Colorado County gets family caseworker

Today's youth are at a great risk of not developing into productive contributing, healthy citizens for tomorrow. Between 1986 and 1990 the number of juveniles arrested for violent crimes increased nearly 38 percent. The offenders are younger, more violent and often involved in drugs.

Youths aged 16-19 are almost three times more likely than adults to experience violent crime. Family violence has also increased. Many times, children are witnesses or victims of this family violence.

These problems are no longer confined to urban areas. They are affecting rural America, including Colorado County.

In an effort to help families cope with these problems, the Colorado County Youth and Family Services, Inc. (CCYFS) was organized in 1991. This group is made up of volunteers from agencies, churches, schools and community groups.

The focus of the organization is to develop a cooperative community effort to improve the services for families and children at risk by utilizing and building on current services.

Through a grant from the Texas Department of Human Resources and support from the Colorado County Educational Cooperative and Colorado County Commissioners' Court, CCYFS has employed Bobby Johnson as a caseworker to help truants and runaways. She coordinates efforts with school officials and the families to help truant youth stay in school. She works with law enforcement agencies to reunite runaways with their families.

An intensive program to help families improve their relationships will be starting in February. The nurturing program will be aimed at parents and their children ages 4-18. Trained volunteers will facilitate sessions to help parents and children learn skills for enhancing family and personal relationships. Topics will include communication, parental responsibility, conflict resolution and peer pressure.

Members of the Colorado County Youth and Family Services board are: Jeannette Knigge, Colorado County Education Cooperative; Veronica Villafuerte, Eagle Lake; Mary Lou Szymanski, justice of the peace, David Mann, First Baptist Church of Eagle Lake; Susan Glithero, Columbus; Diana Booker; Columbus Community Hospital; Joani Dungen, Columbus; Bea Schoellman, Nada; Sharon Huette, Weimar; Alice Strunk, Oakland; Peggy Braden, Colorado County Extension Service; Roger Olier, S.E.R. Jobs for Progress; Cynthia Bell, Combined Community Action; Melissa Miller, Juvenile Probation; Mary Ellen Prause, Alleyton; Arch Eric, Riceland Regional M.H.A.; Pam Mossberger, Texas Department of Health; Kathy Reynolds, Richmond State School; Betty Bauer, Colorado Valley Drug and Alcohol Council.

County Judge H.O. "Butch" Strunk and Mary Latimer, Department of Human Resources, serve as ex-officio members.

CCYFS is a non-profit community based agency committed to serving youth and families. For more information call 409-732-8721.

Happy Birthday
Reo Lobo Sancho
From The
Almanzas

Foot Facts

By Dr. Eric R. Tepper, Podiatrist

BUNIONS: A BUNDLE OF TROUBLE

Bunions, those unsightly bumps on the outside of the big toe joint, are nothing to hide away inside oversized shoes. The inflammation of soft tissue and bone enlargement can lead to other conditions, including arthritis, hammertoes, corns, calluses and ingrown toenails. The good news is that treatment is not the harrowing experience it once was. In place of extensive hospital stays, treatment options now range from simple orthotic devices to highly refined and efficient surgical techniques that minimize time off your feet. If you start to notice pain or a bump on the side of your foot, particularly if there is a family history of bunions, consult a podiatric physician without delay.

Even though bunions are almost always hereditary, there are ways to prevent them. See your podiatrist early for the best form of prevention. Please call my office for further information or for an appointment, at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital at 409-234-5571. I am there the first and third Tuesdays of the month. I can provide for your entire family's podiatric needs, with quality medical care, gained from years of experience and attention to my patient's particular needs. Happy President's Day!

P.S. Bunions are caused by structural imbalances of the foot, and may be aggravated by poorly fitting shoes, arthritis or injuries.

