

Sept. is National Rice Month

Rice will be "Growing on America" in Sept. as retail, foodservice and grassroots promotions begin to run across the country putting rice in the spotlight. This Sept. will mark the 11th annual National Rice Month celebration. This event was established in 1991 by a presidential proclamation to increase awareness of rice and recognize the contribution made by the U.S. rice industry to America's economy.

The popularity of rice continues to grow in the U.S. Rice consumption in the U.S. has (See Rice, Page 8)

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NEWSBRIEFS

Senior Citizen's Dance is Friday

The public is invited to a Senior Citizen's Dance, a place to meet old and new friends, Friday, Sept. 7, 8-11 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Music will be provided by Tim Kulhanek. Admission is \$5 per person. For more information, call 979-234-3795.

'Re-tire a tire' clean-up is Saturday

The "Friends of Main Street" community-wide "Re-tire A Tire" clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in front of City Hall. Standard size car tires without rims will be accepted for \$1.25 each. Larger tires and/or tires with rims will be accepted for a higher fee. For more information, call the Main Street Office at 979-234-6933.

Rice Project Graduation meeting is Sept. 10

Make plans to attend the Rice Project Graduation meeting on Monday, Sept. 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Rice High School commons area. Hope to see you there!

RMC health screen is Sept. 11

Rice Medical Center (RMC) will hold the monthly health screen on the second Tuesday of the month, Sept. 11. Blood sugar, cholesterol, lipid, hemoglobins, thyroid and PSA screens will be offered at reduced prices. Blood will be drawn between 7:30 and 9 a.m. Please call the hospital laboratory for an appointment, 979-234-5571. Tests will be more useful to your doctor if a 12-14 hours fast is observed (water is OK).

Civic Garden Club meeting is Sept. 10

The Civic Garden Club of Eagle Lake will begin its new club year with a luncheon meeting Monday, Sept. 10 at 11:30 a.m. The membership fee is \$25 per year and supports landscaping of public areas. For more information please call Heyln Farris at 234-2598.

ELPS PTO meeting is Sept. 18

The Eagle Lake Primary School (ELPS) PTO will hold its monthly meeting at the ELPS cafeteria Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 6:30 p.m. All interested parents are invited to attend.

Study Club meeting is Sept. 12

The Eagle Lake Study Club will hold its monthly meeting Wednesday, Sept. 12, at 2 p.m. at Wintermann Library. The program to be narrated by Betty Wegenhoft and Bob Wilcox is "Exploring the Wintermann Library". Visitors and prospective members are invited to attend.

Main Street meeting is Sept. 10

The Main Street Eagle Lake Advisory Board will meet Monday, Sept. 10, at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. The Friends of Main Street will meet immediately following the advisory board meeting at approximately 7 p.m. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Senior Friends meeting is Friday

The Senior Friends Sept. monthly meeting will be held Friday, Sept. 7, in the Gulf Coast Medical Center classrooms at 11:30 a.m. Please bring your favorite meat, vegetable, casserole, dessert, etc. for the covered dish luncheon. There will be a program on "Coping with Depression". RSVP by calling Carol at 979-282-6090 or Robin at 282-6808.

CAD office to close for computer training

The Colorado County Central Appraisal District (CAD) is installing a new computer system. In order to do this, the office will be closed Sept. 11 and 12 and Sept. 18 and 19 so the staff will be able to receive maximum benefit from the training made available. Please plan any business with the CAD around these dates. They apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Rotary Club needs your help

When Hurricane Mitch struck the Latin American country of Nicaragua, 11,000 people lost their lives. Since then, survivors have been faced with the monumental task of rebuilding their country. They've been able to plant and harvest a crop using small hand tools. A grand accomplishment, but not near enough to sustain them. The Rotary Club of Eagle Lake has taken on the project of supplying two tractors, one 8-foot disk and a tank mounted on skids to carry diesel. We're hoping to have these items donated, work with the local high school FFA to refurbish the equipment and then ship it to the farmers in Nicaragua. If you have any of this equipment and are willing to make such a donation (tax deductible), please contact Rev. Bill Ramsey in Lissie at 979-234-2112 or 234-3779.

