

The Borden Star

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Volume XXXVIII

March 16, 2016

USDA Announces \$260 Million Available for Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Applications sought with a focus on environmental markets, conservation finance

WASHINGTON, March 14, 2016—Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced the availability of up to \$260 million for partner proposals to improve the nation's water quality, combat drought, enhance soil health, support wildlife habitat and protect agricultural viability. The funding is being made available through USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) innovative Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) and applicants must be able to match the federal award with private or local funds.

Created by the 2014 Farm Bill, RCPP investments of nearly \$600 million have already driven 199 partner-led projects. The program leverages local leadership to establish partnerships that can include private companies, local and tribal governments, universities, non-profits and other non-government partners to

work with farmers, ranchers and forest landowners on landscape- and watershed-scale conservation solutions that work best for their region. This will be the third round of funding through RCPP, helping USDA build on record enrollment in all voluntary conservation programs, with more than 500,000 producers participating to protect land and water on over 400 million acres nationwide.

"Across the country, locally-driven efforts are having a positive effect on conservation and production," said Vilsack. "RCPP serves as a valuable vehicle for matching federal investment and private capital to advance natural resource conservation and support agricultural production. Partners in the 84 new high-impact projects we announced in February are matching USDA funding more than two-to-one for a combined investment of over \$720 million."

"We recognize the growing interest in leveraging private

capital markets to foster impact investments in conservation, sustainable agriculture and forestry," said Vilsack. "For this new round, we hope to see even more applications that support the development of environmental markets and conservation finance projects."

One of the 2016 high-impact projects announced in February 2016, the Midwest Agriculture Water Quality Partnership, brings together the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and around 40 other public and private partners to advance a science-based, non-regulatory approach for reducing nutrient loss and improving water quality, soil health and habitat for at-risk species. Partners in this project are matching NRCS funding four-to-one for a total investment of about \$47.5 million in priority watersheds in Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska.

Partners in Delaware and

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Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
Tumbleweed Smith

The Sinking of the Andrea Doria

The Andrea Doria was the fastest, biggest, safest and most beautiful of all the ships in the Italian Line. It was built in Genoa, Italy and made its maiden voyage in January of 1953. Sixty years ago it left Genoa on a voyage to New York with 1,134 passengers and a crew of 572. Kathy Dickson of Sweetwater boarded the ship at Gibraltar. She was a student at Park College in Missouri then and had just completed her junior year of study abroad at a University in Spain.

Kathy had traveled on cruise ships before, but says this one was the fanciest she had ever seen. She bought a third class ticket and had a small room on one of the lower decks. She enjoyed all the amenities the ship offered and got acquainted with several of the passengers, some of which were immigrants bound for a new life in the United States.

She was in an upper deck ballroom dancing the night of July 25, 1956 when she felt a jolt and the lights started going out. "They flashed all around the room and it looked like a carnival," she says. "Then the ship started to tilt and glasses started breaking all over the place. We tried to get downstairs but there were so many people coming up there

was no way to do that."

