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## Gedenke! slated May 13 in Weimar

Make plans now for a day of fun and frolic at the Weimar Gedenke!, set for Saturday, May 13, on historic Jackson Square in wonderful downtown Weimar. There will be music, games, food and festivities for the entire family. The celebration was started in 1973 to celebrate the town's 100th anniversary. Gedenke! means "remember" in German.

## Earth

In exchange for the smashed cans, each student was given a full, ice cold drink to enjoy during the program. Afterwards, each class planted flowers on the school grounds with the six graders finishing up a major erosion control effort on the back playground. They shoveled and raked onto the eroded area two dump trucks full of soil, and then placed grass squares in the water drainage area to help buffer the run off. The soil was provided by Mrs. Arthur Moeller. Also, as part of Earth Day action, the seventh grade class chose to "adopt" an endangered wolf while the eighth graders opted to construct a much needed aluminum can drop-off center behind the cafeteria. It is still in the planning stage, as student collect the materials needed. Grades five and six are continuing with their Blue Bird Nesting Box program which is sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife. With this project, approximately 35 boxes are placed in and around the county with each student responsible for monitoring their box. At the end of the six week period, the results will be compiled by Ms. Wegenhoff and sent to Texas Parks and Wildlife in Austin. This is the final year of the Blue Bird Research Project for the students because next year Ms. Wegenhoff hopes to begin Monarch Butterfly Censusing, also sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife. Earth Day was as successful as ever, according to Ms. Wegenhoff, due to the huge amount of cooperation

## Police

Continued from Page 1


ALR suspension. William Scott was arrested, processed and transported to the county jail for confinement. On April 28, Officer Knox stopped a vehicle on Church Street for a traffic violation. Investigation led to both the driver, Marcos Salas, and passenger, Rosanne Salas, being arrested on outstanding DPS warrants. They were processed and transported to the county jail for confinement. Also on April 28, Officer Brian Ochoa arrested Twaymon Leroy Boone at Lake and Main Street on outstanding DPS and local warrants. Boone was processed and transported to the county jail for confinement. Officer Jake Garcia, on April 28, while making a traffic stop after making a check, was advised that the subject's driver's license was under curbed on April 27. Charges are pending. The case is being handled by Officer Jack Knox. On April 29, Officers Eric Bilbo, Russell Dunn and Jack Knox were dispatched to S. Austin in reference to a fight in progress with weapons involved. Upon arrival, one of the subjects had left the scene and the other subject did not want to file charges. No further action was taken. Also on April 29, Sgt. Steve Hassin, Officers Dunn, Knox, Carl Rick and Brian Balck responded to a 911 call of a fight in progress on State Street. One subject was issued a citation for public intoxication; no other action was necessary. On April 30, Officer Risk arrested Yoshio Ruvakaba in the 600 block of E. Main for possession of drug paraphernalia. Processed subject, then transported him to the county jail. Officers David Wood and Moore were called to a residence on McCarty on April 30 in reference to the burglary of a motor vehicle. A report was taken; the case is under investigation. Officer Knox was dispatched to meet with a complainant about a stolen bicycle. The bicycle was recovered; the case is under investigation.

## ELPS pre-k, kindergarten registration is Thursday

Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten registration for 1995-96 at Eagle Lake Primary School will be Thursday, May 4, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Parents are asked to bring their child's birth certificate, immunization record and social security card. Parents of pre-k children will also be required to show a food stamp number or evidence of low income for their child to qualify. Please call ELPS at 234-3587 if you have any questions.

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# LAKE MOTORS

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## Meetings

Continued from Page 1

cerning the taxing district was, "I'm sick and tired of paying taxes... to federal grants and such. I love you all dearly, but enough is enough." Focusing on the increase in salary expenses, Bill Wilson of Eagle Lake said, "I'd venture to say Jim (Buckner) is the highest paid employee in Eagle Lake. It seems to me we have a sacred cow here," he continued. "I think cuts could be made and expenses reduced. That's why I oppose the tax district."

"What about this I hear that the Thomas Clinic being sold?" one person asked of ELCH Administrator Jim Buckner. The clinic practice was recently sold to One Care for several reasons. Thomas Clinic contracted with One Care several months ago in order to provide an integrated physician network which would entice Sanus (a health maintenance organization (HMO)) to return its business to the clinic, according to Buckner. According to Buckner, One Care liked the clinic and its location so much, it couldn't the Thomases an offer they couldn't refuse. As part of One Care, recruitment for a physician to replace Dr. John Lane (who is leaving in the next couple of months) will be accomplished at no additional expense to the Thomases or the hospital. Even though Spanihel had announced a 9:30 p.m. stop time at the beginning of the meeting, it continued until shortly after 10 with much discussion concerning financial information which was not readily available at that time. (See Page 1.)

