

Have A Safe & Happy



Eagle Lake Headlight

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NEWSBRIEFS

Closings for Thanksgiving holiday

The following businesses will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving: Colorado County Courthouse will close both Thursday, Nov. 23, and Friday, Nov. 24; the Eagle Lake Headlight will also be closed Thursday and Friday; the First National Bank of Eagle Lake will be closed Thursday but open Friday; and the City of Eagle Lake will be closed both Thursday and Friday.

Garbage pickup changes announced

The City of Eagle Lake announced there will be no garbage pickup Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 23, and Friday, Nov. 24. Regular pick-up will resume Monday, Nov. 27. If you have any questions, call City Hall at 234-2640.

Free Thanksgiving dinner set for Nov. 23

Cadillac Productions is sponsoring a free Thanksgiving Dinner at the Cadillac Club, 405 Fairview St., Thursday, Nov. 23. The public is invited.

Booster Club meeting Nov. 27

The Rice Raider Booster Club will hold a meeting Monday, Nov. 27 at 6 p.m. in the PAC Center at the high school. The winner of the game ball from the Nov. 17 game is Lydia Contreras. Congratulations to the Rice Raider football team. Go, Big Blue!

Main Street design consultant to visit Nov. 30

Texas Main Street Design Consultant Howard Langner, from Austin, will be visiting Eagle Lake Thursday, Nov. 30. Architectural assistance is one of the many services that the Main Street Program offers, free of charge, to the business and building owners in the Main Street District. Business and building owners who wish to have a free consultation for guidance and ideas in their revitalization efforts, discuss signage concepts, and/or to request a rendering of their business or building may request an appointment by calling the Main Street office at 979-234-6933. Appointments are recommended.

PTO meeting at ELPS

The Nov. meeting of the Eagle Lake Primary School (ELPS) P.T.O. will be held Tuesday, Nov. 28. Second grade students will perform for the meeting. There will also be a discussion of the fund raisers coming up, Christmas float, and purchase for the 2000-2001 school year. A free pizza and a holiday gift certificate will be given away to two lucky parents who attend. Babysitting will be available and is free. Please attend as there will be no P.T.O. meeting in Dec.

E.L.P.T.O. de la Escuela Primaria tendrá su junta el martes 28 de noviembre. Los estudiantes del segundo grado estarán haciendo un presentación. Discutiremos formas de levantar fondos y hablaremos sobre las compras para el año escolar 2000-2001. Se va a regalar una pizza y un certificado a dos padres que asistan. Cuidad de niños gratis. Por favor vengan, que en el mes de diciembre no habra una junta.

Mt. Moriah selling dinners Dec. 2

The Mt. Moriah Praise Dancers will be selling enchilada dinners Saturday, Dec. 2, for \$5 each. They will also deliver. Call 234-6873 to place your order.

Display of Nativity Scenes set for Dec. 2

Two hundred, plus, Nativity Scenes can be seen at St. John's Episcopal Parish Hall, 915 Travis St., Columbus, Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served and Christmas goodies and other baked goods will be for sale. Admission is \$3 per person.

Rock Island VFD to hold drawing

The Rock Island Volunteer Fire Department (RIVFD) is selling drawing tickets for a 32-inch JVC Color television. The tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. The drawing will be held Dec. 17 at 2 p.m. at the RI Fire Station (need not be present to win). Proceeds from the sale will benefit the purchase of a much needed "Jaws of Life" equipment. As everyone knows, the first few minutes of an accident are the most crucial. The equipment will not only serve Rock Island but surrounding communities as well. Contact Keith Nance at 234-2936 or Bob Anderson at 234-3962 for tickets or they may be purchased at Eagle Lake Drug-store or from any member of the RIVFD. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Singles dance is Dec. 1

A public dance sponsored by Fort Bend Singles Club will be held Friday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. at the Needville K.C. Hall, Hwy. 36. Music will be provided by The Bobby Jones Czech Band. Admission is \$5. Door prizes will be given.

FBC Children's Choir starts Nov. 29

First Baptist Church (FBC) of Eagle Lake will begin a Children's Choir for grades one through six. They will meet Wednesday night from 6 to 7 p.m. beginning Nov. 29. All children are welcome. An adult Bible study, led by Brent Beasley, and the Fellowship (youth group) led by Shane Sooter also take place every Wednesday, 6-7 p.m. A nursery is always provided. For more information on the children's choir, call FBC at 234-2571 or Vicki Powers at 234-3238.

Christmas Parade 2000 set for Dec. 2

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade 2000 is two weeks away. Entry forms for the parade are available at the Chamber Office, 121 N. McCarty. The Chamber would like to invite local civic organizations to have a booth Saturday, Dec. 2. Call the Chamber for a booth application. There is no charge for a booth and it will help put everyone in a festive mood for the coming holiday season. So mark your calendar now to attend the parade.

