

# THE BORDEN STAR

Volume XXXI

July 30, 2003

Serving the Counties of Borden, Dawson, Garza, Howard, Lynn & Scurry

## Remembering Columbia

By Senator Hutchison  
On February 1, 2003, millions of Americans awoke to the heartbreaking news that the Space Shuttle Columbia had been destroyed while reentering the earth's atmosphere. Texans were profoundly affected by the tragedy because the shuttle disintegrated in our wide-open skies, scattering wreckage throughout the northeast part of our state.

August marks the six-month anniversary of that terrible tragedy. It is a time to remember, but it is also a time to reflect on the triumph of the human spirit that rose

from the ashes of the Columbia.

When Texans learned of the disaster, they didn't stop and ask, "Why us?" They said, "How can we help?" They pitched in with gestures large and small. People in Sabine, Nacogdoches and San Augustine counties, areas that bore the brunt of the disaster, rose to the occasion to assist in the recovery efforts.

More than 600 volunteers descended upon the east Texas community from around the state to begin the monumental task. Game wardens, fire fighters,

sheriffs and forest service employees arrived at their own expense to help. The local National Guard unit canceled its scheduled training that first weekend and lent a hand. Restaurants and grocery stores provided free meals to volunteers. Business, schools and community organizations solicited donations and rounded up food, water and supplies to keep the command center running. Churches offered the homes of their members to relief workers seeking a warm bed after grueling 12-hour shifts. Local hotels and bed and

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## 2003-'04 School Year to begin August 18<sup>th</sup>.

The 2003-2004 school year begins on Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, at Borden County ISD. The school day will begin at 8:05 a.m. and will dismiss at 3:33 p.m.

All high school students who have questions about their credits or schedule will need to register on August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mr. Dye will be available on these days to

discuss your needs.

High school students can register August 5<sup>th</sup> through August 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Elementary students who are new to Borden County are also encouraged to register on the dates indicated above. All other elementary students will be registered on the first day of school, Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Sports Physicals Scheduled

*Sixth Grade students included this year*

All Borden County School students', grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup>, that are planning to participate in the 2003-2004 school year sport activities are scheduled for their sports physicals, on Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10 a.m. in Abilene.

Departure time from Gail to the Rebound Sports and Physical Therapy Clinic in Abilene is at 8:00 a.m. The address there is 1720 South

and non-exempt items, visit the Comptroller's Web site at:

<http://www.window.state.tx.us/tasinfo/taxpubs/tx96-237-03.html#holiday>

Clack. The phone number is 915/691-0093.

Parents must sign all physical forms before leaving. Forms will NOT be completed by the Dr. if they are not signed by parents.

Students will need to wear shorts and a t-shirt for the physical.

If you plan to play a sport of any kind during the upcoming school year, you are required by the school district to take a physical. The school furnishes the physical at this time. If you cannot make this date, then you will need to get a physical on your own at your own expense.

## Sales Tax Holiday

Shoppers can stock up on clothes and shoes without paying sales tax August 1-3, Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn announced.

"I love the Sales Tax Holiday. It's the one time where hard-working Texas families get to keep more of their dollars in their pockets for their families' priorities. The fifth annual Sales Tax Holiday will be held the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday of August," Strayhorn said. "During the Sales Tax Holiday most clothes and shoes priced under \$100 are exempt from state and local sales taxes."

Strayhorn estimates Texans will save \$43.8 million in sales tax, including \$34.6

million in state sales tax and \$9.2 million in local sales taxes.

Examples of items that can be purchased tax-free August 1-3 include kids' clothes and school uniforms, adults' clothes and work uniforms, shoes, tennis shoes, sleepwear and underclothes for the entire family, as long as the items are priced under \$100 each.

Strayhorn has repeatedly called on the Legislature to add backpacks, school supplies and safety gear for Texas children to the Tax Exempt list; they have failed to do so.

Items that cannot be purchased tax-free include handbags, wallets, jewelry,

accessories, athletic shoes and sports apparel that are not normally street wear, backpacks and school supplies.

Since the first Sales Tax Holiday in 1999, the annual three-day event has saved Texans an estimated \$150.2 million in sales tax, including \$118.5 million in state sales tax and \$31.7 million in local sales tax.

"During these tough economic times, I believe Texas families will once again take full advantage of this well-deserved tax break to make their dollars go farther," Strayhorn said.

For more information about the Sales Tax Holiday, including a list of tax-exempt



## 2003-2004 Dress Code for Borden County ISD

The Borden County School's dress Code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the following.

Borden County's students shall be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat and that will not be a health and safety hazard to themselves or others. Clothing and grooming that in the principal's judgment may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operation is prohibited.

The Borden County School prohibits pictures, emblems, or writing on clothing that

1. Is lewd, offensive, vulgar, or contains obscene language
2. Advertises or depicts tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or any other substance prohibited by the school
3. Refers to satanic, cult, prison wear or gang activities.

The following guidelines will be used to determine appropriate dress:

1. Dresses, skirts, split skirts and shorts should not be shorter than two inches above the knee. A student will lose the privilege of wearing shorts for the

school year upon a third offense. Parents will be notified when the second offense occurs. Shorts must be tailored (hemmed with no frayed edges). **NO** spandex biker shorts or wind shorts are allowed (loose-legged, athletic running shorts) and shorts shall not be too tight.

2. Wearing of oversized or baggy pants and/or jeans is prohibited at school or at any school-sponsored activity on or off campus. **NO "saggin, baggin, or draggin."** Pants must be an appropriate length and not drag the floor. Boy's pants will be worn at the waist and properly fit the waistline. **NO** excessive wide legged pants will be allowed. **NO** chains will be allowed on school property or at school sponsored functions.
3. Shirts and blouses must be buttoned appropriately with midriff and back covered at all times. **(Tops must be long enough that skin does not show when arms are lifted).** Clothing shall be designed, constructed, and worn in a manner that is not suggestive or indecent, and that shall promote proper decorum. The opening on any type of shirt shall not exceed the equivalent of the first button below the collar of

a dress shirt. Tank tops and "See through chiffon blouses" will not be allowed unless they are worn with a crew neck T-shirt underneath it or a shirt worn over them during all school hours and activities. Tailored shirt shirttails must be tucked in unless you have a crew T-shirt underneath the shirt. (All tailored shirts will be buttoned and tucked into the pants or skirt when representing Borden County in any extracurricular activities). Sleeveless blouses are permissible but must in good taste. Appropriate undergarments must be worn and must not be exposed at any time.

