

Local

Merchantability warranty applies to sale of ill puppy. **6B**

Microsoft unveils the Xbox One, an all-in-one system. **6B**

CSCOPE move leaves some in lurch

Lesson plans meant to help small districts



By Matthew Waller
Scripps Texas Newspapers

Chad Kelly remembers when he started teaching at Robstown High School.

He was handed an economics textbook and told "teach economics," said Kelly, now superintendent of Taft Independent School District.

For those situations, the curriculum system

CSCOPE, with 1,600 lesson plans, is a boon to educators, Kelly said. CSCOPE is the curriculum developed by the state's Education Service Centers, which are tasked with helping teachers teach students the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, or TEKS.

The service centers created CSCOPE to help smaller school districts,

which typically can't afford to develop curricula on their own, as larger school districts such as San Angelo and the Corpus Christi can. About 875 school districts use the curriculum. They represent 70 percent of districts in the state and about 35 percent of its students.

Now the state is shutting down those lesson plans, and school districts that have depended on CSCOPE are wondering about the next step.

Lawmakers announced Monday that members

See CSCOPE, 2B

Officials: Impact unknown

Service center board looks to future

By Elaine Marsilio
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Education Service Center Region 2's board of directors questioned Tuesday night how to proceed under a re-

vamped CSCOPE curriculum and how their client school districts would be affected if the center participates in a statewide agreement to continue managing that curriculum.

"What is our commitment?" asked Kevin Thomas O'Hanlon, the board's attorney. "Our school districts want to know."

CSCOPE, which has

provided educators with Web-based lesson plans, exams and units of study, came under scrutiny in recent months when concerns surfaced about particular lessons being viewed as promoting pro-Islamic views.

Local service center officials and their attorney said it isn't clear what effect would be

See REGION 2, 2B



PHOTOS BY RACHEL DENNY CLOW/CALLER-TIMES

Members of First Baptist Church Mission Minders release 40 balloons Tuesday containing the names of missionaries serving throughout the world. The church had a birthday party celebrating 125 years of the Southern Baptist Women's Missionary Union.

Scholars earn the spotlight

Flint Hills, Koch recognize top students

By Mary Beth Cleavelin
Special to the Caller-Times

When Evelin Hernandez and Jose Silva graduated from Collegiate High School on Friday, they already had received two degrees from Del Mar College. The extra course load earned them associate degrees in liberal arts and foreign language, which isn't out of the ordinary for their classmates.

"Our school is specifically designed so that students leave with college degrees," Silva said.

The two scholars were among 60 honored Tuesday by Flint Hills Resources and Koch Pipeline Company at the Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz International Center.

Flint Hills has recognized more than 600 students in 18 years. The students are chosen by ad-

ministrators and teachers.

"It's nice to know teachers see what we're doing outside of school and notice what we're doing for our community," Hernandez said.

This is the first year Koch has been involved.

Mark Escamilla, Del Mar president and keynote speaker, reflected on his time as a student and offered advice he learned along the way.

"Be prepared to study that extra hour, submit that extra credit assignment and go the extra mile to get noticed," Escamilla said. "It's not about who you know, but rather who knows you."

With local television ads and the dinner honoring the students, Flint Hills Public Affairs Manager Darcy Jones doubts the honorees will go unnoticed.

"This isn't a scholarship program. We want to give them recognition and tell the community what they've achieved," Jones said.

A lofty endeavor

Balloons containing names of 40 missionaries serving throughout the world floated over Corpus Christi on Tuesday as members of First Baptist Church Mission Minders celebrated 125 years of the Southern Baptist Women's Missionary Union.

Each balloon contains a card with a name of someone serving and a phone number to call when the balloon is found. The group also is asking people who find the balloons to pray for the missionary on the card.

About 80 women participated in the party for the group, which was formed locally in 1948.

The group meets once a month to provide support for missionaries with prayers and fellowship, member Betty Maroney said.

"The goal is to spread the gospel and let people know about the love of Jesus all over the world," she said.

Rachel Denny Clow



Phyllis Riddle was joined by about 80 women during a meeting of the missionaries support group.



Each of 40 balloons sent aloft carries the name of a missionary somewhere in the world. Members of First Baptist Church Mission Minders are asking the finders of the balloons to phone the number on the card and also to pray for the missionary it identifies.



ELAINE MARSILIO/CALLER-TIMES

Sister Camelia Herlihy, who serves as Incarnate Word Academy elementary principal, will say goodbye to Catholic education in June.

IWA's Sister Camelia will not be forgotten

Educator has left Catholic legacy

By Elaine Marsilio
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When Sister Camelia Herlihy walks down the hall, students run to be with her.

And for 54 years, she has been there for them.

Herlihy, who serves as Incarnate Word Academy elementary principal, will say goodbye to Catholic education at the end of June.

The 75-year-old, who from 1970-85 served as the superin-

tendent of the Diocese of Corpus Christi, said she plans to retire and take time to rest and pray. Rosario Davila, a layperson from the Diocese of Laredo who has 36 years in Catholic education, is set to succeed Herlihy and plans to start July 1, Incarnate Word President Charles D. Imbergamo said.

