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## Weimar citizens' division results in no prison there

The importance of unanimous community support as the City pursues a prison facility was demonstrated last week as Weimar was passed over for a sanction facility.

The City of Weimar had been under consideration for the facility along with Gonzales and Yoakum. Both Gonzales and Yoakum had received unanimous support from their citizens at public hearings.

But public opinion on the Weimar location was split. At a public hearing, opponents of the prison presented petitions with over 400 names against locating the facility in Weimar.

The City Council of Weimar

By Lynda Appelt, Contributing Writer

District Judge Gus Strauss who stated following the site committee meeting, "My recommendation to the Community Justice Council will be Gonzales."

The site committee's vote was five for Gonzales, three for Yoakum and one for Weimar.

Gonzales was unanimously chosen by the Community Justice Committee as the site for the intermediate sanction facility.

It will house 60 nonviolent probation violators and employ 25 people.

## 71st plans reunion

The 71st Light Infantry Division with mules became the 71st without mules 50 years ago and moved to Ft. Benning, Ga. for training before going to the European Theater of Operations.

The 71st Infantry Division will have a reunion Oct. 6-9 in San Antonio. Men and mules who served with the division at Camp Carson, Hunter, Liggett, Ft. Benning or in Europe, will have an opportunity to recall those early days, renew old friendships and make new ones at the reunion this fall.

The division also included the 5th, 14th, 66th Infantry regiments; 607, 608, 609 and 564 Field Artillery Battalions; 271st Engineering Battalion; 571st Signal Company; 251st Quartermaster Company; 371st Medical Battalion and 771st Ordnance Company.

Write for reunion and membership details to 71st Division Association, P.O. Box 462, Flossmoor, IL, 60422-0462.

## STMS expands in Fort Bend County

The South Texas Medical Clinic, P.A. is expanding in the Fort Bend County area with the development of an eight physician clinic in the professional building at Polly Ryan Memorial Hospital.

Prior to the expansion, Dr. Art Klawitter, family practitioner in Needville, and the late Dr. James Yelderman were the STMC representatives in the county.

The new multi-specialty physician group clinic is a satellite of the STMC main clinic in Wharton.

Other satellite clinics are located in Needville, Richmond, El Campo, East Bernard and Bay City.

The group includes 58 full and parttime physicians representing primary and specialist care with laboratory, x-ray, pharmacy, optical services and rehabilitation for over 60 years.

Construction and renovation at the professional building in Richmond are currently underway.

The clinic is expected to provide service in the next 30 to 45 days according to Dennis Strand, STMC administrator.

## Junior Tennis regional rally has local competitors

Tennis players from the area will travel to Houston to participate in the U.S. Tennis Association National Junior Tennis League Regional Rally, July 29-30.

The boys and girls from Eagle Lake and Garwood will compete in the Houston regional tournament which is one of 32 such events of the USTNL.

Members of the local team from Eagle Lake include Barrett Thomas, Jacqueline Thomas, Lori Grigar, Kayce Williamson, Cuy Sunderman, Selena Sykowski, Kurt Rodgers, Abbey Cunningham and Shelley Cunningham. Garwood members are Chad Kallina, Calceah Cranck, Dyana Reese and Dudley Lehrer.

This is an entry level, public recreational tennis program for boys and girls. The program is based on participation, skill development and inter-team match play.

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## Holiday weekend results in arrests for intoxication

The Colorado County Sheriff's Department reported the following calls during the past week.

Monday, July 4, at 3:15 a.m., Deputy Leonard Peters arrested one subject after a traffic stop on Hwy. 71 west of Marek Rd. for no liability insurance.

At 5:55 a.m., Deputy Peters arrested a subject for public intoxication and for allowing an unlicensed driver to drive. The second subject was arrested for no driver's license. A third was also arrested for public intoxication.

At 6:20 p.m., Deputy Mark Wilburn responded to an incident on Hwy. 90 east of the Hwy. 71 bypass.

Deputy Richard LaCourse responded to a report of an assault at 11:10 p.m. on County Rd. 230.

At 11:59 p.m. he responded to a report of terrorist threat at Lone Oak Bar.

Tuesday, July 5, Sgt. Richard Frederick transported juveniles from Victoria, the courthouse and New Braunfels. Sgt. Bill Lattimore also transported a prisoner to the doctor's office.

At 11:49 p.m., Deputy LaCourse arrested a subject on DPS warrants and for unlawfully carrying a weapon.

