

Sheridan pool to offer swimming lessons June 17

Red Cross swimming lessons will begin at the Sheridan Swimming Pool on Monday, June 17 and continue through Friday, June 28 and youth of the area are invited to participate. Classes will be taught by qualified Red Cross Water Safety Instructors Judy Pustejovsky.

Registration will be combined with the first day's lessons at 8 a.m. Monday at the Sheridan pool. In charge of registration will be William and Lillian Gohlke. Classes will be limited to ten participants, although there may be more than one section.

Courses will be offered in the following: beginner, advanced, safety, advanced swimming and advanced lifesaving.

In order to qualify for a beginner, the youngster must be six years of age or entering the first grade this fall.

The basic rescue class is designed for eleven-year-old swimmers and older. Length of this class is one hour.

The advanced swimmer course is designed for the person who has successfully completed either a junior or a senior lifesaving course.

Advanced lifesaving for individuals who are fifteen years or older will be offered only if there are six or more interested swimmers. Length of classes are two hours daily.

All other classes will run on a 30-minute schedule.

Ugarte completes requirements to retain membership in association

Dr. Jose M. Ugarte, of Eagle Lake, has completed continuing education requirements to retain active membership in the American Academy of Family Physicians, the national association of family doctors. The Academy formerly was called the American Academy of General Practice.

The requirements call for members to complete a minimum of 150 hours of accredited continuing medical study every three years. The Academy was the first national medical group to require members to keep up with medical progress through continuing education. Because of their broad training, family

County Agent's Notebook

By Leroy Hajdik County Extension Agent

Keep children off tractors!

Tractors are for work, not play. And they have only one seat — for the operator. Unfortunately, many people — most often children — are seriously injured and even killed in falls from tractors on which they were allowed to ride.

Such mishaps can be prevented by following a few precautions. These include the following:

- *Keep children and non-workers off of and away from farm machinery. Do not offer rides or give-in to a child's plea to ride along. Make "no riders" your policy.
- *Make sure no one has climbed aboard the tractor or trailing equipment without your knowledge. See that everyone is out of the way before moving.
- *A tractor is not a suitable place to babysit. Arrange for child care if necessary.
- *Make it clear that young tractor operators cannot let friends or siblings ride along. They should not allow another driver without your permission.
- *Try to arrange for safe transportation for workers rather than allowing them to ride on equipment.
- *When you must ride along to supervise or instruct a new tractor operator, choose the safest possible place to sit or stand — and hang on tight.

Tractor accidents generally increase as farm and ranch activities get into full swing with the warm weather season. Attention to a few safety precautions can head off many of these mishaps.

Soil Conservation News

Irrigation conserves water

Gulf Coast rice farmers have long practiced land leveling to conserve irrigation water. Precision land forming or "Cut and fill" land leveling benefits both the rice farmer and the row crop farmer. The land is shaped to a predetermined grade. During periods of row crop production, the rows are run in the direction of slope, providing positive drainage. During rice production, the levees are run across the slope. The levees are generally straight and parallel, which greatly reduces the time, labor and fuel required to farm the field. Also, the levees can be eliminated for row crops without fear of losing the location of each levee.

Precision land forming requires a detailed engineering survey and layout. Dry soil is cut from high areas in the field, and moved to fill low areas. Some contractors now use laser equipped dirt moving equipment to cut the precision grade. Precision land leveling is usually more expensive than water leveling, but it has positive benefits to both the rice farmer and the row crop farmer. Many farmers throughout the rice belt have installed precision land leveling and results have been excellent.

The Soil Conservation Service offers engineering and technical services to district cooperators. For more information on precision land forming, contact the Soil Conservation Service or your local Soil and Water Conservation District.

Conservation assistance: District cooperator J. Janke, of the New Ulm area, is constructing a pond. Leslie Koehl, a district cooperator of the Alletton area, has completed shaping an eroded area which will be established to bermudagrass to control erosion.

