

Yes! Yes! Yes!



By Lynda Appelt
Yes, Eagle Lake! There will be an Attwater's Prairie Chicken Festival planned for 1998 on March 27-28! Some of the tentative activities being planned include a street dance on Friday night, arts and crafts booths, children's rides, tours, bird

watching, speakers, sports tournaments (including two-on-two basketball), food and drink, auction, fun run, local talent performances and an art display.

Volunteers are needed. Contact Laura Myres for information and/or to volunteer.

Eagle Lake Headlight

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ELMS needs your support

Last year, the Eagle Lake Middle School (ELMS) student body did a campus-wide fund raiser, gathering approximately \$2,000. They used the money to fund their greenhouse project.

The students now need the community's help to finish their greenhouse. The ELMS garden has become an enjoyable part of the curriculum and students feel the greenhouse could play an even larger role in helping children realize education is fun.

Please give your support to these students in their fund raising efforts Nov. 13 through Dec. 1. The brochure of items they will be selling includes many that will make great Christmas gifts.

Mrs. McDowell, Mr. Flud and Miss Feehery thank you for your support.

Headlight Photo by Carol Cardenas

NEWSBRIEFS

Sealy Assembly of God presents drama

Pastor Rusty Griffin and the Sealy Assembly Drama Team proudly present an illustrated drama that will bring a message of hope to all... "The Prisoner in the Third Cell", the story of John the Baptist. No matter what circumstances may surround you, there is hope in Jesus Christ. John found it. Come and find it for yourself. Experience life as a Victor and not a Victim! Thursday, Nov. 13, Saturday, Nov. 15, and Sunday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m. all three nights. For more information call 409-885-3113. There will be special effects, live animals, large cast and crew and an awesome set design.

Thanksgiving service set for Nov. 23

The Eagle Lake Ministerial Alliance Thanksgiving Service will be held at the First Baptist Church on Sunday, Nov. 23, at 7 p.m. There will be a fellowship after the service. Please join us at this special time.

'A Huge Christmas in a Tiny Town' set for Dec. 6

'A Huge Christmas in a Tiny Town' will be held in downtown Garwood (Hwy. 71 between Columbus and El Campo) on Saturday, Dec. 6, starting at 10 a.m. Arts and crafts booths, country store, tea room and entertainment will be available. Hamburgers will be on sale from 4 to 8 p.m., sponsored by the Garwood Volunteer Fire Department. A drawing and a drink booth will be sponsored by the Garwood Lions Club. A live nativity will be held at 6 p.m. followed by Mr. and Mrs. Santa. For booth information, call 409-758-3476.

Free diabetes screening is Nov. 20

A free diabetes screening will take place on Thursday, Nov. 20, from 7 to 10 a.m. at Columbia Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton. Also blood glucose screens will be given to check blood sugar level. Do not eat or drink after midnight. There will also be a urine protein screen for kidney disease for diagnosed diabetics. First morning urine is best for this test. To make an appointment, call Sherri Ziegenhals at 409-282-6808.

Entries sought for Christmas parade Dec. 6

Entries are being sought for the 9th Annual Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce Lighted Christmas Parade which will be held Saturday, Dec. 6. Line-up time is from 4 to 5:20 p.m.; judging at 5:20 p.m.; parade, 6:45 p.m. The Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary will sell hamburgers on the square. The Eagle Lake Pilot Club will sell snacks and hot chocolate and the Cub Scouts will be selling cold drinks. Entertainment on the square by Gary Tise will precede the parade. Parade entry forms are available at the Chamber of Commerce and Headlight office or from Lynda Appelt. Call 234-5878 for parade information or to volunteer to help with the line-up. Parade officials hope to make this the largest ever!

Merchants check your lights for Christmas

Downtown merchants are reminded to check your Christmas lights to make sure that they are in working order before the Lighted Christmas Parade set to take place on Dec. 6.

Rice CISD early release day

Friday, Nov. 14, is an early release day for schools in the Rice CISD. School will be dismissed at 1 p.m. in order to allow parents to pick up report cards and set up conference times with teachers if needed. Call your child's school and teacher to arrange a conference time.

Bus trip to Houston scheduled

A bus is being made available to transport those interested in hearing Father Jozo Zovko, a Franciscan who lived in Medjugorje, to the Charismatic Center in Houston on Sunday, Nov. 16. Father Jozo will give a talk at 2 p.m. and Mass will be at 4:30 p.m. with a healing service afterward. The bus will leave Holy Cross parking lot at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$12 per person and you are asked to bring a sack lunch. Reservations can be made by calling Lora Faltysek at 409-335-4116.

