

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORTS

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls and cases for the week ending Nov. 18.

Nov. 13, at 11:20 a.m., Officer Bryan Lasley was called to assist a Wharton County Sheriff's Deputy on FM 102. Officer Lasley arrived and assisted the deputy with a violent juvenile prisoner. The prisoner was secured in leg restraints and transported to the Colorado County Juvenile Boot Camp.

At 9:35 p.m., a complainant contacted Lt. Clem Johnson at the ELPD claiming another subject had been harassing him. The incident was documented, but the complainant did not wish to file any criminal charges.

At 9:45 p.m., Officer Rosalinda Perez was dispatched to a residence in the 1200 block of Willis St. in reference to criminal mischief to a vehicle. The victim claimed someone had broken the windshield of the vehicle which had been parked at the residence.

Nov. 14, at 6 a.m., Officer Lasley was called to a residence in the 200 block of W. Prairie St. in reference to a theft. The victim claimed another subject had stolen some property from the residence. The suspect has been identified and the case is under investigation.

Nov. 15, at 5:15 p.m., Officer Steve Nelson received a call of a disturbance at a residence in the 500 block of S. Lake Ave. Officer Nelson contacted both parties in the disturbance and learned the dispute was verbal in nature. One of the subjects agreed to leave the property.

At 6 p.m., Officer Arnold Terrazas was dispatched to a criminal mischief in the 500 block of Westmoreland St. The victim claimed the suspect had broken one of his vehicle's windows. The suspect has been identified and the case is under investigation.

Nov. 16, at 12:03 a.m., Officer Terrazas was called to a verbal dispute at a residence in the 400 block of E. Union St. One of the subjects involved left the scene. No criminal offense had occurred.

At 1:45 p.m., Officer Nelson and Sgt. Tim Crume were dispatched to a disturbance at a residence in the 400 block of Glen Meadows Drive. The dispute was verbal in nature and one of the subjects decided to leave the property.

At 7:24 p.m., Officer Terrazas responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of E. State St. Jose Gil was arrested for assault by contact and public intoxication.

Nov. 17, at 5:52 a.m., Officer Nelson was dispatched to a burglary of a building in the 300 block of W.

Post Office. The suspect(s) gained entry into the building and had stolen some property. The case is under investigation.

Between 9:32 and 11:53 a.m., Officer Nelson responded to three theft calls in which bicycles were stolen. Two of the bicycles were taken in the 200 block of Hunter's Lane and the third bicycle was taken from the 900 block of Church St. The cases are under investigation.

At 11:35 p.m., Officer Terrazas was called to a minor traffic accident in the 800 block of East E Street. Becky Melendez was backing a 2001 Mitsubishi Montero out of a private driveway. Norris Powell was traveling east bound in the 800 block of East E Street in a 1996 Geo Tracker. Melendez's vehicle collided with Powell's vehicle, causing minor damage to both. No injuries were reported.

Nov. 18, at 11:43 a.m., Officer Nelson was dispatched to a residence in the 500 block of Westmoreland in reference to criminal mischief. The victim claimed another subject had broken a window at the residence. The suspect has been identified and the case is under investigation.

At 6:20 p.m., David Aguilar turned himself in to Sgt. Bill Lattimore at the ELPD on two outstanding municipal warrants.

At 10:15 p.m., Sgt. Lattimore was dispatched to a theft of a bicycle call in the 1200 block of East B Street. The victim claimed a bicycle had been stolen from the front yard of the residence. The case is under investigation.

The Colorado County Sheriff's Department (CCSD) reported the following call and cases for the period ending Nov. 2.

Tuesday, Oct. 23, at 12:19 p.m., Deputy Schmidt responded to Rice High School in reference to a juvenile in possession of marijuana. After further investigation, it was determined the marijuana was not a usable amount and the juvenile was issued a citation for possession of drug paraphernalia. The juvenile suspect is a habitual offender who has been arrested over 10 times. The case has been forwarded to the Juvenile Probation Department for possible revocation of probation.

