

**APC Festival  
silent auction  
raises in excess  
of \$5,000**  
See Page 7

**Daylight Savings  
Time Begins at 2  
a.m. This Sunday,  
April 5. Set Your  
Clocks Forward  
One Hour!**

**Congratulations to  
Rice High School's  
Valerie Galvan...  
chosen Best Actress  
in District U.I.L.  
One Act  
Play Competition!**

# Eagle Lake Headlight

**April 2, 1998**

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Crucial Habitat meeting is April 7

Colorado County Habitat For Humanity (CCHF) will have a crucial meeting on Tuesday, April 7, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church in Columbus. Please join us for this very important Habitat Meeting! CCHF is at a crossroads. If we do not have sufficient manpower as represented by persons attending this upcoming meeting, we will be forced to disband as a Habitat affiliate. If you have ever felt the urge to become involved, now is the time! Please call Lois Quenneville at 234-5129 or Rosemary Lewis at 1-800-243-5369 for more information.

### Rice schedules first 'Project Graduation'

The First Annual Rice High School Project Graduation is underway. There are only seven short weeks to raise enough money for this memorable event. A bake sale will be held on Good Friday, April 10 at B&B Grocery in Eagle Lake. Drawing tickets are being sold for \$1 each for a large computer system with printer to be given away. Ask any senior for tickets. Donations are also being accepted from the community and its patrons. Mail your donations to Rice Project Graduation, P.O. Box 383, Garwood, TX 77442. For more information call Sarah Perry a 758-9040 or Susan Wilkerson at 409-543-8059.

### Lissie Methodist schedules sunrise service

The Lissie United Methodist Church will host its Annual Sunrise Service Sunday, April 12, at 6 a.m. at the home of Mark and Becky Anderson, 701 Lakeside Drive, Eagle Lake. Everyone is invited to attend.

### Crescent country jamboree starts April 7

The Crescent Country Jamboree, will be held the first Tuesday of each month starting April 7 at 7:30 p.m.; admission is \$3. Concession specialty for this month is homemade chicken noodle soup and chicken salad sandwiches. The event will take place at the Wharton County Youth Fairgrounds Crescent Hall located at the intersection of FM 960 & FM 961. Come enjoy great music, delicious food, and clean family entertainment! For more information call 409-677-3350 or Eddie Maxwell at 512-576-6598!

### CCA first annual crawfish boil to be held

The Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) of Texas, Sealy Prairie Chapter, hosted a banquet planning meeting Feb. 26. A state representative of CCA, along with our out-of-state representatives were present to help plan the banquet.

The CCA, Prairie Chapter, is hosting its 1st Annual Crawfish Boil at the K.C. Hall in Sealy, Thursday, April 16, beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and \$5 for children 12 and under.

Festivities will include free beer and crawfish, silent auction, live auction, and drawings. Drawing items include: 18 ft. Kenner boat w/90 hp motor on McClain trailer, Alaska fishing trip, sporting artwork, fishing tackle, and many more trips and prizes. There will only be 600 boat tickets available.

Funds raised from this event will benefit all coastal conservation projects as well as future projects.

For tickets and information, call Mike Grigar at Johnny's Sport Shop, 409-234-3516; or Dan Firkus, 409-885-6222 (leave message).

### East Bernard EMS to host blood drive

East Bernard EMS will host a Spring Blood Drive on Sunday, April 26, 1998 at the high school cafeteria from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Whole blood, plasma and platelet donations will be accepted.

To be a blood donor, you must meet these few simple requirements: be at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, be in good physical health, and present positive identification at the time of the donation.

For more information, contact Fate Breedlove at 409-335-6174. To locate a facility or blood drive nearest you, please call Betty Webb at 1-888-GV-BLOOD, ext. 234; or visit The Blood Center web-page at [www.giveblood.org](http://www.giveblood.org).

### GCMC pizza party set for April 8

Senior Friends will be honoring their active volunteers with a pizza party on Wednesday, April 8, beginning at noon, in the classrooms at Gulf Coast Medical Center (GCMC). The meal is complimentary to Senior Friends volunteers on the active list - all others - \$5 per person. RSVP is a must. Call Sherri at 409-282-6808 for further information.

### Senior Citizens' dance is this Friday

The public is invited to a Senior Citizens' dance from 7:30 to 11 p.m. on Friday, April 3, at the Eagle Lake Community Center with music provided by The Country Playboys. Admission is \$5 per person; door prizes will be given.

### Retired teachers meeting set for April 6

Make plans to attend the meeting of the Colorado County Retired Teachers Association Monday, April 6, at Schobels' Restaurant at noon. This organization works energetically and exclusively to improve the retirement of teachers and school personnel. Columbus will be the host town.

### RHS Student Council blood drive is April 15

The Student Council of Rice High School is sponsoring a blood drive Wednesday, April 15, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the high school gym. For more information, contact Coach Lee Politsch at 234-3535. Please give the gift of life.

