class salutatorian) Jennifer Wilson Basinger stopped by Gail this week to tour the new school. She was joined by her twin sons, Jonathan and Seth. Jennifer is Medina Valley ISD's elementary schools' Clinical Social Worker. Jennifer's dad, Dr. Wilson C. (Butch) Wilson, practiced medicine in Post for many years.

### Obituary

#### Jessie Glenn "Nannie" Swann

1924 - 2015



Nolan County, TX to Earl F. and Lomie (McReynolds) Scott. She married Claude "Tooter" Swann Jr. May 23, 1942 in Sweetwater. He preceded her in death in 1994. They were married for 51 years.


Glenn worked for Borden County Independent School District for 25 years as the cafeteria manager and she drove the school bus. She was a talented seamstress and sewed clothing for her children.

Glenn is survived by her children, Iris Smith and husband Clinton "Bud" Smith of Lamesa, and Claudia Bomar and husband, Randy of Midland; grandchildren, Ronnie Smith and wife, Jennifer of Lamesa, Clintonna Todd and husband, Blaine of Lamesa, Kelly Maben and husband, Tye of Spur; and great-grandchildren, Darby and Shelby Smith, Bry Todd, and Macye Maben. She is also preceded in death by her parents; 6 brothers; and 1 sister. To send condolences online, please visit [www.branonfuneralhome.com](http://www.branonfuneralhome.com).

Graveside services for Jessie Glenn "Nannie" Swann, 91, of Gail were held Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Gail Cemetery with Roy Byrd officiating.

Visitation was held Monday, July 13, 2015 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Branon Funeral Home. Arrangements were under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Glenn passed away Friday, July 10, 2015 in Lamesa. She was born February 2, 1924 in



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*3rd & 4th generations still serving this area.*

## Commissioners Meeting

THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF BORDEN WHEREAS, on this the 23rd day of June, 2015, the Commissioners' Court of Borden County, Texas, convened in Special Session in the Commissioners Courtroom at the Courthouse in Gail, Texas the following members of the Court being present to-wit: ROSS D. SHARP, COUNTY JUDGE, PRESIDING; MONTE SMITH, COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 1; RANDY ADCOCK, COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 2; ERNEST REYES, COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 3; JOE BELEW, COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT NO. 4 and JANA UNDERWOOD, COUNTY CLERK AND EX-OFFICIO OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT constituting a quorum, when the following proceedings were had, in accordance with the posted agendas. Other officers present: Marlo Holbrooks, County Attorney and Shawna Gass, County Treasurer.

### CALL TO ORDER

Judge Sharp called the June 23, 2015, regular session of the Commissioners Court to order at 8:40 A.M.

### COMMUNITY INPUT

None

### MINUTES APPROVED

Minutes of the Commissioners Court meeting of June 9, 2015 were presented. Commissioner Reyes made a motion to approve said minutes as presented. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### BRADLEY CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Mr. Paul Bottini, representative of Bradley Construction Management, met with the court on condition of county roads in precinct 1B.

### DONATION OF LAWN EQUIPMENT

Commissioner Belew made a motion to accept Stihl weed eater from Sadie Ludecke for use at the cemetery. Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### FUEL BIDS

At 9:00 A.M. the one fuel bid received from McCormik Marketing was opened and considered. Commissioner Belew made a motion to accept the bid from McCormick Mar-

keting, Inc, Snyder, Texas for fuel. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### UTILITY CABLE CROSSINGS

No Applications

### PRIVATE ROAD CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the following application from Clifton Smith, Precinct 1 for work as needed with this application expiring on December 31, 2015.

Commissioner Reyes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### SOIL CONSERVATION WORK

No Applications

### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Part time help for Agriculture Extension Office; National Family Care and Budget.

### NATIONAL FAMILY CARE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Mr. Stephen "Rooster" Rainbolt, representative of National Family Care Life Insurance Company, met with the court about insurance plan. Also present was Abby Redman.

### CURRENT ACCOUNTS

Commissioner Reyes made a motion to approve and pay said accounts. Commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### ADJOURN

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

THE FOREGOING MINUTES READ AND APPROVED THIS THE 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2015.

## Borden County ISD Board Meeting

### Regular Board Meeting - May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

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 Board Room of the Borden County I.S.D. Board members present were John Anderson, Joel Dennis, Todd Holbrooks, Mike Valentine, Randy Hensley, Carol Lewis, and Dennis Poole. Billy Collins and Bart McMeans were also in attendance.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by John Anderson.

2. There was no community input.

3. A motion was made by Joel Dennis and seconded by Carol Lewis to approve the minutes of the April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

4. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Joel Dennis to approve the May 2015 bills. The motion carried unanimously.

5. A motion was made by Dennis Poole and seconded by Mike Valentine to approve

BCISD sponsorship of drug and alcohol-free graduation night. The motion carried unanimously.

6. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Carol Lewis by to Approve Borden County ISD Scholarships for 2014-2015 in the amount of \$11,000.

7. A motion was made by Carol Lewis and seconded by Todd Holbrooks to set the next regular board meeting for Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.

8. A motion was made by Mike Valentine and seconded by Dennis Poole to employ Christi Collins as a teacher for the 2015-2016 school year.

9. A motion was made by Randy Hensley and seconded by Dennis Poole to approve the superintendent's report: Enrollment Report, Financial Report. The motion carried unanimously.

10. A motion was made by Todd Holbrooks and seconded by Joel Dennis to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

## Public Notice

### Mandatory Public Notification Language 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 4.0 mg/L, and has determined that it is a health concern at levels above the MCL. Analysis of drinking water in your community for FLUORIDE indicates a compliance value in quarter two, 2015 of 5.61 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

## Help Wanted

Big Country Electric Co-op has 2 immediate openings with full benefits for a Meter Technician in our Roby and Snyder office. Requires high school diploma or equivalent, have communication skills, and must meet all job require-

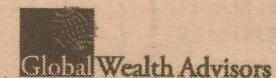
ments if hired. Please visit our website at [www.bigcountry.coop](http://www.bigcountry.coop) for further information and to apply online. All applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. July 21<sup>st</sup>.

### Our wealth of financial expertise is expanding!

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[ben@gwadvisors.net](mailto:ben@gwadvisors.net) • [www.gwadvisors.net](http://www.gwadvisors.net)



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