Wednesday, July 6, Deputy Wilburn responded to an incident at Greck Shell #2 on IH-10 at 1 a.m.

At 10:47 a.m., Sgt. Frederick checked on a reported mental patient at Columbus Arms.

Sgt. Frederick and Lattimore checked on a possible chemical leak east of Columbus on IH-10 at 10:51 a.m.

Both sergeants and Deputy Gary Stavinoha responded to a call concerning a mental patient at Columbus Community Hospital at 12:22 p.m.

At 4:06 p.m., Sgt. Frederick and Deputy Stavinoha transported a mental patient to Charter Hospital in Richmond.

Sgt. Lattimore spoke with a complainant at 6:30 p.m. concerning harassing phone calls.

Thursday, July 7, at 10:13 a.m., Sgt. Frederick assisted Child Protective Services on a case in Sheridan.

Sgt. Lattimore spoke with a complainant at 5:11 p.m. and at 5:25 p.m. he responded to a call in Glidden.

At 6:10 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore delivered an emergency message to County Rd. 2-103 and at 6:25 p.m. he transported a juvenile from Eagle Lake to Hempstead.

At 8:21 p.m. Sgt. Lattimore assisted the Child Protective Services on a case in Sheridan.

Deputy Troy Neisner responded to a call of a family disturbance on County Rd. 218-B.

Friday, July 8, Deputy Neisner responded to an accident on IH-10 at 4:38 a.m.

At 10:08 a.m. Sgt. Lattimore responded to a report of a burglary at Daley Salvage.

Sgt. Frederick transported a prisoner to the doctor's office at 11:10 a.m. He responded to a call on FM 102 at Wilson Hill at 3:51 p.m.

At 7:15 p.m. Sgt. Lattimore responded to a report of sexual abuse on Hatterman Lane.

Deputy Neisner responded to a report of cattle out on Brunsmill Road at 11:05 p.m.

Saturday, July 9, at 12:50 a.m., Deputy Neisner responded to a call on a vehicle at Larry's Service Station in Garwood. He checked on a report of a suspicious vehicle on FM 3013 at 1:24 a.m.

At 11:06 a.m., Deputy LaCourse investigated poaching of exotic deer.

Deputy LaCourse gave a courtesy transport at 1:38 p.m. and at 2:14 p.m. he responded to an accident on IH-10 at the 689 mile marker.

At 3:25 p.m. Deputy LaCourse responded to a report of indecent exposure in Alleyton. He responded to an accident on IH-10 at 4:23 p.m.

Deputy Wilburn arrested a subject for public intoxication at 6 p.m.

At 6:49 p.m., Deputy Wilburn checked on a report of cattle loose at Rice High School. He responded to a welfare concern in Altair at 7:06 p.m.

Sunday, July 10, Deputy Neisner responded to a fire on Hwy. 71 north of Columbus at 12:19 a.m.

At 2:06 a.m. he transported a subject from the Hwy. 71 bypass.

At 8:54 a.m., Deputy Stavinoha responded to a call concerning cattle loose on Hwy. 90A near Rice High School. Cattle were again reported loose there and Deputy Wilburn responded at 7:42 a.m.

At 8:35 p.m. Deputy Neisner transported a prisoner to Austin County.

Deputy Stavinoha assisted Weimar police on a call outside the city limits at 8:39 p.m.

Deputy Neisner responded at 11:26 p.m. to a report of cattle loose once again near Rice High School.

## Season

ner theater setting for \$15 and \$10.

Feb. 18, the play "Our Home Town... A View From the Porch II" will be staged by popular demand with an all Columbus cast. Tickets are \$8

Continued from Page 5

and \$4.

Saturday, March 18, the Art Park Players will present "Laundry, Bourbon and Lone Star", two one-act character studies set in Maynard, Texas. Tickets will be \$15 and \$10.

The May 20 program, will be "Steel Magnolias" by the Art Park Players to close the season. It will be performed during the 34th Annual Magnolia Homes Tour weekend. Tickets will cost \$10 and \$5.

A separate presentation scheduled for the Opera House will be the 1994 Texas state finals of the Country Showdown talent contest on Saturday, Oct. 29. Eddy Raven, country recording artist, will star at the program with performances at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets for this show will cost \$15 a person.

For information about season tickets and individual shows, contact the Magnolia Homes Tour Inc. at P.O. Box 817, Columbus, TX 78934 or call 409-732-5135.

