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Players

presented last year.

We're in Mineola County again, where the Cultural Arts Society is producing *Romeo and Juliet* by Mr. Bill Shakespeare (with additional dialogue by Naomi Farkle Carson).

Even though the cast members don't have their lines memorized, the set isn't finished and a dog keeps barking offstage while the score goes off, they're gonna give it a go!

Ticket sales are brisk but choice reserved seats remain available at \$8 from Liz Waddell at Gifts of Distinction in Eagle Lake. General admission tickets at \$5.50 are available at Eagle Lake Insurance and Laker Printing, and are being sold by cast and crew members. Tickets will be available at the door.

Many of the most important people preparing this play will not be seen on stage.

Crew members put in many long, hard hours to ensure actors can concentrate on presenting the polished performance audiences have come to expect from the Prairie Edge Players.

Debbie Politsch has stepped in to fill the vacancy left by the absence of Helen Craig, the usual producer, and is working hard to draw all the ends together. Helen is working on publicity and ticket sales.

Debbie Schmitt is in charge of the stage. She prompts and guides actors through their paces at each rehearsal, and sees to it that everyone has whatever props he or she needs at the exact moment he needs them.

Melvin Schmitt lends his experience as lighting supervisor. Vic Scott has again rebuilt parts of Prairie Edge's rather unique stage for this year's production.

Doors have appeared and disappeared. A new paint job has changed last year's county fair scene into a middle school gymnasium.

Brice Stephens is making his usual contribution of his near-professional skill in creating and coordinating the sound effects.

Elaine Hess has expertly taken

Festival

Participants are encouraged to pre-register at Lake Motors for the event in order to obtain sponsors.

Children may register the day of the event. Fishing tackle will be provided; however, you may want to bring your own equipment.

A free lunch will be provided for Kidfish participants at the festival.

Lots of children's activities, games and things to do will be going on at the Community Center all day.

Children's events: Free organized children's games will be going on in the afternoon from 1 to 5 p.m. Ribbons will be awarded to winners.

A play depicting the life and times of a grandmother prairie chicken, Eda Mae, and her son, Bertrand, will have two showings, one at 1:30 and another at 3:30.

Health fair: The Rice Medical Center will have a health fair Saturday.

Some areas of interest at the health fair will be glucose testing, pulmonary testing, carotid doppler study and physical therapy testing.

The Blood Center of Houston will be conducting a blood drive. You can sign up for the National Registry and Bone Marrow donation.

The M.D. Anderson Cancer Center will have several displays and a speaker on cancer.

Life Gift will be here signing people up for organ and tissue donation. Their booth will be manned by a heart recipient.

There will be lots more to this component.

Fly-fishing demonstration: Certified Master Fly-fishing expert Greg Mason will be giving free fly-fishing lessons from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Community Center. If you are interested in learning how to fly-fish or just want to watch, make plans to attend. It should be a real treat.

Water garden demonstrations: Lilyponds from Brookshire will be on hand to demonstrate water gardening. They are planning to construct a portable backyard water garden. Items from the store will also be available for sale.

Native plant display: The Columbus Native Plant Society will have a native plant display area as well as plants for sale.

A representative will be on hand to answer questions. The group has already started work on a native plant display at the Attwater's Prairie Chicken National Refuge headquarters with the native plants identified for visitors.

Artists: Wildlife artists have been invited to attend and have their work on display and for sale. There is still room for more artists as well as galleries.

If you are interested in displaying your art work, call the Chamber office at 409-234-2780.

Art, photo contest: An art and photography contest will be held again this year, sponsored by the SW Bell Telephone Pioneers.

Winners from each of the four categories will receive savings bonds: kindergarten through second grade, third through fifth grade, six through eighth grade and high school.

First prize will be \$150 bond; second, \$100; and third, \$50.

If your grade or class has not started work on posters, or if you don't have an art teacher, please call the Chamber office at 409-234-2780.

An open class photography contest is being held as well. No professional photographers, please.

Photos should be a "nature" theme and need to be 8x10 on a matt.

For more information on these events, call the Chamber.

Chili cookoff: A chili cookoff will be going on during the festival with Annie Broesche at the head.

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There is a \$12 entry fee to cover the cost of trophies.

Five pounds of meat is the minimum required. Also, for new cooks, no beans are to be added to the chili.

Trophies will be awarded to winners. If you wish to enter please call Annie 409-234-3220.

Barbecue and dance: Saturday night, all the activities will come to a close with a catered barbecue dinner from Austin's BBQ & Catering and a BYOB dance featuring the one and only band, "Colorado".

Setups will be provided.

Festival booths: This year, there will be no planned duplication of food items for sale.

If your club, civic group, church, etc. wants to have a booth, please call Lucy Capps at 409-234-7447.

Each booth retains its proceeds. The festival does not take a percentage or collect taxes; only booth rent.

Anyone with items to sell (like arts, crafts, antiques, etc.) is welcome to set up a booth as long as it is tasteful.

The Festival Committee will have final approval of the items for sale and reserves the right to limit or decline items and/or vendors.

The Committee has worked hard to have something for everyone. They encourage all of you to come out and spend the day in Eagle Lake.

