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29¢ **3 99¢**

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They're items throughout our store priced below their already every day low price because of special purchases or as a result of manufacturers' temporary discount allowances. Look for the special red shelf tags every time you shop your local Minimax Supermarket, and watch your savings grow!

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Plus Hundreds More Throughout
Our Store!

Play The Fabulous
"WHEEL OF FORTUNE"
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Giveaway Game!

It's fun to play, and it's easy to enter! All you have to do to be eligible to win is to stop by your local Minimax Supermarket, and pick up your personal "WHEEL OF FORTUNE" registration card. Then, after receiving your card, sign it and have it punched each week with the official "WHEEL OF FORTUNE" store punch.

We'll draw three lucky winners from the official "WHEEL OF FORTUNE" registration box each week, and if your name is drawn, and your card was punched for that week, you're eligible to come in and spin the "FABULOUS WHEEL OF FORTUNE" to win FREE CASH OR GROCERIES!

The cash prize will never be less than \$50.00, increasing \$25.00 each week until a lucky entrant wins it!

Only one cash prize will be awarded each week, and a list of all weekly winners will be posted in the front of our store. The official drawing time will be 6:00 p.m. each Saturday, and winners will spin the WHEEL on a first come, first serve basis. Winners will not be notified by phone, so you must check the winners list each week.

So register today at Minimax, and you could be one of the lucky winners in our FABULOUS WHEEL OF FORTUNE! No purchase necessary, and you need not be present to win. You must be 18 years of age or older to register.

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Ambulance Corps is looking for a few good volunteers

Think about your personal life, one of the remaining members of the Eagle Lake unit of the Colorado County Ambulance Corps, might ask you soon. How would you get to the hospital if you were felled by a heart attack in your home, or were suffering from a painful injury as the result of a wreck on a nearby highway?

The answer is simple. You, or someone, would summons one of the ambulances housed in the police and ambulance building here on Post Office St. Ambulance drivers, and helpers, would be volunteers who give their time just to help you.

However, due to illness, injury, and moves recently to other towns, the corps is operating with six fewer members than usual. Remaining members, who are on call more often now, have come up with

some pretty creative suggestions for others in the community, so they too will become volunteers.

What's needed most now, says corp president Jo Ann Gertson, and June Mahalic, supply and training officer, are volunteers to be on call during daytime hours. A membership drive scheduled next month includes plans to give prospective volunteers an opportunity to serve, with the minimum training under state requirements. That way, Mrs. Gertson said, a person needs only 8 hours training.

Then, they can become helpers and really see how they can serve their neighbors. After the basic first aid training, which she teaches, and basic Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training given by Bobby Johnson, new members experience first hand

the routine of a corps volunteer. From that time investment, they can make their decisions on whether to take the remaining 32-hours of training and become a regular member, remain a helper, or perhaps drop out.

"It isn't the gory job some people imagine," Mrs. Gertson says. Most of the work is very routine. Occasionally there are wrecks, but they usually sound worse to the people listening on their scanner radios, than they really are. "It was true in the beginning," she said, talking about formation of the corps 11 years ago, "and it is true today." If there wasn't an ambulance unit here, they probably would be dispatched out of Columbus, and we don't want our kids or families to have to wait that length of time, to be taken to a hospital.

One of the plans the unit is discussing concerns the sharing of the 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. shift. Day volunteers are needed most. First, employers are being asked to urge some of their work force participate in ambulance duties. It does mean someone may be absent from work, but it can be stipulated that the employee not take put-down transfers, which can take from four to six hours. In-town transfers usually take from 30 to 45 minutes.

"While even one more member would help, the unit hopes five or ten new members can be recruited. 'Maybe some mothers who work at home and take care of their children during the day could volunteer,' Mrs. Mahalic said. The idea is that the parent might have grandparents in this area that could look after the children. 'With the pager system, people aren't

really tied down to one place or telephone. That allows normal daily activities, as long as the volunteer is only five minutes or less away from an ambulance."

The corps is flexible with hours too. If someone can't be on call for a 12-hour period, they can be scheduled for only part of the time. Volunteers also receive a clothing reimbursement allowance based on the number of times a person makes an actual ambulance call.

Prospective members will have one opportunity to take a look at the corps' equipment on April 25. That meeting, at 7:30 p.m., will include the debut of the new ambulance that should be in service around the first of May. As soon as its radios are installed, it can be used.

Interested persons can call Jo Ann Gertson, 334-2279, for more information, or complete a corps application available at the Eagle Lake office next to Rite Drug Store.

