

Eagle Lake Headlight

1995

City reminder customers...

Time to calculate sewer rates

In order to calculate residential sewer rates for the upcoming year, the City of Eagle Lake will be monitoring water consumptions from Dec. 16 through March 15. Each residential sewer rate will be based on the actual water consumed at that particular location. Customers are encouraged to repair any water leaks as soon as possible in an effort to keep water consumption at a minimum during this time. If you have any questions, please call City Hall at 234-2640.

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First baby of 1995

Jessie and Emily Torres are the proud parents of the first baby born in 1995 at Eagle Lake Community Hospital. The attending physician was Dr. Russell Thomas. The little boy was born Jan. 2, 1995, at 11:28 p.m. At the time the picture was taken, Jessie and Emily had not chosen a name for their son, so he's being called "Baby Torres", for now. Holding "Baby Torres" above is mother Emily with proud papa Jessie at left, with Amanda, age three, feeling just a little jealous. He will also be welcomed home by another sister, April, age 12.

Headlight Photo by Carol Cardenas

Alleyton residents found dead in home

The Colorado County Sheriff's Department is investigating the deaths of two Alleyton residents. On Monday, Jan. 2, the Sheriff's Department received a public service call from Frank Kovar of Alleyton. Kovar stated that he thought his renters had killed themselves. Upon arrival at the home of Silverio H. Rodriguez on County Road 168 in Alleyton, deputies found two people dead and one survivor. Dead at the scene were Maria Guadalupe Rodriguez, 18, and Jose Guadalupe Rodriguez, nine months. The survivor, Silverio H. Rodriguez, was taken to Columbus Community Hospital by Colorado County Volunteer Ambulance Corps Unit 801. Deputies talked to members of the Rodriguez family who said they had gone to the home, were knocking on the doors and windows, but received no answer. The family members went to Mr. Kovar's residence since he was the landlord. The bodies were discovered when Kovar let the family into the house. One family member advised that the victims had not had any heat. During the investigation, it was also discovered that the house had no electricity. It is presumed that the victims used a fire rim with a make shift pipe top as a heater. It was found sitting in the middle of the room. It was presumed that the nine month old child and mother died from asphyxiation. The bodies were taken to Henneke Funeral Home in Columbus. During further investigation, a blood stain was found on a bed at the house. The Sheriff's Department, along with Justice of the Peace Precinct 3 Francis Truchard, asked that an autopsy be done on Maria Rodriguez. This case remains under investigation (See Sheriff, Page 6)

Wrapping up 1994...

JUNE
•New city council members Barbara Pidgeon and John Young were sworn in.
•Misty Crane of Garwood was presented a \$500 scholarship award from Columbus Physical Therapy Rehabilitation Services Inc.
•Two Rice High School graduates were among students receiving degrees from Texas A&M University in their graduation exercises on May 13, 1994. They were Rhonda Prazak and Kimberly D. Corman of Eagle Lake.
•Annette Fajkus retired after 15 years of service at Eagle Lake Middle School.
•Two Rice High School Band members competed in the UIL, Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest in San Marcos. Members bringing home medals were Crystal Atkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Atkins, and Beth Buckner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Buckner.
•The home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Garett was chosen as the Civic Garden Club's Yard of the Month.
•On June 11, the Running Raiders brought home first place medals from the track meet held in Giddings.
•Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Castle were honored with a surprise 50th anniversary party at the Fellowship Hall of Greater Mount Olive Baptist Church.
•Brian Amos won the NCAA Division II outdoor championship in the 110 hurdles in Raleigh N.C. Amos graduated from Rice High School in 1990.
•Mark Anderson of Eagle Lake was inducted into the Lions Hall of Fame on June 11.
•Weekend wrecks left two dead; one being Edward Dvorak, 26 of Columbus.
JULY
•Rebecca L. Korenek was among Who's Who in the Student in America's Universities and Colleges.
•Allen Aldridge Jr., son of Allen Sr. of Eagle Lake, was among the top draft choices for the Denver Broncos.
•The Eagle Lake Police Department had their first encounter with the investigation of a drive by shooting.
•Eagle Lake City Council approved four new auxiliary officers for the Eagle Lake Police Department: Jeremy Moore of Alleyton; Russell Wayne Dunn of Weimar; Robert Joseph Hays of Houston; and Michael Korenek of Columbus.
•Brian Amos was named ACU Athlete of the Year.
•On July 8, Hazel D. McCammon and Grady A. Spradley celebrated their 59th anniversary.
•Four suspects were arrested in the first drive by shooting in Eagle Lake. Arrested was Lawrence Carr of Miss (See 1994, Page 8)

SPARC seeks Parks & Wildlife grant

Next Monday, Jan. 9, is an important date for the residents of Sheridan and anyone else interested in or supporting the development of the park in Sheridan. Representatives from Sheridan Park & Recreation Center Inc. (SPARC) will be in front of the Colorado County Commissioners' Court asking the Court to apply for a matching-funds grant from Texas Parks & Wildlife.

The grant could mean an instant \$100,000 to \$120,000 for the organization's facility, according to their Dec. newsletter. This would be almost enough to build the pool (one of the items which will have to be contracted out).

One provision which makes the grant attractive is the allowance of "in-kind" donations in lieu of cash. These would include hours of labor, machinery time, fill-dirt, plants for landscaping, etc. given to the project by people in the community.

SPARC's Dec. newsletter went into great detail concerning the grant and what it would mean to the park. If you are interested, contact one of the board members: Jim Brisco, Jack Vawter, Marty Graves, Monte Peck, Darnell Varley, Carmen Jackson and Ginger Stiebler. Or, you could attend the Commissioners' Court meeting next Monday at 9 a.m. at the Colorado County Courthouse. Court is held in the County Courtroom on the first floor.

