

## Go Texan queen entries sought

The young lady who will represent the County on Colorado County Day at the 1999 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo in Feb. will be selected Sunday, Sept. 6, with personal interviews at 1:30 p.m. and public presentation at 3. The event will be held at the Nesbitt Memorial Library in Columbus.

The entry fee is \$25. Dress for the pageant will be

western attire. Girls must be between the ages of 14 and 21 and reside in Colorado County.

Contact Lynda Appelt in Eagle Lake at 234-5878 or Pam Potter in Columbus at 409-732-2705.

Go Texan barbecue, horseshoes, washer pitching and hay hauling will be held Aug. 29-30 at Beason's (See Go Texan, Page 4)

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# Eagle Lake Headlight

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Pre-season hot dog supper set for tonight

The Rice High School Cheerleaders will sponsor a pre-season pep rally and hot dog supper honoring the football and volleyball teams Thursday, Aug. 13, at 7 p.m. outside the PAC Center. Free hot dogs and drinks will be served to everyone as long as supplies last. All Raider fans are urged to attend. Bring lawn chairs and come out to help send the Raiders on their way to victory this fall!

### Open House scheduled at GCMC

Ever wonder how we see deep in the heart? Come to an Open House at the Heart Cath Lab at Gulf Coast Medical Center (GCMC) Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. See the latest in CD-ROM digital heart catheterization equipment. For additional information please call GCMC 409-282-6808.

### Soccer League registration is Saturday

The Eagle Lake Soccer Club will hold pre-registration on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Dairy Delite. Cost is \$20 for the first child, \$15 for every other child in the same family. Parents must bring the child's birth certificate to register. For more information call David Keith at 409-234-5571.

### CCFB schedules PD meeting

The Policy Development (PD) Committee is currently accepting suggestions for resolutions. The Colorado County PD meeting is scheduled for Aug. 25 at the Colorado County Farm Bureau (CCFB) office in Columbus at 7:30 p.m. You are encouraged to attend or submit your thoughts to the committee at this time. All recommendations received by this committee will be considered in drafting tentative resolutions to be voted on at the annual meeting.

### Community buyers need your help

It's almost fair time again. Anyone wishing to donate to the Eagle Lake Community Buyers may call Barbara Roan at 234-7432.

### Study Club Auction set for Oct. 24

This year's Study Club Auction to benefit the Eula and David Wintermann Library will be held Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Eagle Lake Community Center. This year's auctioneer will once again be Joe Herbert McCreary.

The Fire Department plans to hold its annual stew supper from 5 to 7 p.m. The Silent Auction will run from 4:30 until 6:45 p.m. with the Main Auction beginning at 7 p.m.

If you plan to donate an item for either auction, please contact Fair Wells at 234-3105 or Betty Wilcox at 234-3554 as soon as possible.

### 'Life After Loss' meeting set for Aug. 18

The monthly Life After Loss support group will meet Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 312 Depot, El Campo. This month's program, "How Grief Can Help Us Heal" will be presented by Kathy Springer, Hospice Social Worker. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge to attend. For more information call Gulf Coast Hospice at 409-543-9487.

### Resale extravaganza is Aug. 22

Rice Medical Center Employee Volunteers will hold their First Annual Resale Extravaganza Saturday, Aug. 22, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center.

This event will offer a wide variety of arts and crafts booths along with a resale corner of bargains for everyone.

Anyone interested in renting booth space for this event or donating items may do so by calling Roxanne Walker or Sharon Sommer at 409-234-5571.

A \$25 fee will be collected for the booths which are still available on a first come, first serve basis.

### You can donate to educate

Wallis State Bank in Eagle Lake is asking for your help in their "Donate to Educate" project. Help them in supporting families who are unable to prepare their children for their return to school. Bring new supplies or donations to: Wallis State Bank, 111 N. McCarty, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434; or call 409-234-7303. All items and donations will be given to local schools.

### Community revival services in progress

Community revival services are being held this week, Aug. 10-14, at Greater Rising Star Baptist Church in Eagle Lake with Rev. James Mosley, pastor. Guest speaker will be Rev. C.L. Wallace, Pastor of Mother Zion Baptist Church Wharton, TX. Sponsors are Greater Rising Star Baptist Church and White Cloud Baptist Church, Revs. James Mosley and Obie Rhodes respectively.