The corps is in its 12th year, and six of the charter members are still active. They include Mrs. Gertson and Mrs. Nooka, Ed and Emily Stiles, Joe Herbert McCrory, and Jim Clipse. Dr. Jane Clipse is vice president. Mrs. Johnson is secretary, and Mrs. Nooka has served as treasurer since the corps was formed.

The corps recently lost Mike Barnes and Paul Krupicka when they moved to new churches in other communities, and on the "injured reserve" list are Mrs. Nooka, Ralph Johnson, Gaudette Powers and Peggy Ryan.

Board grinds through night-long agenda

Rice district school board members ground their way through a long agenda Monday night after about four hours work, finished little more than half the items.

Discussion of negotiating a settlement over the improper installation of a roofing system on the high school, and the eligibility of cheerleaders and twirlers took most of the first four hours.

Two new members of the

board were seated at the start of the session. John Thomas of Eagle Lake replaced Bill Appley who chose not to seek election. Natalie Matsa "Dupre" of Sheridan took the seat held by Ted Wieser who resigned a year ago when he moved his family to a farming operation in Louisiana.

The board also heard the annual campus reports from the principals of the five schools in the district. While school con-

tinues as usual, the board learned there are costly maintenance problems facing them in the future, the probable need for more teachers, and maybe the need for new classroom space. However, the largest hurdle to future planning, the board said, was told by principals and Sup. Harold King, was that the state education agency and the state legislature, has yet to make some decisions about the interpretation of last year's

massive educational reforms. For instance, at one time the Rice District thought it would need two additional classrooms at the Eagle Lake Middle School for a pre-kindergarten program for disadvantaged four-year-olds. However, that seems to be up for discussion in Austin. If it is ruled-out, fine; however, if a late-coming decision is made to have such a program, the system will be scrambling to

Continued on Page 3

Child abuse, neglect fight intensifies

A group of professional people in Colorado County met Friday night to increase the volunteer effort to fight child abuse and neglect in this area.

"The best thing we can do for the children of our world is to let them live in a place where they can be safe and grow up," said the Rev. Ernest Dean of Weimar, chairman of the county children's services board. That group is supported through donations, and some financial assistance approved by county commissioners.

"A lot of people in this county need to know more about child abuse and neglect, and what can be done," Rev. Dean said in explaining why the board held Friday night's supper, which was at Schobel's Restaurant in Columbus. The children's services board aimed to provide first-hand information to the legal, medical, educational and law enforcement people of the county. The board plans a public meeting this fall.

Speakers Friday night included district judge Gus Strauss, sheriff Jim Broussard, and Linda Fitzwater who is the supervisor for child protective services in this area.

The judge told the audience, "the toughest part of the law concerns cases where children are involved." While he explained his court's involvement with children, he related two specific items. In a divorce case, you can divide property, but the children present more difficult problems. Also, he said, kids involved with crimes used to be sent to "reform school," a name that is no longer used. Today, he said, it is called a Texas Youth Commission facility, and a lot of young people sent there aren't bad...it's just that their parents

don't care for them; therefore, he said, the facility may be the last chance they have at life.

The best suggestion he said he could contribute is to get parents trained to take care of people.

Broussard said there is more child abuse and neglect in Colorado County than most people realize. In 1984, there were 14 cases reported to the sheriff's office. In the first three months of this year 15 cases have been reported. The sheriff said more cases go unreported because people are afraid to report them. He said the law offers protection to people in reporting these cases, and asks the public to call his office collect at 738-2888 with reports. He outlined what to look for.

Other speakers offered their suggestions on solutions. Others introduced at the meeting included Ed McCuller, Vice President of the Eagle Lake Community Hospital, by administrator Jack Harrell, on behalf of the facility's board of directors.

At the auxiliary's annual meeting, luncheon at the Methodist Church, the auxiliary presented awards to volunteers for the hours they have served, and received the resolution of appreciation. The report on the awards for hours served will be printed in next week's edition.

"The board of trustees, on behalf of all of the patients, and the hospital and medical staff, express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for the excellent work done and for the many gifts of equipment to the hospital," the resolution reads. It was signed by William H. Harrison, chairman of the executive committee, and Bob Ashby, secretary.

Since the auxiliary was formed more than 17 years ago, the efforts of the members have allowed them to present the hospital with \$69,628.25 worth of equipment. Included in that is \$12,000 for a blood hematology machine that was put in service in the past two months, a \$10,000 donation toward the purchase of a mammography machine, and other items such as a fetal heart monitor.