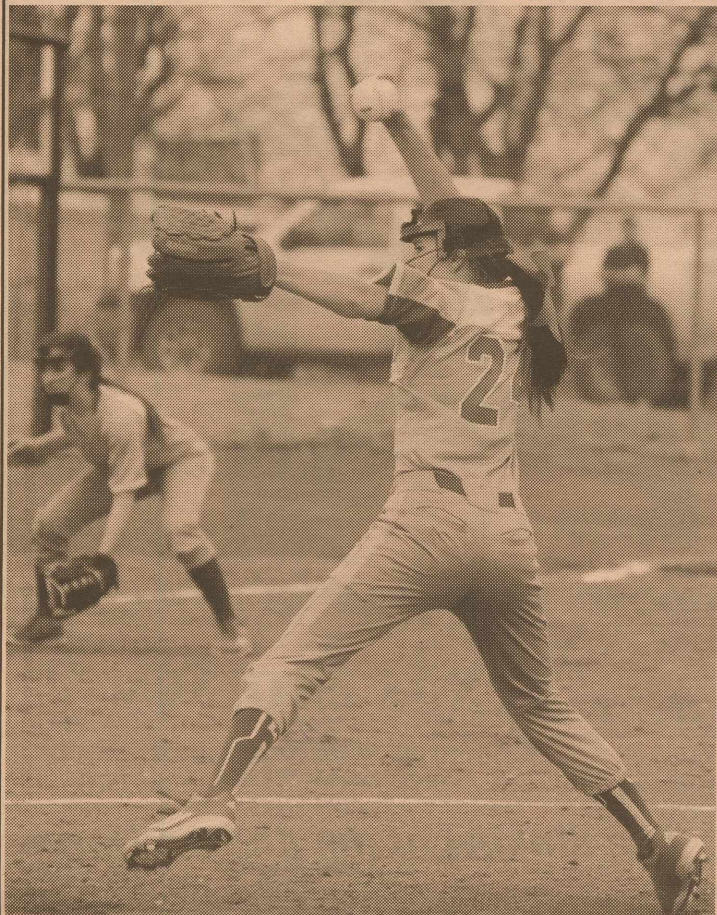
In heavy fog, about 8 hours from Nantucket, the Andrea Doria collided with another ship, the Stockholm. "The Stockholm had an ice plow on the front of it. It was going north and it plowed into the middle of the Doria, destroying all the safety doors that were built to keep water out in case of an accident. The collision created a hole in the side of the Doria that was 40 feet deep."

Kathy and other passengers went to the railing to descend down rope ladders to small boats provided by the Stockholm. Some lifeboats on the Andrea Doria were destroyed in the collision. "There was a woman there who looked like she was about seven months pregnant and had two small children with her. They were all wearing life jackets. She popped the children into the water, then jumped in. They swam to a boat and boarded the Stockholm. That's the bravest lady I ever saw."

The Ile de France and five other ships arrived to help with the rescue. It was considered a successful rescue operation because only 51 people died: 46 on the Andrea Doria and 5 on the Stockholm. Eleven

(Continued to Page 4)

Lady Coyote Softball



The Lady Coyote Softball team played their first softball game against the Rotan Yellowhammers on March 8th. The Ladies lost with a final score of 8-7. Pictured is Harley Merrill, pitcher for the Lady Coyotes and at 3rd base Katie Gray.



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Volunteers Requested for Borden County Track Meet

2016 Borden County Track is excited to announce that they will once again host the Borden County Invitational Track Meet. This meet will take place March 31st beginning at 3:30 on that Thursday afternoon.

The Borden County Coaching staff is asking, begging and pleading for anyone willing to help us run off a quality track meet. We will need all the help we can get, from running off a field event to raking, measuring, shagging the shot or disc, to timing and picking the races.

If anyone is interested in helping with the 2016 Borden County Invitational, please contact Trey Richey (806)759-3335 (call or text) or e-mail trichey@bcisd.net and let us know what you would be willing to help with. I would like to thank you all for the help

you have provided in the past, without your help this meet would not be possible. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Pre-School Day Set for Mar. 25th

Pre-School Day will be Friday, March 25th. If your child will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2016, he/she is invited to visit the kindergarten class on this day.

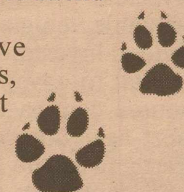
After you have taken your child to the kindergarten class, please go to the library to complete your child's registration packet. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate, social security card, and immunization record.

WE WILL BE HAVING AN EARLY DISMISSAL AT 12:30 ON PRE-SCHOOL DAY. Pre-School students will attend school from 8:05 - 12:30. The school will provide lunch. If your child would like to ride the bus, please contact the bus driver in your area.

Please note that if you do not reside within the district, you will need to call

for prior approval in order for your child to attend on this day.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at 806-756-4313.



School Lunch Menu

Mar. 21 - 25, 2016

Menu subject to change

Monday - Breakfast: Waffles & Sausage, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Green Beans, Roll, Strawberry Cup and Milk.

Tuesday - Breakfast: Cheese Omelet Wrap, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Meat & Cheese Tostadas w/ Salsa, Spanish Rice, Salad, Refried Beans, Applesauce and Milk.