Hundreds of students, teachers and parents honored Herlihy on Tuesday during a reception.

They took time to thank Herlihy for her help providing the latest school supplies and playground equipment, and visiting classrooms to share her smile and knowledge.

See IWA, 3B

FLINT HILLS RESOURCES OUTSTANDING SCHOLARS

- | | |
|---|--|
| ARANSAS PASS
■ Juan Antonio Galvan
■ Brianna Cribb | KING
■ Katie Jeffries
■ John Rafael |
| BEN BOLT
■ Elizabeth Zambrano | MOODY
■ Luisandrea Diaz
■ Mario Cosio |
| CALALLEN
■ Ally Karagas | PORT ARANSAS
■ Jenna Ward
■ Brenna Martin |
| CARROLL
■ Shih-Chuan Wang
■ Kaitlyn Upton | RAY
■ Jessica Griffiths
■ Michael Shamoun |
| COLLEGIATE
■ Evelin Hernandez
■ Jose Silva | ROBSTOWN
■ Celeste Martinez
■ Alex Rubio |
| CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE PREPARATORY
■ Ryan Davila | ROCKPORT-FULTON
■ Jennifer Beth Harris
■ Richard Huettel |
| FLOUR BLUFF
■ Katie Johnstone
■ Samuel Lambiotte | METRO SCHOOL OF DESIGN (MILLER)
■ Chole Hernandez
■ Fernando Vela |
| GREGORY-PORTLAND
■ Josh Glasson
■ Bethany Sutter | TULOSO-MIDWAY
■ Lauren Carter
■ Jeremy Brittain |
| KINGSVILLE
■ Sarah Sedoy
■ Genaro DeLeon | WEST OSO
■ Matthew Castillo
■ Elizabeth Valdez |
| INCARNATE WORD
■ Jackson Bright
■ Brittany Donald | |
| JOHN PAUL II
■ Brian McCutcheon
■ Lauren Lerma | |

KOCH PIPELINE COMPANY OUTSTANDING SCHOLARS

- | | |
|--|---|
| ODEM
■ Jesse Becker
■ Ernesto Esqueda | KARNES CITY
■ Chance Leap
■ Courtney Pieprzyca |
| INGLESIDE
■ Tessa Flores
■ Aidan Flores | GOLIAD
■ Jeremy Pena
■ Kara Thomas |
| PETTUS
■ Clay Brown
■ Brittany Trevino | REFUGIO
■ Marcela Leal
■ Cameron Sternadel |
| BEEVILLE
■ Taylor Castillo
■ Graham Traylor | SINTON
■ Andrew Mercier
■ Courtney Reopelle |
| TAFT
■ Brandon Gonzales
■ Erin Guzman | |

LOCAL

Area scoops

TAFT

Ex-band director set for sentencing

A former Taft High School band director will be sentenced next month for having an improper relationship with a student.

Roy Hinojosa, 49, pleaded guilty to the second-degree felony charge May 2 and will be sentenced at 9 a.m. June 21 by District Judge Joel Johnson. Hinojosa faces as much as 20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Sinton police were called about 1:30 p.m. Nov. 7 to a Best Western off U.S. Highway 77 after receiving tips the educator was there with a teenage girl, police said.

When officers knocked on a motel room door, the teacher answered and a female student was found inside.

The teen was turned

over to a guardian as police questioned the man and collected evidence. Hinojosa resigned Nov. 8.

Michelle Villarreal

BEEVILLE

Seven plead guilty to prison scheme

Seven people, including inmates and former corrections officers, pleaded guilty Monday to racketeering charges related to smuggling cellphones and drugs into a Beeville prison.

A total of 22 people have pleaded guilty since their indictments in February.

A 23-page indictment accuses 32 people of taking bribes and participating in illegal schemes and racketeering activity to protect and expand criminal operations from January 2009 until their arrests.

The arrests led to the

federal investigation of the McConnell Unit, dubbed Operation Prison Cell, in which Raza Unida and Aryan Brotherhood gang leaders orchestrated criminal activity, according to the indictment. Those leaders are accused of organizing murders, attempted murders, home invasions and shootings through smuggled cellphones.

Department officials installed a managed cellphone system at the unit that blocks service except on authorized phones or phones that dial 911.

The unit was placed on lockdown Feb. 28, a week after the 32 were indicted.

During the lockdown each cell was thoroughly searched for contraband, according to Texas Department of Criminal Justice spokesman John Hurt.

Michelle Villarreal

Obituaries

The news department publishes obituaries free on a space-available basis as a service to Caller-Times readers. The Caller-Times accepts obituaries only from funeral homes.

Iona J. Berger

GOLIAD—Iona Jank Berger died May 17, 2013. She was 92.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. May 22 at St John's Lutheran Church. Burial will follow in Glendale Cemetery.

Goliad Funeral Home

Angelita T. Cantu

Angelita T. Cantu died May 18, 2013. She was 58.

