

Headlight's
Annual Salute to Rice
High Graduates
Coming Soon!

Call 234-5521 if you or your
company have not yet been
contacted about participating.

**Teacher
Appreciation
Week**
May 3 - 9
(See Page 5)

**Rice High School
Class of 1998
Honor Grads
Named**
(See Page 6)

Eagle Lake Headlight

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NEWSBRIEFS

Booster Club BBQ, golf tournament are May 16

The Rice Raider Booster Club will have a BBQ chicken dinner and golf tournament Saturday, May 16. The dinner will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pre-sale tickets are available; contact any booster member or call 758-3933 after 7:30 p.m. For the golf tournament, contact 234-6343 (work) or 234-2235 (home) for information.

Study Club President's Luncheon is May 8

The President's Luncheon of the Eagle Lake Study Club will be held Friday, May 8, at the Eagle Lake Community Center at 12 noon. 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.; his program is "Sam Houston and the Women in His Life". Tickets for the luncheon are on sale at the Eula & David Wintermann Library.

United Way Fun Day set for May 16

The United Way of Eagle Lake is holding its second Annual Fun Day of Dominoes and Bridge Saturday, May 16, beginning at 11 a.m. The event will be held at the Prairie Edge Museum. The entry fee is \$10 and includes lunch. Domino and bridge players are urged to attend. The event kicks off the 1998-99 United Way Drive.

My Friends House sets fund raiser, bake sale

The United Methodist Church My Friends House Child Care Center will hold a fund raiser and bake sale at Austin's BBQ & Catering, 507 E. Main, Tuesday, May 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets, available from any My Friends parent or the center, are \$5 each. You may contact the center at 409-234-3330.

Cholesterol/triglyceride screening is May 13

A cholesterol/triglyceride screening will be held on Wednesday, May 13, from 7 to 9 a.m. at Gulf Coast Medical Center Lab in Wharton. The cost is \$8 (Senior Friends \$5). You must pre-register by calling 409-532-2500, ext 1300.

Rice 'Project Graduation' meeting scheduled

A Rice Project Graduation meeting will be held on Monday, May 11, in the Rice High School Commons at 7 p.m. The meeting is to set up volunteers for the 1998 event as well as a committee for 1999. Parents, friends and faculty are urged to attend. Anyone interested in this project who can not attend this meeting may call Sarah Perry at 409-758-9040.

County Farmers' market is open

The Colorado County Farmers' Market is open and in full swing with fresh produce available. The market is open Wednesdays beginning at 3 p.m. and Saturdays beginning at 8 a.m. Fresh produce, along with various arts and craft items, plants, etc. are available on a weekly basis.

The Farmers' Market is open on a year round basis. This is a paid membership organization open to individuals wishing to sell vegetables, fruits and other goods. For membership information contact the county Extension office at 409-732-2082.

Title I & VI parent meeting scheduled at ELMS

As part of the May PTO meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 12, Mrs. Matthy will hold the annual Title I and Title VI parent meeting. Since Eagle Lake Middle School (ELMS) is a Title I schoolwide campus, this information is important to all parents with students attending ELMS. Title I and Title VI are federal funds schools receive to provide extra materials, computers, personnel, etc. to assist students. The campus decides how to spend their federal money with input from parents, so please make plans to attend.

The PTO will elect officers for next year, review the accomplishments of the 1997-98 school year and set goals for next year. After the meeting, the 4th and 5th grade students are presenting a program and the 6th grade band will present a preview of its selections for the Spring Concert on May 18.

National nursing home week May 10-16

A National Nursing Home Week celebration will take place at Heritage House May 10-16. A variety of entertainment and speakers will be present throughout the week. You are cordially invited to stop by and help celebrate.

RHS Drama Club to perform at PEM

The Drama Club from Rice High School will perform the One-Act Play from District Competition at Prairie Edge Museum (PEM) Sunday, May 17, at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are available by calling 409-234-3501 or 234-3535 or from any Drama Club member. Plan to support the RHS Drama Club.

Car wash, bake sale is May 16

Prairie Fellowship Youth would like to wash your car, truck or van Saturday, May 16. They would like to go to Discovery Camp and will be earning their way with a car wash combined with a baked sale at the First National Bank drive-thru driveway in Eagle Lake from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Suggested donations for washing are: cars, \$5; trucks, \$7; and vans, \$10. Rain date will be Saturday, May 23... same time, same place!

'Gala for Renee' tickets on sale

You may purchase tickets for "Gala for Renee" beginning May 11 at Eagle Lake Drugstore. Tickets are \$100 a couple; \$500 for a table which seats 10; \$750 to be a Silver Sponsor; or \$1,000 for a Gold Sponsor. The price includes dinner, dancing and cocktails at the Stafford Opera House July 18 beginning at 7 p.m. There will also be a silent auction. If you have any questions, call Tess Balas at 409-234-5705. Please make all checks payable to "Gala for Renee".

