

Rice Hospital District receives settlement

By Lynda Appelt, Headlight Staff

Colorado County Commissioners' Court resolved the question of population for the Rice Hospital District by claiming 38% of the County population (6,986) at a special meeting held Nov. 13.

After struggling with several sources to determine an accurate figure, Commissioners compromised be-

tween 37% and 39%. The figures will be used for the state tobacco settlement disbursement.

The 1994 census count, school district numbers, voter's registration and vehicle registration were used.

Commissioners were unable to certify the population for the Rice Hospital District at the regular meeting (See Settlement, Page 10)

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NEWSBRIEFS

Businesses, City closed for Thanksgiving holiday

The City Offices will be closed Thursday, Nov. 26, and Friday, Nov. 27, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. There will be no garbage pickup either day. Regular garbage pickup will resume Monday. The Headlight office will also be closed both Thursday and Friday.

The First National Bank, Wallis State Bank, Post Office and Wintermann Library will be closed Thursday. The Colorado County Courthouse will be closed Thursday and Friday.

'Spirit of Christmas' parade is next weekend!

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.

Senior Citizens' Dance is Dec. 4

The public is invited to a Senior Citizens' Christmas Dance on Friday, Dec. 4, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Music will be provided by the Country Playboys. Admission is \$5 per person. Door prizes will be given.

Booster Club meeting set for Dec. 2

The Rice Raider Booster Club will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m. in the PAC Center at Rice High School.

'Life After Loss' meeting is Dec. 1

The monthly "Life After Loss" monthly meeting in Wharton is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 1717 Pioneer St. The group is available to anyone who has lost a loved one through death and there is no charge for attendance. For information, call Kathy Springer, LSW at Medshares Hospice at 409-543-9487.

Defensive driving course set for Dec. 9-10

A state approved six hour defensive driving course has been scheduled in Columbus Dec. 9 and 10. The class hours will be from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Agriculture Building, 316 Spring St. in Columbus. To pre-register call 409-732-2734 or arrive a few minutes early the first evening.

WCJC big band swing dance, Dec. 4

Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) will live the 40's again. Come "jump, jive and wail" to the big band swing dance on Friday, Dec. 4, at the Pioneer Student Center from 6 to 8 p.m. Admission is \$3 for senior citizens and students with I.D.s, \$5 for the general public. Your ticket will include a complimentary beverage and dessert. You may dress casual. Tickets are available at the door or by calling 409-532-6366.

CCCAD may re-appraise your property

The Rice Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees approved the District's request to the Comptroller of Public Account that will allow the Colorado County Central Appraisal District (CCCAD) to re-appraise the value of flood-damaged properties and lower the taxable values of these properties located in the Rice CISD. The re-appraisal request must be made by the property owner. Pick up re-appraisal request forms at the CCCAD office.

Garden Club meeting set for Dec. 7

The Civic Garden Club of Eagle Lake will hold its next meeting at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 7, on the first Monday in Dec. instead of the second. The meeting will be held in the home of Linda Balas. Members, please bring a Christmas ornament or gift item for the silent auction. All are welcome to attend.

ELPS PTO holding 'Penny Drive'

The Eagle Lake Primary School PTO is holding a "Penny Drive". Containers have been placed in each homeroom by the PTO. Pennies will be counted at the end of each six weeks. Prizes will be given for the class collecting the most pennies. Pennies will be used to fulfill the teachers' "want list". These lists contain things teachers would like to have to enhance learning in their room, but don't have finances provided to buy the educational supplies. Containers have also been placed in local business establishments. Anyone wishing to have a container, call Mrs. Rhodes at 234-3587.

