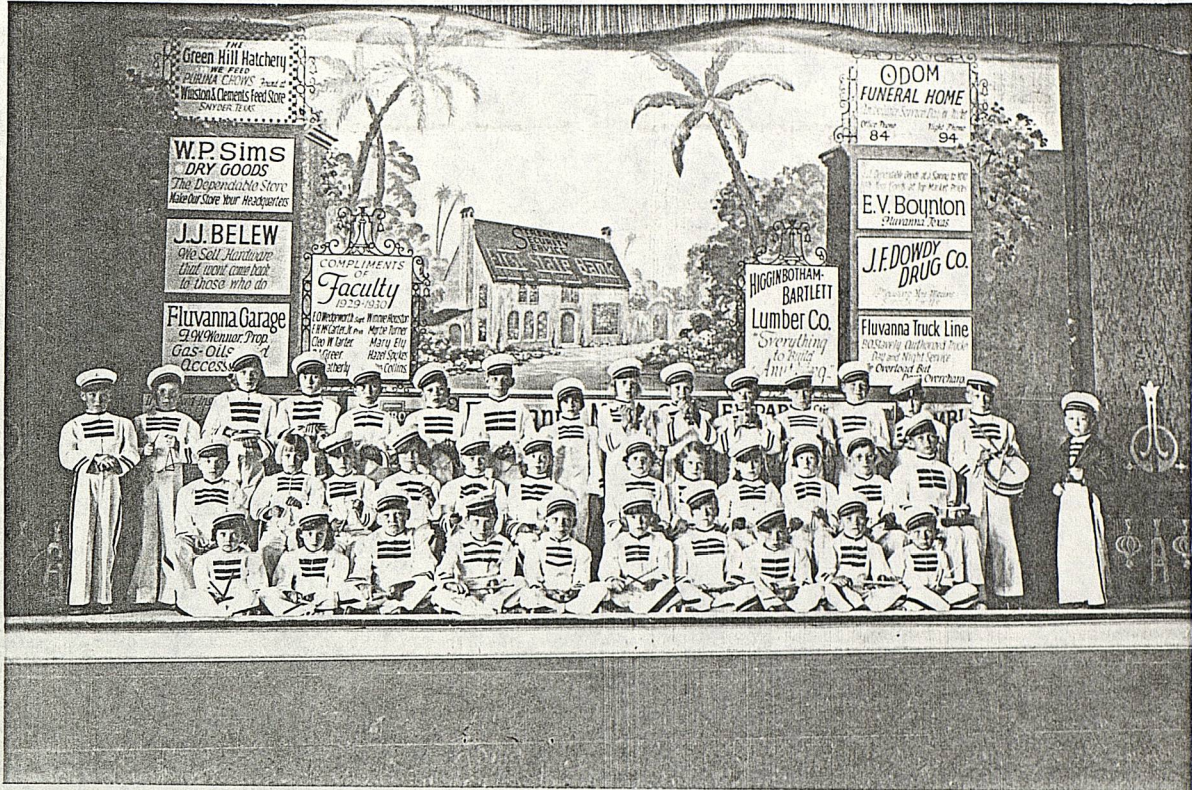


Borden Citizen.

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Pictured above is the Fluvanna School Rhythm Band of 1939. Many of these students attended Fluvanna's Homecoming this year. Students on bottom row: 1. to r., Chloe Lynn Lavender, Gloria Toombs, Ikey Smith, Jr., W. D. Campbell, Wayne Smith, Bonnie Jean Light, Elizabeth Browning, Ernest Turner, Billie Joe Browning, Jimmie Frank Fulford; middle row, Ralph Miller, Mary Jo Hughes, Joan Nipp, Billie Jean Taylor, Jackie Holder, Melvina Ainsworth, Lou Alice Miller, Danny Gene Stark, Iris May Martin, Helen Ray Boatman, Orval Mathis, Ralph Greele; back row, Phil Haynes, Billie Jones, Althea Hughes, Eula Belle Browning, Allen Hambrick, Carl Turner, Buddy King, Quita Faye Polk, Joanne Miller, Harold Haynes, Boliver Browning, Jr., Billie Evans, John R. Hunnicutt, Johnnie Sam Donald, Harlan Clois Ball. Teachers for the group were Mildred Cornelius and Marjorie Marr.

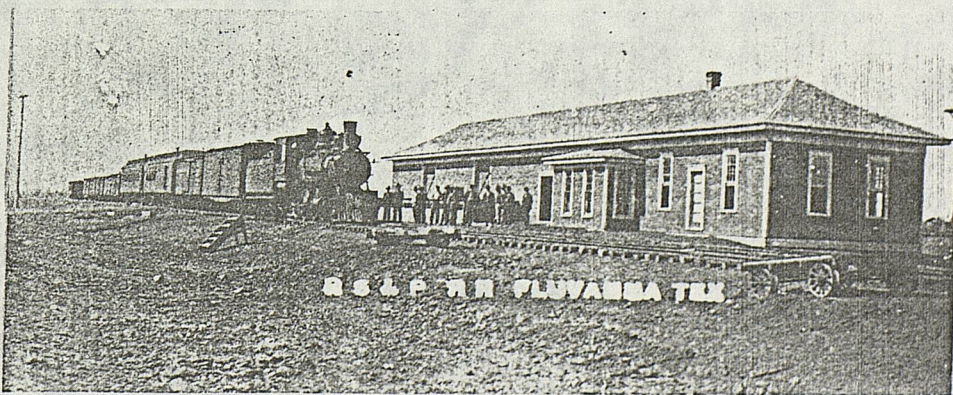
FLUVANNA, TEXAS, HOME COMING 1990

JUNE 8th and 9th

By JOHN R. TRUSS, JR.

