

West Nile Virus becomes concern for City

West Nile Virus (WNV) has become a real concern for the City of Eagle Lake.

Two blue jays have tested positive in Sealy. That could mean that WNV is in or near the Eagle Lake area.

The City has and will continue to have an aggressive mosquito-spraying program. The spraying will help, but it is not the total answer. We have too many

areas in and around the City with tall grass and weeds and standing water, which provide breeding grounds and havens for mosquitoes and other pests.

These problems must be addressed and such problems eliminated to protect the health of everyone.

The City Council has made a commitment to clean up Eagle Lake. As a means to that end, new ordinances

(See Virus, Page 2)

Eagle Lake Headlight

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NEWSBRIEFS

Lady Raider BBQ supper is Sept. 6

The Rice High School (RHS) Lady Raider volleyball team will host its annual BBQ supper preceding the Rice Raider/Cuero Gobblers football game Friday, Sept. 6. The meal will consist of BBQ beef, buttered potatoes, beans, bread, dessert and all of the trimmings. Meals will be delivered to Eagle Lake, Garwood and Sheridan or may be picked up before the football game in the commons of RHS. To purchase tickets, contact any Lady Raider volleyball player or Susan Sharp at RHS, 234-3535. Thanks for your continued support of the Rice Athletic Program. Go Raiders and Lady Raiders !!

Tire clean up is Sept. 7

A tire clean up sponsored by Friends of Main Street will be held Saturday, Sept. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. outside City Hall. Passenger tires will cost \$1, w/rims, \$3; truck tires, \$5, w/rims, \$7; tractor tires, \$8, w/rims, \$10. For more information call 979-234-6933.

Bank drive-thru to close temporarily

Remodeling construction requires that First National Bank's drive-up banking lanes be closed through Friday, Aug. 23. Additional tellers will be on duty in the Bank lobby beginning at 8 a.m. daily and 7:30 a.m. Friday. The ATM will continue to be available for customers.

Hamburger supper at Raider scrimmage scheduled

Thursday, Aug. 22, the Rice Raiders will host the Gonzales Apaches in a football scrimmage. The Rice Raider Booster Club will hold a hamburger supper during the games. The cost of the meal is \$5 for a burger, chips and drink. Volunteers are needed to help flip burgers—so sign up for Booster Club and come out and support the Raiders. Raider spirit items will also be on sale. Hope to see you there!

Volunteer/mentor training session is Aug. 23

A training session for people interested in becoming volunteers or mentors at any of the Rice CISD schools will be held Friday, Aug. 23 from 1:30-3 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Primary School. All paperwork and refreshments will be provided. To sign up for the training or for further information please call Mentor and Volunteer Program Coordinator Deborah Reed at 234-2601 or 832-724-3719.

Musical workshop is Aug. 22-24

The public is cordially invited to a musical workshop at Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church Aug. 22-24. The workshop will begin at 6:15 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 22. The musical will be held Saturday, Aug. 24 at 7 p.m. Registration fee is \$10 for adults; \$5 for youth. For more information contact Audre Hatton at 979-234-3916 or Arie Frazier at 234-5241.

Show your patriotism

Some members of the community would like to see all of the fire hydrants in Eagle Lake painted in a patriotic manner before Sept. 11. The hydrants may be painted red, white and blue or red and silver only. If you have hydrants in your neighborhood that you want painted, please feel free to do so yourself. If help is needed please contact City Hall at 234-2640 for more information.

Rice Project Graduation to meet Aug. 26

Mark your calendar for Monday, Aug. 26, for the first Rice Project Graduation meeting for the graduating seniors of 2003. The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the high school commons and will include election of the new board of directors. Keep a good thing going. Get involved!

Order your Xi Pi Psi calendars

Order your 2003 Birthday calendar from Xi Pi Psi Sorority. If you are not on the calendar and would like to be, please call Connie Lange at 234-7302 or Ernie Sommerlatte at 234-3452.

MMBC Women's Conference is Aug. 23-25

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church of Alleyton, cordially invites the public to attend its Annual Women's Conference, Aug. 23-25 at the church. The theme, "A Woman's Walk with God", will start Friday, Aug. 23, at 7 p.m. with pampering and how to love your self; Saturday, Aug. 24, at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast, seminars and luncheon; then Sunday, Aug. 25, at 4

(See Newsbriefs, Page 2)

Rice team wins overall honors from TCFA

More than 60 of the beef industry's future leaders gathered in Canyon, Texas, recently to test their knowledge about cattle feeding and earn rewards of hard work as they competed in the Junior Fed Beef Challenge.