Triglyceride/cholesterol screenings scheduled

The monthly triglyceride/cholesterol screenings will be done Wednesday, Sept. 12, and Wednesday, Oct. 10, from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Gulf Coast Medical Center Lab. PSA screens for men will also be done Wednesday, Oct. 10, from 7 to 9 a.m. Schedule your appointment by calling the lab at 979-282-6110.

'Pink Ladies' Games Party is Sept. 11

The Rice Medical Center (RMC) Auxiliary, the "Pink Ladies" are having their annual Games Party fund raiser Tuesday, Sept. 11, in the fellowship hall of the United Methodist Church from 2 to 5 p.m. Come play dominoes, Canasta, Phase 10, Skip-Bo or bring your favorite game. There will be a bake sale, along with a pink elephant sale. Come and enjoy the fellowship. Tickets are \$5; light refreshments will be served. Tickets are available from Pink Ladies or in the gift shop at RMC. This will also be the first showing of the "Girls on the Go" tennis player 18-inch doll, complete with a wardrobe. The doll and wardrobe have been donated by Betty Wilcox. Tickets are \$1 each. The drawing for the doll will be held Dec. 6, just in time for Christmas. Tickets for the doll will be available at the games party first, then from Pink Ladies or in the gift shop.

Fair Parade scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 15

Entries are being sought for the 23rd Annual Colorado County Fair Parade to be held Saturday, Sept. 15, beginning at 10:30 a.m. in downtown Columbus. First, second and third place ribbons will be given in each category. A special rosette "Best Overall" will be awarded the most outstanding entry. Anyone not having received an entry form in the mail may pick one up at Gibson's Muffler, 318 Walnut (Hwy. 90) in Columbus. Entry forms and additional information are also available by calling Parade Chairman Wade Gibson at 979-732-6345 or 732-8718. The deadline to enter the parade is Tuesday, Sept. 11, no exceptions.

Does your child have a special need?

Do you have a child or know of a child age birth through 21 years old who you feel may have a special need? Please contact the Weimar/Rice Consolidated ISD Educational Cooperative at 979-732-6478. Let's work together toward that child's future.

Friendship Baptist Church to install pastor

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church will hold an installation service for (See Newsbriefs, Page 8)

Raider varsity wins by distasteful forfeit

On Friday morning of Rice's football season opener, the Raiders got a tainted victory.

The Hallettsville Brahmas, who were to be the Raiders opening game opponents, refused to come to Altair to play.

After Head Coach Russell Roark, Principal Michael Lanier and Dr. Richard Gott did everything in their power to play the contest, Hallettsville administrators decided they wanted to forfeit.

Rice players, coaches and fans were obviously disappointed.

According to the U.I.L., Hallettsville, because of their unwillingness to attempt to play, was forced to forfeit in what goes down in the official books as a 2-0 Raider victory. Rice's record goes to a strange 1-0, while the Brahmas of Hallettsville fall to 0-1.

Coach Roark said, "This is disappointing to our kids, coaches and our entire community. It counts as a win, but it doesn't feel very satisfying."

"I was extremely disheartened at the way they (Hallettsville) were not willing to bend or be flexible to the possibility of a forfeit." (See Varsity, Page 6)



Members of the 2001 Rice Raider varsity football team at the time of this picture were, in front, from left, Charles Huffman, Tyreance Dabney, Ronnie Vasquez, Andrew Varley, Jess Little, Michael Spears and Ricky Cunningham. In the second row, Coach Shannon Permenter, Conrad Diggs, Garrett Cranek, Zach Kloss, Kevin Shimek, Adrian Espinosa, Garrett Flores, Michael Cooper and Jamie Hutchison.