4. Footwear shall be a part of regular attire. House shoes are not acceptable footwear. Not metal cleats or plates on the soles of shoes shall be worn in the building.
5. Hair shall be clean and well groomed at all times while attending school, school functions, and school sponsored activities. It will be styled in a manner that will keep it out of the student's eyes and not obstruct one's vision. No unnatural or bizarre hair colors or haircuts will be permitted. Eyebrows must not be notched or shaved in an unnatural manner. Male

students' hair may be worn no longer than the top of the collar. In addition: geometric or unusual patterns will not be allowed to be shaved or cut in the hair, and boys may not wear pony tails, rat-tails, or braids. Students are to be clean-shaven at all times. Mustaches and beards are not allowed. Sideburns shall not be worn lower than the bottom of the ear lobe and no wider than one inch at the base.

6. Boys will not wear piercing jewelry. Girls may not wear exposed piercing jewelry other than earrings. No tongue piercing will be allowed for boys or girls.
7. Sunglasses may not be worn in the building during school hours or events inside the building unless prescribed by a doctor.
8. All types of headwear are prohibited. No hats, caps, bandanas, or hoods may be worn inside the building by boys or girls unless approved by the school administration. This will include basketball games and other settings where the school administration, coach, or sponsor determines that headwear is inappropriate.
9. Any clothing or grooming not listed above that is

determined by the school administration to pose a disruption, interference, or safety concern to the normal school operation or Borden County School Community will be prohibited and addresses as appropriate.

A student who violates the dress code shall be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student shall be assigned to in school suspension either for the remainder of the day or until a parent or designee brings an acceptable change of clothing to the school. Repeat offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action. The principal, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity (for example: cheerleader uniforms may vary from normal requirements according to principal/sponsor approval). Students who violate these standards may be removed or excluded from the activity for a period determined by the school administration or sponsor and may be subject to other disciplinary action.

Violations of the Borden County Dress Code may be handled through the Student Code of Conduct.

## Back to School Supply List

**Kindergarten:** Elmer's school glue (NOT paste), 2 glue sticks, 2 boxes of 16 crayons, scissors (Fiskars for kids), supply box (cigar box size), 4 #2 pencils, gym shoes, towel for nap time, baby wipes or wet wipes, big eraser, 1 box of Kleenex

**First Grade:** 2 boxes of 16 crayons, 5 #2 pencils, supply box, scissors (Fiskars for kids), 2 medium sized bottles of Elmer's school glue, 2 glue sticks, 1 1-subject spiral notebook (wide ruled), gym shoes, large box of baby wipes, 1 box of Kleenex

**Second Grade:** 12 #2 pencils, crayons, Elmer's school glue, red grading pencil, notebook paper (wide ruled), scissors, eraser, gym shoes, ruler, large box of baby wipes or wet wipes

**Third Grade:** Loose-leaf notebook, 1 spiral (wide ruled), 1 pkg. 3X5 index cards, 1 ruler (metric and standard), 4 red pens, 1 bottle of glue and 2 glue sticks, 2 folders, 2 large boxes of baby wipes, notebook paper (wide ruled), 24-#2 pencils, large eraser, gym shoes, crayons, colored

pencils

**Fourth Grade:** Crayons, map crayons, box of #2 pencils (no mechanical pencils), pencil sharpener with a lid that will stay on (bring pencils sharpened), 3 red grading pens (no black or blue pens), loose leaf notebook, zipper pencil bag for notebook, 8 folders with inside pockets (no brads), wide ruled notebook paper (no college ruled), standard and metric ruler, 2 large inexpensive boxes of baby wipes, glue sticks only, (no plastic molded crayon

boxes), art gum erasers, scissors-smaller 6 inch size with sharp tips, 1 box of kleenex, gym shoes

**Fifth Grade:** notebook, brown dividers with holes and pockets for notebook, notebook paper-WIDE RULED ONLY - **NO COLLEGE RULED**, 1 dozen #2 pencils, 4 red pens, 1 art gum eraser, **no black or blue pens**, 2 black sharpies (twin tip), 4 large glue sticks (.77 oz), colored pencils (36 in box), 1 ruler with metric and standard measurements, 1 package of 50 Crayola Washable Markers super tip,

1 package of 10 Crayola Markers broad tip, scissors, seven different colored spirals, **wide ruled only**, please. If you can find them with more than 70 sheets. NO three or five subject spirals. No college ruled. Seven different **plastic** folders with pockets, no brads.

**Sixth Grade:** One 2 inch 3 ring notebook, 6 pocket dividers, 30 regular dividers, 1 package highlighters (5 different colors: green, blue, orange, yellow, pink), 1



## Supply List

Cont. from pg. 2

package map colors (at least 24), 1 spiral notebook (wide ruled, 70 pages-red colored), 5 packages notebook paper (wide ruled), 2 boxes Kleenex, 1 package red pens (10 at least), 1 package black pens (10 at least), 1 package pencils (10 at least), 1 glue stick (large, 2 packages wet wipes.

**\*\*ONE LARGE SMILE AND A GOOD ATTITUDE\*\***

[Watch next week's paper for K through 12th. List]

**Mr. Ard -**

**Language Arts 7 & 8, English I & III:** 1-1/2" 3-Ring "Extra Tough" notebook with inside pockets (to keep in room; no zippers, please), 8 tabbed notebook dividers, 1 2-pocket, 3-pronged folder (any color), 1 composition book (at least 70 pages with holes; no spirals), pen pouch (for in-class notebook), loose-leaf notebook paper (wide- or college-ruled), black, blue and red ink pens (extra red ink pens needed during the year), pencils, highlighter(s)

**Speech:** 1" 3-Ring "Extra Tough" notebook (to keep in room; no zippers, please), 5 tabbed notebook dividers, loose-leaf notebook paper (wide- or college ruled), 1 VHS videocassette tape (can be used in theatre), black, blue and red ink pens, pencils, highlighter(s).