### Raider season tickets are on sale

Season tickets for Rice High School home football games went on sale at the Rice CISD Business Office Monday, Aug. 10, and will continue on sale through Friday, Aug. 21. Beginning Monday, Aug. 24, those who have not held season tickets may purchase them on a first come, first serve basis. These will be on sale until Friday, Sept. 4. The cost for season tickets for all home games is \$20 per set. There will be no reserved seats sold for individual games. Call Jennifer Korenek at 234-3531 for additional information.

### 1998 County Fair Catalogues are available

The 1998 Colorado County Fair Catalogues with rules and regulations for the Livestock, Home Economics, Fine Arts and Special Events are now available along with entry forms for many of the events at the following locations: County Extension Office and Potter's Western Store in Columbus; First National Bank, Eagle Lake; Weimar City Hall; Heinsohn's Store, Frelsburg; Bernardo Farm & Ranch Supply; Sandy Creek Drive-In, Sheridan; Nada Grocery; Larry's Super Service, Garwood; and Schulz General Store, New Ulm.

### Xi Pi Psi working on new calendar

Put your birthday on the Community Birthday Calendar. Xi Pi Psi Sorority, sponsors of this project, remind you that the deadline is Aug. 20. If interested, call Ernie Sommerlatte at 234-3452.

### County Go Texan competition is Aug. 29, 30

The Colorado County Go Texan committee will host its hay hauling, horseshoe, washer pitching and barbecue competitions Aug. 29-30 at Beason's Crossing in Columbus. Winners will represent Colorado County at the 1999 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

The Go Texan Show contest will be held Sunday, Sept. 6, at the Nesbitt Memorial Library. Photography and Quilt competition will be held at the Colorado County Fair Sept. 10-13. Call 234-5347 for Go Texan information.

### Prayer warriors wanted!

Prayer warriors are wanted for the "What Would Jesus Do?" non-denominational prayer group. The meetings will be held every Monday morning at 7:15 a.m. For information, call 409-234-7372 or 234-7692.

## County Jail granted contract with INS

Colorado County finally got its contract with the United States Department of Justice to house Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) prisoners at the Colorado County Detention Facility in Columbus.

The contract became official Monday morning when County Commissioners agreed to hold the INS prisoners at a cost of \$37.50 per day per prisoner.

The detention facility has the capacity to house 100 prisoners — 90 male and 10 female — and has been averaging nearly 80 per day, according to Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Wied.

The County currently has a con-

tract with Gonzales and Hidalgo Counties to hold prisoners from their overcrowded jails. Those two Counties pay \$35 per day per prisoner.

According to Wied, Gonzales and Hidalgo Counties combine to average about 30 of the 80 prisoners who are housed in Columbus.

Wied said that he planned to forward the contract to the Department of Justice later that day and hoped to begin taking INS prisoners at the County facility later this month or early Sept.

In other business, the Court: •Approved the County's health insurance through the Texas Associa-

tion of Counties (TAC) with the only change being the prescription drug program will now cost employees \$15 for name-brand prescriptions instead of the \$10 previously charged;

•Adopted the ADCR Retirement Plan, effective Jan. 1, 1999, at an increase of just over 1%;

•Adopted two resolutions — one to be forwarded to the legislature re-

questing action to preserve the local government's authority to save taxpayer dollars through cooperative purchasing programs and the other to TAC supporting the same; and

•Awarded fuel bids to Colorado County Oil Co. and Hoelscher Oil Co., both of Columbus, and Thomas Enterprises of Victoria.

## County Fair kicks off with trail ride, dance

The 1998 Colorado County Fair and Rodeo kicks off Saturday, Aug. 15. The Colorado River Trail Riders Association will have a trail ride Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The club invites everyone to ride with them. Contact trail boss Larry Werland at 409-732-5866.

The trail ride is in conjunction with the Fair Association's Annual Kick-Off Dance and Auction. This year the music will be provided by one of Texas' hottest live acts, Kevin Eagan and Beyond Reason.

