



Halloween curfew set for 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 23, the Eagle Lake City Council passed a resolution, which temporarily modifies the City Curfew Ordinance to include an 8 p.m. Halloween curfew for Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2001.
All public Halloween activities, including trick-or-treating, will cease by 8 p.m.

Eagle Lake Headlight

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NEWSBRIEFS

Booster Club selling Raider flags

Just in time for the playoffs, the Rice Raider Booster Club is selling Rice Raider car window flags for \$12 each. Call Marla Cranek today at 979-758-3625 to reserve your flag.

Order your 2002 yearbook Nov. 6-8

Orders will be taken for the 2002 Yearbook next week Nov. 6-8 during A, B and C lunches. A \$15 down payment or the full \$30 may be paid to reserve a book. If a student reserves a book next week, they will be guaranteed three pictures in the Student Life section. No extra books will be ordered so reserve your copy NOW!!

WCBC to celebrate 35th anniversary

White Cloud Baptist Church (WCBC) welcomes the community to share in the 35th anniversary celebration for Rev. and Sis. Obie Rhodes, Sunday, Nov. 4 at 3 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. Guy Washington of Greater Peace Christian Church in Austin. Pre-services begin Thursday, Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m. with Rev. Kenneth Wicks, pastor of New Home Baptist Church in Garwood and other churches present; on Friday, Nov. 2 at 7:30 p.m. with Rev. C.E. Drayden, speaker, Little Zion Jerusalem Baptist Church in Hungerford along with other churches.

Community trade day is Nov. 10

First United Methodist Church, 1001 Ave. I in El Campo is sponsoring Community Trade Day on Saturday, Nov. 10 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. A fun-filled day is scheduled complete with a silent auction, children's area, door prizes, concession stands, as well as over 50 booths with various items for sale. A hamburger luncheon will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for \$5 a plate. Call Charlene at 979-543-3593 to purchase meal tickets. Booth space is available by calling Karen at 543-7486, rent for as low as \$20. Don't miss out on this chance to make some extra cash or buy some unique items at this family event.

Let's paint the town BLUE!

The Rice Raiders football team is 9-0 with one district game left and they're headed for the playoffs. The Lady Raiders volleyball team is also in the playoffs, too! Show your support by tying blue and white streamers on your car antenna and around your business entrance; paint your windows with messages; and/or put "Go Raiders" on your marquee (like Dairy Delite). Let's rally around our young athletes and enjoy their success!

Kunz benefit scheduled for Nov. 10

A benefit for Donna Kunz will be held at the New Ulm Firemen's Park Saturday, Nov. 10. A noon meal of chili, rice, cornbread with tea will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for a donation of \$5 per person. All proceeds will go toward medical expenses. Music will be provided by Donnie Wavra from 12:30-4:30 p.m. The auction begins at 1 p.m. Children's activities will be available. In the evening a "Womanless Doll Pageant" will be held, sponsored by the New Ulm Lions Club. Ending the day, dance to the music by Midnight Express from 6-10 p.m. Tickets at the door are \$5 per person. Anyone wishing to make a donation of any kind may call or contact Irene Wavra at 979-992-3622; Helen Supak, 979-234-2903; Ruth Kunz, 979-732-3389; or Dorothy Wostarek, 979-733-9688. Donna is the niece of Helen Supak of Eagle Lake.

Thrift Shop open Saturday

The Prairie Edge Museum Thrift Shop will be open Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Stop on by. You never know what you'll find at the Thrift Shop.

White Cloud to hold bake sale

The White Cloud Baptist Church Pastor's Aide Committee will hold a bake sale this Saturday, Nov. 3, at B&B Food and Eagle Lake Supermarket starting at 9 a.m. They thank you in advance for your support.

Study Club meeting is Nov. 14

The Eagle Lake Study Club will hold its monthly meeting Wednesday, Nov. 14, at 2 p.m. All interested persons are asked to meet at 110 E. Stockbridge (the home of Richard and Betty Lewis) to tour the restored McCarty Homes.

