

All Vesicular Stomatitis quarantines released in Texas

For the first time since May 19, Texas has no animals or herds restricted because of Vesicular Stomatitis (VS); a blistering disease that can temporarily debilitate affected equine animals, cattle, goats, deer, swine or other susceptible species.

VS occurs every few years in the Southwest, and the virus is thought to be transmitted by sand flies and black flies.

Animals affected by the disease usually begin to heal several weeks after exhibiting blisters, sloughing of skin or sores in and around the mouth, above the hooves, or on the muzzle or teats.

"Texas was the first of three states to have VS infection this year.

Throughout the summer, laboratory tests confirmed infection in horses and cattle on 15 Texas premises in eight counties.

He recommended, however, that producers and private veterinary practitioners continue to check with states of destination prior to transporting animals, to ensure all entry requirements are met.

As of mid-October, 107 premises in 22 Colorado counties, and 39 premises in eight New Mexico counties remain quarantined, due to VS infection.

VS-infected animals in these states include horses, cattle, an alpaca, a llama, and several sheep and goats.

"VS rarely causes death in affected animals, but it is painful to animals, due to blisters and sloughing of skin. When VS strikes cattle or other cloven-hooved animals, laboratory tests are essential, because VS lesions

mimic those of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), a highly dangerous foreign animal disease.

Even though horses are not susceptible to FMD, we still recommend testing, to determine whether the lesions were caused by VS, a toxic plant or poison," said Dr. Bob Hillman.

"As always, we urge producers to call their private veterinary practitioner and their state animal health officials if livestock or poultry exhibit unusual signs of disease," said Dr. Hillman.

These signs may include blistering or sores around the animal's mouth, hooves or teats; widespread illness or unexpected death loss in a herd or flock; unusual ticks or maggots; or animals that stagger or are unable to rise or walk.

Stafford Opera House presents *Cheaper By The Dozen*



changes in the 2003 version, then you will enjoy the musical version recreated by the Art Park Players to be performed Saturday, Nov. 13.

What works in all versions is the fact that kids are cute and chaos is funny. Now let's add music to the mix, a very talented theatre company that performs comedy and music equally well, and we have the ingredients to an enjoyable evening at another dinner theatre at the opera house.

The Art Park Players of Deer Park have been entertaining audiences in Deer Park for 26 years. From a small group of theatre enthusiasts, a dinner theatre and theatre school grew to become one of the most active in the state of Texas. In 1989 the players added a traveling company to provide quality entertainment for other Texas cities and first performed on the stage of the Stafford Opera House in 1991. They have continued to bring two to three shows a year to entertain Columbus audiences.

Enjoy an evening of entertainment, a good dinner, and also help Columbus Historical Preservation Trust, a non-profit organization, maintain the beautifully restored 1886 Stafford Opera House and three house museums.

Tickets for each dinner theatre production are \$25. Social hour is 5:30 p.m. Dinner is served at 6:30 and the curtain opens at 7:30. Attire is casual. For information and to order your tickets call 1-877-444-7339 or 979-732-5135.

The Art Park Players of Deer Park will bring another element to the classic *Cheaper by the Dozen* when they perform this chaotic comedy Saturday, Nov. 13, at the 1886 Stafford Opera House, 425 Spring Street, in Columbus.

Cheaper by the Dozen began as a book written by Frank B. Gilbreth, Jr. and Ernestine Gilbreth Carey about their very real childhood family, then became a movie starring Clifton Webb as Frank Bunker Gilbreth the father and Jean Crain as Ann Gilbreth the mother and most recently became a movie starring Steve Martin the father and Bonnie Hunt the mother.

If you are old enough to remember the original 1950 version of *Cheaper by the Dozen* and young enough not to have minded the

About Town...

Savvy Senior columnist Jim Miller will appear on NBC's Today Show on Nov. 1 and 2 presenting a two-part series called "Hobby and Helpers." As part of the ongoing "Forever Young" series, the first segment will offer different tools to help seniors manage and overcome arthritis and vision limitations so they can continue to do the hobbies they enjoy. Part 2 will be reading tips, to help seniors so they can continue to read, or alternatives for those who can't see to read. This will be Miller's 12th and 13th appearance on the Today show, having made his debut on July 15, 2003.

Please note that the Today show schedule is subject to frequent change. For schedule updates and more information on Savvy Senior "Hobby Helpers," visit www.savvysenior.org or log on to the NBC Today Show website at www.today.msnbc.com.

County judges, commissioner's conference slated for Dec. 2 in Victoria

County Judges and Commissioners in the Coastal Bend area should make plans to attend the Extension District 11 County Judges and Commissioners Conference on December 2, at Victoria College Student Center meeting room on the Victoria College campus, announced Darrell A. Dromgoole, District Extension Administrator in Extension District 11 for Texas Cooperative Extension.

Extension District 11 includes Aransas, Austin, Bee, Calhoun, Colorado, Dewitt, Fayette, Goliad, Jackson, Karnes, Lavaca, Matagorda, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria, Washington and Wharton Counties. Other counties in the region are welcome to attend as well.

"This conference will provide a wealth of information for County Commissioners and County Judges" Dromgoole stated. There will be a \$30 per person registration fee before November 22, which includes refreshments, lunch, speakers and conference

materials. A late registration of \$40 per person will be charged after November 22.

