

## Work to begin on Fair Complex

After some five years of meetings and fundraising, work will soon begin on the first structure at the new Colorado County Ag Complex and Fairgrounds.

Some road work and sewer line projects have already begun, but in the coming weeks, the Ag Complex's first building will be erected.

To signify the official beginning of construction, the Ag Complex Board and the Fair Board will hold a groundbreaking ceremony Thursday, July 1, (See Fair, Page 8)

## Perfect TAAS!

Three ELPS students made PERFECT scores on this year's TAAS test. See Page 8.

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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## Memorial dedicated to memory of Thomas

Tuesday evening saw a crowd gathered at the City Square for the dedication of a memorial in memory and honoring Eagle Lake Police Officer Tobin Thomas who was killed in the line of duty June 18, 1998.

Attending the ceremony, in addition to members of Thomas' family and friends, were Weimar Police Chief Bill Livingston, Colorado County Attorney Julian Moore, Eagle Lake Police Chief Keith Webb and officers with his department, Colorado County Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Weid and deputies from his department, members of the Eagle Lake City Council, City Manager Ron Holland, City Secretary Lucille Perry, Mayor Michael Cooper, members of the Colorado County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Unit #803 (Eagle Lake) and Eagle Lake citizens.

After welcoming those in attendance, Chief Webb gave a short recap

of the circumstances surrounding Thomas' death, pointing out that Thomas had been honored in Washington, D.C., and Austin during the past year.

Eagle Lake Police Sgt. Bill Lattimore, Thomas' field training officer, offered a prayer of thanks.

Chief Webb thanked several individuals and groups.

•To Thomas' wife, Laura, for "allowing" him to be a part of the Eagle Lake Police Department (ELPD), therefore making this a better place.

•To all the officers of ELPD.

•To the City employees who donated their time, energy and funds to provide a "reception" for out-of-town officers who attended Thomas' funeral last June.

•To City Council, Mayor Cooper and Ron Holland for finding a location for the memorial.

•To the EMS members who not only originated the idea of the memo-

rial and took it upon themselves to make sure it was done, but responded to what Webb termed a "dangerous situation" the night Thomas was shot.

"They had no idea what they were walking into. All they knew was someone had been shot. We (police officers) wear vests and carry side arms. They went in armed only with their desire to help someone in need."

•To Larry Dulany of Dulany Funeral Home for his assistance to the EMS in obtaining the memorial using his expertise and "connections". "It's amazing what he did," said Webb.

•To the citizens of Eagle Lake for their response to tragedy and assistance given Laura and her family.

Mayor Cooper was given the honor of unveiling the memorial which faces Main Street, just to the right of the stairs to City Hall.

Inscribed on the obelisk, below a replica of Thomas' badge #307, are

the words "IN HONOR OF TOBIN CRAIG THOMAS WHO GAVE HIS LIFE IN THE LINE OF DUTY ON JUNE 18, 1998. HIS SACRIFICE WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN BY THOSE HE CHOSE TO PROTECT".

Also, on the side to the right of the above inscription, is "DEDICATED JUNE 18, 1999 BY HIS FELLOW OFFICERS, EMS UNIT #803 AND THE CITIZENS OF EAGLE LAKE".

Laura and her daughter, Moira, will be leaving Eagle Lake the end of this week, returning to Sugar Land where she and Tobin lived before they moved to Eagle Lake.

We wish them well and will never forget their sacrifice.

Anyone wishing to be a part of the Thomas Memorial may send or deliver a donation to the First National Bank of Eagle Lake or any Eagle Lake Ambulance Corps member.



After the ceremony dedicating a memorial to Officer Tobin Thomas, Moira Thomas, three-year-old daughter of Laura and Tobin, kisses her daddy's name.

Headlight Photo by Jeannine Fearing

## EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

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

On June 15 at 2:46 a.m., Officer Stephen Nelson was dispatched to Union Street in reference to a prowler. The area was checked, but no one was found.

