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Deadline For S&WCD Essay, Poster Contest Is Friday

Herbert Engstrom, chairman of the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District Board, reminds students that Friday, January 18th is the deadline for entries in the essay and poster contest sponsored by Central Power

and Light Company and the Colorado SWCD. The essay contest is open to all students attending schools in Colorado County, and is open to all students 18 years of age and under. The poster contest is open to all students of Colorado County 12 years of age and under.

The entries may be sent to the Colorado SWCD, P.O. Box 776, Columbus, Texas 78904 or they may be delivered to the Columbus office of the Soil Conservation Service in the County Ag. Building in Columbus.

Teachers or students who need more information on the contest should contact Betty Zajack, District Secretary, at 732-2773 in Columbus.

Essay Subject
The topic for the essay contest is "Forty Years of Soil and Water Conservation in Texas." The essay must exceed 300 words. It is preferred that the essay be typed but it is not required. A cover sheet should be used with the student's name, address, school name, school grade along with Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District No. 333 on it. The entrant's name should not appear on the essay. The topic for the poster contest is "Food, Fiber, and Soil Conservation." The poster work is to be on standard poster board cut to half size (approx. 22" x 14").

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24 YEARS AGO

LET'S LOOK BACK

(Dec. 1, 1955)
A. H. (Sunshine) Dipple is re-elected fire chief. Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Explorers collecting Good Turn Bags. Mayor Harold Thomas, speaking at Rotary Club, estimates city's population at 2783 as compared to 2783 in the 1950 census. Bids opened for final portion of FM 1093, new route to Houston through Wallis, Fulshear, etc. Lewis J. Rosprum and Carl W. Seeborn, Jr. added to list of applicants for Postmaster here. Supt. Deane D. Fletcher reports that 1955-56 had 1124 scholars in local schools, 601 whites, 373 black, 46 teachers and valuation of \$12 million. Cost of the foundation program, \$196,190. Kenneth Judd of Rock Island, on leave from Navy, honored at party in L. Ulbig home. Fire damages pump at Leonard Service Station next to Ramsey Hotel. Hay in Salladay Brothers barn destroyed by fire. W. R. Cormans are honored by friends.

Officers investigate an accident on the highway which four vehicles were heavily damaged and one person was hospitalized with injuries in a rather unusual accident. Fire damages pump at Leonard Service Station next to Ramsey Hotel. Hay in Salladay Brothers barn destroyed by fire. W. R. Cormans are honored by friends.

Let's Look Back

48 YEARS AGO

(January 9, 1932)
Judge Mayes not a candidate for his office again. Rumor names four possible candidates to succeed him. Irvin S. Cobb and "Bob" Davis, authors known writers enjoy visit here. In letters to S. C. Smothers, writers tell of splendid visit.

"Runaway" Vehicle Damages 3 Cars



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\$50,000 Damages Asked For Death Of Horse In Fire

A suit was filed in District Court at Columbus Jan. 15th by E. L. Baker, Jr. of Fort Worth against Columbus Quartermaster Performance Association and others, including Dan Prause, Mary Ellen Prause, H. J. Schindler and Hurricane Steel Industries Co., seeking damages for the death of a horse in a fire at the Columbus race track on Jan. 21, 1979.

Baker alleges that he had his horse, "Premiere," stabled at the race track and that the defendants were negligent in acts and omissions resulting in the fire and the death of the horse. The plaintiff asks for \$50,000 which he says was the market value of the animal, plus costs of court.

Grass Fire Tuesday

Eagle Lake volunteer firemen were called to a grass fire on railroad right of way a mile east of Ramsey at 3:36 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15th.

clubhouse with members of the Rod and Gun Club. Seth Parker picture expected to draw big crowds here. Carried to hold one-day farmers' session. Alkali bridge, to be completed in sixty more days. Questions of building all-season road from Eagle Lake to bridge now confronts citizens of this section.

Industry's Operations Essential to Economy

By Edwin L. Cox, President Texas Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association

There are people in this country making careers out of criticizing America's petroleum industry. The large, integrated companies have been the principal targets of the critics.

Recently, a coalition of labor unions and consumer groups staged demonstrations in various cities throughout the country to protest high energy prices and the "big oil companies." This so-called "Big Oil Day" was a big flop.

Most Americans saw through the proposals for industry "nationalization" and "de-nationalization" when they saw the "Big Oil Day" was a big flop.

Several of this nation's largest oil companies had their origins in Texas and have been operating here since the turn of the century. So, the oil and gas industry long has been a great contributor to Texas' social and economic well-being.

These companies and others provide many jobs, support education, and underwrite many community services in our state. They also pay a significant portion of the industry's billion-dollar annual state tax bill.

All employees of these companies — from the newest employee to top management — work for the stockholders of these publicly held companies. More than 14 million persons, for example, own the nation's six largest oil companies.

This ownership is either through personal stock purchases, through participation in retirement and pension plans, or through mutual fund participation. Many of these stockholders use these investments in order to make their retirements more comfortable and secure.

