

Don't Miss This

Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council is promoting an effort to turn the island's East End lagoon into an environmental education center.

Page 5a

Tip of the Week

Got grasshoppers? Checked for armyworms? Extension agents offer scouting tips and effective treatment options for the pests.

Page 3a

Scaredy cats?

Some dogs may be afraid of the loud noises made by Fourth of July fireworks. A veterinarian provides protective tips for pet owners.



Page 4a

Texan succeeds

Of the three Texas auctioneers vying for the World Champion title, one made it into the Top 10 Finals competition.



Gabe Spikes of Bowie auctioneers at several North Texas barns.

Page 2a

Notable Quotable

"A married couple can elect to not pay any estate tax on the death of the first spouse. But do you want to do this? What do you have to give up if you choose this option?"

-- Dr. Wayne Hayenga
Extension economist, attorney about topics to be covered at the estate-planning seminar
Story on Page 6a

Featured recipe

Got fruit? Dunk pieces in this two-ingredient creamy dip.



Country Cookin' . . . Page 4a

Featured column

Milk prices continue to rise. USDA cited the July Federal order Class I base milk price at \$20.91 per cwt, up \$3.07 from June, and \$9.57 above July 2006.



■ Mielke . . . Page 19b

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The chase is on

Youngsters have fun in the "sheep scramble" event during the recent Backyard Bull Bash. The youngsters provided entertainment for the crowd as they scrambled to grab yellow tags from the sheep's tails.

For more photos and story from the event, see Page 2a.

-- Staff photo by Carolyn Rost



Farmers upset over Perry veto of eminent domain bill

By BETSY BLANEY
AP Agriculture Writer

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — One Central Texas farmer said on June 18 he was "dumbfounded" by Gov. Rick Perry's veto of an eminent domain bill designed to protect landowners when the state wants to take their property.

Robert Fleming is not alone in an area worried about the massive Trans Texas Corridor proposal. The planned route cuts through Fleming's Bell County farms. He's bewildered by Perry's veto. "We were so close to getting something done," Fleming said. "We've worked hard trying to get private property rights."



"As someone who grew up in rural Texas, and farmed our family's piece of land, I am a strong proponent of protecting private property rights. But the issue is one of fairness to taxpayers, who will get fleeced in order to benefit condemnation attorneys."

-- Texas Gov. Rick Perry

Perry vetoed the bill, and 48 others, on June 15.

In 2005, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Kelo et al v. City of New London* that cities can seize homes under eminent domain for use by private developers. Texas Farm Bureau spokesman Gene Hall said the ruling also said that states that want it otherwise can craft

laws to do so. That's what the bill Perry vetoed would have done, he said.

Perry in 2005 named the eminent domain issue as an emergency item in a special session, Perry spokesman Robert Black said.

"The bill Governor Perry vetoed would have had little impact on rural Texas. It was targeted at high-growth

urban areas," Black said.

The Trans Texas Corridor is the plan kick-started several years ago by Perry to build 4,000-plus miles of tollways and railways that would incorporate oil and gas pipelines, utility and water lines, and even broadband data.

One reason Perry gave for vetoing the bill was that it would have expanded damages a landowner could recover to include diminished access to roads from remaining property when a portion of the property is condemned, according to a release from Perry's office.

Also, landowners would have been able to collect damages for factors that

See 'Groups' • Page 7a

Two Texas ranches at odds over wind energy

By JOHN PORRETTO
AP Business Writer

SARITA, Texas (AP) — After a century and a half as cordial neighbors, two of the nation's biggest ranches find themselves feuding like the Hatfields and McCoys over wind energy and wildlife and whether the two can coexist.

The storied King and Kenedy ranches, which together cover nearly 1.3 million acres in sparsely populated south Texas, are at odds over plans to erect 240-plus wind-powered turbines on the smaller Kenedy property. The structures and their massive blades can stand 400 feet tall — taller than most 30-story buildings.

The King Ranch, with 825,000 acres near the Texas Gulf Coast, says the turbines will interfere with migratory birds' flight patterns, threaten other wildlife and create an eyesore — though the nearest highway is nearly 20 miles away.

Managers of the charitable trust and foundation that oversee the Kenedy Ranch — a mere 400,000 acres — are resisting a public brawl, but the companies leasing their land for the wind farms say the King Ranch essentially ought to mind its own business. Besides, they say, they've spent two years studying migratory birds' flight patterns and are convinced the environmental impact will be minimal.

Already, Texas leads the nation in wind-generated power, and numerous proposed projects are under way. But none have garnered attention like the Kenedy wind farms — in part because of the King vs. Kenedy skirmish.

Wind farms generate electricity by using wind to turn giant blades that rotate on turbines, an alternative to power created by utilities using coal, natural gas and other sources.

King Ranch President Jack Hunt has called for state legislation to regulate the farms — the lack of such laws governing wind farms making Texas a favorite spot for potential

See 'Disagreement' • Page 7a

Rodeo legend laid to rest

Jim Shoulders' family requests contributions to Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund

Those who wish to honor the memory of Jim Shoulders, who died June 20 at the age of 79, may contribute to the Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund, an organization that the 16-time world champion cowboy helped start.

The JCCF helps injured rodeo athletes and their families with expenses if a contestant is injured and cannot compete for an extended period of time.

"That was the major (charitable organization). That was the one my daddy wanted (to help)," said Shoulders' daughter, Marcie.

The legendary cowboy died in his sleep

from complications related to heart disease at his home in Henryetta, Okla.

Shoulders' funeral was June 24 at the Jim Shoulders Living Legends Arena in Nichols Park in Henryetta.

Shoulders won an astonishing PRCA-record 16 world championships during his Pro-Rodeo Hall of Fame career — five all-around, seven bull riding and four bareback riding — standing as nearly unbeatable during the 1950s.

"Even in coming generations, I don't

See 'Career' Page 8a

Rural Texans learn about mediation assistance offered by statewide group

by MONETTE TAYLOR
Country World staff writer

On June 12-13, people from all over Texas gathered in Kerrville for a "Forum for Dispute Resolution in Rural Texas."

For some of the people attending the forum's workshops, it was an introduction to the Dispute Resolution Center

out of Lubbock, which offers legal mediation assistance in various rural, and urban, areas. What they learned is that the center offers a "service of Texas Rural Mediation Services™, a part of the Texas Dispute Resolution System™, which promotes and supports mediation activities as designated by the governor's office and the U.S. Department of Agri-

culture to serve the state of Texas."

Basically, the center's trained professionals can provide citizens with information on how to resolve disputes in a variety of arenas and the problems that can arise in them — from water issues to biotech crops.

Workshops on the first day of the forum in Kerrville included wind and sun power, water issues, crop biotechnology issues, regulatory oversight of biotechnology and legality/liability regarding biotechnology.

Dispute resolution experts Carl Reynolds (left) and Ted Wood were two of the speakers during the forum in Kerrville.

-- Staff photo by Taylor

Sometimes, a dispute will graduate to a court proceeding. Forum attendees were

See 'Mediation' Page 7a



Briefs and Bits

Correction:

Dakota Zapalac, junior showmanship award winner at the Holy Cow Dairy Daze, was misidentified in a photo published in the June 14 issue of Country World.

Country World apologizes for the mistake, and congratulates Dakota on his showing achievements.

FFA joins USDA to promote NAIS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National FFA Organization have entered into a cooperative agreement to advance the implementation of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS).

"The youth involved in the National FFA Organization are the future of agriculture in the United States. As this Nation's next farmers, it's fitting that they are at the forefront of NAIS, and

we are excited about their involvement in the program," said Bruce Knight, undersecretary for USDA's marketing and regulatory programs. "By ensuring the success of NAIS, we are ensuring their future as farmers."

FFA will use the cooperative agreement funds to develop and provide NAIS educational programs for their current and alumni members, as well as promote premises registration across the country.

The premises registration component of NAIS

ensures the availability of a nationwide communications network to assist livestock owners and animal health officials in the case of a disease event. To date, more than 394,000 premises nationwide have been registered to date.

NAIS, voluntary at the federal level, is a modern information system that helps animal health officials respond quickly and effectively to animal health events in the United States. The program consists of three parts: premises registration, animal identification and tracing.



The cowboys competing in the recent Backyard Bull Bash often make an eight-second ride aboard a 1,200-pound bull look easy ... until they aren't aboard any longer. Here, Donald Francis comes out of the chute in good position (left), keeps his seat during some strong bucks (below, left), but may need to work on his dismount (below, right). Francis and Howard Bailey were the only riders to complete the eight-second rides during the event.



