

LOCAL/TEXAS

College notes

Randy Vega, of Corpus Christi, received a degree in history May 11 from Butler University.

Stephen Herndon, of Corpus Christi, was named to the spring 2013 president's list, and **Britany Davis**, also of Corpus Christi, was named to the spring 2013 semester dean's list at Hardin-Simmons University.

Amanda Smith, of Odem, was named to the spring 2013 semester honor roll at Tarleton State University.

Allison Calloway and **Sierra Crook**, both of Corpus Christi, were placed on the 2013 dean's list at Harding University

Cory Foust, a senior all level physical education major from Corpus Christi, has been named to the spring 2013 dean's honor roll at McMurry University.

Thomas Buchanan, of Corpus Christi, graduated from the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University on May 10. Buchanan was awarded a Master of International Affairs.

Four Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi students, who completed the Islander Battalion ROTC program, were commissioned as second lieutenants into the Army during a pinning ceremony on May 17. Students commissioned were: **Joel Barba**, **Martin A. Garza**, **Jesus M. Pena** and **Jerrimiah Duncan Webb**.

Barba also was honored as a Distinguished Military Graduate and presented with a saber.

Christy Lansford, executive director of the Coastal Bend College Foundation, provided a fundraising report for the spring 2013 semester (January-May) at a May 14 board of trustees meeting. The foundation took in \$122,336 that will be used to help fund opportunities and needs for students, according to a college news release.

José Antonio Guerrero Ortiz graduated in May 2013 from Texas State University in San Marcos. He is a 1997 graduate of Ray High School and is the son of Robert Ortiz Sr., of Corpus Christi, and Teresa G. Ortiz, of San Luis Potosi, Mexico. He will be attending Yasar University in Izmir, Turkey to continue in classical guitar studies.

Vanessa Franco, of Corpus Christi, was awarded an academic scholarship to Hendrix College in Conway, Ark. Franco received the college's Odyssey Distinction Award for professional and leadership development.

Ashley Hesseltine and **Marc Tijerina**, both of Sinton, have been named to the spring 2013 dean's list at McMurry University in Abilene.

Jeremy Weestrund, of Rockport, received a Master of Science in business this spring from the University of Kansas.

Texas A&M University-Kingsville environmental engineering doctoral graduate **Yuan Yuan** has received a top award for her dissertation research from an international environmental professional organization. The Air and Waste Management Association — an international nonprofit group of more than 5,000 environmental professionals whose aim is to promote environmental responsibility — awarded Yuan a \$1,200 top prize for her dissertation, according to a university news release. The dissertation studied the atmospheric particulate matter pollution and the human exposure to such pollution in Texas urban areas, including Corpus Christi and Houston, and the potential human health risk of inhaled particulate matter. Yuan is the first A&M-Kingsville student to receive the award.

Max Pierce, of Corpus Christi, graduated May 11 from Sam Houston State University Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in musical theater. He is a 2009 graduate of Ray High School and is the son of Lorrrie and Joe Pierce of Corpus Christi.

The following students are recipients of Coastal Community and Teachers Credit Union 2013 scholarships: **COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL Gissel Gardea**, **Jose Silva** and **Adrian Villalobos**

MOODY HIGH SCHOOL

Destiny Soliz UNDERGRADUATE **Angelica Gonzalez** and **Chloe Pena**, Del Mar College

Nicholas Ryan Fordyce graduated May 11 from Texas A&M College Station with a Bachelor of Business Administration in finance. He is a 2009 graduate of Flour Bluff High School and is the son of Lane and Brigitte Fordyce.

Chaviess Smith-Harrison, of Corpus Christi, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in May from Skidmore College.

The following students received degrees as physician assistants May 18 from UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth: **Jessie Cody**, of Corpus Christi, and **John Rackley**, of Odem.

The following students received degrees in May from Southwestern University in Georgetown: **CORPUS CHRISTI Kelsey Coburn**, business and communication studies. **David Ryan**, math. **Brooks Benadum**, English. **Alejandro Villamil**, biology.

Magenta Jackson, of Corpus Christi, was among the McPherson College students awarded grants of as much as \$500 from the college's Horizon Fund to explore entrepreneurial ideas. Her idea is on "Princess Therapy," cosmetology and spa services.