### Iglesia Bautista Gethsemani presenta Molengraf

Iglesia Bautista Gethsemani, 903 East "B" Street, Eagle Lake, presenta Gordon Molengraf, evangelista dibujante (predica dibujano y dibuja predicando). Fecha y tiempo, abril 24 y 25 7 p.m.; abril 26, 11 a.m. Todos bienvenidos.

### CCAD to be in Eagle Lake Friday

A representative of the Colorado County Appraisal District will be in Eagle Lake at City Hall Friday, April 3, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to assess taxes for 1998 for Colorado County, Rice CISD, Eagle Lake City, Rice Hospital District and Colorado County Water & Improvement District #2.

### El Campo KC's Festival is Sunday

The Knights of Columbus Council #2490 Festival will be held on Sunday, April 5, at the El Campo K.C. Hall. Barbecue chicken dinner plates with all the trimmings will be served starting at 11 a.m. for \$5 each. Plates to go will also be available. An auction for drawings of \$6,200 in gift certificates will be held with only 500 tickets to be sold. There will be games and entertainment for the whole family.

### Iglesia Bautista Gethsemani to hold revival

Iglesia Bautista Gethsemani, 903 East B Street, will hold a concert revival April 24 and 25 at 7 p.m. and on April 26 at 11 a.m. Pamela Valle will entertain. The public is invited to attend.

(See Newsbriefs, Page 6)

## Council meets new public works director

By Lynda Appelt  
Contributing Writer

The Eagle Lake City Council was introduced to the City's new public works director at its March 24 meeting.

Anthony Williams assumed the position March 18. Williams grew up in Eagle Lake, graduated from Rice High School in 1984 and is the son of Irving and Ruby Williams.

Williams attended Wharton County Junior College and San Jacinto College and has 12 years experience in municipal utility operations.

He assumed the duties with an annual salary of \$30,000. An additional \$50 per month will be added after a six-month probation period.

Council conducted a public hearing on the proposed \$3,996 million budget for the 1998-99 fiscal year beginning April 1.

No one was present to address the item, therefore, the budget, along with an ad valorem tax rate of 63.5¢ per \$100 valuation, was adopted. A total

of 42,352¢ will support maintenance and operation, and 21,148¢ will go to the interest and sinking fund.

City Manager Ron Holland told Council that the new budget was prepared with a tax cut of approximately 1.5¢ which resulted in the 63.5¢ rate. Last year's tax rate was 65.1114¢ per \$100 valuation.

The effective tax rate needed to collect the same revenues as in 1997-98, along with the City's actual tax base, will be issued in late summer from the Colorado County Central Appraisal District.

Holland told Council that the tax rate will be amended at that time if necessary.

The 1998-99 budget allows for a new utility billing system, pressure washer system, two pick-ups and one additional employee for the public works department, car for the administrative department, mosquito fogger, additional police officer through a COPS Universal Grant, full-time animal control officer, swimming pool

manager and lifeguards for a 12-week period, Community Center custodian, temporary summer labor, lease/purchase of a grade-all from state surplus and salary increases for all employees, including administration, police and public works.

Holland noted that the Municipal Park Grant is built into the 1998-99 budget.

Police Chief Keith Webb announced that since the budget allows for an additional sergeant's position in the police department, Patrolman W.E. "Bill" Lattimore will be promoted to the second sergeant's position.

Council adopted an ordinance amending present water rates.

There will be no change in the minimum rate for 3,000-gallon usage. The increase from \$1.50 to \$1.75 for customers within the City limit and \$3 to \$3.50 for those customers outside the City limits will apply only to usage above the minimum 3,000 gallons.

The increase amounts to 25¢ per 1,000 gallons over 3,000 gallons for

City residents and 50¢ per 1,000 gallons over 3,000 gallons for rural residents.

"Customers will see the increase in their May 1 bill," said Holland.

In response to a neighborhood complaint, Council declared a structure located on S. Lake, owned by Laura and Willie Myers Jr., to be dangerous and dilapidated and in violation of the building ordinance.

It was noted there are some estimated 150 buildings in the City that fit the dangerous and dilapidated category.

"The City is only taking action on those buildings that come into the City office as complaints," said Holland.

In other business, Council:

- Approved a new salary schedule ranging from \$7 per hour to \$10.10 per hour for public works employees;
- Approved salary increases for the administrative staff and clerks and all police department personnel with the addition of a new clerk's position in the City office;

(See Council, Page 3)

## Veterans should be aware of law change

According to information from a resident of Eagle Lake, verified by the Regional Veterans' Administration office and originating from Thomas Todd, U.S. West Veterans' Association, "if you are a veteran, have a family member(s) who is a veteran or know somebody who is, this news may be of interest to you or them."

"The President of the U.S. has recently signed into law a bill that affects all veterans. This law states, in effect, that, 'if a veteran has not registered at a Veterans' Affairs Hospital since Oct. 1, 1996, then on Oct. 1, 1998, he or she will lose all medical benefits for life.'"

