



Pictured above is Father Robert Guerra with a few of the auction items from the Parish of the Nativity's Fall Picnic that will take place Sunday, October 21. Also up for grabs will be candelabras, columns and architectural features from the Guadalupe Church and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Churches.

## Parish Of Nativity Fest Is Sunday

If you're looking for good food and entertainment for all ages... don't miss the Annual Fall Festival hosted this Sunday by the Parish of the Nativity Catholic Church.

The day's activities begin with Eucharist being celebrated at the newly renovated church at 310 N. Stevenson St. at 8 a.m. in Spanish and 10 a.m. in English.

Activities then move to the S. Austin Rd. (across from the

hospital). BBQ chicken and sausage with the trimmings will be served on the pavilion premises from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$7 per plate. BBQ chicken with the trimmings will be available in a convenient drive-through line.

A live auction with a variety of unique items will begin at 1 p.m. followed by a drawing for 41 prizes including a \$1,000 gift card.

Also up for grabs will be candelabras, columns and architectural features from the Guadalupe

Church and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Churches.

Other activities include a sidewalk auction, country store, cakewalk, plant walk, and a variety of food booths.

For the youngsters, there will be a duck/fish pond, face painting, ring toss and moon walk. Lots of action is expected in the soccer and horseshoe tournaments.

Parishioners invite you to bring the family and enjoy a day of festivities and fellowship.

## Legion Flag Disposal Set Oct. 23

The United States Flag Code states that when an American flag has served its useful purpose and is in such a condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

The W. Cherry - M. Perry

American Legion post #108 of Eagle Lake will hold its annual Flag Disposal Ceremony on Tuesday, October 23.

The ceremony will be held at the city park beginning at 6:00 pm and the public is encouraged to attend.

You are urged to check your

flags and, if they are faded, worn or torn, let us dispose of them properly.

You may turn them in at any time to Wallis State Bank, A.J. Struss Company, The Furniture Shoppe or the Prairie Edge Museum.

## USDA To Give \$1.5 Million In Grants

Agriculture Secretary Conner announced the selection of 15 historically African-American land grant institutions in 14 states to receive \$1.5 million in job creation and business promotion grants.

"These funds are part of USDA Rural Development's ongoing efforts to ensure that all rural Americans are able to share in the nation's economic growth," Conner said. "USDA has been working with the 1890 institutions and Tuskegee University for more than a decade to help them reach residents in rural communities with the greatest economic need."

The grants will be used to help create new businesses, promote cooperatives and provide new employment opportunities through the promotion of Rural Development programs.

The recipients are among the 18 institutions supported under the Second Morrill Act of 1890, a law providing for the establish-

ment of land grant institutions focusing on agriculture, home economics and the mechanic arts.

Delaware State University has been selected to receive a \$115,000 grant to provide business training and entrepreneurial education for youth and adults through the University's Delaware Center for Enterprise Development.

Since its inception in 1992, the Center has provided services to nearly 10,000 individuals, including more than 2,300 middle and high school students through the Junior Entrepreneurs in Training program.

In addition, Langston University, the only historically African-American university in Oklahoma, has been selected to receive a \$100,000 grant to provide innovative start-up management and technical assistance plans for rural and disadvantaged business enterprises.

The University will work with Rural Development in Oklahoma

to promote the importance of purchasing and developing renewable energy systems for efficiency improvements in agriculture production.

Funding of recipients will be contingent upon their meeting the conditions of the grant agreement.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents.

Rural Development has invested nearly \$91 billion since 2001 for equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

More than 1.5 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

## TPWD To Continue Deer Stations

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) will continue to have the deer check stations in Austin, Colorado, Lee, Fayette, Lavaca, and Washington counties for the 2007 season.

These are the original six counties that had the special deer antler regulations. These regulations will be in 61 Texas counties for the 2006 season.

This will be the sixth and final year of the check stations.

The check stations provide a means to collect harvest data on the bucks harvested in the six county area. Legal bucks are defined as a buck with at least one unbranched antler or an inside spread of 13 inches or greater.

A hunter can harvest two bucks with an unbranched antler if he does not take a buck with an inside spread of 13 inches or greater.

However, a hunter cannot take two bucks with an inside spread of 13 inches or greater in the same county.

Any hunter who brings a deer to a check station will be entered into a drawing for some excellent prizes.

If a hunter brings two bucks

to the check station he will be entered two times. This is not a big buck contest.

Someone who kills a spike is just as good a chance to win as someone who kills a big buck.

