



Wilcox Honored

Mark Anderson presenting a certificate of appreciation to Robert Wilcox, acknowledging his service to Rice Medical Center as a hospital district board member since 1999.

Extension Helps In Disaster Preps

Disasters kill hundreds of people, and injure thousands more, each year in the United States. A few steps to be prepared can help to keep you and your family safe, says Sally Garrett and Dale Rankin, Colorado County Extension Agents. Your local Colorado County Extension Service provides information to help you be better prepared for disasters.

September is National Preparedness Month, and the Cooperative Extension Service is a partner in this fourth annual campaign to reach out to communities in every state and help all families be better prepared.

Sponsoring the effort, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security states that, in order for a community to be prepared for a disaster, every person in that community needs to take the steps to become disaster-ready.

Known for its educators/agents in counties throughout the country, the Extension Service is a valuable resource concerning disaster education.

Through a nationwide network known as the Extension Disaster

Education Network (EDEN), your local Colorado County Extension office is readily connected to expert materials in disaster preparedness, recovery and response from Land Grant universities nationwide.

Being disaster prepared is more than just knowing what to do in case of a tornado or a fire. Its also about preparing a 72-hour disaster supplies kit for your home, office and car; developing and practicing an emergency plan for your family; understanding your community's warning systems and evacuation routes; knowing who to contact in your community for more information, and how you can get involved.

Disasters are like pop quizzes - most often they are unpredictable. If you are not prepared, they can be devastating. The more you prepare, the better you will know exactly what to do and where to go.

No matter how much you have prepared, it is important to have

a resource you can rely on for disaster education.

Your local Colorado County Extension office can be that resource. For further information or for a free copy of Preparing for the Unexpected, contact the Colorado County Extension Office at (979)732-2530 or by 316 Spring Street, Columbus.

You can also visit <http://texashelp.tamu.edu> for direct links to Extension and agency resources in Texas.

Related Web sites: Extension Disaster Education Network <http://www.EDEN.lsu.edu/>

The Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church

Will Hold a Fish Fry Dinner Friday, Sept. 14 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Plates are \$7 each

(Meal includes buttered potatoes, Italian green beans, and dessert).

For more information call 234-3264, 234-2206 or 234-3164

Benefiting the Church Building Fund

Christian Women Sept. Meeting

Glidden Baptist Church will host the Columbus Christian Women's (CCW) Organization's September meeting. The meeting was also the kick off for "Trees of Light...Ever Green".

The fourth annual luncheon hosted by CCW is being held at the Falls Country Club in New Ulm on November 3 to raise funds for Youth & Family Services, a non profit agency providing counseling and life skills instruction to individuals and families at risk in Colorado, Fayette and several adjacent counties. A limited number of luncheon tickets remain for sale at Beckey's Café.

Every seat was occupied as President Mary Ordner opened the meeting and introduced Estelle Mostyn. Mostyn welcomed the group to Glidden Baptist and presented a devotional on "Knowing God by His Names" taken from Dick Purnell's book.

The first door prize, the book by Purnell, was awarded to Martha Hastedt.

Those attending next heard a brief presentation from Pilot Club President Carol Braden, who enlisted aid from CCW members for the large project Pilot members are spearheading to build a handicapped accessible home for the James and Donna Kunz family.

A combined donation of \$1000

to "Project Independence" was made by the CCW and its individual members.

Riana Jamison reminded everyone that the tickets were being sold for the November luncheon and shopping event.

This awaited special occasion has become increasingly popular over the years as well as being greatly appreciated by Youth & Family Services, whose home office is located at 1336 Fannin in Columbus.

The group of professional counselors and Executive Director Dan Peevy rely on grants from private foundations, state and federal funds and fundraisers such as this to continue their services...such as drug and alcohol counseling and prevention programs, counseling relating to domestic violence and other areas of dysfunction in a family.

The 2006 Luncheon raised approximately \$20,000 for Youth and Family Services. In 2007, CCW will again be joined by the La Grange Pilot and Anchor Clubs in sponsoring this worthwhile project.

CCW members who currently serve on the Board of Directors of YFS are Mary Kay Heffley and Riana Jamison. La Grange Pilot Club president, Brenda Rainocek is also a YFS board member.

CCW offers ongoing support for the Columbus Elementary School "clothes closet" (Ginny Fehren-

kamp); U.S. Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan (Del Szymkowski); U.S. Military families in a coupon clipping program (Connie Davis and Charleen Andrus); Habitat for Humanity (Sister Joyce Jilek) (Shirley Frers); Women's Shelter Cell Phone Program (Janet Richardson); Youth & Family Services (Riana Jamison); and conducts a monthly hospital and retirement community tray favor delivery (Urissia Green). Its choir, the Ecumenical Angels (Laura Hastedt), is available for religious, funeral and community performances throughout the year.

