

ICE House needs volunteers

The number of youth participating in the ICE (Interfaith Christian Encounter) House Youth Center is wonderfully growing.

The ICE House is a youth center to allow our youth to come in for recreational time. Future plans include a tutorial time period for the students.

As the number of youth and activities are growing,

the youth center is in need of volunteers.

Currently, the center is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 3 to 8 p.m. If you can volunteer only two hours, the ICE House would still be glad for you to be a part of the team. The staff would like to have at least one man and one woman in each time slot.

(See Volunteers, Page 7)

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D.P.S. to conduct 'Operation Motorcade 1998'

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will conduct operation motorcade and as many as 60 people could die in traffic crashes during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

As many as 36 people could lose their lives in traffic collisions during the Christmas holiday period, from 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24, through midnight Sunday, Dec. 27.

The DPS also estimates that 24 people could be killed in traffic crashes during the New Year holiday period, from 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, through midnight Sunday, Jan. 3.

Last year, 88 people died on Texas

roadways over the same holiday period, 47 during Christmas and 41 during New Year's.

One quarter of the crashes were alcohol-related. In cases where seat belt usage was applicable, 41% of those killed were not wearing safety belts. There were also 15 pedestrians killed.

The DPS will have all available troopers on Texas highways to help ensure traffic safety. Speed, drinking and driving, seat belts, and aggressive drivers will be targeted.

Motorists should be aware of weather conditions along their entire routes and allow extra time to accom-

modate for heavy traffic and/or weather delays.

Make sure your vehicle is road worthy before traveling. Drive with your headlights on during daylight hours to help pedestrians and other motorists see your vehicle.

Drivers should be well rested and take frequent breaks.

Motorists who find themselves stranded or disabled can call the DPS at 1-800-525-5555 for assistance from a trooper or other law enforcement officer.

The number can also be used to report traffic crashes or unsafe drivers, as can calling 9-1-1 in most areas of Texas.

Rice School Board delays action on easement, again

Action on the easement at the Eagle Lake Primary School was delayed once again during the recent meeting of the Rice Consolidated ISD Board of Trustees.

The easement was requested for acquisition by the soon-to-be-constructed assisted living facility to be located behind Rice Medical Center.

The easement is planned as the entry to the facility for visitors and residents only. Commercial vehicles, staff and vendors will enter from the hospital side of the facility.

According to Superintendent Dr. Richard Gott, the legal work has been completed, but a feasibility study by the school's architect has been ordered on how the granting of the easement to the assisted living facility will affect future growth in the District should construction become necessary at the primary school campus.

Gott reported that the location of

the new Head Start facility, staked by Head Start officials and to be completed in a few weeks, was moved behind the primary school wing where the kindergarten rooms are located.

Head Start is a federally-funded program that has been housed at the primary school for several years, but will now have its own facility.

The Head Start students will continue to receive their meals at the ELPS cafeteria.

Gott reported internal repairs and air-conditioning work in the gym area on the Garwood School campus are being completed.

School officials are busy making plans for space in the Garwood School to accommodate students from the Vada area who are enrolling in the District. Garwood's large student enrollment allows for very little extra room for growth.

(See Board, Page 7)



1998 'Fireman of the Year'

Howard Wilkerson, left, who has served the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department for over 11 years, was presented a plaque as the 1998 Fireman of the Year by Chief Gary Glaisher, right, as those gathered for the department's annual banquet gave him a standing ovation.

Wilkerson, who served as Lieutenant of Company 3 in 1997, responded to 62 of 89 fire calls during the year and was a racing team captain. He will once again head the racing team for 1999.

Headlight Photo by Jeannine Fearing

EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls and cases for the week ending Dec. 21.

Dec. 15, at 1:30 p.m., Chief Keith Webb received confidential informa-

tion of drugs in a trailer house on Schley Street and called in the 25th Judicial District Task Force.

