



Matt Hernandez lets a pitch fly during a game last week.

## Garden Club Names Yard-Of-Month

**By Patty Holloway**  
March is one of the few months when people don't want their yard to be chosen for Yard of the Month.

It is also a difficult month for me to choose a yard for this award.

This time of the year there are colorful, beautiful, blooming shrubs and trees everywhere you look and that is the problem.

Mother Nature has just started getting dressed and she has randomly scattered her finery everywhere.

In another few weeks she will have it all pulled together and each yard will be fully dressed.

Tim Kelley's yard at 808 Post Office is my reluctant Yard of the Month for March.

His white and pink azaleas are past their prime but when I chose this yard (before the heavy rains and very strong winds). They were beautiful this house with the inviting front porch is one of the pretty old homes in Eagle Lake that is well maintained and after Mr. Kelley puts his hanging baskets and ferns on that porch it is a tribute to Eagle Lake.

Mr. Kelley moved into the Pap-



by Seaholm house in 2001. He is a rice farmer, a cotton consultant and operates a hunting service.



Lauren Shimek makes a catch for an out at first base.

## NEWSBRIEFS

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your child's weight when you come to the event. This event is open to all individuals. For further information, please contact the Colorado County Extension Office at 979-732-2530.



## Lawn Fertilizing Tips

When it comes to fertilizing a lawn, there are so many theories and suggestions out there it can make a novice lawncare enthusiast's head spin. With so many supposed tricks of the trade out there, it's no wonder so many homeowners turn to the professionals when it comes time to take care of the yard.

While it's never a bad idea to consult or even hire a professional, homeowners needn't feel that giving their lawn over to the local landscaper is an absolute necessity. In fact, taking care of a lawn can be an enjoyable and worthwhile hobby. When it comes to fertilizing, it's not nearly as intimidating as it may seem. Just keep in mind the following tips.

• Don't fertilize to excess. Follow the the application and dilution instructions on whichever fertilizer you buy. Excessive feeding can cause rapid growth that is very appetizing to pests and critters.

In addition, there are environmental concerns with respect to excessive application of fertilizer. Should you apply too much, you run the very real risk of fertilizer run-off. That run-off could eventually end up in rivers, streams or lakes and pollute the water supply.

• One size does not fit all. There are differences between types of fertilizers. For example, using lawn fertilizer on flowers could make it difficult for those flowers to bloom. While the foliage of the flower will likely grow, the flowers will not bloom to capacity.

• Growing plants need different fertilizer. A plant that is already actively growing should be given a water soluble fertilizer. These fertilizers will promote rooting and strong growth in already developing plants. However, plants that are not actively growing won't benefit from this type of fertilizer, as it will merely be washed away before the plants can utilize it.

• Test your soil. Lots of lawn and garden enthusiasts have sat bewildered as to why they just can't seem to grow certain plants on their property. The problem could rest with the quality of your soil.

The soil pH is something all gardeners need to know and consider before planting. Some plants prefer alkaline soil conditions while others prefer acidic. Without getting too technical, if you're planting a plant that prefers alkaline conditions in acidic conditions, then that planting will not be successful.



Annicia Williams takes the baton from Porshia Morris at the track meet in Palacios last week.



Rebecca Dota runs during the track meet in Palacios last week.

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