



Dr. James M. Smallwood



Dr. Kenneth W. Howell

Smallwood And Howell To Appear At Nesbitt Library

An appearance by historians Dr. James M. Smallwood and Dr. Kenneth W. Howell has been slated for 7 p.m. Thursday, May 6 at Columbus' Nesbitt Memorial Library.

There will be no charge for admission.

Both authors have worked on the archives since the death of Nesbitt's Bill Stein, historian, archivist and library director.

A multi-award winning author, Smallwood's latest book, "The Feud that Wasn't, The Taylor Ring, Bill Sutton, John Wesley Harding, and Violence in Texas," was winner of the Texas Institute of Letters' Most Significant Scholarly Book Award for works published in 2008.

His "Time of Hope, Time of Despair: Black Texans During Reconstruction" won the 1982 Texas State Historical Association's Coral Tullis Award for best book of the year on Texas history, and "The Indian Texans" garnered him the Texas Library Association's 2005 Texas Reference Source Award.

He also co-authored "Murder and Mayhem: The War of Reconstruction in Texas."

Smallwood, an Emeritus Professor of History at Oklahoma State University, has also taught at Texas A&M at Commerce, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Texas Tech University, the University of Texas at Tyler, Seton Hall University in

New Jersey and the University of Kyoto, Japan.

The author of 19 books has also edited 17 books, including 10 on the writings of humorist Will Rogers.

He is a fellow of both the Texas State Historical Association and the East Texas Historical Association.

Howell, an assistant professor at Prairie View A&M University, is the author of "Texas Confederate, Reconstruction Governor: James Webb of Throckmorton" and is co-author of "The Devil's Triangle: Ben Bickerstaff, Northeast Texans, and the War of Reconstruction in Texas," as well as "Beyond Myths and Legends: A Narrative History of Texas."

He also edited "The Seventh Star of the Confederacy: Texas During the Civil War," which included a chapter by historian Bill Stein, Nesbitt's late library director and historical archivist.

For that book, Howell received the Pate Award in Civil War History from the Fort Worth Civil War Round Table.

He is also the author of "Henderson County, Texas: An Antebellum History, 1846-1861."

Both authors will have books available for purchase and signing.

Nesbitt Memorial Library is located at 529 Washington Street in Columbus, across from Columbus Elementary School.

Attention Garwood/Nada Communities

The Garwood Volunteer Fire Dept. (GVFD) will no longer be able to respond to emergency calls with an ambulance crew.

Starting May 1, volunteers will respond as first responders only. They will be able to provide care until an ambulance from Eagle

Lake or Columbus arrives.

GVFD doesn't have enough certified volunteers to respond to emergencies during the day.

If you'd like to volunteer call Tony Brown at 979-332-1490 or Vivian Spanihel at 758-3244.

Please call if you can help.

Swimming Pool Safety Tips You Need To Know

Swimming and lounging by the pool are some of the great joys of summer, but homeowners need to take precautions to ensure that children, grandchildren and visitors are safe.

Drowning is the second-leading cause of accidental death for children under five in the U.S., and each year thousands of children are treated in hospitals for drowning and near-drowning.

"It can happen anywhere, in ordinary neighborhoods and it can happen to caring, vigilant parents," says Marcia Kerr, an investigator for the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission who lost her own son in a pool drowning accident.

"Homeowners should take steps immediately to ensure the safety of children who live in or visit their homes.

Layers of protection are essential."

Here are some tips from the National Drowning Prevention Alliance (NDPA) to help you identify pool dangers and add proper protections:

*** Install Isolation Fencing:** Isolation fencing should separate your pool from your home, either totally surrounding the pool or enclosing all doors leading from the home.

This helps protect children who get out the door from moving beyond the patio.

For above-ground pools, a smaller fence and gate surrounding the steps or ladder can be effective in preventing toddler access.

And parents of toddlers should keep "doggy doors" locked or within fenced areas.

"Constant adult supervision is vital, but most parents of toddlers will agree it's impossible to supervise children every second of every day," says the NDPA's Executive Director, Kristin Goffman.

"Isolation fencing can help prevent unauthorized access to a pool during those brief moments when caregivers realize their child is missing."

*** Use Alarms:** If the house forms one side of the barrier to the pool, doors leading to the pool area should be protected with alarms that sound when the door is unexpectedly opened.

These are reasonably priced, but you must be committed to their use for alarms to provide effective protection.

*** Be Prepared - Take Classes:** Make sure kids take swimming lessons and their guardians by the pool know how to swim.

Adults also should know CPR and rescue breathing in case of emergency.

And when children are in the pool, designate a "water watcher" to maintain eye-to-eye contact at all times.

*** Be Safer:** A telephone should be kept poolside so adults never have to leave the area to answer it while children are swimming.

And never leave toys in the pool area, including floating devices such as chlorine dispensers that look like toys.

According to research conducted in the United States and Australia, a fence is the only truly-effective barrier, but other protections help.

The NDPA recently published its first paper on the subject.

With recommendations ranging from fencing to safety devices to water safety, the free paper can be found at www.ndpa.org in the "Safety Tips" section.