**Theatre Arts:** 1" 3-ring "Extra Tough" notebook (to keep in room; no zippers, please) 5 tabbed notebook dividers, loose-leaf notebook paper (wide-or college ruled), 1 VHS videocassette tape (can be used in speech), black, blue, and red ink pens, pencils, highlighter(s).

**Coach Avery -**

**Social Studies (7<sup>th</sup>), U.S.**

**History (10<sup>th</sup>), W. Geography (11<sup>th</sup>):**

Notebook paper, pens

**Mrs. James -**

**7th Grade Reading:**

Spiral notebook, 3-ring binder, 1 package of ruled index cards (3" X 5") black or blue pen, highlighter (any color), notebook paper (wide or college ruled), red pencil or pen

**Mrs. Key -**

**Math (8<sup>th</sup>), Algebra I (9<sup>th</sup>),**

**Geometry (10<sup>th</sup>), Algebra II**

**(11<sup>th</sup>), Pre-Cal (12<sup>th</sup>),**

**Computer Applications (8<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> semester):**

Notebook paper, spirals, notebook, plenty of pencils, red pen

**Mr. Lewis -**

**Science 9<sup>th</sup>, Science (8<sup>th</sup>),**

**IPC (9<sup>th</sup>), Biology (10<sup>th</sup>),**

**Chemistry (11<sup>th</sup>), Physics**

**(12<sup>th</sup>):**

Notebook or pocket folder, pens. **Chemistry:** Inexpensive calculator

**Mrs. Mayes -**

**Social Studies (8<sup>th</sup>), Spanish I**

**(10<sup>th</sup>), English II (10<sup>th</sup>),**

**Spanish II (11<sup>th</sup>),**

**Government/Economics (12<sup>th</sup>),**

**English IV (12<sup>th</sup>), Spanish III**

**(12<sup>th</sup>):**

1-1/2 inch notebook, red pen

**Coach Richey -**

**Math (7<sup>th</sup>), Algebra I (9<sup>th</sup>),**

**Geometry (10<sup>th</sup>):**

Notebook paper, spiral notebook, notebook, dividers (5 or 6), pencils, red pen, highlighter, dry erase markers (2 or 3)

**Mr. Wallace -**

**Ag. Science (8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>):**

**8<sup>th</sup> grade:** 3 ring binder notebook, 9 dividers w/labels, pens, pencils, and notebook paper

**9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade:** 9 dividers w/labels, pens, pencils, and notebook paper

## Remembering Columbia

Cont. from pg. 1

breakfasts donated lodging for the out-of-town workers. VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members volunteered countless hours.

State and local agencies operated seamlessly to deal with the tragedy and ensure recovery efforts ran smoothly and efficiently. The local community came together in an unprecedented way. Texans gave of their time, efforts and finances to help piece together the tragedy and put their community, and our entire nation, on the road to recovery.

The outpouring of generosity comes as no surprise. Texans are known for our big hearts and welcoming arms. When tragedy literally rained down upon us, it was instinctive to respond with charity, generosity and kindness.

While many questions surrounding the accident are still being investigated and measures preventing future tragedies are being undertaken, it is the question of "What's next?" that must still be addressed. What's next for space exploration? What can we learn from venturing into the unknown?

It is that thirst of knowledge that led us to explore space in the first place. Our curiosity, sense of wonder and desire to improve life on earth prompted us time and again to defy the odds. And our efforts have resulted in life-saving discoveries, technological advancements and improvements in our everyday lives.

Satellites, smoke detectors and bar-code scanners provide a few examples of everyday technologies that were developed through our space program. NASA has also contributed to the defense of our nation by pioneering space-based and satellite imagery applications that have been critical to helping our military pinpoint the enemy on the battlefield of Afghanistan and Iraq. NASA is also helping to

develop the next generation of the unmanned aerial vehicle, the Predator, a remotely controlled air craft that allows us to see the battlefield, find the enemy and sent in precision-guided munitions without endangering troops. Perhaps our greatest achievement has been in the field of medical science. CAT scans and MRIs are revolutionizing our ability to detect tumors early and save lives. Neither technology would be possible without NASA research.

From 1803, when Lewis and Clark set out to explore the unknown lands of the west, to 1969, when Neil Armstrong stepped on the

moon, the spirit of exploration has shaped our history and our culture. It has kept our economy thriving through the use and production of the fruits that research. It is a spirit embodied by Texans and knit into the fabric of our rich legacy of independence, which we must preserve.

As we commemorate the anniversary of the Space Shuttle Columbia tragedy and honor the seven lives cut short, we grieve with their families, celebrate their memories and pledge to renew our zeal for space exploration and hunger for the unknown.

### BORDEN COUNTY ISD BANK DEPOSITORY BID REQUEST

The Superintendent's Office, on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Borden County Independent School District will receive bids to serve as Depository for the purpose of assisting with the banking functions for all funds of the Borden County Independent School District.

Pursuant to existing provisions of Subchapter G, School District Depositories, Texas Education Code, it is the intention of the Board of Trustees of the District to select a Depository to assist with the banking functions for all funds of the District for a two-year period commencing not later than September 1, 2003, and ending August 31, 2005, or until such time as a successor Depository is named.

The legal provisions providing for the naming of a Depository of the District are set forth in Subchapter G, School District Depositories, Sections 45.201, of the Texas Education Code. Investments by the District will be governed by the Government Code, Chapter 2256, Public Funds Investment. Securities pledged as collateral to secure District deposits will be governed by the Government Code, Chapter 2257, Collateral for Public Funds.

A bidders conference will be held on Thursday, August 14, 2003, at 2:00 P.M. in the school superintendent's office of the Borden County ISD. Bank representation is not required for submitting a bid. However, the submission of a bid shall be Prima facie evidence that the bidder has full knowledge of the detailed requirements as outlined in this bid notice.

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 "Borden County ISD Depository Bid". Proposals will be received up to but no later than 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 14, 2003. Bids will be opened and read as they are received. ***Banks submitting bids should be careful to see that the appropriate bid form is used.*** Proposals will be tabulated, researched, and selected by the Board of Trustees at the regular meeting on August 18, 2003. 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 proposals that will best serve the needs of the District.