Competitors cowboy up at Backyard Bull Bash

by CAROLYN ROST • Country World staff writer and photographer

Bull and steer riders, along with a few mutton busters, took part in the second annual Backyard Bull Bash held June 9 at the Buckin' N Arena near Nechanitz.

Due to the rain-out of the event originally scheduled for May 27, a number of riders previously signed up were unable to attend. Although fewer in number, the riders still faced some tough competition.

Seven bull riders tried their best to stay on the kicking, turning, and spinning bulls for the required eight seconds. After the completion of two rides each, Donald Francis of Yoakum and Howard Bailey of Houston were the only riders able to beat the bull. Francis, with a score of 78, won first place and took home the jackpot prize of \$1,215. Bailey took second place with a score of 77 and pocketed \$810 for his efforts.

In the steer riding division, nine young and possibly up-and-coming future bull riders took on the tough challenge of staying on the back of the fast-moving animal. Quincy Clemons of Dime Box, who drew "Money Maker," was the only rider able to stay on, winning \$108 in prize money.

In the mutton bustin' event, Paul Hill of Giddings was declared the winner. Hill, who is 6-years-old, also tried his best at riding a steer. The steer, named "Easy Money," proved he was not too easy to ride, however.

Between events, the young kids in attendance entertained the crowd during the Mutton Scramble by chasing and grabbing yellow tags from the running sheep.

Proceeds from the event went to the Texas Children's Hospital in Austin.



Donald Francis (above) earned a score of 78 and gained the first place jackpot prize money of \$1,215.



Howard Bailey (above) stayed in good alignment to complete the eight-second ride. He scored 77 and earned \$810 for the second place win.

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The Backyard Bull Bash also provided some experience for younger competitors with mutton bustin' and steer riding events.

At left, 6-year-old Paul Hill of Giddings puts in a good ride on "Easy Money," a steer which proved to be not too easy to ride. Paul, however, did earn the top win in the mutton bustin' contest earlier in the day.

North Texas auctioneer finishes in Top 10 at WLAC

By LORI COPE
Country World staff writer

Gabe Spikes went into the World Livestock Auctioneer Championship (WLAC) with a goal of finishing in the Top 10, and he succeeded.

Spikes, 34, of Bowie was one of three auctioneers from Texas who earned a spot, through a regional competition, to be one of 33 in this year's national contest, held June 15-16 in Springfield, Mo.

Anyone attending the regional competition in Sulphur Springs in November saw the 2007 World Champion auctioneer, but of course, didn't know it at the time.

Trent Stewart, 32, of Madras, Ore., came away from the regional contest in Sulphur Springs with the champion title, and on June 16, he earned the World Champion title. Stewart was sponsored by his livestock sale barn, Central Oregon Livestock Auction, which hosted one of four regional WLAC contests (which is why he ventured to Texas to compete in a regional event).

This was Stewart's eighth year in the contest, and he won the Reserve title in 2002 and 2006.

Spikes, who was sponsored by Decatur Livestock, was also a repeat contender in the con-

test. He has competed in the WLAC contest four times, and in 1999, he finished in the Top 10. "I will continue to enter this contest until I'm too old, or I win the title," said Spikes.

Spikes, who has auctioneered for 16 years, said the regional competitions were a great idea, and it really brought a lot of good auctioneers into the contest.

This was the first year for the Livestock Marketing Association, the group that's organized the contest for 44 years, to gather contestants for the WLAC through live, regional competitions. Prior to this year's contest, contestants submitted video tapes which were judged.

"The competition was tougher than I had imagined it would be," he cited. "The way they did it this year, with the regionals, it really stacked in more competition. They really found the best 32."

(The 33rd WLAC contestant was the current Canadian auctioneering champion, which annually receives a "pass" into the competition.)

Among the 32 were Texans Shannon Davis and Pete Stokes. Both did well in the Semi-Finals, but didn't advance to the Top 10 Finals competition.

The WLAC two-day contest began with the Semi-Finals,

which included an interview, and the selling of cattle. The Top 10 advanced to the Finals. Winners were announced at an evening banquet on June 16. "Both seemed like really long days, but the longest wait was the 20 or 30 minutes they had us in the (sale barn) office, waiting on the announcement of the Top 10," Spike relayed.

Prior to the competition of the Finals, Spikes reported that he and the other nine auctioneers were relaxed. "Last time I remember the (Top 10) guys acting like they were about to be shot. This time, we were all telling jokes and were pretty relaxed. They must have been like me, just tickled to be in the Top 10."

Each of the Top 10 finalists received custom-designed belt buckles from the Livestock Marketing Association.

As World Champion, Stewart won \$5,000, a 2007 Chevrolet Silverado Extended Cab LT, a custom-fit Resistol hat, a custom-designed champion's sculpture, a custom-designed championship diamond ring, a gold microphone award, and a golden gavel award.

Portions of the WLAC event is set to be televised at 7 p.m. Monday, July 2, on RFD-TV. Check local listings to verify time and date.



Agent alerts to armyworms in the area

By **JOE JANAK Jr.**
Victoria County Extension Agent

Several farmers and ranchers have called in to report armyworms in the area, so I urge farmers and ranchers who have some grass out there to go immediately and check all of your pastures.

When first appearing as tiny worms less than 1/8 inch long hatching from eggs, they feed on only on the surface of a grass blade, leaving it with a characteristic opaque appearance. Over a week to 10 days as they increase in size, the worms begin to eat the entire leaf causing much greater defoliation. This is when most worm infestations are found.

The key to detecting an armyworm infestation is to make a conscientious effort to inspect pastures for the worms once or even twice each week. Principally night feeders, armyworms do feed at daytime particularly on cloudy days. They tend to hide deep in the foliage during the day. Therefore, grasses must be inspected frequently and carefully to detect their presence.

During the 15 to 21 day worm stage, approximately 85 percent of the foliage consumption occurs during the last three to four days of their life cycle. This leads people to

say the "my crop was eaten overnight". Up until the last few days, damage may not be readily noticeable - again pointing out the need to detect the worms before very much damage is evident.

Once mature, the worms drop to the ground to form a cocoon in the soil and re-emerge again in about a week as an ash-gray moth with irregular, white or light gray spots near the extreme tip. The moths are night fliers and begin laying eggs on the foliage in masses of 100 or more. This repeats the worm cycle again in about 25 to 30 days if everything goes as they like.

Recommendations to treat for armyworms depends on many factors such as forage availability both now and in the future, infestation level, pesticide and application cost and other factors. As a general rule, three or more worm per square foot will require control in improved pastures. Read all pesticide labels as some products may have grazing and haying restrictions that are over 14 days. Malathion has no grazing or haying restriction while other products such as carbaryl (Sevin), Confirm, Lannate, Dipel and Tracer may be labeled but have restrictions. Increased worm control can be achieved by using hollowcone spray nozzles instead of flat fan tip nozzles

for insect control. In fact, demonstration work in 2005 showed that excellent worm control is being achieved with one pint/acre (half the recommended rate) of Sevin XLR with hollowcone nozzles. Total volume mix rates using hollowcone nozzles can be in the range of five to eight gallons per acre but must be considerably higher if other nozzles are used; probably around 20 gallons per acre.

Products and their rate of use include the following. Malathion 57 percent EC can be used at two pints per acre. There are no re-entry restrictions, no grazing restrictions and no limit on how many times you can apply the product. Sevin XLR can be used at 1 to 1.5 quarts per acre. There is a 14 day grazing/harvest restriction and no more than two applications can be applied per year. Tracer is approved at one to two ounces per acre; has to only dry on the plant before grazing and can be harvested for hay after three days. Lannate insecticide can be used at 3/4 to three pints per acre with no more than four applications per year. There is a seven-day grazing restriction, a three-day hay harvest restriction and a 48 hour re-entry interval. Lannate is very toxic to mammals.

Most importantly, check your pastures twice a week for armyworms.

COW POKES®

By Ace Reid



"Maw, if you can give up a few of your luxuries, we can buy that ajoinin' land."

Got grasshoppers? Treatments for gardens, pastures should be applied

By **NATHAN CARR**
Lee County Extension Agent

The grasshopper population and their activity is now on the rise. Grasshopper eggs are produced in the fall. The eggs are laid in ditches, fence rows, and weedy areas. In the spring nymphs, which are juvenile grasshopper, begin to emerge. The nymphs feed on vegetation for about 40-60 days; typically in this area, it is during the months of April and May. Once

they have reached molting stage the grasshopper is now an early adult. At this point the adult grasshopper is an active eater and is able to travel over large areas.