Sponsored by the Texas Cattle Feeders Association (TCFA), the Junior Fed Beef Challenge allows 4-H and FFA students to gain practical experience in commercial cattle feeding.

Students from Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico feed a pen of three steers, then compete on their industry knowledge and cattle performance.

The contest also features a Team Challenge, where students who don't feed cattle can compete on their cattle feeding knowledge.

This year, 37 students competed in the Junior Fed Beef Challenge and 11 teams of two to three students com-

(See TCFA, Page 4)



The Rice High School team of (from left) Andrew Varley, Whitney Williams, (Snuffy Broyles presenter) and Christian Schroeder won champion honors in the Team Challenge division of the TCFA Junior Fed Beef Challenge recently at West Texas A&M University in Canyon. In addition, the team won first place written exam. Photo Courtesy of TCFA

Eagle Lake's sales tax rebate still down

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander recently sent \$378.8 million in monthly sales tax payments to Texas cities, counties, transit departments and special purpose taxing districts.

So far this year, sales tax collections in Texas counties and special purpose taxing districts are higher than they were at this time last year while cities and transit systems are seeing somewhat lower sales tax revenue.

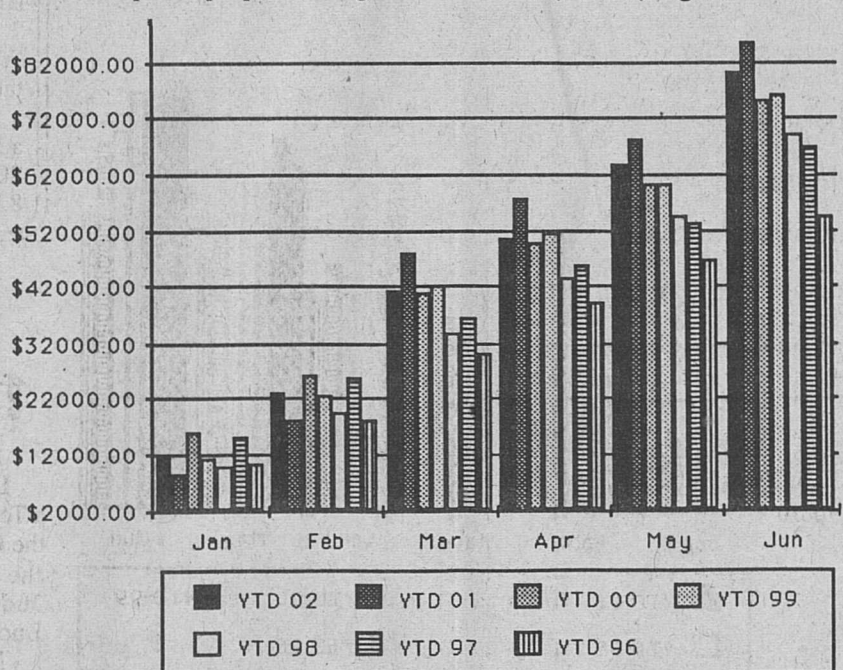
Sales tax allocations of \$10.2 million to 71 special purpose taxing districts are up 6.1% compared to Aug. 2001, and up 9.1% for the year to date.

Sales tax rebates of \$21 million went to Texas counties, down 4% compared to one year ago. However, counties' year-to-date rebates are up 2.6% compared to 2001.

The City of Eagle Lake received \$16,388.80, down 3.09% from the \$16,912.80 received last Aug. Year-to-date, Eagle Lake's rebate total is down 5.01%.

Rice Hospital District, one of the state's special purpose districts, re-

(See Tax, Page 2)



The sales tax year-to-date totals for the City of Eagle Lake are charted against the month the tax was collected, not the month the rebate was received.

City doing sewer 'smoke testing'

The City of Eagle Lake is engaged in a sewer system evaluation survey to eliminate costly infiltration/inflow into the wastewater collection system. In the next few days, inspection crews will be conducting a physical survey of the wastewater collection system.

An important phase of the physical survey will be "smoke testing" of the collection lines. The smoke you will see coming from vent stacks of houses or holes in the ground is non-toxic and creates no fire hazards. The smoke should not enter your home unless you have a leak in your plumbing system.

Should this happen, you may contact a member of the smoke testing crew within your block and he will advise you as to where and why the smoke has entered your home.

Digital photographs are to be made of leaks occurring in the system. We would appreciate your cooperation in allowing the photographer to take these pictures.