Questions regarding bid forms, and additional information shall be directed to Jimmy Thomas by writing the above address; by e-mail to [jthomas@esc17.net](mailto:jthomas@esc17.net); or by calling 806/756-4313. Transmissions by fax may be sent to 806/756-4310.

## ATTENTION FOOTBALL PLAYERS

It's that time of the year!

The 2003 Summer Football practice will kickoff

Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>

Practice will be from 5-9 p.m

\*\*\*\*\*

ALL-SPORTS PHYSICALS WILL BE  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 2<sup>nd</sup>.





**Let Me Get My Hat!**  
By Dennis Poole,  
Borden County CEA-Ag.

*Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Court of Texas Cooperating.*

## Best of Texas Steer Results – Snyder, TX

Borden County 4-H beef project members participated at two prospect steer shows over the past couple of weeks.

Chelsea Stephens and Kalli Poole participated at the "Best of Texas" prospect steer show on July 12-13, in Snyder, Texas. Placings at "Best of Texas" were:

**Ring A:**

Chelsea Stephens - 1<sup>st</sup> Place LW Simmental and Champion  
Kalli Poole - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place LW American and Reserve; 1<sup>st</sup> Place LW Simbrah and Champion; and 1<sup>st</sup> Place HW Brahman and Champion

**Ring B:**

Chelsea Stephens - 1<sup>st</sup> Place LW Simmental and Champion  
Kalli Poole - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place LW American and Reserve; 1<sup>st</sup> Place LW Simbrah and Champion; and 1<sup>st</sup> Place HW Brahman and Champion

Kalli also traveled to the Lamb County Classic in Littlefield July 18 & 19 to exhibit steers as well: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place LW American, 1<sup>st</sup> Place LW Simbrah and Reserve, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place HW Brahman and Reserve

Congratulations to each of these exhibitors.

## Regional Alfalfa Workshop set for Lamesa, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>.

Alfalfa production is the focus of a half-day regional workshop scheduled for Lamesa, Tuesday, August 12th. Registration begins at 8:00 AM at the Dawson Co. Community Bldg., South 8th and Houston. The program, organized by Texas Cooperative Extension, begins at 8:30 AM and will conclude at 1:00 PM. Target counties include Ector, Midland, Glasscock, Andrews, Martin, Howard, Mitchell, Gaines, Dawson, Borden, Scurry, Yoakum, Terry, Lynn, and Garza. Topics will include variety selection, fertility, irrigation, weed control, and entomology. A field visit will review insect scouting techniques and discuss insects present in the field. In addition dairy and custom hay industry personnel will share observations on achieving desired hay quality. All participants will receive a

book of alfalfa publications from Extension, Alfalfa Council, etc. As lunch will be provided, pre-registration is recommended one day in advance by calling John Farris, Dawson Co. Extension Agent, (806) 872-3444. A \$10 registration fee will cover cost of materials. 2.5 CEUs (1.0 in IPM) will be provided. An additional alfalfa workshop will also be conducted Aug. 7th in Littlefield.

*The rain has come,  
The wind & grass has come.  
The girls are mowing,  
The money is going.  
Please help!*

Gail Cemetery Association  
1751 CR 130  
O'Donnell, Tx 79351

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Tractor Raffle – Planting the Seeds for Change

Sponsored by Women's Protective Services of Lubbock, Inc.

Women's Protective Services of Lubbock, Inc. (WPS) will host its 4<sup>th</sup> annual Tractor Raffle, Planting the Seeds for Change, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. A 150hp 2003 7810-John Deere Tractor will be raffled off at the end of the evening.

Tickets are on sale now and must be purchased prior to Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds benefit WPS. Only 2,000 tickets will

be sold and may be purchased for \$100. Ticket price includes admission for two, one raffle entry; a barbecue dinner provided by J&M Barbecue, a silent auction and live entertainment by the Rex Thomas Band.

Mr. Gary Ivey of Ralls, Texas was last year's winner. Ivey has farmed cotton and maize on the South Plains all of his life. Currently Ivey farms on approximately 3,000 acres in the Ralls area.

For more information on where to purchase tickets, check with your local bank,

John Deere dealer or call (806)748-5292 for sales outlets in your area.

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Goats & Horses.  
All tubs are  
nutritionally balanced  
w/Cotton Seed or  
Soy Bean Meal –  
(NO animal by products)

Will Deliver –  
Call: 325-573-5563  
or Mo # 207-3846

**Wanted**  
Wanting to buy  
Small Ranch in  
Borden County  
3 to 6 Sections  
Reasonably Priced  
Call Ron @  
806/792-2400 or  
806794-3442

**Wanted**  
Family Deer Lease  
for 4 members in  
Borden County  
Call Ron @  
806/792-2400 or  
806/794-3442

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Great Summer!



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Frances Rains  
Stephens  
O'Donnell  
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**Subscription List**

Below is a list of subscriptions that expired in December, January, and February and will expire in March. Please look on the list to see if your name is listed, if so please send \$12.00 payment to the: **Borden Star Box 137 – Gail, TX 79738**

This list will be published weekly. Thank you for your help and continuing your subscription to the Borden Star.

**June Subscriptions Due:**

Gass, Shirley	Smith Larry	Walker, Mark
	Taylor, Benny	Whalen, Jacquie
Nunnally, Mrs. C.C.	Taylor, Kirk	

**May Subscriptions Due:**

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Biddle, Bill	Stansell, Gregg	Webb, Tommy

**April Subscriptions Due:**

Benavidez, Alfonso	Nowlain, Darrell	Zant, Guy
Nanny, Maria	Pucket, Lisa	

[If you have paid your subscription, and your name is listed, please contact the paper and see if your money has been received @: 806-756-4402 or 756-4313]  
**Thank You for your Subscription to the Borden Star**

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Lamesa Texas



# Religion and Health

By Patti J. Patterson, M.D.

Life in a rural community usually revolves around it schools and churches. While churches are obviously important to the health and viability of the community, they may also be important to your personal health. In some areas of the United States, 90 percent of patients rely upon prayer, inspirational reading, participation in worship services and support from clergy and congregation members for comfort or strength during times of serious illness.