Thursday, Oct. 25, at 2:43 a.m., Deputy Basco initiated a traffic stop on I-10. After further investigation, Richard Murphy, 21, of Florida, was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia and dangerous drugs and having no operator's license. The passenger was issued a citation for possession of drug paraphernalia.

At 9 a.m., Deputy Schmidt arrested Martina Soliz Zapata, 37, of

Eagle Lake, on a warrant for thwarting compulsory school attendance.

At 9 a.m., Sgt. Neisner arrested Rodney Williams, 23, of Columbus, on a warrant for burglary of habitation from a previously reported case.

At 11:07 p.m., Deputy Basco attempted a traffic stop on Hwy. 90A near Rock Island. The driver wrecked the vehicle and fled on foot. A warrant was obtained from Justice of the Peace Larry Dulany and, on Oct. 29, Granvel Ruby Meyer Jr., 21, of Rock Island was arrested for evading arrest, a state jail felony.

Friday, Oct. 26, at 9:36 p.m., Deputy Leal initiated a traffic stop on I-10. After further investigation, crack cocaine was located and Robert Chris Garza, 20, of Weimar, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

Saturday, Oct. 27, at 9:22 p.m., Deputy Basco initiated a traffic stop on Hwy. 90. After further investigation, Juan Raul Mata, 52, of Sheridan, was arrested for driving while intoxicated, expired driver's license and outstanding DPS warrants.

Sunday, Oct. 28, at 12:15 a.m., Agent Zermeno arrested Kerry Schilhab, 28, of El Campo, for disorderly conduct and public intoxication in Nada. The subject was transported to the CCSD and placed in a holding cell. While in the cell, the suspect kicked another subject in the head. Schilhab was then charged with assault.

Friday, Nov. 2, at 8:21 p.m., Chief Deputy Schleider initiated a traffic stop on Hwy. 90 in Eagle Lake. After

further investigation, Robert Parker, 28, of Eagle Lake, was arrested for driving while his license was suspended and no insurance.

At 8:30 p.m., Sgt. Edman initiated a traffic stop in Eagle Lake. After further investigation, Broderick DeSean Davidson, 25, of Eagle Lake, was arrested for driving while license suspended.

At 8:43 p.m., Deputy Leal initiated a traffic stop on Hwy. 90. After further investigation, David Francis Myers, 20, of Eagle Lake, was arrested for possession of false identification.

cation.

Oct. 2001 Summary
•\$30,851.59 billed to Gonzales County for the housing of inmates for Oct.

•117 civil papers processed
•114 civil papers issued.
•48 traffic citations issued.
•191 traffic warning citations issued.
•One inmate transported to Austin State Hospital.
•One inmate transported to rehab.
•One inmate transported to Lubbock County Correctional Facility.

•11 inmates transported to TDC.
•Six prisoners picked up from other counties on outstanding Colorado County warrants.
•One prisoner picked up on a bench warrant.
•Two juveniles transported to Eagle Lake Boot Camp.
•52 arrests made by Colorado County Sheriff Deputies.
•82 criminal and civil complaints answered by Sheriff Deputies.
•30,571 miles driven by Colorado County Sheriff Deputies while transporting, patrolling and civil process.

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

DISTRICT COURT CASES FILED

State of Texas vs Francisco Arrozo Morales, judgement nisi; filed 11-9-01.
Fence Masters Inc. vs Don Edward McGuirt, contract; 11-19-01.

COUNTY COURT CASES FILED Nov. 13, 2001

Don Richard Hale, possession of marijuana.

Nov. 16, 2001

Brent Mathis, theft.
Ericka Ray, theft.
Lottie McGrew, theft.
James Daniel Santos, theft.
Willie DeLeon, theft.
Steve Leaving, theft.

Danny Seay, theft.
Eva J. Lee, theft.
Linda M. Prince, theft.
Mark Harbert, theft.
George M. Boyte, theft.