The City anticipates the smoke testing will require several weeks. If additional information is desired, please contact O'Malley Engineers, 203 South Jackson, P.O. Box 1976, Brenham, TX 77834-1976; 979-836-7937.

Eagle Lake says 'no to drugs' and old tires

By Candy McCreary

Larry and Lana Dulany presented a Texas flag, its standard and base to the City of Eagle Lake to be used in the Council Chambers in honor of Judge Mary Lou Szymanski and Lucille Perry.

Dave Curry reminded Council that Eagle Lake has a big drug problem and he would like the Council to take

a strong and firm stand against drugs in our area. Curry also would like to see Eagle Lake make this a priority and get rid of drugs.

City Manager Ron Holland asked Curry to make an appointment with him to discuss the matter further.

It was nice to see so many people

(See Council, Page 3)

Thirteen to compete Saturday

Thirteen contestants will be participating in the various contests in the Eagle Lake Pageant scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 24, beginning at 1 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Middle School.

The Little Miss & Mr. will start the afternoon of competition, followed by Prince & Princess, Jr. Miss & Mr. and concluding with Miss Eagle Lake around 3:30.

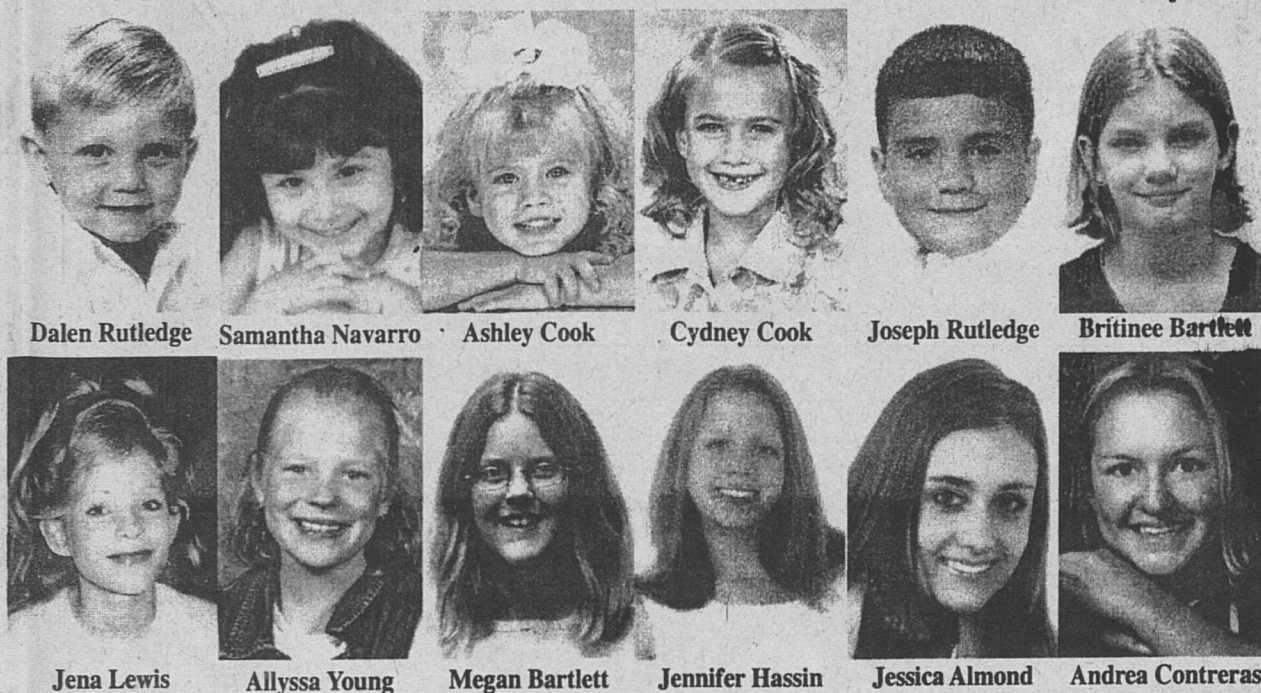
Entered in the pageant, along with their sponsors, are:

Dalen Rutledge, sponsored by Rutledge

Land Improvements; Samantha Navarro, Simple Simon's Pizza; Ashley Cook, Eagle Lake Rice Dryer; Cydney Cook, S&W Parts Co.; Joseph Rutledge, Rutledge Land Improvements; Jena Lewis, Moon Walk Rentals; Allyssa Young, Dr. Leonard Bornstein; Megan Bartlett, Red Bluff Computers & Comm., Inc.; Courtney Andrejczak, Splashway Water Park; Jennifer Hassin, Blue Plate Café; Jessica Almond, Commercial Chemicals; and Andrea Contreras, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Linda Balas.