Registration forms are available through District 11 County Extension Offices. This conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. with registration, coffee, and a chance to view educational exhibits. Conference topics will include Extension Strategic Planning Process and Extension Educational Response, County Bidding Procedures, Do's and Don'ts of Closed Sessions, Water Issues Facing Texas Counties, and Legislative Issues Updates.

The District 11 County Extension faculty invited all County Judges and Commissioners in Extension District 11 and the Texas Coastal Bend to mark this important event on their calendars.

For more information, contact your County Extension Office or the District 11 Extension Headquarters at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center in Corpus Christi at 361-265-9203.

Deer hunters encouraged to register their bucks

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is collecting age and antler information from bucks harvested within Austin, Colorado, Fayette, Lavaca, Lee and Washington Counties.

The harvest information will be used to evaluate the antler restriction regulations. A large sample of age and antler data is very important in this evaluation.

In return for helping us collect this data, hunters registering a legal buck will automatically be entered into a drawing at the end of the 2004-05 season for any one of 16 valuable prizes.

Deer hunters are encouraged to take their bucks to voluntary check stations in the six-county area.

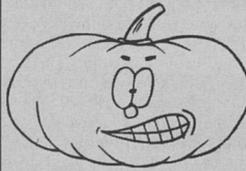
The four check stations within Colorado County are Sandy Creek Country Store, Mr. B's Food Market in Glidden, Edward Jones office in Columbus and the Wildcat Express

(See Register, Page 10)

Big John's 2nd Annual Halloween Bash



Sat. Oct. 30th, 2004
8:00 P.M. till 1:00 A.M.
Didner Hall
Eagle Lake, TX



DJ JAMMIN' J WILL BE SPINNING ALL OF YOUR FAVORITES, ALL PROCEEDS BENEFITING THE PARISH OF THE NATIVITY BUILDING FUND!

B.Y.O.B.

Bigger & Better
Public Invited



Costume Contest

Entrepreneurs Wanted

Continued from Page 7

lunch. San Bernard Electric, The First National Bank of Eagle Lake, the Main Street-Eagle Lake program, and many others reduce the seminar cost because of generous sponsorship. TLI seminars qualify for County Commissioner and some university Continuing Education Units. You may make reservations now and pay at the door. Registration forms are available from any Main Street board member, at city hall and at the LCRA office in Eagle Lake. You may request a registration form be emailed to you by contacting Main Street at mainst1eltx@yahoo.com or call Main Street Manager Rhonda Bridges at 979-758-4103.



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TEXAS APPELLATE COURTS
(as seen from your county)

SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

	Republicans - 9
	Democrats - 0

TEXAS COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

	Republicans - 9
	Democrats - 0

COURTS OF APPEALS SEATED IN HOUSTON:

1ST COURT	Republicans - 9
	Democrats - 0
14TH COURT	Republicans - 9
	Democrats - 0

JIM SHARP is endorsed by:
 Sheriffs
 Police
 Prosecutors
 Victims Rights Groups
 Fire Fighters
 Teachers
 Congressmen

TOTAL: REPUBLICANS - 36
TOTAL: DEMOCRATS - 0

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"A Change is as good as A Rest..."

The Farris Hotel announces it's "Winter's a 'Comin, The Geese are Getting Fat" Dinner Menu Changes, effective Thursday 4th November, and we also Stress - "Still No Entree Over \$19.95 with Full Soup-Salad Bar Privileges"

Chef Michael's Sautéed Oysters	NEW
<i>Shucked oysters prepared with tomatoes, scallions & herbs in a mustard-wine sauce</i>	
\$7.95	
Mussels and Clams	
<i>Simmered in Louisiana court bouillon with onions, garlic, celery & herbs</i>	
\$7.95	
Grilled Swordfish Steak	
<i>Brushed with our tequilla-onion glaze, and simply grilled</i>	
\$15.95	
Crabmeat Stuffed Rainbow Trout	
<i>Pan-fried trout, stuffed with a crabmeat & shrimp dressing</i>	
\$18.95	
Louisiana Seafood Stew	
<i>Mussels, shrimp, oysters & crawfish, simmered in a rich tomato-clam broth</i>	
\$19.95	
Crab Cakes	
<i>Prepared in-house from lump crabmeat, hand-breaded & drizzled with red bell pepper sauce</i>	
\$19.95	
Oven Roasted Herb Filled Chicken Half	
<i>Seasoned inside & out, filled with garlic cloves & a variety of fresh herbs, roasted, deboned & served with a red-wine sauce</i>	
\$16.95	
14 oz. Certified Angus "Cowboy" Bone In Strip Steak	
<i>Seasoned with Moroccan spices & grilled to your desired doneness</i>	
\$19.95	
Chicken Fried Chicken or Chicken Fried Steak	
<i>Two of our popular Sunday Night Supper menu items with the same great taste</i>	
\$9.95	



And...Don't Forget To Be Gruesome and Ghastly in your (prize Winning?), Costume at our Adults Only Pre-Halloween Party on the 30th. Music, Dancing, Michael The Mad Chef's Food, Drink Specials, and all for \$20 per Ghoul!