Sheridan News

By Velma Kutzer

The Valentine party last week at Story Hour was a great success. There were 15 children doing puzzles, singing, doing the Hokey-Pokey and exchanging Valentines. Nancy Chalbreck extends her gratitude to all parents who sent cupcakes, cookies, chips and punch. Special thanks to Toni Garza, Renae Kallina and Debbie Kloss for their help.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Kasmir and children enjoyed spending last weekend in Oak Hill, near Austin, with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Snyder, sister Pam and brother Stanley.

The Sheridan Recreation and Park Committee are seeking the whereabouts of Dana Boyd Manderville and Howard Dillard. Anyone having any information concerning these individuals is asked to contact Jim Brisco at 234-2364.

March 3 is the date of the Science Fair and Open House at the Sheridan Elementary School. Barbecued brisket will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Cost per plate is $4 for adults and $3 for a child's plate. Earline Botard, chairman of the meal planning, is seeking donations and volunteers to help with the food preparation and serving.

April 4 promises to be a very busy day in Sheridan. A volleyball tournament will begin at 9 a.m. at Logan Park. Entrance fee per team is $40.

Beginning at 1 p.m., a horseshoe pitching contest is scheduled with the cost of entry $5 a person. Tee shirts will be awarded to first and second place teams in both tourneys. These two events are sponsored by the PTS organization and are the first ones ever to be held.

Also on April 4, the Sheridan Little League will hold their annual dinner. Tickets will be available next week at the Sheridan Food Market and from the coaches. Prices are set at $5 a plate and will contain half a chicken, beans, potatoes and dessert.

In order to prepare enough barbecue, tickets cannot be purchased the day of the dinner. Advance sale tickets can be purchased until April 3. Donations of cash or food will be greatly appreciated.

Farm bureau makes committe appointments

Colorado County Farm Bureau has announced committee appointments for 1992.

Al Mahalitc is in charge of membership and feed grains. Theo Schultz will handle national affairs and public relations. Leon Hattermann is to handle state affairs.

Young farmer and rancher chairman is Perry Kloesel, who will also oversee ag in the classroom. Billy Hefner will head policy development, wildlife and economics service. Max Dittmar will chair the beef committee; Ted Brandt, pecans; John Adkins, rice; and Gayle Thomas, hay and forage.

President Russell Trefny, Vice President Perry Kloesel and State Affairs Chairman Leon Hattermann attended the District XI Program Kick-Off, Feb. 6.

They represented the Colorado County Farm Bureau at the meeting at the Lions International Building in Waller. The meeting was to discuss the plan of work for the coming year.

Trefny and Dittmas also attended a leadership conference in Waco, Jan. 26-28.

County presidents and chairmen were invited to the conference on priority issues for 1992.

Colorado County senior citizens to be surveyed

The Colorado County Senior Citizens Program, in cooperation with the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Area Agency on Aging and the Training Consortium, will participate in a survey to determine the needs of the elderly population in Colorado County. This county is one of 12 taking part in the survey.

Results of the survey will determine the kinds of services to be purchased with federal funding available for the 12 county area through H-GAC's Area Agency on Aging.

Volunteers are currently being recruited by the Colorado County Senior Citizens Program to assist with the survey which began in January.

Those interested in volunteering may contact Caroline Osborne, chief coordinator of the county program at 409-532-5617.

Children's food program needs help

The Texas Department of Human Services (DHS) is seeking interested organizations to sponsor the Summer Food Service Program next summer.

The program provides meals to children from needy areas when schools are closed for summer vacation. Federally funded through appropriations from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the program is offered without discrimination of the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, handicap or political beliefs.

Service institutions eligible to sponsor the program include public or private, non-profit schools, organizations, residential summer camps and local, municipal or county governments. Interested organizations should contact DHS by Feb. 28 for more information. Applications must be received by April 15, 1992.

Service institutions may subcontract with food service management companies to provide meals. To be eligible to bid for contracts for the Summer Food Service Program, food service management companies must be registered with DHS.

Applications will be mailed to companies that were registered in 1990 and 1991.