Country music show fundraiser is Nov. 10

The Colorado County Firefighters Association fundraiser special Country Music Show is set for Saturday, Nov. 10, at 7:30 p.m. at Oaks Theater, 715 Walnut, Columbus. Come hear plenty of talented singers and the Texas Sagebrush Band. Miss Columbus 2001 Katie Barta and 2001 County Fair Queen Kellie Grunewald will make an appearance. Proceeds will be used to assist to help pay to train firefighters and purchasing equipment for all nine Colorado County Fire Departments. Advance tickets are available at Columbus Butane, the Colorado County Citizen or at the door the day of the show. Lots of door prizes will be given away. Y'all Come!

WCJC holding registration

Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) will hold their Spring 2002 registration by appointment Nov. 1-30 and Jan. 7-10. Call or drop by the campus registration office near you for a spring registration appointment. Call the following campuses to schedule an appointment: Wharton Campus, El Campo, Bay City, 979-532-6303; Sugar Land, 281-243-8410; Fort Bend Technical Center, 281-239-1544.

Cat show is Nov. 3, 4

The Brazos Valley Cat Club will host its annual CFA Charity Pedigreed Cat Show Nov. 3 and 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ft. Bend County Fairgrounds, Hall C, in Rosenberg. Over 200 pedigreed cats from among 35 registered breeds will participate. Pedigreed kittens of many breeds will be on sale. Cat related merchandise vendors will be there to provide supplies, food and Christmas (See Newsbriefs, Page 5)



WEEKLY MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING REPORT

The following report is produced for Texas Parks and Wildlife by Bink Grines. (Updated Oct. 24.)

Prairie ponds in El Campo, Garwood, Eagle Lake and Altair had adequate ducks to hunt for the Oct. 27 opener. Pintails, shovellers, gadwalls and teal should make up the bulk of the strap that weekend.

Hunters should get the occasional shot at specklebellies if the weather permits. Strong concentrations of

white-fronted geese have been using roost ponds and rice fields for the last two weeks. A few sightings of snow geese have been reported; however, large concentrations needed for a successful hunt remain on staging grounds to the north.

The upcoming Nov. 1 full moon and forecasted fronts should push new migrants to the area.

Snows could arrive any day. Prospects were fair to good for the opener.

Lady Raiders advance in playoffs

The Lady Raider varsity volleyball team has advanced to the next round of the playoffs by defeating the Madisonville Lady Mustangs Tuesday

night in Brenham in straight sets, 16-14, 15-5.

Madisonville now has a record of 21-12. The Lady Raiders are 19-15.

The Ladies' next opponent will be the team from Kountze, who carry a record of 28-5.

The game will be at 7 p.m. this

Thursday night, Nov. 1, at Crosby High School.

Go, Lady Raiders!!

Rice Raiders smash Stafford 69-8

The Rice Raiders football team closed their home schedule for the 2001 season in fine fashion with a 69-8 white-washing of the Stafford Spartans.

In a 24-3A district contest that had 10 different Raiders scoring points, everything seemed to click for the unbeaten Rice squad.

While the high-octane Raider offense was busy scoring a school-record 10 touchdowns, the stifling Rice defense smothered the Spartan offense, holding them to under 100 yards.

The "Soldiers of Swamp" ripped through the Spartan defense for an electrifying 520 yards of total offense.

Leading the way for the Raiders was a potent rushing attack led by senior fullback Conrad Diggs. Diggs pounded his way to 189 yards on 18 carries, along with three touchdowns. Diggs also eclipsed the 1,000 yard mark for the second straight season with 1,174 yards so far this year.

Paving the way for Diggs and company were offensive linemen Norris Powell, Adrian Espinosa, Ronnie Vasquez, Garrett Cranek, Kevin Shimek and tightend Nick Sharp.

