

## 2009 Property Value Estimates

| Category                               | 2008 CERTIFIED VALUE | 2009 ESTIMATED VALUE | PERCENT CHANGE |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Single Family Residences               | 436,259,766          | 431,881,639          | -0.010         |
| Farm & Ranch                           | 391,651,140          | 402,166,983          | 0.027          |
| Commercial Real                        | 107,620,450          | 112,912,620          | 0.049          |
| Industrial Real                        | 44,304,100           | 48,304,390           | 0.090          |
| Oil & Gas Property                     | 350,213,136          | 302,393,563          | -0.137         |
| Personal Property                      | 301,628,280          | 287,798,020          | -0.046         |
| Mobile Homes                           | 12,708,670           | 13,559,710           | 0.067          |
| ** Before Exemptions have been applied |                      |                      |                |

  

| JURISDICTION          | 2008 CERTIFIED VALUE | 2009 ESTIMATED VALUE | PERCENT CHANGE |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| COLORADO COUNTY       | 1,659,490,327        | 1,578,921,948        | -0.049         |
| COLUMBUS ISD          | 653,593,695          | 598,454,955          | -0.084         |
| RICE CONSOLIDATED ISD | 611,569,674          | 582,610,390          | -0.047         |
| WEIMAR ISD            | 217,768,701          | 215,416,748          | -0.011         |
| CITY OF COLUMBUS      | 220,381,289          | 218,789,676          | -0.007         |
| CITY OF EAGLE LAKE    | 85,142,267           | 82,392,479           | -0.032         |
| CITY OF WEIMAR        | 107,586,056          | 105,383,659          | -0.020         |



The home of Mrs. Linda Connor at 706 Cemetery is the July Yard of the Month.

## July Yard Of Month Named

**By Patty Holloway**  
The Yard of the Month for July was again suggested by a Garden Club member. I really appreciate these suggestions.

had vincas lining the sidewalk up to her front door.  
Keep up the good work and

this shows that you do bloom where you are planted - in more ways than one.

## NEWSBRIEFS

Continued from front page

and Pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church in Houston will be the guest speaker. A program will follow with a BBQ luncheon and the signing of Sidney Struss's fourth historical book publication, The First Presbyterian Church of Eagle Lake - 100 Years. Only those books bought at the church will have a discounted pre-release price. Help spread the word and make this a grand homecoming for our church! If you have any questions, please contact Mike Cooper at 979-234-2937.

### Little Raider football camp July 27-29

Little Raider youth football camp will be held July 27-29 from 9-11 a.m. at the Eagle Lake Elementary School. Contact Coach Brad Dumont at 361-772-6995 or Nick Shorter at 713-363-4198 for more information.

## Killer Bee Threat Said Overblown

Continued from front page

were not scientifically tested and the conclusions are based entirely on observations by Hunt.

Further testing would be needed to determine if the bees were, in fact, Africanized "killer" bees.

Hunt reported a separate instance in Hallettsville where the bees he encountered were extremely aggressive and more likely Africanized.

"We were 60 to 70 yards away from the hive and we still had bees attacking us."

"I would definitely say they were Africanized."

Hunt said he does not scientifically test the bees, but only makes inferences from what he observes on how the bees behave and react.

However, even testing bees to find if they are Africanized is a difficult business.

Lisa Bradley, a research assistant with Texas AgriLife, operates a lab that conducts tests on bees to determine if they are Africanized.

"Testing bees takes about two to three hours and involves 23 different measurements on 10 separate bees," explained Bradley.

"These measurements are then used to determine if the bees have European traits, Africanized traits, or a hybrid of traits."

Cole, who was charged with compiling the educational material regarding Africanized bees in 1991, cautioned the public from panicking.

Cole explained that any Africanized colonies have become

much smaller, more diluted, and less aggressive.

"Killer bees are not a continuous threat," explained Cole.

"They aren't waiting constantly for somebody to drive by to attack."

Cole went on to say that since the bees were bred to live in tropical regions, there is little fear of them migrating in large numbers to this area.

"People should be no more alarmed about Africanized bees as they are regular bees."

Cole did, however, caution that people should still be careful around bees, especially if they are hypersensitive or allergic.

"Any bee colony can be dangerous regardless of whether or not it's Africanized or European."

Hunt cautioned the public, warning that the warmer it gets, bees become more active and more aggressive.

According to Paul W. Jackson, Chief Apiary Inspector at Texas A&M University, bees are most dangerous during brooding season, the time when the eggs in a hive begin hatching.

"When bees are in swarming season, they are, as a rule very gentle," said Jackson.

"They coat their legs in pollen and they all fly together looking for a new home."

"During brooding season, the bees get very defensive and territorial and perceive any nearby animals as threats."

"To bees, a human is just another animal."

Jackson also explained that bees will most often build hives in tree limbs or in the hollow of a tree.

If the hive outgrows its original location, then it may move to a man-made structure such as a barn or under the eaves of a house or in the attic of a house.

"Many people will not notice that there is a bee colony in their house until long after the bees move in," said Jackson.

Jackson also explained that it's difficult for people to protect themselves from bees and should instead take care of any colonies before they become an issue.

In regards to what a person should do if they find a nest in or near their house, Jackson said, "Call the exterminator."

While many fear that the bee population is in rapid decline, local bee experts claim that population decline is not a major problem in Texas.

In addition to that, Jackson said "I'd rather lose some bees than not have them properly removed and then have a child play too close to them and get stung."

However, if a person notices a new colony that they are very certain just moved in, then Jackson suggests that then it is appropriate to call a beekeeper.

Jackson also predicted a stinging problem for November with the advent of deer season.

"People are going to be disturbing colonies that have built up in deer feeders and deer blinds and are going to be stung."

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### EAGLE LAKE WEATHER REPORT

Information Courtesy of Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Experiment Station, Eagle Lake

| Date          | Temp (H/L) | Rainfall (in.) |
|---------------|------------|----------------|
| Mon. 06-29-09 | 101/77     | 0.00           |
| Tue. 06-30-09 | 97/74      | 0.00           |
| Wed. 07-01-09 | 100/74     | 0.00           |
| Thu. 07-02-09 | 100/74     | 0.00           |
| Fri. 07-03-09 | 99/77      | 0.00           |
| Sat. 07-04-09 | 101/77     | 0.00           |
| Sun. 07-05-09 | 101/79     | 0.00           |

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| Short Stack w/ bacon                              | <b>\$5.49</b> |

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