Just a little brief history of Fluvanna and its beginning, this is all from memory of what I have read and have been told. Don't hold my feet to the fire if I slip on dates and facts, because even some Presidents just can't recall or remember, so don't think I'm an exception.

Compliments Fluvanna Booth
Scurry County Fair - 1983



R.S.&P. Railway Depot at Fluvanna, 1909.

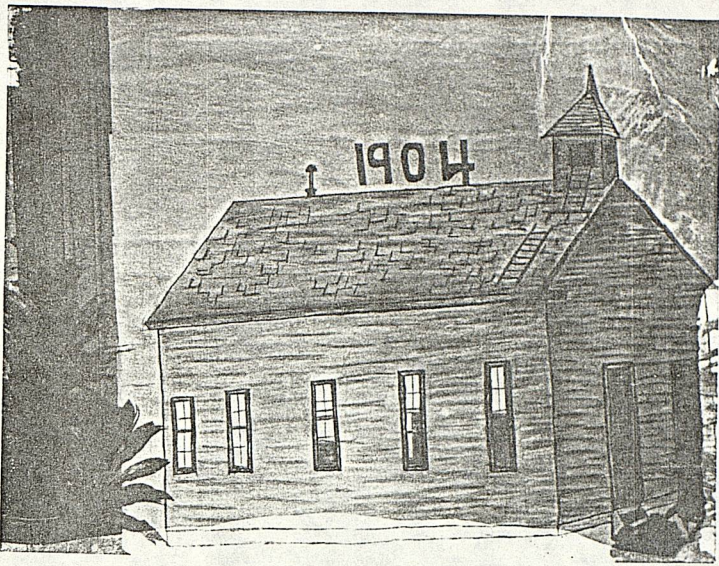
What we know as Fluvanna and its area today, was once Jumbo Cattle Company owned and operated by a syndicate. Most of their land and holdings to the South and Southwest of Fluvanna, ranch headquarters 1 mile East of Fluvanna, where there was ample of good shallow drinking water. This became known as Old Light because as Cowboys rode in at night to bunkhouse and headquarters at dusk, and also at night, they could see the lights of the

bunkhouse for miles, from each direction, which guided them to the end of their days work and journey.

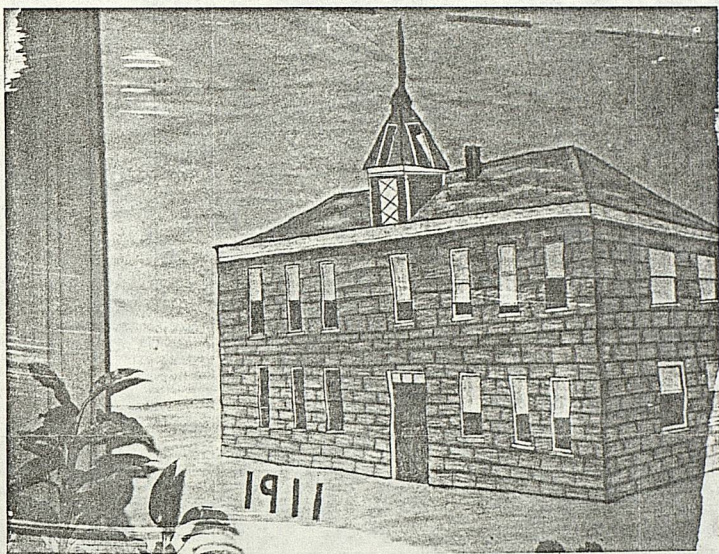
Mr. Dave Jones told me that when he was a very young man he and another fellow came to Northwest Scurry County, in a one horse, two wheel cart, complete with bed rolls, camping equipment, etc. This was all open country. They spent several days just prospecting and looking for land to buy and move to, which he finally did later. Not long before he made the tour, there had been a big prairie fire that had burned and left charred a lot of large mesquite trees, all across the Fluvanna Area.

Roscoe, Snyder and Pacific Railroad was completed and dedicated in 1909 to the Townsite of Fluvanna. The town had been laid out, surveyed and sale of lots made it a boom town. The first train that arrived was greeted by a three day celebration and picnic, people came from miles around in covered wagons and camped out. Later, freight lines, using wagons and teams came from as far away as Roswell, N. M., from all the South Plains, Lubbock and Plainview.

In his later years I knew and visited with Mr. Pate Boone and his brother at Christoval, Texas. He told me about their Wild West Shows which they owned and traveled with in the early 1900's. They went as far North as Nebraska and Iowa, made their home and winter quarters at Trent, Texas, and traveled mostly across country with wagon and teams. They had a canvass sidewall roping arena, with patrons standing as they had no seats. There was bronc and steer riding, occasionally bull dogging or steer wrestling. Boones Wils West Show was in Fluvanna in 1909 at the Railroad completion celebration and drew very large crowds.



This SCHOOL HOUSE was destroyed by a fire. These pictures were drawn by Bucky Lemons.



A violent wind storm destroyed this SCHOOL HOUSE.

