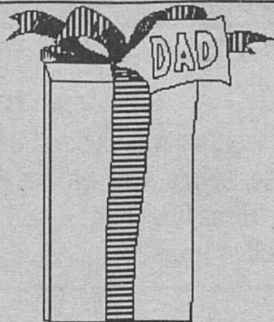




Remember...  
Father's Day  
is Sunday,  
June 20



# Eagle Lake Headlight

June 17, 1999

(USPS 163-760)  
Volume 96, No. 13  
8 Pages Plus 2 Inserts  
Eagle Publishing, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67 — 220 E. Main St.  
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067  
409-234-5521

35¢ PER COPY

## Little League schedules closing day

The Eagle Lake Little League will close out its season with all-day games this Saturday, June 19.

Games begin at 10 a.m. and all teams will play sometime during the days' activities.

Following the conclusion of the games, the coaches will divide into two teams and go against each other.

There will also be a hitting contest for each division of the league (i.e. t-ball, minor, major).

Everyone is invited to come out, spend the day and enjoy the last day of the 1999 Little League season.

## City Council discusses possible parking ordinance for Seaholm, Beaks Streets

By Lynda Appelt  
Headlight Staff

A solution to the parking problem on Seaholm and Beaks Streets comprised the major portion of the June 8 meeting of the Eagle Lake City Council.

Complaints from citizens in the area resulted in Eagle Lake Police

Chief Keith Webb and officers in his department conducting a door to door survey of citizens who reside on Seaholm and adjoining smaller streets.

The results of that survey were presented to Council.

"Anytime you look into parking, you must look at all sides and get feedback," Webb stated.

Webb explained that the height of

the parking problem appears from Thursday through Sunday due to patrons of business establishments that are located at each end of Seaholm. The survey indicated the residents feel the parking problem is a result of these patrons.

The survey also indicated the residents favor some type of parking regulations.

Councilwoman René Cooper-Scott told Council, "We've been working on this for two or three years. It's time to take action."

Council concurred that complaints from citizens need response.

A major concern of Council was the safety factor involved. The public parking on the north and south sides of the streets would make it very difficult for an ambulance or fire truck to respond to a call due to lack of space to travel.

It is also a problem for police officers patrolling the streets.

Webb recommended that the parking ordinance be kept simple.

The prohibition of parking on the south side of Seaholm from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. seven days a week seemed to be the preferred solution.

An ordinance will be drafted and brought up at a later date.

The business establishments do have areas for off-street customer parking to consider as an option.

Webb will continue to confer with the owners concerning the plans of Council.

Webb reported to Council on the recent apprehension of the four suspects who robbed the Rice Package Store, masked and at gun point, on Tuesday, June 1. He attributed the arrest to the alertness of an Eagle Lake citizen who submitted the license number of a vehicle behind Royal Cleaners with four suspicious subjects loitering around it to his department.

Four Wharton County residents, approximately 19 to 20 years of age, were arrested.

Webb told Council it is believed the group possibly intended to rob Royal Cleaners but was thwarted by observant citizens, both inside and outside the cleaners, who labeled them as suspicious and took precautionary measures.

The police department computer Y2K problem was discussed.

When the computer system for the department was purchased from CSI, the City was assured the software would handle the year 2000 without (See Council, Page 8)

## Eagle Lake's sales tax rebate falls off slightly

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander last week delivered a total of \$184 million in sales tax payments to 1,097 Texas cities and 118 counties. June sales tax rebates are down slightly compared to June 1998. However, total payments to cities and counties for Jan.-June 1999 are running 7.1% ahead of the same period last year.

The City of Eagle Lake received a rebate of \$9,411.63, down 3.41% from the \$9,744.75 received last June, bringing the City's year-to-date total to \$76,124.43, 7.45% ahead of 1998.

This month's sales tax rebates include local sales taxes collected in April and reported to the Comptroller's office in May.

"The Texas economy continues to grow at a steady pace," Rylander said. "Sales tax collections show that consumer confidence is strong."

Texas counties received June sales tax rebates of \$14.5 million. Year-to-date rebates to counties are up 1.0% compared to 1998. Another \$5.7 mil-

lion went to 42 special purpose districts around the state.

One of those special purpose districts, Rice Hospital District, received a rebate in the amount of \$7,057.84, 13.86% more than the \$6,198.16 received last June. The year-to-date total for the District is \$53,342.71, 25.11% ahead of 1998.