Very few people attended the second Eagle Lake meeting held Tuesday night, May 2. "It was kind of a quiet meeting. No one got emotional," a hospital employee stated. Like the first meeting and the one in Garwood, background and financial information was presented to those assembled by Steve Balas. Steven Meineke questioned the rise in expenses the last three years. Buckner explained the rising cost of supplies, additional salaries due to opening of two rural medical facilities (Sealy and Eagle Lake) and the addition of Home Health Care. "Patient revenue has also increased during that same time," Buck-

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## Crime Stoppers 'Crime of the Week'

The Eagle Lake Crime Stoppers is offering up to \$1,000.00 cash reward for any information leading to the arrest and indictment of any person or persons involved in the theft of a white 1994 Chevrolet S-10 Blazer. The vehicle was taken from the parking lot in the 600 block of E. Main on May 6, between 7 and 8 p.m. If you have any information regarding this case, or any case, please call Crime Stoppers at 234-5555 or the police department at 234-2727. You will remain anonymous.

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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Local Legionnaires, from left, Elmer Struss, first vice-commander of Legion Post 108; Fred R. Frnka, commander; and Robert Griffith, historian, posted the official commemorative flag in observance of V-E Day, May 8, 1945, the hostilities in Europe against Germany and Italy were officially ended. Photo Courtesy of Fred Frnka

## Local veterans join V-E Day celebration

Veterans in the W. Cherry-M. Perry Post 108 of the American Legion remembered the sacrifices made by servicemen and women during WW II on V-E Day Tuesday, May 8. V-E Day marked the end of the second "great war" in Europe, namely against Germany and Italy. President Harry S. Truman proclaimed May 8th as the "Official V-E Day."

Local Legionnaires posted the official 50th anniversary flag commemorating the end of WW II in front of the City Municipal Building Tuesday. "It is appalling that in 1990 a Newsweek magazine reported that nearly one-third of America's 17-year-olds could not identify which countries the United States fought against, namely Germany and Italy in WW II. In short, many Americans have little understanding of how that war began, who fought it, and why it was fought, or how radically it changed the world as we know it today. "I ask you to join me in thanking God for the privileges enjoyed in this land of freedom and with the help of God, pray that there will always be American men and women willing to defend this country and make it possible for us to continue our freedoms. "We must realize the importance of keeping this nation strong, we should be ever mindful of the ideals which make our republic so great - ideals of freedom and justice and equal opportunity for all... By the blessings of God, may this country itself continue as a vast and splendid monument of wisdom, peace, and of liberty upon which the world may gaze with admiration forever."

## Flood insurance is focus of Commissioners' Court

Colorado County Commissioners' Court opted to take the necessary steps to ensure compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) during Monday morning's regular monthly meeting. "The County voted to send a notice in citizens' Oct. tax statements that informs property owners who plan to build that they need to obtain a building permit whether they live in a flood plain or not," said Commissioner Leon "Sonny" Spanihel. "I think we need to take this a step farther and require anyone that builds to come in and obtain a permit... whether they live in a flood plain or not," said Commissioner Richard Seifert. "We will make it available for them. If they don't take the time to get it, that's their problem," said Wickie. A community participating in the NFIP has to regulate any activity in an identified flood hazard area. No construction or development may take place in that area without a permit from the community. The County may then only issue a permit if the proposed development meets NFIP standards. This means that all residential structures must be elevated up to or above the 100-year flood level. The consequences of non-compliance for communities participating in NFIP are: "Flood insurance will not be available; "Federal agencies may not provide grants or loans for insurable buildings in identified flood hazard areas of communities not participating in NFIP; "No federal mortgage insurance may be provided in identified flood hazard areas; "In the event of a federally-declared flood disaster, no federal or state disaster assistance would be made available to insurable structures in identified flood hazard areas or non-participating communities; "Actual insurance rates go into effect when the Federal Insurance Administration establishes base flood elevation data regardless of whether or not a community participates in the program; and "Communities may be susceptible to some form of liability by not participating in NFIP because their action: 1) denies the ability of its citizens to purchase flood insurance, and 2) does not take positive steps to reduce the exposure of life and property to flood damages in the face of authoritative scientific and technical data. In other business, the Court: "Received an update on the progress of the Colorado County Detention Center from Sheriff Bill Esterling and approved the purchase of new furniture for the facility in the amount of \$10,397.15; "Agreed to pay the part-time position of Roy Pulido, who works the grounds at the Colorado County Courthouse, at minimum wage for 20 hours per week at the request of the Senior Texans Employment Program; "Appointed J.W. Shavers, Larry Wiles, Jack Haworth, Gordon Marcar and Dennis Hernandez to the Colorado County Water Council; "Proclaimed May as Mental Health Month at the request of the (See Commissioners' Page 10)