Now is typically the time when lawns, gardens, and fields become the grasshopper's primary diet. In yards the simplest way to control grasshoppers is through chemical means. Yard insecticides that contain the ingredients bifenthrin and/or

lambda-cyhalothrin have proven to be effective. These ingredients are found to have an effective kill and to have a long term residual.

In addition to chemical control, natural means of prevention and protection can come from mowing the grass often, the use of plants that are not a grasshopper's preferred diet, and the use of geotextile fabrics to protect valuable vegetables and plants.

In pastures and hay produc-

ing fields, grasshoppers can become economically damaging. As we speak, many grasshoppers are now reaching the adult stages of their lives. In pastures and hay grounds, control of grasshoppers should be conducted when the levels in a one square yard area have reached eight or more grasshoppers. The agriculture producer's need for available forage and hay is also a critical factor to use in determining if and when the control should occur.

Generally, the most effective control to the problem is an early treatment and when the producer may have extra available

forage for livestock. For control of grasshoppers on agriculture lands there are a number of products one can choose.

In using many of the Sevin, Orthene, or Diazinon there are grazing restrictions and producers should read and follow all labels properly. In using these products, livestock producers can see a decline in grasshopper numbers. However, it may also limit the amount of available forage an operation has due to grazing restrictions. The grazing restrictions may last from 14 up to 21 days depending on the product used.

Malathion and the product

Dimilin 2L can be used without any grazing restrictions. The useful points in using Dimilin 2L is that the product controls grasshoppers and weakens their exo-skeleton before they reach the age where they can molt and eventually reproduce. Thus, that particular product aids in future control of the pest.

Through the use of the products and various practices, the grasshopper population can be effectively controlled. Control is the most effective when landowners and their neighbors utilize these practices as grasshoppers can be a migratory pest.

FSA county committee nominations accepted through Aug. 1

Farmer and rancher candidate nominations for local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees are currently being accepted at county FSA offices. The nomination period continues through Aug. 1, 2007. Elections take place this fall.

"I encourage all producers to participate in the county committee election process by nominating candidates by the August 1 deadline," said U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns. "We have seen the nomination of minority and women producers increase significantly in recent years, and we would like to see that trend continue."

To be eligible to serve on an

FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area in which the person is a candidate.

Producers may also nominate themselves, and organizations representing minority and women may also nominate candidates. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. The form and other valuable information about FSA county committee elections are available online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>; click on News & Events, then County

Committee Elections.

FSA county committee members make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other important agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms. Nationwide, there are more than 7,800 farmers and ranchers serving on FSA county committees. Committees consist of three to five members who are elected by eligible local producers.

This year's elections take place Nov. 2 through Dec. 3. Newly-elected committee members and alternates take office Jan. 1, 2008.

Comment period for COOL re-opened

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has re-opened the comment period to request general comments on the proposed rule (PR) regarding Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) for beef, lamb, pork, perishable agricultural commodities and peanuts.

Persons providing comments should take into account that the agency has changed some definitions and requirements in the Interim Final Rule for fish and shellfish, which was published after the PR, that would now be applicable to all covered commodities.

USDA will review the comments and information received as it works to declare a final rule for mandatory COOL for all covered commodities.

USDA published the PR for

mandatory COOL of beef, lamb, pork, perishable agricultural commodities and peanuts in the Oct. 30, 2003, Federal Register. The PR requires designated retailers and their suppliers to notify customers of the country of origin of covered commodities. The PR also requires retailers and their suppliers to maintain specific records to verify claims.

The full text of the PR can be found at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/cool/ls0304.pdf>.

Details of the comment period reopening were published in the June 20 issue of the Federal Register.

Comments are due Aug. 20 and should be submitted online at www.regulations.gov. Additional means of comment sub-

mission are via e-mail to cool@usda.gov; by mail to Country of Origin Labeling Program, Room 2607-S, Agricultural Marketing Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Stop 0254, Washington, DC 2025-0254; or by fax to 202-720-1112.

Additional information on this and the COOL program can be found at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/cool>.



Bluebonnet Adoption Days

Apply between June 15 and July 15 and qualify for half-price adoptions if you adopt within 30 days.



Sam is a 3-year-old, grullo pony gelding (13.0 hh). He's not yet broke to ride, but he's a great age to start. With his unusual color, he'll make some kid or small adult a gorgeous show or pleasure horse. Adoption fee: \$300



Braveheart is a 6-year-old, 13.3 hh, Mustang/Paint-cross gelding. He's broke to ride and has been doing well out on trails. However, he is a handful and requires an experienced rider. Adoption fee: \$300



Chance is a 2005, unregistered Paint gelding. He's sweet and easy to handle, and he's ready to do whatever you would like to train him for! Adoption fee: \$250

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Kellogg agrees to raise nutrition of food marketed to children

By MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Kellogg Co., the world's largest cereal maker, has agreed to raise the nutritional value of cereals and snacks it markets to children.

The Battle Creek, Mich., company avoided a lawsuit threatened by parents and nutrition advocacy groups worried about increasing child obesity. Kellogg intends to formally announce its decision Thursday.

The company said it won't promote foods in TV, radio, print or Web site ads that reach audiences at least half of whom are under age 12 unless a single serving of the product meets these standards:

- No more than 200 calories.
- No trans fat and no more than 2 grams of saturated fat.
- No more than 230 milligrams of sodium, except for Eggo frozen waffles.
- No more than 12 grams of sugar, not counting sugar from fruit, dairy and vegetables.

Kellogg said it would reformulate products to meet these criteria or stop marketing them to children under 12 by the end of 2008.

"By committing to these nutrition standards and marketing reforms, Kellogg has vaulted over

the rest of the food industry," said Michael F. Jacobson, executive director of the Center for Science in the Public Interest. "This commitment means that parents will find it a little easier to steer their children toward healthy food choices — especially if other food manufacturers and broadcasters follow Kellogg's lead."

Jacobson's nutrition advocacy group, along with two Massachusetts parents and the Boston-based Campaign For A Commercial-Free Childhood, had served notice in January 2006 of intent to sue Kellogg and the Nickelodeon cable TV network under a Massachusetts law to stop them from marketing junk food to kids.

Center spokesman Jeff Cronin said Kellogg contacted the plaintiffs shortly thereafter and began negotiating the new standards, so the lawsuit was not filed and will not be filed.

"We are pleased to work collaboratively with industry and advocacy groups to unveil these standards," said David Mackay, Kellogg's CEO. "We feel the Kellogg Nutrient Criteria set a new standard for responsibility in the industry."

With 2006 sales of almost \$11 billion, Kellogg is not only the No. 1 cereal-maker but also a leading producer of snack foods. Its brands include Kellogg's, Keebler, Pop-Tarts, Eggo, Cheez-It, Rice Krispies and Famous Amos.

Globally, 50 percent of the products Kellogg markets to children do not meet the criteria, said Mark Baynes, Kellogg's chief marketing officer. A third of the cereals it markets to children in the U.S. fall outside standards.

Pop-Tarts and Fruit Loops don't meet the criteria, though most cereals fall inside the calorie

guideline, Baynes said. Meeting the sugar and sodium standards could be the most challenging.

Kellogg also announced that it will continue to refrain from advertising to children under age 6, and will not in the future:

— Advertise to children any foods in schools and preschools that include kids under age 12.

— Sponsor placement of any of its products in any medium primarily directed at kids under age 12.

— Use branded toys connected to any foods that do not meet the nutrition standards.

— Use licensed characters on mass-media ads directed primarily to kids under 12 or on the front labels of food packages unless they meet the standards.

Earlier this month, a Federal Trade Commission study found that half the ads for junk food, sugary cereals and soft drinks are

on children's programs, double the percentage 30 years ago. Children between ages 2 and 11 saw approximately 5,500 food ads on television in 2004, half of them on kids' shows with audiences of 50 percent children or greater.

American companies spend about \$15 billion a year marketing and advertising to children under age 12, the Institute of Medicine said last year when it warned that one-third of American children are obese or at risk for becoming obese.

