

Rep. Cook presents reading award at ELMS

Robby Cook presented awards to the top 20 participants in the Great Reading Race recently at Eagle Lake Middle School.

During the month of the reading race, students of ELMS earned just over 1700 AR (Accelerated Reading) points.

For those who don't know the value of a point, an average elementary book is worth a half to one whole point. The average junior high book is worth five points.

The students read the equivalent of 25 copies of *Gone With The Wind* or 3400 Dr. Seuss books!

Although the students were disappointed when they first learned that the governor's wife would not be making the presentation, Cook graciously stepped in to send our students the message that reading skills are a vital part of real life.

As an ex-student and notable success, Cook presents an outstanding model of what ELMS students can achieve. He emphasized how important reading is to his career, as well as to other careers with which the students could identify.

Rebecca Lopez received a plaque as top reader over-all.

Kelly Koneschek was top reader for the elementary and Jenny Hassin was top reader for the junior high.

Other outstanding readers were Stephanie Sommerlatte, Jessica Lopez, Shani Pena, Sandra Osornio, Maria Najera, Vera Cleveland, Sandra Rodriguez, Ashley Lopez, Damaris Zuniga, Hillary Aguilar, Jessica Thomas, Cleve Scott, Roycelyn Williams, Ashley Pavlicek, Yvonne Collins and Stevie Reynolds.

Additional notable readers were Richard Alcaral, Guillermo Lopez, La'Kerrica Hancock, Robert Salinas, Grecia Molina, John Torres, Amber Douglas, Samantha Alley, Nikolas Llanos, Omar Muro, Quentin Thomas, Jennifer Castillo, Kevin York, Angel Stricklan, Roger Toriz, Audra Marsalia, Sarah Foster, Ada Ruvalcaba, Jhavana Morgan, Julia Llanos, Melinda Cavazos, Corissa Mathis, Kayce Wilkerson, Odyssey Johnson, Hub Weller, Jerry Cleveland, Colt Lemons, Jacqueline Thomas, Monica Wilson, Lisa Luna, Cathy Fearing, Anthony Hemphill, Jeremy Hemphill, Stephanie Tillman, Robert Scott, Joe Perez, Jayfus Smith, Ashley Parker and Beatriz Posada.

Honorable mentions went to Brandon Sims, Melanie Ishee and Tina Zapata.



Pictured above is Rebecca Lopez with State Representative Robby Cook who presented her with a plaque for being top reader in the Great Reading Race at ELMS.

Youens explains CAD operation to TACC members

The March 24 meeting of the Taxpayers' Association of Colorado County (TACC) was one of their longest meetings ever, but no one seemed to get bored. One citizen did excuse himself and said he must leave because he had to be up by 3 a.m. the next morning, but he indicated he would like to stay longer and felt the meeting had been most informative!

The program for the evening was presented by Billy Youens, chief appraiser for the Colorado County Central Appraisal District. Youens started the meeting by giving some of the historical background of how appraisal values were arrived at prior to Senate Bill 621, that established the present system in 1980.

That legislation required that all taxrolls had to be updated by 1982. He said that at that time this County was still using property maps from 1956.

He expressed his belief that these changes to consolidate our many appraisal systems were spurred on by the tax reform movement in California with Proposition 13 in 1977 and 1978.

He told how locally many options were considered for the formation of the Appraisal Board and how the current system was selected. There was considerable discussion about term limits for appraisal board members.

It was also suggested that the Appraisal Board publish when their meetings will be held in the local papers so interested citizens might attend.

Mr. Youens stated that he would certainly take the suggestions that he received at the meeting back to his board members.

He spent much time going through the tax calendar and explaining in detail the process whereby citizens

may protest their appraised values.

He announced that because of changes made during the last legislative session, now citizens could even request that a hearing before the Appraisal Review Board be scheduled in the evening or on the weekend.

He explained the school systems works, whereby the school districts can be penalized by the State by withholding school funding, if the State determines that the appraised values for the district do not meet the limits set by the State.

He explained that this is the first time this has ever happened in Colorado County and if he could help it, it would not happen again. The two reasons he gave for this happening this year were the increased activity in the real estate and the oil and gas markets.

Also in the past, the local policy was to do re-evaluations every three years. With the increased market activity, we just got caught behind the curve this year. He said he plans to do annual re-evaluations in the future.

Youens passed out printed materials containing helpful information, that he said would be available for any taxpayer through his office.

He also said maps of individual properties would be available through his office at no charge to land owners.

He explained how taxpayers who are having difficulty paying their taxes could request to pay by installments or that taxes may be totally deferred by those over 65 and collected from their estate after their death.

Everyone present seemed appreciative of Mr. Youens' time and efforts and he expressed his appreciation to TACC for inviting him and for their interest and suggestions.

Citizens interested in more information about TACC may call Crockett Leyendecker at 409-732-3302; or Bob Raborn, 732-6483.



RMC personnel updates...

