

# SWCD presents awards at annual banquet

The Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District #333 annual awards banquet was held on Thursday, March 28, at the Veterans Memorial Center in Columbus.

The dinner started promptly at 6:30 p.m. with the invocation given by Rev. Larry Bailey of the United Methodist Church of Eagle Lake.

After a delicious dinner, catered by Fishbeck's Barbecue of Weimar, the awards were presented.

Weimar, which included St. Michael's School, walked away with most of the awards. They had a total of 17. Columbus schools, including St. Anthony, came in second with 15 awards. And Rice Consolidated, including St. Mary's of Nada, was third, with three awards.



Coloring

Back row, presenting the awards was Geraldine Streckfuss of the First State Bank of Columbus, April Pagel, Scott Janecka, Mindy Moulder, and Eric Guthrie; front row, Jennifer Richardson, Dana Krenke, Ashleigh Adams. Not pictured are Judy Reyna and Dennis Blyer.



Poster

Back row, presenting the awards was Donald Hyeck of Fayette Savings Association, Katie Barta, Adam Rhodes; front row, Jenna Kubesch and Brandon Applegate.

**Eagle Lake Pilot Club's Annual Chicken Spaghetti Supper**  
and Silent Auction  
(May view & bid on auction items 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.)  
**Tuesday, April 23**  
Eagle Lake Community Center  
Serving 5 to 7 p.m. \$5 per plate

**Guess Who's Turning The BIG FOUR - 0**  
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Walter Thomas, M.D.  
Julio Arebalo, M.D.    Howard Schreiber, M.D.

**ENT: Charles Stiernberg, M.D.**

## Essay (prose)

Elementary winners, front row, from left, David Peletz, Margaret Mattingly, Brandi Heger and Lacey Kotzla. In back are presenter Case Holthub of Flatonia State Bank, Weimar and junior high winners Amber Bettis, Theresa Vorsand, Julie Sodalak, and Beth Grohmann tied for third, and Andy Glueck and Joe Reck of CPL.



## Essay (poetry)

Elementary winners: in front, Eric Bacus, Adam Rhodes, Kristy Baron and Jenna Kubesch; back row, junior high winners: Josie Bennett, Nichole Janecka, Jenna Hoffmann and Andy Glueck, and high school winner, Holly Wick. Back row: Donna Ross, teacher; Mark Frederick of Coastal Banc in Columbus and Daniel Ulrich of Hill Bank & Trust presenting the awards. Not pictured are Candace Loessin who placed third in elementary; Hector Garza, Matt Daley and Chris McClanahan who placed in the high school division.



## Conservation minister, absentee rancher

Pictured from left are Travis Wegenhoff who presented the award to Rev. Larry Bailey of the First United Methodist Church of Eagle Lake; and accepting the award from Roy Stallman for Walter and Caroline Franz; conservation absentee rancher were Claudine and Dwayne Franz.



## Conservation rancher, homemaker

From left are Ewald Friedrich who presented the award, George and Dolly Fojtik, resident conservation ranchers; and conservation homemakers Ann Stallman and Mildred Schultz with Barbara Jahn presenter.



## Conservation media, business

Pictured from left are James Helfrich, Lanelle and Ted Shaw of KULM Radio; and Bernard, Kenneth and Maedelle Janik, owners of B&K Dozer Service, with Candy Christen who presented the award to the Janiks.

**Foot Facts**

By Dr. Eric R. Tepper, Podiatrist  
ULTRASOUND: ULTRA HELPFUL

Have a pain in your foot? One of the tests your podiatrist may recommend is an ultrasound scan. One of the "new" tools for diagnosing foot problems, ultrasound is perhaps best known as a technique for monitoring pregnancies and fetal development. It works by passing ultra-high sound waves painlessly and harmlessly through the body, where they bounce back to create a picture on a monitor. When applied to foot care, ultrasound can be especially helpful in identifying foreign objects imbedded in tissue. Another possible application is helping diagnose neuromas or pinched nerves, which can mimic other problems and be tricky to discover. Some types of bone fractures are also best detected via ultrasound.

We only have one pair of feet and they must take us wherever we want to go. Treat yours to the professional care they deserve. From sophisticated testing techniques, to customized treatment plans, you'll find compassionate, personal care here with the foot care specialists. Located at Rice District Community Hospital, we offer complete family foot care for a full range of problems and conditions. Call 234-5571. I am there every Tuesday.

P.S. Unlike an X-ray, ultrasound does not involve exposure to radiation.