## Voters okay Hospital tax district almost 2 to 1

After a little over a month of haggling, arguing and "explain that one more time", voters in southern Colorado County approved the creation of the Rice Hospital District by a margin of almost two to one, allowing Eagle Lake Community Hospital to remain in operation. An appointed board of directors will run the facility until an elected board can be chosen next May. In the largest voter turn-out in recent memory, 1,500 voters cast their ballots this past Saturday, May 6. The voting breakdown was provided by County Clerk Darlene Hayek. (See Page 10 for more results.)

## Council decides on new police chief

By Lynda Appelt, Contributing Writer  
Eagle Lake City Council named Keith H. Webb, 41, as the city's new police chief at a special meeting Wednesday, May 3. Webb is a crime scene investigator for the Houston Police Department's Homicide Division. A 23-year veteran of HPD, Webb will retire from that department to assume duties as police chief in Eagle Lake, effective Friday, May 12. He holds a T.C.L.E.O.S.E. certified master peace officer certification, a police instructor license and has conducted over 1,275 homicide crime scene investigations. Webb is a court expert witness in crime scene investigations, wound identifications, bloodstain pattern interpretation, fingerprinting and glass fracture reconstruction and analysis. He has received over 25 letters of commendations as an investigator instructor and has received over 1,800 hours of training from state and national agencies. Webb has taught over 86 schools locally, statewide and nationally. Classes include crime scene investigation, fingerprinting, hazardous materials and police photography, blood spatter interpretation, forensic firearms and wound identification. The special meeting consisted of an hour and 45-minute executive session during which Webb and acting Sgt. Steve Hassin were interviewed for the second time. Upon reconvening into open session, the motion was made by Councilman John Young to name Webb to the position. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote, pending pre-employment requirements. René Cooper-Scott, who chaired the Selection Committee, is on leave of absence and did not vote. Scott did make a sealed, personal recommendation, but that recommendation was not disclosed. According to City Manager Ron Holland, the residence mileage distance for the chief was waived by the Council. Webb lives in Rock Island. Holland explained in a personal interview this week, once again, the procedure which led to Webb's employment. The City advertised in the Texas Municipal League publication and area newspapers, including Houston. The Selection Committee narrowed the 37 applications received to 11, based only on on-page qualifications. Once the 11 were identified, packets containing job description, salary facts about Eagle Lake, budget and a list of questions, were mailed. Six packets were returned and interviews were held with five applicants; one was a no-show. Following the interview process, Council members, in their own minds, ranked those interviewed. The consensus was pooled and background checks were launched by Holland on the top three candidates. Information was obtained from past employers and employment, education and records from T.C.L.E.O.S.E. The background was brought to Council by Holland at the special meeting. Based on the information and the two interviews, members were again polled during the executive session for their opinion. Mayor Robby Cook read his recommendation to Council. Council agreed to bring in a unanimous vote, thus the 4-0 vote was taken. According to Holland, experience was a determining factor. The job provides a salary of \$29,000, with a \$1,000 raise at the end of a six-month probation period. Webb outlined his future plans for the Eagle Lake Police Department: "Bring professionalism and leadership to the department; "Study the past and present ELPD before any immediate actions are taken; "Establish several community involvement programs; "Make daily visits to the local schools; "Visit all of Eagle Lake's churches; "Be involved with Eagle Lake's service organizations; "Visit each business and conduct a business survey which will assist the police department and the business; "Establish a Home Meeting Program which will allow citizens to personally invite him, as the chief, into their home at their convenience for a casual meeting and the citizens can extend the invitation to their neighbors for a local street meeting; and "Establish a program that will allow citizens the opportunity to direct the department's patrol. For example, when a citizens goes out of town on vacation, he or she may contact the department during regular business hours and request that a patrol slip be issued. Specific information will be taken which will assist the officers in recognizing a problem at the home, as well as in securing the home. Webb and his wife, Wanda, have lived in Colorado County in the Rice Consolidated Independent School District near Rock Island for the past nine years. Mrs. Webb was born in Eagle Lake and is the daughter of Hume and Nelda Baker of Sheridan. The Webbs have two children, Micah and Mandi, both graduates of Columbus High School, now attending college. "I have a number of other programs and ideas which will be presented at a later date," said Webb. "My officers and I will aggressively pursue all criminal activity. This can only be done with the support and help of all of our citizens."