The group responds generously to financial needs in the community...from the Columbus Community Hospital's campaign to the EMS Jaws of Life program...from the Red Cross response to Hurricanes to others too numerous to mention.

CCW welcomes new members. Current membership represents residents from Cat Spring, Frelsburg, Columbus, Weimar, Glidden, Eagle Lake, Altair, Alleyton, Fayetteville, and New Ulm. Meeting sites change monthly, and details of those are usually listed in church bulletins and area newspapers.

The October 4 meeting will be held at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Frelsburg at 9 a.m.

Farm Safety Week Slated Sept. 16-22

National Farm Safety and Health Week is an annual promotion from the National Safety Council commemorating the hard work, diligence and sacrifices of the nation's farmers and ranchers.

The 2007 event marks the 64th consecutive signing of a proclamation of an U.S. President, beginning with FDR in 1944. National Farm Safety and Health Week is celebrated September 16 - 22, 2007.

Farmers, ranchers and their families live, work and play at the workplace.

Agriculture is a unique industry in that so many of its workers live, work and enjoy recreational activities at the worksite.

This often exposes them to diverse hazards associated with machinery, chemicals and livestock.

Farmers operate and maintain heavy-duty equipment and machinery.

Farm equipment operators must be well-versed on the many functions associated with diverse and powerful machinery.

Increased productivity in agriculture is often a factor of improved equipment for performing the work.

This equipment is often more powerful and complex, requiring the full time and attention of equipment operators.

Farm and ranch children are often exposed to hazards associated with farm work.

Children may be endangered as innocent bystanders or as passengers on farm tractors or equipment. Some children begin their farming chores at an age earlier than their emotional or physical maturity can safely handle - at times without adequate training or supervision.

Farmers and ranchers face a variety of hazardous environmental factors.

Weather, farmstead terrain and atmospheric conditions all present a host of hazards and risks to agricultural workers.

In their attempt to remain profitable, farmers and ranchers must often overcome environmental conditions such as droughts, steep and unforgiving slopes and dangerous facility atmospheric conditions.

Farmers are at increased exposure for motor vehicle accidents.

Farm machinery is often involved in highway accidents involving other vehicles.

Thousands of highway accidents involving farm machinery occur each year even though farm equipment is clearly marked with a slow moving vehicle (SMV) emblem.

Drivers have difficulty anticipating the operational intentions

of farm machinery being driven on rural highways.

The Colorado County Ag Partners consisting of the Colorado County Farm Bureau, Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District, Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau, Texas Cooperative Extension - Colorado County, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board - Wharton Regional Office, USDA - Natural Resource Conservation Service, and USDA - Farm Service Agency - Colorado County join in the recognition of National Farm Safety and Health Week for the safety of the farmers and ranchers in Colorado County.

Blinn To Offer Welding Class At Sealy High

Answering area industry's calls for more welders, the Blinn College Workforce Education program is offering an evening welding course in partnership with Sealy High School.

Introduction to Welding begins Oct. 23 and will meet from 6-9 on Tuesday and Thursday nights through Nov. 15.

This 24-hour course is designed to provide students with a hands-on approach to the fundamentals of welding, power source

es and electrode classification. Practice in materials selection and preparation and production of beads and joints in the flat position will be included.

The course will be taught at Sealy High School by faculty member Jay Hancock. The cost is \$169.

For more information call the Blinn College campus at 979-627-7997 or the Blinn College Workforce Education office in Brenham at 979-830-4027.

Relations To Perform In Garwood

"The Relations Quartet" will be performing at the Lehrer Memorial United Methodist Church in Garwood on Sunday, September 23. This full time southern gospel music group travels about 230 days a year to lift up the name of Jesus, to see lost souls saved, and to see others touched by God.

The Relations Quartet was voted SGM FanFair Favorite Male Quartet in 2007. They were awarded South Texas Association Group of the Year for 2001, 2004, and 2007. The group was also nominated for a Diamond Award as Group of the Year in 2004. Their music can be heard on the radio and the internet all over the world.

Hearts will be blessed by attending this 9 a.m. worship service at the Garwood Methodist Church, hearing this remarkable group and experiencing their love for the Lord. The public is invited.

NOTICE

There will be a Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Budget of the City of Eagle Lake on Tuesday, September 25, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Municipal Building.

This Budget will raise more property taxes than last year's budget by \$43,430 (7.4%), and of that amount \$7,073 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

FIRST National BANK

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Enter First National Bank's Friday Give Away! The winner will receive a Rice Raider stadium seat.



One winner every Friday Entries Now Being Accepted Drawings will be held weekly during the Rice Raider football season.

Drawing will be held at 3:00 p.m. Ask your friendly teller for an entry ballot. (need not be present to win; no transaction necessary to enter) FNB employees and immediate family are not eligible to enter.

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