Other food service management companies may request applications by calling Norma Robinson at 512-450-3141 or writing DHS, Special Nutrition Services W-313, P.O. Box 149030, Austin, TX 78714-9030, attention Jackie Allen. Applications for registration must be received by March 15.

Defer pastures for turkey hen nesting

Wild turkey hens begin nesting in March. Since the nesting season peaks in April and extends through May, deferring pastures from grazing that have good nesting habitat from March to early June greatly benefits turkey production.

Tall and medium height bunch grass in stream bottoms and along creeks provide excellent nesting habitats. The vegetation provides nesting materials and concealment from predators. Hens need drinking water daily, as will their poults soon after hatching.

Hens may also nest in upland pastures when the vegetation is right and drinking water is available.

Nesting hens can be disturbed by domestic livestock and humans. Grazing may reduce the height and density of nesting cover. Disturbances by livestock, people, dogs and vehicles may cause hens to abandon their nests. Total pastures deferment during the nesting season will increase the number and success of nests, so there will be more poults in June.

For more information about grassland management for wildlife, contact personnel at any local office of the Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

SCS conservationists give technical assistance to landowners and operators through soil and water conservation districts which are governed by elected landowners. Information about wildlife habitat can also be obtained from game wardens and county extension agents.

All programs of the Department of Agriculture are available to anyone without regard to race, color, sex, age, handicap, or national origin.

'92 tax rates good news for employers

The 1992 employer tax rates were announced by the Texas Employment Commission recently. The maximum rate that will apply to any Texas company is 6.30%. This is up slightly from last year's 6.27% maximum rate. The minimum rate will be 0.30% also up from last year's 0.27%.

Texas employers will again enjoy a credit "bonus" in 1992 according to Commissioner Mary Scott Nabers. "We had a problem explaining this credit bonus last year," she said. As the law is written, it calls for the agency to grant credits to employers in certain instances. When a credit is given, it goes only to active regular taxed employers in Texas.

Nabers explained that the credit would automatically be applied to each employer's account and it would be four percent of the amount paid in taxes last year. She also pointed out that only accounts that are current on all payments are eligible to receive the credit. "There is no such thing as a refund," Nabers said. "This is simply a reduction in what will be owed to the state in 1992."

Texas employers should be receiving their individual tax rate notices in the next few weeks.

Nabers is the Texas Employment Commissioner that represents all Texas employers. TEC is the state's official employment agency serving both employers and employees.

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Heredity can be defined as the traits that a disobedient child gets from the other parent.
— *Laurence Peter*

SPORTS

Lady Raiders on the way to state

The Lady Raiders are ready to take the next step toward their goal of the state championship in basketball. The first step for them was winning district. Next will be the Bi-district playoff this weekend. They will play Elgin at 7:30 p.m. in Giddings on Friday, Feb. 21.

As of Tuesday night, Athletic Director Mark Johnson said the game will be held at the Giddings High School. Tickets will be $3 for adults and $2 for students.

When the girls from Rice win that game, their third step will be the area playoffs Feb. 24 and 25, then on to the regional eliminations tournament at Blinn College beginning Feb. 29. The winners at that point will enter the state tournament. It's a long road but the Lady Raiders are looking forward to the challenge.

Leading the Rice varsity girls in their journey to Austin are five seniors: Bonnie Benge, Shanna Brunner, Melissa Guthmann, Kori Klein and Rebecca Korenek.

The remainder of the district championship team are Jill Janish, Nekesha Tillman, April McMillian, Christy Smith, Kaci Klein, Christal Lockett, Annette McTear, Meredith Anderson, Sheryl Blount and Janet Sattiewhite.

The team played a warm up game Tuesday night in preparation for the weekend.

Bonnie Kristen Benge, daughter of Major and Sandra Benge, is a native of Eagle Lake. She is a scholar and athlete who plans to go into the medical field or coaching. She remembers winning bi-district as a freshman and looks forward to doing it again and then going all the way to state. Bonnie enjoys reading, jogging, country music and pizza.