The dance and auction is held to benefit the Scholarship Fund. The social hour is at 7:30 p.m. Then the dance, a \$5 admission, is from 8:30 to 12:30 a.m.

The live auction will be held during the evening, starting at approximately 9:30 p.m.

The Fair Association welcomes any donations for the auction or door prizes. Call the Fair Association at 409-732-9266 if you would like to donate.

The Junior Fair Board will also hold a Silent Auction during the evening. The Annual Heifer Prospect Show will be held in the Livestock Arena Saturday, Aug. 15, and Sunday, Aug. 16. Everyone is invited to attend this event, free to the public.

Season tickets are on sale. The pre-season price is \$10.

## School Board adopts \$11.6 million budget

By Lynda Appelt  
Contributing Writer

The Rice Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees adopted its 1998-99 budget with no increase in the tax rate, appointed administrators for Garwood and approved a salary schedule at its Monday night meeting.

The budget and tax rate were adopted following a public hearing, unattended by the public, prior to the regular meeting.

A maintenance and operation rate of \$1.31456, and interest and sinking rate of 10.714%, giving a combined rate of \$1.4217 per \$100 valuation, will fund the \$11,647,356 budget.

The 1998-99 budget shows \$2,239,027 in federal program expenditures, and \$9,408,329 for maintenance and operations, and interest and sinking.

Federal expenditures are flow-through and designated as to how they may be spent.

Maintenance and operation, and interest and sinking are down \$307,223 from the 1997-98 budget of \$9,715,552. The 1996-97 budget was \$8,411,904.

Board President Madison Smith explained the five goals of the Salary and Benefit Committee as: (1) provide the best education with funds available; (2) maintain the ability to recruit, retain and reward the best possible personnel; (3) maintain facilities that will contribute to academic and athletic success; (4) get the maximum from the tax dollars provided by the taxpayers; and (5) provide for long-term financial stability.

"With the shortfall projected from the state this year, the committee felt that it was the Board's responsibility to maintain the good things the District has going and hope that things turn around next year," said Smith.

"If something radical doesn't happen in the 1999 Legislative session, there will only be two choices next year... raising taxes or cutting programs," said Superintendent Dr. Richard Gott.

Asst. Superintendent Fred Grahmann is projecting a \$3 million fund balance for 1997-98, but noted that this figure is not based on Aug. state revenue or the Nov. auditor's report.

In order to submit a balanced budget, which is required by law, \$1,181,071 will be transferred from

the fund balance and added to \$7,836,258 state and local revenue and \$2,239,027 federal revenues for a total of \$11,647,356 in revenues.

Local property taxes, based on the current rate, are projected to provide \$3,901,866 for 1998-99.

It was noted by Grahmann that the majority of the budget is salaries.

Juvenile boot camp personnel and two assistant principal positions were added in the new budget.

A new salary schedule was approved by the Board.

Teachers will receive the state mandated step increment ranging from \$21,240 for a beginning teacher to \$37,800 for a 20-year-plus teacher. Cafeteria and custodial staff will

increase from \$5.50 to \$5.75 per hour with a 10% increment per hour each year to a maximum of \$8.75.

Custodial staff is based on an eight-hour day with cafeteria personnel based on a seven-hour day.

Administrative staff increases from \$65 per day to \$67 minimum, \$82 midpoint and \$97 maximum.

Educational aides increase from \$40 to \$42 per day minimum, \$57 midpoint and \$72 maximum.

Secretaries, PEIMS clerks and receptionists increase from \$55 to \$57 daily minimum, \$72 midpoint and \$87 maximum.

The salary schedule provides for a \$400 per year stipend for a master's degree and stipends for teachers at

RHS who teach in the areas of biology, Spanish, physics, chemistry, math and composite science with stipends provided only in one subject should a person teach two of the above.

Billy Hefner IV is returning to his alma mater as Garwood principal with a salary of \$45,000.

Former Rice counselor, coach and administrator Bill Carpenter, now retired, will return to the District as assistant principal at Garwood with a salary of \$12,000.

Carpenter will serve as mentor to Hefner who is working on his administrative certification.