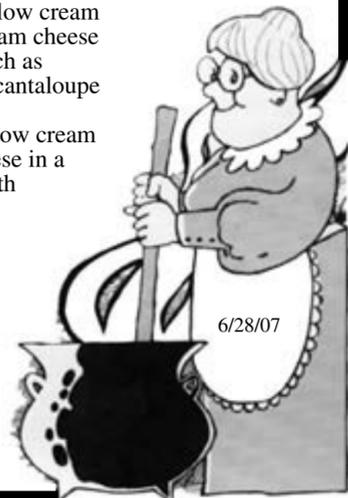
In response, Kellogg and McDonald's Corp. joined eight other major food and drink companies last November in an industry-sponsored pledge to promote more healthy foods and exercise in their child-oriented advertising. A year earlier, Kraft Foods Inc. had promised to curb ads to young children for snack foods, including Oreos and Kool-Aid.

Country Cookin'

Creamy Dip for Fruit

1 jar marshmallow cream
8 oz. bar of cream cheese
Sliced fruit, such as strawberries, cantaloupe

Mix marshmallow cream and cream cheese in a bowl. Serve with dipping-sized sliced fruit.



Making changes one step at a time Agent gives tips on children's fitness

School is out and summer time is here but it is still important that children try to find ways to be active while at home so that they can be more fit, feel more energetic and even feel less stressed, said Sally Garrett, Colorado County Extension Agent for family and consumer sciences.

Listed below are ideas that youth and their families can choose from three or four activities to try each week. It is recommended that youth work with their parents or an adult and choose what is right for them at their age level as well

as what is safe to do in the home, especially when they are alone. Each day youth need to try to do less sitting - keep moving instead.

All youth need to have a goal of being active for about one hour a day. It is recommended that they do an activity for at least 10 minutes.

These 10-minute increments can be added up until youth reach one hour of daily activity (6 ten minutes activities). Youth need to take it slowly at first and work up to the hour. By marking a calendar or keeping a chart youth can see that they are meeting their daily goals.

- Shoot hoops with a sponge or wiffle ball and net hung on the back of a door or in a garage.
- Set up a goal in your garage

or yard and practice shooting/kicking soccer balls.

• Turn the radio on and dance around the house. You can even do this while getting household chores done.

• Jump rope - make sure there is nothing in the way.

• Build a fort with blankets, cushions, tables, or old boxes. Crawl in and out making up your own story or adventure.

• Practice marching band formations or make up your own - play an instrument or just pretend.

• Set a timer and see how fast you can clean your room - at least it will make it a little more interesting.

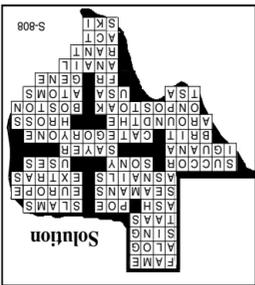
• Draw hopscotch with chalk on the garage floor or use yarn, string, or blankets to form hopscotch blocks indoors. Play, using a bean bag or stuffed animal, instead of a rock indoors.

• Plan and practice dances, skits, plays, or other programs to perform for family and/or friends later - or just for the fun of it. Dress up for the part.

• Make a kite out of newspaper, tape, and string - then try to fly it when you can.

• Plant an indoor or window box herb garden. Call your county Extension agent or ask your mom or dad to help you find out what grows best and when. Once you have the seeds or starter plants, you can go in the garage or put newspaper down in a kitchen or laundry room and plant and water them. Have someone help you learn to make healthful meals with the herbs you grow.

• Help mom or dad out - vacuum, sweep, or mop, it keeps you moving and fit and helps out around the house.



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Purdue vet: Top 10 list for pet owners during fireworks celebrations

Fireworks during Fourth of July celebrations can be frightening for pets, but a Purdue veterinarian says there are ways to avoid reactions that can cause injury to themselves or others.

"Owners need to use common sense when letting their pet join in the festivities," said Lorriane Corriveau, wellness veterinarian at Purdue University's School of Veterinary Medicine. "Some dogs love to chase those spinning and swirling objects on the ground. Others are traumatized by loud noises. Owners can help with tricks that can be as simple as putting cotton in their pet's ears to muffle the sound."

Corriveau offers these other tips for lowering the noise stress on pets during the holiday:

1. Never leave pets alone outdoors, even if tethered or in a fenced yard. Dogs, especially, may escape and become lost or injure themselves by chewing or choking on their leashes. Keep small pets sheltered indoors and horses in their stalls.

2. Make sure all sharp objects are removed from enclosures.

3. Turn on the radio or TV for distraction.

4. Do not take a pet to fireworks shows.

5. Do not leave a pet in a car unattended.

6. Keep pet on a leash or in a carrier if they must be outside.

7. Protect animals from children who may not realize that waving sparklers or setting off "safe" firecrackers could upset a family pet.

8. Keep I.D. tags current so the pet and owner can be reunited if loud noises cause it to run away.

9. Sedate horses and some dogs if needed. Noise phobia can get worse as a pet ages. A veterinarian can advise about giving the pet a mild sedative or tranquilizer to calm the fears of an extremely stressed dog, cat or horse.

Pick up leftover sparklers and other sharp objects when the night of festivities is over.



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Reavis Reviews

'Sunset'

By REAVIS Z. WORTHAM



"What are you boys doing?" asked a voice behind us. Normally a sudden voice appearing out of the dusk wouldn't bother us so much, but Woodrow and I happened to be sitting in a boat floating in the middle of the lake. Since we were drifting silently on the nearly perfectly calm water, we weren't expecting outside conversation. Shocked, I turned to see if a fish had somehow learned to talk, like the character in "The Incredible Mr. Limpit." In the movie, a man morphs into a fish and helps the U.S. Navy deal with bad guys bent on taking over the world. That afternoon, I wasn't much interested in saving the world, but talking to a fish might have been pretty interesting, since my conversations with Woodrow have become almost routine. Woodrow, on the other hand, responded to the sudden question by launching himself off the seat without consciously moving a muscle. He seriously thought about running away, but a small thread of common sense told him that although he thinks rather highly of himself, he still can't walk on water. He rose vertically for about a foot and raced on thin air for a long moment before gravity once again brought him back to the deck, nearly capsizing the boat. I grabbed onto the gunnels and

asked a few choice words until the boat quit rocking. Then I turned to see who had spoken. A game warden had apparently cut his motor somewhere and drifted toward our craft. He beamed a smile, probably due to his success at scaring the living daylights out of us, and tilted his cap back. "Hot ain't it?" Annoyed at being scared, Woodrow held his chest. "Which question do you want us to answer first?" The beaming smile turned into a frown and I tried to take over. "Wassup?" "I said, what are you boys doing? You have engine trouble?" "No, we're just drifting along here, watching the sun set," I answered. "It's such a pretty evening that we thought we'd just watch the sun go down and have wine and cheese and maybe hold hands just as the sun disappears below the horizon." Woodrow answered, rather caustically I thought. Knowing how grating he can sometimes be, especially after being scared to death in the middle of a lake, I tried to take over the conversation. "He's kidding. But you know, I've heard that there's a certain place in Key West to watch the sunset where sometimes, just as the sun disappears into the ocean, there's a

brief flash of green light." Unimpressed with my atmospheric knowledge, the game warden frowned some more. "You guys a couple from Key West?" Woodrow started to open his mouth, but I cut him off. "No, he's just kidding about the wine and cheese thing, though we have some Velveeta and crackers in here. We're from here. We just got tired of fishing and decided to relax for a while." "Do you ever converse in statements?" Woodrow broke in. "Or do you always use questions?" "See, he's retired," I said as if explaining a mental problem to a doctor. "Been fishing huh? Y'all have licenses?" Wondering if Woodrow was onto something about the guy only asking questions, I dug through my wallet and handed over my license. Woodrow passed his own back to me and I handed it over. "You boys have PFDs?" the game warden asked. Woodrow leaned sideways and I thought he was going to do something else, but he pointed at the floatation cushion he was sitting on. I held up the life jacket that was on the floor beside me. "Y'all catch anything you might have in those coolers?" the game warden asked. "Which cooler do you want to see?" I asked in return, just to see if I could get a statement out of him. "Which one has the fish in it?"

Dang, the boy was good. "None. We've been skunked today." "Ya'll been drinking?" "He was just kidding about the wine," I said. "Has he been drinking?" "He's retired," I said by way of explanation. "Who's boat is this?" "His." "Can't he talk?" "You made him mad, I think. You don't really want him to talk." "Can you just let him answer?" "Maybe I should. Woodrow, the floor is yours." "It's my boat." "Do you have lights for it?" "Yep. They're in my garage." Twenty minutes later Woodrow had a "receipt" from the officer, who actually left on good terms after we gave him some string cheese from the cooler. While Woodrow sulked in the bow, I tried to start the engine, but it wouldn't even try to catch. I shouted for the game warden to come back. "You guys need a tow?" Mr. Question asked and then towed us back to the boat ramp. "Why are you so cranky toward that kid?" I asked as we floated along behind the warden's boat. He handed me the ticket, along with a nice note the game warden had written. It read, "Sorry Uncle Woodrow." At the dock, I made Woodrow be nice, it was the least I could do to save peace in the family.