Also plowing through the Spartan defense were halfback Jerry Cleveland (52 yards, one touchdown), Charles Huffman (43 yards), Anthony Palmer (37 yards, one touchdown), Bennie Glover (36 yards), Tyreance Dabney, Derland Sanford and Michael Spears.

Junior quarterback Patrick Mil-

entz also led a strong aerial attack by completing five passes for 84 yards and two touchdowns.

The first touchdown pass came in the first quarter on an 18-yard missile to wideout Adrian Middleton.

The second came early in the third quarter when Milentz connected with big-play flanker Michael Cooper from 36 yards out.

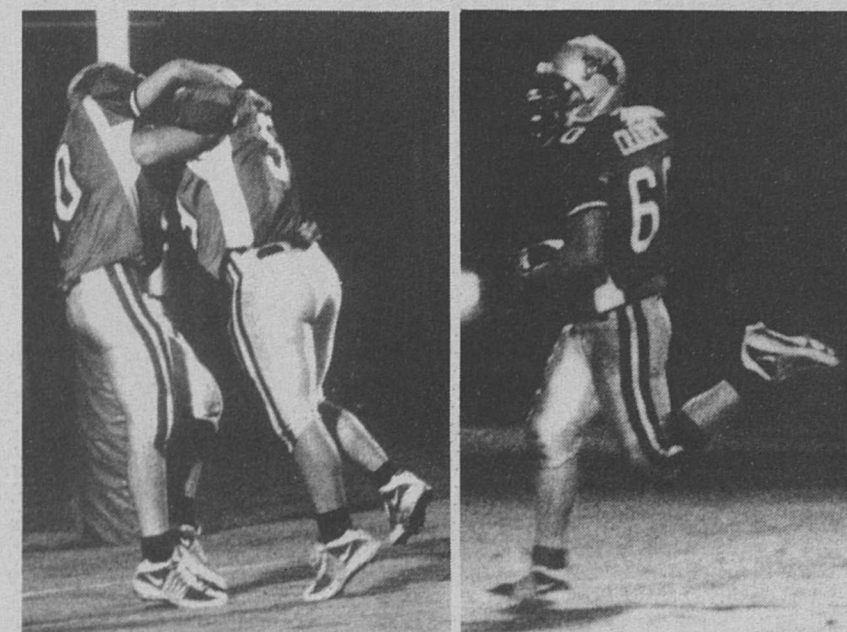
Milentz pushed his season total to six touchdowns passing, five rushing, and most importantly, no interceptions.

Also catching passes for the Raiders were Rick "the Quick" Cunningham, Ben Ortiz and Jason Barrow. Barrow currently leads a strong corps of receivers on the Raider team with seven catches.

The 69 points scored by the Raiders also represents the highest total ever by a Raider football team in the school's 31-year history.

Just as importantly, however, was the manner in which the points were scored.

(See Varsity, Page 8)



Senior offensive lineman Garrett Cranek celebrated with a teammate after fulfilling every lineman's dream of scoring when he scooped up Raider Charles Huffman's fumble and rambled into the endzone unmolested during last Friday's 69-8 rout of the Stafford Spartans. One source told this publication the touchdown by Cranek is the first of its kind (by an offensive lineman) in school history.

Headlight Photo

PEM dedicates Raymond Thomas Theatre

The Raymond Thomas Theatre will be dedicated before the Friday, Nov. 9, performance of *He Done Her Wrong or Wedded But No Wife* by Anita Bell.

Dr. Thomas served as director of

every Prairie Edge Players production since the theatre was brought to Prairie Edge Museum (PEM).

Beginning in 1984 on a borrowed stage with borrowed curtains and a light system that blew at least one cir-

cuit each performance, the Prairie Edge Players, under the directorship of Dr. Thomas, have presented some of the most polished entertainment seen in Colorado County or even rural

(See Thomas, Page 7)

Choices

The issue is whether or not to have a groundwater conservation district (GCD) can be simplified greatly by asking yourself one question: "Who do you want to manage the groundwater that is under our county - directors from the county or someone outside of county?"