At 1:09 p.m., Officer Michael Krenek was advised of suspicious circumstances in the 1200 block of E. Main. A check of the area revealed no suspicious vehicles or persons.

Officer Randy Schlauch checked out a report of a suspicious vehicle in

the 1500 block of E. Main and found no vehicle, nor any signs of forced entry into the building.

On June 16 at 8:05 a.m., Officer Krenek met with a complainant in reference to phone harassment. The matter was later settled between the complainant and suspect.

At 3:15 p.m., Officer Krenek was dispatched to a business in the 600 block of E. Main in reference to a disturbance. The suspects were asked to leave the premises. No other action was necessary.

On June 17 at 6:05 and 7:30 a.m.,

Officer Brian Lasley provided traffic control in the 800 block of E. Main for a merchandise truck.

Officer Lasley provided civil standby in the 300 block of W. Post Office Street at 9:04 a.m.

At 9:45 a.m., Officer Lasley spoke with a complainant in reference to suspicious circumstances/criminal mischief on Allen Street and later filed a report.

On June 18 at 4:43 a.m., Officer Schlauch checked on a suspicious vehicle in the 700 block of E. Main. He also checked the nearby business, but found no signs of forced entry.

At 1:45 p.m., Officer Lasley met with a complainant in reference to criminal trespass at the community pool. A report was filed.

At 11:09 p.m. and 11:59 p.m., Officer Schlauch and Sgt. Tim Crume respectively received calls of shots fired on FM 3013 and on N. McCarty. Neither officer was able to locate anyone.

Officer Schlauch was dispatched to Church Street in reference to a verbal disturbance. The complainant was asked to leave the premises. No other action was taken.

On June 19 at 12:19 a.m., Officer Schlauch was dispatched to the 400 block of E. State in reference to suspicious persons, but was unable to locate anyone in the area.

At 7:10 a.m., Officer Lasley met with a complainant in the 500 block of Stevenson Street in regard to a mailbox being damaged. A report was filed.

Officer Lasley was contacted at 1 p.m. in reference to criminal mischief in the 1500 block of E. Main. After gathering information, a report was filed.

Officer Nelson was dispatched to the 300 block of W. Post Office at 6:26 p.m. in reference to reckless damage to the door of the business. A report was filed.

On June 20 at 12:21 a.m., Officer

Nelson was dispatched to a disturbance on Schley Street. One subject left the residence. No other action was taken.

At 3:59 a.m., Officer Nelson was dispatched to an assault on Clark Street. Information was gathered and the case is under investigation.

Sgt. Crume and Officer Nelson met with a complainant on E Street in reference to a possible theft and gathered information.

On June 21 at 8:30 a.m., Officer Lasley was contacted by a complainant in reference to the burglary of a vehicle. Information was gathered and a report filed.

Officer Lasley investigated a two vehicle accident in the 100 block of N. McCarty Avenue at 2:30 p.m. involving a 1999 Dodge pickup, driven by David Leslie Wilde of Cat Spring, and a 1999 Plymouth four-door, driven by Andrew McConnell of Katy. While waiting for a passing train, Wilde backed into McConnell's vehicle. Wilde was issued a citation for backing without safety. There were no injuries.

Sgt. Bill Lattimore met with a complainant on Scott Street in reference to mailbox damage. A report of criminal mischief was filed.

At 11:33 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore arrested Lakeisha Jackson on an outstanding warrant and transported her to the County Detention Center for confinement.

### May 1999 Summary

The May 1999 summary from the Eagle Lake Police Department lists 250 calls including 149 miscellaneous, 48 disturbances, 14 assaults, 12 accidents, 10 thefts, 10 burglaries, and seven burglaries.

There were 42 criminal cases with 208 classes being cleared.

Officers made 27 arrests; 17 misdemeanor, 10 felony.

They issued 66 citations and 147 warnings and handled six juveniles.