NEWSBRIEFS

Defensive driving class set

A defensive driving class will be offered Jan. 4 and 5 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Wintermann Library in Eagle Lake. To preregister for the course, call the library at 234-5411 or instructor Gilbert Kiel at 234-2042.

Potter program on woodworking

The Native Plant Society, Columbus Chapter will meet Jan. 5 in the Nesbitt Memorial Library at 7 p.m. The public is invited. Mark Potter, local artisan, will present a program on creative woodworking. For more information call 732-3058.

College Hotline set Jan. 7-8

The Texas Association of College Counselors and the Greater East Texas Servicing Corp. will cosponsor a toll-free hotline. The free college information hotline, 1-800-829-4599, will be available on Jan. 7 & 8 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to all Texans who desire to find out more about post-secondary educational opportunities and financial aid options.

Happy Hikers plan walk

The public is invited to join the Houston Happy Hikers in a walking event at Morgan's Point Jan. 14 and 15 along Galveston Bay. The Point includes a historic cemetery, mansions and summer homes along the bay. For information on the walk call 713-664-3679.

Chamber of Commerce meeting changed

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce has changed the Jan. meeting to Monday, Jan. 9, since Jan. 16 is a holiday. The meeting will be held at the Blue Plate Cafe at 12 noon.

Senior Citizens dance planned

A senior citizens dance is planned for Friday, Jan. 6, at the Eagle Lake KC Hall. Music will be provided from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. by the Starlights. The dance is \$5 per person. The public is invited.

Houston Livestock Show plans gala

The Go Texan Committee of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo plan a "back in the saddle again gala" on Jan. 13. The reception will start at 7 p.m. with dinner at 8. All the activities will take place at the Astrohall. The gala benefits the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Scholarship Fund. To reserve your space call 713-791-9000.

Childbirth classes offered

Prepared childbirth classes will be offered at Gulf Coast Medical Center on Jan. 10 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday evenings for seven consecutive weeks. For more information or reservations call 409-532-6122.

City to hold rabies clinic

The City of Eagle Lake will conduct a rabies clinic on Tuesday, Jan. 17, at the fire station. Dr. R. H. Potter of Columbus will conduct the clinic. He will not only be vaccinating dogs, but will inoculate other animals as well. Dogs may be registered with the City at the time of the clinic. Registration fees range from \$3 to \$7 per dog. If you have any questions, call City Hall at 234-2640.

Eagle Lake Police kept busy with criminal mischief, trespass, burglaries

On Dec. 28, at 4:35 p.m., Officer Patrick Olivares was dispatched to a report of a vehicle accident in the 700 block of S. McCarty. The 1984 Oldsmobile, driven by

Frances Koudelka of Eagle Lake, had been traveling east bound on S. McCarty when the apparently lost control of the vehicle, exited the roadway, crossed two driveways, struck a high-

way sign, entered and exited the roadway again, crossed another driveway, then crossed the roadway and struck the far right corner of a house.

Mrs. Koudelka was transported to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital for observation by the Eagle Lake Volunteer Ambulance.

Officer Eric Hart received a report of criminal mischief in the 500 block of East Main on Dec. 28. The case remains under investigation.

Officer Hart also investigated a report of criminal trespass which occurred on Campo Rosa Road and was reported to him on Dec. 30 at 10:18 a.m.

On Dec. 29, at 9:47 a.m., Officer Hart was informed of criminal mischief which had occurred at Wilcox IGA Foods. The case is under investigation.

Also on Jan. 1, at 3:15 p.m., Officer Wood was dispatched to a residence on Third Street with reference

Stevenson's Cafe on Dec. 30, at 10 p.m. Jerry Lee Perales was arrested in the parking lot for disorderly conduct and public intoxication. He was processed at the police department and transported to the county jail for confinement by Officer Jack Knox.

On Dec. 31, at 2:02 p.m., Officer Eric Bilbo was dispatched to a report of a house fire on West A Street. Bilbo, along with Officers Ochoa and Brian Baklik, assisted with traffic control until the fire department arrived and the extinguished the flames.

On Jan. 1, at 11:45 a.m., Officer David Wood was dispatched to a residence on Sealhorn Street where he took a report of a stolen bicycle. The case is under investigation.

Also on Jan. 1, at 3:15 p.m., Officer Wood was dispatched to a residence on Third Street with reference

(See Police, Page 3)



New County Judge

In front of a full house in the District Courtroom of the Colorado County Courthouse, Judge Dwight Paschel issued the oath of office to Vince Stominski, left, during swearing in ceremonies this past Sunday, Jan. 1.

Stominski's wife, Carol, held the family Bible while he repeated his oath. The ceremonies were opened with a welcome and explanation of the proceedings by County Tax Assessor/Collector Mary Jane Poenitzsch. A prayer was offered by Rev. Larry Burney of Columbus before Poenitzsch introduced Judge Paschel.

Stominski, who took over the reins from outgoing Judge H.O. "Butch" Strunk, then administered the oaths to other incoming county officials. Those gathered retired to the County Courtroom downstairs in the Courthouse for refreshments of cornbread and blackeye peas to help get the new year off to a good start.

Headlight Photo by Jeannine Faering

Chamber of Commerce Banquet set for Jan. 23

The Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be held Monday, Jan. 23, at the Eagle Lake Community Center.

This year's speaker will be exceptional. Roy Aplana, a motivational speaker, will address Eagle Lake citizens on "Increasing Our Productivity Through Time-Management".

Aplana is a much sought after speaker and the Chamber feels very privileged to have him for their banquet speaker. The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a social time for visiting, followed by dinner and the program. Tickets may be purchased at Eagle Lake Drugstore, Wilcox Foods, Laker Printing & Trophies or from any Chamber director.