



Are You Ready for Back to School?

See Pages 9 through 12 for Supply Lists and Room Assignments

Eagle Lake Headlight

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Shooting death under investigation

Wharton County Sheriff's Department officials are investigating the death of an East Bernard woman who died from a gunshot wound last weekend.

Barbara Barnes Shearin, 56, was pronounced dead at 111 Brandes Street in East Bernard at 3:40 a.m. Saturday, July 29, by Judge Frank Shannon.

She had been shot in the head. Sheriff's Department Lt. Daniel Marek said the shooting occurred

around 12:30 a.m. Saturday at the Brandes Street residence, which is inhabited by 52-year-old Richard Maly Sr., a close acquaintance of Shearin's.

Shearin apparently lived at the Brandes Street house from time to time, Marek said, although she did have a separate address.

Shearin and Maly were seen earlier Friday night at a bingo game in East Bernard, Marek said. After the game, the couple stopped by a local tavern.

They returned to Maly's residence sometime later. Sheriff's Department officers were dispatched to the Maly residence just around 12:30 a.m. after a shooting was reported.

Sgt. Lionel Garcia responded to the scene and was met there by Emergency Medical Services.

Shearin was later pronounced dead.

Marek said it's not yet clear what happened that night. "The occurrences at the home are under investigation," he said.

There were other occupants in the home at the time of the shooting, and they are now being questioned by Sheriff's Department officials.

No arrests have been made. An autopsy was ordered and the results are pending, Marek said.

As of Tuesday morning, Aug. 8, according to Lt. Marek, the department is still waiting for written forensic and autopsy reports to come back.

They are also interviewing additional persons in the neighborhood who might have pertinent information.

Burning ban lifted for part of County

According to information received from Colorado County Judge A.G. Jamison's office, the burn ban is now in effect for the following areas of the County:

All of the area north of I-10 and west of the boundary formed by Farm Road 806 continuing on County Road 106 to Hwy. 90A, then west to County Road 255 and south of the extended line to Lavaca County.

The following communities are included in the burn ban area: Bernardo, Columbus, Weimar, Oakland and Sheridan.

The following communities are **not** (repeat, not) included: Rock Island, Eagle Lake, Garwood and Nada.

Violation will carry a fine of up to \$500.

NEWSBRIEFS

Main Street organizational meeting is tonight

The Eagle Lake Main Street program will hold an organizational meeting for building and business owners Thursday, Aug. 10, at 7 p.m. in the Eagle Lake City Council Chambers. A slide presentation and a question and answer period will be held. The agenda for the meeting is posted at the Main Street Office.

Women's Day Program is Aug. 20

A Women's Day Program will be held Sunday, Aug. 20, at 3 p.m. at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in Alleyton. Guest speaker will be Minister Joann Reed of Houston.

Revival set for Aug. 14-18 at GRSBC

Community revival services will be held at Greater Rising Star Baptist Church (GRSBC) Monday through Friday, Aug. 14-18. Guest speaker will be Rev. C.L. Wallace of Mother Zion Baptist Church of Wharton. Sponsors are GRSBC, Rev. Truman Scott Sr. and White Cloud Baptist Church, Rev. Obie Rhodes.

Booster Club meeting set for Aug. 16

The Rice Raider Booster Club will have their monthly meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 16, at 6 p.m. at the CPL building in Eagle Lake. If you would like to get involved for the year 2000-2001, please come.

Seminar to be held Aug. 25-26

A seminar entitled *Women and the Church, God's Word to Women in the 21st Century* will be presented by Drs. Eddie and Susan Hyatt Friday evening, Aug. 25, and Saturday, Aug. 26. The event, sponsored by God's Word to Women ministries, will be held at 600 Partridge Lane in Eagle Lake. For more information, call Gay Anderson at 979-234-2367 or go to the website at www.godswordwomen.org.

Rotary Rummage Sale is this Saturday

The Eagle Lake Rotary Club is having its second annual Rummage Sale Saturday, Aug. 12, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Trafco Industries building at 416 W. Main Street. Come take advantage of this great sale!