In the third row are Coach Mike Sharp, Jason Ishee, Danté Fuller, Patrick Milentz, Jason Godley, Lance Bittner, Nick Sharp, Gerald Williams, Jerry Cleveland, Bennie Glover and Coach Trent Tritschler. In back are Coaches Ryan and Russell Roark, Jessie Upson, Adrian Middleton, Norris Powell, Quentin Whitfield, Jason Barrow, Trent Korenek, Jermal Wright and Coaches Brad Dumont and Mark Pustejovsky. Not pictured were Coach Frank Andreas and Ben Ortiz.

Photo Courtesy of Rice Athletic Department

COUNCILMAN'S CORNER

By Alderman Paul A. Kucherka

Eagle Lake Mayor Michael Cooper called the Aug. 28 City Council meeting to order.

Guests recognized included Main Street Director Venetta Seals, Friends of Main Street President Lesley Carey, Richard and Betty Lewis and Russell Dispart.

Carey addressed Council on the tire disposal fund-raiser set for Saturday, Sept. 8. The Friends of Main Street requested a truck be parked in front of City Hall that day to load tires for disposal at a recycler in Baytown.

For a price of \$1.25 per tire, you can dispose of a standard P235/15 tire or smaller. Larger tires will be charged accordingly.

Funds raised will continue the incentive grants for beautification of Main Street CBD.

Carey also said an advertisement with the Eagle Lake Main Street's new logo appeared in Texas Monthly Magazine.

Council approved Friends of Main

Street's request.

Council approved Colorado County Appraisal District's request to offer two properties at a County Sheriff's sale for an opening bid of half of the original tax debt.

Council also approved change order #1 to Texas Department of Health Grant. This is a grant for the City's fluoride upgrade to the water plants. The City is now granted up to \$26,000 for the upgrade instead of the previous \$21,000 limit.

Council approved the renewal of the City's contract with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. This contract with the State of the City's inspection of each new manufactured home that is installed within the City. The previous contract expired Aug. 31, 2001.

Council discussed the City's quarterly budget and where it stands as far as budgeted vs. actual. It was reported that, overall, the City is running a little (See Council, Page 8)



Time for the Auction!

Marcy's Beauty Salon donated a variety of Vital Nutrients hair products to the Study Club Auction. They are pictured with a variety of rice, donated by Henry and Alice Sunderman.

Headlight Photo by Carol Nelson

Youth Rodeo is added to County Fair

A new addition to the Colorado County Fair 2001 list of activities will be a Youth Rodeo Sunday, Sept. 16 at 10 a.m., sponsored by the Dymond H Rodeo Company of Katy.

Events include, for ages three and under, stick horse barrel racing and goat ribbon pulling.

A second age group of stick horse barrels and goat ribbon pulling will be held for four and five year olds. Winner in each of these age groups will receive trophies.

A mutton busting will spotlight youths five years old and younger.

For six to nine year olds, events include bareback riding, junior bulls, goat ribbon pulling, breakaway roping, poles, cloverleaf barrels, figure 8 barrels and chute roping.

Youth 10 to 14 will compete in senior bulls, poles, cloverleaf barrels, figure 8 barrels and tie down roping.

Frontier buckles will be given to mutton busting champion and all age groups six through 14 years of age.

Fees to enter the events are \$10 per event for five years old and under; \$20 an event for six to nine year olds; and \$30 for those 10 to 14 years of age.

For more information about the Youth Rodeo, contact stock producer, Dean Huff, at 281-371-2581 or Mark Robinson at 979-732-6413.

COLORADO COUNTY FAIR NEWS

The 2001 edition of the Colorado County Fair will get underway with the 23rd Annual Fair Queens Pageant to be held Saturday, Sept. 8, at the Columbus High School Auditorium.

The event will begin at 7 p.m. with the Junior Queens Contest, followed by the Queens Pageant immediately after.

Reigning 2000 Fair Queen Brandy Tuck, daughter of Travis & Beverly Tuck of Columbus, and 2000 Junior Fair Queen Megan Bloecher, daughter of Gerald and Sharon Bloecher of Columbus, will be on hand to crown their successors.