Wednesday - Breakfast: Sausage Kolache & Yogurt, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Chicken Spaghetti, Breadstick, Salad, Vegetable Medley, Apple Slices and Milk.

Thursday - Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll & Bacon, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Frito Pie, Baby Carrots w/Ranch, Mexicali Corn, Salsa, Orange Smiles, Cookie and Milk.

Friday - Breakfast: Breakfast Pizza, Fruit Juice and Milk. Lunch: Chicken Rings, TX Toast, Zesty Cucumbers, Sweet Potato Fries, Sliced Peaches and Milk.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

**The
Borden
Star**

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YOU ARE INVITED

Booster Club's Annual Easter Egg Hunt

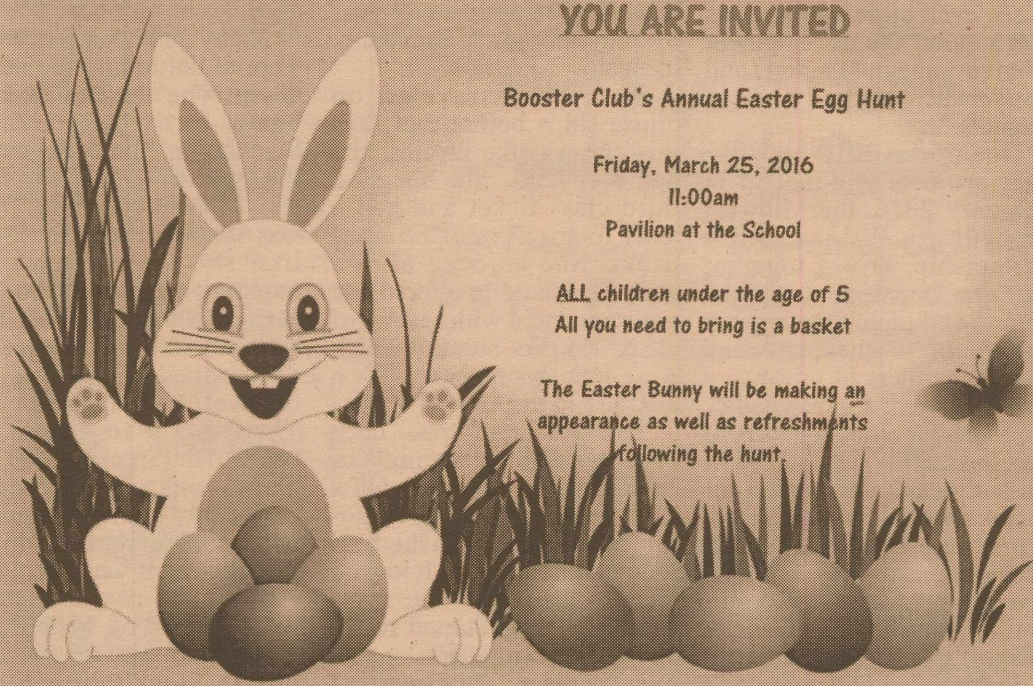
Friday, March 25, 2016

11:00am

Pavilion at the School

ALL children under the age of 5
All you need to bring is a basket

The Easter Bunny will be making an appearance as well as refreshments following the hunt.



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Heart and Home...



Julie Mumme Smith

Borden County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences
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Treating Your Body Like a Computer

If your body were a computer, would it be receiving lots of "error" messages? Is it beginning to run slower and take longer to "start?" Here's a checklist to help optimize your performance and prevent crashing.

Are you trying to run too many programs at the same time?

If you're operating less efficiently because there are too many activities making demands on your system, shut down some programs. Some examples include:

- If time is tight, rather than make a special company dinner from "scratch," invite people for a potluck meal.

- No time to work out AND fix your hair afterwards ... get a new hairstyle or cover your hair with some type of interesting headgear. Who knows ... you might start a whole new product line!

You may actually accomplish more if you don't try to accomplish several things at the same time. Researchers, such as Dr. Earl Miller, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Picower professor of neuroscience, are finding that multi-tasking can be less efficient than doing one task at a time, especially if the tasks are more complex.

Consider scheduling tasks for separate times, for example:

- Alternate cooking days with workout days. Cook ahead on cooking days, freeing up time on your workout days.

