



It's Toy Time again!!

American Legion Post 108, Eagle Lake, has started collection of new toys, or money to be used for the purchase of toys for the annual distribution to children in needy families at Christmas-time.

The toys will be available for children ages infant through nine years on Wednesday, Dec.

23. (Last year, toys were given to over 250 children). The toys will be given only to parents or guardians of the child in needy families after registration.

Registration will be held in the auditorium of the Prairie Edge Museum on E. Main Street in (See Toys, Page 8)

Eagle Lake Headlight

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NEWSBRIEFS

Tax Assessor/Collector's office closed Nov. 16, 17

The Colorado County Tax Assessor/Collector's office, which registers and titles vehicles in Colorado County, will be closed Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 16 and 17, in order to relocate to the first floor of the Courthouse. Your patience and understanding are appreciated while Mary Jane Poenitzsch and her staff complete this undertaking.

Powder Puff Football game is this Thursday

The Rice High School (RHS) senior class "Project Graduation" will be holding its first fundraiser of the year. A Powder Puff Football Game will be held Thursday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m. at RHS stadium. Tickets sold at the gate will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for students (no school passes will be accepted). Please show your support and make plans to attend.

ICE House reports membership growth

According to Eric Cameron of the ICE House youth program in Eagle Lake, there has been an average of 25 young people in attendance each day the ICE House has been open. Also, Cameron reports membership is up to 125 active members and "things are going real well". The ICE House is open to all youth each Monday and Tuesday from 3 to 8 p.m.

WCJC fall music concert is tonight

Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) presents its Fall Music Concert Thursday, Nov. 12, at 7:30 p.m. at the Pioneer Student Center, Wharton Campus, 911 Boling Highway, presented by the Concert and Jazz Bands and Chamber Singers. Join them for an evening filled with a variety of musical selections. Admission is \$4. For more information call 409-532-6366.

Washington, D.C., trip deadline extended

The registration deadline for the June 1999 Washington D.C. trip sponsored by Ray Sykowski has been extended to Nov. 22. Interested students in grades 6, 7, 8 and their parents may contact Sykowski at 234-3447 for registration forms for the trip.

'Nostalgia 98' is this weekend

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church invites everyone to "Nostalgia 98" Remembering the Past 1950s-1960s, 100th Church Homecoming and Anniversary Saturday, Nov. 28. At 10 a.m. Remembering the Sunday School and Baptist Training Department is scheduled and Remembering the Past through Song will begin at 7 p.m.

On Sunday, Nov. 29, Sunday School starts at 9 a.m. Morning Worship at 11 a.m. and the Church Anniversary at 3 p.m. with special guest Shiloh Baptist Church of Houston, Rev. L.E. Gibbs, Pastor. Everyone is welcome.

Firefighters fundraiser set for Nov. 14

The Oaks Theatre in Columbus is the place to be Saturday, Nov. 14, at 7:30 p.m. when the Columbus Opry will feature a special Country Music Show to benefit all nine Colorado County Fire Departments. This fundraiser will be used to assist in helping to pay the cost of training Colorado County Firefighters and purchasing equipment needed.

Defensive driving course set

A state approved six hour defensive driving course has been scheduled by retired DSPS Sgt. Gilbert Kiel at the Wintermann Library in Eagle Lake Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To pre-register for the course call 409-234-5411. If you are unable to pre-register arrive a few minutes early for registration.

WCJC 'Windows to the World' series

The Office of Student Activities and Multicultural Affairs, Wharton County Junior College will host the first of its "Windows to the World" series.

The first chapter will focus on Egypt. The Egyptian Consul, Khaled Abdel Rahman, will speak on the history and culture of his country as well as developments of the last 20 years. The program will also allow time for the audience to ask the Egyptian Consul questions. The program will begin promptly at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19, in the Pioneer Student Center Ballroom.

Rice classes dismiss early this Friday

The Rice CISD will have an early dismissal Friday, Nov. 13, to allow parents to pick up report cards and schedule teacher conferences. Rice High and pre-k, kindergarten and first grade at ELPS will release students at 12:15 p.m.; Sheridan, Garwood, ELPS second and third grades and Eagle Lake Middle Schools will all dismiss at 12:45 p.m. Report cards will not be sent home with the children this six weeks. The six-weeks grading period ended Nov. 6.