Galveston envisions East End lagoon preserve

GALVESTON, Texas (AP) — Mayor Lyda Ann Thomas and the Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council are embarking on a project to turn the island's East End lagoon into an environmental education center. The beach-front grassland, which was targeted for development in the past, is home to numerous bird species and was once a popular weekend attraction for local families to swim and canoe. The U.S. Coast Guard deeded the property to the city as a permanent preserve in 2004, requiring that it remain in its natural condition. The tourism council invited a group of charitable foundations, mostly from the Houston area, to a June 20 event in hopes of spurring interest in the site. Thomas said she didn't have a cost estimate for the project, but said she expects a master plan to cost at least \$350,000. Her goal is to have the nature center and a network of trails with bird-watching stations built by 2010. "It's an extraordinary spot of public land, of which we don't have a great deal on the island," said Ted Eubanks, owner of a nature tourism company and a member of the tourism council. "What's most important is to begin to elevate people's vision and ideas of what is possible on the East End," he said. The western half of the lagoon belongs to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The eastern half and 686 acres stretching to the easternmost tip of the island belong to the city. Thomas said the nature center building would be located on the site of a former U.S. Army Corps of Engineers station, which already has a paved road and parking area. She said the city will have to raise funds to make the project happen. She's working with the city to submit grant proposals for state and federal funds.

Falcons on Turner's ranch mark success for reintroduction program

By SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN

Associated Press Writer
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Biologists who have been working for years to reintroduce the endangered northern aplomado falcon to its historic range across the Southwest said on June 7 they have spotted baby birds in a trio of nests in southern New Mexico and West Texas. The chicks hatched in New Mexico are the first here under a restoration effort that began last summer when 11 captive-bred falcons were released on media mogul Ted Turner's Armendaris Ranch east of Truth or Consequences. The aplomado falcon, identified by a white stripe above the eye and a brown vest, was listed as endangered in 1986. New Mexico's last known nesting pair was near Deming more than 50 years ago. The development in southern New Mexico is just one measure of success for the reintroduction

project, which also has released birds on numerous private ranches in West Texas since 2002. After successful reintroduction efforts in South Texas, the non-profit Peregrine Fund, Turner's Endangered Species Fund and the Fish and Wildlife Service began work to restore the birds in New Mexico with the August 2006 release on the Armendaris. Angel Montoya, a biologist with The Peregrine Fund, said two of those birds began courting in March and took over an abandoned raven nest atop a 65-foot power pole on the ranch (aplomados don't make their own nests). Within weeks, they were bringing food back to the nest for their young. It was Montoya and ranch manager Tom Waddell who first spotted the bustling nest. Bill Heinrich, another biologist with The Fund, said the chicks were a surprise since the parents are barely approaching a year old. The babies — between 12 and 15 days old — will likely leave the nest around the end of June.

Montoya said they're about the size of a dove right now. The Peregrine Fund said two nests with chicks also were spotted on a ranch south of Van Horn, Texas, marking the first known nests in that area in a century. The Peregrine Fund is preparing to release about 125 falcons in New Mexico and West Texas later this year. In New Mexico, birds are scheduled for release this summer on the Armendaris and on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, state of New Mexico and White Sands Missile Range. The 360,000-acre Armendaris offers grama grass, yucca, mesquite and insects — perfect for the falcons. Another plus is the lack of predators such as rac-

coons, owls and coyotes. The falcons released there last year were born in captivity at The Peregrine Fund's breeding facility in Idaho. They fall under a special provision of the Endangered Species Act. Under the 10-J rule, the Fish and Wildlife Service classifies the birds released under the program as a nonessential experimental population. That means any aplomados in New Mexico are no longer considered endangered but continue to have some protections.

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1 Cowboy Troy is in NFL Hall of ___

5 TXism: "just sat there like a bump on ___"

6 what TX Janis Joplin used to do before TAKS, there was this test

8 TX cosmetics queen Mary Kay

9 U.S. Congressman Ted of 2nd TX dist.

12 4-run "grand" hits by Ranger or Astro at Aransas Pass: "

19 TX Renaissance Festival features medieval ___

21 TXism: "hard ___"

22 TXns in '07 "Friday Night Lights" episode in TX Stadium

23 fancy "give aid"

28 TX-sized electronics company

29 TXism: "he ___ barbed wire for dental floss"

30 lizard

31 talker or speaker

35 TX Trevino won this Open (abbr.)

36 the smallest hurricane that can hit the coast (2 wds.)

42 TXism: "you're a little green ___ gills" (looking sick)

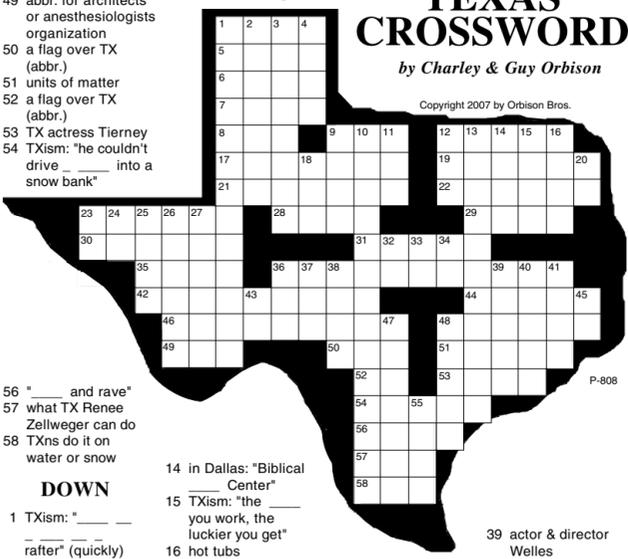
44 TX ___ Perot

46 in Houston: "Remington ___ Park"

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DOWN

1 TXism: " ___ rafter" (quickly)

2 assumed names

3 Ward Co. seat

4 TXism: "skunk ___" (27-down)

9 suffering

10 TX Charley Pride's "My Eyes Can ___ You"

11 feminine ending

12 TXism: "never let 'em ___ you sweat"

13 describing 46-across (2 wds.)

14 in Dallas: "Biblical ___ Center"

15 TXism: "the ___ you work, the luckier you get"

16 hot tubs

18 ___ Tse-Tung

20 "is" south of the border

23 "yes" south of the border

24 he's buried in Grant's Tomb (init.)

25 USS Texas delivered Pres. Hoover to Havana, ___

26 orange vegetable

27 see 4-down

32 Greg Abbott's TX title (abbr.)

33 Ranch with longhorn cattle

34 TXism: "let ___ rip"

36 today's media for TX singers

37 TX-sized communications co.

38 thy is its possessive

39 actor & director Welles

40 answer to "Who did it?" (2 wds.)

41 "those" south of the border"

43 TXism: "he's ___ spring chicken"

45 with an "L," abbr. for NBC Saturday comedy show

47 in Harrison Co. on FM 134

48 "Don't ___ Compost It"

55 opposed

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Austin County

June 30 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection, 8 a.m. to noon, Austin County Fairgrounds, Bellville. (979)865-5911, ext. 249.

Aug. 22 - Private Applicator Training, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Courthouse meeting room, located in the basement of the Austin County Courthouse in Bellville. Cost: \$25. (979)865-5911, ext. 249.

Bandera County

July 7 - First of four "Cowboys on Main" in Bandera. Event is each Saturday in July and features cowboys, strolling musicians, storytellers, and more from 1 to 4 p.m. on Main Street. Rodeo begins at 8 p.m. at Lightning Ranch each Saturday in July. (800)364-3833.

July 14-15 - Great Hill Country Apple Pickin', Love Creek Orchards, Bandera. (830)796-4447, www.lovecreekorchards.com.

July 21 - National Day of the American Cowboy, noon to 4 p.m., courthouse square, Bandera. Cowboy activities from roping to chuckwagon demonstrations to horse shoeing; plus storytelling, historical re-enactments, cowboy dress-up and old-time games. (800)364-3833.

Bastrop County

July 14 - Jr. Angler Fishing Clinic, 9 a.m., Bastrop State Park, Bastrop. Includes the basics of freshwater fishing. Open to boys and girls ages 6 to 13. (512)327-2241, (512)321-2101.

