

Moore

otics stings will have a major impact on drug trafficking in the county. The Task Force effort has produced more than 70 indictments for delivery and possession of controlled substances this year alone.

Moore adds that the County Attorney's Office will not tolerate assaults on peace officers. "We make it a priority to prosecute those indi-

viduals who threaten and assault our officers," Moore says.

Moore takes the lead role in trying most of the county and district court trials because of his commitment to personally prosecute serious crime. The qualified staff of attorneys and support personnel now assembled in the office provides the people of Colorado County close support and day-to-

day contact with their prosecutor's office. His office maintains an open door policy and is always open to anyone for suggestions and comments. Moore is available to law enforcement 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and encourages officers to contact him if needed. He constantly carries a cell phone for that purpose. Moore pledges his continued ef-

orts to be a fair and just prosecutor. "I enjoy my work and its challenges. I will continue to upgrade the capabilities of the office to meet new challenges as they arise," he says. "We live in a wonderful county which offers its residents the opportunity to live full and rewarding lives. It is my ultimate goal to see that the citizens of Colo-

radio County enjoy lives as free as the fear and cost of crime as we can possibly provide. In return I would appreciate your vote and support," Moore concludes.

Moore and his wife, Lori, live in Sheridan, where their two children attend the Sheridan Elementary School campus of the Rice School District.

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SWCD

in part through a memorandum of understanding with six other SWCDs in the surrounding counties, which included Austin, Fort Bend, Brazoria, Jackson, Matagorda and Wharton Counties.

The Colorado SWCD with the other participating districts gained access to the use of an Ashtech Global Position Station (GPS) TRK Survey Equipment. The USDA-NRCS, through a cooperative agreement with the districts, contributed to the purchase of the equipment. The total cost of the GPS survey equipment and accessories was \$46,550.

The GPS survey equipment is a valuable tool in the preparation of water quality management.

District/NRCS Personnel

On Oct. 6 of this year, the District and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service sponsored the SWCD Director's Election and the Colorado County Hay Show which was held at the Frelsburg Fire Station. Lawrence Shimek, representing Zone III (Garwood/Nada area) was re-elected as director for a four-year term.

Reorganization of the board was held during the regular Oct. meeting of the Board of Directors. Henry Sunderman, Zone IV (Eagle Lake area) was re-elected chairman, Jimmy Kleimann of Zone V (Columbus, Bernardo, Alleyton area) was elected vice chairman and Theodore Schultz, Zone I (Frelsburg area), was re-elected secretary/treasurer. Doris Albright, Zone II (Weimar/New Biellau area) and Shimek, Zone III, are board members.

Beverly Tuck is employed as the district's secretary (DS)/technician. NRCS Resource Team Leader (RTL) Dennis Neuman, Soil Conservation Technician (SCT) Glenn Minzenmeyer and Resource Conservationist Jim Ulbright provide the technical service to both Colorado and Fayette County. However, part-time assistance from technical specialist from the Bryan and Corpus Christi zone offices is available.

Recognition

The district was recognized as the Goodyear Honor Award winner in the 52nd Annual Goodyear Conservation Awards Program. The award is presented to SWCDs that have been grand awards winners in one of the preceding five years and rank among the very top competing districts.

Zone I Director Ted Schultz was recognized at the State Convention with a plaque for his 20 years of service to the District.

NRCS Assistant State Conservationist Dexter Svetlik recognized RTL Neuman, SCT Minzenmeyer and DS Tuck with plaques of appreciation for their work on the EQIP.

Director Kleimann completed a 2-day training course in Temple for directors serving on local SWCDs. The training sessions enabled directors to become familiar with the history of Texas SWCD programs. Kleimann received a certificate upon completion of the course.

NRCS Activities

In addition to providing technical service to landowners and producers through the District, NRCS observed NRCS Awareness Week in Feb. and in Oct., the Columbus Field Office of the NRCS celebrated 50 years of service to Colorado County. A reception/open house was held in the USDA Service Center which houses the

NRCS and the FSA at its new location. County Judge Al Jamison signed a proclamation recognizing the dedication and service of NRCS personnel to Colorado County.

District Activities Awards Banquet

The annual conservation awards banquet was held on March 25 at the Veterans Memorial Center in Weimar with 263 people attending. Awards were presented to the district winners of the coloring, poster and essay contests. Of the 1253 total entries, 1009 were coloring entries, 186 were poster entries and 158 essay contest entries.