Burial will be at 11 a.m. May 23 in Duncan Cemetery.

Saxet Funeral Home

Lee P. Cohn

Lee Pettus "Honey" Cohn died May 17, 2013. She was 81.

Memorial service and reception is at 11 a.m. May 22 at the Good Shepherd, Episcopal.

Seaside Funeral Home

Oscar Cuellar

Oscar Cuellar died May 18, 2013. He was 88.

Services will be at 10 a.m. May 23 at Memory Gardens Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Eciquel P. Flores

ARANSAS PASS—Eciquel P. Flores died May 20, 2013. He was 63.

Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. May 22 at Charlie Marshall Funeral Home. Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. May 23 at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church, Ingleside. Burial will be in San Antonio Cemetery, Rockport.

Virginia C. Jackson

Virginia Coonrod Jack-

son died May 21, 2013. She was 80.

Burial will be at 10 a.m. May 23 in Sinton Cemetery.

Ritchea-Gonzales Funeral Home, Sinton

Alejandro Jasso

Alejandro Jasso died May 20, 2013. He was 93.

Services will be at 1 p.m. May 23 at Funeraria del Angel. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Vernon W. Krueger

Vernon W. Krueger died May 18, 2013. He was 89.

Services will be at 10 a.m. May 22 at Memory Gardens Funeral Home. Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery.

Maria R. Paiz

ALICE—Maria Del Refugio Paiz died May 19, 2013. She was 79.

Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. May 22 at Roberson Funeral Home.

Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. May 23 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. Burial will follow in New Collins Cemetery.

Larry W. Proctor

Larry Wendell Proctor died May 15, 2013. He was 59.

Services will be at 10 a.m. May 25 at Second Baptist Church. Burial will be at 11 a.m. May 28 in Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery.

Heritage Memorial Funeral Home.

Ysabel A. Ruiz

ROBSTOWN—Ysabel Alonzo Ruiz died May 20, 2013. She was 86.

Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. May 22 at Ramon Funeral Home.

Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. May 23 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church.

Burial will be in Memorial Park Cemetery.

Robert T. Serna

FREER—Robert T. Serna died May 20, 2013. He was 78.

Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. May 22 at Garza Funeral Home, San Diego. Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. May 23 at St. Francis De Paula Catholic Church, San Diego. Burial will follow in La Pila Blanca Cemetery, La Rosita Community.

James P. Spencer Jr.

James Paul Spencer Jr. died May 18, 2013. He was 62.

Services will be at 2 p.m. May 23 at First Baptist Church.

Burial will follow in Seaside Memorial Park.

Beatriz Tapia

Beatriz Tapia died May 18, 2013. She was 46.

Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. May 23 at Saxet Funeral Home. Services will be at 11 a.m. May 24 at Saxet Funeral Home.

Burial will be private at a later date.

Ola V. Tryon

Ola V. Tryon died May 17, 2013. She was 91.

A prayer service is at 7 p.m. May 24 at St. Paul United Methodist Church. Services will be at 1 p.m. May 25 at First United Methodist Church.

Burial will follow in Memory Gardens Mausoleum.

Heritage Memorial Funeral Home.

Dorothy L. Wilder

FALFURRIAS—Dorothy Louise Lancaster Wilder died May 19, 2013. She was 88.

Services will be at 10 a.m. May 23 at First United Methodist Church.

Burial will follow in Falfurrias Burial Park.

City scoop

Woman enters plea of guilty for fraud

A Corpus Christi woman pleaded guilty Tuesday to tax fraud that totaled more than \$560,000.

Rhonda Hartmann pleaded guilty to presenting false tax refund claims

to the IRS, according to a U.S. attorney's office new release.

Hartmann was indicted in September on three counts of making or presenting fraudulent tax refund claims in 2006, 2007 and 2008. The claims totaled \$560,124, according

to the release.

Hartmann is scheduled for sentencing at 5:30 p.m. Aug. 19. She faces as much as five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

She will remain free on bond until sentencing.

Michelle Villarreal

IWA from IB

Fifth-grader Isabella Williams, 11, said when she got stuck on a math problem during one of Herlihy's visits the principal offered help. Isabella, who has known Herlihy since she was in kindergarten, said math is less intimidating.

"It's been very easy over the years," Isabella said. "She gives us little hints every now and then."

It's that caring nature

that will stay with students, teachers and parents, they say.

Herlihy recognized every student's achievements because she wanted them to know each one of them is important. At the end of every nine weeks, students would receive a restaurant gift card or coupon as a token of Herlihy's appreciation.

On rainy days she calls her entire staff individually to ensure they all made it safely to school and she rallies her teachers together to motivate

them to educate others about the Catholic faith.

"She's like a mother hen to us," kindergarten teacher Laura McCracken said.

Alyson Alanis, a mother of four whose 5-year-old son James started at Incarnate Word this year, said her pre-kindergartener feels valued because of Herlihy, whose love for ministry and education is her devotion.

"She shares that with all that she meets," Alanis said. "I hope that's what my children see."

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