

Legion Post collecting flags for disposal

W. Cherry-M. Perry Post 108 of the American Legion is collecting tattered, torn and faded flags or flags rendered beyond use. The flags will be disposed of in a public ceremony at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 21. Site of the disposal ceremony will be on the concrete slab of the former White House Hotel on E. Main Street.

Persons who have flags which need to be disposed of may leave them at Struss Auto Supply or call Hugh Sheridan at 234-5464 or Vic Scott at 234-2792. They will make arrangements for the flags to be picked up. Interested individuals and/or groups are invited to make plans to attend this impressive disposal ceremony.

Eagle Lake Headlight

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NEWSBRIEFS

Closing announced for Labor Day holiday

The following businesses will be closed Monday, Sept. 6, in observance of the Labor Day holiday: First National Bank of Eagle Lake, Colorado County Courthouse and Eagle Lake City Hall. Monday's garbage will be picked up Tuesday and Tuesday's garbage will be picked up Wednesday.

EMT classes slated for Sept

Colorado County EMS (CCEMS) will be sponsoring two EMT-basic classes beginning in Sept. in Weimar and Sheridan. Class will begin Tuesday, Sept. 14, in Weimar at 6 p.m. at the Weimar Fire Department. Class will begin in Sheridan Monday, Sept. 20, at 6 p.m. at the Sheridan Community Center. CCEMS is sponsoring the course in an effort to meet staffing demands. For more information, please call Marc Jordan at 409-732-9635.

E.H. Henry Board meeting is tonight

E.H. Henry Historical Corporation monthly board meeting will be held Thursday, Sept. 2, at 6 p.m. in Rice Medical Center conference room in Eagle Lake. Rev. Obie Rhodes, president.

Cub Scout Pack 3078 meetings to begin

Cub Scout Pack 3078 will start holding meetings on Monday, Sept. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at the Scout Hut on E. Prairie. For more information, call 234-2386.

Class of 1990 reunion planned

The Rice High School Class of 1990 is planning a fall reunion. They need addresses and phone numbers. For more information call Rhonda Prazak at 713-272-9058, Kim Corman at 281-596-8867 or Stephanie (Causey) Guthman at 234-3211.

WCBC sets 85th anniversary, homecoming

White Cloud Baptist Church (WCBC) will celebrate its 85th Anniversary, Homecoming, and Family and Friends Day on Sunday, Sept. 5, at 3 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. Clarence Owens, pastor of Camp Zion Rising Star United Baptist Church. Rev. Obie Rhodes is the host pastor.

MMBC to sell Mexican dinners

The Mount Moriah Baptist Church (MMBC) will be selling Mexican dinners this Saturday, Sept. 4, starting 10 a.m. The dinner costs \$5 per plate. You may call 234-7267 to place your order or go by 523 E. Davitt in Eagle Lake.

Reunion 2000 meeting is Sept. 23

A meeting for the class agents of the Eagle Lake High School (ELHS) Reunion 2000 will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23, at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Visitors are welcome.

Study Club meeting is Sept. 8

The Eagle Lake Study Club will hold their monthly meeting at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8, at the Wintermann Library. Rep. Robby Cook will be the guest speaker and will deliver a "Legislative Overview". All members are asked to bring a guest.

Hospice training session start Sept. 21

Hospice, a program that provides supportive care for persons with a terminal illness and their families, needs volunteers. A 24-hour training session is planned for the East Bernard/Eagle Lake area Sept. 21, 23, 26 and 30. To register or for more information, call Margaret at the Hospice office, 409-543-9487.

Crescent Country Jamboree is Sept. 7

The Crescent Country Jamboree, sponsored by the Wharton County Youth Fair (WCYF), will host a live country music show Tuesday, Sept. 7, at WCYF Grounds at the Crescent Hall, intersection of FM 960 & FM 961. Concession stand special for this month is "tips and rice". Other concession items include grilled hamburgers, popcorn, various homemade desserts and drinks. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. with the show kicking off at 7:30. Admission is \$3 per person. All proceeds from this event will benefit the WCYF building fund.