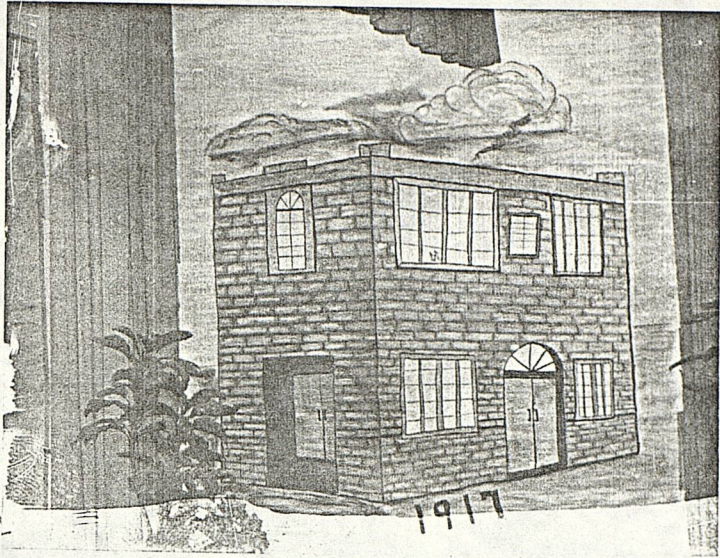
Day of first train, the RS & P ran Specials. So many patrons showed up that they did not have enough coaches, so they used flat cars with benches and chairs nailed on for the ride. Rather an air cooled scenic ride, I would think. They were greeted with thrill rides, such as merry go round, flying jennys, merry mix-ups, etc., lots of pink lemonade and hamburgers, on their arrival at Fluvanna Township lot sale.

Mr. T. B. Faver worked for Reynolds Cattle Company on their 9-R ranch in Borden County between Snyder and Gail before the turn of the century. He saved his earnings and and bought land South of Old Light about 4 miles. When he first married, and several years later, they lived in a half dug-out. This was usually a small one room, sometimes two room, hand dug cellar about 4 or 5 feet deep. The dug-out would have wooden sides another 2 feet above ground with a window on each side. The roof was timbers covered with sod, grass and dirt. They were very nice and cozy, cool in summer time and warm in winter time.

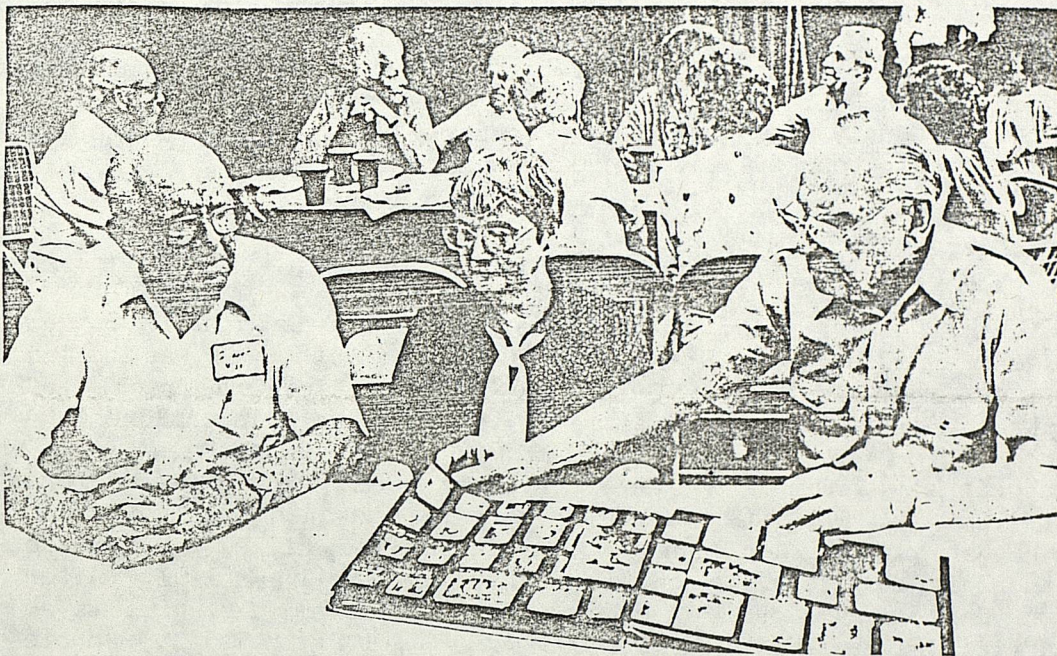
My parents, John and Dora Truss, moved to Fluvanna in October, 1923, along with my sister, Ruth, Joe Sam, my younger brother, and me, John, Jr. We moved from Fannin County, Texas to the place known as the Nathan Beaver place, later owned by Stavely family and then Tom Greer. My folks purchased the place from Mr. Greer. There was about 1,280 acres, half in pasture and other half farm. There was a home place house and three tenant farmers houses. Three tenant were Mr. Walter Sims, Ed Fortenberry and Ed Brown (Mr. Sim's son-in-law).

We went to school at Fluvanna, in red two story brick building. Marvin Staples was school superintendent and his wife was teacher of primary and first grade. There were four other teachers. Mr. Maples was there only a few years and was followed by superintendents Otis Hillard and Homer Massey.

Four Rural schools, Browning, Favorite, Hackberry and Snellings were consolidated with Fluvanna in 1928. (Editor's Note: Hackberry and Snellings were in Borden County.) Four new busses were purchased, roads re-worked and E. O. (Red) Wedgeworth became superintendent, with E. H. McCarter, Jr. as principal. A bond election was held and passed for a new school building, built, a very attractive and nice one story brick building, complete with a modern auditorium that was really a show place for the community and surrounding towns.