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**TRADITION**

**Thomas qualifies for national meet**

The Running Raiders traveled to San Antonio to compete in the AAU Regional Track Meet last weekend. There were five team members competing.

Rick Thomas placed second in the young men's long jump to qualify for the national competition for the fourth consecutive year with a jump of 21 ft., 11 inches. He also placed fourth in triple jump with 45 ft., 11 in.

"As usually happens in events like this, the team faced some good luck and some bad," said Coach Dennis Jackson. Due to inadvertent interference, Warren was not able to complete his race, while Barrett had more than a four hour delay for his event.

(See Running, Page 7)

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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**Another spot of beauty**

This is one more location in Eagle Lake that the Garden Club would like your assistance in maintaining. Harrison Park, located in front of the Dairy Queen at Hwy. 90A and McCarty, greets visitors and residents each day with bright flowers and its manicured lawn.

Photo Courtesy of Linda Balas

## NEWSBRIEFS

**Library book sale ends Saturday**

The Wintermann Library is having a used book sale through July 23. The sale will be held during regular library hours to help raise funds for new books and other needs. Everyone is encouraged to go browse and buys books.

**Eagle Lake KCs hold dance**

The Eagle Lake Knights of Columbus will sponsor a dance Saturday, July 23, at the KC Hall. The dance will feature the music of Andy Gertson and Texas Fringe from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

**Senator at Columbus Saturday**

U. S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison will be in Columbus Saturday, July 23, at 12:15 p.m. Everyone in the area interested is invited to meet with her at the Stafford Opera House.

**Gethsemane sets VBS**

Vacation Bible School will be held at Gethsemane Baptist Church July 25-29 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. each evening for children four years old through sixth grade. Registration is Sunday, July 24 at 3:30 p.m. or the first day of VBS. There will be Bible study, crafts and games. A church van will provide rides for those who need them. Call 234-2714.

**Wallis Pageant seeks contestants**

Contestants are needed for the 1994 Wallis Oldtime Fun Festival Pageant, July 30-31, at the Wallis American Legion Hall. Contests are for Little Mr and Miss, ages four to six; Princess, seven to 10; Junior Miss, 11-14; and Miss, ages 15-19. For information and entry, call Melissa Gallia at 409-294-9075 or Margie Gallia at 409-234-3405 or write P.O. Box 6208, Huntsville, TX 77342.

**Senior citizens plan trips**

The Lavaca County Senior Citizens are planning a trip to Branson, Mo., in Nov. Anyone wanting to participate in the bus trip may contact Paty Grahmann at P.O. Box 531 in Hallettsville, 77964 or call 512-798-4198. The Victoria Senior Citizens are also getting ready to travel and have a few openings left for their New England Fall Foliage Tour the end of Sept. Contact Gladys Scott at 512-576-2189 about this trip.

**CCA board to meet**

The Combined Community Action Inc. board of directors will hold their monthly meeting Thursday, July 28, at 7 p.m. in the CCA Center in La Grange. The public is invited to attend.

**Three Shakespeare plays at Winedale**

The Summer of Shakespeare at Winedale offerings will be *Romeo & Juliet*, *Cymbeline* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, July 28 through Aug. 21. The theater is located near Round Top. For schedules and tickets call the office from 9 to 5 at 409-278-3530.

**Wharton has Wooden Dollar Day**

Wharton Wooden Dollar Day will be July 29-30. Registration for the basketball tournament and barbecue cookoff in Wharton for the Wooden Dollar Day continues through July 27. Those interested may contact Ed Vander Stucken at 409-532-2491 or go by the Wharton Civic Center. Booths are available for food and crafts vendors, also.

**Model train show set in Houston**

The Great American Train Show will be in Houston July 30-31 at the Astrodome and AstroArena from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Over 10,000 model trains, collectibles and related items will be on display and for sale. Tickets are \$5.

**Athletic physicals Aug. 1-2**

Physicians from the Thomas Clinic will give free physicals for Rice CISD students in junior high and high school athletics Aug. 1 and 2 only. Girls' physicals will be Monday, Aug. 1, at 6 p.m. in Rice High School PAC. Boys' physicals will be done Tuesday, Aug. 2 at 6 p.m. at the PAC. Buses will run from each middle school to the high school at 5 p.m. both days. Call 234-3543 for more information.

**Back-To-School special coming in August**

The *Headlight* will issue its annual Back-To-School special section on Aug. 11. Advertisers and anyone having information to include in the section are reminded that the deadline will be Aug. 1 for that section. Contact Jeannine or Susie at 234-5521 to publicize your back to school specials.