Eagle Lake KC dinner is Aug. 20

The Eagle Lake Knights of Columbus Council #4843 will be serving a fried chicken dinner Sunday, Aug. 20, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Andrew Hall, corner of Murphy and Guadalupe. Tickets for plates to go are \$6 each and may be purchased from any KC member or in the serving line. Desserts will be sold by the Catholic Daughters. Proceeds benefit the scholarship fund and local charities. Please note that Andrew Hall is the new location and where most of the KCs' meals will be served.

Salvation Army truck to be in Eagle Lake Aug. 12

According to Robert Griffith, local representative of the Salvation Army, a collection truck will be available Saturday, Aug. 12, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Square in Eagle Lake. Anyone wishing to donate good, usable items should make plans to transport them to the Square Saturday. If you have any questions, call Griffith at 234-2058.

Season football tickets on sale

Season tickets for Rice High School home football games are on sale at the Rice CISD business office through Friday, Aug. 18. Beginning Monday, Aug. 21, those who have not held season tickets may purchase them on a "first-come, first-serve" basis through Friday, Sept. 1. The cost for season tickets for all home games is \$24 per set. (We have six home games this year.) Cost at the gate will be \$5 per game. There will be no reserved seats sold for individual games. Call Jennifer Korenek at 234-3531 for additional information. Adult pre-game general admission tickets will also be sold for \$4 and available only at the high school on Thursday and Friday until 3 p.m.

Rice Project Graduation meeting set for Aug. 21

The Rice Project Graduation Board of Directors will become an elective board effective the 2000-2001 school year. We will be accepting nominations for directors between now and our first meeting set for Aug. 21 at 7 p.m. in the Rice High School commons area. Contact Pat Evans at 234-5571, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with your nominations. Thanks in advance for giving this your immediate attention.

Retirement Appreciation Banquet is Aug. 12

Please join us in honoring Christina Castle Moody with love and best wishes at a Retirement Appreciation Banquet in her honor Saturday, Aug. 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center, 100 N. Walnut Ave. Steering committee members are Claudine Shorter, Ada Tillman, Veronica Curry, Rene Cooper-Scott, Robbie Rhodes, Gwendolyn Knight and Patricia Connor-Evans. Monetary donations will be accepted at The First National Bank, 100 Commerce, Eagle Lake. Please make donations payable to Christina Moody Retirement Banquet Fund. Check or money order only by mail. Checks or cash personally.

School supplies... school supplies...

Eagle Lake Primary School (ELPS) P.T.O. will be selling supplies for the coming 2000-2001 school year.

All children, pre-k through third grade, will be supplied at the lowest possible prices. Supplies will be sold at the ELPS cafeteria through Aug. 11 from 8 to 10 a.m. and during the first week of school (Aug. 14-18) from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Lists and prices will be published in Aug.

For more information, call Ms. Rhodes at 234-3587 or Mrs. Reed, 234-2601.

Main Street Matters

We live in a small community and we think we know **EVERYTHING** that happens within it. However, sometimes things **DO** happen and/or change without us noticing.

I realized this a couple of weeks ago when I was asked to give the program for the Colorado County Historical Society about the Main Street Program.

After the slide presentation, there was a short question and answer session.

During that time, I gave a quick recap of all that has occurred during the first six months of the program. The majority of the people in attendance were surprised by the amount of activity that has in deed transpired.

Each month, as the Main Street Program Director, I prepare a *Main Street Reinvestment Summary* of the downtown area which is turned in to the Texas Historical Commission in Austin.

This report includes the number of rehabilitation projects and their expenditures, number of new construction and expenditures, the number of buildings sold and total expenditures, amount of private and public sector investment, total business starts, relocations, and expansions and the number of jobs created.

As the Main Street Program Manager, I want you, the people of Eagle Lake, to also be aware of what is happening with the Program and what has already taken place.

Since Jan., in the central business district (CBD) alone:

- Five buildings have been purchased;
- Two buildings have completed renovation projects;
- One building has completed Phase I of its renovations;
- Two buildings are in the process of renovation projects;

Narcotics checkpoint nets numerous arrests

On both Aug. 3 and 4 in the late evening hours, local law enforcement officials from Colorado County Sheriff's Department; 24th and 25th Judicial District Narcotics Task Force; Columbus, Eagle Lake and Weimar Police Departments; and the Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force conducted a successful narcotics operation in which a mock narcotics checkpoint was set up on State Hwy. 71 north of Columbus for a total of seven hours.