A recent study of oil industry ownership of companies such as these six showed the following:

The average age of employed persons who owned stock was more than 52 years. Their average household income was less than \$20,000 per year.

Direct owners numbered almost 12 million persons. More than seven-million of these were parents or grandparents in various pension and retirement plans.

Direct owners numbered 23-million persons. Of these, nearly half (46-percent) were retired.

The average age of these persons was more than 70 years. And, they had owned this stock for an average of 33 years.

These findings and figures illustrate the scope and diversification of the ownership of the nation's six largest oil companies. Who owns America's big oil companies?

To that question, there is a simple answer. Millions of Americans.

2 Coon Hunters Pay Heavy Fines For Illegal Hunting

Two Woodville men paid heavy fines for illegally hunting coons from a boat on the Colorado River last Friday night and Saturday morning.

The two men, Michael D. Humphrey and George C. Holcombe, were arrested at around 4 a.m. Saturday by Game Warden Sam Center who had spotted their car parked beneath the river bridge at Altair.

The men had in their boat twelve coons and they were charged with hunting fur-bearing animals on public waters — and were fined \$200.50 each on the charges and Humphrey was also charged with not having life jackets in the boat and was fined an additional \$31.50.

The fines were levied in the court of Justice of the Peace M. M. Jones, Precinct 8, Eagle Lake.

"Oil Baron Governor"

Specifically, the state coordinator of the American Agricultural Movement, Mike McCathern of Hereford, said:

"We have an oil baron governor who doesn't want any competition with oil and a liquor lobby controlling the Alcoholic Beverage Commission and we can't get anything done."

The commission, which normally oversees drinking alcohol regulation is the agency which handles alcohol fuel production permits.

During the recent year, the ABC has given out less than 25 permits across the state.

The farmers' push was highlighted by a hunger strike beginning Friday by one of their leaders, Charlie Fouts of Milam County. Fouts is camping out in front of the Governor's Office at the Capitol to draw attention to the farmer's beef with Clements.

AG Okay Gasohol

Attorney General Mark Whitely ruled last week that a Kansas corporation, Midwest Solvents, Inc., can produce gasohol in Texas but cannot manufacture, distribute or sell alcohol at the same plant.

The ruling was sought following controversy over whether beverage alcohol could be produced at the largest feed mill and ethanol plant. The company was planning to ship the beverage alcohol out of state for sale.

Gasohol Becoming Popular

AUSTIN—Gasohol, once considered an "exotic fuel," at least in Governor Bill Clements' words, is fast becoming all the rage at the State Capitol.

Textile family farmers fought all last year to initiate gasohol production in the state and until now have enjoyed limited success. Their hopes were boosted during the last legislative session when Reps. Dan Kibicki and Bill Keese successfully pushed through the

Political Race

As the Feb. 4 filing deadline nears, political races are shaping up in Texas.

State Rep. John Wilson, D-Altair, announced he will try to unseat State Sen. Bill Putnam, D-Guadalupe.

Putnam, a 20-year incumbent and member of the

Speed Limits and Foreign Policy

Out in California they're putting huge, glowing pictures of the Ayatollah on billboards urging motorists to drive 55. It's not as silly as it sounds: transportation takes over 50 percent of America's oil, and the 55 mph speed limit can save the average motorist up to twenty percent on gas mileage. That means energy independence for Uncle Sam. Wonder what the speed limit is in Iran?

There Oughta Be a Law!

One of the first American traffic regulations required a motorist to stop his car and fire a roman candle whenever a horse-drawn vehicle came into view.

Q Obviously you're safer at 55 mph than at 65 or 70, but I can't believe it makes that much difference at such speed. Are there any statistics on speed limit safety? My husband and I don't think 55 is worth the trouble. — M.B., San Antonio.

A: Think again! The lower speed makes an enormous difference in your reaction time for stopping, dodging, and generally avoiding collisions. American traffic deaths dropped by 9,000 a year after 55 mph became the speed limit. The experts say your chances of surviving a wreck at 70 mph are only fifty-fifty. But at 55 mph, the odds of survival are 31 to one in your favor. We'll take those odds any day.

Now That's a Speed Trap! Speed traps of yesteryear (the early 1900's) could be a mile serious. In some jurisdictions police were authorized to shoot at tires and to stretch ropes or chains across the road to stop potential speeders. And you thought you had it tough.

Share your questions, anecdotes and observations with us. Write to: Texas Traffic Safety Section, State Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Austin, Texas 78701.

"LOOK"

Slacks out of Style? Legs too wide?

Don't Throw Them Away.

HAVE THEM Tapered To Style AT The Sewing Center

102 Boothe Dr. Eagle Lake (Next to Dairy Queen) CALL 234-5818

Maynard Wagner Named Traffic Safety Supervisor

Maynard J. Wagner has been appointed to the newly created staff position of Traffic Safety Supervisor with the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation in District 13. Carl Y. Ramert, District Engineer, is announcing this position.