## Conservation teacher, special award

Conservation teacher honors went to Reed Herrington; George Cason received the special recognition award from NACD. Pictured from left are Cason, Herrington and Daniel Ulrich of Hill Bank & Trust in Weimar presenting the award.

## TCF awards grant to Colorado County

The Texas Department of Commerce Texas Capital Fund (TCF) awarded Colorado County an infrastructure grant of \$170,938 to support the expansion of Hanover Compressor Company.

Hanover provides natural gas compression equipment on a rental basis and provides maintenance/ refurbishment of customer-owned compressor units, as well as compressor parts sales to third parties.

The TCF grant will be used specifically for the construction of a two-inch gas pipeline approximately 1.5 miles long. The project is expected to create about 41 jobs for the Colorado County area.

The Texas Department of Commerce is working in partnership with local communities to retain and assist the business we have in Texas, as well as encourage expansions and relocations," said Commerce Executive Director Brenda F. Arnett.

The Texas Capital Fund, which is part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Program, promotes economic development in rural areas by providing financial incentives to cities and counties with a population less than 50,000 and 200,000 respectively.

These financial incentives support the relocation or expansion of business into the communities to create new, permanent jobs and/or retain existing jobs, primarily for low and moderate income persons. The TCF is administered by the Texas Department of Commerce.

Where and for whom is the next order of business.

The good men of the Eagle Lake Lions Club have volunteered a crew to do some of the construction and challenge the rest of the county to do the same.

"CCHFH brings communities together like nothing else," says Chapter president, Gay. "Churches, clubs and businesses can volunteer a crew for a day or a weekend and change the lives of God's people in need."

We are proud to announce that the Eagle Lake United Methodist Church (ELUMC) has become the first covenant church with CCHFH in Colorado County.

In Feb., ELUMC voted to become a covenant church with CCHFH. Members of a covenant church make a commitment to provide payer, volunteer and financial support for the work of Habitat. Each congregation deter-

mines its own commitment based on members interest, gifts and talents.

Each church makes an annual written covenant with a local affiliate. The covenant is a faith commitment similar to an individual's pledge to the church. Rev. Larry Bailey is pastor of Eagle Lake United Methodist Church.

The confirmation class of ELUMC distributed Habitat Bunkos to all church members present at the March 3 Sunday service. They asked that all members put their extra change in the banks on a monthly basis. The banks will then be brought to the church on the first Sunday of each month and the confirmation class will be responsible for collecting the money and delivering it to CCHFH.

As a covenant church, its mission goal is to support CCHFH with its time and money. We at CCHFH express our appreciation to ELUMC for its generous support. The church has pledged \$250 to CCHFH which will be paid as soon as CCHFH receives its affiliation.

If your group is interested, they can contact CCHFH at 409-732-5369, Mrs. Rosemary Lewis, 8 to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**MILITARY NEWS**

**Army Pvt. Norris Cavit Jr.**

...son of Jerline Binkley of Garwood, has graduated from the cargo specialist course at Fort Eustis, Newport News, Va.

During the course, students received instructions in terminal operations safety, rigging and stowage of cargo, winch operations, and the loading, securing and discharging of cargo and heavy lifts.

Cavit is a 1995 graduate of Rice High School.

**Marine 1st Lt. Keith C. Korenek**

...son of John and Virginia Korenek of Garwood, was recently designated a Naval Aviator.

Korenek was presented with the coveted "Wings of Gold" which marked the culmination of months of flight training with Marine Aviation Training Support Group, Naval Technical Training Center, Cory Station, Pensacola, Fla.

Training curriculum included basic studies in engineering and navigation, training flights in simulators, aircraft familiarizations, basic and advanced instrument training, extended navigation flights, and landings and takeoffs aboard an aircraft carrier.

The 1988 graduate of Rice High School joined the Marine Corps in May 1993. Korenek is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a BS degree.

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John D. Huff, M.D.  
Diane Prather Walters, O.D.

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# County prairie: a fragile ecosystem

Two hundred years ago, according to Rollin H. Baker, a speaker at the recent Eagle Lake Attwater's Prairie Chickens Festival, grasslands dominated in the Eagle Lake area.

Woody vegetation was mostly confined to narrow flood plains along the Colorado and San Bernard Rivers and other water ways.

In addition, live oaks and associated trees and shrubs were sometimes found in isolated mottes on the prairie chiefly in moist or poorly-drained areas.

After settlement, however, much of the native prairie was cleared for agriculture. The remainder became pasture with fires ultimately discouraged.