If you're in doubt, check it out!

Contrary to a rumor in town, Pansy Berger is still owner of Lake Crest Flowers. Seems some bogus cards are being passed around stating that Lake Crest Flowers has a new owner. Not true! Call Pansy for further information.

Baptist Board meeting is May 6 & 7

Central Missionary Baptist Convention of Texas Inc., Rev. J.P. Hubbard, president, will hold a Spring Board Meeting at the White Cloud Baptist Church, 316 Old Altair Road, Rev. O. Rhodes, pastor. The board will meet Wednesday and Thursday, May 6 and 7, at 10 a.m. each morning and night services at 7:30 p.m. The Baptist Convention consists of a large group of ministers from Fort Worth, Houston, Grand Prairie, Beaumont, El Campo, Dallas, Austin, Wharton, Colorado, Austin and Ft. Bend County. The theme of the convention is "Putting the Cause of Christ First" Acts 1:8. Thursday night all officers of 20th Century District Association along with their Moderator Rev. Rhodes will be installed by the Convention Staff. The public is invited to attend all services.

VFD Ladies Auxiliary golf tournament set

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department is sponsoring a benefit golf tournament Sunday, May 17, at the Eagle Lake Recreation Center. Tee-off time is 1:30 p.m. with four person scramble, \$40 per player and (See Newsbriefs, Page 10)

Rice High School Exit TAAS going up

TAAS scores overall are on the rise in the Rice Consolidated Independent School District.

Superintendent Dr. Richard Gott stated that he was "basically very pleased with this year's Exit TAAS results for 10th graders at Rice High School (RHS).

The Exit test must be mastered before a student not in special education leaves RHS.

According to results, 1998 overall TAAS scores have climbed higher.

Gott stated, "There is strong evidence that there is teaching going on in

the Rice District. We recognize our weakness in math and it will be our challenge and goal for next year."

Gott outlined a plan being formulated, which, if approved, will be used for students entering RHS as freshman who have not passed the reading, math and/or writing portions of the TAAS as 8th graders.

A class entitled "Basic Skills" will be implemented. An 8th grade student needing to strengthen TAAS skills will enter the class as a freshman and remain until the test has been passed in

all three basic areas.

Students in the Basic Skills class will lose an elective each high school

year that he or she is in Basic Skills. "There is a price to pay for stu-

(See TAAS, Page 10)

City discusses goals for future

By Lynda Appelt
Contributing Writer

The Eagle Lake City Council discussed goals and objectives, along with those of the staff, during its meeting on April 24.

"If you don't know where you're going, you don't know when you get there," said Councilwoman René Cooper-Scott, who originally initiated the importance of all facets of City government formulating goals and objectives.

Councilman Mike Duarte said it was his hope, as he steps down from his seat on Council, that Council moves in the same direction it is presently going as the City continues to grow.

"Spend wisely and see that all our citizens get a part of what's coming down," Duarte said, emphasizing that Council needs to keep taxes down due to the number of elderly residents in the City.

Some of the goals mentioned by Council were a procedure for getting suggestions from the city and community; five-year capital improvement plan; baseball complex; monthly walk-through of City facilities; greater attendance by the public at Council meetings; and recreation facilities for

youth.

Police Chief Keith Webb discussed the implementation of a community policing concept and upgrading of the police policy manual and evidence room at the police department.

City Manager Ron Holland emphasized attracting new business as well as retention and expansion of existing businesses.

Public Works Director Anthony Williams stated the importance of establishing a recycling program, ongoing drainage maintenance and automated alarm systems at the water and sewer stations.

City Secretary Lucille Perry expressed a desire for a better flow of communication and information through the City office about projects, activities and meetings that affect the City.

A number of citizens (including Dave Curry, Sandra Flowers, Willie and Annie Dancy, Eddie Alley, Mary Christal, Debbie Hodges, Vivian Banks and Margaret McTear) expressed concerns and rumors relating to the lack of local citizens gaining employment at the Colorado County Juvenile Facility.

Council approved the recommendation of swimming pool manager (See Council, Page 10)

Thomas re-elected to School Board...

Michael Cooper wins race for mayor

Even though just a little over 400 votes were cast in the City of Eagle Lake's election last Saturday, May 2, Michael Cooper garnered a large enough percentage for his first election to the position of mayor.

Cooper was appointed mayor by the City Council when former mayor David Mann resigned after accepting a new, out-of-town position with the Baptist Church.

Cooper was opposed by Council Member René Cooper-Scott whose vote total was 157 (38.57%) compared to Cooper's 250 (61.43%).

Unopposed in their bid for office were incumbent Council Member Barbara Pidgeon and Lonnie Summerlatte. They received 175 and 182 votes respectively.

The Rice CISD Board of Trustees' two seats on the ballot were Jack Vawter in Position 4, who was unopposed, and Position 5 incumbent Robin Thomas against challenger Dave Curry.