At 11:40 p.m., the Task Force, along with Eagle Lake officers and Colorado County Sheriff's Deputies, executed a search warrant at the location. As a result of the search, an arrest was made by the Task Force for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Officer McDougall was dispatched to a one-vehicle accident in the 1200 block of E. Main at 9:59 p.m.

Juan Gerrardo Barrera of Eagle Lake, driving a 1995 Ford Mustang, was west bound on E. Main St. when he fell asleep, leaving the roadway and striking a utility pole on the north side of E. Main St. Barrera was transported to the Rice Medical Center (RMC) for treatment of minor injuries.

Dec. 16, at 12:28 a.m., Sgt. Tim Crume assisted the Task Force in an arrest of three subjects for possession of marijuana at the rest area on Hwy. 90A.

At 5:47 a.m., Officer Michael Krennek was dispatched to Hunters Lane in reference to a family disturbance.

As a result of the investigation, Patricia Cantu was arrested for possession of marijuana.

After processing at the police department, Cantu was transported to the County Detention Center (CDC) (See Police, Page 7)

NEWSBRIEFS

City departments closed Holidays

All City offices, including garbage collection services, will close at noon Dec. 24 and 31. The City asks that Thursday route residents please have their garbage out early for pickup. There will be no Friday route pickup. Normal routes will resume Monday, Dec. 28, and Jan. 4, 1999.

Notice to sewer customers

In order to calculate residential sewer rates for the upcoming year, the City of Eagle Lake will be considering water consumptions of each customer from approximately Dec. 15 through March 15.

Customers are encouraged to fix any water leaks as soon as possible in an effort to keep water consumptions at a minimum during this time. Each residential sewer rate is based on the actual water consumed at that particular location.

If you have any questions, please call City Hall at 234-2640.

Senior Citizens' Dance is next Friday

The public is invited to a Senior Citizens' Dance on Friday, Jan. 1, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Music will be provided by Daniel and The Country Playboys. Admission is \$5 per person. Door prizes will be given.

Rice FFA Show, Sale set for Jan. 16

The Rice High School FFA Show and Sale will be held on Saturday, Jan. 16, starting at 8 a.m. The sale will begin at 1 p.m. A barbecue lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. catered by Austin's BBQ and Catering of Eagle Lake. There will be approximately 30 projects on which to bid.

E.H. Henry Christmas Party is Dec. 24

Come join the E.H. Henry Alumni for their annual Christmas Party Thursday, Dec. 24, at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Admission is \$5 and door prizes will be given.

Defensive driving course is Jan. 5, 6

Retired DPS Sgt. Gilbert Kiel has scheduled a state approved defensive driving course in Eagle Lake Jan. 5 and 6 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Wintermann Library in Eagle Lake. To pre-register, call 409-234-5411 or show up a few minutes early the first evening.

Gospel Explosion is this Saturday

Saturday, Dec. 26, at 6 p.m. will kick off Mt. Moriah Baptist Church of Allegheny Youth and Young Adult Conference with a gospel explosion. Body of Christ youth choir from Corpus Christi will be special guests. Then the youth conference will be held Sunday thru Wednesday, Dec. 27 thru Dec. 30, at 6 p.m. nightly. Wednesday, Dec. 30, the basketball game will close out the conference at Rice High School gym. Our special guest will be James Henderson of Kirk Franklin's NU Nation of Dallas. For more information, call Pastor Larry Davies at 281-342-7557.

Business close for Christmas Holiday

The Colorado County Courthouse and the Eagle Lake Headlight will be closed for Christmas Thursday and Friday, Dec. 24 and 25; and Friday, Jan. 1, for New Year's. The Furniture Shoppe will be closed Friday and Saturday, Dec. 25 and 26. The First National Bank of Eagle Lake will close at noon Thursday, Dec. 24, and remain closed all day Friday, Dec. 25.