- Plan a casserole or stew that can cook while you do yoga or take a walk.

If you do multi-task, combine a task that doesn't demand as much input from your system as the other task. Here are two possible examples:

- Work out on a treadmill while watching TV.

- Listen to music while cooking. computer bug.

- Is your anti-virus software up-to-date and running?

If you're susceptible to every bug that comes around, it's time to check if you're eating right, getting enough sleep, being physically active and reducing stress. The cost and time for "repairs" may be greater than the amount needed for prevention.

- Is your battery dangerously low?

Recharge your battery before it loses power completely. Habit #7 in Stephen Covey's The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People is "Sharpen the Saw." Covey tells the story of a woodcutter whose productivity decreased after sawing for several days straight. Each day his saw became duller and duller.

Covey advocates a balanced program for self-renewal in these four areas of your life: physical, social/emotional, mental and spiritual.

Recharge by eating healthy, getting some physical activity, making meaningful connections with others, stimulating your mind and devoting time to your spiritual renewal through such means as time spent in nature, music, prayer or service.

Are you bogged down by unneeded files and programs?

Remove anything from your life that isn't needed and slows your overall performance. For example:

- Do you still belong to a club or organization that no longer meets your needs or interests? The time you're giving this activity is taking time from something else. Move on!

- Are you ironing (what's an iron, some of you may say!) the whole shirt when only the collar will show under your

(Continued to Page 4)

Richey, Bell Exchange Vows in Double Ring Ceremony

Lauren Taylor Richey and Brice Wesley Bell were joined in marriage on January 2, 2016 at Fort Concho in San Angelo, Texas.

Taylor is the daughter of Trey and Hayley Richey of Gail, Texas. She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Ratliff of Hamlin, Texas, Mr. and Mrs. John Richey of Breckenridge, Texas, and Brenda Speidel of Fort Worth, Texas.

Brice is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Danny Bell of Fredericksburg, Texas. He is the grandson of Doris Bell of Fredericksburg, Texas and Mr. John White of Fredericksburg, Texas.

Danny Bell, father of the groom, officiated the ceremony. Fiddle player, friend of the bride, Becky Nix of Gail, Texas and guitarist, Stephen Reynolds, uncle of the bride, of Jayton, Texas entertained guests. Vocalists for the evening were Jami Bell, sister of the groom, of Fredericksburg, Texas; Kati Stringer, sister of the groom, of Rockwall, Texas; and Tatum Richey, sister of the bride, of Gail, Texas.

Maid of Honor was Tatum Richey, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Jami Bell, Kati Stringer, Caroline Caldwell, cousin of the bride, of Sterling City, Texas; Bayley Trevathan, cousin of the bride, of Fort Worth, Texas; and Jaylee Reynolds, cousin of the bride, of Jayton, Texas.

Best man was Jon McBirney, of Irvine, California. Groomsmen were Edward Stringer, brother-in-law of the groom, of Rockwall, Texas; Ryan Hanson, of Boise, Idaho; Tanner Richey, brother of bride, of Gail, Texas; Jeremy Pedron, of Irvine, California; Jake Barnes, of Georgetown, Texas.

Ushers were Trace Richey, brother of the bride, of Gail, Texas; Guy Caldwell, cousin of the bride, of Sterling City, Texas; and Garrett Reynolds, cousin of the bride, of Jayton, Texas.

Flower girls were Sophia Caldwell, of Sterling City, Texas and Swayze Harris of Abilene, Texas. Ring bearer



Mr. & Mrs. Brice Bell
(nee Taylor Richey)

was Tye Caldwell of Sterling City, Texas.

Taylor graduated from Borden County High School in 2011. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Biology from Sul Ross State University and then received her BSN from Texas Tech Health Science Center. She is employed as a Registered Nurse at Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo, Texas.

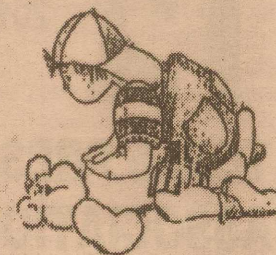
Brice graduated from In-

cline Village High School in Nevada in 2007. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Christian Education from Biola University of California. Brice graduated from the Fire Academy in San Angelo, Texas in April of 2015. He is now a Licensed Paramedic/Firefighter for the San Angelo Fire Department.

