

Pictures of past sheriffs needed

The Colorado County Sheriff's Department is currently putting together a display of pictures of the past sheriff's of Colorado County at the Colorado County Detention Center.

Anyone who may be able to contribute to this collection, please contact Sheriff Curly Wied's secretary,

Karen, at 409-732-2388, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The department would also appreciate any pictures of the "old" jail to add to the display.

"Help from present or past citizens of Colorado County will be greatly appreciated," Wied said.

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Eagle Lake Headlight

NEWSBRIEFS

Juvenile Detention Center ribbon cutting is Friday

The public is invited to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Colorado County Juvenile Detention Center, 600 FM 3013 on Friday, April 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Guest speakers will be Senator Ken Armbrister, State Representative Robby Cook, Vickie Spriggs of TJPC, County Judge Vince Slominski, Jim Slattery, president of Correctional Services Corp., (CSC) and Jim Irving, vice president of CSC. Tours will be given and lunch served.

So you'll know they belong...

Seismographic crews from Boone Geophysical and Venture will be working in the City of Eagle Lake over the next two or three weeks. Crew members will be wearing orange vests and hard hats and will be in various parts of town.

Polling change for May 2 School Board election

There has been a change in the polling location for Precincts 3 and 17 (Altair and Eagle Lake) in the May 2 Rice CISD trustee election. The new polling place will be the Eagle Lake Primary School, 600 Johnnie D. Hutchins Drive, instead of the Eagle Lake Community Center.

Study Club President's luncheon May 8

The President's Luncheon of the Eagle Lake Study Club will be held May 8 at the Eagle Lake Community Center at 12 noon. Professor Joe Tom Davis, Professor of History at Wharton County Junior College, will be the guest speaker. Professor Davis will speak at 12:30 p.m. The title of his program is "Sam Houston and the Women in his Life".

Tickets are on sale for the luncheon at the Eula and David Wintermann Library.

Sheridan Lions Club Health Fair

The Sheridan Lions Club will host a blood drive and health fair on Thursday, April 30, at the Sheridan Community Center from 3 to 7 p.m. Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will be on hand. You must provide a photo ID to give blood.

Doctors and nurses will be there to give out information and answer questions. Learn new things at the information booths and receive free giveaways as well.

The following are just a few of the many exhibits and tables with information: Dietary-Dieting information, cookies and punch; Eagle Lake Drug Store-Herbal information; RMC Lab-prostate testing and blood testing (nominal fee); Gero-Fsy-information on Classic Senior Program; Dr. John Myres-Dental Information and giveaways; and Home Health information.

Aggie Muster set for April 21

The Annual Colorado County Aggie Muster is slated for Tuesday, April 21, at the Columbus KC Hall. A social will begin at 6 p.m. followed by the meal at 7. Three \$1,500 scholarships will be given to a Rice High School, Columbus and Weimar graduating senior who is planning to attend Texas A&M. The scholarships will be given in honor and memory of Robert R. Wells Jr. For more information, call Vince Slominski at 234-2323; or Ty Prause, 409-732-9072.

'Life after loss' meeting is April 21

The monthly "Life After Loss" support group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in El Campo. This month's program "Healing Rituals — Powerful and Empowering" will be facilitated by Kathy Springer, Hospice Bereavement Coordinator. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge. For more information call Gulf Coast Hospice at 409-543-9487.

Sheridan town meeting April 23

The Sheridan Lions Club will host a town meeting Thursday, April 23, at 7 p.m. at the Sheridan Community Center. The meeting is to establish a crime watch program. Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Wied will conduct the groundwork to get the project started. The community's input is important and without you it can't work. Please attend this important meeting!

Eagle Lake KCs dinner is Sunday

The Eagle Lake Knights of Columbus Council #4843 will be serving a chicken fried chicken breast dinner Sunday, April 19, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 710 E. Main. Tickets for the to-go only plates are \$5 each and may be purchased from any KC member or in the serving line. The KC wives will be selling desserts. Proceeds will benefit the organization's charity and scholarship funds.