This SCHOOL HOUSE was torn down after 1928. Taken from a picture drawn by Bucky Lemons for the Homecoming of June 14, 1970. The drawing was about 12 feet high.



REMINISCING — Fluvanna graduates in 1941 and 1942 gathered at the home of Mrs. D.V. Merrit Jr. Friday night as part of homecoming activities held every five years. Pictured looking through a scrapbook of Fluvanna photographs are from left, Gilbert Mize of

Perryton, a former principal at Fluvanna, Dr. Gaylan Collier of Fort Worth, Fluvanna graduate; and E.O. Wedgeworth of Mineola, a former superintendent at Fluvanna. (Private Photo)



HONOREES — Fluvanna capped its two-day reunion Saturday with a barbecue dinner and program at the coliseum. People entertained, plaques were awarded and all the festivities ended with the singing of the Fluvanna school song. Recipients of special plaques included from left, L.A. Haynes of Roscoe, who served on the Fluvanna School Board for 12 years beginning in 1931; Pat Jones who graduated from Fluvanna High School in 1915 (there were only 10 grades at the

time); Mary Bley, who taught second and third grade at Fluvanna beginning in 1927; Dot Rea from Ocean City, Maryland who traveled the farthest miles (over 2,000) to attend the reunion; and her father, Harte Rea, a Fluvanna graduate. Plaques were given to Haynes, Jones and Bley because their years at Fluvanna were the earliest of those attending Saturday's festivities. (SDN Staff Photo)

Mr. Wedgeworth was superintendent when my sister Ruth graduated in 1929, John Jr. in 1932, and Joe Sam in 1939. He also remained there until 1943.

I had received letters from the Fluvanna Homecoming Committee reminding me of the dates, times, places, etc. I certainly want to commend them on a job very well done, and I didn't hear one word of displeasure or disappointment of the homecoming. I arrived in Snyder at noon, Friday the 8th. I checked in to the motel, went to Rip Griffins and got me a bite to eat and drove to Scurry County Coliseum at 2:00 P. M. for the Senior Citizens and Old Settlers Tea. Along with good pink lemonade, there was a good turn out of a lot of people, hand shaking and back slapping going on, a few lies told alongwith a lot of truth, I am quite sure. This continued until 5:00 P. M.

Drove to Fluvanna Community Center, at 7:00 P. M. for Class Parties. This was for any and all classes and there were some individual classes held at nearby residences. The streets of Fluvanna were roped off for music by a band. The crowds at Fluvanna seemed to be younger and a little more jubilant than the earlier crowds. I stayed about three hours and there were still several there when I left as I had to get a little reclining rest for the big day ahead.

The Saturday gathering began with registration at 9:00 A. M. in the Scurry County Coliseum. I got there at ten and quite a few were there and we had two good solid hours of enjoyable and boisterous conversation.

There is something about a reunion or homecoming that's very amusing. Someone you just know will be there doesn't show up and someone you never expected to see again will be there. Another person you will see for the first time since they were a child and recognize them because they are the very image of their parents.

At high noon we entered the arena of the coliseum for a pit stop for refueling on a bar-be-que catered lunch. Good food, fast service and no complaints.

At one O'Clock a short

program was presented of music and singing by local individuals and groups, along with the assistance of Jody Nix from Big Spring. James Beaver was the Master of Ceremonies and the program was handled in a very professional manner. Awards were given for recognition of services of long standing with the school, as follows:

C. D. (Pat) Jones, first graduate	1915	Mary (Ely) Bley, earliest teacher	1927
Arliss Haynes, earliest trustee	1931	Dot Rea, traveled farthest to attend,	

coming from the State of Maryland. There were a few words of thanks and appreciation from the Master of Ceremonies and a Benediction.

P. S. Goodbye, and hope to see each and everyone in 1995.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks Mr. Truss for your story of the Fluvanna Homecoming. Although the town of Fluvanna and the school are out of Borden County, there were many children who attended school there who live in Borden County today. Also many families have members living in each of the counties. THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR STORY.

Along with the story came the following letter:

Balmorhea, Tx.
June 22, 1990

Borden Citizen
% Borden Historical Society
Gail, Texas 79738

Dear Editors:

Was surprised at the number of times your publication was mentioned by old friends at the Fluvanna Homecoming. All good, too.

Race Humphries lives only a block from me in Balmorhea. He and Mr. Cook talk about Gail and their days working on Clayton-Johnson Ranch.

My parents place was $\frac{1}{2}$ in Borden County and $\frac{1}{2}$ in Scurry County. We went to Gail to pay taxes, etc., in T Model Ford, dirt roads, took all day to make round trip.

Keep good print going.

Yours very truly,
John Truss, Jr.

JERRY ROSS SMITH, 54, died October 29, 1989 in a Lubbock hospital. He was born in Borden County. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. (Bud) Smith preceded him in death. He was buried in Gail Cemetery. Among his survivors are two sons, Clifford of Iowa Park and Bradley of Lubbock, a daughter, Lisa Puckett of Vernon, a brother, Larry of Gail and two grandchildren.

JOHNIE IRENE BILLS PROFITT, passed away November 3, 1989 in Cortez, Colorado. She was born June 23, 1898 in Colorado City, Texas. At that time her parents, Edward Hall and Julia Griffith Bills lived on the 49 Ranch in Borden County. Her father was killed by a horse while attempting to save another man's life at a cattle roundup on April 4, 1901. After his death, Mrs. Bills moved to Gail where Johnie grew up. Mrs. Bills married William A. Clark Nov. 11, 1903. Johnie married Charles Milton Profitt on Dec. 14, 1921 in Calif. Johnie lived in Snyder and in Borden County after the death of Mr. Profitt in 1973. Survivors include a daughter, a son, grandchildren, great grandchildren and her sisters, Zadie Mae Miller of Snyder, Edna Clark Miller of Borden County and Willie Clark Russell of Oklahoma.

