

### County Agent's NOTEBOOK

By Leroy J. Hajala, County Extension Agent, Colorado County

#### Grow Your Own Garden Transplants

Get your spring garden off to a good start by growing your own transplants indoors. The key to using transplants successfully is to plant seed in the young plants in a container that is ready to set out when your garden is ready and weather conditions are favorable. For the best survival and quick recovery after planting in the garden, transplants should be young, sturdy and in good nutritional condition.

Usually four to six weeks is sufficient time to grow most transplants. Vase crops take two to three weeks to develop. Lettuce takes three to four weeks. Tomatoes need five to seven weeks to reach transplanting stage. These time requirements are in the recommended days of temperature of about 75 degrees F. and a night temperature of 60 degrees F.

#### Cut Ants Are Active; Controls Cited

The return of sunshine has caused a major resurgence of Texas leaf cutting ant activity throughout Colorado County. This activity is confirmed by the numerous inquiries being made on cut ant control.

The most effective means of controlling cut ants is injection of methyl bromide gas into the central opening of an active nest. The gas application may be obtained from most feed stores which sell the methyl bromide. Reading the label and following the stated precautions are essential to safe and successful ant control. The use of any other pesticide will usually move the ant colony to another den and in a short period return to the old den.

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#### Computer Speeds

##### Soil Test Results At WCJC Lab

By Leroy J. Hajala, County Extension Agent, Colorado County

Use of mechanical marvels in the soil testing laboratory at Texas A&M University now have a new hand for processing soil test results: a computer.

Use of mechanical marvels in the soil testing laboratory at Texas A&M University now have a new hand for processing soil test results: a computer.

Current "turn-around-time" upon receipt of sample by the lab is now four to five days compared to about seven to ten days in the past.

Regarding information provided with soil test results, more details are now included. These are designed to help producers interpret the results, particularly as they relate to alternatives to fertilizer materials, time and methods of application, and cropping systems.

Use of computer programming is just another way to make soil testing a sound investment for producers. This is one of the critical times of the year to submit soil samples for testing so the plans can be finalized for this year's crops, grass production and hay production.

Cartons for submitting soil samples along with instructions and information sheets are available at the County Extension Office. Charge for the standard soil test is \$4, with an additional \$3 charge for a micronutrient test.

#### Dr. Ugarte Is Member Of MH-MR Bd.

Dr. Jose Ugarte of Eagle Lake was among those named to the Colorado County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Advisory Board for a three-year term at the quarterly meeting of the board earlier this month.

Other new directors included Dr. Robert Youns and Mrs. Marianne Muehr of Weimar; Mrs. Agnes Martin and Layton Coleman of Columbus.

The board is composed of members selected from the county who display expertise and/or interest in the areas of mental health and mental retardation.

Officers of the board are: Henry Harder, president; Randall Amour, vice president; Mabel Scott, secretary; and Victor Scott, of Eagle Lake, treasurer.

More Space Needed During the meeting of the board the problem of insufficient space at both the retardation and mental health offices was discussed. The board has been looking for other locations.

The Colorado County Adult Work Activity Center is a sheltered workshop setting for the adult mentally retarded where job contracts of various types are filled, enabling the participants to be more self-sufficient and active. The Colorado County Educational Cooperative is also involved with this facility in servicing school-aged individuals with mental retardation handicaps.

Infant Stimulation Programs such as infant stimulation for mentally delayed children, play therapy, and behavioral testing are



#### Shelia Dabney Is Garwood Spelling Winner

The Garwood School winner in the Houston Chronicle Spelling Bee is Shelia Dabney. Shelia is an eighth grade student whose hobbies include sports, sewing, reading and games.

Each Fitzgerald of Mrs. Fitzgerald of Mrs. Fitzgerald will represent the Garwood School in the Colorado County eliminations to be held on March 6th at Rice High School.

#### St. Mary's PTC Makes Plans For Field Day

St. Mary's PTC met on Feb. 19th at 7:30 p.m. with the vice-president, Virginia Koresnek, opening the meeting. The principal, C. J. Hajovsky, led the opening prayer, the minutes were read, and a treasurer's report given.

Field Day was discussed. The field day will be on April 27th. The first grade will have a baked goods booth. The second and third grade will have snow cones, fourth grade, tea and coffee; and fifth and eighth grades, sandwiches and sixth and seventh grade, soda water.

The meeting was closed with a prayer led by Magr. Victor Schmidtski. Cathy Schilling and Charlotte Crank served refreshments. Reporter.

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offered. The Travis State School in Austin supports the various programs of the center through its outreach office. Mrs. Fritz Kuhnank serves as caseworker for the workshop.

