

CCYFS elects new board members

Colorado County Youth and Family Services Inc. (CCYFS) welcomes newly-elected Board of Directors Members David Wuest, principal at Schulenburg High School, and Joyce Stancik, treasurer for Colorado County.

Other Board Members are Roger Olier, Gulf Coast Careers; John Adams, San Bernard Electric; Dale Alexander, Magnolia Place; Don McCann, CPS Supervisor, Austin County; Peggy Supak, Asst. District Attorney, Fayette County; LaNell Randle, Parent Liaison, Bellville ISD; Justa Helm, Fayette County representative; Al Jamison, Colorado County Judge; Ken Sparks, Colorado County Attorney-elect; Melaney McShan, Texana MHMR; and Steve Bettner, Colorado County Adult Probation.

CCYFS is a non-profit agency dedicated to promoting positive and healthy individuals and families in Colorado, Fayette, Lavaca, Lee and Austin Counties.

The agency offers CORE Services to those persons or families who may

be experiencing a problem with drugs or alcohol. Services are provided by experienced, Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselors. All services are available to the general public at no charge.

Supportive Outpatient Treatment Services for chemical dependency and substance abuse are also offered to youth and adults beginning at the age of 10.

Reclaiming dignity, values and self-worth through a personal growth enhancing process is available and effective at overcoming the debilitating effects of substance abuse or compulsive lifestyles. Reducing risk factors and maximizing natural resiliency is the first step in aiming a recovery process toward abstinence and rediscovering personal meaning in the pursuit of happiness. Family involvement throughout the recovery process is strongly recommended.

The Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Intervention Program provides substance use/abuse prevention and intervention services to the youth and

their families of Colorado nd Fayette County.

School based programs are offered on both the public and private school campuses. The agency's STAR Program (Services to At-Risk Youth) provides timely and appropriate assistance to youth and families in order to reduce at-risk situations and stabilize the family. The STAR Program gives priority to strengthening the family and keeping it together. This program is open to youth ages seven to 17.

The agency also offers the Alcohol Awareness classes for those students who have received a minor in possession citation. These services are funded in part by the Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse and The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services.

CCYFS's main office is located at 1336 Fannin, Columbus, with satellite offices in La Grange, Sealy, Giddings, Hallettsville and Eagle Lake. The agencies phone numbers are 979-732-8355 and 1-800-256-7321.

SHERIDAN LIBRARY NEWS

To encourage your child to read this summer, the Sheridan Memorial Library is sponsoring the 2000 Texas Reading Club. The theme for this club is "Invent the Future-Read!"

The library will offer many activities that promote reading and fun. The program began Tuesday, June 13, from 10 to 11 a.m. and will continue through closing on July 25.

Encourage your child to participate in the Texas Reading Club! By doing so, you will help your child retain hard-earned reading skills acquired during the school year.

The library has books, cassettes and videos available for check out. Your family can explore the darkest jungles and the highest mountains with an inexpensive trip to the library! And your library card is free!

Children are encouraged to read 10 or more books during the program to receive a certificate from the Texas State Library. Younger children may have their parents or siblings read to them.

In order for books to be recorded, they must have been checked out for an overnight period. Children are encouraged to read books on their individual reading level.

The library now has a copy of the accelerated reading list for the Sheridan Elementary School. These books may be checked out during the summer. Get a head-start now!

The Summer Reading Program is co-sponsored by the Texas State Library and the Sheridan Parents and Teachers. Heading the program this summer will be Johnna Benton and Ruth Brisco.

Contact the library at 234-5154 to register your children. The program is designed for children ages three through sixth grade.

The Sheridan Friends of the Library continues to grow. Five new memberships were added during the month of April. Membership dues are \$5 per person. With these funds, the library is able to purchase items not included in the annual budget.

Friends for 2000 include A.T. Blanchard, Charles & Mary DeShazo, Jeanette Nance, Shirley Moore, Marguerite McCoy, J.C. "Hootie" & Maida Clark, Beverly & Gordon Mercer, Patsy Fuller, Willard & Irene Hagedorf, Bill & Lillian Gohlke and Jenavve Peterson.

The library received book dona-

tions from: Eldon & Joyce Ohm, Olga Lundquist, Breck & Nancy Chabreck, Laura Finney and George E. Bujnoch.

The library received the following memorials during April and May:

In memory of Emma Nieto: Rice Consolidated School Food Service Assoc., Vernita Dopslauf; in memory of Kelsey Oberreder: Vernita Dopslauf;

In memory of Nancy Williams: Ed & Kay Parham; in memory of Wes. E. Schaller: Bill & Lillian Gohlke; in memory of Willie Lee Tinsley: Robert & Barbara Blanchard; in memory of Pat Hunnicut: Bobby Haines; in memory of Ruth Grubert: Sheridan Lions Club; in memory of Edwin Darrow "Corkey" Varley: Bill & Lillian Gohlke; in memory of Meta Schaller: Bill & Lillian Gohlke.

MASSAGE THERAPY

Kimberly Ann Socha Holder, L.V.N., R.M.T.
is now offering massage therapy at the
Columbus Health & Fitness Center!

Massages are available by appointment for Health & Fitness members and to the general public. **Please call for more information or to schedule an appointment.**
Monday & Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Jennifer Pavlicek, R.M.T.
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Columbus Health & Fitness Center!

