

**LOCAL**

**College notes**

**Sherice Warner**, of Corpus Christi, has been named to the fall 2012 dean's list at Loyola University Maryland.

The following students were named to the fall 2012 dean's list at Sam Houston State University:

**CORPUS CHRISTI**  
**Alexis Anderson, Katherine Bunting, Christopher Dombroski, Eleanor Jones, Sarah Myers and Max Pierce**

**Eleanor Elizabeth Jones**, of Corpus Christi, was named to the fall 2012 president's honor roll at Sam Houston State University.

The following students were placed on the fall 2012 dean's list at Schreiner University:

**ALICE**  
Pete Trevino

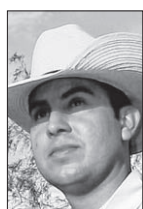
**CORPUS CHRISTI**  
Lanie Jae Alaniz, Andrew Dillon Rouse and Alfred Brady Tumlinson

**ORANGE GROVE**  
Stefaney Lynn Baker

**Flavius Killebrew**, president of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, was selected as a keynote speaker for the 65th annual National American GI Forum Conference July 24-27 in Denver. The annual event allows AGIF membership delegates and their families an opportunity to come together and discuss important contemporary issues facing veterans and the Hispanic community. This year's theme will be "Pa' Lante: The Evolution and Future of Hispanic Veterans."

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi signed a letter of intent with SSC Service Solutions, a subsidiary of Compass Group North America, to manage building maintenance and landscaping services. The action was taken as part of the Texas A&M University System's plan led by Chancellor John Sharp to outsource building maintenance, landscaping services and custodial services at 16 A&M system campuses throughout Texas to help A&M system members save money without losing quality of services.

**Fidel Hernandez**, professor and Alfred C. Glassell Jr. Endowed Professor in Quail Research at Texas A&M University-Kingsville, was honored Feb. 21 by LULAC Council No. 1 as an Outstanding Community Leader. Hernandez is a faculty member in the animal, rangeland and wildlife sciences department and is a research scientist with the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, both in the Dick and Mary Lewis Kleberg College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences.



Hernandez

**Michael Wetz**, assistant professor of marine biology at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, is investigating the causes of deteriorating water quality in Baffin Bay, symptoms of which include fish kills, excessive algal blooms and increasing nutrient loads, according to a university news release. In January, Kleberg County commissioners awarded Wetz \$11,500 to launch and oversee a volunteer water



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

More than 250 Coastal Bend College students, staff and community members attended the Black History Month: CBC United 2013 celebration Feb. 26 on the Beeville campus. Pictured are Velma Elizalde (front row, from left), vice president of Student and Administrative Services at CBC; Lois Virata, paraprofessional at St. Mary's Academy Charter School; Denise Hutchinson-Bell, director of Adult Basic Education at CBC; Beatriz T. Espinoza, CBC president; Idotha Battle, CBC Vocational Nursing Instructor; Eric Tarver (back row, from left); Darryl Martin, clinical director of Coastal Bend Spine and Sport; and Ronald Givens, assistant warden at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Garza East Unit.

quality monitoring program to better understand causes behind these water quality changes and how Baffin Bay works. The program, which is expected to begin in late March, will rely on residents to routinely collect samples in Baffin Bay.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi reported a record spring enrollment. The number reported on the 12th class day (Feb. 7) reflected an increase of 3.58 percent, or 342 students, from spring 2012 enrollment. There were 9,901 students, according to a university news release. The most significant increase came in programs focused on science, engineering, nursing and health sciences. Some of those programs saw an increase of more than 12 percent.

**Frank Spaniol**, professor of kinesiology at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, was a featured speaker during the 67th annual American Baseball Coaches Association Convention held Jan. 4-5 in Chicago. Spaniol presented "Utilizing Sport Science to Improve Player Performance" to more than 4,500 coaches. Spaniol's presentation focused on athletic profiling using the Baseball Athletic Testing System, which he developed. He was selected to present based on his internationally renowned pioneering research on athletic testing and visual training for athletes.

**Robert L. Smith**, professor and chairman of the department of counseling and educational psychology at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, has been elected to serve as the 63rd president of the American Counseling Association. Smith's most recent leadership position was as the ACA Governing Council's parliamentarian during 2011-12. Previously, Smith served on the Governing Council of ACA, president and co-founder of the International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors and president of the National Career Development Association. He is the IAMFC executive director.