Today it is mostly covered with chaparral.

In fact, Baker warned that, unless concerted efforts are made to keep pasture land clear, in the next 50 years most of it will become brush and forest land.

Yes, Baker, concluded, in past ages fires nurtured our gorgeous prairies so that the "sea of grass" between fires could wave beautifully in the wind, as early travelers attested. Fires, certainly a dreaded enemy of our modern way of life, can now no longer play its role as prairie-keeper.

Who knows for sure, but maybe it was actually unregulated fires in the old days that was a major support for the life style of the now-passing Attwater's prairie chicken?

Finally, Baker urged that sizeable tracts of least-disturbed prairie habitat be set aside for posterity.

Whether fires were the result of lightning strikes, spontaneous combustion, or purposely set by native Americans or later by settlers as, for example, game-driving schemes, these ravaging events kept the prairies open, grassy and forest-free.

Fires did little harm to the prairie grasses and weeds themselves but obliterated woody shrubs and trees except where moisture barred the flames. Because of such deterrents as rains and heavy dew, Baker reported, fires would only burn patches in a given area, leaving plenty of unburned grassy cover to harbor Attwater's prairie chickens, black-tailed jack rabbits, and other prairie-adapted species.

Baker points out that in 1938-1939, when he was working in Colorado County as a wildlife biologist, most of the County along the SAAP

Although prominent our local prairie was (and is), according to Baker, a fragile and unstable biotic community-retaining its identity through time, believe it or not, primarily by frequent fires.

Whether fires were the result of lightning strikes, spontaneous combustion, or purposely set by native Americans or later by settlers as, for example, game-driving schemes, these ravaging events kept the prairies open, grassy and forest-free.

Both of these defendants attacked the credibility of the officers and the radar machines themselves.

In Dungen's court, Miria Valadez was found guilty in a bench trial by the judge.

County Sheriff's Deputy Craig Reizwan testified that Valadez had been driving 81 mph in a 70 mph zone. Valadez represented herself and questioned the reliability of the radar.

In the jury trial, Quentin Williams represented himself and was found guilty of driving without headlights when required.

The jury found Williams guilty, but did not impose a fine. He paid costs. The verdict results in a criminal conviction.

## JP courts hold jury trials

The County Courtroom was a buzz with activity on Friday, March 1, as jury trials were held in two justice of the peace courts at one time.

The full day of activity resulted in seven guilty pleas, one bench trial and three jury trials, all of which ended in convictions.

Department of Public Safety Trooper Samuel Trammel testified for the state. Thomas was found guilty and given a fine and costs.

## Cen-Tex

Continued from Page 3

increases in household size, and unemployment to Cen-Tex Family Services Inc. These changes may qualify children for reduced-price meals or for free meals if the household's income falls to or below the levels given.

AFDC/Food Stamp households must report termination of benefits. Some foster children are also eligible for free or reduced-price meals. The information that households provide is confidential and will be used to determine eligibility and verify data.

It is a common observation that any fool can get money; but they are not wise that think so." — C.C. Colton

## Moore reports Feb. numbers

If you receive notice to appear in the County Court of Colorado County and do not appear, a warrant will be issued for your arrest. The fact was never made clearer than in the month of Feb.

County Attorney John Julian Moore made that observation from his report of activity in the County criminal court issued for the month of Feb.

The County Attorney requested warrants for the arrest of 53 individuals for failure to appear in court and an additional 20 individuals were ordered arrested and held without bond for violations for their terms of court ordered probation.

Criminal arraignments were held on Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27. A total of 23 cases were disposed of, with 11 persons receiving probation. The court assessed \$10,700 in fines on the recommendation of the County Attorney.

In addition, Assistant County Attorney Joe Fling filed 40 new criminal cases with the County Clerk during Feb. Almost half of the cases (16) were driving while intoxicated and driving while license suspended.

Fling reports that the method of docketing cases instituted in Nov. of last year has significantly increased the number of individuals processed through the court system, while at the same time cutting down the time between arrest and trial.

In juvenile court, a 16-year-old Weimar boy was sentenced to the Texas Youth Commission (TYC) on Feb. 27 by County Judge Vince Sioninski upon a plea of true to a petition alleging sexual assault.

Did you know? That all boats on public waters are required to have a life preserver on board.

Department of Public Safety Trooper Samuel Trammel testified for the state. Thomas was found guilty and given a fine and costs.