Massages are available by appointment for Health & Fitness members and to the general public. **Please call for more information or to schedule an appointment.**
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Saturday: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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ID #1048

Don't get scammed on your way to college

By The Independent Bankers Association of Texas

With tuition bills skyrocketing and room and board going through the roof, students are looking for way to help finance their expensive but valuable college education.

Unfortunately, those efforts have fallen victim to many scholarship and financial aid scams claiming to find free money for all promising scholars.

Don't get deceived. Keep a watchful eye on companies that GUARANTEE a scholarship for an advance fee. And even those money-back guarantee offers can be a setup when accompanied by a list of conditions that make it impossible to receive a refund.

To better understand this con game, review the following points before applying for financial aid or scholarships.

•Be wary if you are selected as a "finalist" for awards that require an up-front fee, especially if you did not enter a contest.

•Companies may ask for a student checking account to "confirm eligibility," only to debit the account without consent. Other companies quote a small monthly fee and ask for the authorization to debit your account without disclosing the length of time they will be depleting funds.

•Pay attention to phrases resembling, "The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back," "You can't get this information anywhere else," "We'll do all the work," "The scholarship will cost some money" and "I just

need your credit card or bank account number to hold this scholarship."

•Ask how much the service will cost and exactly what you will get for your money. Remember to get the details in writing. As noted before,

shady refund policies may keep you from recovering all of the money you invested.

•Talk with your guidance counselor or college Financial Aid Department (See Scam, Page 6)

FARM BUREAU NEWS

A United States Appellate court recently ruled that farmers must pay a self-employment tax if they receive federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) payments.

The ruling could cost farmers thousands of dollars and force them to amend as many as four year's worth of tax returns.

The ISSUE of CRP status comes from that 1996 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) audit of an Ohio couple who filed 1992 and 1993 tax returns showing \$17,000 worth of CRP payments as rental income exempt from the self employment tax.

But, the IRS audit showed, because they also had other land they farmed for income, they owed a 15.3% self-employment tax on their CRP revenue. The couple appealed to the U.S. Tax Court and won, but that appeal was overthrown.

Farmers in four states are impacted by the ruling: Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio and Michigan.

"While the ruling affects only the four states at present, there are nation-

wide implications. We know that the IRS intends to collect this tax and it is only a matter of time before audits and court cases start showing up in other parts of the country. And that would give it a nationwide application," said Colorado County Farm Bureau (CCFB) President Charles Harbich.

Now the IRS is expected to collect self-employment taxes on returns filed as far back as the 1996 tax year.

"The decision of the court threatens to penalize producers who are trying to do the right thing by protecting fragile land that's sensitive to erosion and provides vital wildlife habitat," added the CCFB leader.

More than a dozen farm state senators have introduced legislation to clarify that CRP payments are not subject to the self-employment tax.

The library received book dona-

Eagle Lake PCF art contest winners listed

The following students were winners in the Prairie Chicken Festival Art Contest and had their work displayed in Tony Tyler's Art Studio for one month.

Kindergarten-second grade: Juan Martinez, 1st; Kyle Belmares, 2nd; Raul Garcia, 3rd.

Third-fifth grade: Clayton Bowen, 1st; Alex Morgan, 2nd; Jesse Castillo, 3rd.

Sixth-eighth grade: Brandon Sims, 1st; Jacquita Burton, 2nd; Oscar Hercules, 3rd.

Ninth-12th grade: Robert Hassin, 1st.

The Best of Show was awarded to

Multi-purpose museum

From all reports, Prairie Edge Museum (PEM) has been performing its mission well in familiarizing school children, local citizens and visitors with highlights of the past natural and cultural history of the Eagle Lake area.

Repeat visits are encouraged since exhibits change periodically with new ones replacing old ones.

Placed on display recently include a illustrated newspaper story about the Eagle Lake High School Glee Club appearing on KPRC Radio in April 1929 and an early 20th Century leather money pouch bearing the name of Vineyard, Walker & Co., Inc., Bankers.

Another interesting facet is our Museum's role in accumulating detailed bits of our background to which

scholarly historians express considerable interest.

For example, a visitor interested in the history of Bonus recently came to examine one of our displays that contained an ancient business ledger with the name Bonus Mercantile Company boldly printed on its cover.

Also, please be aware that PEM is not only open on Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2 to 5 p.m., but also on weekday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

ABOUT TOWN...

•Congratulations to Rebecca Anne Burrow of Eagle Lake for being named to the Dean's Honor Roll list at Texas A&M where she is majoring in Kinesiology. The Dean's list recognizes students taking at least 15 semester hours who have maintained at least a 3.75 grade point ratio (GPR) out of a possible 4.0 during the most recent grading period.

A second designation, "Distinguished Student," recognizes students who earned a 3.25 to 3.75 GPR while taking at least 15 hours. Named this list was Amalie Marie Kucherka of Eagle Lake, majoring in Biochemistry.

•Diplomas were awarded to approximately 4,500 Texas A&M University graduates during spring commencement ceremonies. Among them were Sarah Frances Matthews, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree; Jill Renee Satsky, Bachelor of Arts; and Steven Raymond Simcik, Doctor of Philosophy. All of these graduates are from Eagle Lake.

•If you're looking for the recent Rice CISD honor rolls, you won't find them. We're still waiting for the Eagle Lake Primary School to submit their list. As soon as they do, we'll publish them in the paper.



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