

## News From Rice School District - Rice High School

### By Leroy Stavinoha, High School Principal

I am proud to have been a member of this community and the Rice C.I.S.D. school district for the past 15 years. I started my career with Rice C.I.S.D. as an Agricultural Science Teacher, then an Assistant Principal and now Principal.

Rice High School has had an extremely successful year, thanks to the hard work of the students and the amazing talents of the staff.

These last few months have been busy and productive for all of us and we are proud of what the students have accomplished. I have had the pleasure of walking through classrooms everyday since the start of the year and can tell you that both the teachers and students are doing great things.

Everyone at Rice High School understands the emphasis the State of Texas has placed on the mandatory tests given to each student, therefore the staff has worked very hard this year to analyze the data from last year's AEIS report to make changes where needed to ensure the continued improvement in instruction and curriculum.

We are again offering support classes for seniors who have not passed the Texas Assessment of

Knowledge and Skills test (TAKS). In addition, we have created 5 new sections of intensive intervention classes for math and science geared toward helping 10th and 11th grade students who have not reached proficiency on the TAKS tests.

Pre-algebra was required for those incoming 9th grade students that performed below acceptable levels on the 8th grade math test.

We have used benchmark tests throughout the year to monitor the progress of these students.

Please mark April 16-20, 2007 on your calendars. These are the dates the high school TAKS test will be administered.

Looking forward, we are in the process of upgrading our technology with money awarded to us from several grants we are involved in.

We have upgraded 2 computer labs, purchased over 300 new calculators, 30 new laptops and 5 new smart boards.

The staff at Rice High School is committed to providing our students with the most current and up to date technology.

As we complete this school year and begin preparing for the next, I challenge you to encourage your child to seek out ways

to improve their academic performance and to look for the pure joy in learning.

You can be assured that RHS staff members are in search of

ways to advance your child's performance through instructional practices and improved relationships.

Equally, I challenge you as

a parent to become involved in Rice High School and make sure your child attends school each and every day.

With your help, we can and will

make a difference!

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me at 979-234-3535 and/or email me at lstavinoah@ricecisd.org.

## Black History Program Recognizes Professionals

Providence Baptist Church in observance of Black History Month recognized African Americans with roots in Colorado County, Sunday, February 25 during regular service. Theme for the program was "From Slavery to Freedom: Africans in the Americas".

African Americans in the fields of banking and law enforcement were recognized for their excellent achievement in their respective fields. A brief biographical sketch was given by presenters of each honoree and plaques were presented by Pastor Shorter.

Recognition was given in bank-

ing to Mrs. Sharon Sims Lockhart, Regional Compliance officer, Carrollton.

Recognition in law enforcement to Edward E. Glover (Retired) City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Police Officer and the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Federal Police Officer Altair; Jodie Scott (retired) State Trooper Texas Department of Public Safety-Houston; Clemon Johnson (reserve) Police Officer for the City of Eagle Lake; John J. Dawson, Detective, County of the Fort Bend-Rosenberg; Rhonda Gail Jarvis, Texas Youth Commission-Riesel; Ronald L. Glov-

er, Training Instructor, Bexar County Sheriff's Office Training Academy-San Antonio.

Great soloists were Little Miss Bre'l Amos, Mc Gee Chapel Baptist Church-Houston, and Mrs. Nancy James Williams, Greater Mt. Horeb Baptist Church-Houston, Michael Wayne Hearn, Dorv Chemical Company Subject Matter Expert and Independent Business owner-Houston was guest speaker.

The honorees spouses, mother and children participating in recognition were: Eugene Lockhart, Jr., formerly of the Dallas Cowboys for 21 years and sons, Mrs. E. Glover, Mrs. Ronald L.

Glover, Mrs. Eurma Jarvis Gordon and Mrs. John J. Dawson and daughters.

One of our area senior citizens, Mrs. O.L. Glover, was able to be in attendance for her eldest son, Edgar E. Glover and grandson, Ronnie L. Glover's recognition. Out of town guests in attendance were from Altair, Columbus, Rosenberg, Wharton, San Antonio, Carrollton, Houston, Bay City, Egypt, Elm Grove, Cedar Lake, Missouri City and Kendaleton.

Immediately following church services the guests and members enjoyed an "old fashion day" dinner in the church annex.

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**Hours:**

**Mon.-Thurs.:** 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.  
and 5 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

**Fri. and Sat.:** 8 a.m. to 9:15 p.m.

**Sunday:** 7:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.



Several conservation awards were given at the annual Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District banquet Friday. Front, from left: Sharon Hajovsky, conservation teacher; Clara Mahalite, conservation homemaker; Mary and Charles Labay, resident conservationist; Kendria Ray, honored field representative; and Beverly Tuck, special award for her service to the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District. Back: Presenters, Michael and Dorothy Wostarek of Black Creek Drilling, Geraldine Streckfus, First State Bank; Harry Henkhaus and George Poppe, Columbus Lions Club, and Deborah Herring, Woodmen of the World.