Final certification date: June 15, 1985 is the final certification date for all spring planted crops. In Colorado County these crops are corn, grain, sorghum, cotton, rice, peanuts, and any conserving to non conserving crops planted on the farm. If no program of base crops are planted, you should report zero and the base history will be protected on the farm for future programs. A word of caution: Be prepared to give accurate certifications when coming to this office to report crops. Inaccurate certifications can cause liquidated damages to be assessed and the farms will be ineligible for any program benefits.

Measurement service: This office has personnel to service any request filed to pre-measure crops either before planting or after planting. The cost is nominal and it prevents erroneous certifications. Take advantage of this measurement service and don't guess at your acreage reports. We guarantee our measurements.

Established for participation in all programs administered by ASCS is established under law without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, handicap, or national origin.



Sunshine Class met in home of Nellie Larson

The Sunshine Class met in the home of Nellie Larson. Eight members were present. After the devotional by the president, Ophelia Raabe, a business meeting was held. Elsie Beane gave the treasurer's report and read the minutes of the last meeting.

We were so glad to have Hazel Havens with us again after several weeks of illness. The study was "You are Special to God." There were several illustrations of how God has helped others and how he can help us too if we will listen and let him guide us. Jonie Mae led the study.

The hostess served ham, salad sandwiches, cookies, cheese twists, peach ice cream, coffee and tea to the group. Ophelia Raabe will be hostess in June and Tommie Neiswander will lead the study.

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Furniture Shoppe's



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Flooding Information on proposed Columbus Dam released

A map detailing what the normal pool area would be behind the proposed Shaws Bend Dam on the Colorado River above Columbus has been released by the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior. The map also shows what land might be flooded should a 500-year frequency flood ever occur. In a newsletter about the project, which still is under preliminary study before official recommendations are made, a report was included on comments made after last December's public meeting in LaGrange.

At that meeting, October 15, 1985, was the date set to file the planning report and draft environmental statement with the Environmental Protection Agency. The date has been extended until December 15 "due to the complications in efforts to obtain necessary data," the newsletter said without explaining. LCRA will be requested to confirm its preferred plan (between one

large dam near Columbus or six smaller dams from Columbus upstream past LaGrange, when the analysis of alternatives is completed by the department of reclamation.

Although the map shows wide-spread flooding in the event of the 500-year frequency flooding, it shows no flooding in LaGrange. The report said that didn't mean there would be no flooding there if a dam is built, but rather the city would be flooded whether or not a dam was built. The map provided with the newsletter will be revised in about 6 to 8 months, after all necessary right-of-entry permits are obtained so lands adjacent to the river can be studied.

The newsletter said that most of the 200-300 people who attended the December meeting were property owners whose land would be affected. Of those who spoke, the report said most were opposed to the project. But of 88 comment cards con-

pleted, 56 percent were opposed to the one dam, 28 percent supported the project, and 16 percent supported construction of the six smaller dams. Among comments on the cards were: "Providing no flood control seems to be a threat to the town of Columbus; Water would be used to meet future demands outside Colorado and Fayette counties; Water will be needed in the future, but build dam some other place; Overall consensus of silent majority is favorable for the project; Business community favors the prospective business to be generated although they will not stand up and be counted."

Interested public entities and individuals may obtain information on the project, and provide comments to Charles Guber, study manager, Bureau of Reclamation, 714 S. Tyler, Suite 201, Amarillo, Texas 79101; telephone 808-378-8475.

Hearing on ATV's to be in Dallas June 17

Consumers from Texas and neighboring states who operate all terrain vehicles (ATVs) or who have had an accident with the vehicle will have the opportunity to share their experiences with government safety experts at a Dallas public hearing on ATVs in June.

Commissioners from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission will conduct a public hearing on ATVs on Monday, June 17 at 9 a.m. in the Amfac Hotel, Dallas-Fort Worth Airport (Skyline Room, West Tower). Public testimony, both oral and written, will be used by the agency to obtain information on ATVs and to decide if any regulatory or

voluntary action is needed to reduce the risks of injury from ATV operation.