July 14 - McDade Watermelon Festival. (512)273-0018.

Bee County

July 4 - VFW Independence Day Celebration, Bee County Expo Center, Beeville. (361)362-3290 or (361)597-0414.

July 4 - Guitierrez Roping, Arena 1, Bee County Expo Center, Beeville. (361)362-3290 or (361)597-0414.

July 7 - Ringlestein Roping, Arena 1, Bee County Expo Center, Beeville. (361)362-3290 or (361)597-0414.

July 14 - TRA Roping, Arena 1, Bee County Expo Center, Beeville. (361)362-3290 or (361)597-0414.

July 15 - Bee Horse Barrel Racing, Arena 1, Bee County Expo Center, Beeville. (361)362-3290 or (361)597-0414.

July 21-22 - Lone Star Youth Rodeo, Arena 1, Bee County Expo Center, Beeville. (361)362-3290 or (361)597-0414.

July 28-29 - Truck Roping, Arena 1, Bee County Expo Center, Beeville. (361)362-3290 or (361)597-0414.

Brazoria County

July 26-28 - Great Texas Mosquito Festival, Clute. 800-371-2971, (979)265-8392, www.mosquitofestival.com.

Calhoun County

June 28 - District 11 4-H Junior Lab, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Rockport Beach - Beachfront Pavilion. Cost: \$15 per person. Registration deadline is June 15. (361)552-9747.

Colorado County

July 4 - Texas' Oldest Independence Day Celebration, Beason's Park, Columbus. (979)732-8385 or www.columbus-texas.org.

DeWitt County

July 10 - Country Music USA, 7 p.m., community center, Yoakum. Two-hour show includes in-house band and three guest artists. Home-style meal available before the show. (361)293-2843.

Aug. 14 - Country Music USA, 7 p.m., community center, Yoakum. Two-hour show includes in-house band and three guest artists. Home-style meal available before the show. (361)293-2843.

Fayette County

July 17-18 - Hunter Safety Course, 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. each evening, La Grange City Hall, La Grange. Cost: \$15. Registration deadline is July 13. For more information contact the Fayette County Extension Office at (979)968-5831 or Clinton Bippert at (979)968-5538.

Aug. 3-5 - Schulenburg Festival, Wolter's Park, 1100 Bohlmann, Schulenburg. (979)743-0656, www.schulenburgfestival.com.

Aug. 30-Sept. 2 - Fayette County Country Fair, Fayette County Fairgrounds, La Grange. (979)968-3911.

Fort Bend County

July 5 - Maintenance Shortcourse, 7 to 9 p.m., Extension Annex on Band Rd. in Rosenberg. Course will cover proper mowing height, patterns, pruning, mulching and weed-eating. Cost: \$5. (281)342-3034.

July 12 - Pests in the Garden - Green Thumb Seminar, 7 to 9 p.m., Eldridge Park Conference Center, 2511 Eldridge Road, Sugar Land. Designed to provide community members with a solid foundation of landscape information. For more information contact the Fort Bend County Extension Office at (281)342-3034.

July 14 - "Fashions from the Cotton Patch" Fashion Show and Luncheon, 11 a.m., Fort Bend County Extension Office. (281)342-3034.

July 19 - "Spotlight on 4-H - 4-H Day Camp", 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, Rosenberg. Cost: \$5 each individual (parents welcome to join event). (281)342-3034.

July 20 - Fort Bend County Crops Tour, 8:30 a.m., Fort Bend County Extension Education Center, 1402 Band Road, Rosenberg. A tour of cotton variety trials will be held after the program. A meal will be provided. 3 CEUs offered. RSVP by July 18. (281)342-3034

Guadalupe County

July 13-15 - Pecan Classic Steer and Heifer Show, Guadalupe County Fairgrounds, Seguin. (830)379-6477.

Hays County

June 28 - Protecting Your Country Home Against Wildfires in Texas, 7 to 8 p.m., Wimberley Community Center, 14068 Ranch Road 12 at the traffic light in front of Ozona Bank in Wimberley. For more information contact the Hays County Extension Office at (512)393-2120.

Jefferson County

July 16-27 - Jefferson County Master Gardener Short Course, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Jefferson County Extension Office, 1295 Pearl Street, Beaumont. For more information contact the Jefferson County Extension Office at (409)835-8461 or (409)727-2191 ext. 8461.

Kerr County

thru July 8 - Southwest Gourd Fine Art Show, Kerr Arts and Cultural Center, Kerrville. (830)895-2911.

July 24 - Hill Country Living 101 "A Learning Opportunity for New Landowners", 8:30 a.m., Kerr County Extension Office, 3655 Hwy. 27, Kerrville. Registration deadline is July 17. (830)257-6568.

Lee County

July 4 - Fireman's Fourth of July Celebration and Fury on the Fourth Bull Riding, Fireman's Park, Giddings. Kids' activities, antique carnival rides, adult softball tournament, live and silent auction, barbecue, live music, and more. (979)540-2717 or (979)542-3181.

Montgomery County

July 10 - "Our Changing Horse" Field Day, 6:30 p.m., Stalwart Ranch Horse Facility located on Long Street about 1 1/2 miles west of I-45. Long Street is the next exit north of FM 1097 off I-45 in Willis. For more information or to register to attend, contact the Montgomery County Extension Office at 936-539-7822.

Travis County

June 28 - Landowner Decision-Making Workshop, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Hornsby Bend Wastewater Facility, located eight miles southeast of Austin on FM 973 near the Austin-Bergstrom Airport. Cost: \$20 per person. (512)854-9610.

Victoria County

July 13-Dec. 29 - Exhibit - The Texas-California Trail Drive Series: Paintings by Tom Jones, The Museum of the Coastal Bend, The Victoria College, 2200 East Red River, Victoria.

Waller County

July 24 - Groundwater Conservation District - Town Hall Meeting, 6 to 8 p.m., Waller High School Cafeteria, 20950 Fields Store Rd., Waller. For more information contact the Waller County Extension Office at (979)826-7651.

Washington County

July 4 - Fireworks-on-the-Brazos, state historic site, Washington. Patriotic concert begins at 8 p.m. followed by choreographed fireworks show. Food vendors on site. (888)273-6426 or www.birthplaceoftexas.com.

July 19-21 - Blue Bell 100th Anniversary, Washington County Fairgrounds, Brenham. 888-273-6426, www.bluebell.com.

July 28-20, Aug. 4-5, 11-12 - Crush For Fun, Pleasant Hill Winery. (979)830-8463, www.pleasanthillwinery.com.

August estate planning seminar tailored for ranchers

Ranchers can learn how recent changes in tax laws may affect their estate plans by attending a seminar scheduled for Aug. 8-9 at the College Station Conference Center, 1300 George Bush Dr.

This event will be held in conjunction with the Texas A&M University Annual Beef Cattle Short Course, slated for Aug. 6-8, in College Station.

"Our goal is to help families make wise estate planning decisions by providing information on tax- and estate-planning matters," said Dr. Wayne Hayenga, Texas Cooperative Extension economist and attorney. "This information should be useful for married couples, potential estate executors and those who want to make estate settlement less burdensome for their loved ones."

The seminar will run from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Aug. 8, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 9, with lunch served at noon.

The first day's agenda will

cover basic estate devices such as wills, living trusts, estate tax deferral and gifts.

"A married couple can elect to not pay any estate tax on the death of the first spouse," Hayenga said. "But do you want to do this? What do you have to give up if you choose this option? Can you change your mind later? These are some common tax deferral concerns."

"Gifts are an alternative to leaving property in your estate. Can you afford to give property away while alive? What is the best kind of property to give away? What should you keep? We will address these and other questions the first day."

The second day's agenda will focus on estate taxes, how to keep the ranch running well, corporations and partnerships, special use land valuation, and life insurance in estate planning.

"We will also discuss the rules for deferring estate tax payments," Hayenga said. "You

can structure your estate to allow the heirs to pay some estate taxes over a 15-year period, at 4 percent interest.

"There are new tax rules that affect estate plans. What should you include in the taxable estate? What deductions and expenses are available to reduce the taxable estate? We will also

spend some time calculating your potential estate tax bill."

Registration costs \$125 per person. The fee covers all materials, refreshments and lunch on Aug. 9. Enrollment is limited. For more information or to register, contact Sharon Wehring at 979-845-2226 or by email at shwehring@tamu.edu.