Shanna Kay Brunner, daughter of William and Diana Brunner, was born in Wharton. Shanna wants to be a teacher and hopes to attend Southwest Texas. She said, "During our district season, we worked hard and were determined to be number one in the district. In the end, it all paid off." She has been named as honorable mention to the all district team. Shanna enjoys shopping, swimming, rock music and shrimp.

Melissa Ann Guthmann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Guthmann, is originally from Bellville. She hopes to become a vet. Melissa's favorite memory is making a three point shot at the buzzer in a game against Columbus. She has enjoyed the challenge and success of the district season. She feels the experience has taught her to want more than just district. Melissa looks forward to winning the next step in basketball and her graduation from Rice. She plays softball, enjoys country music, and cheers for Michael Jordan.

Kori Lynn Klein, daughter of Randall and Janelle Klein, was born in Michigan. She is looking forward to going to college to become a physical therapist. The paybacks for all the hard work she and the rest of the team have put in at practice will be their wins on the way to state. Kori enjoys sports, riding horses and being with her family and friends. She cheers for Isaiah Thomas, likes both country and rock music and loves to eat seafood. She hopes to work in Austin while going to college.

Rebecca Lynn Korenek, daughter of Clement and Grace Korenek, was from El Campo. She not only excels in basketball but also plays piano and enjoys computers. She hopes to become a physical therapist, but her first goal is to work and buy her first car. Rebecca likes steak and country music.

Games This Week!

Fri., Feb. 21 .... Rice Baseball scrimmage vs. Needville, Here, 5:30 p.m.
Lady Raiders Varsity Basketball vs. Elgin, Bi-District, at Giddings High School, 7:30 p.m.
Tueday, Feb. 25 ..... Rice Baseball at Schulenburg, 5 & 7 p.m.
Lady Raiders Varsity Basketball, Area Playoff Game, if applicable

Rice JV lets Columbus slip by with 2-point win

The Rice JV basketball team went to Columbus Friday, Feb. 7. They left the victory behind when they came home, sustaining a loss of 53-51. The evening was one of catch up after the first quarter and the Raiders never quite made it.

Brad Gohlke led the Raider effort scoring 16 points. This puts them at 4-3 for the district and 15-8 for the season record.

SCORING BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	Total
Rice	9	8	16	18	51
Columbus	8	15	13	17	53

Freshmen drop games to Falcons and La Grange

The Rice Raider freshmen lost 49-40 to the Brookshire Royal Falcons last week. It was a close game, but the Raiders could not contain Gallider, who made 31 points for the Falcons.

Charyan Thomas missed the game because of an injury. Tim Jones and David Godley both fouled out in the second half. Godley scored 24 points while B.J. Dupré added 12.

The Raider freshmen are now 4-4 in district play and 6-15 over the season.

SCORING BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	Total
Rice	8	14	8	10	40
Royal	9	14	14	12	49

The Rice freshmen Raiders took a 41-39 loss from visiting La Grange on Friday, Feb. 14.

David Godley led the Raider scoring with 12 points. The Rice team trailed throughout the game. They cut it close at the end but the Leopards proved too much.

La Grange is 6-3 in district and will be district champs with a victory over Brookshire Royal.

The young Raiders are 4-5 in district play and can move to 5 even with a win over Bellville, Feb. 18. Overall season record for the Rice freshmen is 6 wins, 16 losses.

SCORING BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	Total
Rice	8	8	8	15	39
La Grange	9	14	8	10	41

Additional Sports... Page 11

Garwood girls basketball team

The Garwood Junior High School Lady Raider basketball team for the1991-92 season are shown here. Kneeling from the left are Jennifer Krenek, Rachelle Kallina and Carrie Engstrom. Standing are Kellie Birmingham, Crystal Atkins, Naketra Johnson, Valerie Johnson and Kristen Stienke. The girls appreciate the high school coaching staff for all their help this season.