'Project Graduation' meeting set for Nov. 30

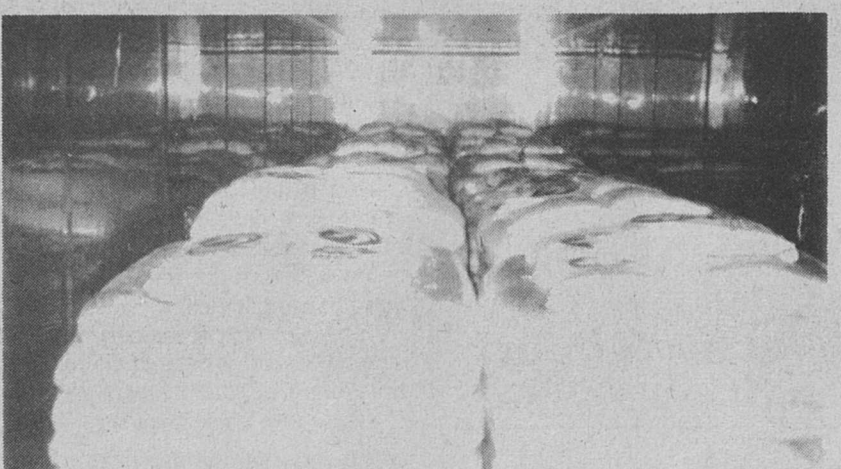
The next Project Graduation meeting has been scheduled for Monday, Nov. 30, at 7 p.m. in the Rice High School meeting room. Remember, seniors receive 5,000 points for each meeting a parent attends and an additional 5,000 points if the senior attends.

'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. Remembering the Past through Song will begin at 7 p.m. 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.

Those wishing to submit an advertisement or greeting for the souvenir booklet should call 234-7775. Prices range from \$12.50 to \$50 and each contributor will receive a copy of the booklet.

(See Newsbriefs, Page 10)



The Dole truck is almost filled with bags of the "Food for Peace" rice donated by Texas growers. Eagle Lake Rice Dryer Photos By Harold Ross

Jamison takes over as County Judge Dec. 1

By Lynda Appelt
Headlight Staff

Newly-elected County Judge Al Jamison will be sworn in Tuesday, Dec. 1, at 8:30 a.m. in the District Court Room at the Colorado County Courthouse.

County Judge Vince Slominski had previously stated he would leave the office Dec. 1 to assume the duties

of City Manager of Weimar at a salary of \$35,000.

The County Judge's salary for 1999 along with juvenile duties plus state supplement is \$40,670.

Jamison has stated he plans to be a very active participant in economic development, that a time certain completion date for 9-1-1 Rural Addressing is needed and he plans to address improved emergency management

for the County.

Drainage in the southern half of the County and solid waste disposal are two other goals Jamison feels need to be important objectives of his office.

City officials from Columbus and Eagle Lake, along with the County, have been meeting to discuss concerns of what to do with solid waste when Laidlaw Environmental Service Inc. closes down in Colorado County.

Weimar has its own waste disposal program.

Jamison also plans to encourage retired citizens to share their experiences in order to benefit community improvement.

Jamison also stated, "We need to involve our youth in community improvement."

Jamison has explicitly stated his long-term goals will be acted upon only with the approval of the County Commissioners.



American Legion toy drive in progress



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 children in needy families after registration.

Registration will be held in the auditorium of the Prairie Edge Museum on E. Main Street in Eagle Lake from 9 a.m. to 12 noon only on Dec. 23. There will be no home deliveries.

You may leave toys or money with which to buy toys at Wallis State Bank or A.J. Struss Auto Supply.

You may mail checks or cash to Post 108 Commander Fred F. Frnk, 681 Melody Lane, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434.

If you wish, a Legionnaire will be sent to your home or business to pick up the toys or money which you would like to donate to this very worthy project. Call 234-2065 for this service.



Beware of 9-0-# telephone scam

A Headlight reader from Lissie received the following article from a friend and brought it this office for us to share with you.

Quote: "I received a telephone call today from an individual identifying himself as an AT&T Service Techni-

cian who was conducting a test on our telephone lines. He stated that to complete the test, I should touch nine (9), zero (0), the pound sign (#) and then hang up. Luckily, I was suspicious and refused.

"Upon contacting the telephone company, I was informed that by pushing 90#, you give the requesting individual full access to your telephone line, which allows them to place long distance telephone calls billed to your phone number. I was further informed that this scam has been originating in many local jails/prisons. I have also verified this information with UCB Telecomm, Pacific bell MCI, Bell Atlantic, GTE and MYNEX. Please beware!