## Summary Feb.

Month	cases filed	cases disposed	fines assessed	
This month	296	29	23	\$10,600
Previous month	196	30	22	\$14,650
Same month last year	295	19	3	\$2,000

## COLUMBUS LIVESTOCK AUCTION REPORT

Columbus Livestock Auction Inc. Sale Every Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

We will be on the air at KULM, Columbus, Wednesday from 6:30 to 6:45 a.m. and Thursday, live at ring side from 2:05 to 2:20 p.m.

If you can help you with marketing your livestock, please call George Hagan or Art Moeller at 409-732-2622 or 1-800-944-2622.

If you need a truck or trailer or man to work your cattle, we're as near as your telephone.

Out of town, call collect; your calls are welcome. Try us on your next shipment.

Call George Hagan, residence 409-732-2553, Art Moeller, 409-732-2934, Roy Burger, 409-865-5042 or Kenneth Brune, 409-732-5815.

\*We are at your service 24 hours a day, seven days a week," says George, Art, Ken, Roy, Max and Charley. "We appreciate your business."

Market Report for April 4, 1996

Animals on hand: 1191.

Packer cows: higher dressing utility and cutter cows, 30-34¢ per lb.; lower dressing utility and cutter cows, 24-30¢; light weight canner cows, 20-24¢.

Packer bulls: heavy weight bulls, 41-44¢; utility & cutter bulls, 38-41¢; light weight canner bulls, 36-40¢.

Stocker/Feeder Calves/Yearlings

Steers #1: 150-200 lbs., 47-52¢; 200-250, 62-78¢; 250-300, 59-70¢; 300-350, 55-67¢; 350-400, 54-66¢; 400-450, 52-62¢; 450-500, 52-62¢.

Heifers #1: 150-200, 45-50¢; 200-250, 52-69¢; 250-300, 42-55¢; 300-350, 41-57¢; 350-400, 46-58¢; 400-450, 45-57¢; 450-500, 42-55¢; 500-550, 44-57¢; 550-600, 38-47¢.

Stocker cows: good stocker cows & heifers, 40-45¢ per lb.; medium stocker cows & heifers, 38-40¢ per lb.; good cow & calf pairs, \$450-500 pair; medium cow & calf pairs, \$350-450 pr.; common cow & calf pairs, \$250-350 pair.

Have a nice day, say George, Art, Roy, Ken, Max & Charley

**SPORTS**

**This Week's Action!**

Friday, April 12 ..... District track meet, Edna  
Tuesday, April 16 ..... Raider Baseball at Sealy\*, 7 p.m.  
Friday, April 19 ..... Raider Baseball vs. Bellville\*, Here, 7 p.m.  
\*District competition

**Little League action begins Saturday in Eagle Lake**

The Eagle Lake Little League Opening Day ceremonies will be held Saturday, April 13, at 6 p.m. Games will begin at 9:30 a.m. that morning.

The League's Annual BBQ will be Sunday, April 14, at Austin's BBQ & Catering, 507 E. Main.

You may purchase tickets from any little league player, at Laker Printing & Trophies or Johnny's Sport Shop, or at Austin's the day of the event. Serving will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at \$5 per plate, to go only.

Also, work nights will be held on Thursday and Friday, April 11 and 12, at 6 p.m. each night. There's still lots of work to be done before Saturday.

Game schedule; Saturday, April 13, opening day

9 to 10:30 a.m. .... Red Sox vs Angels  
10:45 to 11:45 a.m. .... Red Hots vs Sharks  
12 noon to 1 p.m. .... Raiders vs Tigers  
1:15 to 2:30 p.m. .... Braves vs Astros  
2:45 to 4 p.m. .... Sheridan Minor Boys vs Da Boys  
4:15 to 5:45 p.m. .... Rockies vs Rangers  
6 p.m. .... Opening Day Ceremonies

**Senior men's golf tournament**

Five years ago, the Senior golfers at the Frisch Aul Valley Country Club, tired of trying to compete with the young "flat bellies" in golf tournaments, launched their own Senior Men's Tournament. The 5th Annual Invitational Senior Men's Event will be held this Friday, April 12.

Senior golfers from all over this area are invited to participate in the fun, food, fellowship and door prizes. Tee off at 9 a.m. There will be four flights, with each golfer competing in his own age group, flights from 55-75+. This is a handicap event.

The entry fee, \$25, includes coffee and donuts, lunch at the famous Frisch Aul! Salad Bar and Buffet, and a free practice round on Thursday, April 11. Private golf carts will be permitted, with a limited number of rental carts available by reservation. For more information call Margaret Burton at 409-968-3965.

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