MARY ELIZABETH BETTY BRADLEY LONG, wife of William T. Long of Borden County and Abilene died in Abilene on November 30, 1989. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Kaufman. She and her husband lived in Borden County on their ranch for many years before moving to Abilene.

O. D. JACKSON, 71, of Snyder passed away December 14, 1990. He was born February 28, 1918 on the homestead south of Gail. When Grape Creek school consolidated with the Gail school in the early 1920's the family moved into Gail. He entered the Air Force in December 1941, serving 34 months, participated in seven overseas battle campaigns, and received the EAME Campaign Metal with 7 bronze clusters, Good Conduct Medal, and other medals. He married Jessie B. Patterson in 1947. She died in 1979. O. D. served as a trustee of Borden County I. S. D. and was the first Borden County Auditor. He married Lois Greathouse and moved to Snyder after owning and operating the place his parents bought over eighty years ago. Other survivors include a son, Don of Abilene, two daughters, Katherine and Carole Lewis of Gail.

ENA BELLE HOLLAR, 84, of Amarillo died in March, 1990. She was born in Nolan County. She had resided in Amarillo for the last 40 years. She previously had resided in Borden County, where she served as a school principal and had been a teacher in Amarillo for 21 years. Among her survivors are a daughter, Martha Sue Lusk of Wellman, a son, David of Katy.

GAZZIE NUNNALLY, 95, died in the Lamesa Nursing Center April 23, 1990. She came to Borden County in 1903 in a covered wagon with her parents from Cke County. She married Charles Nunnally in 1914 in Borden County. He preceded her in death in 1962. Survivors include a son, Charles C. of Borden County, two daughters, Gazzie Aline Fiffin of Carrizo Springs and Almarine Nix of Grand Junction, Colo., ten grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

ZADIE MAE MILLER, 89, of Snyder passed away April 19, 1990. She was born December 28, 1900 at the 49 Ranch in Borden County. She married Charles C. Miller August 18, 1919 and was a life-long resident of Borden and Scurry Counties. She was preceded in death by her husband, a son, Charles Conway and a sister, Johnny Profit. She is survived by five daughters, Jeanne

Duke of Snyder, Jo Taylor and Lou White, both of Arlington, Judy Allen of Dallas and Lynda Jones of Atlanta, Ga., two sisters, Edna Clark Miller of Fluvanna and Willie Ruth Russell of Duncan, Ok., 19 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

ORA GRAY, 88, of Snyder died September 9, 1989. She was born Sept. 14, 1900 in Borden County. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Gray, early day Borden County settlers, who had moved to Borden County in 1890. Ora had lived in Snyder since 1920. She was the Aunt of Leta Lloyd and Lorena Gibson of Snyder. Other survivors include a sister-in-law, Mrs. Carl (Nell) Gray and a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces and greatnephews.

CORA PATTERSON, 91, passed away Jan. 26, 1990 in Snyder. She was born May 27, 1898. She married V. L. Patterson and lived in Borden County for many years. Mr. Patterson died in 1964. Survivors include a daughter, Izora Milliken of Snyder, a son, Royce Patter of Snyder, a sister, Ruby Benson of Dallas, a brother, Clarence Dowdy of Snyder, and 6 grandchildren.

ROY EVERETT, 94, of O'Donnell died March 15, 1990 in Lynn County Hospital. He was born in Runnels County and moved to O'Donnell in 1924 from Borden County. He married Ada Lucille Derrick December 12, 1915 in Durham, Borden County, Texas. She died in 1983. A son, Roy Elmo died in 1980. Survivors include a daughter, Wanda Hash of O'Donnell, a sister, Flossie Johnson of Crosbyton, a brother, Glynn Everett of Oceanside, Ca. and three grandchildren.

BLANCHE DULIN, 71, passed away May 28, 1990. She was born in Floydada and had lived in Borden County before moving to Denver City, Texas. Survivors include her husband, W. B. "Dub" Dulin, a son, Walter, Jr., three daughters, two brothers, Frank Currey of Gail and Doyle Currey of Ballinger, two sisters, Versa Snowden of Denver City and Occo Dickson of Hobbs, N. M.

IRA A. DRUM, 83, died May 15, 1990 in Fort Sumner, New Mexico. He was born July 2, 1900 in Loving, Texas. Burial was in Fort Sumner. Mr. Drum had lived in our area before moving to New Mexico.

ANTHONY "TONY" NEWBY CURRY, 44, of Dallas passed away June 27, 1990. He was born in Ballinger and moved to Borden County in 1950. His parents, Bill and Juanita Currey, both now deceased, resided in the Vincent Community during the 1950's and 60's. He graduated from Borden County High School in 1963. Survivors include his wife, a son, a grand son and a grand daughter, a brother, Zane Curry of Tahoka and a sister, Karen Searcy of Dallas.

