

P.E. Players prepare for dinner theater

The Prairie Edge Players announce the dates for their newest production, *He Done Her Wrong or Wedded But No Wife!*

A melodrama by Anita Bell, the play will be performed in a dinner theater setting at the Prairie Edge Museum two nights, Friday, Nov. 9, and again on Saturday, Nov. 10.

The dinner, which will be catered by the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department, will be served at 7 p.m. each night with curtain time at 8.

"Mark these dates on your calendar," said Director Vicki Powers. "You won't want to miss this one!"

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NEWSBRIEFS

Lake Lumber to hold benefit

Lake Lumber, 200 Glen Flora Rd. in Eagle Lake, will be selling patriotic t-shirts for \$10 each, \$5 of which will go to the American Red Cross. T-shirts were scheduled to arrive Wednesday, Sept. 19. This national event is sponsored by Ace Hardware.

RMC Golf Classic is Saturday

The Rice Medical Center (RMC) Golf Classic is this Saturday, Sept. 22. There are still a few slots available. If you're not a golfer, the RMC Employee Volunteers are selling broiler burger lunches from Austin's at the golf course for \$6. Please call Noble at 234-5571 before Sunday to register or to buy a lunch ticket. Meals and golf entries are limited.

Student Council blood drive is Sept. 25

The 2001 Fall Blood Drive sponsored by the Rice High School (RHS) Student Council will be held Tuesday, Sept. 25, in the RHS gym from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you're at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds, you may be eligible to give "the Gift of Life". For more information or to set up an appointment, contact Lee Politsch at 234-3535. Thank you for your continued support.

Hunter education home study course scheduled

A Texas Parks and Wildlife Hunter Education Home Study Class will be held in Eagle Lake Sunday, Sept. 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration fee is \$5 per person. For more information, call Dr. Harold Cramer at 713-668-9434.

Study Club needs auction donations

The Eagle Lake Study Club is gearing up for the Annual Study Club Auction scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 27. The Club asks you get your donations to them as soon as possible. For more information, contact Study Club President Fair Wells, Betty Wilcox or any committee member. Or, you may even take your donations to the library. Thank you in advance for your support.

CCA meeting is Oct. 4

Combined Community Action Inc. will hold its board of directors meeting Thursday, Oct. 4, in Sealy at 6:30 p.m. at the Silver Lake Retirement Center. The public is invited to attend.

Raider Booster Club meeting is Sept. 24

The Rice Raider Athletic Booster Club will hold a meeting Monday, Sept. 24, at 7 p.m. in the commons at the high school. All Raider fans are urged to attend.

Joe Scruggs in concert at ELMS

Eagle Lake Primary School's (ELPS) PTO proudly invites everyone to an evening of fun with music by Joe Scruggs. Mark your calendars for Thursday, Oct. 4, at 7 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Middle School cafeteria. Admission is \$3 for all children, \$6 for adults. For more information, call Lydia Contreras at 234-3239.

Legion flag disposal set for Sept. 25

The Eagle Lake American Legion Post #108 will hold its annual flag disposal ceremony Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 6:30 p.m. at the City Park Gazebo. In case of inclement weather, it will be moved to the cover of the Community Center. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Flags which are no longer serviceable may be turned in for disposal at this time at the following businesses: Wallis State Bank, A.J. Struss Auto Supply, The Furniture Shoppe or the Prairie Edge Museum.

Rice Project Graduation meeting is Oct. 15

The monthly Rice Project Graduation meeting will be held Monday, Oct. 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Rice High School (RHS) commons area. RHS seniors and their parents are invited to attend.

Chamber to host County Attorney Sparks Sept. 26

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce will be hosting Colorado County Attorney Ken Sparks, who will speak on "Hot Check Writing" Wednesday, Sept. 26, at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. The seminar will update merchants on the proper procedure for avoiding and handling hot checks.

St. Paul BBQ is Sept. 23

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Wallis will hold its annual chicken barbecue and LWML Country Store Sunday, Sept. 23, at the Wallis American Legion Hall. A short worship service will be held by Pastor Ray Spitzenberger in the hall at 9 a.m.; serving starts at 11 a.m. Plates are \$6 and include half a chicken, potatoes, green beans, slaw, bread, trimmings and a drink.

Marriage seminar is Sept. 28-29 in Sealy

All couples are invited to attend a very special marriage seminar, "Journey To Intimacy", at Sealy Assembly Word and Worship Center Sept. 28-29. International guest speakers are Tom and Crystal Smith of Modesto, California. Call 979-885-3113 to pre-register for the cost of \$55 couple, \$40 per person. After Sept. 28, the cost will be \$65 per couple; \$50 per person.

TSA hosting Fall Fund Raiser

Each year, the program and activities for the Texas Sportsman's Association (TSA) Fall Fund Raiser just seem to be bigger and better than the year before. We are sure this year will be no exception. The event will be held Sunday, Sept. 23, at the Firemen's Hall in Industry. The co-chairmen for this year's event are L.J. and Doris Rinn. They will be assisted by the members of the Austin County Chapter of TSA... those people really know how to plan for a good time!