Courtney Andrejczak



Dalen Rutledge

Samantha Navarro

Ashley Cook

Cydney Cook

Joseph Rutledge

Britnee Bartlett

Jena Lewis

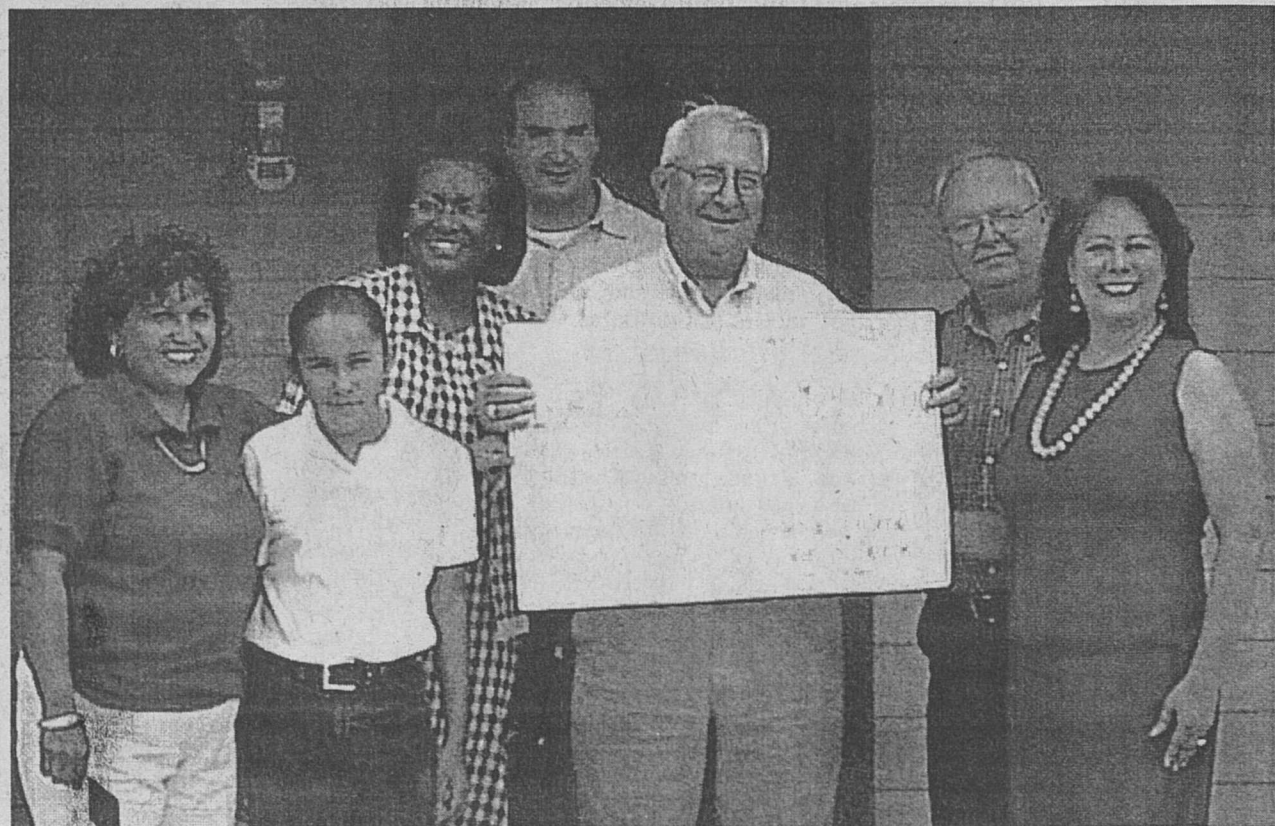
Allyssa Young

Megan Bartlett

Jennifer Hassin

Jessica Almond

Andrea Contreras



New Beginnings receives grant

New Beginnings Child Development Center received a \$25,000 business grant from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas, in tandem with a new construction loan from the First National Bank of Eagle Lake. Pictured in back, from left, are City of Eagle Lake Mayor Rene Cooper-Scott, Guy Perry, Commercial Loan Officer and Ron Holland, President of Cen-Tex CDC. In front are Martha Flores, owner of New Beginnings Child Development Center, her daughter, Andrea; Sam P. Thomson, Senior Vice-president, First National Bank; and Rosa Rios Valdez, Executive Director of Cen-Tex CDC.

Headlight Photo by Carol Nelson