100 trainers, 100 mustangs, 100 days and \$25,000

America's wild horses featured in Extreme Mustang Makeover

The image is one often seen in the movies, but this time, it's for real.

The Mustang Heritage Foundation and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are bringing together America's passion for its iconic mustangs and the challenge of training wild horses to a unique competition, the Extreme Mustang Makeover.

The Mustang Heritage Foundation created the Extreme Mustang Makeover event to highlight the recognized value of mustangs through a national training competition. The event will give the public a unique opportunity to see the results of wild horses becoming trained mounts and then participate in a competitive bidding process to adopt one of these treasured animals.

Fort Worth hosts Sept. 22 competition

A total of 100 trainers from 30 states were selected from among 220 applicants in May. Trainers then claimed their Nevada mustangs June 6-9 at BLM facilities in Nevada and Oklahoma.

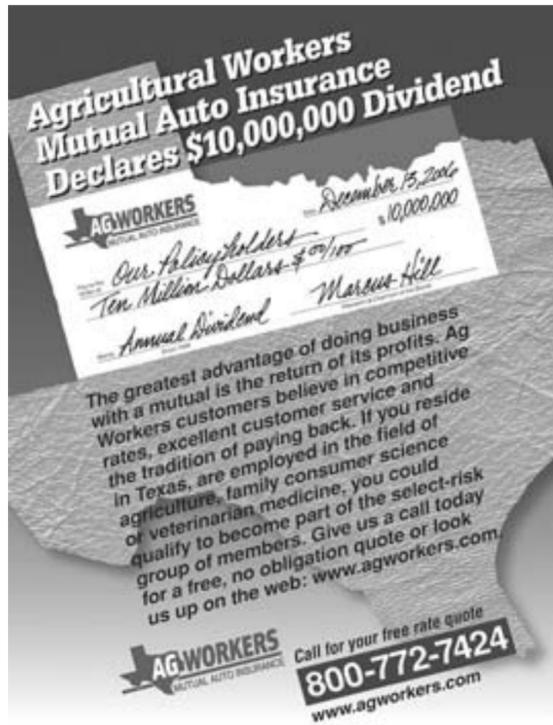
Trainers will compete in the Extreme Mustang Makeover competition for \$25,000 Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Will Rogers

Equestrian Center in Fort Worth. The trained mustangs will be judged on conditioning, groundwork, and a "Horse Course" that requires maneuvers and includes obstacles found in trail and recreational riding situations. Sunday, Sept. 23, the competing mustangs will be available for adoption through an oral bidding adoption at the Will Rogers Center.

All of the animals involved in the "Makeover" competition will be available for adoption at the Fort Worth event in September.

Adoption fees will be set by competitive bid with initial fees being determined by the level and quality of training each horse has received. To qualify to adopt, one must be at least 18, with no record of animal abuse. In addition, adopters must have suitable facilities and can adopt no more than four animals. Adoption applications may be obtained and approved on the spot. For complete requirements, go to www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov/requirements.htm.

The Extreme Mustang Makeover will also become a six-episode series on RFD Television's Wide World of Horses from August - December 2007. The show will share the stories of the mustangs and trainers as they learn to trust in one another and gain competitive confidence.



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★ Disagreement lingers as turbine sites are prepared

Continued from Page 1a

wind projects. He's written newspaper opinion pieces and spoken to the media about what he sees as the dangers of the projects.

Hunt said he met with Kenedy Ranch overseers when the wind farms were first proposed a couple of years ago, hoping to get them to understand they're "sacrificing the long-term value of a rare resource for short-term revenue."

"But it sort of fell on deaf ears," he said.

Marc Cisneros, who runs the John G. and Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation from nearby Corpus Christi, has declined to shout back. But he said the project on his section of the ranch not only is environmentally sound but will allow the foundation's charitable work to continue in an impoverished part of the state.

"It's kind of like the Hatfields and McCoys going on here, and it's really unfortunate," said John Calaway, chief

development officer for Babcock & Brown Ltd., an Australian outfit that plans to spend up to \$800 million to build 157 turbines on a lease secured from the foundation.

"The King Ranch has (nearly) a million acres, and if they think it's the right thing to do to have nothing developed, that's fine," he said. "But for them to infringe on the property rights of the Kenedy Ranch, which has been incredibly thoughtful about all this, is an outrage. It's so unneighborly, it's incredible."

Led largely by Texas, the United States grew its wind-power capacity faster than anyone in the world in 2005 and 2006, and wind farms now operate in 36 states. A recent study for Congress by the National Research Council said wind farms could generate up to 7 percent of the nation's electricity in 15 years — up from less than 1 percent today. That report also said more study was needed on the effect wind farms have on birds and bats.

With no permitting required, plentiful open spaces and the

chance of landing a U.S. Department of Energy blade-testing facility, "Texas is uniquely positioned to lead the nation in wind power," said state land commissioner Jerry Patterson, a wind farm proponent who's bickered publicly with Hunt on the issue.

Besides the skyline of turbines endangering birds, Hunt bristles the most at the lack of regulation of the turbine-laden farms. Developers need neither state nor federal approval to erect the towers on private land. Hunt supported state legislation to require permitting for such sites, but it failed. Congress also considered such requirements, but nothing materialized.

"I don't think (government) agencies are doing their jobs," Hunt said from his Houston office. "These are not farms. They're industrial sites."

The feud might have Richard King and Mifflin Kenedy, the ranches' founders, spinning in their graves. In the mid-19th century, the two men each operated steamboats in Florida before migrating to Texas and making fortunes moving goods

and people along the Rio Grande. They bought land in tandem and owned a steamboat line. Today, the Kenedy Ranch is sandwiched between King's holdings.

"They were very close — business partners, lifelong friends," said Homero Vera, who runs the Kenedy Ranch Museum in Sarita. "Mifflin was with King when he died in San Antonio."

Today, King Ranch's vast privately held portfolio includes ranching and farming operations, oil and gas royalties and hunting leases, as well as retail operations that include furniture and high-priced leather goods.

The disagreement lingers even as Babcock & Brown and PPM Energy of Portland, Ore., prepare the sites for the turbines, which they both hope to have spinning sometime next year. PPM's initial phase calls for 84 turbines on about 15,000 acres owned by the John G. Kenedy Jr. Charitable Trust — a \$400 million investment that's expected to generate 200 megawatts of

electricity, enough to power about 60,000 average-size homes.

PPM spokesman Jan Johnson said the company, part of Spanish power utility Iberdrola, has worked diligently to make sure the turbines will have as little effect on the area as possible. She said it already scaled back the number of turbines nearer the coastline in part to protect some birds' flight patterns.

Jim Sinclair, the local biologist who studied the birds for PPM, said he's been surprised at the relatively small number of birds he's seen near the wind farm site. The area's hundreds of varieties include mourning doves, long-billed curlews, hawks, orioles and redhead ducks. In general, Sinclair said, many of the birds stick close to the water and large clusters of oak trees, and the turbines are far enough away not to pose too much of a threat — information PPM says it's shared with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and others.

"We simply haven't seen a

lot of them in the rotor-swept areas," Sinclair said.

Cisneros said he and his board of directors were satisfied the project posed little threat to the environment. The foundation donated \$11.5 million to charities in 2006, primarily causes in south Texas associated with the Catholic Church.

"We're convinced the benefits outweigh the disadvantages," Cisneros said. "And we're a charity organization, so there's a human dimension that hasn't been brought into all this."

Those arguments have done little to appease Hunt, who said he still hopes to work with lawmakers to make wind farms more accountable. He points to the federal tax credits that wind farms receive as only one of the reasons for more oversight.

"This area is often called 'the last great wilderness,'" Hunt said. "Nobody really understands the impact these turbines will have on an area that's so biologically diverse. It's a horrific location."

★ Mediation methods noted

Continued from Page 1a

offered a session on Civil and Criminal Justice Systems in Rural Texas. The information was presented by Carl Reynolds, director of the Office of Court Administration out of Austin, and Ted Wood, special counsel to Trial Courts, Office of Court Administration in Austin.

Reynolds, a graduate of the University School of Law and LBJ Public Affairs, explained that there are a lot of resources and information about the judicial branch of local governments.

"There's not one system in Texas that is like any other state," noted Reynolds, as he discussed how Texas courts and lawyers are available to "people without means," if they know where to look, and said there was "substantial local funding in Texas."

Wood explained that on the federal level, every judge is appointed, but at the state level, all are elected except for the municipal court judge. District judges/courts can cover more than one county.

