

# The

# Borden Star

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## Secretary Vilsack Announces Additional 800,000 Acres Dedicated to Conservation Reserve Program for Wildlife Habitat and Wetlands

May 29, 2015 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced today that an additional 800,000 acres of highly environmentally sensitive land may be enrolled in Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) under certain wetland and wildlife initiatives that provide multiple benefits on the same land.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will accept new offers to participate in CRP under a general signup to be held Dec. 1, 2015, through Feb. 26, 2016. Eligible existing program participants with contracts expiring Sept. 30, 2015, will be granted an option for one-year extensions. Farmers and ranchers interested in removing sensitive land from agricultural production and planting grasses or trees to reduce soil erosion, improve water quality and restore wildlife habitat are encouraged to enroll. Secretary Vilsack made the announcement during a speech delivered at the Ducks Unlimited Na-

tional Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

“For 30 years, the Conservation Reserve Program has supported farmers and ranchers as they continue to be good stewards of land and water. This initiative has helped farmers and ranchers prevent more than 8 billion tons of soil from eroding, reduce nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to cropland by 95 and 85 percent respectively, and even sequester 43 million tons of greenhouse gases annually, equal to taking 8 million cars off the road,” said Vilsack. “This has been one of most successful conservation programs in the history of the country, and today’s announcement keeps that momentum moving forward.”

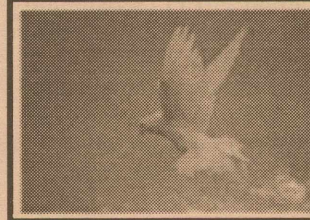
The voluntary Conservation Reserve Program allows USDA to contract with agricultural producers so that environmentally sensitive land is conserved. Participants establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species to control soil

erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat. In return, USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years.

“CRP protects water quality and restores significant habitat for ducks, pheasants, turkey, quail, deer and other important wildlife. That spurs economic development like hunting and fishing, outdoor recreation and tourism all over rural America,” said Vilsack. “Today we’re allowing an additional 800,000 acres for duck nesting habitat and other wetland and wildlife habitat initiatives to be enrolled in the program.”

In addition to Ducks Unlimited’s partnership with the Conservation Reserve Program, other longtime partners include Pheasants Forever, Quail Forever, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies,

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## Dare to Live Without Limits

By Bryan Golden

### Caring

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.” — Leo Buscaglia

What does it mean to be a caring person? Are you one? A caring person is sensitive to the needs and feelings of others. It’s not enough to feel you care, you have to be willing to take some action that can help another to feel better.

Those who are overly self-absorbed are not able to care about others. They are too concerned about their own circumstances to be aware of anyone else. Self-absorbed people often feel life is a contest where they have to vie against others for a piece of a limited pie. They mistakenly believe that if they don’t beat out someone else, there won’t be enough for them.

This outlook is substantially flawed. There is more than enough for everyone. Life offers unlimited abundance. However, self-absorbed people will constantly struggle to achieve their goals, if they achieve them at all. And should they get what they want, there is little or no feeling of contentment.

When you care about others, rather than being wrapped up in yourself, you attract more of what you want as a result of helping others. Caring people tend to be happier, more content, and more successful compared to those who are only concerned about themselves.

Does it matter if people care about you? Although it’s nice when it happens, if it doesn’t, it shouldn’t matter. It’s tempting to feel that you will care about others only after they care about you. The question then is who will start caring first? Caring isn’t a response, it is a cause. When you care, others will care about you. The people who care about you may not be the same as the ones you care about. But it doesn’t matter.

When you are a caring person, you attract other caring people into your life. As a caring person you will be very comfortable to be around. You will project a very positive energy which attracts more positive energies and people.

Should you only be caring when it’s convenient, or is it worth the effort to be caring even if it requires some sacrifice? People who genuinely care, do so regardless of the

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# BHS Weathers Storms to Bring Home Four State UIL Academic Medals

By Cindy Herridge

The best of the best in 1A schools met in Austin last week to battle it out in the 2015 State UIL Meet.

Borden County was well represented with five contenders: Senior, Sean Tucker, Juniors Nathan Souder and Robert Jordan, Sophomore Sydnee Jordan and Freshman Carley Bell.

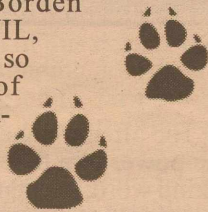
After the dust settled, Borden County returned home with four medals.