## Soil, Water Banquet Held March 30 In Weimar

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led the pledge to the American and the Texas flags.

Pastor Jim Dunn from the First Baptist Church in Sheridan gave the invocation. The meal was

catered by Garland Polasek.

CSWCD vice-chairman Lawrence Shimek introduced the board of directors, dignitaries and the Schultz family who were in attendance.

Beverly Tuck, District Secretary, announced the Bright Ideas Awards with Commissioners Doug Wessels presenting the awards.

The Bright Ideas Awards were presented to Kayla Davenport and Shelby Hoelscher for their conservation project "Compost", Natalie Huebel and Lauren Zajicek for their conservation project "Erosion" and to Juanita Stancik and Brette Wicke for their conservation project "Water Cycle".

Mary Parr, Farm Service Agency CED introduced the Colorado County Ag Partners and gave a brief summary of activities. Parr recognized the Women in Ag (WIA) series participants.

Certificates were presented to the WIA participants by Kleimann and Zone IV director, Calvin Mahalite and ladies received flags courtesy of Deborah Herring, WOW representative.

WIA includes Margaret Golla, Delores Hoelscher, Brenda Kleimann, and Clara Mahalite.

Director Mahalite announced the Ted Schultz Conservation Teacher Award recipient as Sharon Hajovsky. Michael Wostarek (Black Creek Drilling) presented the award.

Director Shimek announced Clara Mahalite as the Conservation Homemaker Award with Geraldine Streckfus (First State

Bank) presenting.

Harry Henkhaus of the Columbus Lion's Club announced Charles and Mary Labay as the Resident Conservationist with George Poppe presenting.

Field Representative Kendria Ray was recognized by the CSWCD board of directors for her dedication to the District.

Beverly Tuck, district secretary, also received a special award.

Clara Bartek announced the winners of the 2006-2007 Coloring Contest.

Awards were presented by Milton Koennig.

Those recognized include PK3 - Sarah Randermann - St. Paul's Creative Child Care; PK4 - Anthony Tate - Columbus Elementary (CES); Kindergarten - Leslie Pena - Garwood Elementary (GES); First Grade - James Dunn - Sheridan Elementary (SES) and Angel Elizondo - GES; Second Grade - Julianna Castillo - Eagle Lake Primary (ELPS) and Kaylie Neundorff - CES; Third Grade - Alex Hernandez - CES and Cassidy Jane Smith - CES.

Edna Shimek announced the 2006-2007 Poster Contest winners. Awards were presented by Colorado Valley Communications.

Those recognized include first place - McKenna Munsch - St. Michael's School, second place - Macaela Gorjean Reising - CEA and third place - Clay Harmon - St. Michael's School.

The 2006-2007 Essay Contest winners were announced by Brenda Kleimann.

Division I essay awards was

presented by Judy Winkler (Hill Bank and Trust).

Winners include first place - Natalie Huebel - CES and Britany Moore - SES, second place - Kayla Machart - SES and third place - D'Montrell Carter - CES and Shelby Hoelscher - CES.

Division II essay awards was presented by Carol Ripper (First National Bank).

Those recognized include first place - Jacob Sestak - St. Michael's School, second place - David Michalak - Sheridan Junior High (SJH) and third place - Douglas Beck - SJH.

Division III essay awards was presented by Pam Cernoch. Winners include first place - Brandy Brewer - SJH and Kristy Kulhanek - CHS, second place - Amber Dunn - SJH and Kristin Roper - SJH and third place - Peyton Ervin - St. Michael's and Destiny Ruthart - SJH.

Banquet sponsors include First State Bank, Hill Bank and Trust, Industry State Bank - New Ulm Branch, Black Creek Drilling, Colorado Valley Communications,

Colorado County Rice Mill, M-G Farm Service Center, Fayette Savings Bank.

Also, First National Bank, WINCO Products, Howard Raabe Conservation Contractor, Wharton County Electric Cooperative, Deborah Herring - WOW Representative, Columbus Lions Club and Makes Scents (Joanne Klauber).

CSWCD chairman Kleimann gave closing remarks.

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### Division II & III Essay

Division III Essay winners, front, from left: Brandy Brewer, Sheridan Junior High; Kristy Kulhanek, Columbus High School; Amber Dunn, Sheridan Junior High; Kristin Roper, Sheridan Junior High; and Destiny Ruthart, Sheridan Junior High. Back: Division II winner, Jacob Sestak. Presenters, from left: Carol Ripper, Pam Cernoch and Deborah Herring. See next week's Headlight for more pictures from the banquet.