"The ladies of the auxiliary have given freely of their time and talents in addition to cash contributions, and spent many hours helping the patients and the hospital medical staff," another paragraph of the resolution reads. According to the Pink Ladies' year book, a fraction more than 45,000 hours have been served at the hospital by the members from the time the organization was formed, through the end of last December.

County fair holding spring fund benefit

A fund-raising activity in support of the Colorado County Fair is underway, according to the board of directors who meet monthly to plan each year's September fair.

For this spring, the board has been split into two teams, with members from each team selling benefit tickets. Proceeds from the sales will benefit the fair's financial support, and provide advance funds needed prior to each year's celebration.

A drawing for prizes is scheduled May 19, during the Magnolia Homes Tour in Columbus. Merchants and other businesses throughout the county are supporting the Spring benefit with donations of merchandise and services. Tickets are available in Eagle Lake from several board members, including T.J. Smith at the Eagle Lake Dairy Delite, and John Fearing at the Headlight.



Judge Gus Strauss talks at meeting on children.

Come April Fest Calendar of Events

Wednesday through Sunday: Mighty McDaniel Carnival

Friday, April 19th
7:00 p.m. Eagle Lake Middle School cafeteria, Little Mr. & Miss Contest

Saturday, April 20th
9:00 a.m. Children's Olympics, Middle School
Bookish open-book, crafts, Community Center
Homemade Airplane Demonstration, Airport
10:00 a.m. Ice Cream Eating Contest, Community Center
10:30 a.m. Break Dance Demonstration, Community Center
11:00 a.m. Cub Scout Pinewood Derby, First National Bank
Noon Balloon Contest
12:30 p.m. Egg Race, Community Center
1:40 p.m. Bridge Tournament, Farris 1912
1:40 p.m. "Square Dancers" from El Campo, Community Center
2:00 p.m. Bed Races, Community Center
Campfire Organization Balloon Release
3:00 p.m. Marilyn Thomas "Super Strutters", Community Center
3:30 p.m. Pumper Race, Community Center
5:00 p.m. Drawing for Cabbage Patch Doll & Boys Bicycle
5 to 7 p.m. Beer Garden, Farris 1912
9 to 1 a.m. Dance "Texas Armadillo Band", Community Center

Sunday, April 21st
Noon Carnival Opens
3:00 p.m. Pet Parade, Carnival grounds
5, 6 & 8 p.m. Puppets, Fred Cowan, Carnival grounds
10 p.m. Bicycle for tricycle Give Away, Carnival grounds
Carnival Closes

AprilFest will be here Saturday with lots of fun, excitement and enjoyment for the whole family.

The Mighty McDaniel Carnival starts today, Wednesday, April 17 at 4 p.m. This year's carnival promises to be even bigger and better than before with more rides for the younger and older people.

Activities to kick off the weekend include Little Mr. and Miss Contest at 7 p.m. on Friday night, April 19. Saturday starts a full day of fun and activities including the carnival, children's olympics, homemade airplane demonstration at the airport, break dance demonstration, bridge tournament, square dancers from El Campo, 1-4 races (with a \$100 first prize), Marilyn Thomas Super Strutters, pumper race, drawing for a Cabbage Patch kid and a bicycle, beer garden, and end the day with a country and western dance at the Community Center.

Sunday, April 21 will be the carnival pet parade and a special treat of a puppeteer named Fred Cowan who will perform shows three periods ending the carnival at 10 p.m.

Sales tax collections down

Eagle Lake still leads Columbus in sales tax gains for sales made through February compared to last year, but the monthly report released this week showed a decline.

Columbus still is the top city in the county for total sales. This month, the check Columbus received was \$17,375, an increase of 22.5 percent over the same month last year. Eagle Lake's check was \$8,817, down 12.4 percent for the same month last year. Weimar's check was \$4,564, down one percent.

The checks represent the city's one-cent share of the 5.125 percent sales tax on items sold within the city's limits. The monthly checks represent sales made in February and reported to the state by March 20.

For the year, Eagle Lake sales are up 9.1 percent, Columbus is up seven percent, and Weimar is down 2.5 percent. Eagle Lake has taken in \$50,990, Columbus \$60,173, and Weimar \$35,953.

Foundation, United Way board meetings scheduled

The annual meeting of the board of directors of the Eagle Lake Industrial Foundation is scheduled this Thursday at 2:30 p.m. in the conference room of the First National Bank of Eagle Lake.

The following Thursday, April 22 at 7 p.m., the board of directors of the United Way of Eagle Lake will meet.

Both meetings are to discuss annual business, including the election of board members and officers. Bill Harrison, president of the bank, has served during the past year as president of both groups.