

Howard Named College Associate Vice President

Hill College recently named Dr. Lonnie L. Howard, an Eagle Lake native, as associate vice president of instruction, technical education. Howard comes to Hill most recently from the Houston Community College system in Houston, Tex., and brings 14 years of extensive community college and university expertise to this position.

Dr. Howard has served as a faculty member, department chair, faculty advisor, academic researcher, and educational consultant.

He is credentialed to teach both academic transfer and technical programs (e.g., welding, business office technology, computer-aided drafting, education, and sociology).

His academic preparation includes an AAS, AGS, BS, MS, and a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin.

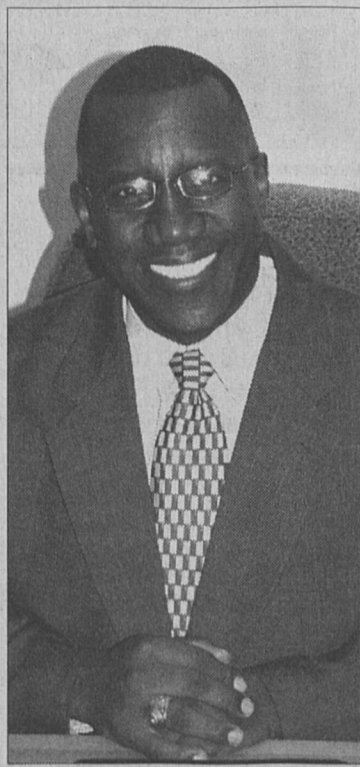
Prior to coming to higher education, Howard held leadership positions in business, industry, and served as a non-commissioned officer in the United States

Army. When asked about his new appointment, Dr. Howard said, "I know that I'm a great fit for this position because our president and vice president of instruction are both very committed to student success.

And being a former community college student myself, I [too] am equally committed to serving the needs of two-year students and want to develop innovative strategies that will assist them in attaining their educational goals."

Furthermore he stated, "My team and I are poised to become greater advocates to ensure that our students are given every opportunity to complete their programs, find meaningful employment, and increase their earning potential.

As a result, this not only helps the students to achieve some sense of the 'American Dream,' but having a more skilled workforce will also aid in the economic revitalization of our service areas."



Dr. Lonnie L. Howard

Hill College President Dr. Sheryl Kappus added, "We are very excited about adding Dr. Howard to the Hill College family. He has already proven to be a tremendous asset to this institution."



In December, the Nesbitt Memorial Library gave the Dorothy Albrecht Medal to the people who participated in all five Live Oaks and Dead Folks cemetery tours. The tours have been conducted at one of two Columbus cemeteries every year since 2003. Actors stand at gravesites, portraying people from Colorado County's history. Pictured above are Paulina Kearney, Bill Stein, Dorothy Albrecht, Patty Simmons, Tracey Wegenhoft, and Bill Mosley. Kearney, Wegenhoft, and Mosley acted in all five tours. Simmons worked behind the scenes, helping set up and manage the tours. Stein wrote and directed all five tours. The medal was named for Albrecht because she was instrumental in getting the tours started. Ironically, she did not receive a medal this year because she missed one of the tours with an illness.



Voting delegates representing the Colorado County Farm Bureau at the 74th annual Texas Farm Bureau convention in Waco December 1-3 were: First row: (left to right) Doris Hoeninghaus, Larry Poenitzsch, Marv Ulbricht, Carolyn Poenitzsch. Second row: (left to right) John Engstrom, Charles Harbich, Leon Hattermann, and Donald Hoeninghaus.

Delegates Participate In State FB Convention

Eight voting delegates from Colorado County Farm Bureau recently participated in the 74th annual Texas Farm Bureau convention December 1-3 held in Waco.

They were: John Engstrom, Charles Harbich, Leon Hattermann, Marv Ulbricht, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Poenitzsch, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hoeninghaus.

Policies directing the state's largest farm organization were adopted by more than 1200 delegates from 207 organized Farm Bureaus. Approved recommendations on nation policies will advance to the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting to be held in January in Louisiana.

Addressing the delegates were Kenneth Dierschke of San Angelo, TFB president; Don Smith of Sulphur Springs, secretary-treasurer; and Vernie Glasson, TFB executive director. The busi-

ness session covered the final day of the meeting. The last order of business was the election of the president, Kenneth Dierschke of San Angelo.

County Extension News

This year the acorn crop in Colorado County was plentiful.

That's good for the deer and the other wildlife, but not such great news for domestic livestock. Oaks are included in Texas Cooperative Extension's "Toxic Plants of Texas" (publication B-6105) book because they contain complex toxic compounds called gallotannins.

These gallotannins are toxic to cattle, sheep, goats, horses and dogs. While mature leaves of oak trees are not considered toxic, these compounds are present in hazardous concentrations in the buds, flowers, young stems and acorns.

Pastures containing shrubby oak species can be prone to cases of poisoning in the spring when livestock consume many young leaves, buds, stems and flowers.

Poisoning from large trees is most often the result of livestock consuming a large amount of acorns in the fall and early winter.

Storm-related poisonings can also occur in the spring when large trees with young leaves are blown over.

Consuming as little as 6 percent of their body weight of dry plant material may be enough to cause oak poisoning. While all species of oak should be considered toxic, live oaks and white oaks are seldom involved in cases.

Some cattle can apparently eat acorns with no ill effects, while others develop kidney and digestive problems that can lead to death.

Cows consuming acorns during the second trimester of pregnancy have produced malformed calves. Signs of poisoning are usually seen a week or more after animals consume a lethal dose and include depression, constipation tipped in blood, diarrhea, rough hair coat, a dry muzzle covered with dried blood, excessive thirst, abdominal pain, edema (swelling) in the lower body and frequent

urination followed by no urination. There usually is no increase in body temperature.

The best way to prevent acorn poisoning is to keep cattle away from acorns, but if you fence off an area covered with acorns, you may have to leave the fence up for a while. Acorns retain high levels of tannic acid for several months after falling from the trees.

Hydrated lime, which can be mixed into a feed ration containing 600 pounds ground alfalfa meal, 1,080 pounds of cottonseed meal, 120 pounds of vegetable oil and 200 pounds of hydrated lime, is sometimes used to counteract poisoning symptoms when cattle are found grazing on acorns.

Mature cattle need to consume 4 pounds per head per day and calves need to consume 2 pounds per head per day of this mixture in order to ingest the needed amount of the hydrated lime. Molasses may need to be added to this feed mixture to increase palatability.

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