Life After Loss meeting set for Sept. 7

The monthly Life After Loss support group meeting in Wharton is Tuesday, Sept. 7, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 1717 Pioneer. "Pathways Through Powerlessness" will be presented by Kathy Jones, LSW. This group is available to anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. For more information, call Medshares Hospice, 409-543-9487.

Amateur fishing tourney is Sept. 25

The Crystal Beach Fishing Club is holding a Speckled Trout Open Amateur Fishing Tournament Sept. 25 from daylight to 5 p.m. Weigh-in at 5 p.m. will be at Stungaree Marina in Crystal Beach. This is a Heavy Stringer tournament with cash prizes awarded to first through 10 places. The entry fee of \$25, with an optional \$5 Heavy Fish Pot, must be received by Sept. 22. Sign-up at South Shore Grocery in Crystal Beach or call 281-328-7447 for an entry form.

Senior Citizens' dance is Friday

The public is invited to a Senior Citizens' Dance, a place to meet old and new friends, on Friday, Sept. 3, 8-11:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Music will be provided by "This Is It". Admission is \$5 per person. For more information, call 234-3795.

ICE House announces new activities

The ICE House is now having Bible study on Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m.; choir practice twice a week (various days); and Narcotics Anonymous meetings Saturdays from 8:30 to 10 p.m. The public is invited to join us anytime! For more information, call 409-234-7990 and ask for Troy.

County Hay Show deadline is Sept. 17

The Colorado County Hay Show will be held Wednesday, Oct. 6, at 4 p.m. at the Frelsburg Fire Station. If you are interested in entering a hay sample, please submit it on or before Sept. 17. Each sample submitted will cost \$1 for the protein test. Samples should consist of a feed bag full of hay from round bales or two blocks of hay from a square bale. Samples should include your name, address, sample number and hay type.

Hay samples may be submitted to: County Extension Office and Heffley's Mill and Grain, Columbus; M-G Farm Service, Weimar; Heinsohn's, Frelsburg; Bernardo Farm & Ranch Supply; Eagle Lake General Store; Farmer's Co-op, Garwood; and Colorado Feed in Columbus. For more information, call the County Extension Office at 409-732-2082.

Calling all quilters!

The 1999 Colorado County Fair is sponsoring a quilting contest again this year, so the County will have an entry in the 2000 Houston Livestock Show and (See Newsbriefs, Page 8)

Transit service to start in Eagle Lake

Colorado Valley Transit is offering a new bus Loop route service to the citizens of Eagle Lake, Columbus and Weimar starting Sept. 7. Community buses will Loop the cities every hour, on the hour, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Every route takes approximately 15 minutes. Scheduled times may fluctuate depending on the traffic, weather condi-

tions or mechanical problems.

The Loop bus is safe, reliable and a dependable ride to work, hospitals, clinics, business, school and neighborhoods. The new service will eliminate the need to call the office in advance. The Loop routes will complement the current 24-hour demand responsive service for the handicapped, citizens with limited mobility, or citi-

zens outside the new route service.

The Loop rides will operate FREE for a limited time. When the free rides stop, a Loop fare will cost 50¢ each time you board the bus. All passengers must have exact change. Please have the exact fare or Transit tickets ready and place in the farebox next to the driver upon boarding the bus.

You may board the bus anywhere

you see a Transit bus stop sign, or you may signal the bus to stop for you anywhere along the route. When you board the bus, tell the driver your destination. Arrive at the bus stop nearest the starting point of your trip at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. All buses have signs that display Loop (which travels within the city).

The map indicates the route the bus will take. The bus travels counter clockwise throughout the route. The bus leaves and returns to the Transit Center every hour on the hour with the city divided into four areas taking approximately 15 minutes each. Determine your origin and destination an see when the bus travels that route. Your stop will be somewhere between the two times.

Remain seated until the bus comes to a complete stop. If there is standing room only on the bus, stand as far to the rear of the bus as possible and always hold the handrail. Secure children in the seatbelts provided and carry babies in infant seats, if possible. If you board the bus with a stroller, fold and place out of the aisles. Keep packages and other items off the seats (See Loop, Page 8)

DPS estimates 39 fatalities over 3-day Labor Day Weekend

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) estimates as many as 39 people could die on Texas roadways over the long Labor Day Weekend.