The Colorado County Mental Health Center is a combined effort of the San Antonio State Hospital and the local advisory board. This facility was established to aid persons who suffer from emotional problems or who have problems related to drug and alcohol abuse.

The staff of the Mental Health Center includes Sid MacAllister, Director; Nita Rieke, alcoholism counselor; Carol Braden, L.V.N.; Connie Kotz, secretary; Denise Delgado, CETA program personnel; and Robys Clost, volunteer.

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### Homemakers' Reflections

By Donella Pantel, County Extension Agent

#### Cooking Frozen Meats

Cooking "frozen-solid" meats avoids lengthy thawing time-but it does take longer than cooking non-frozen meats.

Allow for the extra cooking time, so you'll have a tasty product-and you can still save lots of valuable hours. Extra cooking time for frozen meats depends on the size, shape and thickness of the meat.

For example, large frozen roasts may take up to 1 1/2 times as long to cook as unfrozen roasts of the same size. On the other hand, remember that smaller roasts will need more extra time.

#### Weatherizing Your Home

Even though your house is well insulated, it may be possible to reduce heating and cooling costs even more. Weatherstripping doors and windows can reduce total heat loss by as much as 37 percent.

Sealing unnecessary exterior openings can further reduce heat loss. Besides keeping out wind, cold or hot air and moisture, applying weatherstripping and sealing materials will block entry of dust and noise.

Weatherstripping and sealing materials can be applied easily and economically by the homeowner. For a free booklet on "Weatherizing Your Home" MP-1106, contact

U.S. farmers' total tax bill in 1979 was \$9.5 billion on real estate, personal property, federal and state income and purchases, according to Sperry New Holland.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Shriner's Hospital Extends Thanks

Happy Hoofers c/o Mrs. Joe N. Frazier, Jr. Eagle Lake, Texas Dear Mrs. Frazier:

The Happy Hoofers' generous donation to Arabia's Hospital Benefit is gratefully acknowledged. Please be aware that our patients and their parents see the ones

whose prayers you have helped to answer by making available to them the care and treatment provided in both the Crippled Children's Hospital in Houston and the Burns Institute in Galveston. Isn't it nice to have that warm glow and know your gift does so much good for those whom we serve!

Odell Hydes, General Chairman George Tidwell, Coordinator '80 Hospital, Houston

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Sanford Winner In S.A. Calf Scramble

SAN ANTONIO LIVESTOCK SHOW CALF SCRAMBLE 1980

A Rice High School FFA member, Rodney Sanford, was a winner at the San Antonio Stock Show in the Lone Star Beef Calf Scramble. He resides in Garwood. His FFA instructors are Troy Krenk, Willie Fitzgerald and Ronel Roberts.

It's no simple task to tackle a 200 pound, plus line calf, halter and lead it across the finish line. To congratulate Sanford are

Gen Fleming, Lone Star Beef representative; Bob Green, Bexar County Clerk; and Rub Riedel, Jr., calf scramble judge.

Fleming said that Lone Star Beef sponsored the event to encourage FFA and FFA club members to become interested in Texas agriculture. Winners receive checks to put toward a college education.

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### Sheridan Fire Dept. Elects Cousins Pres.

Officers for the 1980 year were elected by the Sheridan Volunteer Fire Department on Feb. 18 at the regular meeting.

New leaders for the coming year are as follows: president, Earl Cousins; chief, Franklin Walker; assistant chief, George Keane; and Joe Garcia, secretary. Willian C. Gohke and brewer, Charles W. DeShazo.

In turning the department over to the incoming leaders, outgoing President Taylor pointed to a successful year of operations, improved financial position, equipment updated and a corps of citizens trained to administer emergency medical attention.

Taylor noted his three years as president had been "satisfying" and he challenged the new leadership to continue to move forward. A resolution was adopted that commended President Taylor for his leadership role.

The membership enjoyed a delicious barbecue rib dinner prepared by Vic Muehr and family.

Wednesday afternoon our Social Activities Director, Mae Price, called out bingo for us in the dining room. Applet, pears and oranges were passed out to the winners. A special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Spalinger for the delicious fruit they gave for our bingo games.

Thursday was Western Day at Heritage House. The employees and residents were dressed in jeans and western shirts. We all enjoyed it when we heard these special days.

Residents in Hospital We all send our love and prayers to our friends who are in the hospital; our Director of Nurses Virginia Marshall and residents Kenneth Riddick, Bernice Karber, Verdel McGrew and Bill Barrow. We hope that they will come back to the home soon.

Rodeo Time Friday morning the residents saw the trail riders' parade on television from 9:30 a.m. Thursday, February 21st at the chapel of the Mill-Bauer Funeral Home. The Rev. Melburn Sibley, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiated at the services. Favorite taped hymns were rendered during the services.