Garwood School Photo

Garwood seventh grade team

Pictured is the Garwood Junior High School seventh grade boys basketball team for 1991-91. From the left are Coach Greg Carrera, Audery Carter, Shaun Johnson, Neal Mahalitc, Albert Juarez, Bryan Rees, Cody Cerny and Chad Fucik.

Garwood School Photo

Garwood eighth grade Raiders

Pictured is the Garwood Junior High School eighth grade boys basketball team for 1991-92. Kneeling from left to right are Chris Smidovec, Jason Casarez, Anthony Daniels, Kenneth Cavit and Billy Ray Johnson. Standing are Coach Greg Carrera, Doug Wied, Marquis Sewell, Jeremy Stevens, Clint Krenek, Larry Henderson Jr. and James Eaton.

Garwood School Photo

Raider Varsity trample Brookshire, La Grange

The Rice varsity boys beat Brookshire Royal Tuesday night, Feb. 11, 62-55.

The young men played another great game against the Brookshire varsity with great pride, determination and poise according to Coach Reynolds.

The Raider varsity defense was strong against the Royal post players and it kept them off guard almost the entire game.

The top pointmakers for the Raiders were Adrian Farrow with 19, Raymond Ford with 16 and Eddie Fields with 12. Fields also led the rebounding with 15 and 10 blocked shots.

Other Raiders helping build the winning total were Darian Barrow with 7, Matt McGaughey witrh 4 and Ernest Sims and Brandon Cunningham with 2 each.

SCORING BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	Total
Rice	10	15	20	17	62
Royal	13	10	11	21	55

The large number of fans who showed up to support the Raiders, Feb. 14, were treated to another outstanding and exciting game by the Rice Raider varsity team. They beat their opponent, La Grange 78 to 64 in a strong show of skill.

Top scorer for the young men from Rice was Brandon Cunningham with 28 points and 10 rebounds. He was helped by Adrian Farrow with 18 points and 11 rebounds, Raymond Ford with 16 and Eddie Fields with 12 and 16 rebounds.

Also adding points to the scoreboard were Matt McGaughey, 2, Ernest Sims and Kerry Sims, 1 each.

With the win, the Raiders pull into a tie with La Grange for second place. They will go for a playoff berth Tuesday when they travel to Bellville. La Grange and Brookshire play Tuesday, also. A Raider win will put them into the playoffs.

SCORING BY QUARTERS

	1	2	3	4	Total
Rice	20	22	20	16	78
La Grange	16	14	11	23	64

Parks & Wildlife proposed rules change hearing set for March 5

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department had finalized the public hearing schedule for the 1992 proposed hunting and fishing regulation changes.

The hearing for Colorado County will be March 5 in the County Courthouse in Columbus. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

This year's hearings have been moved up six weeks earlier than past years to give the public an earlier chance to comment. It will allow the TPWD time to add last minute changes. This will provide the opportunity for more hearings if necessary before the commission makes final decisions the third week of May.

Each public hearing will feature presentations by department personnel who will explain what regulation changes are proposed and why.

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STRESS AND TMJ SYNDROME

The temporomandibular joint (which controls the opening and closing of the jaw) is associated with a multitude of problems, some physical, some emotional and some a combination of both.

The most common problem is called temporomandibular joint dysfunction syndrome (TMJ syndrome), or myofascial pain dysfunction syndrome. The most characteristic features of TMJ syndrome are pain, and perhaps swelling of the jaw joints. There may be painful muscle spasms, clicking and grinding sounds of the joints. Frequently, there is an improper bite or malocclusion.

Often, the problem has an emotional component to it. Those patients who are under increased emotional stress seem to be more prone to temporomandibular joint problems. In many cases, the symptoms greatly improve as the emotional stress decreases. In the meantime, measures have to be taken to relieve the pain and limitations imposed by TMJ syndrome.

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