Operation Motorcade begins at 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 3, and runs through midnight Monday, Sept. 6.

Last year, 45 people died in traffic crashes over the Labor Day Weekend. In wrecks where seat belt usage was applicable, 46% of those killed were not wearing safety belts. Twenty-four percent of the fatalities were alcohol related.

In addition to Operation Motorcade, the DPS will conduct Operation Combined Accident Reduction Effort (C.A.R.E.). Operation C.A.R.E.-Labor Day Weekend will be in effect from 12:01 a.m. Friday, Sept. 3 to midnight Monday, Sept. 6.

The goals of both Operation Motorcade and C.A.R.E. are to reduce accidents, deaths and injuries.

Motorists are reminded of new state laws.

First, the DWI threshold has been dropped from 0.10 to 0.08 blood alco-

hol content.

Second, travelers will find trucks legally traveling the same speed as cars. And third, they could face citations if children under age 15 are not buckled up.

All three laws took effect Sept. 1.

DPS Troopers will focus their efforts on speeders, drunk drivers, reckless drivers and safety belt violators.

Motorists are urged to carry the statewide emergency roadside assistance number with them at all times, 1-800-525-5555.

Rice CISD approves near \$10 million budget

Rice Consolidated ISD Board of Education held a budget hearing Monday, Aug. 23, in the Administration Building in Altair.

The local District Budget called for a total of \$9,923,525 expenditures.

The budget breakdown of Local Maintenance Instruction called for expenditures of \$5,022,723 which is up \$17,469 from the previous year.

Expenditures for Library Media

Services was \$208,539, down \$4,598 from 1998-99.

Expenditures for Curriculum and Staff Development are \$32,413, down \$8,932 from 1998-99.

Expenditures for Instructional Leadership \$23,150, up \$2,485; Expenditures for School Leadership \$632,863, down \$8,362.

Expenditures for Counseling are \$437,292 up \$2,097.

Expenditures for Health Services are \$52,590, up \$3,980.

Expenditures for Transportation are \$322,897, down \$78,947.

Expenditures for Extra-Curricular are \$68,359, down \$66,921.

Expenditures for General Administration are \$518,607, up \$3,362.

Plant Maintenance Expenditures are \$1,104,399, down \$4,096.

Community Service Expenditures are \$13,000, up \$2,000.

Debt Service Expenditures are \$44,100, up \$2,600; and payment to member districts Special Education Cooperative \$189,736, up \$121,715.

This increase is the result of the requirement to have Behavioral Adjustment Rooms for every level of Special Education students. These rooms are staffed by one teacher and one or more teacher aides determined by the number of students.

The Local Maintenance Budget for 1999-2000 shows a decrease of \$46,148, despite some \$354,000 of teacher raises in this budget.

Athletics show expenditures of \$261,103, the same as last year. Food Service expenditures are \$562,242, a decrease of \$1,701. Technology expenditures are \$38,042, a decrease of \$268.

Bonded Debt Service calls for expenditures of \$371,470, a decrease of \$19,530. Capital Projects calls for expenditures of \$20,000.

The proposed budget calls for \$55,747 less than the Local Maintenance and Operation Budget for 1998-99.

Revenues for the budget presented shows \$4,611,043, from local taxes based on certified values of \$299,333,836; \$478,631, from interest, athletic receipts, and miscellaneous revenue; \$4,464,851 from State Per Capita and Foundation; \$369,000, from Federal Revenue channeled through the State for total revenue of \$9,923,525.

The district through Federal Grant applications will receive, if all are approved, \$929,085, for various programs as Drug Free Schools, Vocational Programs, and Special Education.

Following budget presentation, discussion was held and questions answered on all aspects of the budget. The budget for 1999-2000 calls for a Local Maintenance ad Operation rate of 1.377 and an Interest and Sinking rate of .092.

Following the budget hearing, the board reconvened in a special meeting and adopted the budget for 1999-2000.

According to legislative mandates, the tax rate must be adopted after Sept. 1, 1999. This meeting is scheduled for Sept. 13, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. in the Administration Building in Altair.

Combs to speak to Farm Bureau

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs will be guest speaker at this year's Colorado County Farm Bureau (FB) Convention, according to Charles Harbich, county president.