The topic of spirituality or religion and health is gaining credibility in the medical world. Seventy-two medical

schools now offer courses on spirituality in their training of physicians. Researchers at Harvard, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Penn State and other universities are finding that people who are involved in regular religious practice may be healthier than those who are not.

Research now suggests that religious commitment may play a beneficial role in preventing mental and physical illness, in improving how people cope with illness, and in speeding recovery once illness occurs. Some studies have shown lower death rates from heart disease and strokes, less high blood pressure and less depression

and substance abuse in people who regularly attend religious services.

Religious support has been studied in end-of-life issues. One study showed that religious involvement is more important to a dying person's sense of well-being than low pain levels or close family support. Studies have also shown that elderly individuals with a strong faith base have much less fear of dying than people without that basis.

While the research does show health benefits from religious practices, the mechanisms of those benefits have not been clearly defined. It maybe that people

who regularly go to church receive health benefits from the social interactions. Research is underway to try to understand exactly how religion affects health. Careful analysis of some studies has shown that health behaviors alone do not account for all of the health benefits experienced by people who attend church frequently.

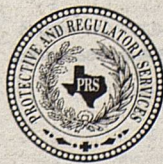
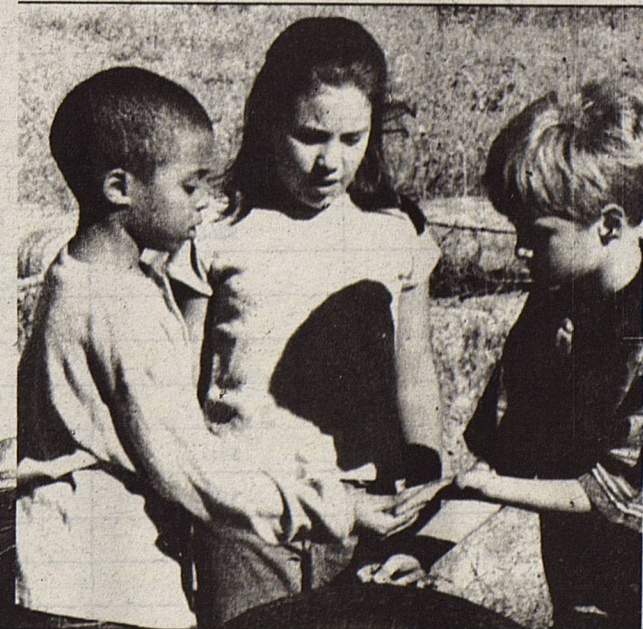
We know mental health and physical health are related. In the same way, looking at the "whole person" requires taking spiritual issues into account when addressing physical and mental health. Research in the area of religion and health is growing

rapidly, and is now being funded by the National Institutes of Health. However, we must remember the research is in its early stages and that this area is extremely difficult to study by scientific methods.

*[Patti J. Patterson, M.D. is the vice president of rural and community health at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. She grew up in Hale Center.]*



# Parent Alert!



Texas Department of  
Protective and Regulatory  
Services  
[www.tdprs.state.tx.us](http://www.tdprs.state.tx.us)

January 2001

## Keeping Kids Safe is Everybody's Business

## It's Up To You



# YOUR HEALTH

## New Ways To Cut Nighttime Snacking

by Dr. Jim LaValle

(NAPS)—If you feel you've been spending more time at night in the kitchen than in bed, you're not alone. You may have night-eating syndrome (NES). While NES was once estimated to affect only about two percent of adults, recent studies suggest it may occur in up to a fourth of obese persons. With almost 30 percent of the U.S. population obese, NES is apparently significant.



It's characterized by:

- Lack of or decreased appetite during the day
- Insomnia
- Increased appetite in the evening and at night
- Increased eating at night and getting up to eat after going to bed
- Feeling tense, anxious, worried or guilty while eating
- A tendency to eat sugar and starchy foods.

Scientists say levels of melatonin—the hormone that helps us sleep at night—are significantly reduced in NES sufferers. Similarly, leptin—the hormone that suppresses appetite—doesn't rise to normal levels in night-eaters. Cortisol—often called the "stress hormone" that kicks in when we're feeling tense—is elevated at night in people with NES. Cortisol levels can become elevated during times of stress, and those with constant stress have levels far greater than those who keep stress under control. Chronic stress contributes to a host of health problems, including weight gain, blood sugar regulation problems, heart related problems and a depressed immune system.

People experiencing chronic stress and increased desire for carbohydrates and sugar can consider theanine, an extract from green tea, that may reduce anxiousness and nervousness. Also 5-hydroxytryptophan (amino acid) helps

reduce sugar cravings and rebuild serotonin levels that have been lowered by chronic stress. As you build up serotonin, your brain can make more melatonin. The most effective supplement I've found for stress and stress-related sugar cravings is Relora. It's a patented formula extracted from two plants that have been used in traditional Chinese medicine for over 1500 years—Phellodendron amurense and Magnolia officinalis. It helps relieve stress, and anxiety and minimize stress-induced eating by helping maintain normal cortisol levels.

You can learn more online at [www.relora.com](http://www.relora.com).

• James LaValle, Pharmacist and Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine; [www.drvalle.com](http://www.drvalle.com), is co-founder of the Living Longer Institute in Cincinnati, the Nutrition Expert for Bodyshaping, America's number one fitness show on ESPN, and author of Cracking the Metabolic Code, Basic Book Publications, North Bergen, NJ.

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

Bro. Randy Hardman  
Gail Baptist Church  
Call: 806/756-4363  
Mobile No: 759-9472



### NOTICE

Borden County will use the following rules to comply with its responsibility under the Indigent Health Care and Treatment Act.

Application can be requested at Borden County Judge's Office Assistance in completing the application will be provided if needed. Contact Van L. York for assistance.