The Department wants to measure all bucks, spikes as well as those with a 13-inch or greater inside spread.

The prizes include a lifetime hunting and fishing license donated by the Texas Sportsman Association; three Ruger Model 77 Hawkeye .270 rifles donated by the Washington County Wildlife Management Association, Fayette County Wildlife Management Association and M.G. Inc. of Weimar. Gerald and Carolyn Roach, the Redmon Ranch and Drymalla Construction Company, all from Columbus, each donated a Ruger Model 77 Hawkeye .22-250 rifle.

Addition prizes include three Marlin .17 MHR Bolt Action Rifles Model 917 VS; donated by the

Colorado County Wildlife Management Association, J. Frank Monk Real Estate of Bellville, and Spies Insurance of Brenham. T

he First State Bank of Columbus has given a Remington 20 ga. 870 Express shotgun. Hoffer's Drive In of Hallettsville and Bill Johnson and Associates Real Estate of Bellville have each donated a Ruger .22 rifle.

Capital Farm Credit in La Grange has given an All Seasons Feeder. Also included is a custom made hunting knife by Knives by Charlie of Sheridan.

The Austin County check stations are located in Bellville at the Bellville Quick Stop, 1216 S Front Street and in Sealy at the Shell I-10 Station.

The Colorado County locations are the Edward Jones office in Columbus, Mr. B's Food Market in Glidden, The Wildcat Express in Weimar and Sandy Creek Country Store located between Rock Island and Sheridan.

## Blinn Gets Grant For Worker Training

Blinn College will accept a nearly \$2 million state grant to train workers for two power plant projects in the area. Texas Workforce Commission Chair Diane

Ort will present the check on Oct. 19 to Blinn President Dr. Donald Voelter, Fluor Craft Training Manager Brenda Ketterman, and Bob Deatherage, vice president of Bechtel Construction, a subsidiary of Bechtel Corporation.

The \$1,984,440 Texas Workforce Commission Skills Development grant will train 1,027 carpenters, masons, electricians, pipe fitters, welders, ironworkers, millwrights, boilermakers and other equipment operators.

Blinn College will administer the grant and share instruction

responsibility with Texas State Technical College, Temple College, McLennan College, and Navarro College.

The employed workers will be operated by Fluor and Bechtel corporations, which are constructing the Oak Grove Power Plant in Robertson County and reconstructing a plant near Rockdale.

TXU's Luminant division will operate the coal-fired plants and plans to hire many of the workers trained under this grant after construction is completed. Others will continue working for the construction companies.

Blinn College, the oldest county-owned junior college in Texas, is entering its 125th year provid-

ing education services in south central Texas and currently ranks 11th in size among the 50 college districts in the state.

TXU, a Dallas-based energy company, manages a portfolio of competitive and regulated energy businesses primarily in Texas, including TXU Energy, Luminant, and Oncor.

Fluor, headquartered in Irving, is one of the world's largest publicly-owned engineering, procurement, construction, and maintenance services companies.

Bechtel is a global engineering, construction and project management company headquartered in San Francisco.

## School Bus Safety Week October 21-27

For Texas students, the most dangerous part of their journey to and from school is crossing the street to board a school bus or after exiting one.

During the 2006-2007 school year, no students were killed during this critical part of their journey to and from school, but passing motorists pose the greatest danger to these students.

Texas state law requires drivers to stop for school buses that are stopped and have activated their alternating red flashing lights.

Drivers should not proceed until the school bus resumes motion; the driver is proceeded, or the visual signal is no longer activated.

"Motorists who do not stop are endangering our most precious resource—our children," said DPS Director Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr.

"These reckless drivers will face fines of up to \$1,000, plus court costs if they are convicted."

School Bus Safety Week runs from October 21-27 across the nation.

This year's safety week theme—"Stop on Red, Kids Ahead"—reminds drivers to obey the law regarding stopping for a school bus.

If a road is divided only by a left-turning lane, drivers on both sides of the roadway must stop for school buses with alternating red flashing lights activated.

However, if the lanes are separated by an intervening space or physical barrier, only motorists going in the same direction as the

buses are required to stop.

DPS is encouraging school districts across the state to plan special events to observe School Bus Safety Week, which also recognizes the hard work and dedication of school transportation professionals, especially school bus drivers, who ensure a safe

journey for students every day.

School buses remain one of the safest modes of transportation in Texas, 38,000 school buses transport 1.5 million Texas children every school day.

School buses account for less than one-half of one percent of all Texas roadway crashes.

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