## SHERIFF'S REPORT

The Colorado County Sheriff's Department reported the following cases and calls for the last two weeks.

Friday, June 4, at 6 p.m. Deputy Kenneth Kellogg responded to a call about reported child abuse in Sheridan. The case was referred to Child Protective Services (CPS). They were advised of Deputy Kellogg's findings.

At 7 p.m., Sgt. Edman met with a Lavaca County Deputy in Altair to take Clarence Roy Robinson, 23, of Hallettsville into custody on Colorado County warrants.

Sunday, June 6, at 11:15 a.m., Deputy Richard Lacourse responded to a call concerning a criminal trespass on FM 949 in Bernardo. The complainant reported a suspicious subject who would not leave her mother's property when he was told. He stole a water can from the front porch, then left. There is a suspected vehicle. The case is pending further investigation.

At 12:36 a.m., Deputy Zermeno observed suspicious activity on N. Eagle in Weimar. He attempted to make contact with the suspects. One suspect ran on foot. A warrant is being obtained for the arrest of that suspect. The other suspect, Melvin Ray Davis, 38, of Weimar was arrested for public intoxication.

At 4:25 a.m., Deputy Zermeno initiated a traffic stop on S. Eagle in Weimar. After further investigation,

Lasonya Johnson, 25, of Weimar was arrested for possession of marijuana.

At 7:31 a.m., Sgt. Pavlicek assisted several units with a transient on a train travelling through Columbus. Stanley Rhodes, 45, was arrested for interfering with railroad property.

Monday, June 7, at 12:36 a.m., Deputy Zermeno initiated a traffic stop on FM 155 at Hwy. 90. The driver, Gracie Moore, 36, of Schulenburg was arrested for driving while intoxicated. Sherry Glass, 32, of Schulenburg was also arrested for public intoxication and littering.

At 2:25 p.m., Sgt. Neisner met with a complainant at the Colorado County Sheriff's Department (CCSD) in reference to a missing handgun. A report was taken and the handgun will be entered into the computer as stolen.

Tuesday, June 8, at 1:49 a.m., Deputy Zermeno initiated a traffic stop on Hwy. 90 at County Road 218. After further investigation, James Johnston, 48, of Columbus was arrested for possession of marijuana.

At 12 p.m., Deputy Lacourse met with a complainant at the CCSD in reference to a subject trespassing on his property. There is a suspect.

At 12:15 p.m., Deputy Lacourse responded to a residence on County Road 305. The complainant reported a handgun was missing. The weapon (See Sheriff, Page 3)

## NEWSBRIEFS

### 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.

### 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.

### Senior Friends host art, crafts afternoon

Senior Friends will be hosting an arts and crafts afternoon on June 25. It will be from 1-4 p.m. in the Gulf Coast Medical Center classrooms. Bring all those crafty items from around the house and your favorite ideas and join us! (Bring your hot glue gun too!)

### July ice cream social

Senior Friends will be hosting a 4th of July Ice Cream Social Thursday, July 1, in the Gulf Coast Medical Center classrooms from 2-3:30 p.m. Please RSVP by June 29 by calling Sherri at 409-282-6808 or Carol at 282-6090.

### Singles dance is Friday

Fort Bend Singles Club will sponsor a public dance on Friday, June 25, at 8 p.m. at the Needville KC Hall. Music will be provided by the Country Playboys. Door prizes will be given. Admission is \$5 per person and the public is welcome.

### Hospice program needs volunteers

Hospice, a program that provides supportive care for persons with a terminal illness and their families, needs volunteers. A training session is being planned for July and Aug. For more information call Margaret at Medshares Hospice at 409-543-9487.