Parent-teacher conferences set for Friday

The annual parent-teacher report conferences at Eagle Lake Middle School will be held Friday, Nov. 13. Please contact the school at 234-3501 to set up a time to meet with your child's teacher.

Students will be released early that day, with classes being dismissed at 12:45 p.m.

Nominees needed for 'Rural Minister of the Year'

The Colorado County Extension Service has applications available for Rural Minister of the Year nominations.

All nominees accepted by the Rural Minister of the Year Selection Committee will receive a certificate of Recognition. The Texas Rural Minister of the Year will receive a plaque from Progressive Farmer Magazine during the closing session of the Assembly of Representatives of the Texas Conference of Churches in Austin, Feb. 16, 1999.

To obtain an application, come by the Extension Office, 316 Spring Street in Columbus.

Forms must be postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 1998.

Greater Union Baptist Church sponsoring banquet

The Greater Union Baptist Church (GUBC) is sponsoring a 100 Men and Women in Black Banquet Saturday, Nov. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Tickets are \$5 each. You may contact Rosalyn Edwards, 234-5033; Gennail Allen, 234-3345; Deidre Fry, 234-3462 or you can buy tickets at the door. Funds will be used to purchase choir robes.

'Spirit of Christmas' parade is Dec. 5

The holiday season is just around the corner and the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce invites you to join in the 1998 "Spirit of Christmas" parade set for Saturday, Dec. 5.

You may pick up your entry form from Lynda Appelt, the Chamber Office or the Eagle Lake Headlight. Deadline to enter is noon Wednesday, Dec. 2.

For more information, call 234-5878 before noon or after 4:30 p.m. and on weekends, or the Chamber at 234-2780.

Council honors Rev. Russ Minter

Eagle Lake Mayor Michael Cooper presented Rev. Russ Minter a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedication and volunteer service to the City of Eagle Lake at a recent City Council meeting.

Cooper cited, in particular, Minter's work with the Ministerial Alliance, his mentor work at the Eagle Lake Primary School and the establishment of the community's Sunday School Alliance for the youth.

Minter recently retired as pastor of Christ Episcopal Church and has since moved to Washington State.

Minter was a strong advocate of a

recycling program for the City and following his acceptance of the certificate, urged Council to press forward on the project.

"It's too late for me. I have one more load to go to Columbus' recycling, but I urge you to continue the pursuit of recycling for Eagle Lake," Minter stated.

City Manager Ron Holland told Minter, "Good can come from bad. Shutting down of the landfill may be painful but useful to the City by pushing us to establish a recycling program."



Eagle Lake Mayor Michael Cooper, left, recently presented Rev. Russ Minter a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedication and volunteer service to the City of Eagle Lake. Headlight Photo by Lynda Appelt

'Deputy Santa' Program is underway

Colorado County Sheriff R.H. Wied announced the "Deputy Santa" Program is getting underway at the Colorado County Sheriff's Department. Contacts are currently being made to begin collecting information concerning needy children throughout Colorado County.

Last year's "Deputy Santa" Program was an overwhelming success. Over 100 presents were delivered to the less fortunate children throughout the County.

You, the citizens of Colorado County, along with many local businesses, donated toys for all ages that were distributed to those needy children.

Children who, without our help, would have had a less than cheerful holiday season.

Sheriff Wied would like to make Christmas 1998 an even better year (See Santa, Page 8)

Colorado joins four other Counties in search of grant funds

Colorado County Commissioners adopted a resolution to join four other Counties in a quest for grant funds

from the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office (CJD) to support the Texas Narcotics Control Program.

According to County Judge Vince Slominski, the County will join DeWitt, Goliad, Guadalupe and Lavaca Counties in an attempt to secure \$513,974 in grant funds with the total project being \$685,304.

The balance will be covered by the five Counties, based on a per capita match, with Colorado County's maximum share being \$18,304.

If approved, the grant period would run from June 1, 1999, through May 31, 2000.

Any forfeitures made by the narcotics task force will be used to offset the County's share of the cost. According to Slominski, the current year's cost has dwindled to \$1,300.

The Court also discussed the possibility of buying down employees' vacation time over 20 days in lieu of recent changes in the County's policy manual.

According to County Auditor Raymie Kana, there are currently 13 employees, with a payout of \$9,080.40 as of Sept. 30, who are eligible to receive the vacation monies. The primary purpose is to get those employees back in line where their time is more manageable in that they do not have as much accrued vacation time.