Christmas pageant scheduled for Dec. 9

Reserve your space to attend the First Baptist Church of Houston Christmas Pageant Dec. 9, matinee performance. Cost is \$16. Space is limited! Please call Carol at 979-282-6090 to reserve your ticket.

'Season of Giving' food drive is Dec. 13

The holidays and "Season of Giving" are right around the corner. Texana MHMR Center is sponsoring a food drive through Dec. 13. Please help make this holiday season a joyous one for those who are less fortunate by donating any non-perishable food items. These items may be taken to any Texana location. For more information, call 281-344-0892 ext. 400.

Christmas social set for Dec. 14

The Senior Friends Christmas Social will be held Thursday, Dec. 14, at the Wharton Civic Center from 3 to 4:30 p.m. It is a come and go event. Please bring 3-4 canned food items for our donation to S.H.A.R.E. Please RSVP for this event by calling Carol Wootton at 979-282-6090.

Garwood-Nada Assoc. holding lighting contest

The Garwood-Nada Community Association is sponsoring a lighting contest. Judging will be held Dec. 7 and winners will be announced Dec. 8. Members of GCA will try to get out and view all the lights in the area, but if you live more than a mile out and want to be judged, please call 758-3249 and leave
(See Newsbriefs, Page 10)

Raiders swamp Madisonville 29-21, are Bi-district Champs!

The Rice Raiders, perhaps the Cinderella team of the 2000 season in 3A, stunned a favored Madisonville Mustang team by a score of 29-21.

Russell Roark's Raider team moves to 9-2 on the season and also garnered a bi-district championship trophy. This is the first time in school history that Rice has won nine or more games in one season.

Madisonville, ranked in the 3A top 10 all season, finishes the season at 9-2.

"We played with a lot of heart tonight. Madisonville had some very talented athletes, but we were able to overcome every obstacle they threw at us. Underwood (a Michigan University signee) and Ford (a Rice University signee) were more talented than any backs we've seen all year. I was proud that our players were able to contain them and keep each of them under 100 yards. These Raiders are a special group of young men," Coach Roark stated.

The game started off strong for the Raiders as their offense took the opening drive 71 yards, capped off by a 14-yard Gerald Williams touchdown.

Fullback Conrad Diggs, who finished the evening with 115 yards, scored the two-point conversion for an 8-0 lead.

Madisonville answered quickly, behind Underwood, to tie the game 8-8 early in the second quarter.

That's when disaster struck for the Raiders. Their punt snapper snapped the ball over punter Patrick Milentz's head and the ball was recovered by the Mustangs in the endzone for a 15-8 Madisonville lead.

Coach Roark added, "At the time, that play was costly as we just gave them seven points without them working to score. But from that point on, we showed great poise in overcoming adversity throughout the second half."

The Raiders answered with five minutes remaining in the half on a six-yard touchdown gallop by Diggs. Ben Ortiz's PAT was blocked and Rice went into the half with a 15-14 deficit.

The second half was owned by the Raiders. The Mustangs fumbled away the first play of the third quarter when junior defensive end Trent Korenek sliced through the line and caused Underwood to fumble.

Rice took full advantage of the turnover two minutes later when quarterback Milentz found Williams wide open in the corner of the endzone for a 20-yard scoring strike.

Ortiz kicked the PAT good for a 21-15 Raider lead.

Their lead was short-lived as Ford marched his troops down the field late in the third quarter.

Ford dialed his own number for a 16-yard scoring run. Rice defenders forced a bad kick to keep the score tied at 21-21.

The score was tied through most of the game.

Just when it looked as though the bi-district championship would be settled in overtime, the Raiders struck gold as Milentz spotted junior wide receiver Adrian Middleton on an in-

credible 38-yard touchdown catch with 1:04 left in the game. Williams added a crucial two-point run to extend the lead to 29-21.

Co-Gatorade Player of the Week Gerald Williams sealed the doom for the Mustangs when he intercepted a Ford pass, thus ending the season for Madisonville.

"This was one terrific high school football game! We fought tooth-and-nail and beat 'em at the wire. I'm super-proud of our players' efforts," said offensive coordinator Ryan Roark.

Williams had one rushing touchdown, one touchdown catch, an interception, one big hit, caused a fumble, had a tackle for a loss, and 11 tackles on the evening.

He, along with Middleton, took Gatorade Player of the Week honors. Middleton had three big catches for 74 yards and a touchdown. He also added on five big tackles and great pass defense.

Offensive Player of the Game honors went to quarterback Patrick Milentz, who was four for five passing for 94 yards and two big touchdown passes. He also won Special Teams Player of the Game honors for averaging 49.5 yards per punt.