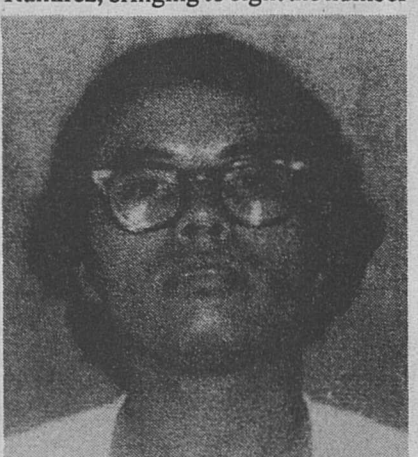
### PBC to celebrate 31st anniversary

Providence Baptist Church (PBC) officers and members will celebrate the 31st Anniversary in honor of 43 years of service for Rev. and Mrs. Coby Shorter Jr. June 27, at 3 p.m. Rev. Coby Shorter III, Pastor of Rosewood Ave. Baptist Church in Austin, will deliver the anniversary sermon. The public is invited to attend this service.

### Donations still welcome

Unit #803 of the Colorado County Emergency Medical Services (Eagle Lake's Ambulance Corps) is still accepting donations to cover the purchase of the memorial placed on the Square this Tuesday, June 22. You may send or deliver your donations to the Tobin Thomas Monument Fund to the First National Bank of Eagle Lake. Or you may give it directly to any member of the Eagle Lake Ambulance Corps.

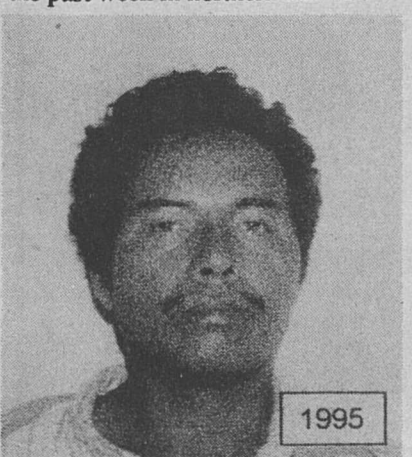
A double murder June 15 in Gorum, Illinois, has been linked to the "Raicar Killer", Raphael Resendez-Ramirez, bringing to eight the number



Both these photographs are Raphael Resendez-Ramirez, wanted by the FBI in at least eight murders since 1997. The public is reminded that Ramirez uses wigs and/or glasses to change his appearance. If you think you have seen him, DO NOT APPROACH OR ATTEMPT TO APPREHEND! You are asked to call your local law enforcement agency or the FBI's 24-hour line, 713-693-5000.

of murders directly linked to Ramirez.

He is also a suspect in another double murder which occurred during the past week in northern Illinois.



Evidence from cases in Arizona and Florida is also being analyzed.

The Gorum murders were added to the list of his victims when his fingerprints matched to Ramirez were found in a vehicle belonging to one of the two people killed.

As of Monday, the total reward for his arrest and conviction was up to \$125,000, which includes a reward from the FBI and those posted in Lexington, Weimar and West University Place.

Ramirez has been added to the 10 Most Wanted List, making more funds available to agencies involved. John Walsh, host of the Fox television show "America's Most Wanted", stated that Ramirez is now that show's Public Enemy #1. This, according to Walsh, means the program will continue to warn citizens about Ramirez until he is apprehended.

Designating Ramirez as Public Enemy #1 came after three straight weeks of "spots" on the popular tele-

vision production.

Since the most recent murders attributed to Ramirez occurred in Illinois, it should not be assumed he's in that part of the country.

A car belonging to a Houston victim, Noemi Dominguez, was recovered near the border with Mexico around June 12.

It is believed the car had been in that location for five days.

Even giving those five days, Ramirez apparently traveled, probably by rail, from the Del Rio area to Illinois in less than a week.

He could be anywhere.

People are asked to be on the look out for Ramirez, but do not approach him under any circumstances! If you think you have seen him or have information, call your local law enforcement agency or the FBI's 24-hour number, 713-693-5000.

Recently, the FBI Fugitive and Violent Crime Task Force implemented (See Ramirez, Page 8)