



Pictured from left to right (by maiden name), in back are: Barbara Baker, Kathy Frenzel, Berta Ramirez, Penny Szymanski, Peggy Austin, Julia Thomas and Denise Rucka; second row, Debra Newsom, Judy Ashby, Susan Perry, Sherry Fajkus; front, Debbie Brune and Patty Mathis.

Girl Scout Troop 71 Held Reunion March 11

Remember Us? Troop 71
On March 11, Mrs. Julia (Thomas) Pardue entertained her mother Mrs. R.R. Thomas and members of Girl Scout Troop 71 with a reunion at Mrs. Thomas' home.
Of the 19 troop members 13 members attended for a lively afternoon of reminiscing. Laughter was the theme music of the event.
Mid afternoon the group adjourned to the Methodist Church prayer garden where a tree was planted and a ceremony held to honor the memory of Mrs. Mary Lou Szymanski.
Mrs. Szymanski with Mrs. Raymond Thomas were co-leaders of the troop from the second grade thru high school.
The highlight of their many years

together was a farewell trip in 1975... two weeks spent in Hawaii.

The troop along with their parents and the support of the community earned every cent of money needed for this adventure.

Parents attending the reunion were Mr. and Mrs. James Brune, Mr. and Mrs. Isidoro Ramirez, Joe Duncan, Butch Szymanski, Mrs. Gladys Austin and Mrs. Ola Mae Ashby.

The trip was a career building adventure that showed the girls if you want something and work for it - it will happen.

Not attending the gathering on the 11th were Beth Raley, Ann Duncan, Sylvia Barela, Debra Cooper, Lisa Matcheski and Ann Rowher.

Hurricane Benefits For Workers Extended

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) for recipients whose jobs were affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita and are currently receiving benefits have been extended 13 weeks. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is notifying disaster-affected claimants by mail with instructions regarding the extension. The extension affects those who worked in Angelina, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Hardin, Harris, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Montgomery, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler and Walker Counties.

The extension of the Presidential Disaster Declaration FEMA-1606-DR means recipients affected by Hurricane Katrina whose last payable DUA claim was originally to have been for the benefit week ending March 4, 2006, will now be June 3, 2006. For recipients affected by Hurricane Rita whose last payable DUA claim was originally to have been for the benefit week ending March 25, 2006, the last payable claim week will now be June 24, 2006.

Customer service representatives will accept DUA claims from individuals who are eligible for the extended benefits for Presidential Disaster Declaration FEMA-1606-DR. To be eligible, you must be:

- Unemployed as a direct result of Hurricanes Katrina or Rita
- Currently receiving DUA benefits or
- Receiving or have exhausted regular Unemployment Insurance benefits from a claim in which claimants were separated from or were unable to begin prospective work due to Hurricane Katrina or Rita.

For local workforce services, job seekers and employers should contact their local workforce centers in affected areas for revised office hours, temporary closures, or alternate service locations serving local or evacuated individuals. To locate the nearest workforce center, call:

- Southeast Texas Workforce Development Board - Hardin, Jefferson and Orange Counties: (409) 719-4750
- The WorkSource in Houston - Chambers, Galveston and Liberty counties: (713) 627-3200

• Workforce Solutions of Deep East Texas - Jasper, Newton and Tyler counties: (936) 639-8898

Job seekers may visit Texas Workforce centers for access to job-search resources, job postings and training programs, as well as assistance with exploring career options, résumé and application preparation, career development and more. Customers also may connect with potential employers through www.WorkInTexas.com, TWC's online job-search engine.

Workforce center services for employers include job posting and placement services, up-to-date information on the labor market and emerging occupations, and assistance with recruiting, retention, training, tax and hiring incentives. Employers can recruit new staff through www.WorkInTexas.com. Workforce centers can offer employers the use of center office equipment and space when opening a new building in their respective areas.

Henneke Top Shooter In Competition

The Shotgun project, sponsored by the Columbus Area Shooting Sports Project is continuing to progress. Two members participated in the Anderson County Whiz Bang competition on Saturday, April 2.

Cody Henneke placed first in the trap shoot hitting 48 out of 50 targets. Henneke was also named the top shooter overall and received a belt buckle for his efforts. Adam Rebel also participated in the shoot.

Any Colorado County youth interested in participating in the Shotgun project may contact Dwayne Henneke at 979-733-4201.

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Tips From Sally Garrett County Extension Agent

Listeria: A Hidden Threat to Mom-to-Be and Their Babies:

Listeria is a harmful bacterium that can be found in refrigerated, ready-to-eat foods (meat, poultry, seafood and dairy unpasteurized milk and milk products or foods made with unpasteurized milk), and soil. *L. monocytogenes* is unusual because it can grow in refrigerated temperatures, whereas most other food borne bacteria do not, says Sally Garrett, County Extension Agent-Family & Consumer Sciences.

Listeria is one of the most com-

mon causes of miscarriage that result from infection of the fetus. Although most Listeria infections occur during the third trimester of pregnancy, in the first trimester, listeriosis may cause miscarriage. It can also lead to premature labor, the delivery of a low-birth-weight infant or infant death. Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) state that pregnant women are about 20 times more likely than other healthy adults to get Listeriosis. It is estimated at 1/3 of all Listeria cases

occur in pregnant women.

Symptoms of Listeriosis can take a few days or even weeks to appear and may include fever, chills, muscle aches, diarrhea or upset stomach, headache, stiff neck, confusion and loss of balance. Most of the time, pregnant women who are infected with listeriosis do not feel sick.