Vawter received 444 votes. Thomas was re-elected with 58.68% of the 634 votes cast (372 votes). Curry's supporters numbered 262 or 41.32% of the votes.

All candidates elected will be sworn in at a later date.

EAGLE LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls and cases for the week ending May 4.

On April 28 at 1:46 p.m., Officer Brian Ochoa was contacted at the police department in reference to a burglary of a habitation on Davitt Street.

At 9:24 p.m., Sgt. Jack Knox was dispatched to the report of an assault in the 100 block of Boothe Drive. Sgt. Knox spoke with witnesses and victim and filed a report.

On April 29 at 3:17 p.m., Sgt. Knox responded to a call on W. Main Street in reference to harassment.

At 7:23 p.m., Sgt. Knox took a report of a stolen bicycle. The bicycle was recovered and the complainant didn't desire to file charges. No other action was taken.

On April 30 at 9:42 a.m., Lt. Clem Johnson was dispatched to S. McCarty Street in reference to a welfare concern. After locating the subject, an ambulance was dispatched to transport the subject to Rice Medical Center for treatment.

At 12:18 p.m., Lt. Johnson was dispatched to Boothe Drive in reference to a two vehicle accident. Upon

his arrival, the subjects had exchanged information and left the scene.

At 10:07 p.m., Officer Tobin Thomas met with a complainant in reference to a civil problem, which was resolved at the scene.

On May 1 at 12:29 a.m., Officer Carl Risk received a call of a disturbance on Waverly Street. It was settled at the scene.

At 1:03 a.m., Officer Thomas was dispatched to Lake Avenue in reference to suspicious persons. The area was searched, but no one was located.

At 5:30 p.m., Sgt. Bill Lattimore met with a complainant on Heritage Lane in reference to a theft. A report was filed.

On May 2 at 10:54 a.m., Officer Tim Crume was dispatched to First Street where he took a report of a theft. The case is under investigation.

At 3:46 p.m., Officer Crume was dispatched to the 400 block of FM 3013 S. to an accident involving a 1991 Mazda pickup, driven by Enrique Jardines, and a 1990 Oldsmobile four-door, driven by Earl Gene Jones, both of Eagle Lake.

Jardines attempted to cross FM 3013 from one business to another,

and failed to see Jones' vehicle approaching. Jardines was cited for failure to yield right of way.

At 4 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore met with a complainant on 5th Street in reference to a disturbance. The matter was resolved at the scene.

On May 3 at 1:18 a.m., Officer Thomas was flagged down by a complainant who reported being threatened. A report was filed.

At 10:48 p.m., Officer Ochoa observed a vehicle driving on Center Street without headlights. Ochoa attempted to stop the vehicle, but the

driver of the vehicle fled. The suspect wrecked the vehicle in a ditch on N. Lake Avenue.

The vehicle, being driven by a 14-year-old juvenile male, belonged to his mother.

The juvenile resisted arrest, assaulted Officer Crume and later assaulted Sgt. Knox, threatened the officers, started a fire at the police station, then attempted to flood the station by causing a faucet to run continuously.

A city worker was called to the department to turn off the water to the (See Police, Page 10)

May 8 & 9 'Dirt Work' tickets still available

With just days remaining until the Prairie Edge Players present "Dirty Work at the Crossroads" at the Prairie Edge Museum Theatre, choice seats are still available.

The play is scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday, May 8, and Saturday, May 9. 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 Associates and Wallis State Bank, also in Eagle Lake, and are being sold by cast members and Prairie Edge Museum board members.

Tickets will also be sold 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 Prairie Edge Players.

Debra 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 it is needed.

Melvin Schmitt lends his expertise as lighting supervisor.

With the help of Victor Scott and Randy Burrow, lighting and wiring changes have been made and new lights installed.

Scott has again rebuilt most of



Prairie Edge's rather unique stage for this year's production.

More than a new paint job and a moved door, this year a river and a railroad have been added.

Sandra Benge contributes her talents to scenery design and painting.

Elaine Hess has taken expert charge of costume and make-up for the past five years. She is assisted by Elaine Hickey and Donna Coldeway.

An added attraction this year is the musician.

Patty Stephens brings a new dimension to the production with her "mood music" reminiscent of the silent movie age. She also accompanies singers and provides the recording for between-act music.

She is ably assisted by Brice Stephens, long-time sound director for Prairie Edge Players.

Mark May 8 and 9 on your calendars and plan to see this delightful melodrama. It promises healthy, wholesome entertainment for the entire family.

For further information, telephone 234-2807.



Goal met

Tom Reed, at left, chairperson of Eagle Lake's United Way campaign, helps show off the grand total for the 1997-98 campaign which exceeded the campaign's goal. With Reed are, in back, Irving Williams, a member of the board of directors, and Mike Duarte, vice chairperson.

Photo by Lynda Appelt