After a honeymoon to Hawaii, the couple resides in San Angelo, Texas.

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USDA \$260 Million Available...

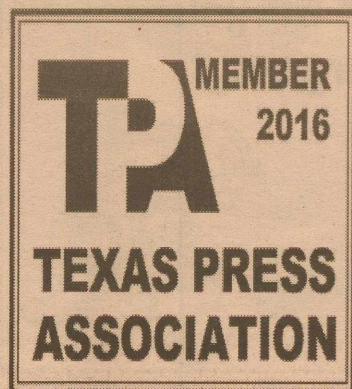
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Maryland are using an RCPP project to accelerate the installation of best management practices that enable farmers to meet the nutrient and sediment water quality goals in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The NRCS investment here is being matched by 15 partners to deliver a \$10 million impact in this critical watershed.

Projects from the first round of investment are already showing results. In New Mexico, an RCPP partnership between the Interstate Stream Commission and an acequia—a local communal irrigation system—has addressed long-standing infrastructure failures to significantly reduce water needs by improving irrigation efficiency. In Oregon, removal of encroaching juniper was part of the West-wide private lands conservation effort that helped obviate the need to list the Greater sage-grouse on the endangered species list.

USDA is now accepting proposals for Fiscal Year 2017 RCPP funding. Pre-proposals are due May 10. For more information on applying, visit the RCPP website.

Since 2009, USDA has invested more than \$29 billion to help producers make conservation improvements, working with as many as 500,000 farmers, ranchers and landowners to protect over 400 million acres nationwide, boosting soil and air quality, cleaning and conserving water and enhancing wildlife habitat. For an interactive look at USDA's work in conservation and forestry over the course of this Administration, visit <https://medium.com/usda-results>.



Borden County Booster Club Meeting

The Borden County Booster Club will hold a meeting on **Friday, March 25th at 12:30.** The meeting will be held at the park pavilion. We hope to see everyone there!



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Texas Stories

A Showcase of the Texas Spirit
Tumbleweed Smith

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hours after the collision, the Andrea Doria sank.

Kathy was 20 years old at the time and wasn't panicked at all. "We didn't ever have a lifeboat drill because we just knew the ship was safe and wouldn't sink."

She didn't call her mother when she got to New York. "She was ready to kill me. I thought she would know that I was OK. They had a room where you could go send a message but it was so jam-packed with people I thought she'd know I was safe."

Tumbleweed enjoys hearing good stories and sharing them with readers of his column. Contact him at ts@tumbleweedsmith.com.

First Baptist Church Ladies Bible Study

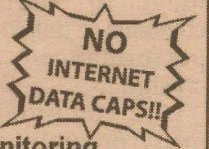
The First Baptist Church of Gail will host a Ladies Bible Study starting **Wednesday, March 23rd at 6:30 p.m.** in the new fellowship hall.

The bible study is "The Armor of God" by Priscilla Shirer from the movie "War Room". Bring your favorite snacks and join us.



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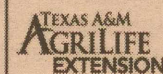
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Heart and Home...



Julie Mumme Smith

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sweater?

Do you need to hit "escape," "undo" or "delete?" Your computer offers several options if you change your mind about a decision. Offer yourself that same choice with your life.

You may have a reputation for always saying "yes" to a request for help, regardless of how busy you are. The next time, say something such as one of the following examples. It's not necessary to elaborate and give an explanation.

"I'm sorry but I'm not available that night" or "I have another commitment for that time."

"I can't help you right now, but I could (in a half hour, next week, next month ...)."

"I can only help you for an hour, and then I have to leave." Leave after an hour ... even if it's just to go to the bathroom if you're at your office!

"I can't do that right now, but I could ... (name a less time-consuming task)."

Time to reboot

Now, that you've finished trouble-shooting your personal system, consider making some changes. Then, reboot your body and enjoy the benefits!

Source: Alice Henneman, MS, RDN University of Nebraska-Lincoln