The featured speaker of the day will be Dan Byfield who serves as President of the American Land Foundation (ALF), a private non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of Constitutional principles, especially property rights and liberty. With the assistance of the Farm Credit Bank of Texas, the ALF was created in 1994.

Currently, this organization is assisting Austin resident Fred Purcell

who owns 216 acres west of Austin, valued at \$60 million. The problem is the land is virtually useless because of rulings by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in enforcing the Endangered Species Act. Purcell's property has several dozens sink holes that according to the government contain six different supposedly endangered species of scorpions, beetles and spiders.

Byfield reports that it has taken years for the right case to come along, where a lawsuit like this could be filed challenging Congress' authority to regulate private property under the Endangered Species Act. So far, he said they are pleased with the progress they are making. He'll bring us all up to date on this matter, as well as other activities of their organization and how these matters may impact TSA.

It seems clear that when the government is allowed to violate our rights in one area and get away with it, then none of our rights are safe. We are

all aware that our Second amendment rights are constantly under attack by those who would blame guns for crimes, rather than the criminals. We believe Byfield's presentation will be of special interest to all TSA members and to all property owners.

There will be a delicious meal of chicken fried steak, for a cost of \$6. Children under the age of six are free.

The big auction should get underway at approximately 1:30 p.m. and will offer a lot of excitement. There are items of interest for all ages and both men and women.

There will also be a silent auction conducted.

The final event and highlight of the day is the drawing for prizes. This year's list includes seven different rifles and shotguns, including a youth model. There will be a scope, a quilt and other fine prizes including savings bonds and gift certificates.

(See Event, Page 8)

Bountiful Journey

By Philip Soto Jr.

*Today they chose to journey on high,
Holding their destination forms in hand;
Had they known the forthcoming disaster in the sky,
Surely they would have traveled by land.*

*They perished needlessly in the face of terror,
In the hands of terrorists was their fate;
These innocent lives we will remember forever,
And with God to guide us we will choose not to hate.*

*For if we embrace vengeance and hate within our life,
And allow it to grow and spread like fire;
There would be more deaths and strife,
The consequences would surely be dire.*

*Let's all come together and pray for those who have died,
And offer our help and compassion to those who express grief;
We will ask God that in our hearts He'll abide,
And from this evil act He will grant them relief.*

*We pray for the other lives that were also lost this day,
While going through their daily routine;
And all those who helped throughout the turmoil and dismay,
Not concerned for themselves should they intervene.*

*May God bless all whose lives have been altered,
May you find the strength to journey on;
Do not be deterred by those who have faltered,
On your bountiful journey with God, on whom we rely upon.*

Philip Soto of Eagle Lake wrote this poem and requested we share it with the community after the tragedy that took place Tuesday, Sept. 11.

Oct. 27 is the day!

The day of what? The 22nd Annual Study Club Auction! In the last 21 years, this fund raiser has produced more than \$316,000 for the support of the Eula and David Wintermann Library.

Through the years, there have been beautiful gift items, delicious dinner parties and lots of fun items sold to the generous participants from this area.

The evening will start with the Volunteer Firemen's Stew Supper from 5 to 7 p.m. The Fire Department's Auxiliary will have desserts for the sweet tooth. The Study Club Bakery Booth will open at 5 p.m. with goodies of all sorts for the coming holidays. Come and check out all the

great cooks' contributions.

From 5 to 7, the Silent Auction will be open for bidding with a number of unique items donated for the auction this year. Club members have created some unusual basket gifts that should please any buyer.

At 7 p.m., Joe Herbert McCreary will pound his gavel and begin the night's exciting main auction.

Plan to spend Oct. 27 supporting your Firemen and Library.



Birds of a Feather Flock Together is a gift basket for quiet moments by the fire, donated by Betty Wilcox.



Betty also wants you to be Waiting for Santa Claus with this gift basket containing Christmas cards, a book of poetry, coffee, cocoa and candles.



The nation mourns

Eagle Lake joined the nation in mourning and showing its patriotism by lining the streets downtown with flags along with red, white and blue streamers tied to all the old parking meter poles after the terrorists attacks on the East Coast last Tuesday, Sept. 11.

Headlight Photo

Raiders trounce Brazos, 28-0

The state-ranked Rice Raiders traveled to Wallis Friday night and left the field recording their third shutout in an impressive 28-0 victory.

The Cougars of Brazos, ranked in every 2A top 20 poll and some polls in the top 10, weren't even allowed to gasp for air as the stifling Raider defense held them to 19 yards of total offense in the game.

As a matter of fact, the Cougars had negative yardage until their final drive of the game when Rice was freely substituting in reserves. The "Band of Brothers" Raider defense frustrated Cougar quarterback Patrick Oliver into only three yards passing and MINUS 34 yards rushing.