Joe Austin Kerr and Virginiabel Lowe; 11-19-01.

Nov. 19, 2001
Kerry Dean Schilhab, assault causing bodily injury.
Richard Murphy, possession of a dangerous drug.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

Thomas Sean Rohan and Krystal Sue Dishough; 11-16-01.
Chris Phillip Bahner and Virginia Lucille Guerrero; 11-16-01.

Happy Birthday Daddy Oliver

Love, Ryan, Jadelynn & Aaliyah

Wedding bells ring for 'kidnapping' couple

In an unusual development, a Colorado County victim in an aggravated kidnapping case has married her kidnapper and requested all charges be dropped.

"Just when you think you've seen it all, something else happens," said Colorado County Attorney Ken Sparks who filed a motion to dismiss the charges against Kenneth Louis Frnka at the specific request of the new bride, Janet Lee Elliott, 40, of Sheridan. The motion to dismiss was granted by Judge Gus Strauss on Nov. 20, 2001.

Frnka, 45, of Eagle Lake, was accused of kidnapping Elliott June 17, 2001 at her home in Sheridan and driving away with her. Deputies from the Colorado County Sheriff's Office arrested Frnka the next day at a motel room in Columbus after an intensive

search and filed charges on him based on information provided by Elliott and other witnesses.

The victim was found in the motel room at the time Frnka was arrested. She alleged at the time that she was being held against her will.

She had obtained a protective order against Frnka, but the two were married Nov. 9, 2001 in Wharton.

During the hearing, the new groom testified they got married because, "I've always loved her." During the testimony, the new bride told Judge Strauss she wanted the charges dropped saying, "I just love him too much."

Sparks said he didn't doubt the accuracy of the victim's initial report, but declared, "I'm not going to let the criminal justice system stand in the way of true love."

Swift verdict for child molester

A Colorado County District Court jury found a Glidden man guilty of sexual assault of a child on Nov. 14, 2001, following a two-day trial presided over by Judge Gus Strauss.

Jack Allen Johnston, 49, a two-time ex-convict, faces a punishment ranging of 25 to 99 years or life in prison.

The jury returned its verdict following six minutes of deliberation. "This was the shortest deliberation time for a jury verdict that I have ever witnessed," said Strauss, who has been a District Court Judge for the last 19 years.

The jury convicted Johnston of sexually assaulting a 15-year-old male on April 8, 2001 in Colorado County. The case was investigated by the Colorado County Sheriff's Office. A Wichita County Deputy Sheriff arrested Johnston on the evening of April 8, 2001 in Wichita Falls. Johnston had told a family member he was fleeing the state.

Johnston was previously convicted of molesting a child and felony theft in the state of Washington. Attorney John Julian Moore represented Johnston.

Colorado County Attorney Ken Sparks and Assistant County Attorney Jay Johannes prosecuted the case.

Following the guilty verdict, they presented the testimony of two other males who were sexually molested by Johnston in the past several years.

Strauss has ordered a pre-sentence investigation to consider other evidence before sentencing Johnston on Nov. 20, 2001.

Sparks indicated he would seek a life sentence in the case. "This man is a menace. He has forfeited his right to walk our streets and needs to be put away for as long as the law allows to prevent other episodes of sexual assault," said Sparks.

Sparks credited the courage of the young victim in coming forward and testifying about the sexual assault.

At the sentencing hearing Nov. 20, Sgt. Investigator Troy Neisner of the Colorado County Sheriff's Department testified that Johnston admitted to him in a videotaped statement that he had "urges for teenage boys", and whenever he became intoxicated, he "ended up with young boys".

In a final argument, Sparks argued for a life sentence saying, "Nothing cures a rapist like old age."

Judge Strauss sentenced Johnston to 75 years in prison. Having to serve 30 years before becoming eligible for parole, Johnston will be 79 years old before he can qualify.

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NOVEMBER
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EARLY SHOPPERS who spend \$150 or more on Friday, November 23rd will receive a

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