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Skull Creek Lanes closing after 26 years

Skull Creek Lanes in Altair is closing after 26 years of operation, according to an announcement made Monday by Herb Lavigne and Mary Graham, who have been operating the business for the past 15 years. The Graham family "feels very bad about having to close, but you can operate a money-losing business just so long, and that is what has happened to us at the lanes." There are a few faithful supporters of the lanes, and to these people, the Grahams say thanks for your help and support.

To the Mental Health and Retardation chapters and con-

vincing homes who have been enjoying our facility for about the past 10 years (free of charge), we deeply regret having to close and we will do our best to find some way to help find another place for you to have the same kind of service as you have had at our place," said the Grahams. "Again to our faithful friends, we thank you, we love you and God bless you. We would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Parker Bros. Co. for their help to us for the past 15 years."

All persons need to pickup their bowling balls and equipment.

Little League Schedule

Thursday, June 12: Eagles vs. Cardinals, 5:30 p.m.; Mets vs. Rangers, 6:45 p.m.; Red Sox vs. Phillies, 8:15 p.m.
Friday, June 13: Dodgers vs. Cubs, 6 p.m.; Yankees vs. Pirates, 8 p.m.
Monday, June 16: Cardinals vs. Cowpokes, 5:30 p.m.; Sox vs. Mets, 6:45 p.m.; Honey Bees vs. Red Sox, 8:15 p.m.
Tuesday, June 17: Cubs vs. Pirates, 6 p.m.; Dodgers vs. Yankees, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, June 18: Cowpokes vs. Eagles, 5:30 p.m.; Panthers vs. Tigers, 6:45 p.m.
Thursday, June 19: Rangers

Summertime brings heartworms

Heartworm disease in dogs is well advanced before the dog shows any signs. And because the symptoms are so subtle, it is often mistaken for another problem. Typically, however, dogs cough frequently but do not have a respiratory infection. They are quickly, show labored breathing, and appear unusually weak. Often, affected dogs eat more, but lose weight.

Accurate diagnosis of canine heartworm disease is accomplished in various ways. The technique most frequently used involves drawing a small blood sample which is examined under a microscope for the presence of microfilariae. While the tests are reliable, approximately 10% of the infections may go undetected because some dogs with adult heartworms in their hearts do not have microfilariae in their bloodstream. If heartworms are suspected in spite of negative test results, X-rays may be taken to obtain an accurate diagnosis. When heartworm disease is confirmed, a treatment program is set up to remove both adult worms and microfilariae.

Fortunately, much of the expense and worry of treating heartworm disease can be avoided by giving dogs preventive medication—which is the most practical means of controlling this affliction. For several years, a compound called diethylcarbamazine citrate has been available, that kills heartworms in the infective larvae stage. Given on a daily basis throughout the mosquito season, and for an additional two months thereafter, the compound helps insure that all migrating infective larvae are destroyed. As an added measure of insurance, however, dogs on medication should be blood-tested every six months for the presence of microfilariae.

For more information, contact your veterinary clinic.

(This information was given courtesy of Eagle Lake Veterinary Clinic, Dr. Karen Ewers, DVM)

Heartworms do most of their damage in the adult stage. When fully grown, females reach a length of 10 to 14 inches, while males are about half that size. At this stage, they localize in or near the heart and continue producing microfilariae. Although the number of microfilariae released from each female fluctuates widely, as many as 5,000 of the microfilariae may be deposited in one day by one worm. Adult live for about five years, and microfilariae for about three years.

Visible signs of heartworm disease may not appear until a full year after infection. In fact, the disease may be

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Heifer sale validation scheduled this Saturday

By Leroy J. Hajdik
County Extension Agent

4-H and FFA members planning to enter heifers in the special Colorado County Fair Heifer Sale must have the heifers screened by a special validation committee this Saturday, June 14. The heifers will be checked at the showgrounds in Columbus starting at 9 a.m. Heifers are not required to be halter broken at the June check-in time, but must be halter broken at fair time.

Broiler chick orders
Orders for broiler chicks to be fed for the Colorado County Fair are due in my office by not later than Monday, June 23. A minimum order is for 25 chicks at a cost of 40 cents each. The order must be accompanied with a check payable to M.G. Farm Center for the total sum. Chicks will be of a commercial broiler strain (Vaness crones) and will be all pullets. Delivery will be on Tuesday, July 15.

Steer validation
4-H and FFA members planning to enter steers in the 1986 State Fair of Texas and 1987 San Antonio and Houston Livestock Steer Shows must have their steers validated by a validation committee on Thursday, June 26. Steers are to be brought to the Rice FFA livestock pens located at Rice High School in Altair. The process will begin at 9 a.m.

Horseman's clinic
Youth interested in becoming better horsemen are invited to participate in a horsemanship clinic to be held at the Colorado 4-H Horse Club arena in Columbus on June 16-18. Mrs. Sharon Knox, professional horse trainer from Sha-Jac Farms of Columbus, will be the instructor. Sessions will begin daily at 9 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m.

Training will be provided in performance in the speed events, performance events, and general horsemanship.

Individuals are asked to register by calling the county Extension office at 732-2530. Participants must be enrolled in school, including the current graduating class. No fee will be charged.

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JUNE 11-17,
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