However, they can pass the infection to their unborn babies without even knowing it. That is why prevention of listeriosis is very important. Some recommendations given to pregnant women for the prevention of Listeriosis are:

- Do Not Eat:
• Hot dogs and luncheon meats unless they are reheated until steaming hot.
- Soft cheeses like Feta, Brie, Camembert, "blue-veined cheeses", or "queso blanco", "queso fresco" or Panela unless they are made with pasteurized milk. Be sure the label states "made with pasteurized milk".
- Refrigerated pates or meat spreads.
- Refrigerated smoked seafood *

unless it is in a cooked dish, such as a casserole. (Refrigerated smoked seafood, such as salmon, trout, whitefish, cod, tuna, or mackerel, is most often labeled as "nova-style", "lox", "kippered", "smoked", or "jerky". These types of fish are found in the refrigerated section at deli counters of grocery stores and delicatessens.)

*Foods that contain raw (unpasteurized) milk or drink unpasteurized milk.

It is Okay to Eat:
• Canned or shelf-stable (able to store un-refrigerated on the shelf) pates and meat spreads.

*Canned or shelf-stable, smoked seafood.

*Foods that contain pasteurized milk or drink pasteurized milk.

Pregnant women should see their doctor or health-care provider if they have questions about listeriosis or, if they experience symptoms; they should see their physician or health-care provider immediately.

For additional food safety tips, contact the Colorado County Extension Office.

April Is Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to focus on the protection and care of our most vulnerable and trusting resources - our children. Gov. Perry has proclaimed April Child Abuse Prevention Month in Texas.

Child Abuse Prevention Month has been observed each April since its first presidential proclamation in 1983. Since that time, individuals and organizations have joined during April to raise the public's awareness of child abuse and its prevention.

Nearly 200,000 Texas children are reported as abused or neglected every year, according to Child Protective Services, a division of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. April is child abuse prevention month in Texas and in the nation.

"It's a time to focus on ways not only to protect children but also to prevent abuse from ever occurring," said Wendell Teltow, Executive Director for Prevent Child Abuse Texas. "This is our opportunity to make a difference in young lives."

Neglect is the most frequent form of child abuse, according to the state agency charged with protecting children.

"Yes, children die simply because they're put in situations where they are not supervised," said Teltow. "But

parent's are not alone. We need to raise the public's awareness of these distressing statistics, says Teltow, and to encourage people to become involved in the prevention of child abuse. One small, but public way of showing your support, is wearing a blue ribbon during April. Remember, children are helpless, you are not.

According to Prevent Child Abuse America 43% of American parents report spanking or hitting their child, 37% report insulting or swearing at their child, and 2% report having kicked, bit or punched their child. More than 3 million children were reported to child protective service agencies as alleged victims of child abuse or neglect each year, and approximately 1 million of these reports are confirmed.

Prevent Child Abuse Texas is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect in all its forms. Its network works in a collaborative manner with community, state, and national groups to turn information into action by developing sound child and family oriented community-based prevention programs, public awareness activities, educational initiatives, and training programs. For more information, please call 1-800-CHILDREN or visit www.preventchildabusetexas.org.

Texas 4-H, FFA Steer Tag Orders Due April 17

Steer tag orders for the Texas 4-H/FFA steer validation program for 2006-2007 major shows are due now. Orders for steer tags must be in the Colorado County Extension office by 5 p.m. Monday, April 17. Cost will be \$9 per tag and must be paid for at the time of order. All steers must be validated between June 1 and June 30, 2006 for 2006 major Fall shows and 2007 major Spring shows. Colorado County will validate on June 26, 2006 from 7 - 9 a.m. and 5 - 7 p.m. at the Rice FFA livestock facilities. Tags must be pre-ordered through the County Extension office.

Lambs and goats for the State Fair will also be validated on June 26, 2006 from 7 - 9 a.m. and 5 - 7 p.m. at the Rice FFA livestock facilities.

REMINDER: Deadline for or-

dering these tags is April 7, 2006 and the cost is \$7.

Any 4-H or FFA member interested in tagging steers for the major shows and/or lambs and goats for the State Fair needs to contact the County Extension Agent or their Ag Science teacher prior to the deadlines to order tags.

Educational programs conducted by the Texas Cooperative Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, handicap, or national origin.

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to Grandma &
Grandpa Navarro,
and Hope & Robert
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For More Info Contact:
Gwen Black @ 281-564-9090 or
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Stevens Nursing and Rehabilitation

A 190 bed licensed facility, provides 24 hour nursing care and comprehensive rehabilitation services. The facility emphasizes physical, occupational, speech, IV, wound and respiratory therapies to promote strength and independence. Many of the residents have been able to return home after receiving rehabilitation therapy.

Nestled among the rolling hills and picturesque country-side of Hallettsville, Texas lies Stevens Nursing and Rehabilitation; a facility with roots as deep as the majestic trees that line the streets in the quaint city of 2,345. Stevens has been the facility of choice for generations of families in Lavaca County and the surrounding areas. The facilities' reputation for old-fashioned, personalized care continues along with its emphasis on the most up-to-date technological and medical advances in long-term and rehabilitation care.

Stevens prides itself on meeting the physical and social needs of the residents, which is why community and family members are included in the overall care of the residents. In addition to nursing services, Stevens also provides:

- Meal service
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- Laundry/linen services
- Transportation service
- Therapeutic Activity Program

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