New Town Community having fish fry

The New Town Community will sponsor a fish fry to benefit the sewer line project Saturday, Nov. 15, at White Cloud Baptist Church. Plates will be \$5 each. To place your order, call 234-7948, 234-7623 or 234-3042.

'Small Town Christmas' set for Dec. 14

The Sheridan Lions Club is holding meetings each Sunday at 4 p.m. in preparation for the "Small Town Christmas" program slated for 6 p.m. Dec. 14 at Logan Park in Sheridan. Zelda Walker and Brent Pittman encourage all to attend.

GCMC covered dish luncheon set for Nov. 20

Senior Friends will hold their annual Thanksgiving covered dish luncheon Thursday, Nov. 20, beginning at noon in the classrooms of Gulf Coast Medical Center. We've got the turkey - you bring the side dishes. Fun, fellowship, prizes and programs. RSVP to Sherri Ziegenhals at 409-282-6808.

RMC Pink Ladies need volunteers

The Rice Medical Center Ladies Auxiliary (Pink Ladies) needs volunteers. Talk to any member or come by the Hospital auxiliary room for information.

To help offset medical expenses...

Barbecue, dance scheduled for Nov. 15

A barbecue and dance to help offset the medical expenses of Jonathan Villarreal will be held Saturday, Nov. 15, starting at noon at the Eagle Lake Community Center.

Barbecue plates will sell for \$5 each and contain barbecued chicken, rice, beans, potatoes, bread and a juicy jalapeño.

The benefit dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. will be Saturday night at the Community Center featuring El Grupo Venganza. Presale tickets are \$5; at the door, \$6.

You may purchase tickets from

Bertha Montemayor, or Mary, Becky, Stella or Jackie Morales.

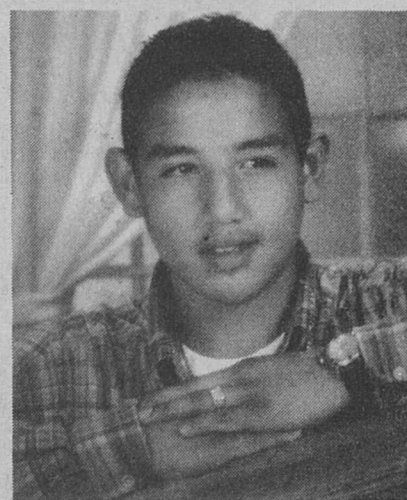
Jonathan is currently at the Texas Institute of Research and Rehabilitation in Houston.

A video of the day's events will be made for and sent to him.

Your support would be greatly appreciated!

The benefit is being sponsored by friends and relatives.

On Monday, Nov. 10, Jonathan's mom said, "If the Lord's willing, he would be home for Thanksgiving."



Jonathan Villarreal

County, Esterling named in civil suit

The Colorado County Commissioners' Court granted County Judge Vince Slominski the authority to hire an attorney to represent the County in a civil action suit filed against former sheriff Bill Esterling by an inmate at the old Colorado County Jail.

The decision followed an executive session at the close of Monday morning's regular monthly meeting.

According to Slominski, the County has been sued by Matt Lara, who is presently serving 25 years in prison, after he claimed that he was not properly magistered when arrested in 1982.

Lara reportedly filed the suit under the 1983 Civil Rights Act, according to Slominski.

He added the County learned of the lawsuit in Sept. after Esterling was served.

The Court also contemplated litigation in regard to real property in reference to the Alleyton sewer lines in executive session, but took no action.

Darryl Darnell, an agent with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC), approached the Court about the purchase of a handheld portable breath tester to test minors. A number of new laws in regard to minors went into effect Sept. 1.

Darnell, who is stationed in Wharton County and also covers a portion of Matagorda County, said the cost of the machine is \$259.

In addition, it has to be recalibrated every six months at a cost of \$15 and the 100 disposable mouth pieces are \$30.

The Court had placed the item on the agenda for information only and plans to take action on the matter at its Nov. 24 meeting.