The event is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14, in the Columbus High School cafeteria.

A barbecue dinner, catered by Austin's of Eagle Lake, will be served prior to the meeting. Dinner tickets are \$3 for adults and children, if purchased by Sept. 8 from the County FB (See Combs, Page 8)



EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls and cases for the week ending, Aug. 30.

On Aug. 25 at 6:40 p.m., Officer Stephen Nelson was dispatched to a two-vehicle accident in the 400 block of S. Austin Rd. involving a 1997 Mercury four-door driven by Emma Sharp Sheridan and a 1993 Ford pickup driven by Alex Jack Williams, both of Eagle Lake. Williams was attempting to turn left onto Old Altair Rd. when Sheridan attempted to pass Williams on the left side, striking Williams' vehicle.

At 7:21 p.m., Officer Nelson met with a complainant on Fairview St. in reference to a civil matter. No action was taken.

On Aug. 26 at 9:42 a.m., Officer Michael Krenek was dispatched to Willow Lane in reference to a burglary by forced entry. Information was gathered and a report filed.

At 12:38 p.m., Officer Krenek was dispatched to Fairview St. in reference to a civil matter.

Officer Krenek, Chief Keith Webb and Sgt. Tim Crume responded to a reported disturbance with a knife involved at 1:47 p.m. on N. Lake Ave. There were no weapons used and the matter was resolved at the scene.

At 9:27 p.m., Officer Randy Schlauch was dispatched to 104

Boothe Dr. in reference to a verbal disturbance. The suspect was gone from the scene when he arrived.

Sgt. Crume was dispatched to a disturbance on E. Main St. at 9:48 p.m. The call was handled at the scene.

At 10:16 p.m., Sgt. Crume was dispatched to Heritage Lane in reference to a disturbance, but the suspect had left the scene.

On Aug. 27 at 12:11 a.m., Officer Schlauch and Sgt. Crume responded to a disturbance on E. Main St.

As a result of the investigation, Edward Holloway was arrested for public intoxication and disorderly conduct. Martha Holloway was arrested for interference with duties of a public servant.

After processing at the police department, both Holloways were transported to the County Detention Center (CDC) for confinement.

A report of criminal mischief was taken from a complainant on FM 3013 at 7:15 p.m. involving damage to his vehicle.

On Aug. 28 at 1:45 a.m., Sgt. Crume was dispatched to N. Lake Ave. in reference to phone harassment. The suspect was contacted and counseled.

Officer Krenek was dispatched to Willow Lane at 10:30 a.m. in reference to a civil matter. No action taken.

At 7:19 p.m., Sgt. Crume conducted a traffic stop which resulted in the arrest of the driver, Rickey Tolver, for evading arrest and driving while license suspended. After processing at the police department, Tolver was turned over to the CDC for confinement.

On Aug. 29 at 2:52 p.m., Officer Krenek was dispatched to S. Austin Rd. in reference to a juvenile runaway. A report was given. Officer Krenek was later advised the juvenile had returned home.

Officers Nelson and Krenek, Sgt. (See Police, Page 8)

County Grand Jury issues 22 indictments

The Colorado County Grand Jury handed down the following indictments on Thursday, Aug. 26:

Floyd Roosevelt Denley, delivery of a controlled substance;
Alfred James Jackson, delivery of a controlled substance;
Sean Verna Sutton, possession of a controlled substance;
Christopher Raymond Lahman, credit card or debit card abuse;
John Carroll Stovall, delivery of a controlled substance;
Gary Wayne Ebarra, possession of a controlled substance;
Kari Melinda Kight, possession of a controlled substance;
Michael Dwayne Leggett, prohibited substance in correctional facility;
Guadalupe Gonzales, violation of protective order or magistrate's order;
Michael Lujan, driving while intoxicated (DWI) (felony);
Adrian Mitchell Leffew, possession of a controlled substance;
David Charles Langhoff, DWI (felony);
Francisco Arroyo Morales, DWI (felony);
James Edwin Crawford, DWI (felony);
Kenneth Edward Roch, possession of a controlled substance;
Angel Maturino Resendiz aka Rafael Resendez-Ramirez, capital murder. Six indictments remained sealed as of press time.