ELPS registration set for April 21

The Eagle Lake Primary School (ELPS) will hold pre-registration for Headstart, Pre-K, and Kindergarten for the 1998-99 school year on Tuesday, April 21, from 4 to 6 p.m., in the school library.

Headstart application forms will be available. Pre-K students must be four years old by Sept. 1, 1998 and either qualify for free/reduced lunches or have a limited English proficiency. This will be a half-day program. Kindergarten students must be five years old by Sept. 1, 1998. This will be an all-day program.

All students should bring their birth certificates, shot record and social security card with them when they register. If you are unable to be at the school on April 21, please call the school and make other arrangements. If your child is enrolled in pre-k or kindergarten, they do not have to re-enroll.

ELPS registro de headstart, pre-k y kinder

La Escuela Primaria de Eagle Lake (ELPS) tendra el registro de Headstart, pre-k y kinder para el ano escolar de 1998-99 el martes, el 21 de abril, 4-6 p.m., en la biblioteca de la escuela primaria.

Headstart aplicaciones seran disponible. Pre-k estudiantes deben tener cuatro anos de edad ara el 1 de septiembre, 1998, y deben calificar para almuerzos gratis/reducidos o tener limitaciones en proficiencia en Ingles. Sera un programa de media dia. Kinder estudiantes deben tener cinco anos de edad para el 1 de septiembre, 1998. Sera un programa todo el dia.

Todos los estudiantes deben llevar el registro de nacimiento, papeles de inmunizaciones, y tarjeta de seguro social cuando vienen a la escuela a registrar. Si no pueden venir a la escuela el 21 de abril, favor de llamar a las escuela. Si su hijo/hija ya asiste en pre-k o kinder, no es necesario registrar otra vez.

Sheridan kindergarten registration is April 16

Calling all youngsters who will turn five years old by Sept. 1, 1998. Please bring your birth certificate, shot records and social security card April 16 to the Sheridan Elementary School for kindergarten registration.

Birthday, calendar tea set for April 25

White Cloud Baptist Church is sponsoring a Birthday and Calendar Tea on Saturday, April 25, at the Eagle Lake Community Center, starting at 7:30 p.m. with special guest "The New Soul Invaders" from Industry.

(See Newsbriefs, Page 5)

In Democratic nominee for U.S. Representative, District 14, runoff election...

Sneary barely gets by Eagle Lake's Reed

"For being outspent 2 to 1, I don't think it was a shabby showing," was one of the comments Tom Reed made

Tuesday evening after all the votes were counted for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Representative,

District 14. Reed fell to long-time Matagorda county judge Loy Sneary by less than 1,400 votes across the 22-county district.

"I'm incredibly honored and humbled by the effort our campaign made. I want to thank the many volunteers and campaign workers who came out and helped turn out the voters," Reed stated.

"The runoff in Matagorda County

fueled the effort that Loy Sneary needed... the loyalty he needed was there," he concluded, even though Reed was endorsed this past Sunday in a special section of *The Houston Chronicle*.

Reed garnered 14,338 (47.68%) of the 30,072 votes cast in District 14 while Sneary received 15,734 votes, or 52.32%.

(See Runoff, Page 2)

Eagle Lake's sales tax drops behind 1997...

Eagle Lake's sales tax collections drop again

State Comptroller John Sharp last week delivered a total of \$158.7 million in monthly sales tax payments to 1,089 Texas cities and 118 counties, an 11.4% increase over the \$142.5 million allocated in April 1997.

The City of Eagle Lake, however, saw another drop in their payment from \$10,814.39 in April of 1997 to \$9,532.12 this month.

This month's sales tax rebates include local sales taxes collected in Feb. and reported by businesses filing monthly tax returns in March.

"April sales tax rebates reflect again this month that the Texas economy is booming and consumers remain confident that the healthy climb will continue," Sharp said. "Year-to-date, rebates to cities and counties are up 10.7% over the first four months of 1997."

