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New police report details activities

City council learned a lot about last month's activities in the Eagle Lake police department. The reporting system there has been switched to forms suggested by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

The form council received this week shows in detail the number of reports written, the kinds of reports and many other items.

For instance, there were 36 reports written in July, with 20 hours of police time spent in court. There were 17 prisoners processed, 3,096 miles driven and at the start of the month there were 25 cases criminal pending while during the month there were 37 new investigations assigned. There were 21 cases cleared. During the month property valued at $15,285 was reported stolen and $13,300 reported recovered.

A total of 33 crimes were reported. Thirteen of those were larceny, three were for aggravated assault, and one each for burglary and one for motor vehicle theft. There were three other types of assaults, three people were charged with gambling, two for drunkeness, and one each for disorderly conduct and narcotic law violations.

In the non-criminal category, 65 reports covered calls for abandoned motor vehicles (2); burglar alarms (5), ambulance call (1), other assistance (4), suicide (1), disturbance in residence (7), other disturbances (6), fire (1), lost or missing property (2), property found (1), prowlers (4), suspicious person (1), suspicious vehicle (1), and 29 other miscellaneous calls.

In traffic enforcement, there were 56 moving violation tickets written, 33 non-moving violations and 12 warnings written. Eight property damage accidents were investigated.

During the month, seven people were arrested for felonies, eight were arrested on misdemeanors, two people were taken into custody during traffic investigations, and there were two vehicles impounded.

The report was written by Chief Ben Johnson, and dated August 8.

Phone number in ad incorrect

The Headlight incorrectly listed one of the two telephone numbers last week in the ad for the Kidde Kamp Day Care Center at 808 N. McCarty.

One of last week's numbers was that of Kathryn McRee. She said she began receiving telephone calls about the center only hours after the paper was distributed Wednesday afternoon. While The Headlight is glad its advertisements are well read, it apologizes for the error.

The correct telephone numbers are 234-2926 and 234-2082.

New water line

Members of the Rice High School FFA chapter were busy last week installing a new water line to the hog pens at the chapter's farm near the Eagle Lake Airport. The chapter furnished the funds for the materials and in this photo Duvard Purdue makes sure the channel, cut by chapter advisor Ronel Roberts stays clear. Yimau & Sons Eagle Lake store donated use of the tractor and trencher. About 500 feet of line was installed in two days last week. Vo-Ag instructor Mike McMahan said the line will make three faucets available at the buildings to allow students to spend more time tending the animals rather than carrying water, and also will eliminate much of the spillage.

Sports

Turnout good for Rice football practice

Seventy-four football players turned out Monday for the first football practice of the Rice High School 1985 campaign. No time wasted as the teams started working on their conditioning exercises and limited offensive practice.

Saturday, the public is invited to Rice Stadium for the first public workout. There is no admission charge. As an annual event, head coach Clifton Darden will hold a light session starting about 8 p.m. and lasting only 30 to 45 minutes.

It will be the first time the fans will have the opportunity to start cheering the team on to what many hope will be a repeat of last year's winning season.

The following Friday, August 23, the first scrimmage is scheduled in Houston against Kincaid. The second scrimmage is on August 30 when Calhoun of Port Lavacs comes calling in Altair. The regular season opens Sept. 6 against the Ricebirds of El Campo at Rice Stadium.

This week the 30 varsity, 24 JV and 20 freshman that turned out will look forward to Friday's first session in pads. Darden said he expected the smaller freshman team due to the smaller class coming up from the 8th grade.

Special whitewing hunting season closed

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, meeting in Austin July 31, responded to reports of poor white-winged dove production in the Lower Rio Grange Valley by **closing the 1985 special whitewing hunting season.** The season in the special white-winged dove area of the South Zone normally is the first two complete weekends in September.

Ron George, dove program leader for the parks and wildlife department, told the commission that whitewing production in the Valley was hurt by two factors during spring and summer 1985. "Nesting habitat in citrus groves was reduced by the freeze during the winter of 1983-84, with most citrus trees severely damaged," said George. "Then nesting was hurt further by heavy rains and high winds during June and July, which destroyed much of this year's production." During a normal year, citrus groves provide about 50 percent of nesting cover, he added.

George said the estimated 361,000 whitewings in the Lower Rio Grande Valley was the lowest population recorded since 1963 and fully 30 percent below the long-term average.

Closing of the special whitewing season is not without precedent, George said. "Freezing weather also had a detrimental effect on production before the 1962 season, and the season was closed in 1963 to allow dove populations to recover."

The cancellation of the season will not only be a disappointment to approximately 45,000 hunters who participate in the season each year, but may also will the loss of more than $200,000 in revenue from sales of the $6 white-winged dove stamps required of whitewing hunters. This revenue is used by the department to purchase whitewing habitat.

George said he anticipates some revenue from the sale of whitewing stamps to persons who take whitewings during the mourning dove season. "The bag limit in all three zones allows a hunter to take two whitewings and two white-tipped doves per day in the total bag of 12 birds during the mourning dove season," George noted. "The white-winged dove stamp is required for taking whitewings in any zone."

The commission adopted mourning dove seasons and bag limits as proposed earlier, with the only major change from last year being alteration of the boundary between the Central and South Zones. A portion of Southeast Texas which was in the Central Zone last year now will be in the South Zone, a change prompted by the presence of and excessive number of immature doves early in the season last year.