Other cities in the Eagle Lake area, the amount of their sales tax rebate this month along with the change from the same month last year are:

Columbus, \$61,695.68, up 7.45%; Weimar, \$10,394.43, down 10.51%; Sealy, \$89,432.36, down 0.98%; Bellville, \$27,474.28, +32.20%; El Campo, \$139,435.22, -0.92%; and Wharton, \$76,192.84, -3.68%.

Year-to-date for the above cities and the change from last year are:

Columbus, \$399,906.99, +11.29%; Weimar, \$71,460.37, +10.11%; Sealy, \$596,991.67, +4.61%; Bellville, \$196,131.66, +56.75%; El Campo, \$933,704.94, +10.37%; and

Wharton, \$524,605.20, +1.79%.

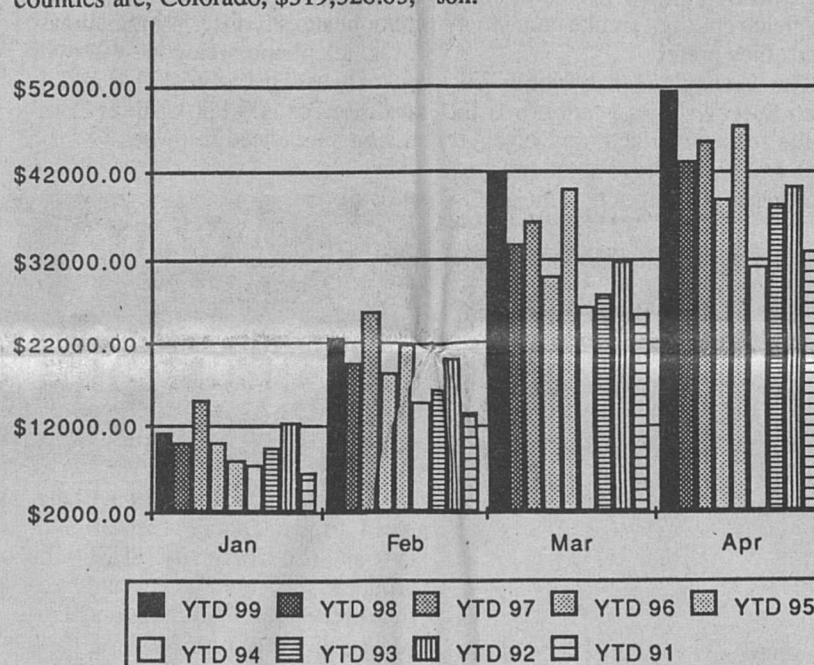
On the county level, Colorado County received \$44,077.95, down 12.02% from last year's payment of \$50,103.85. Austin County received \$78,542.07, up 6.79%. Wharton County received \$95,180.93, down 0.91%.

Year-to-date figures for these counties are, Colorado, \$319,328.83,

up 9.42%; Austin, \$462,188.71, +3.26%; Wharton, \$641,468.64, +7.63%.

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation is scheduled for Friday, July 9.

\*Bellville increased their portion from 1% to 1.5% in Oct. 1998, therefore, this is not an accurate comparison.



The year-to-date totals for sales tax rebates to the City of Eagle Lake are charted against the month the tax was collected, not the month the rebate was received from the Comptroller.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Juneteenth celebration is Saturday

A Juneteenth Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, June 19. Parade line up will be at 11 a.m. at the old Primary School with the parade starting at noon. For booth entries and/or parade entry information please call Bee at 234-3724 or Rita, 234-7948 or Vee or Dave, 234-2467.

### Memorial to be dedicated to Tobin Thomas

The Eagle Lake Ambulance Corp is sponsoring a fund drive to purchase a monument to be placed at City Hall in Honor and Memory of Officer Tobin Thomas.

Donations will be accepted at First National Bank under the Tobin Thomas Monument Fund.

### PCF plans meeting June 17

The committee for Eagle Lake's Prairie Chicken Festival (PCF) will hold a meeting at the Prairie Edge Museum Thursday, June 17, at 7 p.m. Please plan to attend this important meeting. They will be discussing all the events which are being contemplated for the next Festival with special attention to those areas where they need the most help. If you care about this project and its impact on the Eagle Lake community, get involved by attending this meeting.

If you would like to help but can't attend this meeting, call Susan Wilkerson at 409-541-4629.

### Major show turkey orders due

Any 4-H member planning to exhibit turkeys at the San Antonio Livestock Exposition (SALE) or the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (HLS&R) needs to place their order with the County Extension Office now. Poults must be ordered in multiples of 50 and they are \$3.50 each. 4-H members may split an order of poults as long as the total ordered is in multiples of 50. Deadline for placing an order is June 25. Poults will be delivered Oct. 19.

