



LCRA donates computers

The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) recently presented computers to the Sheridan Memorial Library and Rice CISD. These surplus computers were no longer compatible with LCRA's network and will be used at the library and schools to help communicate educational materials relating to the environment, energy and conservation. Pictured above are Zelda Walker, Library Board Chairman, Marian Balke, LCRA Region 4 Representative, Dr. Richard Gott, Superintendent Rice CISD, Lillian Gohlke (seated), Director of the Sheridan Library and Jack Vawter, President of Rice CISD Board.

LCRA Photo

Barten graduates from Bellville

Patrick Barten, son of Patricia Barten of Sealy and Daniel Cardenas Sr. of Columbus, graduated from Bellville High School Saturday, May 31.

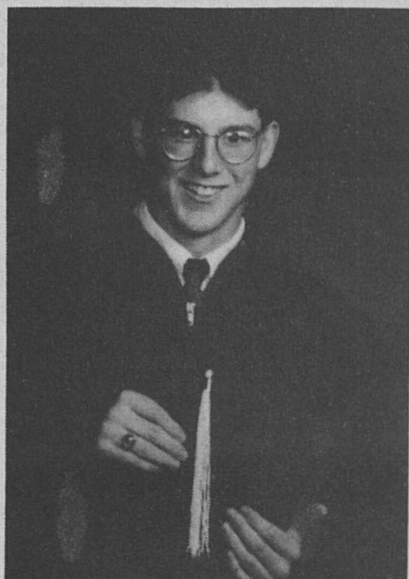
Commencement exercises began at 8 p.m. at the Bellville High School Stadium with special guest speaker of the evening, Gov. George W. Bush.

Patrick was among more than 100 graduates to receive their diplomas that evening.

In two weeks, he will be joining the Army.

He is the first-born grandson of Atilano and Lydia Cardenas Jr. of Eagle Lake. So, you know they're proud grandparents.

The family wishes Patrick the best of luck with his future plans!



SHERIDAN LIBRARY NEWS

Beginning Wednesday, June 11, the library's summer reading program will be underway.

Youngsters, ages kindergarten through sixth grade, are invited to spend an hour each week from 2:30 to 3:30 at the Sheridan Memorial Library enjoying "the Incredible Dream Machine".

The program will focus on imagination and fantasy through the work of books. The summer program is designed to encourage recreational reading while enhancing children's appreciation of the world around them.

This program is sponsored by the Sheridan PTS and Texas State Library. By attending this weekly program, youngsters will have a chance to read some new books, earn prizes and enjoy some interesting activities lead by Beverly Houser. This seven-week program begins ends July 23.

*Friends of the Library, a support group, continues to grow. Members now number 57. Membership is \$5. New members include Martha Polach, (See Sheridan, Page 10)

Monument Hill DRT attends 106th convention

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT), met at the Sheraton Park Central Hotel in Dallas May 15, 16 and 17 for their 106th Annual Convention.

The DRT is a statewide group of women who are direct descendants of men and women who came to Texas before and during the time when Texas was a republic.

They, along with their affiliated organizations, the Sons of the Republic of Texas (SRT) and Children of the Republic of Texas (CRT), strive to keep alive the pioneer spirit of their ancestors who braved the hostile environment to make a home in this new land.

These early settlers were a vigorous and courageous people who were tested by privation, sacrifice and loneliness.

In 1836, the year Texas became a republic, only 90,000 persons lived in the entire area.

Neighbors lived far apart and Indians were a constant threat.

Many immigrants did not reach their destination because of hardship and disease. Malaria was a severe problem during the warm months.

In the Fietsam family, five brothers landed at Galveston and four died before they reached New Braunfels.

The fifth brother was also severely ill with malaria, but was rescued and nursed back to health by a Captain Jones. Fietsam eventually settled in the La Grange area.

No wonder the descendants pay homage to these brave souls!

The DRT is more than a social organization. It serves as custodian of the Alamo in San Antonio, which was rescued from destruction and sale by Clara Driscoll of the DRT when she purchased the land and actually lived in the building for a time to make sure that it wasn't destroyed.

The Alamo was later given to the state, but the DRT retains management of the property.

Also, they maintain the French Legation in Austin, a historical complex that was once the home of the only foreign government to establish an embassy in the Republic of Texas.

The Cradle in Galveston, the place where DRT was originally organized, is maintained as a museum, as is the DRT Headquarters and Museum in Austin.

All of these historical places are open to the public and the Alamo has no admission fee.