**David McKee**, professor

of biology and mariculture, is retiring after teaching at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for 28 years. McKee, who arrived at the university in 1985, is a recipient of the Coastal Bend Bays Foundation's Conservation and Environmental Stewardship Award for his work in higher education. For nearly 25 years, McKee's Marine Ecology classes have analyzed water quality and marine animals from Oso Bay, giving it a clean bill of health.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi competed against seven other Chartered Financial Analysts university teams across the nation, and placed third in the Mid-South Research Challenge held Feb. 2 in Memphis, Tenn. Each university sent a team of three to five students to participate in the challenge. The local team of students led by **Eugene Bland**, professor of finance, included **David Fonseca, James Henshall, Chau Hoang, Carroll Nelson and Ronny Pigg**.

The students presented their buy/sell/hold recommendations and their analysis on Chicago Bridge and Iron. Their presentation at the Mid-South Research Challenge was the culmination of three months of research, interviews with company management, competitors and clients, presentation training and evaluation, according to a university news release.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Alumni Association announced its new 2013 board of directors. Newly inducted board members include: **Leslie Balerio, Gary Cotter, Ray DeLos Santos, Krystal Houck, Katie Hoover, Mark Militello, Sara Stempel, Cynthia Turner and Liza Wisner**. The executive committee includes: **John O. Steward Jr.**, president; **Nancy Vera**, president elect; **Greg Freeman**, vice president; **Curtis Rock**, treasurer. Returning board members include: **Andrea Guzman, Petra Martinez, Alma Garcia, Roy Ford, Sonya Buckwalter, Cassandra Hinojosa, Michelle**

**School notes**

Incarnate Word Academy High School Level senior **John Lawrence "J.L." Bronold** has been named a National Merit finalist. The 2013 senior class at Incarnate Word Academy has one National Merit Finalist, seven National Merit Commended students, one National Achievement Outstanding Participant and three National Hispanic Scholars.

Gregory-Portland High School defeated Ray High School 2-1 in the finals of the annual high school mock trial competition in Corpus Christi. Incarnate Word Academy received third place and was selected by a lottery because there were 10 teams competing in the competition. Those three teams will compete with 23 other Texas high school teams in the state final March 8-9 in Dallas.

Compiled by Tina Vasquez



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Rotary Club of Southside Corpus Christi "Student Achievers" for February are Moody High School seniors Chris Jones (right) and Clyde Avalos. Each month the club recognizes and honors top students who exhibit the club's motto of "Service above Self." Moody High School is the club's partner school in many Rotary-related projects. Also pictured is Sandra Gonzalez, Moody High School guidance counselor.

**Reunions**

**Wynn Seale Jr. High School** all-alumni open house and walk-through is from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday at the school (Metropolitan School of Design), 1707 Ayers St. A mixer begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday at The Astor Restaurant, 5533 Leopard St. An after party is at 10 p.m. at Executive Surf Club, 309 N. Water St. A gathering begins at 8 p.m. Saturday at The Tequila Rose Night Club, 5831 Weber Road. Information: Jo Anne Gamez, 361-215-7560, or Linda Lopez, 549-6206. **Social Club Reunion** for all clubs of the 1960s and 1970s is from 7 p.m. to midnight March 23 at the Gulf Coast Race Track, 5302 Leopard St. Cost: \$20 per person. The event features music and cash bar. Information: D. Quintanilla, 834-1118.

**Ray and King high schools** Class of 1967 will celebrate a 45th reunion April 5-6 at the Holiday Inn Marina and at Executive Surf Club. Information: www.ray-king67reunion.com. **Wynn Seale Jr. High School** is planning a 2013 reunion in the spring for all classes. Information: Linda, 361-549-6206; Al, 361-549-8531; Joanne, 361-215-7560. **Miller High School** Class of 1963 will hold its 50th reunion Aug. 30-31 at the Omni Hotel. The event is open to all Miller graduates. Information: Tony Torres, 331-4369; Minnie Sanchez, 945-0242; Kathy Freyer Kern, 832-723-4226; Joe Barrientes, 443-3266; or Josie Gomez, 563-4189.

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