By Roxanne M. Walker

Judith "Judy" Brisco joined our staff at Rice Medical Center Aug. 21, 1972. Last year, Judy was presented a service award pin for completing 25 years of service with the Hospital.

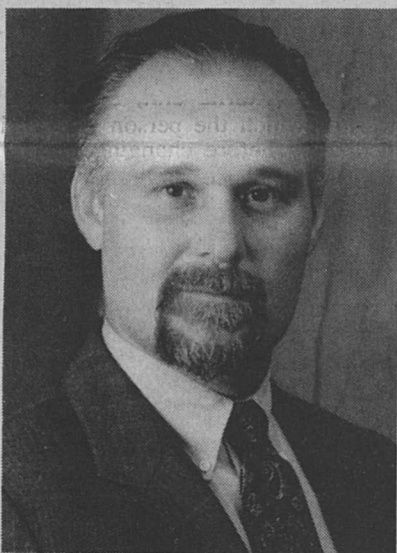
There is a little history that we would like to share with those of you who didn't know that not only was Judy born in Eagle Lake, but she was delivered in the same facility in which she now works, the Eagle Lake Medical Clinic, formerly known as The Laughlin Hospital.

Judy is recognized for her fine performance and continued commitment as a licensed vocational nurse, assisting Dr. Ravindra Kumar, M.D. and Mary Jan Hargraves, RN/MSN Family Nurse Practitioner-C and a lot of other specialty physicians that see patients at our clinic.

For many of the 25 years, she was dedicated to the hospital nursing staff and on many occasions she can still be found there, helping out on weekends and holidays and assisting with patient care.

In her spare time, you better believe she'll be enjoying it with her five-year-old pride and joy, her nephew, Casey "Starbuck".

It is with great pleasure we introduce Judy as a member of "Our family caring for yours."



Roberts named U.S. Rice CEO

The U. S. Rice Producers Association has named Dwight A. Roberts as the organization's new chief executive officer. Roberts, currently Executive Director for International Marketing and Development at the Texas Department of Agriculture in Austin, will be located in the Association's headquarters in Houston.

Council

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at the airport to reduce the fee by the same ratio that the runway was closed for construction;

•Approved a parade permit to the Parish of the Nativity for a walking procession on April 11;

•Approved a contract with Revitalize Eagle Lake Inc. for the City to take over operations of the swimming pool as of April 1; and

•Learned that the street improvements project should begin the week of April 1 with Clay and Davitt Streets the possible beginning targets.

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

DISTRICT COURT DISPOSITIONS
Jury trial of Desi David Rivera, March 23-24, ended in not guilty verdict. Rivera was charged with driving while intoxicated in Eagle Lake on 10-7-95. He was represented by Richard Manske.

Ruben Alex Molano, possession of a controlled substance, 7-19-96. Received four years deferred adjudication, \$1,000 fine, 400 hours community service and court costs.

Cecilia Anderson, burglary of a building, 2-11-97. Received five years deferred adjudication, \$500 fine, court costs, 240 hours community service.

CASES FILED

Chad Brune vs Lorretta Schuette f/n/a

Loretta Lynn Coufal; personal injury.
Progressive County Mutual Insurance Company vs Thousand Trails Inc. and National America Corporation; damages, fallen tree on motor home.

DIVORCES FILED

Maria Rosario Castellano and Victor Manuel Castellano; filed 3-25-98.

Sharon Besch Lowe and Clyde Stewart Lowe; 3-25-98.

Dorothy A. Wheat and Josiah R. Wheat III; 3-27-98.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATION

Donald Clifford Reaume Jr. and Tammy Lynn Gallagher; 3-30-98.

KLECKA'S

Phone 335-7322 or 335-6554

FOOD market

EAST BERNARD TEXAS

Store Hours: Mon.-Sat., 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sun., 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. 7 Day Specials Good Thursday, April 2, through Wed., April 8, 1998

We Reserve the Right to Limit Quantity & Correct Printing Errors

For Extra Savings... Check Our Shelves for "Best Buy" or "As Advertised" Signs

We Have Received A Lower Cost On These Items and Are Passing the Savings On To You!

*We Sell Money Orders & Postage Stamps *We Accept W.I.C. Cards & The Lone Star Card

*We Have The Texas Lotto

*We Have FAX Service (409-335-4390)

*Double Coupons: See Details in Store

Regular, Diet or Caffeine Free Mr. Pibb, Nestea, Surge, Sprite or Classic

COKE

12 Pk. Cans

2 / \$5

Pre-Priced \$1.59; Assorted Flavors Lay's

POTATO CHIPS

6 Oz. Bag

79¢

Kraft Dinners

MACARONI-N-CHEESE

7-1/2 Oz. Box

2 / \$1

Ranch Style

BEANS

15 Oz. Can

3 / \$1

Assorted Parade Frozen

PARTY PIZZAS

6-1/2 Oz.