ICE House needs volunteers

The Ice House has been well received by the youth of our community. A total of 470+ youth have attended to date, an average of 23-24 per day the ICE House has been open. We have signed up over 150 youth as members. With this great number of youth, we are needing additional volunteer help. Those of you wishing to join the volunteer pool, come by the ICE House to fill out a volunteer information sheet. For further information, contact Erik Cameron of the ICE House at 234-7990 or 234-3225.

Pilot Club to hold drawing

The Eagle Lake Pilot Club is holding a Romance Package Drawing. The \$10 tickets give you a chance at two nights at the Hilton on the Riverwalk in San Antonio, champagne on arrival, riverside bedroom, Saturday breakfast, \$50 meal certificate and a \$20 gas certificate. The drawing will be held Saturday, Jan. 30. For more information or tickets, call Dorothy Kohleffel at 234-2834 or Mary Ann Kaluza at 234-2619.

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.

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", containing 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.

Radio station gives to Colorado County kids

By Lynda Appelt, Headlight Staff

Young Country Radio (95.7) in Houston began its Tuesday morning, Dec. 15, broadcast at 6 a.m. with its D.J.s in a basket hoisted by a crane, located at I-10 and Dairy Ashford.

The purpose was to reach a goal of 500 bikes donated by 10 a.m. Each bike donated allowed the D.J.s to be lowered until they reached the ground. The goal was reached; over 500 bikes were received as donations and the D.J.s were lowered down.

Twenty four of the bikes came to Colorado County to be distributed to children whose "wish list" might not be granted due to lack of finances.

Tom Fleming brought the bikes to the Colorado County Detention Center where they were assembled by Jail Administrator Debs Martin and trustees at the jail.

Fleming and his wife, Kathy, members of the Texas Gulf Coast Crime Prevention Association, coordinated the effort between Young Country, the Deputy Santa Program (See Bikes, Page 7)



Pictured with just a few of the bikes received for distribution are Santa (alias George Fox, Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, on the bike) School Resource Officer Craig Schmidt, Deputy Deborah Benavides, Sheriff's Secretary Karen Tammien, Lt. Mike Schleider, Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Wied, Tom and Kathy Fleming, Columbus Police Chief Robert Connors and Lt. Joe Lopez.

Headlight Photo by Lynda Appelt



Dental Clinic officially opens

The staff of the new Eagle Lake Dental Clinic held their official opening Monday, Dec. 14, with a ribbon cutting. Pictured with Dr. Marey Stone, D.D.S. (in the white coat at center) are Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce Secretary Lana Dulany, representatives Connie Gertson and J.C. Cooper (just visible behind Connie), staff members Colleen Meitzen and Tanya Perez, Dr. Stone, Chamber President Sam Thomson, and representatives Ron Holland, Susan Wilkerson and Jerry McNeely.

Headlight Photo by Carol Nelson

Grand Jury returns 15 indictments

The Colorado County Grand Jury returned 15 indictments on 12 individuals Friday, Dec. 18.

Cases were represented by First Assistant County Attorney Joe Fling. Indicted were:

- Ilikee Wenske, tampering with a witness;
- Courtney Montel Davis, unauthorized use of a vehicle;
- Lorraine Phelps Ramirez, driving while intoxicated (DWI), felony;
- Derrick Dashan Jones, possession of controlled substance;
- Joseph Paul Rodriguez, aggravated robbery;
- Joseph Paul Rodriguez, escape;
- Joseph Paul Rodriguez, burglary of a habitation;
- Joseph Paul Rodriguez, escape;
- Treese Lee McGowan, forgery;
- Gerald Wayne Giles, aggravated sexual assault;
- David Charles Langhoff, attempted capital murder;
- Timothy J. Chester, DWI, felony;
- Edgar S. Weatherholtz, possession of controlled substance;
- Armando Flores, possession of controlled substance;
- One indictment, for sexual assault, was still sealed as of press time.