The concept of a single county groundwater district is that it is a local government composed of persons elected from the district by the voters of the district. Management rules can be tailored to fit our local problems and can only be voted on after public hearing; therefore, you, the public, have the opportunity to participate in the formation of the governing rules of the district.

Now if you don't want to participate in the management of the groundwater, there are three possibilities of some one else managing it for you:

1. Allow the existing state law on groundwater, the "Right to Capture", to manage the groundwater. Under this court-determined law, individual landowners have no protection from any one who wishes to exploit the resource. The groundwater belongs to who ever captures it - i.e. pumps it out of the ground. Usually this is the one with the most money.

Opponents of conservation districts like to say that the Texas Supreme Court recently up held the "Right to Capture". What they fail to tell you is that the big guy won over the little guy because of the "Right to Capture". Ozarka drained a small landowner dry and sells his water in bottles for a dollar each because of the "Right to Capture".

Another example of how the "Right to Capture" is working today is the recent open-ended contract for groundwater between San Antonio's City Public Service Company and Alcoa Aluminum in Bastrop, Lee and Milam Counties. Groundwater will be shipped to the San Antonio area via a 96-inch pipeline. The Lost Pines GCD is fighting to limit the amount of groundwater produce to a sustainable amount.

2. Allow the Texas Supreme Court to issue a court ruling to correct the inequity of the "Right to Capture". Opponents to GCDs fail to say that the Texas Supreme Court told the Legis-

lature to correct this inequity or they would step in and resolve it. How would they resolve it? I don't know, but a "one size fits all" solution would not be a good way to manage groundwater because each county has different water uses and politics.

3. Allow the state to do it by either new law or adaptations of existing laws.

The Texas Water Development Board has been told by the Legislature to divide the major and minor aquifers into Management Areas by Sept. 1, 2003. Districts with a Management Area have to coordinate management rules so that the aquifer is treated fairly.

In answer to my question about

what happens if you don't have a district, I was told that the state's position on groundwater management is that it favors the use of GCDs as the means of resolving the issues of equity and fairness created by the "Right to Capture".

One possibility that I can see is that a county that does not have a district may be annexed to an adjoining district and may have to follow their management rules.

Opponents have used groundwater availability numbers provided by an "expert" trying to lease "Right to Capture" rights in the area to say that there is plenty of water available and we don't need a district. Even the state admits that they don't know with any accuracy the amount of groundwater available in our county.

Nevertheless, the number given could be compared to the volume resulting from draining the bathtub. As you know, when you drain the tub, the water level drops.

What you want to do is have sustainable production, which means that you produce only the volume that can be replaced by recharge of the aquifer. With the sustainable approach, water levels remain constant and you don't ruin the aquifer or risk causing subsidence. A sustainable number will be considerably less than the one quoted by opponents.

The truth is we do not know (See GCD, Page 6)

Don't Forget to
VOTE
Tuesday, Nov. 6

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979-732-3389; or Dorothy Wostarek at 979-733-9688.

Donna is the niece of Helen Supak of Eagle Lake.

Attwater Refuge tour route open again

After being closed for more than a month, the self-guided automobile tour route at the Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge has re-opened.

Following rehabilitation to portions of the tour route during the summer months, it was opened for a few weeks in Aug. only to be closed in late Aug. due to a major washout that occurred during heavy rains.

The entire tour route was closed for visitor safety reasons until repairs to the washout could be made by the

contractor who had performed the rehabilitation work.

The tour route opens just in time for visitors to view newly arriving geese and ducks to the refuge and surrounding areas. Visitors may also view a herd of about 30 American bison, or buffalo, from the tour route.

The Refuge is open daily, sunrise to sunset, with no entrance fee. It is located off of FM 3013 between Sealy and Eagle Lake in Colorado County. For more information about the refuge, call 979-234-3021.