Under the leadership of President General Mary Kathryn Spiller Briggs, almost 500 descendants of early Texas settlers came to celebrate and honor their ancestors who immigrated to Texas for the right to be free and inde-

pendent.

The theme of this year's convention was "Gone To Texas!"

As is usual with the DRT, each session began with a renewal of allegiance to the United States and Texas by repeating the pledges to the flags.

Banners representing the various chapters of the organization lined the walls of the convention hall, presenting a very colorful display.

The members thanked God and country for the great privilege of, not only living in, but being citizens of this great country, with rousing renditions of "The Star Spangled Banner" and "Texas Our Texas".

Friday's Bluebonnet Luncheon featured Frank Gibson of Austin whose presentation, "Early Texas History in Music", featured a variety of ethnic songs popular in bygone days.

Friday afternoon's business session was adjourned at 4 p.m. when a memorial service was held for daughters who had died during the past year.

The service included several selections by "The Alexanders", reading of the 23rd Psalm (The Lord's Prayer) and singing of "Faith of Our Fathers/Faith of our Mothers" and "Texas Our Texas".

During the Friday evening "Gone To Texas" Historical Dinner appropriate decorations graced the tables, centerpieces featuring replicas of covered wagons with banners displaying the words "Gone To Texas" sewn on each side were used.

Mr. Robert Heinonen of the Texas Living History Association, impersonating Stephen F. Austin, told of his friendly encounter and visit with Indians at Eagle Lake.

Outstanding seventh grade Texas History Contest Awards were presented to Barbara Davenport, District I's winner, and to Tarissa J. Thomas, District III's winner.

The Outstanding fourth grade Texas History Essay Award was presented to Lauren Swanner, District X's winner.

Winners read their essays during the dinner Friday evening.

Saturday's "Yellow Rose Luncheon" featured Dr. Gideon Lincecum, also known as Dr. Jerry Bryan Lincecum, District III's Silver Award of Merit winner for 1996.

Gold and Silver Awards were presented to authors of historical literature.

Janice Woods Windle, author of the television documentary, "True Women", was awarded both the Gold and Silver award. She was sponsored by the Paso del Norte Chapter, El Paso.

Membership awards for 25- and 50-year members were presented to those eligible and present; others will be mailed.

Chapter awards were presented during the Yellow Rose Luncheon. Monument Hill Chapter received the Texas History, President General's Membership, 1st Place Achievement and 1st Place Attendance awards, along with the appropriate ribbons to be placed on the chapter's banner.

Officers elected to serve for the next two years were: Bobbie "Tookie" Dempsey Walthall, Alamo Heroes Chapter, San Antonio, president general; Carolyn Calvin Marble, Monument Hill Chapter, La Grange, first vice-president general; Mary Macke Walker, David Crockett Chapter, Crockett, second vice-president general; Virginia Gregory Van Cleave, Alamo Mission Chapter, San Antonio, third

vice-president general;

Also, Mary Dodson Button, Charles S. Taylor Chapter, Dallas, fourth vice-president general; Helen Burleson Kelso, George Washington Stell Chapter, Paris, fifth vice-president general; Marie Streuer Offerman, Ferdinand Lindheimer Chapter, New Braunfels, chaplain general;

Also, Gytha Rusk McNair, Franklin Hardin Chapter, Liberty, recording secretary general; Caroline Latham Ingram, Alamo Heroes Chapter, San Antonio, corresponding secretary general; Elizabeth Jenkins, Mary Hall Mantooth Chapter, Lufkin, treasurer general;

Also, Nicki Sullivan Phillips, Fort Brown Chapter, Brownsville, registrar general; Nelma Toney Wilkinson, William B. Travis Chapter, Austin, custodian general; Elizabeth Black Satterfield, Solomon Bostick Chapter, Sherman, CRT registrar general; And, Jane Alexander Knapik, Caddell-Smith Chapter, Uvalde, historian general; and Mary Kathryn

Spiller Briggs is, of course, retiring president general and Dorothy Mae Wallace Albrecht of La Grange is our new District VIII representative.

Monument Hill Chapter members attending the convention were Carolyn Calvin Marble, MH registrar of Lincoln; Dorothy Wallace Albrecht, MH treasurer, La Grange; Bessie Fietsam Bean of San Antonio; Lillian Fietsam Stuesser, MH chaplain of Lytle; Betty Phillips Hill, MH CRT sponsor, of East Bernard; and Imogene Fietsam Williams, MH secretary, of San Antonio.

Mary Ann Gersch Kocurek, MH associate member of Houston, also attended on Saturday.