WINNIE CHANDLER MILLER, 94, of Rapid City, N. D. died July 3, 1990 in Carlsbad, N. M. Services and burial were in Snyder, Texas. She was born in Gail Dec. 16, 1895. Her father, J. H. Chandler, operated the Chandler General Store in Gail for many yeats. She was married to W. C. "Bill" Miller, Dec. 17, 1914. Together they ranched in Borden County and later in South Dakota. She was preceded in death by her husband and her children, Jim, William and Mary Jim. She is survived by two daughters-in-law, a sister, Dobie Patton of Carlsbad, five grandchildren, six great grandchilren and a sister-in-law, Edna Miller of Borden County.

F. C. HART, 93, of Artesia passed away on July 27, 1990. Mr. Hart worked in the Blue Front Store in Gail for Mr. J. W. Chandler. He married Esther Chandler of Gail. Survivors include three daughters, Tommy Armstrong, Nancy Jones and Sara Bourland.

CHARLIE HUNNICUTT, 91, passed away August 4, 1990. He was born Jan. 13, 1899 in Dallas County. He married Juanita Wills April 12, 1924 in Snyder. He lived in Borden County and in Fluvanna most of his life. He was a farmer, rancher and long-time member of the soil conservation board. He is survived by his wife, Juanita, one son, Sam of Big Spring, a sister, Lela Jacobs of Clovis, N.M., 3 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

KIMBALL TUSCOLA "K. T." REDDELL, 79, died September 11, 1990 in a San Angelo Hospital. He was born in Tuscola. He had been a resident of Borden County and Gail since 1940. He married Winona Clairborne in 1934 at Happy. He was long time fan of Borden County School and the sports programs. Among his survivors are his wife, Winonah of Gail, a daughter, Kemma Nolan of Snyder and two sons, Jerry of Elk Ridge, Md., and Don of Bryan, one sister, nine grand children and six great grandchildren.

NORA DELLA BUCHANAN, 56, of Ben Wheeler was killed in a car wreck July 27, 1990. She was born in Borden County near present day, Lake J. B. Thomas. She married Raphael Buchanan Oct. 9, 1950. She was preceded in death by her mother, Ethel Davis, on June 11, 1989. Among her survivors are her husband, two daughters, Darlene Gault of Ben Wheeler and Deniese Korhorn of Chicago, Ill., her father, Marshall Davis of Ireland, Texas, two sisters, Mae Addison of Snyder and Ertis Kulla of Ireland, Texas, three brothers, Marvin Davis of Marshall, Carl Davis of Clinton, Ok. and Calvin of Seminole, Ok., and six grand children.

ETHEL DAVIS, 85, passed away June 12, 1989 in Ireland, Texas. She married Marshall Davis March 28, 1926. She lived for 25 years in Borden County before moving to Ireland, Texas. She was the mother of six children, all born in Borden County, and they are listed above under the name of NORA DELLA BUCHANAN, as that was one of her children.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The obituary for Ethel Mathews Davis should have been in the last issue of THE BORDEN CITIZEN but I did not have the information. I wrote and asked that it be sent. With the information, I received the following letter; from her husband, Marshall Davis.

Your letter has been brought to me to fill out and return to you. Mother and I were married

Mar. 28, 1926, Sunday about 12:10 at Snyder, Texas by Rev. Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church. I had known him a long time. He told me that if I ever found a girl that would have me, he would marry me for nothing. We went to Church and after Church I told him I had found the girl, so he married us. We had gotten the marriage license in Snyder from a lady who was named Cotten. She was a second cousin to Pa. That made me a third cousin so she gave me the license for nothing. She was County and District Clerk at the time.

Mr. Mathews gave mother a good milk cow as a wedding present. That young cow was still a young cow 63 years and 3 months from the day I married Mother. I always feed the calves until they weigh 600 pounds and would sell the calves and give Mother the money. Every time that old cow got about 12 years old, I would wake some morning and I had traded the nicest 2 year old heifer I had for her old cow. I did not know about the trade until I woke up. You see, that is the way Mother's cow stayed so young.

Mother passed away June 12, 1989 in Clifton Hospital at exactly 12 O'Clock P. M. She is buried in Ireland Cemetery. I did not have the money at the time to put a monument at the grave, but our children have already put us a nice one there.

Soon the silver cord will break, and I no longer will sing the songs I now sing, but oh the joy I shall have, when I awake in the palace of the King. John, Chapter 20, Verses 29-31.

As ever, Marshall Davis

MUSEUM MEMORIAL: Donation in memory of our loved one, WINNIE CHANDLER MILLER
from Willena and Morris Miller of San Angelo

GAIL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION:

IN MEMORY OF JEWEL COURSEY:
by Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Lackey

IN MEMORY OF O. D. JACKSON
by Mr. and Mrs. Joel Dennis
Dorothy Browne
Warren and Betty Beaver
Sterling and Gladys Williams

IN MEMORY OF ROSE SHOEMAKER
by Dorothy Browne
The Jerry Kincheloes

IN MEMORY OF ORVAL MATHIS
by Dorothy Browne
Warren and Betty Beaver
Bill Jennings
Burt and Cathy Jennings
Sterling and Gladys Williams

IN MEMORY OF THE CANTRELL FAMILY
by Pauline Cantrell Brigham

IN MEMORY OF JOE COLLIER
by Warren and Betty Beaver
Bill Jennings
Burt and Cathy Jennings

IN MEMORY OF CORA PATTERSON
by Sterling and Gladys Williams
Warren and Betty Beaver

A NICE DONATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED
from Ralph and Waldine Martin

IN MEMORY OF WADE HOWELL
by Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Lackey

IN MEMORY OF OPAL SMITH:
by Sterling and Gladys Williams
Warren and Betty Beaver
Bill Jennings
Dorothy Browne
Jerry and Joyce Kincheloe