Alicia Jasso, who started her career with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (then known as Texas A&I University at Corpus Christi), retired from the university after more than 40 years of service. Her last day was May 24. In 1972, Jasso joined the university as secretary to B. Alan Sugg, former vice president for academic affairs. Jasso also served three presidents since the university became a public institution in 1973. Jasso started working before the campus opened when planning for it was underway out of an office on Alameda Street.

The Army Islander Battalion recognized outstanding cadets for their academic success, physical growth, and leadership demonstration for the spring semester during the Spring Awards Ceremony on May 3 at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. More than 85 awards were presented to Battalion cadets who excelled in a variety of categories including academics, ROTC honors, physical fitness and exceptional involvement. The recipients were: **John Wykle**: National Sojourner's Award. **Matthew Daniels**: Veterans of Foreign Wars Award. **Lucas Schulte**: National Defense Transportation Association Medal. **Cody McMillian**: Military Officers Association of America Medal. **Lisa Auclair**: Daughters of the American Revolution. **Cody McMillian**: Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Emily Martinez, a Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi alumna, was selected to join the Texas Lyceum, class of 2013, as a director. Martinez graduated from the university with a Bachelor of Arts in political science in 1999, and a master's in public administration in 2001. Martinez was chosen to be a director based on her ability to demonstrate leadership in her community and profession and deep commitment to Texas. Texas Lyceum directors have a history of seeking out new opportunities and creating them where they traditionally have not been. Martinez will hold her position for six years.

Hong Xu, research librarian at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, received the "Texas Digital Library Excellence Award for Innovation in Digital Libraries" during the Texas Conference on Digital Libraries on May 7-8 in Austin, according to a university news release.

Xu received the award on behalf of the Research Coordination Network for Climate, Energy, Environment, and Engagement in Semiarid Regions (RCN CE3SAR) Project. She collaborated with Texas Digital Library to provide information services for the project. She has been part of the Research, Commercialization and Outreach team since May 2012.

Compiled by Tina Vasquez

School notes



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

On May 15 Southside Corpus Christi Rotary Club honored its May 2013 Student Achievers David Jimenez (left) and Brianna Hernandez. They were selected by counselor Sandra Gonzalez (center) as part of the club's longtime partnership with Moody High School.



Incarnate Word Academy senior **Cristian Fernandez** has received a full one-year scholarship to Texas A&M University-Kingsville. The scholarship was donated by the university and was presented to Fernandez at a May 20 luncheon. Fernandez, who plans to major in business administration, will be the first in his family to attend college. He was chosen by IWA president Charles D. Imbergamo to receive the scholarship. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Incarnate Word Academy middle level students who competed at the State History Fair in Austin included **Justin Cavazos** (back row left), **Danielle Harrel, J.R. Ramos** and **Helena Van Maren**; **Sheridan Steen** (from left front row), **Jackie Rodriguez**, **Paris Hanna**, and **Caitlyn Martinez**. Steen qualified to compete at the National History Fair in Maryland this summer. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

School reunions

Ray High School Class of 1973 will hold its 40-year reunion from 7 to 11 p.m. July 6 at the Texas State Aquarium, 710 N. Shoreline Blvd. The event features food and drinks, music, dolphin show and exhibits. Information: Linda Hicks Gialouris, 876-6063 or RayHSClassof73@yahoo.com **Aransas Pass High School** will host an all-school reunion for all graduates from 11 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. June 29 at the Aransas Pass Civic Center. Day visitation and class pictures begin at 2 p.m. with light refreshments. Cost: \$3/person; \$5/couple. Dinner at 6 p.m. (\$10 paid in advance). A dance begins

at 8 p.m. Cost: \$10 at the door. Information: Facebook page Aransas Pass High School Alumni, or contact Mary Ellen Smythe (1972) at smitheythree@aol.com, 361-758-3856 or Susan Dromgoole (1983) at gldsgg@yahoo.com or 361-215-5959 or by mail: APHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 1814, Aransas Pass, TX 78335-1814. **Wynn Seale Junior 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. **Ella Barnes Junior High** Class of 1956-76's original committee will hold the second reunion July 19