Festival passes (admittance to Friday night's dinner, Saturday's barbecue and dance, and a special drawing ticket) will be sold for \$20.

Passes will not be sold by the contestants for the Eagle Lake Queen's Pageant.

Tickets may be purchased from: Susan Tomchesson, Lesley Matthews, Chamber of Commerce, Blue Plate Cafe and other local businesses. Look for signs indicating passes for sale and please purchase yours early.

Tickets to each individual event will also be sold prior to its start.

Friday night's dinner will be \$12. Saturday night's barbecue will be \$6 and the dance will also be \$6.

Purchasing the festival pass will save \$4 off the individual events, not to mention making you eligible for the special drawing.

Festival sponsors include Texas Parks & Wildlife, US Fish & Game, Lower Colorado River Authority, Colorado River Trail, Austin American-Statesman, Wray Trust, City of Eagle Lake, Revitalize Eagle Lake, SW Bell Telephone Pioneers, the Wal Mart Foundation and CP&L.

Continued from Page 1

charge of costuming and make-up for Prairie Edge Players and is busy creating period costumes.

Mark April 25 and 26 on your calendars and plan to see this delightful comedy.

It promises healthy, wholesome entertainment for the entire family.

For further information, call 234-2807.

Police

Continued from Page 1

loud music. A warning citation was issued for violation of the City's noise ordinance.

A burglary of a habitation on Norris was reported to Officer Risk on April 5 at 2:54 a.m.

Risk took a report and the case remains under investigation. Juveniles are the prime suspects.

At 3:03 p.m., Sgt. Knox was dispatched to a disturbance on Keith Street. After meeting with the two subjects, one left the premises. No other action was taken.

On April 6 at 4: a.m., Officer Brian Ochoa made a traffic stop on W. Post Office Street which resulted in the arrest of Kathy Jean Gonzales of Wharton for driving while intoxicated, second offense.

After processing at the police department, Gonzales was transported to the county jail for confinement.

At 2:30 p.m., Officer Eric Bilbo was dispatched to 8th Street in reference to an assault. A report was taken and the case is under investigation.

On April 7 at 9 a.m., Chief Webb took a report of the theft of two girl's mountain bicycles from the 600 block of E. State Street. The case is under investigation.

At 10:25 a.m., Chief Webb arrested Kenneth Wayne Coats of Eagle Lake at the JP #4 courtroom for an outstanding possession of marijuana warrant.

After processing at the police department, Coats was transported to the county jail for confinement.

At 2:45 p.m., a lady walked into the police department and said that there was an unknown man inside the bed of her truck.

Chief Webb went to the residence on Glen Meadows and found an 85-year-old white male lying in the bed of her truck. The man is a resident of

Eagle Lake.

The man, armed with a semi-automatic pistol, was experiencing traits of a mentally disabled person.

Chief Webb disarmed him and issued a police officer's mental health warrant in order to have the man transported to Riceland Mental Hospital in Rosenberg where he was admitted. Commitment procedures are being pursued by his family.

Sgt. Knox was dispatched to Prairie Street at 5 p.m. in reference to an unwanted subject on the complainant's property.

Upon his arrival, the subject had left the area.

Officer Ochoa, at 10:54 p.m., was dispatched to Glen Lake Court area in reference to a suspicious person.

When Ochoa arrived, the subject was gone from the area.

On April 8, Chief Webb and Lt. Johnson conducted a follow-up investigation of a burglary in which a suspect had developed. A warrant was obtained and Michael Lee Hernandez was arrested at his residence.

Hernandez was also arrested on an outstanding warrant involving an evading arrest case in Eagle Lake, plus three warrants for revocation of probation out of Colorado County Court and State District Court.

He was processed at the police department, then transported to the county jail for confinement.

MONTHLY SUMMARY

The March summary from the Eagle Lake Police Department shows 192 calls answered; 127 miscellaneous, 24 disturbances, 14 thefts, nine accidents, seven burglaries, six criminal mischief, and four assaults.

Officers investigated 49 criminal cases, cleared 40 and made 14 arrests (13 misdemeanor, one felony).

There were 55 citations and 94

Fair

Continued from Page 7

fresh garden products and needlework. Individuals entering must be over the age of 60 and may enter as many items as they wish.

Blue, red and white ribbons will be awarded to all items judged. Rosettes will be awarded to the top items in each category.

Any organization or individual age 60 and over may set up booths to sell items.

The deadline for reserving a booth is April 18.

The Older Texan Fair will open at 8:30 a.m. for exhibits and booths being set up; judging will begin at 9:30.

A program on preserving your heritage will begin at 10 a.m.

After the program, each Older Texan nominee will be recognized and the 1997 Older Texan man and women will be presented with plaques. The exhibit winners will also be recognized.

A meal, consisting of barbecue and all the trimmings, will be served for \$5.50 after the recognition of the Older Texans.

Meal tickets must be purchased no later than April 22. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Older Texan nomination forms and guidelines for the exhibits and booths may be picked up at the Extension Office, 316 Spring, Columbus.

For more information, contact Marty Graves at 409-732-2530.

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