IN MEMORY OF DAILY BUREN
by Dorothy Browne
The Jerry Kincheloes

IN MEMORY OF JERRY SMITH
by Dorothy Browne
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Lackey

IN MEMORY OF JOHNIE PROFITT
by Dorothy Browne

IN MEMORY OF ILLA MAE WILLS
by Dorothy Browne

IN MEMORY OF THE HOLLAR FAMILY
by D. F. Hollar

IN MEMORY OF THE MITCHELL FAMILY
by J. K. Mitchell

IN MEMORY OF MAMA AND PAPA
by Maurice C. Dorward

IN MEMORY OF THE CLARKS
by Norman Clark

LETTERS FROM THE PENS OF OUR READERS

I am enclosing a check to be used as a cemetery memorial and to pay for the newsletter. I do not want to miss a paper. I enjoyed the write up about the Hollar Family as I was in school with some of the family. My parents, grandparents and several uncles are buried in Gail Cemetery and I appreciate some one taking care of it. With best wishes,
J. K. MITCHELL, Beggs, OK.

I am sending this Cemetery Memorial in memory of Mamma and Papa. Mamma's birthday was March 12th, and to my many friends who were raised there who have since passed away. And sincere best wishes to all who are there. My wife joins me in best wishes to everyone there.
MAURICE D. DORWARD, Clifton, Texas

Thank you for forwarding THE BORDEN COUNTY HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER to me. I thought I sent change of address when I sent a payment. I enjoyed reading the history of the Hollar Family. They were friends of the Gray Family. I vaguely remember Bud and Frost Hollar. I remember Jake and Whale better as they used to pull cotton for my folks. Sincerely,
LETA LLOYD, Snyder, Texas

I've been receiving the BORDEN CITIZEN for several years and have always enjoyed reading it. The current issue is, of course, of special interest since the main story is about my relatives. I was born in Gail in 1926 and lived there until shortly after my father, Elmer Hollar, was killed in a tragic fire in late 1941. I am enclosing a check to renew my subscription to THE CITIZEN. I would also like to make a contribution to THE BORDEN COUNTY MUSEUM in memory of my uncle Bill Stephens who, along with dear Aunt May, were among the founders of the Museum. In addition, I would like to make a contribution to the Gail Cemetery where my Dad, his parents, and many other of my relatives are buried. Thank you for the fine job you are doing in looking after the interests of our forefathers. Sincerely,

DON HOLLAR, Gadsden, Ala.

I appreciate you sending my paper to me. I am sending a check, I look forward to receiving the BORDEN CITIZEN and reading of days gone by and current events.

MARGUERITE FAVER, Lubbock, Texas

Here is a check for another year of the BORDEN CITIZEN. Some of the folks I read about are those I remember. I enjoy reading about those I don't know. Awhile before Christmas I received a letter from a boy I had not seen or heard from since I was seven years old. That was 76 years ago. The fellow's name is Sterling Williams. Thanks a lot to those who publish THE BORDEN CITIZEN. Best wishes for a good year. WELDON THORNTON, Brady, Texas

I was so glad to receive THE BORDEN CITIZEN a few days ago, and to be brought up to date on a number of people whom I knew. I was sorry to learn of Juanita Williams death, and of Wayne Pearce also. I knew both real well. Juanita and I attended West Texas State University at Canyon, Texas the same year, but I have forgotten which year it was. Oh, how I would love to go back to Texas on a visit and see so many of my long time friends, and relatives who are scattered over Texas - to see the old home place there in Gail. Has been a long time since I have seen Gail and I would so love to go back one more time. I had a lot of happy times there, and a lot of funny experiences. I think I could write a long story of my experiences in Gail. We moved to Gail because my dad, A. J. Cantrell, was elected to the office of County Tax Assessor. He bought the old Brown home south of downtown Gail. Later he tore the old house down and built a new house. And, by the way, there was no typewriter in his office, so he bought his own. Later we gave it to the MUSEUM. I think it was an Oliver, but not quite sure; but it was a far cry from our present day typewriters.

My oldest sister, Lillie, taught in the Gail School when there was only two teachers. She married Clifton Harris who was the principal. They were married in the A. J. Cantrell home. I remember that my sister, Grace, and I made all the arrangements for the wedding - cooking the big dinner, decorating the living room and dining room, making them look very festive. Later they moved down to Eastland County and taught together. They always considered Gail their hom. When they died, they were buried in the Gail Cemetery. Clifton preceded Lillie in death. Their son, Clifton S., Jr., lives in Richardson, Texas and teaches in a State University there, which is near Dallas.

My sister, Grace, married Lawrence Anderson, who lived on a large ranch between Gail and Big Spring. For three years she and I taught school together at the Morgan School about 16 miles from Big Spring. When Howard County had enough scholastics, the County was eligible for a Superintendent of Schools. There had to be as many as 3000 scholastics. A number of my friends persuaded me to enter the race. I was very hesitant to do so, feeling that I would not have a chance to win. Four of us ran for the office, three women and one man. There had to be a run-off election, but I was elected by a 2 to 1 majority. I served six years. In my second term of office, I was married to James E. Brigham of Big Spring. We were married on Christmas day in Carlsbad, New Mexico. When I retired from office, we started a family. A son, Don and then a daughter, Sylvia. Don is now 54 years old and lives about 35 miles from me. He is a pilot for Delta Airlines and has been for several years. Flying was all he ever wanted to do. My daughter is now 52 years old, and lives in Amherst, N.Y., a suburb of Buffalo. She teaches voice in the University of New York, Buffalo. She has two daughters who are 15 and 18 years old. My step-son, James Stanford Brigham, lives a few miles out of San Diego and is able to come up to see me almost every week.