(social) and July 20 (formal dinner) at Holiday Inn Airport. Information: Rosalva Ortiz, 361-563-8693; John Richard G. Ortiz, 361-563-1378; or Rosalinda Garcia, 904-2385. **Miller High School** Class of 1963 will host its 50th reunion Aug. 30-31 at 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. **King High School** Class of 1973 will celebrate its 40th reunion Sept. 20-21 at the Seashell Village Resort, Port Aransas. Information: email Steve.Luker1@gmail.com, 361-877-4111; email DHTullos@hotmail.com, 813-7777; email JMRobo55@yahoo.com, 361-442-5063, search Facebook for "King High School CC 1973" or visit Classmates.com. **Calallen High School** graduating classes of 1943-75 will hold a four-decade reunion Sept. 20-22 at Holiday Inn Emerald Beach. The event features a football game Sept. 20; dinner and dance, Sept. 21; and farewell breakfast, Sept. 22. Information: Brenda Roe Bonaventura, 832-326-0053, or email grandparents34@yahoo.com.

Compiled by Tina Vasquez

Obituaries

The news department publishes obituaries free of charge on a space-available basis as a service to Caller-Times readers. Only obituaries from funeral homes are accepted.

Adan C. Fuentez PORT LAVACA — Adan C. Fuentez died May 22, 2013. He was 61.

Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. May 27 at St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Aransas Pass. Burial will be in Prairie View Cemetery, Aransas Pass.

Charlie Marshall Funeral Homes

Abel Garza Garcia GREGORY — Abel Garza Garcia died May 22, 2013. He was 71.

Rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. May 27 at Limbaugh Funeral Home, Portland. Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. May 28 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Gregory. Burial will be in Gregory Cemetery. Limbaugh Funeral Home

Wendell Allen Nix KINGSVILLE — Wendell Allen Nix died May 26, 2013. He was 80.

Services will be at 10 a.m. May 29 at Turcotte-Piper Mortuary Chapel, Kingsville. Burial will be in Chamberlain Cemetery. Turcotte-Piper Mortuary



Members of the Schertz Fire Department and Texas Parks & Wildlife Department search Sunday for a missing teen who was swept away in a rain swollen Cibolo Creek. His body was found later Sunday. ASSOCIATED PRESS

Searchers find body of teen caught in flood

■ 18-year-old was attempting to swim in creek

By Michael Graczyk Associated Press

SCHERTZ — Search teams on Sunday found the body of teenager who was swept away by floodwaters as he tried to swim across a swollen creek near San Antonio, authorities said.

Avron Adams, 18, of Schertz, and a friend got caught Saturday in the swift waters of Cibolo Creek after about half a dozen friends swam across. One friend held onto a tree branch and got out, but Adams did not, officials said.

David Harris, a spokesman for Schertz, said about 5:45 p.m. searchers located Adams' body near the water's edge.

"The body was found near where the search and rescue dogs had identified a scent," Harris said.

The search effort included helicopters, divers and rescue teams in inflatable boats.

The usually dry creek in Schertz, northeast of San Antonio, had dropped about 10 feet since Saturday. Other rivers in the San Antonio area and surrounding counties continued to drop after peaking above the flood stage, but flood warnings remained in effect Sunday. The National Weather Service had issued a flash flood watch for seven counties until 6 p.m. Sunday.

Two women died Saturday after being swept away by floodwaters, some as high as 10 feet on some roads. One who was trapped in her car climbed to the roof before being swept away, and her body was found against a fence, said San Antonio Fire Department spokesman Christian Bove. Emergency officials also recovered the body of a woman in her 60s, whose car was carried away by water as firefighters were trying to rescue her.

On Sunday, about 20 people were at a shelter set up by the American Red Cross, including some whose apartment complex roof caved in under the weight of the

heavy rainfall. Roxanne DeLeon arrived there Sunday with her 18-month-old son, 6-year-old daughter, 15-year-old daughter and husband, a day after escaping through waist-deep water in their rented home with nothing but what they were wearing, her purse and some diapers. They didn't even have time to grab shoes.

DeLeon said they spent the night on the floor of a relative's home because family members don't have enough room for all of them, and their insurance agent cannot provide help that would get them into a motel or apartment until after Memorial Day.

"It feels like we're stuck," DeLeon said Sunday. "One relative can keep my son part of the day while I'm at work, but who's going to pick up my kids from school? I never thought my family would go through something like this."

The San Antonio International Airport recorded 9.87 inches of rain Saturday, the second-highest official daily rainfall in city history.

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