The operation resulted in numerous arrests for narcotics and included the seizure of over \$4,000 in cash and three vehicles that were being used in illegal drug trafficking.

Javier Mendez, 38 of Austin, was arrested for possessing 2.2 pounds of powder cocaine, a first degree felony.

John Oliver, 26 of Houston, was arrested for possessing 28.6 grams of "ecstasy", a second degree felony, and for Class B possession of marijuana.

Samson Rena, 20 of Houston, and Xavier Herrera, 19 of Austin, were arrested for possessing 1.25 pounds of marijuana, a state jail felony, along with illegally carrying a .357 revolver.

Karen Call, 42 of Pasadena, was arrested for possessing one pound of marijuana, a state jail felony.

Michelle Barazandeh, 32 of Houston, was arrested for possessing less than one gram of both powder and

crack cocaine, a state jail felony.

Six other cases from the operation resulted in six suspects being arrested for useable amounts of marijuana (less than two ounces), Class B misdemeanors.

Officers working on the joint effort were Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Wied, Chief Deputy Schleider, Captain Richter, Sgt. Investigator Neisner, Sgt. Edman, Deputies Argo, Basco, Pardo, Schmidt and Toppel; Reserve Deputies Knight, Lacourse and Schoppe from Colorado County Sheriff's Department; Sgt. Investigators Zermeno and Zimmerhanel with the Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force; Commander Keith Majors and Agents Castillo, Olvera, Rios, Sullivan and Brothers with the 24th and 25th Judicial District Narcotics Task Force; Chief Connor, Lt. Lopez and Sgt. Jackson with the Columbus Police Department; Officer Michael Krenek with Eagle Lake Police Department; Chief Bill Livingston with Weimar Police Department. Justin Wostarek and the Texas Department of Transportation also provided valuable assistance with equipment in the operation.

The joint effort was initiated by Sheriff Wied and planned by members of his staff along with agents from the 24th and 25th Judicial District Narcotics Task Force.

(See Narcotics, Page 14)

Two new businesses have opened;

•Two businesses are in the process of expanding and relocating within the CBD;

•One business has relocated to the CBD;

•One new business is scheduled to open within 90-120 days;

and

•One business is scheduled to relocate within 90-120 days.

So, what has been happening with the Main Street Program in Eagle

Lake? A WHOLE LOT!! And most importantly, **PROGRESS IS HAPPENING IN EAGLE LAKE!!!**

If you would like information on the Main Street Program, please contact the office at 121 N. McCarty; call 979-234-6933.

By Venetta Seals, Main Street Program Manager

EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls and cases for the week ending Aug. 7.

On Aug. 1, at 12 p.m., Stephanie Woods stopped Officer Wendy Alley at 203 Boothe Dr., Sportsman's Model, in regards to someone making her tires flat. Woods wanted the incident documented.

At 4:15 p.m., Laila Cunningham came into the police department and paid an outstanding capias pro fine warrant for speeding. Chief Keith Webb served the warrant and collected the payment.

On Aug. 2, at 12:10 p.m., while on patrol, Officer Alley was flagged down on Boothe Dr. in regards to a bicycle being stolen from 420 Church St. Information was taken and is under investigation.

At 2:22 p.m., Officer Alley was informed about a dog which had been tied up at 1011 Warwick St. without food and water for 24 hours. Officer Alley called Animal Control Officer Cardenas, who took custody of the dog.

At 5:15 p.m., Sgt. Bill Lattimore arrested Roderick Stevens for numerous outstanding warrants: failure to appear, theft and four (4) for speeding.

On Aug. 3, at 2:30 a.m., Sgt. Lattimore and Officer Stephen Nelson assisted the Colorado County

Sheriff's Department in an investigation into a possible "peeping tom" incident occurring at 320 Old Altair Rd. in New Town. No suspects were found.

At 3:20 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore arrested John Hodde on three outstanding municipal warrants. Hodde was transported to the Colorado County Detention Center (CCDC).