My sister, Mary Cantrell Sanders, lives in Lubbock. She used to live in Big Spring after leaving Gail. My sister, LaDeanne Powell, lives in Elk City, Ok. and is in a nursing home there. My brother, Floyd (Dick) who used to live in Gail, has been in bad health as a result of a bad car wreck years ago, and is in a nursing home in Lubbock. All of you "hold down the Fort".

PAULINE CANTRELL BRIGHAM, Laguna Hills, Calif.

The children of Ralph and Waldine Martin hosted a Golden Wedding Anniversary celebration in the Plains Community center to honor their parents on January 21, 1990. In 1951 they moved to the Plains community where they farmed for 39 years. Ralph also did welding and shop work. Their children are Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Brenda) Owen of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Weldon (Gloris) Fannon of Floydada and Mr. and Mrs. Dough (Jo Ann) Jones of Sudan. Their son, Ronald, died in 1974. They have 9 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

The Borden County School cafeteria was the site of a 50th wedding reception honoring Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Miller on May 6, 1990. Ruby Pruitt and Vernon Miller were married May 4, 1940. They have ranched in Borden County for many years. The couple's son, Terry, is deceased.

The Muleshoe ranch headquarters was the site for the Clayton family reunion in June. Four generations celebrated the ranch's 77th anniversary. R. M. Clayton bought the Muleshoe in 1913 and it has remained in the Clayton family since that time. The children of John and Keva Anderson are the fifth generation to live on the property. Cousins by the dozens enjoyed getting acquainted and re-acquainted.

BORDEN COUNTY 1876 - 1989

by Brian Jones, Grandson of Donna Hendricks. Written as a History Paper
when he was 14 years old.

Borden County has a very long and interesting history. Borden County was named for Gail Borden, Jr. in 1776. Gail Borden was an inventor and a patriot of Texas. He was also the inventor of evaporated milk.

Borden County was a favorite hunting place for Indians as late as the Civil War. The county had very little rainfall, which made it undesirable for farming. Ranchers who had their headquarters in Howard County extended their operations into Borden County about 1876. Many people tried to file land claims in the county, but was discouraged by the cowmen. A land boom in 1902 brought a rush of claim filers to buy school lands, but they were stopped because of the resulting battles with the cowmen, and Borden remained a cowmen's county. Cowmen also resisted railroad settlers. Borden County has never been heavily settled. The population in 1880 was only thirty-five. In 1890 it was 222, in 1900 it was 776, in 1910 it was 1,386, in 1940 it was 1,396, and in 1950 the population was 1,100. In the 1960's it was a sparsely settled ranching and farming area.

There are many unique physical features in Borden County. It covers an area of 914 square miles and has an altitude of 2,500 to 3,000 feet. The average rainfall of twenty inches is somewhat discouraging to farmers. The county also has some land formations. The rolling surface is broken by the cap rock, Gail Mountain, and Mushaway Peak. There are numerous types of soil found. The whole area is drained by the Colorado River.

The county has one organized community. Gail, the county seat, was built and has remained a one-street town. Gail is a very small community with a population of 196. There are six businesses in the town. Gail employees a total of 133 people. There is also an ambulance service and one school (grades K - 12). Recreation in Gail includes fishing, hunting, museum, and a junior livestock show and rodeo. Also found at Gail is a cemetery with some famous people buried there. Among these are five Civil War veterans.

Oil is the main resource in Borden County. The approximate oil value is \$99,266,594.00. The oil yield from 1949 to 1973 was 190,990,228 barrels. Cotton is the leading crop in Borden County. It is well suited for the dry land. Cotton is also the majority of the farm income. The cost of the farm equipment for one section of land is \$65,000.00, and the value of a section of \$100,000.00 to \$300,000.00. Some crops are grain sorghums, cotton, hay, fruit, and vegetables. In all, the annual agricultural income in the county is \$7,500,000.00.

Ranching is very popular in Borden County, so there are many brands. Some of the early brands include D, recorded in 1900 by John Gilmer Davis; Y, recorded in 1910 by J. B. Fritz; U, recorded in the late 1880's by the Brumley Family; RO, recorded in 1903 by Robert Orson; and V, recorded in 1945 by J. P. Brown. Some of the more modern brands are the F seven F brand, recorded by Beno F. Hendricks; the D flying D brand, recorded by Bert Dennis; the A upside down wine glass brand, recorded by Ray Herring; and U, muleshoe brand, recorded by J. R. Anderson.

The history of Borden County is not as exciting as some places. It does, however, have some interesting facts.

The Bibliography for this paper included 1988 - 1989 Texas Almanac, Volumes I and III: The Handbook of Texas, and Borden County: 1976, The Greatest Thing Since 1776.

DID YOU KNOW that the first meeting of BORDEN COUNTY Commissioners' Court was April 7, 1891? This means that BORDEN COUNTY will be 100 years old in 1991! Would you attend a celebration of the one hundreth anniversary? Please write and tell us if you are interested. Send your letters to Dorothy Browne, Editor, BORDEN CITIZEN, P. O. Box 23, Gail, Texas. Dorothy also requests your letters, comments, family histories, donations to the Museum or Cemetery, memorials, and any other things you care to write.

From: The Borden Historical Society
Gail, Texas 79738

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