The mourning dove seasons and bag limits are: North Zone, September 1 through November 9; Central Zone, September 1 through October 30 and January 4-13; South Zone, September 20 through November 12 and January 4-19. Shooting hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset in all zones. Bag limit is 12 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, including no more than two white-winged and two white-tipped doves; possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

ARI truck spills rice

A leaf spring on the left rear wheel set of the trailer apparently gave way Tuesday afternoon causing the trailer to tild and bend under the weight of its load. No one was injured. The driver of the American Rice Inc. truck said he was moving slowly through a curve on FM 102 several miles south of Eagle Lake, or the result could have been more damaging. A huge wrecker from Blackie's Wrecker Service was on the scene waiting for other rice trucks to transfer the load. Deputy Sheriff Robert Cook and DPS trooper Joel Garcia investigated and directed traffic.

Commissioners

Continued From Page One

County Judge Lester Cranek quickly agreed with Youens and continued on with the meeting. But development manager Nolan Marye indicated such an arrangement was very acceptable to them. There was reference made to a previous commissioner who spent much of his road money in one part of his precinct, and was not reselected the next term.

Commissioner Otto Loessin told the residents in his precinct that he planned to build the Sandy Creek bridge this year, but had to pave several more miles of roads because of pressure from some other governmental agency that apparently was looking into complaints about air pollution from the dusty, unpaved roads, although he did not explain. He said he would check with county auditor Lee Briscoe to see what funds still are available this year. If it can't be included in this year's budget, he said the cost of the bridge would be in the 1986 budget which should be approved soon.

A preliminary design by private engineer Robert Zajicek, who is used by the county, indicated the span would have pilings to a depth of at least 40 feet, would provide a span about five feet above the normal creek level, and would be about 110-feet long. That would provide transportation across the creek most of the time, but not during extremely heavy rains. Residents in the past have had to wait as much as four days to ford the creek, and the new bridge should make them wait only a day or less.

In other business, commissioners:

•Accepted the only bid from Thomas Insurance Agency in Eagle Lake for insurance for the county's ambulance corps. The original bid of about $22,000 was reduced to about $17,000 when commissioner Bill Stiles suggested the collision and comprehensive coverage be eliminated. Doris Thomas represented the agency.

•Accepted the low bid from Lake Motors Inc. for two dump trucks for Rafael Veselka's precinct. The Lake Motors bid was $34,046.50. Veselka first suggested the bid from Brasher Motor Co. in Weimar be accepted even though it was about $500 higher, because he said something about a previous truck not painted properly. However, he changed his mind and accepted the Lake Motors bid.

•Approved a 30-MPH speed limit for a portion of Montezuma St. in Columbus.

•Agreed to hire a clerk for $4 per hour on a 24 hour workweek for the DPS office in Columbus. Because of a computer system that tracks unpaid tickets, the clerk is needed.

•Approved personnel assignments in the sheriff's department. Deputy Bert Fuller resigned to join the Weimar department and Deputy Bill Estling was moved up to Fuller's slot.

Archery deer hunts set

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials have announced public archery hunts for deer on several wildlife management areas.

A drawing will be required to select hunters for three management area hunts, while hunting on eight additional areas will be by registration only.

Application forms may be obtained from department offices or by calling toll-free 1-800-792-1112. Completed forms must be returned to the department's Austin headquarters by 5 p.m. August 19. A $25 fee will be charged successful applicants, to help defray costs of the hunt. Permits will be issued for a two-day hunt and one deer limit.

The three areas where prior application is required are listed below:

Engeling W.M.A., located 20 miles northwest of Palestine on Highway 287 in Anderson COunty; 1985 hunt dates are September 20-22, 23-25 and 27-29; approximately 300 permits.

Walter Buck W.M.A., located three miles south of Junction in Kimble County; 1985 hunt dates, October 5-7, 11-13, 18-20, 25-27 and November 1-3; 125 permits.

James E. Daughtrey W.M.A., located on north side of State Highway 72 between Three Rivers and Tilden in Live Oak and McMullen Counties; 1985 hunt dates, October 18-20 and 25-27; 120 permits.

On the following management areas, archery deer hunting will be allowed during the October 5 through November 3 archery season, with permission by registration at the area. No fee will be charged.

Dam B Unit (includes Angelina-Neches Scientific Unit), located in Jasper and Tyler Counties (access by boat only).

Pat Mayse Unit, located 12 miles northwest of Paris, Lamar County.

Somerville Unit, located on Somerville Reservoir in Lee and Burleson Counties.

North Toledo Bend Unit, located five miles southwest of Joaquin in Shelby County.

Alabama Creek Area, located five miles south of Apple Springs in Trinity County.

Bannister Area, located between Norwood and Broaddus in San Augustine County.

Caddo Area, located 10 miles north of Honey Grove in Fannin County.

Moore Plantation Area, located each of Pineland in Sabine County.

Wayward whooper returns home

After straying from ancestral migration routes, a juvenile whooping crane showed up near El Campo last winter. The bird's unexpected appearance caused a commotion among several agencies concerned about the bird's safety.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service spent considerable time monitoring the young bird between late December 1984 and mid-March 1985.

The young crane, known as Blue-white for the colored leg bands that it was market with, was last seen in Texas on March 17 near Midfield. The bird apparently flew solo to its birthplace, the Wood Buffalo National park in Canada, where it rejoined its flock. Biologist Ernie Kuyt of the Canadian Wildlife Service reported the youngster was seen June 8, 1985 within five miles of the nest where it was hatched.

Biologist David Reid of the parks and wildlife department at Bay City said landowners in the area used by the whooper last winter were very cooperative in isolating the bird from potential disturbances during its winter stay, and are pleased with its success in making the return trip.

Biologists and the general public will be watching with interest during the fall migration of whoopers to the Texas coast, hoping the young crane won't stray again.

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