Borden County will use rules and procedures found in the County Indigent Health Care Program Handbook published by the Texas Department of Health. In summary, these rules are:

1. Application forms must be completely filled out, signed and dated.
2. Verification of income is required. Verification of residence, household composition, and resources is required, if questionable.
3. Maximum Countable income cannot exceed:

Family Size	Minimum Income Standards 21% FPIL	25% FPIL	Maximum Income Standards 50% FPIL
1	\$158	\$188	\$375
2	\$213	\$253	\$505
3	\$268	\$318	\$636
4	\$322	\$384	\$767
5	\$377	\$449	\$898
6	\$432	\$515	\$1029
7	\$487	\$580	\$1,160
8	\$542	\$645	\$1,290
9	\$597	\$711	\$1,421
10	\$652	\$776	\$1,552
11	\$707	\$842	\$1,683
12	\$762	\$907	\$1,814

4. Total countable resources and assets cannot exceed \$2000 or \$3000 if the household contains a relative who is aged or disabled. The value of a car greater than \$4,650 is counted against the \$2000 limit. Personal possessions and homestead are exempt assets.

5. Eligible persons must be a resident of Borden County.

6. Applicants must provide all information and documentation that is requested.

7. Applicants must apply for any other program for which they are potentially eligible. The county program is payer of last resort.

8. Applicants have the right to appeal denials.

### Sale of Surplus Equipment

Borden County will accept bids for the following used equipment. Bids will be opened August 11, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. at the Borden County Courthouse.

Equipment can be inspected at Precinct #2 Equipment Yard. Yard is located 1/2 mile south of Gail on FN 669. Equipment is as follows:

- One 1983 Ford F7000 6yd. dump truck, diesel CAT motor
- One 1977 Ford F600 with 2000 gallon water tank
- One 1976 Fontain dump trailer end dump
- One 1987 Holden equipment trailer

For further information contact Doug Isaacs, Commissioner, Precinct 1, phone 806/439-6619; Randy Adcock, Commissioner, Precinct 2, phone 806/756-4378; Ernest Reyes, Commissioner, Precinct 3, phone 915/965-3212; Joe Belew, Commissioner, Precinct 4, phone 915/573-7718 or Van York, County Judge, phone 806/756-4391.

Mail bids to P.O. Box 156, Gail, Texas 79738. All bids should be marked "BID" on outside of envelope.

Borden County reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

BY ORDER OF THE BORDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT  
VAN L. YORK,  
COUNTY JUDGE, BORDEN COUNTY

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
OIL AND GAS DOCKET IN RE: CONSERVATION AND PREVENTION OF WASTE OF CRUDE PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS  
No. 8A-0235561  
Austin, Texas  
July 24, 2003

### NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE APPLICATION OF WESTERN RESERVES OIL COMPANY, INC. TO CONSIDER TEMPORARY FIELD RULES FOR THE GALEY (WOLFCAMP) FIELD, BORDEN COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the public and to all interested persons that under the legal authority and jurisdiction of Title 3, Oil and Gas, Subtitles A, B, and C of the Texas Natural Resources Code, Chapters 26, 27 and 29 of the Texas Water Code, and TEX. GOVT CODE ANN. Art. \*\* 2001 et seq. (2003), the RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS will hold a hearing on SEPTEMBER 4, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. at the William B. Travis State Office Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. This hearing will be conducted in conformity with the TEX. GOVT CODE ANN. Art \*\* 2001 et seq. (2003). For room assignment, on the date of the hearing please check bulletin board in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor lobby. Persons planning to attend this hearing are urged to contact the applicant (see service list) immediately prior to the hearing date to be sure that the hearing will proceed on the scheduled date.

This hearing will be held to consider the application of Western Reserves Company, Inc. for temporary field rules for the Galey (Wolfcamp) Field, Borden County, Texas. Applicant requests that the following rules be adopted:

1. Spacing: 467/933';
2. Density: 80 acres, plus 40 acres tolerance for the last well on lease; and
3. Allocation: 100% acreage

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Michael McElroy, at (512)327-8111. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Railroad Commission, Office of General Counsel, at (512)463-6848.

IF A CONTINUATION IS NECESSARY, this hearing will proceed at the William B. Travis State Office Building, Austin Texas, and to the extent possible, on subsequent working days. The room number and exact time of the continuation will be announced on the record in this proceeding and recorded with Docket Services, Office of General Counsel, Railroad Commission of Texas.

ANY REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT of this hearing must be received no later than five (5) working days prior to the scheduled date shown above. Copies of such request must be forwarded to all parties shown on the service list.

TO APPEAR IN SUPPORT OF OR IN OPPOSITION TO THIS PROCEEDING, a party other than the applicant must file with Docket Services, Office of General Counsel, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date, a notice of intent to appear.

IF ANY PARTY DESIRES A WRITTEN TRANSCRIPT of the hearing, that party should notify the Court Reporter's office at (512)463-6926, at least five (5) working days in advance of the hearing date. If a written transcript is requested, the Commission may assess the cost of the transcript to one or more parties. Unless any party requests a written transcript, the record will be made by audio tape recording.

ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY who needs auxiliary aids and services in order to have an equal opportunity to effectively communicate and participate in this hearing must request such aids or services at least two weeks prior to the scheduled hearing by notifying the Personnel office of the Railroad Commission of Texas by mail at P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711-2967, or by telephone at (512)463-7327 or TDD No. (512)463-7284.

ALL EXHIBITS FILED AS A PART OF THE RECORD IN THIS CAUSE MUST BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE. DATA IN COMMISSION RECORDS MAY BE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE, BUT THE REFERENCE MUST BE SPECIFIC, AND IF IT INCLUDES EXHIBITS FILED IN PRIOR PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE COMMISSION, A COPY OF SUCH EXHIBIT PROPERLY IDENTIFIED SHALL BE SUBMITTED FOR THIS RECORD.

THIS HEARING REQUIRES NOTICE BY PUBLICATION



# Courthouse News

WHEREAS, On this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2003, the Commissioners' Court of Borden County, Texas, convened in Regular Session in the Commissioners Courtroom at the Courthouse in Gail, Texas, the following members of the Court being present, to-wit:

**VAN L. YORK, County Judge, presiding; DOUG ISAACS, Commissioner, Prec. No. 1; RANDY ADCOCK, Commissioner, Prec. No. 2; ERNEST REYES, Commissioner, Prec. No. 3; JOE BELEW, Commissioner, Prec. 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 the Commissioners Court meetings of June 23, 2003 were read. Commissioner Adcock made a motion to approve said minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Motion carried unanimously.