A V.A. office suggests all veterans eligible for benefits (whether they have received treatment at a V.A. Hospital since Oct. 1, 1996, or not) should sign up prior to the Oct. 1, 1998, deadline.

This way, no one will "slip through the cracks".

You will need to take your DD-214 to the local V.A. office. It will take about five minutes to complete the necessary form to maintain your benefits. If you cannot locate your DD-214, go to the V.A. office and they can help you get a copy.

Regional V.A. hospitals can also send you an eligibility packet if you so request from the eligibility clerk.



Posing with Eagle Lake's new director of public works, Anthony Williams, second from right in back, are Council members J.W. Shavers, Bill Kell, Barbara Pidgeon and City Manager Ron Holland. Seated in front are Mayor Michael Cooper and Council member René Cooper-Scott. Not pictured is Council member Mike Duarte. Headlight Photo by Lynda Appelt

## EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

Charges are now pending against one person.

On March 27, at 12:12 a.m., Officer Carl Risk received a call of a burglary in progress on W. Main St. Upon his arrival, the complainant reported that a member of the family had come in while she was asleep, and no further action was taken.

At 12:45 p.m., Officer Crume was dispatched to the police department to speak with a complainant in reference to criminal mischief and a report was filed.

The City closed off East Main and Commerce Streets in preparation for the Attwater's Prairie Chicken Festival which began at 3 p.m. The police department provided security during the two-day event.

The department did not receive any calls for police service directly associated with the festival during the two days.

At 3:52 p.m., Officer Crume was contacted at the police department, where he took a report of a juvenile being assaulted. The case is still under investigation.

At 7:31, Officer Crume was dispatched to Austin Rd. in reference to an open door. The owner was located and no further action was needed.

At 10:38 p.m., Officer Risk received a call of loud music on Seaholm St., but was unable to locate any music in the area.

On March 28, at 12:39 a.m., Officer Risk was dispatched to a loud party on Campbell Rd. The subject was located and advised to keep the noise down.

At 6:02 a.m., Officer Risk received a call of a disturbance on E. State St. Upon arrival, Officer Risk was advised the matter had been settled and the parties had left. No further action was necessary.

At 8:39 a.m., Lt. Johnson received a call of a disturbance on Fifth St. Lt. Johnson stood by while the complainant removed belongings from the residence, which occurred without incident.

At 11:11 p.m., Officer Bill Lattimore met with a complainant on E. Main in reference to a disturbance.

The subject was not on the premises and the complainant did not want to file charges. No further action was taken.

On March 29, at 6:40 p.m., Officer Lattimore met with a complainant on Prairie St. in regard to a theft. Information was gathered and the report is being investigated.

At 10:22 p.m., Officer Lattimore met with complainants on Lake Ave. in reference to a family disturbance. A referral will be made in the case to the Colorado County Youth and Family Services.

On March 30, at 8:14 a.m., Officer Ochoa was contacted at the police department in reference to a 14 year old runaway juvenile. The juvenile was entered into the computer as a

runaway and the case is under investigation.

At 5:52 p.m., Sgt. Knox received a report of a nine year old runaway and took a report. Officer Lattimore and Sgt. Knox searched several hours. The juvenile later returned home. The case will be referred to juvenile probation.

At 9:11 p.m., Officer Lattimore met with complainants on Raezer St. in reference to criminal trespass by a juvenile. A report was filed and will be submitted to juvenile probation.

On March 31, at 7 a.m., Officer Ochoa was dispatched to Tate St. in reference to theft of a mail box and some concrete blocks. A report was filed.

At 12:38 p.m., Officer Ochoa was dispatched to the city limits in reference to a suspicious driver. The subject was located and identified and no other action was taken.

## Families are focus of First Baptist's Easter Celebration

A week-long Easter Celebration is planned at First Baptist Church, Prairie at Lake Street. All families from Eagle Lake and surrounding communities are welcome and encouraged to come.

On Palm Sunday, April 5, Dr. George Gaston will discuss Triumphant Entry in the main worship service at 10:45 a.m.

Palm Sunday evening at 6 p.m., the Church will reflect on the cross with an observance of the Lord's Supper.

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 11, at 3 p.m. on the church playground. Separate hunts will be held for toddler through kindergarten and first through third grades with guaranteed goodies for all participants.

Older children who would like to participate may help set up and serve as "Border Guards".

The family centered celebration will continue on Easter morning at 9:30 a.m. in the church fellowship hall as Church member families welcome visiting families with singing and a continental breakfast of juice, coffee and sweet rolls.

Dr. George Gaston will present a brief message of the new beginnings, of the hope and healing that can come from an Easter celebration. Families are then invited to complete the Easter Celebration in the main worship service at 10:45 a.m.

For details or more information, call the Church office at 234-2571.