The City serves approximately

## Police called to Tuesday morning suicide

In the early hours of Tuesday morning, July 19, Eagle Lake police officers were dispatched to the scene of a possible suicide.

Officers Eric Hart and Russell Dunn were dispatched to 501 W. Prairie St. at 2:24 a.m. where James Gertson Jr. was found dead in the master bedroom of the residence from gunshot wounds.

The Eagle Lake Volunteer Ambulance Corps, as well as Justice of the Peace Mary Lou Szymanski, were called to the scene.

Chief A.E. "Buck" Hall also responded as supervising officer. Officer Eric Hart was investigating officer at the scene.

Szymanski ruled death was by self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Gertson was not alone in the house

at the time of the incident.

In other actions during the week, the Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls.

Wednesday, July 13, at 1:29 a.m., Officer Mike Krenk was dispatched to Stevens St. in reference to the burglary of a vehicle in which a radio was taken.

At 5:16 p.m., Officer Patrick Olivares was dispatched to S. Austin Rd. in reference to the burglary of a vehicle. He found that two speakers and a camera had been taken.

At 6:04 that same day, Officer Olivares was advised of a burglary on Schley St. The suspect juveniles were located and returned the items taken from the home.

Sgt. Clem Johnson assisted the Colorado County Sheriff's Dept. in a family disturbance call July 15 at 2:29 a.m.

Officer Brian Ochoa is investigating a report of a burglary of a vehicle which occurred July 15 at 7:38 p.m. in the Apex Traffic Supply parking lot.

Saturday, July 16, Officer Eric Bilbo was dispatched to a burglary on Ice St. at 2:05 p.m. and a report was taken.

At 5 p.m., Officer Brian Davis was dispatched to a report of criminal mischief. He met with the complainant, observed the damage and took a report.

At 7:10 p.m., Officer Davis was (See Police, Page 8)

**School board agrees to temporary settlement of suit**

By Lynda Appelt, Contributing Writer

The Rice Consolidated Independent School District board of trustees agreed to a temporary settlement on pending litigation in regards to the structure of Eagle Lake Primary School during Monday night's regular monthly meeting.

The school opened three years ago and the district has had continuous problems with the structure's foundation.

The decision was reached after a three-hour executive session with attorneys David Feldman and John Maciejczyk of Feldman and Associates of Houston.

The recommendation, read in a prepared statement by Superintendent Dr. Carolyn McCaughey, stated, "We authorize the settlement of pending litigation as presented by counsel and authorize the president (Melody Grigar) to execute the agreements. We also authorize counsel to joiner further defendants to the litigation as it becomes appropriate."

Exact details of the settlement were not disclosed at the meeting.

When contacted by *The Banner Press Newspaper* on Tuesday morning, McCaughey said, "We presently have a verbal commitment and have not executed all aspects of the agreement. We do not want to divulge any other information until all parties have (See School board, Page 10)

## Eagle Lake firemen control fire at A&K

A fire was reported inside the A&K Railroad Materials yard in the early hours last Wednesday morning.

According to Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Dept. Chief Darrell Gertson, the fire was reported at 12:47 a.m. July 12. Eagle Lake Police Officer Eric Hart was the first on the scene.

Hart reportedly found a tractor, which had been driven through the fence surrounding the supply yard at A&K Railroad Materials, located at FM 102 south and Carter-Walker Rd.

According to the Sheriff's Department report, the tractor broke down two large trees and two shrubs then crossed the street, entering a fence and breaking down a small tree. The tractor eventually entered the A&K yard, striking and climbing a pile of railroad ties with the left tires spinning. The friction of spinning tires rubbing against the ties caused a fire to start.

When Officer Hart arrived, he found the tires and ties smoking. He called for the fire department and attempted to turn off the tractor motor which was still running but could not reach the ignition due to the flames.

When the fire department arrived, the blaze had engulfed the tractor.

The fire in the tractor was extinguished. Gertson commented that the fire stopped the motor. An A&K employee then moved it with a forklift so the ties could also be extinguished.

Gertson said the fire was under control in about 15 minutes with four fire units responding.

The tractor, belonging to Allen Kohleffel, was apparently taken by someone who reportedly used it for joy riding. After checking the tractor, Kohleffel reportedly stated it appeared to have been in third gear.

None of the residents in the vicinity reported seeing any person or vehicle near the area.

The fire is under investigation by the Sheriff's Office; the tractor theft is being probed by Eagle Lake Police.