By relying on layers of protection around the pool, you can give your family years of safer relaxation and enjoyment.

But as many precautionary measures as you take, there is no substitute for proper supervision and awareness of your surroundings.

Emergency Farm Loan Applications Being Accepted

Drought, Above Normal Temperatures and Associated Wildfires on Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2009 are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Bellville, Farm Loan Manager Tim Respondek said today.

Colorado County is one of 87 in Texas recently named by the Secretary of Agriculture, eligible for loans to cover part of actual production and/or physical losses resulting from the Drought, Above Normal Temperatures and Associated Wildfires on Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2009.

Mr. Respondek said farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agricultural business, whichever is less.

For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders, the interest rate is 3.75 percent.

"As a general rule, a farmer must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of production to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan," Mr. Respondek said.

Farmers participating in the Federal Crop insurance program will have to consider proceeds from those programs in determining their loss.

"Applications for loans under this emergency designation will be accepted until Dec. 14, but farmers should apply as soon as possible.

Delays in applying could create backlogs in processing, with possible delays into the new

farming season," Mr. Respondek said.

FSA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living.

Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who meet U. S. citizenship requirements and to

farming partnerships, corporations, or cooperatives in which U. S. citizenship requirements are met by individuals holding a majority interest.

The FSA office in Bellville is open from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Additional Information regarding Disaster Assistance Programs may be found online at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

Child Care Provider Workshop Slated June 3

On June 3, a 2 hour child care provider training will be hosted by TX AgriLife Extension Family & Consumer Science agents in Austin, Colorado, Fayette, and Washington Counties.

The workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Fayette County Agricultural Building training room at 255 Svoboda Lane in La Grange.

Nancy Granovsky, Professor & TX AgriLife Family Economic

Specialist, will present sessions on "Risk Management - What You Need to Know about Product Recall" and "Keeping Employees Motivated". A total of 2 workshop hours in business administration will be awarded to attendees.

There is no registration fee but please RSVP by May 28th to the Fayette County Extension office at (979)968-5831 to reserve a seat.

Sheridan Library News

By Lillian Gohlke

The library/community rummage sale held on April 7-10 at the Sheridan Community Center was a huge success.

The proceeds benefited the Sheridan Memorial Library.

The Center was filled with various items for purchase, and the crowd was good.

Thanks to all the donors who contributed items for the sale: Ora Vanek, Vera Tesch, Carol Drozd, Reggie and Barbara Brisco, Bobby Haines, Diane Hobbs, Ida Haines, Larry and Darnell Varley, Patsy Fuller, Regena Williamson, Lavo and Ruth Brisco, Johanna Benton, Shirley Moore, Mike and Wanda Gail Moss, Cathy Brown, Margaret Kelley, Leroy and Marge Rychik and Mandy Querner.

Also, Willard and Irene Hagedorf, Earlene Botard, Ann Moore, Cliff and Elaine Denton, Zelda Walker, Sally Brown, Pete and Rose Thumann, Dixie Vetuski, Debbie Longoria, David and Tammy Murphy, Lara Sudik, Marilyn Murphy, Wane and Natalie Dupre, Nancy Chabreck, Barbara Blanchard, Betty Lyons, Eldon and Joyce Ohm, Ruby Prasatik, Gracie Lumphy, Marilyn Owens, Tommie Lynn Holden, Shanta Foster and Lillian Gohlke.

A apologize if your name was not listed, but I was unable to get all of the donors' names.

Your support has helped our small rural library greatly.

It is time again to become "Friends" of the Sheridan Library. The cost is \$5 per person. Newly enrolled "Friends" for 2010 are Ora Vanek, Ron Lewis, Pauline Solomon, Marjorie and Leroy Rychlik, Penny Dodd, Pete and Rose Thumann, Cliff and Elaine Denton, Hazel Prichard, Allen Brogger, Vera Tesch, Darnell and Larry Varley and Bill and Lillian Gohlke. Your support is needed.

The following donations were given as memorials to the Sheridan Memorial Library: In memory of Sadie Eaton: E.L. Schlueter; in memory of Ruby Henry: E.L. Schlueter; in memory of Marvin Tyler: E.L. Schlueter; in memory of Corky Varley: E.L. Schlueter; in memory of Doodle Varley: E.L. Schlueter; in memory of Otto Kalischko: Cliff and Elaine Denton; in memory of Warren Menking: Wayne and Natalie Dupre; in memory of William Parks: Wayne and Natalie Dupre; in memory of Audrey Dupre: Dr. Thomas Fields, Debbie Warren, Zelda Walker;

in memory of Elmer Enloe: Wayne and Natalie Dupre, Bill and Lillian Gohlke, Charles W. DeShazo, Zelda Walker, Larry and Darnell Varley; in memory of John R. (Rudy) Ohm: Cliff and Elaine Denton; in memory of Julius Novak: Larry and Darnell Varley; in memory of Jimmy Sanchez: Larry and Darnell Varley;

in memory of Maudie Broussard: Sheridan PTS, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Wagner, Zelda Walker,

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