However, after some discussion, it was decided to table the item in an effort to allow those employees to take some additional vacation time prior to the end of the year.

It is the Court's hope that the amount will be lowered over the next several weeks. It was agreed to look at the matter again in December.

In other business, the Court:

•Set Nov. 30 at 9 a.m. to hold a public hearing to consider changing the name of Washington Ferry Road to either County Road 79 or Chumney (See Commissioners, Page 8)



B&S Bird Taxidermy cuts ribbon

B&S Bird Taxidermy, owned by Bobby and Shelly Wied, held its ribbon cutting Thursday, Nov. 5, at 10 a.m. The taxidermy is located near Lissie on Hwy. 90-A, just past the rice dryer on the right.

In addition to the taxidermy service, the Wieds also make glass cases to showcase your prized possessions. On hand for the ribbon cutting were Chamber Secretary Lana Dulany; Chamber representatives Connie Gerton and Susan Wilkerson; Bobby and Shelly Wied; Chamber representatives Ronnie Sedgwick, Jerry McNeely and Brenda Besch.

Headlight Photo by Carol Nelson

COLORADO COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Friday, Oct. 23, at 6:55 p.m., Deputy Kenneth Kellogg responded to a call concerning a theft in Sheridan. The complainant reported his Western Auto self-propelled lawnmower was stolen.

At 7:36 p.m., Deputies Gene Rebel and Edman and Sgt. Neisner responded to a call concerning an aggravated assault on Strickland Lane. A warrant was obtained and Anthony Daniels, 20, of Eagle Lake was arrested Oct. 29 for aggravated assault.

Saturday, Oct. 24, at 7:20 a.m., Deputy Lacourse responded to a call concerning criminal mischief on County Road 109. The complainant reported the suspect(s) had shot two bullets through his windshield.

At 3:30 Deputy Rebel responded to a call in Garwood concerning deceptive business practices. There is one suspect. The case is under investigation.

At 11:15 p.m., Deputy Zermeno arrested Todd Nelson, 24, of Katy and Brian Scott Nelson, 27 of Justin for public intoxication at Nada Hall.

Sunday, Oct. 25, at 12:11 a.m., Deputy Peikert responded to a call concerning an activated alarm four miles north of Eagle Lake. After further investigation, it was determined there had been an attempted burglary of the building. The owner also reported a red tool box containing a 3/4-inch socket set was taken. The case is under investigation.

At 2:16 a.m., Deputies Zermeno, Deborah Benavides and Edman were informed by a citizen that an intoxicated male subject was letting the air out of tires on patrol vehicles at the Nada Test of the Best Cook-off in Nada. The deputies returned to their vehicles to discover that three tires were deflated and had been urinated on. Phillip Dan Canaris, 46, of Eagle Lake was arrested for public intoxication and charges were referred to the county attorney for interfering with public duties.

At 3:45 a.m., Deputy Peikert discovered a vehicle fire at the Hatterman Lane exit ramp on I-10 east bound. After further investigation, the owner of the vehicle, Dawn C. Person, 35 of Austin was arrested for public intoxication.

At 4:45 p.m., Deputy Lacourse responded to a call concerning a runaway juvenile on County Road 250. The juvenile later returned home and was determined not to be a runaway.

At 7:27 p.m., Deputy Zermeno responded to a call concerning a theft in Rock Island. The complainant reported a barbecue pit was stolen.

Monday, Oct. 26, at 5 p.m., Deputy Schmidt met with a complainant concerning terroristic threat. There is one suspect.

At 6:31 p.m., Deputy Zermeno responded to a call concerning an intoxicated subject at the Livestock Auction Barn. Jerry Wayne Perkins,

48, of Missouri, was arrested for public intoxication.

Tuesday, Oct. 27, at 2:52 a.m., Deputies Peikert and Zermeno and Sgt. Neisner responded to a call concerning a disturbance on FM 109. After further investigation, Gary Wayne Noska, 45, of Columbus was arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

(See Sheriff, Page 6)



Honorary captains

Acting as honorary team captains at Friday's game against Sealy were Raider varsity seniors #15, Warren Scott; #22, Jay Knight; #63, Jeremy Weishuhn; and #56, Brandon Besch. (See Page 6 for additional photos.)

Headlight Photo by Jeannine Fearing