**Chamber now signing new members, gearing up for fall**

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce is in the process of signing new members and renewing current memberships as they get ready for their fall projects. The monthly chamber meeting, July 18, was held at Prairie Edge Museum with President Doug Schwemmer presiding.

Membership Chairman Sandy Bandy reported seven new members had signed up with the chamber.

Schwemmer announced the I-10 Corridor meeting would be held

Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. at the museum and encouraged all directors to be present. The I-10 Corridor is comprised of concerned businesses and individuals along Interstate 10 from Seagrave to Katy who are interested in commerce development in their areas. Anyone in the community is welcome to attend the meeting.

Directors reviewed the Springtime Celebration and decided to poll local businesses for their opinions on the celebration. They want to see of the local economy benefited from this year's efforts.

The local Veteran's Day celebration which has been held the past two years has had a good response. The Chamber decided to continue this celebration honoring our veterans.

Linda Balas reported on plans for the annual banquet. The committee is working on obtaining a speaker for the event.

Bill Harrison Jr., chairman of the Industrial and Agricultural Development Committee, reported on prospective business for our area. Secretary Linda Lipperdt also noted a new business is going in next to Lipperdt's Exxon.

City Manager Ron Holland reported a meeting in Austin with Mayor Robby Cook and Don Bandy on the possibility of a prison for Eagle Lake. He said the meeting went well and there is progress being made.

The final discussion was on the fall hunting season. Schwemmer reported on the duck hatch for this year and its effect on hunting.

This year's Chamber Directors include Schwemmer, Becky Anderson, (See Chamber, Page 8)

**One vehicle accident kills driver**

A fatality occurred in Garwood over the weekend as a result of a one vehicle accident.

According to Dept. of Public Safety information, Lonnie Davidson of Egypt was killed the evening of Saturday, July 16, about 11 p.m.

He was driving on FM 950 a mile east of Garwood when his 1985 Chevrolet pickup left the roadway and struck a ditch.

Davidson was apparently ejected from the vehicle on impact. DPS Cpl. Sam Trammell was the officer in charge.

**City looking at private waste collection**

By Lynda Appelt, Contributing Writer

Eagle Lake City Council heard a recommendation from the Solid Waste Committee at last week's meeting that the City solicit bids from private contractors to provide solid waste collection for the City.

"This is by no means a final decision, but just to test the waters and see what kind of pricing structures we come up with," said Mayor Robby Cook.

According to Cook, the City has two options—"collecting it ourselves or going with a private company."

City Manager Ron Holland pointed out that tipping fees at the landfill have increased from \$3 three years ago to \$8.25 today. "If private is cheaper, we must consider it," Holland said.

"We just can't keep passing rates on. We, as Council, wouldn't be doing our job if we didn't look into something to try to help these rate increases from happening to our citizens," Cook said.

The City serves approximately

1,300 waste collection accounts.

The bid will ask for prices for a one-year contract, three-year contract and five-year contract. The bid will include prices for residential curb side collection, residential recycling, commercial collection, yard waste, brush, white goods, heavy trash and annual city clean up, municipal sludge removal and purchase of the city trucks and dumpsters.

In several of the categories, it is recommended that a bid price on the service as it is now provided be asked for.

The committee is not recommending, at this time, to actually contract with a private company for trash collection, but rather to take bids, compare costs, and then, with more information available, make a decision.

Positive and negative thoughts on privatization were expressed by council members. Drawbacks discussed were loss of control, cutting of employees and loss of local purchasing. Companies contacted have been asked to consider local employees and to house trucks totally.

The Solid Waste Committee was chaired by John Young. Members serving on the committee were Russ Minter, Graham Beisel, Holland and Joe Frantz.

Council reviewed the first quarter budget reports. Holland pointed out that the general fund and utility fund provide the revenue for almost all of the cost of operating the city. In all cases, Holland told Council, all departments are under budget for this time of year.

In the utility fund, expenditures are far enough below budget to offset the revenue being below projection and a cash balance is growing.

**County Fair catalogs available**

The 1994 Colorado County Fair catalog is now available at First National Banks of Eagle Lake, Weimar City Hall, Heinsohn's Store in Frelsburg, Nada Grocery, Oak 'n Acorn in Sheridan, Bernardo Farm & Ranch Supply and in Columbus at Potter's Western Store or County Extension office.

This year's County Fair will be Sept. 8-11. The catalog includes events and information on home economics, fine arts, special and Go-Texan events as well as livestock.