The new Fair Queens will be chosen from a field of 13 young ladies who have entered from across the county.

The contestant selected Fair Queen by an out-of-county panel of judges will receive the \$1,000 Leslie Schmidt Heard Memorial Scholarship.

The contestant who sells the most advance Season Passes and Life Memberships to the Fair will be named Membership Queen. She will receive a \$2,000 scholarship and a Life Membership in the Fair Association.

The sales winner will be crowned by 1998 membership Queen Mindy Mazoch, daughter of Henry & Lana Mazoch of Cat Spring.

Carl Geisler of Columbus will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

Music at the piano will be provided by Paige Helms of Columbus.

Luane Schindler, also of Columbus, has arranged for several entertainers to perform during the evening.

Pamela Potter of Columbus is pageant director. Members of the pageant committee include Tracy Oli-

varez and Doreen Alexander of Columbus, Deborah Hayward of Weimar and Diana Brunner of Eagle Lake.

The theme for this year's pageant will be "Fantasy Under the Sea".

The public is invited out Saturday evening to see which of the following contestants will take home the titles for 2001: from the Columbus area, for queen: Stacy Markwardt, daughter of Steven & Lucy Markwardt, sponsor, Triangle Electronics; Kaylee Robinson, daughter of Mark & Sandra Robinson, SDM Cattle Co.; Hilary Stavinocha, daughter of Gary & Patricia Stavinocha, Quality Electronics; Michele Wostarek, daughter of Mike & Dorothy Wostarek, Potter's Western Store.

For Junior Queen: April Linkhart, daughter of Dean & Ruthie Linkhart, Home Detailers; Heather Stavinocha, daughter of Gary & Patricia Stavinocha, Brown Enterprises; from Weimar for Queen: Kelli Grunewald, daughter of Raymond & Evelyn Grunewald, Ken Kram, State Farm Insurance; Ashlie Hall, daughter of Anna Koehn, The Phoenix; Jacqueline Novak, daughter of Andy & Vicky Novak, Torres II Barber Shop; For junior Queen: Lauren Berger, daughter of Kenneth & Mary Jane Berger, Prime Industries Inc.; Megan Howard, daughter of Shelley Howard, M-G, Inc.; and Tiffany Nelson, daughter of Mike & Theresa Nelson, Columbus Autoplex; from Garwood, for Queen: Brittany Waligura, daughter of Boudreaux & Sandra Waligura, Texana Seed.

The Colorado County Fair is getting into full swing with everyone working hard to assure this year's Fair will be another great success. The Fair will be held for the second year at the new fairgrounds, just northwest of

Columbus.

If you have not been to the new facilities, we would like to invite you to come out and see what has been accomplished with the hard work of the Ag Complex and Fair Committees.

Not only does it take the hard work of these committees, it also takes months of hard work from the exhibitors who spent countless hours working with their projects. These young people are learning what responsibility is and how much dedication and hard work it takes to raise an animal no matter what it is.

This years show is going to be the largest show ever with close to 200 exhibits including 12 market steers, 17 commercial heifers, five pen of three heifers, 22 open heifers, 43 market goats, 62 market hogs, 19 market lambs, 19 broiler pens, 12 single rabbits, 13 fryer rabbit pens and 21 breeding rabbits.

The work begins prior to March for many of the exhibitors and is not complete until the animal is sold in Sept.

Each and every one of these exhibitors are proud of what they have done and hopefully feel that they have learned something and are looking forward to learning even more in years to come.

With the support of the community, they will be able to fulfill a dream in which they may have.

This year's Fair will be held Sept. 13-16, with animal weigh-ins on Thursday afternoon. The Bull and Barrel Bash held in the rodeo arena at 7:30 p.m. and music by Stephen Brown under the pavilion at 8 p.m.

On Friday morning, the schedule of events starts at 7 a.m. with the (See Fair, Page 8)