Winning the gold was Robert Jordan in Poetry Interpretation; the silver went to

Sydnee Jordan in News Writing; the bronze was awarded to Nathan in LD Debate and Carley Bell earned a 6<sup>th</sup> place in Feature Writing.

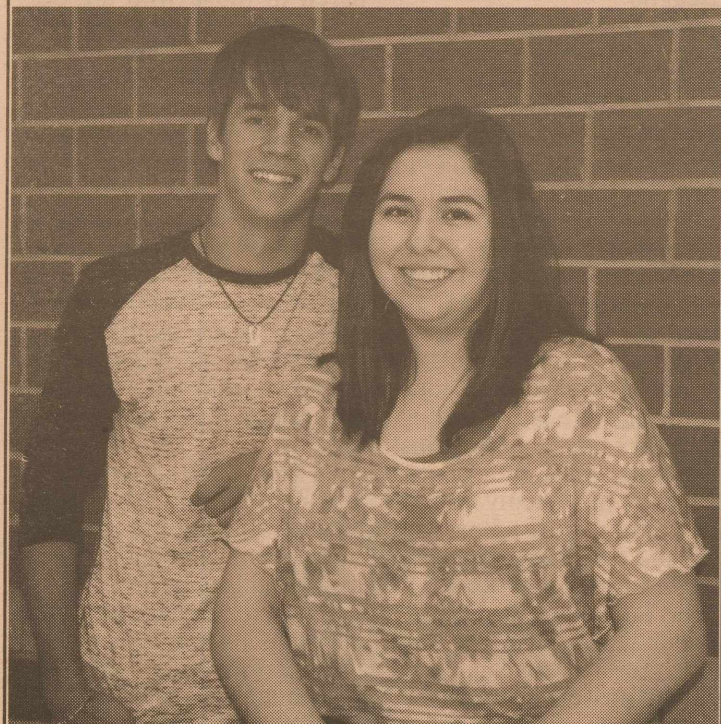
Sean Tucker ended up only two points away from medaling in Mathematics.

The tradition carries on for Borden County UIL, and we are so proud of these fabulous five.



Competing at the recent State UIL Academic meet held in Austin are (left to right) Sydnee Jordan, Nathan Souder, Sean Tucker, Robert Jordan and Carley Bell. The group brought home four medals in Poetry Interpretation, LD Debate, News Writing and Feature Writing.

## Mr. & Mrs. BHS



Borden County High School senior's Mason Coor and Bessie Rhodes have been selected as Mr. and Mrs. BHS. Mason is the son of Kurt and Jeanie Coor of Gail. Bessie is the daughter of Chris and Olivia Rhodes of Lamesa, Texas.



**Got News?**

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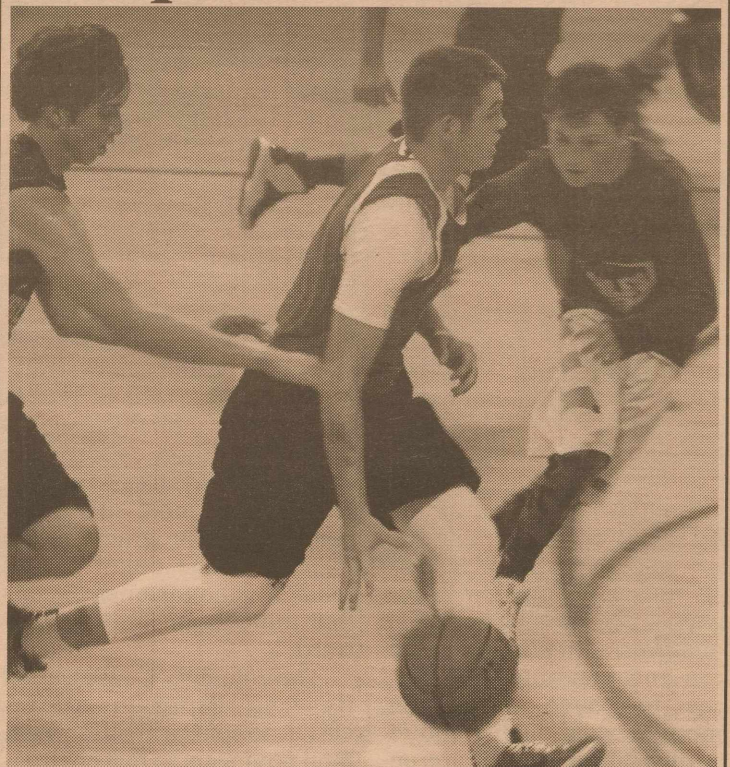
[kdean@bcisd.net](mailto:kdean@bcisd.net)

or call

806/756-4313

ext. 275

## Sands Summer Team Camp



Borden County Coyote, Trace Richey drives to the goal to score against the O'Donnell Eagles in last weeks Sands Summer Camp.

**TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION** Heart and Home... 

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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### Summer Money Tips

School is out for the summer! Summer can be a prime time for parents to help children learn about money. Here are a few ways to strengthen your children's skills:

- Numbers are all around us, from license plates, to road signs. When you are traveling with your children, make a game of finding numbers or counting certain items.
- Count out things—like produce at the farmer's market or grocery store—I need five today, help me count.
- Use blocks to build and sort and categorize into colors, shapes and sizes. This is just another way to sort, like sorting coins, or sorting money into spending, saving and sharing categories.
- Play dominos together and count the dots.
- Play board games to utilize counting skills.
- Use the clock to start counting time.
- Teach measuring concepts with a sand box and water. Using water to measure is

a great learning tool on a hot summer day.

- When you make a list and check off items as you run errands, your child can help in making the list and then in checking items off. They'll learn skills for planning and following their plans.
- When a family is planning a vacation, and requests arise to buy candy or other small items, ask the question, "would you rather have this OR be able to go the amusement park or zoo? Help them understand how small choices add up by putting the money saved (not spent on candy...) in a jar for the specific vacation-related purpose.

All these activities will help your child learn that essential financial lesson: "If you really want something, plan for it. Shop around, compare prices and get the item that gives the most for your money."

Source: Iowa State University Outreach and Extension Money Tip\$ Blog

# Dare to Live...

(Continued from Page 1)

energy required. Caring isn't linked to convenience. Rather, it's based on someone's need.

You can be a caring person without sacrificing your own well being. An erroneous belief is that you must suffer in order to be genuinely caring. You will be in the best position to care about others when you first ensure that your own requirements are being met. You can't be of much service when you need assistance yourself.

There is another important reason to care. It's because you can get everything you want in your life by consistently helping other people get what they want. When you take care of others, you will ultimately be taken care of. There is no way to know when or how, but it will happen.

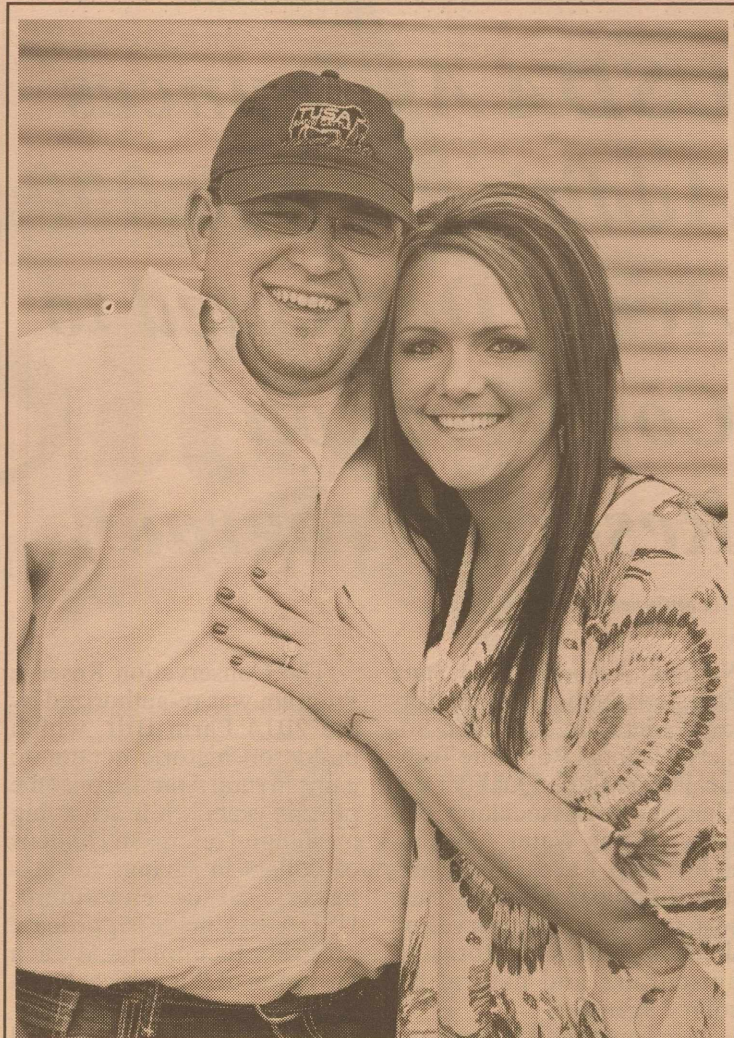
How can you show how you care? There is no gesture too small. As the opening quote so aptly states, there is amazing power in a touch, smile, kind word, or sincere compliment. Something that may seem insignificant to you can have a major impact on the life of another.