The ATV typically is a gasoline-powered vehicle with three or four wheels, using soft low-pressure tires, intended for single rider use in off-road operation. By the end of 1985, it is estimated that some 2.5 million ATVs will be in use nationally.

Deaths and injuries to ATV riders have been on the increase, CPSC said. Between January 1982 and April 1985 the agency is aware of at least 161 deaths.

For information on how to make a presentation at the hearing, interested persons

Bingo rules adopted in state

Bingo rule changes aimed at giving charities a greater amount of proceeds from bingo games and providing for better accountability recently were adopted by state comptroller Bob Bullock.

"I thought that both Sen. Ike Harris and Rep. Lloyd Criss did an excellent job of writing the bingo bill, and I was sorry to see it die on the last day of the session during the logjam. But these rules incorporate part of the reform provisions, and will fill in pretty effectively," Bullock said.

The new rules require each bingo organization to devote at least 35 percent of its adjusted gross receipts to charity, the same key provision of the bingo reform bill that died, Bullock said.

"Charities are the number one priority," Bullock said. "These rules do give charities a bigger piece of the pie, and encourage bingo operators to cut overhead costs. These rules also paint a bullseye on the commercialization of bingo."

In addition to the rule requiring a minimum amount of charity, manufacturers and distributors of bingo equipment now will be required to submit reports showing all sales to bingo organizations in Texas.

"The manufacturer and distributor reports will help us verify the information in a bingo operator's quarterly report, and give us the audit leads we need," Bullock pointed out. The new rules take effect immediately.

Wegenhoft member of winning corps

John Wegenhoft of Columbus, a junior Aggie major at Texas A&M University, is a member of Corps of Cadets Co.F-2 which won the Gen. Bruno A. Hochmuth Award for military proficiency.

The award was presented to Co.F-2 during the annual spring review held in conjunction with the recent Parents' Weekend activities on the Texas A&M campus.

Wegenhoft is the son of Travis Wegenhoft of Eagle Lake and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Simmons of Columbus. The Texas A&M Corps of Cadets is composed of 48 outfits and is the largest uniformed student organization in the nation outside the military academies.

Commissioners

Continued from Page One

terest on the machine than it will earn if it keeps its money in an interest-bearing account. The machine was purchased through Fogle Equipment Co. of Houston, represented by Lewis Epps of Eagle Lake.

It was the second machine Epps has sold the county this year. The other replaced a machine that Commissioner Rafael Veselka had rented without asking commissioner approval. When notified by county auditor Lee Briscoe that the agreement did not comply with Texas law calling for bids on purchases of more than \$2,000, Veselka asked for bids, and Epps was the low bidder. The rented machine was returned to another company in Houston.

*Gave permission to the Magnolia Homes Tour organization to install and pay for a permanent water line to the sidewalk on the southern side of the courthouse.

*Discussed nearly \$2,500 in medical bills the county received after a prisoner in the county jail complained of chest pains and was taken to Columbus Community Hospital. The hospital apparently expects the county to pay the bill, but the county is investigating whether the person involved should pay.

*Approved purchase of 10 new paper units for the Eagle Lake unit of the county ambulance corps, but rejected a bid for a new radar unit for highway patrolman Joel Garcia's car. He is stationed in

Eagle Lake. The county will see if a unit can be purchased through the state Department of Public Safety.

*Noted a recommendation by Otis Elevator Co. that the courthouse elevator should be equipped with a special emergency service button, a manual key switch, a smoke detector and emergency lighting. The cost will be studied.

*Accepted a \$50 check from Haber Old Co. for the county's one-fifth royalty share on 3.5 acres in a 44-acre lease where Haber has completed a well. Commissioners also approved talking with Haber about leasing surface rights on some of the acreage where Haber wants to install storage tanks.

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