Michael Lanier, also a RHS graduate, was recently appointed principal (See Budget, Page 8)



Oldest Wharton County resident

Maude Conic, the oldest resident in Wharton County, listens intently to State Representative Robby Cook during a joint celebration of her 110th birthday and the 62nd anniversary of Russell and Ruth Reese, formerly of Eagle Lake (See Page 5).

Conic was honored by the State of Texas, represented by Cook, along with Wharton Mayor Joel Williams and a representative of LCRA.

The joint celebration, held Thursday, Aug. 6, took place at Avalon Place in Wharton where Conic and the Reeses currently reside.

Headlight Photo by Jeannine Fearing

## EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls and cases for the week ending Aug. 10.

On Aug. 4 at 9:57 a.m., Officer Tim Crume provided traffic control at 100 Commerce Street while a truck unloaded equipment.

At 1:31 p.m., Officer Crume delivered an emergency message to a residence on E. Post Office Street.

Sgt. Bill Lattimore met with a complainant at 5:08 p.m. in reference to pending trouble, but no police action was needed.

At 8:25 p.m., Officer Stephen Nelson received a call of a welfare concern. Investigation revealed there was no cause for concern.

Officer Nelson was dispatched to N. Lake Avenue at 8:40 p.m. in reference to a reckless driver, but was unable to locate the vehicle.

On Aug. 5 at 3:11 a.m. Officer Crume was dispatched to the Hill Bar in reference to an assault. Crume held the scene until the county deputies arrived.

At 8:10 a.m., Abel Christopher Cardenas turned himself in on an outstanding warrant at the police department. After processing, Cardenas was transported to the county jail for confinement.

At 9:17 p.m., Officer Nelson met with a complainant on Glen Lake in reference to an unruly juvenile. The problem was resolved at the scene.

On Aug. 6 at 6:33 a.m., Officer

Crume was dispatched to 200 Heritage Lane in reference to a disturbance. The problem was turned over to a supervisor. No offense had occurred.

At 7:45 p.m., Officer Nelson met with a complainant in the 600 block of E. Main in regards to a trespasser. A written warning was issued to the subject.

Sgt. Lattimore and Officers Nelson and Jesus Rodriguez were dispatched to a disturbance on E. A Street at 8:55 p.m.

As a result of the investigation, Kermit Joel Robinson and Emily Hayes Shropshire were both arrested for assaulting each other with weapons. After processing, Robinson and Shropshire were transported to the county jail for confinement.

At 11:50 p.m., Officer Nelson assisted Trooper Royce Korenek on a suspicious person in the 100 block of S. McCarty. Later, Deputy Zermeno arrived and assisted the trooper.

On Aug. 7 at 8:50 p.m., Officer Crume was dispatched to Seaholm Street in reference to an unwanted person. Officer Crume advised the complainant to contact justice of the peace.

At 11:02 p.m., Officer Crume was dispatched to Clark Street in reference to suspicious activity. No action was needed.

On Aug. 8 at 12:30 p.m., Lt. Clem Johnson provided funeral escort from White Cloud Baptist Church to the

cemetery on Warwick Street.

At 1:02 p.m., a complainant came by the police department and reported the burglary of a vehicle to Lt. Johnson. Information was gathered and a report filed.

At 9:32 p.m., Officer Crume was dispatched to S. Lake Avenue in reference to criminal mischief. A report was filed, but the complainant did not wish to file charges.

Officer Crume received a call of loud music on A Street at 11:16 p.m., but was unable to locate any loud music in the area.

On Aug. 9 at 1:05 a.m., while on patrol, Officer Carl Risk discovered a fight in progress at the Community Center. Assisted by Trooper Korenek, County Deputies Zermeno and Kellogg, and Sgt. Neisner, Charles Holmes and Louis Ray Barrow were arrested for public intoxication and transported to the county jail by deputies.

At 1:16 a.m., Officer Risk received a call on a vehicle accident on Raezer Street.

Investigation revealed that Antonio Mendoza, driving a 1986 Dodge pickup, attempted to turn east on Raezer from Allen Street, lost control of his vehicle, over-steered making the turn, left the roadway and struck a steel fence post before coming to a final resting point in a ditch.

Mendoza was issued citations for (See Police, Page 4)