59¢

Del Monte

TOMATO SAUCE

8 Oz. Can

5 / \$1

Del Monte Ripe & Sweet

CANTALOUPE

Each 88¢

Sold As Roasts Only; USDA Boneless Beef

CHUCK ROAST

Lb. \$1.19

Regular, Diet or Caffeine Free Sprite, Mr. Pibb, Bar's Root Beer, Surge, Fresca, Schweppes Ginger Ale, Minute Maid Flavors, Cherry Coke or

CLASSIC COKE

2 Liter Bottle 99¢

Regular or Light Beer

BUDWEISER

12 Pk. NR Bottles \$6.79

Regular or Light Beer

MILWAUKEE'S BEST

12 Pk. Cans \$3.99

Pre-Priced \$2.09; Assorted Tortilla Chips

TOSTITOS

9 Oz. - 10 Oz. Bag \$1.59

All Flavors Hygia's "Big Bucket"

ICE CREAM

5 Qt. Pail \$3.99

Crisco

VEGETABLE OIL

Gal. \$3.99

Bama Apple or

GRAPE JELLY

32 Oz. Jar 99¢

Adolphus Long Grain

RICE

3-1/2 Lb. Bag \$1.49

In Oil or Spring Water; Bumble Bee

TUNA

6 Oz. Can 59¢

Tetley Family Size

TEA BAGS

24 Ct. Box \$1.29

JOY Dish Liquid

LAUNDRY

22 Oz. 88¢

Regular or With Bleach; X-tra

DETERGENT

6 Lb. Box 2 for \$5

X-tra Liquid Laundry

DETERGENT

128 Oz. 2 for \$5

Glad 30 Gal.

TRASH BAGS

10 Ct. Box \$1.49

Assorted

SPAM

Luncheon Meat 12 Oz. Can \$1.79

Parade Flaked

COCONUT

7 Oz. Bag 79¢

Lipton With Lemon & Sugar Added

ICE TEA MIX

80 Oz. Can \$4.88

Assorted Dinners Pasta Roni or

RICE-A-RONI

4 Oz. - 7 Oz. Box 88¢

Kleenex Cottonelle

BATH TISSUE

4 Roll Pkg. 89¢

The Best Cuts

From Our In-Store Meat Market

Family Pack USDA Boneless Beef	CHUCK STEAK Lb. \$1.39	USDA Boneless Beef	STEW MEAT Lb. \$1.99
Assorted Heinz	BBQ SAUCE 18 Oz. Bottle 69¢	USDA Family Pack Fresh, Lean	GROUND CHUCK Lb. \$1.49
Cat Cafe	PINEAPPLE 8 Oz. Can 2 for 88¢	USDA Boneless Butterfly	PORK CHOPS Lb. \$2.99
Mrs. Tuckers	CAT FOOD 16 Lb. Bag \$5.99	Limit 2 with \$10 or More Purchase	PORK LOINS Lb. \$1.99
Ore-Ida Golden Crinkles or	SHORTENING 42 Oz. CAN \$1.29	USDA Boneless Whole Center Cut	PORK CHOPS Lb. \$2.99
Mrs. Pauls Breaded	GOLDEN FRIES 2 Lb. Bag \$1.49	USDA Fresh	PICNIC HAMS Lb. 79¢
Assorted Pet Ritz	FISH STICKS 46 Ct. Box \$2.99	USDA Family Pack	CHICKEN BREASTS Lb. \$1.19
Regular or Light Kraft	CREAM PIES 14 Oz. 99¢	Pilgrim Pride Breaded	CHICKEN NUGGETS Lb. \$1.99
Pre-Priced \$1.79; Borden's Sliced Singles	PARKAY SPREAD 3 Lb. Tub \$1.59	USDA Boneless Skinless	CHICKEN BREASTS Lb. \$2.39
	AMERICAN CHEESE 12 Oz. Pkg. \$1.49	Farm-Raised	CATFISH NUGGETS Lb. \$1.59

We Carry Only

The Freshest Produce

Sweet "Snack Size" Sunkist	ORANGES Each 10 for \$1	Bar-S Bacon	FRANKS 12 Oz. Pkg. 79¢
Sugary Sweet Honey	MANDARIN ORANGES Lb. 69¢	Bar-S Extra Lean Sliced	COOKED HAM 12 Oz. Pkg. \$1.99
Fresh Iceberg	LETTUCE Each 69¢	Bar-S Sliced Bologna, Salami, Spiced Luncheon	LUNCH MEATS 12 Oz. Pkg. 89¢
U.S. #1 Russet	POTATOES 15 Lb. Bag \$1.89	Oscar Mayer Red Rind	BOLOGNA 16 Oz. Pkg. \$1.49
Fresh	ZUCCHINI SQUASH Lb. 69¢	Oscar Mayer Red Rind	SALAMI 16 Oz. Pkg. \$1.49
Creamy Hass	AVOCADOES Each 2 for \$1		