At 10:13 p.m., Officer Nelson was dispatched to 1000 Raezer St. in regards to 20 kids on the road. Officer Nelson found 11 juveniles who were all advised to return to their homes due to the 10 p.m. curfew.

On Aug. 4, at 1:30 p.m., Felipe Melendez and Rocky Mancias turned themselves in to Officer Alley. They both had outstanding warrants for their arrests. Officer Alley served the warrants and transported them to the CCDC.

At 10:11 p.m., Sheriff's Deputy Cody Toppel came by the police department to pickup several Eagle Lake municipal warrants, which had been issued on Audrey Carter and James Eaton, who Deputy Toppel had just arrested.

On Aug. 5, at 1:30 a.m., Sgt. Tim Crume approached Ryan Torres who was in the front yard at 902 East C Street. Sgt. Crume arrested Torres on two outstanding felony district court warrants. During the arrest, Torres resisted and later attempted to kick out the windows in the police car in which he was being transported. Torres was also charged with resisting arrest and was booked in at the CCDC.

At 4:24 p.m., Officer Michael Krenek was dispatched to the 1600 block of E. Main St. in regards to a reckless driver. Officer Krenek followed the vehicle to the 1300 block of Prairie where Alaro Hermenegildo

was arrested for driving while intoxicated. The passenger, Pablo Hermenegildo, was arrested for public intoxication.

At 10:04 p.m., while investigating a loud music complaint at 400 Fairview St., Officer Brian Lasley made contact with Eric Johnson who was driving a car with loud music. Officer Lasley and Sgt. Crume smelled marijuana and investigated. A green leafy substance, which later field-tested positive for marijuana, was located and recovered. Johnson and Bianca Guerra were arrested and charged with possession of marijuana. Two other occupants, not charged, were released.

On Aug. 6, Sgt. Crume was dispatched to 219 Hunter's Lane in regards to a juvenile runaway. Sgt. Crume patrolled the area, located the juvenile and then released the juvenile to the parents.

At 1:27 p.m., Officer Krenek was dispatched to 400 S. Austin Rd. in regards to an apartment fire. Officer Krenek arrived on the scene and learned that a roll of paper towels had caught on fire. The Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department and Medic 3 were called to the scene. The fire department used an exhaust fan to pull the smoke out of the apartment. There were no injuries or major damage.

At 7:51 p.m., Sgt. Crume was dispatched to Hunter's Lane in regards to a vehicle with loud music. Sgt. Crume arrived but was unable to locate the loud music. Later, Officer Lasley received a second call. Officer Lasley arrived on the scene and contacted Norman Henderson, who was issued a citation for the loud music.

On Aug. 7, at 1:10 a.m., while on patrol, Officer Lasley stopped a vehicle (See Police, Page 14)

Glover is new principal at EL Middle School

Gene Glover has been named the new principal for Eagle Lake Middle School (ELMS) in the Rice Consolidated Independent School District (RCISD).

Glover is a former graduate of Eagle Lake High School and E.H. Henry High School.

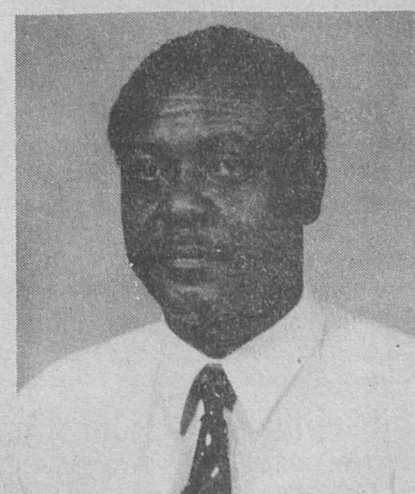
He attended Prairie View A&M University where he received his master's degree in Agricultural Education.

He later attended Stephen F. Austin State University and received his mid-management and superintendent's certificates.

Glover has been a teacher of vocational agriculture, assistant principal, principal and school superintendent.

"I really look forward to working with the Rice School District to help improve student achievement. It feels great to be back home."

Glover's wife, Sandra, is a pre-



kindergarten teacher. They have three daughters, Monica, Denise and Jennifer, and a son-in-law, Bennie Mayes.

RCISD welcomes Mr. Glover and his family home.