Exhibitors may enter only one turkey in the HLS&R and may enter a hen and tom in the SALE.

For more information, call 409-732-2530.

### Junior golf tournament is June 23

The Eagle Lake Ladies Golf Association, 6th Annual Junior Golf Tournament will be held Wednesday, June 23, at the Eagle Lake Golf Course with tee time at 9 a.m. Be there by 8 a.m. to register. The tournament is open to school age golfers. There is a \$15 entry fee per golfer which includes lunch. To enter or find out more information, call Lynn Rucka at 281-533-9722. Every golfer will walk or furnish his or her own pull cart.

### Defensive driving course set for June 22, 23

A defensive driving course has been scheduled for June 22 and 23 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Wintermann Library in Eagle Lake by retired DPS Sgt. Gilbert Kiel. To pre-register for the class, call 409-234-5411. If unable to pre-register, arrive a few minutes early the first evening for registration.

### Tennis camp scheduled in East Bernard

A tennis camp will be held July 5-9 at the East Bernard tennis courts and is open to kindergarten through 12th grade. It will help develop eye-hand coordination, learn basic strokes and strategy. Great for beginners as well as more advanced players. Ages will be divided into one-hour sessions each morning, ending with a tournament on Friday.

All participants will receive a t-shirt and are guaranteed lots of fun. The camp is instructed by Emilie Naiser and Rachel DeLaughter, both avid tennis players with regional and state qualifications.

The cost of the camp is \$35 per student. Please register before June 25 by calling 409-335-6496.

## EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls and cases for the week ending June 14.

On June 8 at 9 p.m., Sgt. Tim Crume was flagged down by a complainant, who reported that she had been assaulted by another female. The suspect was located and issued a summons for assault.

At 5:37 p.m., Sgt. Crume assisted the ambulance crew on East A Street with a sick call.

Officer Randy Schlauch assisted the ambulance crew on West Waverly Street with a sick call.

Sgt. Bill Lattimore met with a complainant in reference to the burglary of a motor vehicle and a report was filed.

On June 10, at 11:41 a.m., Officer Michael Krenek was dispatched to 100 Commerce in reference to a forgery, and a report was filed.

At 12:24 p.m., Officer Krenek met with a complainant in reference to a reported terroristic threat made to complainant.

Sgt. Lattimore arrested Ronnie Ray Kuykendall at 3:45 p.m. on an outstanding warrant. After processing, Kuykendall was transported to the County Detention Center (CDC) for confinement.

On June 11 at 12:35 a.m., Sgt. Lattimore and Officer Schlauch responded to an activated alarm on E Street. There were no signs of entry into the residence.

At 1:48 a.m., Sgt. Lattimore met with complainants and a suspect in reference to a disturbance. The suspect gathered some personal belongings and left the residence for the remainder of the evening.

At 9:13 a.m., Officer Brian Lasley met with a complainant on North Lake St. in reference to the theft of some house plants, and a report was filed.

Officer Lasley also met with a complainant on W. State St. at 9:40 a.m., in reference to the theft of some

house plants, and filed a report.

Sgt. Lattimore, Lt. Johnson and Officer Lasley arrested Abel Cardenas on an outstanding warrant at 6:03 p.m. After processing, Cardenas was transported to CDC for confinement.

At 6:52 p.m., Officer Stephen Nelson conducted a traffic stop that resulted in the arrest of Jose Socorro Rodriguez for unlawfully carrying a weapon-knife. After processing, Ro-

driguez was transported to CDC for confinement.

On June 12 at 5:43 p.m., Officer Nelson and Sgt. Lattimore responded to a burglary of a residence on S. Austin Rd.

At 7:03 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore received a report of loud music on Seaholm St. coming from a vehicle, but was unable to locate the vehicle.

On June 13 at 5:03 a.m., Officer

Nelson was dispatched to a disturbance on Sempres St. There were no signs of violence and no other action was taken.

At 7:45 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore and Officer Nelson were dispatched to a fight on Beaks St. Lattimore met with two victims and statements were taken. The case is under investigation.

On June 14 at 9:20 a.m., the proba-

(See Police, Page 8)



### Duddleston Welding opens new shop

A ribbon cutting was held Thursday, June 10, for the new location of Duddleston Welding, now located at 951 Hwy. 3013 West. The Duddlestons invite everyone to stop by for all your welding needs. Give them a call at 409-234-5008.

Pictured above, from left, are Chamber of Commerce President Sam Thomson, the Duddlestons and "Meisha", Becky Anderson and Chamber Secretary Lana Dulany.

Headlight Photo by Carol Nelson