## ACCOUNTS ALLOWED

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

## 2003 GENERAL ELECTION

Commissioner Isaacs made a motion to consolidate the following County election Precincts for the September 2003 Constitutional Amendment Election as follows:  
Precinct No. 1 not consolidated.  
Precinct 2B into Precinct 2A  
Precinct 3A into Precinct 3B  
Precinct 4B into Precinct 4A  
Commissioner Belew seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

## COUNTY BUDGET HEARING

Commissioner Isaacs made a motion to hold the 2003 County Budget Hearing on September 8, 2003 at 10:00 A.M. commissioner Adcock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

## 2003 BUDGET

Commissioner Adcock made a motion to place surplus equipment for bid. Bids are to be opened on August 11, 2003 at 10 a.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Belew. Motion carried unanimously.

## DISCUSSION - ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Review the Employment Manual.  
Joyce Herridge, County and District Clerk was absent from 10 a.m. till 11 a.m. For District Court hearing, Jana Underwood, Deputy County & District Clerk was in attendance from 10 till 11 am.

## ADJOURN

### 2003 Property Tax Rates in Borden County

This notice concerns 2003 property tax rates for Borden County. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's rollback tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

	General Fund	Farm to Market/ Flood Control Fund	Special Road/ Bridge Fund
<b>Last year's tax rate:</b>			
Last year's operating taxes	\$ 1,278,467	\$ 0	\$ 0
Last year's debt taxes	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Last year's total taxes	\$ 1,278,467	\$ 0	\$ 0
Last year's tax base	\$ 272,014,427	\$ 0	\$ 0
Last year's total tax rate	\$ .47 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100
<b>This year's effective tax rate:</b>			
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$ 1,278,467	\$	\$
+ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	\$ 296,104,850	\$	\$
= This year's effective tax rate for each fund	\$ .4317 /\$100	\$ /\$100	\$ /\$100
Total effective tax rate	\$ .4317 /\$100		
x 1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearing	\$ .4446 /\$100		

In the first year a county collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, it must insert the following lines unless its first adjustment was made last year:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$ 0 /\$100
= Effective tax rate	\$ .4317 /\$100

#### This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$ 1,278,467	\$ 0	\$ 0
+ This year's adjusted tax base	\$ 296,104,850	\$ 0	\$ 0
= This year's effective operating rate	\$ .4317 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	\$ .4663 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100
+ This year's debt rate	\$ 0 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100
= This year's rollback rate for each fund	\$ .4663 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100	\$ 0 /\$100
This year's total rollback rate	\$ .4663 /\$100		

A county that collects the additional sales tax to reduce property taxes, including one that collects the tax for the first time this year, must insert the following lines:

- Sales tax adjustment rate	\$ N/A /\$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$ .4663 /\$100

For a county with additional rollback rate for pollution control, insert the following lines:

+ Additional rate for pollution control	\$ N/A /\$100
= Rollback tax rate	\$ .4663 /\$100

God Bless



America!

#### Statement of Increase/Decrease

If Borden County adopts a 2003 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$ .4317 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2002 taxes by \$ 2,452.00

#### Schedule A - Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Jury	18,898.00
General	272,386.00
Officer's Salary	49,295.00
Permanent Improvement	112,071.00
Road & Bridge	93,149.00
Precinct #1	22,873.00
Precinct #2	31,210.00
Precinct #3	155,418.00
Precinct #4	129,919.00

#### Schedule B - 2003 Debt Service --None--

#### Schedule C - Expected Revenue from Additional Sales Tax

(For hospital districts, cities and counties with additional sales tax to reduce property taxes) In calculating its effective and rollback tax rates, the unit estimated that it will receive \$ None in additional sales and use tax revenues. For County: The county has excluded any amount that is or will be distributed for economic development grants from this amount of expected sales tax revenue.

#### Schedule D - State Criminal Justice Mandate (For Counties)

The County of Borden certifies that Borden County has spent \$ 0 in the previous 12 months beginning for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.

#### Schedule E - Transfer of Department, Function or Activity

None  
The spent \$ from to on the. The operates this function in all or a majority of the [Second Year of Transfer: Modify schedule to show comparison of amount this year and preceding year by unit receiving the function.]

#### Schedule F - Enhanced Indigent Health Care Expenditures

None  
The County of Borden spent \$ 0 from Jan 1 to Dec 31 on enhanced indigent health care at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is \$ 0

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at County Judges' Office

Name of person preparing this notice Van L. York  
Title County Judge  
Date prepared 7/28/03



**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**BRIEF EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS OF PROPOSED**  
**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**  
**SPECIAL ELECTION**  
**SEPTEMBER 13, 2003**

**PROPOSITION 1**  
(HJR 68, Section 1)

HJR 68, Section 1 would authorize the Veterans' Land Board to use excess receipts in the Veterans' Land and Veterans' Housing Assistance funds for payment of revenue bonds, and use excess assets in those funds to provide veterans homes.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the Veterans' Land Board to use assets in certain veterans' land and veterans' housing assistance funds to provide veterans homes for the aged or infirm and to make principal, interest, and bond enhancement payments on revenue bonds."

**PROPOSITION 2**  
(HJR 51)

HJR 51 would expand from six months to two years the period in which the former owner of a mineral interest that was sold for unpaid property taxes may buy back the mineral interest.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to establish a two-year period for the redemption of a mineral interest sold for unpaid ad valorem taxes at a tax sale."

**PROPOSITION 3**  
(HJR 55)

HJR 55 would authorize the legislature to exempt from taxation land owned by a religious organization that is leased for use as a school or that will be used to expand or construct a place of religious worship that yields no revenue.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation property owned by a religious organization that is leased for use as a school or that is owned with the intent of expanding or constructing a religious facility."

**PROPOSITION 4**  
(SJR 30)

SJR 30 would authorize the legislature to allow conservation and reclamation districts to use taxes to develop and finance certain parks and recreation facilities. Also, the amendment would authorize the legislature to allow local elections for the issuance of bonds to improve and maintain parks and recreational facilities in the Tarrant Regional Water District or a conservation and reclamation district located in whole or in part in Bastrop, Bexar, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Montgomery, Tarrant, Travis, Waller or Williamson County.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment relating to the provision of parks and recreational facilities by certain conservation and reclamation districts."