Out of 254 Texas counties, 133 are considered rural, and an additional 64 counties are con-

sidered to be "frontier," or less than seven people per square mile, according to The Texas Resolution Connection.

Because some counties are very small, they are sometimes grouped together for one district judge to serve, noted Wood. With different configurations throughout the state, according to population in individual areas, there are 59 district courts in Harris County, for example.

Preparing citizens for how to effectively deal with disputes was a goal of the forum. "We feel passionate about being prepared for the future and ensuring the survival of Rural Texas communities through the use of alternative dispute resolution methods to explore solutions to potential problems facing rural communities," cites the Texas Resolution Connection newsletter.

The June 12-13 forum detailed mediator skills covering confidentiality, emotional intelligence, bankruptcy and property tax arbitration training, and family mediation training ... a little bit of everything that may be hard for some rural citizens to find out about. For more information, visit online at www.texasrural.org.

★ Groups upset about veto

Continued from Page 1a

include changes in traffic patterns and a property's visibility from the road, which Texas courts have knocked down because of the added costs to public projects that taxpayers would have to pay, the release states.

After the bill passed both houses — 125 of 150 votes in the House and unanimously in the Senate — Perry's office heard from most fast-growing cities and counties asking him to veto the bill; the cost of constructing state and local projects would have increased by more than \$1 billion, the release stated.

"As someone who grew up in rural Texas, and farmed our family's piece of land, I am a strong proponent of protecting private property rights," Perry said in the statement. "But the issue is one of fairness to taxpayers, who will get fleeced in order to benefit condemnation attorneys."

"Gov. Perry has sent the message loud and clear that he does not support private property rights," said Jon Means, president of Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA). "We are extremely disappointed that in this state it is apparently acceptable for the government to take people's property without paying them for their damage."

Perry supported the bill early on but had objections to amendments added later.

The eminent domain issue for portions of the corridor proposal currently is on a back burner, Texas Farm Bureau (TFB) officials said.

"The more time we have to spread our story and to make an issue out of (eminent domain) is certainly going to help the property owners," said Fleming, who grows corn and wheat, and raises cattle.

TFB officials said they believed Perry wanted to fix

Texas' eminent domain law, having met with him early in the session.

"The taking of private property has become far too easy in this state," Kenneth Dierschke, TFB president, said in a statement. "Obviously, there are many powerful interests that prefer it stay that way."

Fleming took aim at Perry, saying he has turned his back on agriculture and his veto makes that clear.

"I feel like he's let us down a little bit," Fleming said. "He's got big ag background but since he's become a politician, he's kind of left ag out."

TFB spokesman Gene Hall said the group will work to revisit the issue when legislators next gather in regular session in 2009. And they will talk with Perry.

"All we can do now is talk with him and work with him," Hall said. "We are serious about this."

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AgriLand's Carolyn Vaughan, left, presents a check to Bobby Kaufert of Ben E. Keith Co. for a beef purchase. Also pictured, left to right, are Phil Adler, NETBIO president; Shelby Harper, AgriLand vice chairman; and Sue Hawkins McClure, Meal-A-Day coordinator.

AgriLand, FCS recently won the national Phelps-Martin Community Service Award for its involvement with the North East Texas Beef Improvement program.

But that's not all—AgriLand used the \$1,000 prize money to buy beef for the Hopkins County Meal-A-Day program.

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This archived photo of Jim Shoulders shows him having some fun while aboard Speckled Bird during a San Angelo rodeo in 1954. Shoulders won 16 world champion titles from 1949 to 1959, including five all-around, seven bull riding and four bareback riding. Plus he was reserve champion another 10 times, including four second-place finishes in the all around. -- Photo courtesy of prorodeo.com

★ Career detailed

Continued from Page 1a think there will be a hero as strong as Jim Shoulders," said rodeo announcer and long-time friend Clem McSpadden, of Chelsea, Okla. "The biggest tree in the rodeo forest has fallen."

Shoulders was the only man to win the Cheyenne (Wyo.) Frontier Days Rodeo all-around title four times and was a seven-time winner of the Calgary Stampede. In addition to his 16 world championships, he was reserve champion another 10 times, including four second-place finishes in the all around.

The Shoulders have been Henryetta, Okla., ranchers since 1951 and had partnered with their only son, Marvin Paul, in family ranching operations in recent years.

Apart from being a charter member of the ProRodeo Hall of Fame in Colorado Springs, Shoulders is also inducted into the Cowboy Hall of Fame in Edmond, Okla., and is the only rodeo cowboy honored in the Madison Square Garden Hall of Fame in New York City.

The Oklahoma Hall of Fame inducted Shoulders in 1975 for his years of public service, and in 1989 he was selected to become a member of the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame. Tulsa Mayor Kathy Taylor proclaimed May 13, 2006 – his 78th birthday – as Jim Shoulders Day as part of the Wrangler ProRodeo Winter Tour Finale there.

Because of his success as a rodeo cowboy and his larger-than-life persona, Shoulders worked as a spokesperson for many corporations over the years in addition to working as a stock contractor.

He represented Wrangler from 1948 until the time of the death, had a long association with the Justin Boot Company and was featured in a highly successful Miller Lite "All Star" advertising campaign on television and in print ads.

Shoulders, who won his world titles from 1949-59, knew firsthand that without contracts like some pro athletes have, cowboys don't get paid unless they compete and win prize money.

Marcie recalled her dad speaking about discussions he had with John Justin and Frank Scivetti of Justin Brands, Inc., about starting an organization to help injured rodeo athletes and their families.

"They talked about what they could do that would really help, and dad said when a cowboy gets hurt, he doesn't eat," Marcie said.

Shoulders wanted to find a way to provide financial assistance to contestants and their families so rodeo athletes would remain on the sidelines and fully heal before returning to competition.

Conversations among cowboys, like Shoulders, and executives at Justin Brands, Inc., led to the formation of the JCCF in 1989.

"He was a big believer in the Crisis Fund," Marcie said. The JCCF has awarded \$4.6 million in need-based financial assistance to more than 600 rodeo athletes and their families since its inception.

For more on the JCCF, visit www.prorodeo.com.

Best cowboys, cowgirls sitting in Top 3 spots

ProRodeo Cowboys World Standings

Unofficial as of June 18, 2007

*Denotes 2006 world champions

() - Indicates number of rodeos counted toward standings. For 2007, each event has a limit of 70 rodeos.

ALL-AROUND COWBOY ... *1. Trevor Brazile, Decatur, Texas, \$89,988; 2. Josh Peek, Pueblo, Colo., \$59,791; 3. Blair Burk, Durant, Okla., \$47,630.

BAREBACK RIDING ... 1. Bobby Mote, Culver, Ore. (18), \$78,187; 2. Jess Davis, Payson, Utah (25), \$37,304; 3. Ryan Gray, Cheney, Wash. (20), \$37,174.

STEER WRESTLING ... 1. Jule Hagen, Protection, Kan. (21), \$60,595; 2. Luke Branquinho, Los Alamos, Calif. (31), \$49,545; 3. Wade Sumpter, Fowler, Colo. (25), \$48,195.

TEAM ROPING (HEADING) ... 1. Brandon Beers, Powell Butte, Ore. (21), \$45,531; 2. Speed Williams, De Leon, Texas (18), \$44,267; 3. Travis

Tryan, Billings, Mont. (24), \$32,879. **TEAM ROPING (HEELING)** ... 1. Dean Tuftin, Prineville, Ore. (19), \$47,525; 2. Mike Beers, Post, Ore. (20), \$43,048; 3. Michael Jones, Stephenville, Texas (24), \$32,879.

SADDLE BRONC RIDING ... 1. Rusty Allen, Lehi, Utah (22), \$91,522; 2. Taos Muncy, Corona, N.M. (24), \$43,048; 3. Cody Wright, Milford, Utah (18), \$41,620.

TIE-DOWN ROPING ... 1. Houston Hutto, Del Rio, Texas (24), \$62,514; 2. Trevor Brazile, Decatur, Texas (22), \$56,287; 3. Jake Hannum, Ogden, Utah (18), \$48,888.

BARREL RACING ... 1. Codi Baucum, Carthage, N.C. (15), \$67,616; 2. Brittany Pozzi-Pharr, Victoria, Texas (25), \$60,650; 3. Vickie Solmons, Riverton, Utah (13), \$39,121.

BULL RIDING ... *1. B.J. Schumacher, Hillsboro, Wis. (22), \$86,616; 2. Chance Smart, Philadelphia, Miss. (33), \$62,623; 3. J.W. Harris, May, Texas (30), \$55,669.



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