The body was taken to Alice Texas for interment in the Rose Lawn Memorial Park at 3 p.m. with Rev. Joe Jones, pastor of the Baptist Church here, presiding.

Serving as pallbearers were fellow workers and neighbors, L. V. Davison, Monroe Ripper, Duane French, Ralph Johnson, Gayle Thomas, all of this city; and Wilburn Black of Palacios.

Surviving in this city: his wife, Alene; his mother, Mrs. C. H. Hartsfield of Alice; a daughter, Mrs. Deborah Sewell of Houston; two sons, Cecil III of El Campo and Earl of Austin; a sister, Mrs. Marie Wilcox of Agua Dulce; and other relatives and friends.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family in the loss of this loved one.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Ware of Missouri City are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, the little lady, who has been named Jennifer Elizabeth, made her arrival Monday, February 18th at 7:53 in the evening at Park Plaza Hospital in Houston. She weighed nine pounds and three ounces and measured twenty-one inches at birth.

Proud grandparents of Jennifer are Mr. and Mrs. Jennifer Miller and Mrs. Mabel Ware, all of Eagle Lake. Her great-grandparents are Mary Horton and Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Campbell, also of Eagle Lake.

Griffin of Houston; a nephew, Col. Jake Dale, retired from the U. S. Air Force, now living in Mobile, Alabama; and a number of other nieces and nephews.

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### Hartsfield Dies At Work At Tenneco

Citizens of the community were deeply saddened to learn of the sudden death of Cecil H. Hartsfield, Jr., 49, while at work at Tenneco's Chesterville plant at around 10:30 p.m. last Tuesday, Feb. 19th. He had started work at 10:00 p.m. and complained of indigestion and went to a fellow employee's pickup truck for some medication, but when he failed to return in a short time, the employee at the plant went to look for him and found him dead near the pickup truck, with the door of the truck open, apparently from a heart attack.

Justice of the Peace M. M. Jones held an inquest at the scene and ruled death was from natural causes.

Mr. Hartsfield was born on July 13th, 1930 in Corpus Christi, the son of Bernice Bedford Hartsfield and Cecil H. Hartsfield, Sr. He spent his childhood days in the Agua Dulce area.

On July 15, 1951 he was united in marriage with Miss Alene Whitson. The family lived in Agua Dulce and several other towns where he was employed with Tenneco and came to Eagle Lake sixteen years ago when he was assigned to duty at the Chesterville plant. He was an A Operator at the time of his death.

He had been employed by Tenneco for twenty-six years. He also served a tour of duty with the U. S. Air Force in Korea.

Hartsfield had a deep interest in working with the youth of the community in agriculture and FFA projects; and also was active in a state law enforcement association.

Last rites were held at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, February 21st at the chapel of the Mill-Bauer Funeral Home. The Rev. Melburn Sibley, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiated at the services. Favorite taped hymns were rendered during the services.

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Alpha Delta Phi Program On Beautiful People

Alpha Delta Phi members met in the home of Linda Bales on Feb. 18th with President Gail Guthman presiding.

In communications, information in Amarillo to be held June 29th through 22nd was discussed.

Mary Ann Wood reported that the attendance at the Western Dance was indeed a success with 96 couples in attendance. She thanked the committees and members who helped in making the annual event a success. The social for March was discussed with the date pending.

Diana Brunner announced that the hospital project for March would be on the St. Patrick's Day theme. Members worked on the project during the social.

With the Rosebud report, members sang "Happy Birthday to You" to Marilyn Sparks, whose birthday was that day. Secret Sisters were thanked for Valentine's received and gifts for birthdays or anniversaries.

The two surprise chapters have been selected and a lady in the community for the honor of being named the Lady of the Year. The announcement will be made publicly in an article in this

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paper in the next weeks. Kay Clipson of Xi Pi Psi will host the tea in her home in March. Sorority members welcomed Marlene Miller of Xi Pi Psi, attending the meeting in order to maintain a perfect attendance. Members enjoyed a box of candy being passed, according to a chapter tradition, with Gail Guthman announcing a new arrival due in August. Diana Brunner presented a most interesting program on "Beautiful People". The purpose of her program was to inform members of the "beautiful people" in our community. She listed and described those people and organizations who participated in the Hospital External Disaster Drill in November of last year. Diana then showed the film of the simulated disaster involving a school bus and train. While watching the film members were able to see our community's organizations working together to carry out the drill effectively. Members heard comments from Marilyn Sparks, a nurse at the scene. Marilyn added that "The Army helicopter team commented that our External Disaster Drill was one of the most organized of the most drilled camps in the area." Members thanked Diana for presenting a most informative program. The meeting closed with an informal social and refreshments being served by the hostess.

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