## The Cupboard robbed at gunpoint

Officer Brian Ochoa was dispatched to an aggravated robbery in progress at The Cupboard on Friday morning, May 5, at 2:21 a.m. Officer Ochoa was assisted by Officer Jack Knox, Sgt. Steve Hassin and Sheriff's Deputy Craig Peikert, and Knox's K-9 Unit, Posha. A search was made for suspects, but they had already left the area. It was reported that two assailants entered the back door of The Cupboard, apparently by prying open the lock, and demanded money. They struck the complainant in the head with a gun, took money and cigarettes and left the scene. On May 5, at 10:25 a.m., Officer Eric Hart was dispatched to a fight in progress at Eagle Lake Middle School. Upon arrival and gathering information, two female juveniles were issued tickets for disorderly conduct. Also on May 5, at 12:59 p.m., the fire department and Officer Hart were dispatched to a report of a car fire on Third Street. Upon Hart's arrival, he extinguished the grass fire started by the car's exhaust, turning the scene over to the fire department when they arrived. Officer Jake Garcia was dispatched to a report of a discharge of a fire arm on Davitt Street. The area was patrolled but a suspect was not located. Officer Clem Johnson was dispatched to a report of criminal mischief on Davitt Street on May 6 at 5:23 a.m. After meeting with the complainant and the suspects, the matter was taken care of without further action. On May 6 at 8:04 p.m., Officer Knox was dispatched to the 600 Block of Main Street to take a report of a stolen vehicle from the parking lot. It appeared, from the broken glass on the ground, that entry was made by breaking into a window. The case is under investigation. Officer Ochoa was dispatched to N. Lake on May 6 at 7:38 p.m. in reference to criminal mischief. A report was taken and charges are pending. On May 7 at 3 a.m., Officer Johnson was flagged down by a subject who reported a family disturbance. After assessing the situation, Adam Gonzales was arrested for assault family violence, processed at the police department and transported to the county jail for confinement. On May 8 at 12:42 a.m., Officer Johnson arrested Eric Andra Christal for outstanding traffic warrants, processed him and transported him to the county jail for confinement. Lake Amber Company reported a burglary on Monday, May 8, at 8:15 a.m. It occurred sometime after closing Saturday, May 6, at 3 p.m. Officer Hart is investigating the case. Morgan Muldrow was arrested at the police department on May 8 at 2 p.m. on outstanding warrants for driver of service, no insurance and no driver's license. He was processed by Officer Hart and transported to the county jail for confinement.

## School board to select Rice High principal Friday

By Lynda Appelt, Contributing Writer  
meeting for that exact purpose be called. The Board was scheduled to eat lunch at the Garwood School Friday and trustees felt this would be a proper time for the special meeting. Board members canvassed the school trustee election. Newly-elected board member, Robin Thomas, and incumbent Jack Vawter were administered the oath of office. Melody Grigar was re-elected president of the board. Vawter was elected vice president and Fritz Leopold, who was absent from the meeting, was elected secretary. Tommie Lynn Holden addressed (See Board, Page 10)

## NEWSBRIEFS

**Greater Union Baptist Church carwash**  
The Greater Union Baptist Church will hold a carwash this Saturday, May 13, beginning at 8 a.m. It will be held in front of the old Main Auto Supply Store.

**Defensive driving courses set**  
A Saturday defensive driving course has been set by Gene Creemrens for May 27 from 8-3 p.m. at the Winterman Library. To register, call 409-543-7849, 234-5411 or 1-800-285-8297. Walk-ins are welcome.

**National Transportation week May 15-19**  
Riding the van is easy! During National Transportation Week Colorado Valley Transit is offering free rides in Colorado, Austin and Walker Counties during May 15-19. Free gifts will be given to first time riders. Both gifts and service are subject to availability. Call 1-800-548-1068 for a ride.