

Jamison Issues Burn Ban Order

Colorado County Judge Al Jamison issued an executive order on Monday, Sept. 29, placing a ban on outdoor burning in the county due to dry conditions.

Jamison said he took the action because of increasing number of grass and brush fires that fire departments in the county were being called to respond to.

"We were getting so many calls and after talking to commissioners, I decided to initiate the ban," Jamison said. "I think it was the prudent thing to do."

He said commissioners also scheduled a special meeting at 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, to discuss the ban.

Conditions in the county have become increasingly dry in the last few weeks.

Dry vegetation serves as ready, highly volatile fuel for

wildfires.

Burning trash or brush can provide an ignition source for wildfires, which can spread quickly, destroy homes and worst of all, endanger lives.

Bans on outdoor burning have proven to be an excellent fire prevention tool.

Keeping a fire from ever starting is the key to preventing wildfires.

Violators can be subject to a fine.

All detected or seen fires should be called in to 911 at the Sheriff's office.

Fire departments will be called to extinguish all fires.

Carelessness with other activities can also result in dangerous wildfires.

Residents can help themselves and their local fire depart-

ments by taking extra precaution to insure that their actions don't spark wildfires.

- Use extreme care when using spark-producing equipment around dry grass.
- Electricity-energized fences should be kept clear of all grass.
- Lubricate farm equipment frequently to reduce the possibility of producing sparks.
- Be careful when towing. Loose chains can cause sparks when dragged on the roadway.
- Be aware of flat tires as rims can also cause sparks, which can ignite grass fires.
- Do not litter. Trash adds to the fuel load, and glass lying in direct sunlight can start a fire.
- Smokers are advised to dispose of smoking materials properly. Use ashtrays. Many wildfires are started by carelessly discarded cigarette butts and matches.



Colorado County AARP members Molly Raabe of Weimar and Mark Warner of Columbus presented Congressman Lloyd Doggett with the Legislative Achievement Award on behalf of the AARP.

With 39 million members, AARP is the leading nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization for people age 50 and over in the United States. Congressman Doggett is one of only two members of Congress to receive the award for his work on Medicare.

Congress recently approved a new Medicare law that prevents cuts in physician payments and makes a number of improvements in Medicare. National AARP Senior Managing Director David Sloane hailed Rep. Doggett's Medicare Part D prescription drug bill as the organization's "Number One Priority."

Congressman Doggett has also authored bipartisan legislation to reduce identity theft by revising Medicare cards as well as the Silver Alert initiative to assist in locating missing seniors.



Pictured above is the 18-wheeler that was involved in the collision Tuesday morning with the Ford Explorer.

JV Raiders Defeat East Bernard

The Rice Raider JV Football team defeated East Bernard by a score of 28 to 20 Thursday, Sept. 25.

The Raider offensive team was led by quarterback Ryan Moore who had three touchdowns and Sean Torres who had one touchdown behind the blocking of the offensive line consisting of Jared Kaster, Jonavan Allen, Spencer Spencer, Ryan Korenek, Adrian Shimek, Dominic Castillo and Abraham Castillo.

Other offensive standouts were Terris Shorter, Brian Cardenas and Lance Howard. Cristian Samaniego was perfect on PAT

attempts.

The Raider defense allowed only one lone score in the first half. However, they allowed two in the second half. Late in the fourth quarter East Bernard had possession of the football and was driving when Lance Howard caused a fumble that was recovered by Terris Shorter allowing the Raiders to run out the clock.

The defensive standouts for the Raiders were, Alex Cardenas, Jared Kaster, Jonavan Allen, Jesse Ross, Dominic Castillo, Lance

Howard, Joseph Whitley, Gary Spates, Brian Cardenas, Mark Sosa and Abraham Castillo.

The Raiders will face Hallettsville on Thursday, Oct. 2 in Altair.

Little Raiders Start Season

The Lil' Raiders began their opening season with three victories. Rookies defeated Schulenburg 29-6, JV defeated Giddings 14-7 and Varsity defeated Schulenburg 30-0.