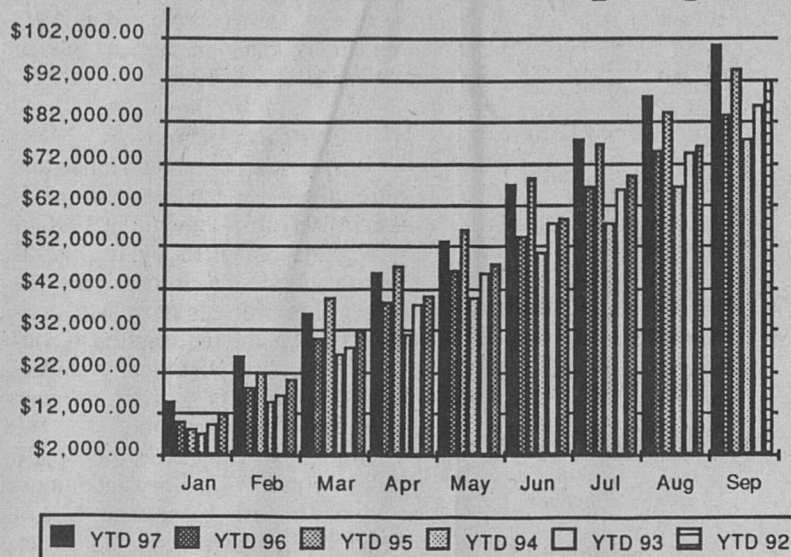
Darnell informed the Court that Wharton County had allocated some \$1,600 per year for the cost of cellular phones for his office and he said records show that Colorado County takes in some \$8,000 per year in liquor taxes, not including fines or citations.

The agent says that he has two options in dealing with the minors suspicious of driving under the influence of alcohol.

First, he can arrest them and have their car towed or; second, have them follow the agent to the sheriff's department where a breath test will be administered.

"We want to use this device to take some of the inconvenience off the citizens of Colorado County," said Darnell. "You have to remember, there is a difference between adults and minors. An adult is considered DWI (driving while intoxicated) with a 1.0 or better (breathalyzer) while a minor (See Commissioners, Page 4)

City sales tax rebate up again



Year-to-date sales tax rebate totals for the City of Eagle Lake for the last six years are charted against the month the tax was collected by businesses, not the month it was received by the City.

State Comptroller John Sharp last week delivered a total of \$230.6 million in monthly sales tax payments to 1,087 Texas cities and 117 counties.

"Consumer spending shows confidence in the continued growth of the Texas economy, and sales tax rebates are a healthy 7.1% ahead of those through Nov. of last year," Sharp said.

Sharp delivered monthly sales tax rebates to Texas cities totaling \$212.4 million, 11.4% higher than last year's Nov. payments of \$190.5 million. Rebates of \$18.2 million to Texas counties were 15.7% higher than allocations of \$15.7 million in Nov. 1996. Another \$6 million went to 26 special purpose districts around the state.

The Rice Hospital District will soon be among the special districts receiving sales tax rebates. The Dis-

trict's 0.5% tax went into effect Oct. 1.

The City of Eagle Lake received a rebate in the amount of \$12,194.91, (See Sales tax, Page 10)

Duplexes ready for occupants

In the photo at right, Rosa Rios Valdez, executive director of Cen-Tex Development, presented a certificate of completion and appreciation to Michael Cooper, president of Eagle Lake Housing Financial Corp., during an open house held Saturday at the Heritage Lane location. With both locations completed, Cen-Tex is in the process of contracting with a local business to handle rentals and someone to handle the maintenance, when it becomes necessary.

In the photo below, a small group gathered for an "official" ribbon cutting at Hunter's Ridge, the name given the duplexes on Heritage Lane. (The group on Airline are called Oak Meadows.) Taking part in the ribbon cutting were, from left, Eagle Lake City Councilman J.W. Shavers, Michael Cooper, Rosa Rios Valdez, First National Bank Vice President Ronnie Sedgwick and City Manager and a member of Cen-Tex Ron Holland. In front are Tom and John Reed.

Headlight Photos by Jeannine Fearing



United Way goal is \$10,150

United Way pledge cards and letters have been delivered.

Citizens are encouraged to make a contribution to the 1997 drive with the theme "The Power is You!"

The 1997 goal is \$10,150.

Your contribution will support Boy and Girl Scouts, Little League, Ministerial Alliance, Colorado County Red Cross, Eagle Lake Salvation Army, Colorado County Special Olympics, Colorado County MHMR, Colorado County Children's Service Board, Youth Development and alcoholism and drug prevention.

If you wish, you may earmark your

donation to the organization of your choice.

Businesses and organizations with contributions from all their members will receive a United Way 100% Contribution Certificate.

Contributions may be made at the First National Bank of Eagle Lake or mailed to United Way, P.O. Box 902, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434.

Also, call 234-5878 and your contribution will be picked up.

Remember, funds stay in our community! Dec. 31 is the deadline.