Coloring contest winners included: J'aya Denly, Columbus Elementary (CE); Chelsea Ramirez, Weimar Elementary (WE); Karlie Christen, St. Michael's School (SMC); Casey Henry, CE, and Chelsea Hollywood, St. Anthony School (SAS).

Poster winners included Colin McIver, SMS; Chris Boer, SMS; Sean Thayer, Weimar Jr. High (WJH) and Stacy Scardino, SMS. Melver's entry placed third in Area III competition and was recognized at the Area III Banquet with a plaque.

Elementary essay winners included Andrew Loessin, CE; John Wooten, CE; and Evan Kubicek, CE. Jr. High essay winners were: Jill Kloesel, SMS; Kelly McCord, WJH and Jeffrey Leopold, St. Mary's.

The presentation of other conservation awards included Resident Conservation Farmer/Rancher - Jerry & Theresa Hudec of Weimar; Absentee Conservation Rancher - Arthur Glover of Houston and Weimar; Conservation Business - Thomas Kallina of Area Rice Marketing of Eagle Lake; Conservation Homemakers - Edna Shimek of Garwood and Mary Corcoran of Weimar; Conservation Minister - Rev. John C. Bily of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Weimar; and Conservation Teacher - Ann Heintschell of SMS in Weimar.

In addition, awards of appreciation were given to James & Barbara Helfrich and retiring TSSWCB Field Representative Roy Freeman for their service to the District.

Columbus Elementary third grade science fair projects related to natural resources were displayed and recognized at the banquet. Students recognized include Whitney Mayo, Anna Boettcher, Jennifer Venghaus, Sarah Wicke, Taditha Brown and Kyle Brown.

Soil Stewardship Week

Soil Stewardship Week was observed from April 25 through May 2. The Directors of the Colorado SWCD sponsored a breakfast for local minister and special guests. A brief program was given by Colorado County Agent Bernard Mitchell. Colorado County Judge Al Jamison signed a proclamation proclaiming "Soil Stewardship Week". Stewardship bookmarks were presented to the libraries in Columbus, Eagle Lake, Sheridan and Weimar for distribution to library patrons.

Range and Land Judging Contest

The Colorado SWCD, the Austin County SWCD sponsored a range and land judging contest on the property of Charles Goeke, chairman of the Austin County SWCD #347.

FFA students from 11 schools comprised 20 teams participating in the Range Judging Contest and 34 students from five schools comprised nine teams participating in the Soils

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Contest.

Earthkind Program

The District and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service Executive Program Council co-sponsored a horticultural education program entitled "Earthkind". Guest speakers included Robert Richter, Travis County extension horticulturist and Stephen Deiss, regional office manager for the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation. CEU's were offered for those attending with an applicator's license.

Youth Oriented Activities

District personnel and NRCS personnel were active in programs for the youth of the county. Students at SMC were presented with a program on soils. "Backyard Conservation" program was presented to the Live Oak 4-H Club in Columbus. District and NRCS personnel participated in the Ag Field Day which was sponsored by the Colorado County Farm Bureau at the Columbus FFA grounds. Three hundred plus third graders from the county watched a rainfall simulator demonstration learning about water quality and quantity.

The Colorado SWCD Directors look forward to working with land users in the community who are conservation minded and who are trying to protect their natural soil and water resources.

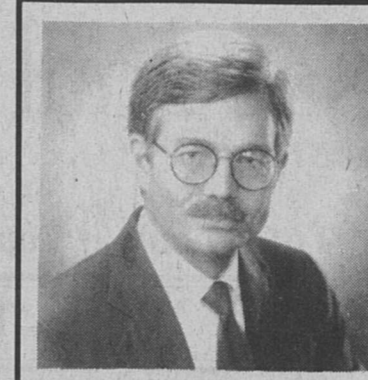
Colorado SWCD Board meetings are held at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of the each month at the Colorado County Agricultural Building located at 316 Spring St. in Columbus. The meetings are open to the public.

For more information, call the District office at 409-732-9565.

Erwin

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rivers, watch more sunsets, laugh more, cry less. Life must be lived as we go along. The station will come soon enough. - By Robert J. Hastings
Wishing you and your families the best in the 21st century.



KEN SPARKS Attorney at Law

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