Defensive honors were handed out to linebacker Jerry Cleveland. Cleveland had 11 tackles and caused one fumble. Roark applauded Cleveland
(See Raiders, Page 6)



With less than 30 seconds left in the game last Friday against Madisonville, Rice junior free safety Gerald Williams, #22, intercepted a pass from the Mustangs' quarterback to seal the Raiders' 21-29 win to become Bi-District Champions. Escorting Williams down the field are Adrian Middleton, #8, and Jessie Upson, #21. Williams and Middleton shared Gatorade Player of the Week honors. (See Page 6 for additional photos.)

Headlight Photo

'Deputy Santa' is underway

Sheriff R.H. Wied announced the "Deputy Santa Program" is getting underway at the Colorado County Sheriff's Department.

Contacts are currently being made to begin collecting information concerning needy children throughout the Colorado County area.

Last year's "Deputy Santa Program" was an overwhelming success. Over 500 presents were given to the less fortunate children throughout the County. And, you, the citizens of Colorado County, along with many local businesses, donated toys for all ages which were distributed to those needy children, who without your help, would have had a less cheerful holiday season.

Sheriff Wied is striving to make Christmas 2000 an even better year than 1999 by making more contacts and starting earlier, thus allowing plenty of time for the citizens to drop off their toys and get familiar with the "Deputy Santa Program."

The program will be limiting the age of children receiving gifts to those 12 and under.

Anyone wishing to donate items to the "Deputy Santa Program" may drop them off at the Colorado County Detention Center located at 949 Hwy. 90 West in Columbus or at Wal-Mart in Columbus, where a drop box has been placed, for your convenience.

Sheriff Wied said his office will be accepting toys through Dec. 15.

The toys will be wrapped and the gifts will be given by Deputy Santa the week of Dec. 18-22.

Should you have any questions

concerning the "Deputy Santa Program" or contributions, please feel free to contact Karen at 979-732-2388.

Thanks for all of your support.

Sheridan resident killed in auto accident

A traffic accident on Hwy. 90 A at 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, in Rock Island took the life of 25-year-old Tanya Hunnicutt of Sheridan.

Department of Public Safety Trooper Heather Krueger, the investigating officer, reported a vehicle being driven by Charles Davidson was travelling west on 90A while the vehicle driven by Hunnicutt was travelling east in the west bound lane.

Davidson tried to avoid the accident and went onto the west bound

shoulder. Hunnicutt also swerved to the west bound shoulder. Both swerved back into the highway, skidded out of control and impacted at the center stripe.

The Davidson vehicle came to rest facing south on the highway and Hunnicutt's vehicle came to rest on the east bound shoulder.

Hunnicutt was wearing a seatbelt. Davidson was reportedly not seriously injured in the accident.

Holiday traffic may encounter problems

All traffic on U.S. 59 in Victoria County is being routed onto the southbound lanes at the Guadalupe River because of construction. A two-lane detour is in place instead of the usual four-lane divided roadway.

With the heavy holiday traffic along this route, a possible delay may occur.

FM 457 in Matagorda County has

an unsurfaced section approximately one mile long near Sargent. Motorists are urged to reduce their speed through this section.

Motorists should also use caution if the weather is wet on southbound U.S. 77 in Refugio County. Problems have occurred on the stretch of roadway from two miles south of S.H. 239
(See Traffic, Page 10)

Raiders take on Newton Friday

The Rice Raiders will travel to Huntsville Friday, Nov. 24, and take on the Newton Eagles for the Region III Area Championships at Sam Houston State University's Bowers Field in Huntsville. (See map on Page 6.)

The game will kick off at 7:30 p.m. Newton will be the home team and the Raiders will occupy the visitors side. Bowers Field is an astroturf field which holds in excess of 15,000 fans.

Come see the Raiders Friday night and cheer them to victory. The "glass slipper" looks good on the Raiders.

Raider Send-off!!

Raider fans... meet this Friday at 1:30 p.m. to send the Rice Raiders off to the Area Championship game against Newton.

The team's buses will come through downtown Eagle Lake (Main Street).

So bring pom-poms, noisemakers and your Raider spirit!

EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department (ELPD) reported the following calls and cases for the week ending Nov. 21.

On Nov. 14, at 10 a.m., Sgt. Tim Crume received a phone call from Detective Stone of the Ft. Bend County Sheriff's Department fugitive division. Stone advised Crume that Dewey Bluntson had an outstanding felony warrant for motion to revoke probation. Crume and Officer Wendy Alley located Bluntson at 193 Beard St. and arrested him on the warrant.

Bluntson was transported to the ELPD for processing and later to the Colorado County Detention Center (CCDC) for confinement.

At 4:38 p.m., a male subject called the police department. Officer Alley took a report of a possible assault family violence over the phone.

On Nov. 15, at 4:37 p.m., Officer Alley was dispatched to 903 Church St. in reference to some juveniles shooting a B-B gun. The juveniles were contacted as wells their parents.

At 5:42 p.m., Officer Alley conducted a welfare check at a residence
(See Police, Page 10)