**PROPOSITION 5**  
(SJR 25)

SJR 25 would authorize the legislature to exempt from all property taxes certain tangible personal property, which could include a travel trailer not substantially affixed to real estate and not used as a residential dwelling.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation travel trailers not held or used for the production of income."

**PROPOSITION 6**  
(HJR 23)

HJR 23 would authorize a qualified homeowner to refinance a home equity loan with a reverse mortgage loan.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment permitting refinancing of a home equity loan with a reverse mortgage."

**PROPOSITION 7**  
(HJR 44)

HJR 44 would reduce the number of persons who make up the jury in a district court criminal misdemeanor case from twelve to six.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to permit a six-person jury in a district court misdemeanor trial."

**PROPOSITION 8**  
(HJR 62)

HJR 62 would authorize the legislature to permit a person to assume office without an election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election for that office and the election is required by the Texas Constitution. This proposition applies to state and local political subdivisions, whereas Proposition 18 applies only to local political subdivisions.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit a person to take office without an election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election for that office."

**PROPOSITION 9**  
(HJR 68, Section 2)

HJR 68, Section 2 would redefine the com-

position of the permanent and available school funds by requiring during the next two fiscal years, and authorizing thereafter, annual distributions to the available school fund of a percentage of any increase in the value of the permanent school fund's total investment assets.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment relating to the use of income and appreciation of the permanent school fund."

**PROPOSITION 10**  
(HJR 61)

HJR 61 would authorize municipalities to donate surplus fire-fighting equipment, supplies, or materials to the Texas Forest Service, which would be authorized to distribute based on need the equipment to rural volunteer fire departments.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing municipalities to donate surplus fire-fighting equipment or supplies for the benefit of rural volunteer fire departments."

**PROPOSITION 11**  
(HJR 85)

HJR 85 would authorize the legislature to regulate the operation of wineries in Texas, regardless of whether a winery is located in an area in which the sale of wine has been authorized by local option election.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "A constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to enact laws authorizing and governing the operation of wineries in this state."

**PROPOSITION 12**  
(HJR 3)

HJR 3 would immediately authorize the Legislature to limit non-economic damages assessed against a provider of medical or health care and, after January 1, 2005, to limit awards in all other types of cases.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment concerning civil lawsuits against doctors and health care providers, and other actions, authorizing the legislature to determine limitations on non-economic damages."

**PROPOSITION 13**  
(HJR 16)

HJR 16 would authorize a county, city, town, and junior college district to freeze property taxes on a residential homestead of a person who is disabled or aged 65 or older.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to permit counties, cities and towns, and junior college districts to establish an ad valorem tax freeze on residence homesteads of the disabled and of the elderly and their spouses."

**PROPOSITION 14**  
(HJR 28)

HJR 28 would authorize the Texas Department of Transportation to issue

notes or borrow money to fund highway improvement projects. The terms of the notes or loans may not exceed two years. The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment providing for authorization of the issuing of notes or the borrowing of money on a short-term basis by a state transportation agency for transportation-related projects, and the issuance of bonds and other public securities secured by the state highway fund."

**PROPOSITION 15**  
(HJR 54)

HJR 54 would prohibit a local retirement system and the political subdivision that finances the retirement system from reducing or otherwise impairing certain accrued benefits under the local retirement system.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The Constitutional amendment providing that certain benefits under certain local public retirement systems may not be reduced or impaired."

**PROPOSITION 16**  
(SJR 42)

SJR 42 would amend the Texas Constitution to allow home equity lines of credit and allow refinancing of a home equity loan with a reverse mortgage loan.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing a home equity line of credit, providing for administrative interpretation of home equity lending law, and otherwise relating to the making, refinancing, repayment, and enforcement of home equity loans."

**PROPOSITION 17**  
(HJR 21)

HJR 21 would prohibit an increase in school property taxes on residence homesteads of disabled persons.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to prohibit an increase in the total amount of school district ad valorem taxes that may be imposed on the residence homestead of a disabled person."

**PROPOSITION 18**  
(HJR 59)

HJR 59 would authorize the legislature to permit a person to assume an office of a political subdivision without an election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election for that office and the election is required by the Texas Constitution. This proposition applies only to local political subdivisions, whereas Proposition 8 applies to state and local political subdivisions.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit a person to assume an office of a political subdivision without an election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election for that office."

**PROPOSITION 19**  
(SJR 45)

SJR 45 would repeal the legislature's

authority to create rural fire prevention districts. Effective September 1, 2003, all existing rural fire prevention districts will convert to emergency services districts.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to repeal the authority of the legislature to provide for the creation of rural fire prevention districts."

**PROPOSITION 20**  
(SJR 55)

SJR 55 would authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds in a total amount not to exceed \$250 million that will be used to provide loans for economic development projects that benefit defense-related communities in Texas.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes not to exceed \$250 million payable from the general revenues of the state to provide loans to defense-related communities, that will be repaid by the defense-related community, for economic development projects, including projects that enhance the military value of military installations."

**PROPOSITION 21**  
(SJR 19)

SJR 19 would authorize current and retired faculty members of a public institution of higher education to receive compensation for service as a member of the governing body of a water district.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment to permit a current or retired faculty member of a public college or university to receive compensation for service on the governing body of a water district."

**PROPOSITION 22**  
(HJR 84)

HJR 84 would authorize the appointment of a temporary replacement officer to serve on behalf of a state, district, or local public officer who is called into active military duty for longer than 30 days.

The proposition will appear on the ballot as follows: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the appointment of a temporary replacement officer to fill a vacancy created when a public officer enters active duty in the United States armed forces."

Estos son los informes explicatorios sobre las enmiendas propuestas a la constitución que aparecerán en la boleta el 13 de septiembre de 2003. Si usted no ha recibido una copia de los informes en español, podrá obtener una gratis llamando al 1/800/252/8683 o escribiendo al Secretario de Estado, P.O. Box 12060, Austin, TX 78711.

PUBLISHED BY SECRETARY OF STATE GWYN SHEA

**DRIVE SAFELY!**  
*Watch out for the Children . . .*

*In Case of Emergency Call:*  
**Borden County EMS**  
**806/759-5111**