Sharp delivered monthly sales tax rebates totaling \$145.5 million to Texas cities, 11.8% higher than last

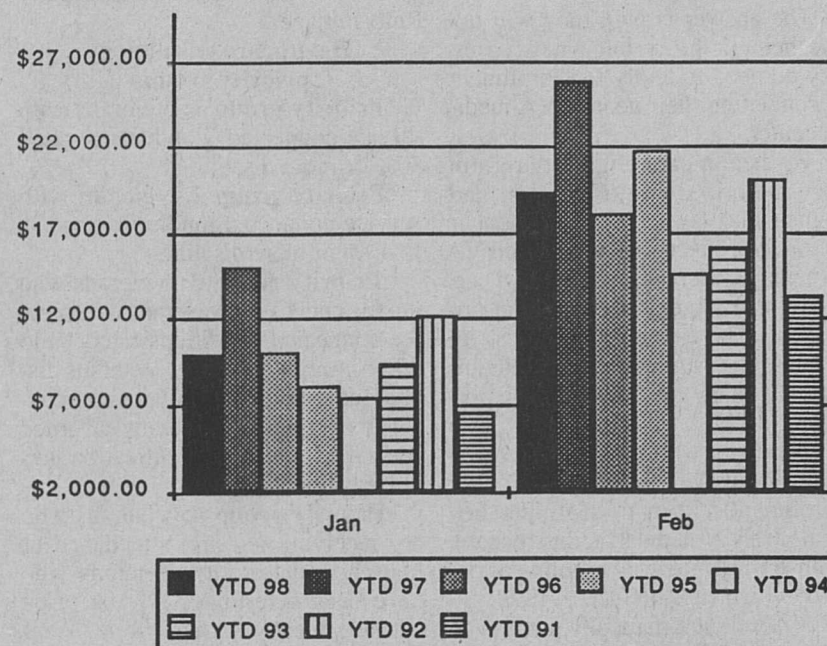
April's payments of \$130 million. Rebates of \$13.2 million to Texas counties were 6.6% higher than allocations of \$12.4 million in April 1997.

Another \$4.2 million went to 31 special districts around the state; one of which is Rice Hospital District which received \$5,670.24, giving a year-to-date total of \$28,355.91.

The City of Houston received a sales tax rebate of \$19.6 million in April, which was 11.6% above the previous April's \$17.5 million. Year-to-date, payments to Houston are up by 11.5%.

The \$12.9 million local sales tax allocation to the City of Dallas for April reflects a 15% increase from the \$11.2 million in sales tax rebate for the same month last year. The year-to-date increase in payments to Dallas is 11.4%.

The San Antonio sales tax allocations for April was \$8.4 million, up (See Sales tax, Page 8)



The year-to-date totals of the City of Eagle Lake's sales tax rebates are charted against the month the tax was collected, not when the City received the rebate.

County 'affirms deputy's prior termination'

Colorado County Commissioners voted Monday not to "disturb the termination and the prior termination is affirmed" of former sheriff's deputy J.R. "Ron" Knighten during its regular monthly meeting Monday morning, April 13.

The Court had acted as a grievance panel during a special session April 6 when Knighten, along with his attorney, Larry McDougal of Stafford, aired his grievance over his termination by Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Wied on Feb. 2.

It was at that time that McDougal said, "Deputy Knighten's civil and statutory rights were violated."

He also said that the only power that this Court (Commissioners) has is to clear his name. "We are asking that you remove his termination papers from his personnel file. You have that power. We just wanted to get his side out," said McDougal.

Knighten, employed as a deputy in Colorado County since, Aug. 22, 1994, had previously been suspended for three days in early Jan. without pay by Wied for a discriminatory comment.

At the time of the hearing, County Judge Vince Slominski informed McDougal and Knighten that the Court would act as a "grievance panel only" and any findings would be announced at Monday's meeting.

Slominski said that the County's Attorney, Bob Bass of the Texas Association of Counties and McDougal has discussed other options, but nothing materialized. It was Bass' recommendation for the County to take this

action.

The Court also adopted a resolution that Herman H. Novak be inducted into the Texas Department of Health's EMS Hall of Fame.

The resolution stated, in part, that Novak has "faithfully and diligently served the citizens of Colorado

County as EMS instructor/coordinator with effectiveness and devotion with honor to himself and his position."