A caring gesture, at the right moment, regardless of how simple, will seem like a gift from God to the recipient. In return, there is nothing more satisfying than knowing you have made a difference to someone else.

Bryan is a management consultant, motivational speaker, author, and adjunct professor. E-mail Bryan at [bryan@columnist.com](mailto:bryan@columnist.com).  
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Jared Tusa and Kalli Poole

## Poole, Tusa Plan October Wedding

Dennis and Sheri Poole of Gail announce the engagement of their daughter, Kalli Dennise Poole, to Jared Wayne Tusa, son of Frank and Sandy Tusa of Reagan, Texas.

Kalli graduated from Borden County ISD in 2007. She received a degree in Animal Science from Texas Tech University in 2011. Kalli went on to receive her RN degree from Covenant in 2013 and her BSN from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in 2015. She is employed as an RN in the NICU at Baylor Scott & White Hillcrest Hospital in Waco.

Jared is a 2000 graduate of Marlin ISD. He received a degree in Agricultural Economics from Texas A & M University in 2005 and currently works with his family at Tusa Show Cattle in Reagan, Texas.

An October 24, 2015 wedding is planned in Reagan.

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# USDA Announces Additional 800,000 Acres Dedicated to Conservation Reserve Program...

(Continued from Page 1)

National Association of State Foresters, National Wild Turkey Federation, Audubon Society, National Bobwhite Technical Committee, Quality Deer Management Association, National Rural Water Association, Playa Lakes Joint Venture, Longleaf Alliance, state soil and water conservation districts, and state forestry, agriculture and natural resource agencies.

"I encourage all farmers and ranchers to consider the various CRP continuous sign-up initiatives that may help target specific resource concerns," said Vilsack. "Financial assistance is offered for many practices including conservation buffers and pollinator habitat plantings, and initiatives such as the highly erodible lands, bottomland hardwood tree and longleaf pine, all of which are extremely important."

Farmers and ranchers may visit their FSA county office for additional information. The 2014 Farm Bill authorized the enrollment of grasslands in CRP and information on grasslands enrollment will be available after the regulation is published later this summer.

The Conservation Reserve Program was re-authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for taxpayers. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing, and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).

For more information about CRP, visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation), or contact your local USDA Farm Service Agency office. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

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## Thought for the Day

*That's why  
whenever we can  
we should always  
be kind to  
everyone, and  
especially to our  
Christian brothers.*

*Galations 6:10*

## Sands Summer Team Camp



The Borden County Ladies play defense against the Grady Lady Wildcats in last weeks Sands Small Team Camp.



# BORDEN COUNTY 4-H



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service—Borden County

P.O. Box 155 or 140 East Wilbourn, Gail, TX 79738

Phone (806)756-4336 Fax (806)756-4486

[julie.smith@agnet.tamu.edu](mailto:julie.smith@agnet.tamu.edu) OR [cody.hill@agnet.tamu.edu](mailto:cody.hill@agnet.tamu.edu)

<http://borden.agrilife.org>

Facebook: Borden County Extension and 4-H

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Borden County 4-Her's (left to right) Kasen Oaks, Jenna Holbrooks, Laney Stansell, Macee Rathbun, Brooklyn Gray, and Tres Spencer in the Robotics project have been working over the past three months to build, program and manipulate their Lego EV3 Mindstorm Robots. Robotics is a part of the Science, Engineering and Technology program in 4-H. Through this project youth learn: creative thinking, an understanding of scientific and engineering principles used in the design process and gain valuable skills (time management, critical thinking, etc.) needed in the real world. These youth presented information about the Robotics Project and demonstrated what they have done this year on Monday, May 25th for the Kindergarten through the fifth grade classes at Borden County.