Coach Brad Dumont, defensive coordinator said, "We played solid defense all night. They got frustrated with our defensive quickness. The good thing is, we had another shutout, and we still have lots of room for improvement. I'm proud of our kids' effort on both sides of the ball."

Raider Head Coach Russell Roark agreed, "Our effort and intensity level was much better than last week. Brazos is no pushover. They'll be in the playoffs again this year, mark my word. They just had trouble handling our physicalness on offense and our explosiveness on defense."

Scoring touchdowns for the Raiders offensively were Conrad Diggs, one-yard run; Jessie Upson, 39-yard

reverse; Gerald Williams, 12-yard run; and Patrick Milentz, two-yard run.

Jerry Cleveland added a two-point conversion and Ben Ortiz added two PAT kicks to "boot".

Diggs, a senior fullback, toted the pigskin for 125 yards with 80 coming in the second half. Williams and Upson rushed for 59 and 55 yards respectively. Michael Spears chipped in 17 rushing and Milentz added 10.

Junior signal-caller Milentz had another fine game throwing the ball. He was five of 10 passing for 82 yards, and again, no interceptions. Jason Barrow had a breakout game with three catches for 66 yards and Ortiz pitched in one catch for 10 yards.

The defense was led by senior line-backer Cleveland and Jermal Wright. Each had 11 tackles and Cleveland caused two caused as well as having a fumble recovery.

Roark recognized Cleveland as Defensive Player of the Week. Also having strong games on defense was tackle Eddie Glover with four stops. Spears had five tackles, including two big sacks. Quentin Whitfield had five tackles and a sack. Williams had five tackles, one for a loss.

Outside linebacker Danté Fuller was also credited with six tackles and a fumble recovery that almost went for a touchdown. Jess Little, Trent Korenek, Ortiz, and Adrian Middleton also

played well for the Raider defense.

Senior guard Garrett Cranek, filling in for Lance Bittner who suffered a season-ending leg injury, was given game ball honors for an outstanding job on blocking. Cranek graded out extremely well in Bittner's absence.

Roark gave the special teams award to the entire punt and punt return team for an excellent job in executing all night.

The Mighty 3-0 Raiders, yet to play at home this season, take to the road again this Friday for a 7:30 p.m. showdown with Colorado County rival Columbus.

It is Columbus' homecoming and the Raiders are looking to spoil their celebration.

The Raiders put it to the Cardinals last season 42-12 and the Cardinals, under new Coach Monte Althans will be looking for sweet revenge.

On the other hand, the Raiders are looking for a fourth consecutive win, hopefully all by shutout.

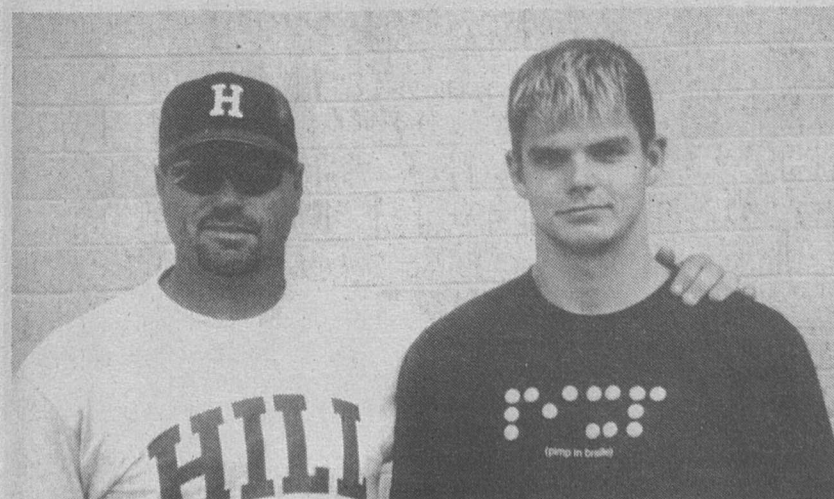
Refuge tour route still closed

Personnel at the Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge were forced to close the refuge's five-mile auto tour route this month for visitor safety. A large washout occurred on the route's north side after heavy rains received during the last couple of weeks.

The tour route was closed during most of the summer so that surface and drainage improvements could be made to about half of it. This work was completed in late Aug. and the tour route opened for less than a week before the area received heavy rains.

Refuge personnel are working with the contractor who did the work to have him return to fix this washout. How long it will take to rectify this problem is unknown. Refuge Manager Terry Rossignol said, "Hopefully, we can have the route opened again soon, but no date has been set."

For more information about the refuge or an update on the status of the tour route should call 979-234-3021.



Baird to play for Hills College

Adam Baird, a 2001 graduate of Rice High School and the son of Carolyn and David Baird of Eagle Lake, is pictured with Coach Pat Woods of Hills College in Hillsboro, Texas, where Adam will be playing baseball this year for the Hill College Rebels.

Photo Courtesy of Carolyn Baird