We appreciate all the parents, family and friends for coming out to Smithville and supporting the football boys and cheerleaders. Go Lil Raiders!

Brasher Named Water District Manager

James E. "Jim" Brasher, certified professional geologist, was named the general manager of the Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District during the Sept. 16 board meeting. Brasher will join the district on Oct. 13.

He will earn an annual salary of \$60,000 a year.

Brasher was born and raised in Weimar and still has family in Weimar and Columbus.

After decades in the oil industry, he had a desire to return to Colorado County, and will utilize his skills to help manage the groundwater resources of the county.

- Certified Professional Geologist, State of Texas.
- Texas A&M University - Master of Science in Geology (August 1982) with concentration in Chemistry.
- Texas A&M University - Bachelor of Science in Geology (December 1979).
- Weimar High School - Class of 1976.

Council

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before cleaning-up of the property can begin. An organization, Revitalize Eagle Lake, will pay for the study and the city will provide some manpower to get the area ready for the testing. The City approved Weishuhn Engineering, Inc. to do the study.

NEWSBRIEFS

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proudly honor Mrs. Thomas for her vision, leadership, and commitment to the health and well being of the population Rice Medical Center serves and to her community of Eagle Lake. The event begins at 6 p.m. for social hour, followed by a rib eye dinner at 7 p.m. Salute to honoree at 7:30, and dancing from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Tickets are \$35 per person which includes open bar, meal and dance. Sponsorships are also available from \$250 to \$1,000 and above. A silent auction, live auction and drawing will be held during the evening. All proceeds will go towards new hospital equipment and renovations.

Community outreach set for Oct. 11

Ashes To Beauty presents, Eagle Lake Community Outreach on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Park. All ages welcome. Free food, music, entertainment, games and prizes. "Changing families, one person at a time." For more information call 234-3002. See you there!

St. Anthony fall festival is Oct. 12

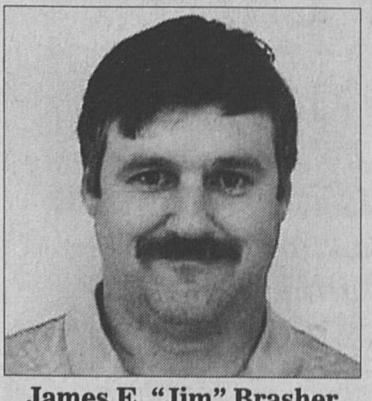
St. Anthony Church in Columbus will hold their fall festival Sunday, Oct. 12 at the KC Hall in Columbus. Serving of BBQ beef and sausage will start at 11 a.m. Meat to go at the pit and a drive thru line will be available. Adults plates, \$8; children 12 and under, \$4. Adult take home plates will be available-drive thru. Enjoy the kolache breakfast, homemade Mexican food and hamburgers (in the afternoon). Old Tyme Music by Donnie Wavra & The Hi-Liters, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Outdoor music by D.J. Darren Kunz.

Parish picnic is Oct. 19

Parishioners of the Parish of the Nativity Catholic Church in Eagle Lake invite you to attend their annual fall festival Sunday, Oct. 19 at the church's pavilion on S. Austin Rd. (across from the hospital). BBQ chicken plates will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$7 per plate. You may dine on the pavilion premises or plates will be available to go in a drive thru line. A live auction will begin at 1 p.m. Other activities include a drawing for 41 prizes, a country store, cake and plant walk, a variety of food booths, and lots of entertainment for the children. Parishioners encourage you to bring the family to enjoy an afternoon of fellowship.

"One Ranger Returns"

Retired Texas Ranger H. Joaquin Jackson, author of One Ranger and One Ranger Returns, appears with copies of his latest book for purchase and for autographs on Tuesday, October 21, 7 p.m. at the Nesbitt Memorial Library, 529 Washington in Columbus, one block south and one block west of the courthouse. Call (979) 732-3392 for more information.



James E. "Jim" Brasher

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