Monument Hill CRT members serving as pages and attending were: Barbara Kocurek, CRT first vice-president general; Mindi Thornton, CRT third vice-president general; Jim Thornton, CRT chaplain general; and Susan Hill.

The 107th meeting in 1998 will be held in Nacogdoches.



DRT President General Mary Kathryn Briggs presented Monument Hill Chapter of DRT award to Imogene Williams, MH president, 1995-97. Photos Courtesy of DRT



Monument Hill Chapter of DRT members followed the Historical Dinner, in front, from left, Dorothy Albrecht and Lillian Stuesser. In back, Carolyn Marble, Imogene Williams and Bessie Bean. Betty Hill also attended the convention but was not available for the photo.

ELMS Cinco de mayo, success

Once again, the Cinco de mayo program at Eagle Lake Middle School (ELMS) is over and was a success.

Mr. Antonio Garcia, of Eagle Lake Concrete, spoke to the students about the importance of education; that students should stay in school and get the best education possible.

He emphasized that they should not let obstacles block their path to more education and success.

Mr. Garcia said that his company

is providing a scholarship for qualifying students.

The teachers and staff would like to thank the parent volunteers who donated their time making decorations, correlating student dances and preparing a delicious Mexican style meal for both teachers and staff.

By having wonderful volunteers who give their support, help and love, the Cinco de mayo program will continue to be a success.



Locals finish dietetic training course

A couple of faces in this picture will seem familiar. They are recent graduates of Victoria College's Dietetic Service Supervision Training; a 115-hour program.

In the front, from left, are Angela McKinney, Cuero Community Hospital; Mary Banks and Virginia Cardenas, Polly Ryan Hospital; Dottie Buehring, Memorial Medical Center, Ft. Lavaca; and Shirley Ross, Care Inn of Ganado. In the middle are Odella Galvan, Heritage House, Eagle Lake; Gloria Jarmon, College Place, Schulenburg; Sharon Hernandez, Sea Breeze Nursing Home, Bay City; and Marie Sommerlatte, Rice Medical Center, Eagle Lake. In back, Kristen Smith, Schulenburg Regency; Dorothy Graves, Linwood Place, Victoria; Ellen Gano, Cuero Nursing Home Center; Debi Ramirez, Live Oak Nursing Home, George West; and Judy Elliott, R.D., course director.

Photo Courtesy of Odella Galvan

BE LESS PRODUCTIVE AT THE OFFICE.

The office has always been

a place to get ahead.

Unfortunately, it's

also a place where a

lot of natural

resources start

to fall behind. Take a look

around the next time you're at

work. See how many

lights are left on

when people

leave. See how

much paper

is being wasted. How much

electricity is being used to

run computers that are left

on. Look at how much

water is being wasted in the

restrooms. And how much

solid waste is being thrown

out in the trash cans.

We bet it's a lot. Now, here

are some simple ways you can

produce less waste at

work. When

you're at the copier,

only make the

copies you

need. Use both sides of the

paper when writing a memo.

Turn off your light when you

leave. Use a lower watt bulb

in your lamps. Drink your

coffee or tea

out of

mugs

instead of

throwaway

cups. Set up a

recycling bin for

aluminum cans

and one for bottles.

And when you're in

the bathroom

brushing your teeth or

washing your face, don't let the

faucet run. Remember, if we

use fewer resources today, we'll

save more for

tomorrow.

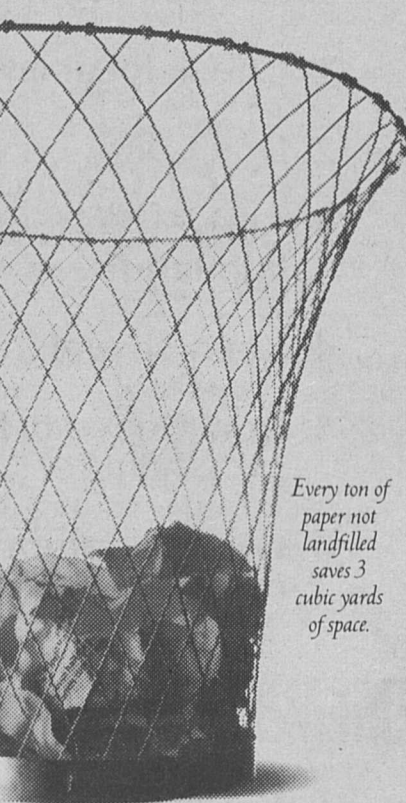
Which would

truly be a job

well done.

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