Wagner has been with the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation since 1974. Prior to that he served a year as an engineering technician in the District Right of Way section.

He is married to the former La Verne Huber and they have two daughters: Marla, 10, and Shannon, 9. They live north of Shiner.

Martha S.S. Class Meets With Mrs. Paul Powers

The Martha Class of First Baptist Church met Monday night, Jan. 7 at the home of Mrs. Paul Powers. After the opening prayer given by Mrs. J. A. Mathis, a lesson review was discussed by the class teacher, Mrs. Herman Boethel.

The treasurer's report was given by Mrs. J. Armstrong, and after other reports, the business portion was closed with prayer by Mrs. W. L. Bauer.

Mrs. Powers' devotion was "The Importance of God in Our Lives." She closed with the thought, "God is like Hallmark. He cares enough to send the very best."

Mrs. Powers served loaves, sandwiches, cookies, wassail and coffee to fourteen class members.

New Tool AUCTION

Thurs., Jan. 17 7:00 P.M.
Veterans Community Center
Columbus, Texas
See Page 9 For Complete Listing

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County Buys Pagers For \$179.25 Each

Colorado County Commissioners' Court, in session Monday, approved the purchase of a quantity of pagers (24 or more) from Motorola Corp. of Houston on the bid of \$179.25 each. The court had advertised for the purchase of 24 pagers for the county, 10 each in Weimar and Columbus, and four in Eagle Lake, but when the bid received was lower than expected and the Motorola representative agreed to increase that number if desired, the court decided to check with the three units for possibly increasing that number. Precinct 4 Commissioner Bill Stiles said that some individuals in the Eagle Lake unit had expressed interest in buying a pager for personal use.

Glidden RR Crossings To Stay Open

Colorado County Commissioners' Court heard a report that complaints have been received from citizens in the Glidden area that Southern Pacific train crossings at the Glidden area are being blocked for long periods of time.

Owners of property affected by the 3 crossings and railroad company officials attended a meeting called by County Judge Lester J. Crank recently on S.P.'s request to close the crossings. Judge Crank and Commissioner Otto Loesslin, whose precinct the area lies, reported landowners said that they wanted the crossings to remain open in order that they have access to their properties. The railroad company offered to pay for a road that would give another access to the area affected.

County Names Grievance Committee

As required by state law, a Grievance Committee to hear grievances elected officials might have regarding their salaries, was set up by the Commissioners' Court in session Monday.

The law provides that the committee be composed of the county officials elected countywide and three other persons selected from the last list of Grand Jurors, with the county judge the ex-officio non-voting member of the committee.

Names of the three grand jurors were drawn Monday and included Mrs. Norma Dymally of Columbus, Jessie Spain of Weimar and Robert Criswell of Sheridan. In the event either of the three is unable to serve, M. G. Lanier of Garwood was named as an alternate.

The committee will function only if one of the elected county officials is not satisfied with the salary approved for the current year.

Commr. Court Adopts 1980 Salary Orders

In the first meeting of the 1980 year Monday, Colorado County Commissioners' Court passed a number of orders which fixed salaries, number of deputies, expense accounts and other items.

The court voted to continue the pay for jurors, grand and petit, at \$8.00 for those appearing but not selected for service, and \$10.00 for those appearing and selected for service, same as in 1979.

A 5% order was passed fixing the number and salary of office deputies and employees, as was a previous order approved by the court at the time the 1980 budget was adopted in September of 1979.

Also an order was passed fixing expense allowances for the sheriff's office, county agents, the state-county health nurse, the commissioners and county judge, as proposed at the time of the budget adoption with the exception that the fee for auto mileage used in the course of official business was increased from 15¢ to 20¢ per mile.

The court also adopted an order, as required by state law, fixing the method of compensation for officers and employees on salary basis. County Judge Lester Crank noted that the order was required even though the Legislature has since the time officers were paid on fee or salary basis, passed state statutes that require payment of officers by salary only.

An order in permit officials to leave the county and state was approved, also required under state law.

Mayor Pro-Tem The court elected Precinct 1 Commissioner Otto Loesslin as the County Judge Pro-Tem for the year of 1980.

Allocations as approved in the 1980 budget for the libraries, fire departments, national guard, historical

Jo Ann's

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Study Club Elects Margie Wiese Pres.

The January meeting of the Eagle Lake Study Club was held January 9th in the conference room of the Winterman Library.

Mrs. Eula Winterman, chairman of the nominating committee, read the slate of officers for the upcoming year. The slate read as follows: president, Mrs. Margie Wiese; first vice-president, Mrs. Eleanor McCreary; second vice-president, Mrs. Avis Laughlin; secretary, Mrs. Betty Wilson; treasurer, Mrs. Elizabeth Boethe; reporters, Mrs. Mary Ballou and Mrs. Jean Thornton.

The discussion next centered on the sale of duplicate books which the library has donated to the Study Club. Further planning is required before details will be published.

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