DO NOT press 90# for ANYONE. The GTE Security Department requested that I share this information with everyone I know.

"Please pass it on to everyone you know. If you have mailing lists and/or newsletters from organizations you are connected with, I encourage you to pass on this information to them too."

Rhodes named Parade Marshal

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the Parade Marshal for the 1998 Lighted Christmas Parade... Rev. Obie Rhodes.

Rhodes is the son of Henry and Willie Rhodes. He was grew up in the Matthews Community near Eagle Lake.

Rhodes began his education in a one-room rural school through first grade. His grade school and high school education were received at E.H. Henry Elementary and High Schools.

He admits that he was not the highest rank in the senior class but was always competing and trying to be among the best students.



While attending junior high and high school, Rhodes played football and was instrumental in helping the E.H. Henry Blue Eagles win their first district game in 1956.

His favorite hobbies are drawing, photography, collecting cameras, matches and building gadgets.

Upon completing his high school education, Rhodes was encouraged to go to college. He entered Prairie View A&M University with a major in Industrial Education Technology, specializing in Architectural Drafting and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in May of 1962.

While attending college, he was a member of the Industrial Education Honor Society, and on the Dean's List and Honor Roll.

In 1968, he received a Master of Education with a Major in Special Education and Elementary Education.

In 1960, Rhodes received a call from The Lord Jesus Christ to preach the gospel. He preached to many student while in college in prayer meeting services.

His first job was with Texas Blind, Deaf and Orphan School in Austin for one year.

While in Austin, he met and married a beautiful young lady, Robbie Fresch. They have three children, Dwight, Stephanie and Carol.

In Aug. 1963, Rhodes signed a contract to teach elementary and junior high science at E.H. Henry School for three years. In 1966, he accepted a teaching position in Special Education for Rice CISD, was later pro-

moted to Special Education Coordinator and developed the first four-year plan for the District in the department.

In 1966, Rev. Rhodes was called to pastor the White Cloud Baptist Church in Eagle Lake. It has been a joyous 32 years of service. Since that time, he has received three Degrees in Christian Education, Bachelor of Theology, Bachelor of Divinity and Doctor of Divinity. He now teaches Christian Education for Conroe College each Tuesday evening.

Rev. Rhodes is Moderator of 20th Century District Association of Texas (See Rhodes, Page 10)

County Grand Jury returns 11 indictments

The Colorado County Grand Jury returned indictments on 11 individuals Friday, Nov. 20.

Cases were represented by First Assistant County Attorney Joe Fling.

Indicted were:

- Alfredo Martinez, possession of marijuana;
- Jesus Elias Granillo, attempted indecency with a child;
- John Carroll Stovall, escape;
- Steven Arthur Guess, driving while intoxicated (felony);
- Arlandace M. Johnson, forgery;
- Debra Delgado Marx, forgery by making;
- Arlandace M. Johnson, burglary of a habitation;
- David Earl Scott, aggravated assault;
- Bernice Denham, injury to a child;
- Christopher Gerard Hughes, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle;
- One indictment remained sealed as of press time.

Texas rice goes to Central America

Thursday, Nov. 12, a truck loaded with Texas rice left a local mill on its way to the port of Freeport in a cargo container donated by the Dole Banana/Pineapple Company.

The rice was then loaded on a ship bound for Nicaragua and Honduras. This rice was grown and donated by Texas rice producers.

Drying and storage was donated by Eagle Lake Rice Dryer Inc., where the rice was dried. Hauling from the dryer to the mill was donated by Darrell Pagel Trucking. Milling, bagging and loading the cargo container were donated by a local mill. Hauling and freight from the mill to Freeport was donated by Dole.

If anyone wishes to donate rice to the Nicaragua-Honduras Relief Fund, call Eagle Lake Rice Dryer Inc. at 409-234-2537.



The truck, bound for Freeport and donated by Dole Banana/Pineapple Company, waits to be loaded at Eagle Lake Rice Dryer.

At right, is a close-up of one of the rice bags showing all who come in contact with it that the rice was Texas grown.