The Court also received word on the effect of opinions from the Attorney General's office after a letter of opinion was questioned by County

Attorney John Moore in an earlier meeting which forced the Court to no longer pay the salary of investigator Sonya Besch through the Courthouse Security Fund.

The Attorney General's office issues two types of opinions. One is (See Commissioners, Page 3)

EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls and cases for the week ending April 13.

On April 8, at 12:23 a.m., Officer Tim Crume was dispatched to Raezer Street in reference to a disturbance which was resolved at the scene.

At 2:21 a.m., Officer Crume was dispatched to Campbell Road in reference to a disturbance.

An unwanted subject at the residence was asked to leave the property and he complied, requiring no further police action.

At 10:05 p.m., Sgt. Jack. Knox was dispatched to Stevenson Street in reference to criminal mischief. A report was filed.

On April 9, at 1:39 pm, Lt. Clem Johnson received a report of a suspicious person on Church Street, giving a description of the subject. Upon his arrival, Lt. Johnson was unable to locate subject.

At 6:56 p.m., Sgt. Bill Lattimore was sent to B Street in reference to

loud music, but was unable to locate any loud music.

At 7:27 p.m., Officer Tobin Thomas was sent to Mills Street in reference to criminal mischief at a residence. Officer Thomas investigated the scene and filed a report.

On April 10, at 12:04 a.m., Sgt. Lattimore met with a complainant on S. Austin Road in regards to an assault. A report was filed and charges are pending.

At 2:46 p.m., Officer Crume was contacted at the police department in reference to a burglary of a vehicle. A report was filed.

At 9:26 p.m., Officer Crume was dispatched to Seaholm Street in reference to a welfare concern. Everything was found to be okay and no police action was required.

Officer Thomas met with a complainant at Glen Lake Court at 11:07 p.m. in reference to reckless damage. A subject was cited for the offense.

On April 11, at 8:36 a.m., Lt. Johnson was dispatched to Davitt Street in reference to two incidents involving burglary of a motor vehicle. A report was filed accordingly.

At 4:34 p.m., Sgt. Knox stopped a vehicle in the 1600 block of E. Main and arrested Jason Torres on outstanding warrants. Torres was also charged with possession of a controlled substance.

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

At 10:31 p.m., Officer Thomas met with a complainant who reported criminal mischief and terroristic threat. Officer Thomas investigated the scene and filed a report.

At 10:41 p.m., Officer Crume was dispatched to North Street in reference to a violation of probation of a juvenile, but upon Officer Crume's arrival, the suspect was gone.

On April 12, at 4:03 a.m., a report was filed with Officer Risk concern-

ing criminal mischief to a residence on Center Street

At 8:57 a.m., Officer Brian Ochoa was dispatched to Schley Street in reference to criminal mischief and a report was filed.

Officer Ochoa was dispatched to State Street in reference to a disturbance at 1:45 a.m. and found one actor to be gone. No family violence had occurred.

Sgt. Knox observed a subject on N. Lake Avenue known to have outstanding warrants and stopped the vehicle at 6:47 p.m.

Sgt. Knox arrested Edward Demont Holloway, and, after processing at the police department, Holloway was transported to the county jail for confinement.

At 7:09 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore spoke with a subject in reference to a welfare concern. A report was filed.

At 7:15 p.m., Officer Thomas met with a complainant, who filed a report of phone harassment.

While conducting foot patrol in a parking area near Fairview at Seaholm, Officer Risk discovered a vehicle with three marijuana cigars inside.

When the driver returned to his car, the driver, George DeShawn Woods, was arrested for possession of marijuana, processed and transported to the county jail for confinement.

On April 13, at 9:20 a.m., Officer Ochoa was dispatched to adult probation in the 100 block of E. Main in reference to a wanted subject. Officer Ochoa arrested Cleveland Hurd on a district warrant.

Hurd was later transported to the county jail for confinement.

At 4:29 p.m., Sgt. Knox executed a juvenile warrant on North Street. The juvenile male was later picked up by a county deputy and transported to a juvenile facility.

While on patrol at 7:40 p.m., Officer Thomas observed fresh graffiti on a building on State Street. After investigation, a report was filed.