

### Players prepare performances

The Prairie Edge Players announce their newest production, *Don't Mention My Name*. A comedy in two acts by Fred Carmichael, the play will be performed in a dinner theatre setting at the Prairie Edge Museum in the Raymond Thomas Theatre in mid-Nov.

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

### Homecoming adds special event

This Friday night, Rice High School (RHS) will celebrate its 31<sup>st</sup> Homecoming by recognizing and honoring members of the local volunteer fire departments, ambulance services and law enforcement officers. In addition, a ceremony will be conducted in conjunction with the "Freedom's Answer" movement.

The pre-game ceremonies will begin at 7 p.m. at Raider Stadium on the campus of RHS in Altair. Please make plans to join us early and show these special people how much we appreciate their devotion and diligence.

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Booster Club to sell hamburgers tonight

The Rice Athletic Booster Club will be selling hamburgers at the junior high football games Thursday, Sept. 26. Come out and support the Booster Club and cheer the Raiders on to V-I-C-T-O-R-Y!

### ELPS PTO selling yearbooks

The Eagle Lake Primary School (ELPS) PTO will be selling 2001-02 yearbooks Oct. 1, 2 and 3 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. for \$10 each. There will be no early sales or reserved copies.

### Friday is Homecoming

Friday is Homecoming at Rice High School. Activities include crowning of Homecoming King during the pep rally at 2:40 p.m. in Raider gym. The Homecoming Queen will be crowned during half-time ceremonies Friday night. All Rice exes are welcome!

### A&M Mother's Club meeting is Oct. 1

The El Campo A&M Mother's Club meeting will be held Tuesday, Oct. 1, at 7 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 325 N. East Ave. in Wharton. Call 979-532-0113 for more information.

### Strudel, pie orders being taken

The Parishioners of St. Mary's in Nada are once again sponsoring the annual apple strudel and pie bake. Strudels and pies will be made Wednesday, Nov. 6. Orders must be in no later than Friday, Oct. 25, to either Janet Mahalita at 979-234-5148; Monica Staff, 979-758-3789; or Diane Spanihel at 234-3941. You will be called when your order is ready to be picked up at the Nada Community Center. Strudels are \$15 baked; 10 unbaked; and pies are \$8 unbaked only.

### Harvest Ball tickets now on sale

On sale now... Rice Medical Center Employee Volunteers' 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Ball tickets. This year's Ball will honor Ms. Barbara Pidgeon for her vision, leadership and commitment to the health and well being of our community. The ball will be held Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Eagle Lake Community Center. The \$50 per couple ticket provides a complete evening of entertainment starting with a social hour at 6 p.m., dinner, salute to Ms. Pidgeon, and dancing to follow. A silent auction will be held throughout the evening. For more information or to purchase a ticket, call Bonnie Jones or Vicky Jo Pavlu at 979-234-5571.

### RHS fall blood drive is Oct. 3

The Rice High School (RHS) Student Council will host its annual fall Blood Drive Thursday, Oct. 3, in the RHS gym from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center reminds us that blood shortages may soon reach the critical level, especially with a natural disaster brewing in the Gulf of Mexico. Please try to give blood and share the Gift of Life. For more information or to request an appointment, call Lee Politsch at 234-3535.

### RHS Classes to hold combined reunion

The Rice High School (RHS) Classes of 1991, 1992 and 1993 will hold a combined reunion at the Treehouse in Eagle Lake Saturday, Oct. 12 starting at 5 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring a covered dish and/or snacks. Former members of the RHES classes of 1991-93 who want more information or have suggestions, should call Vicki (Drlik) Nelson at 281-579-7334.

### RMC fundraiser is underway

The Rice Medical Center Auxiliary (better known as the Pink Ladies) is selling tickets for a remote control truck. The truck has headlights, coil springs, low and high gears, and oversized tires. Tickets are \$1 each for 6 for \$5. The drawing will be held Monday, Dec. 9, just in time for Christmas. This remote controlled truck is ideal for boys (and girls and big boys also). Tickets are available in the gift shop at the hospital or call Barbara Pidgeon, 234-2897.

### Booster Club meeting is Sept. 30

The Rice Athletic Booster Club will meet Monday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m. at the high school. All parents and fans of Raider and Lady Raider athletes are urged to attend. If you would like to join the Booster Club, memberships are available for \$10 for families and \$35 for businesses. The Booster Club still has medium ladies sleeveless shirts available. The shirts are blue and white checked with a Rice monogram. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, call Kelly Roark at 234-6536.

### Senior Citizen's Dance is Oct. 4

The public is invited to a Senior Citizen's Dance, a place to meet old and new friends, Friday, Oct. 4, from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Music will be provided by This Is It. Admission is \$5 per person. For more information, call 979-234-3795.

### Wintermann Library to hold book sale

The Eula and David Wintermann Library will hold a book sale Friday and Saturday, Oct. 4 and 5; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday; and 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Saturday. Proceeds from the sale will go for replenishing the library's book collection. If you have any books you would like to donate to the sale, bring them by the library before Oct. 1. We appreciate the community's support of our previous book sales and look forward to seeing you again this year.

### Holy Cross Parish Bazaar is Oct. 13

The Holy Cross Parish Bazaar will be held Sunday, Oct. 13, at Riverside Hall in East Bernard. Barbecue beef, chicken and sausage with all the trimmings will be served from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will be Czech pastries, refreshments and country store items as well as musical rides and games all afternoon. The Grand Auction starts at 12:30 p.m. Musical entertainment will be provided by The Bobby Jones Orchestra (12-3 p.m.), Los Rayos de Luna (3:30-5:30) and Dujka Brothers at 5:30. The drawing for 90 prizes starts at 8. Mass will be held at Holy Cross Church at 7, 9 and 11 a.m. The public is invited.

### Senior Friends casino trip is Oct. 10-11

Oct. 10-11 Senior Friends will take an overnight trip to Bossier City, Louisiana, to stay at Boomtown Casino (formerly Casino Magic) on the 10<sup>th</sup> and receive \$10 in coins. The next morning, you'll check out and head to the new Hollywood Casino and get \$5 in coins. Cost is \$88/person double occupancy; \$125/person single. For more information or reservations call 979-282-6808.

### Second annual craft, trade day is Nov. 9

The Second Annual Community Craft & Trade Day is Nov. 9 at the First United Methodist Church of El Campo, 1001 Ave. I, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Indoor and outdoor spaces are available. For more information, call Karen Ringle at 979-543-7486 or Lynn Reed at 543-2978 to reserve your space early. Indoor spaces are limited.

## Raiders club Cardinals, 22-8

The Rice Raiders got back in the win column against the previously undefeated Columbus Cardinals last Friday night.

The Raiders, behind a stifling defense and a potent running game, overcame a plethora of penalties and a game Cardinal squad to get a 22-8 victory.

The Raider defense opened the scoring late in the first quarter when junior defensive end James Johnson scooped up a Cardinal fumble and returned it 33 yards to the touchdown.

Tyreance Dabney converted on the two-point try, giving the Raiders an 8-0 lead.

The Cardinals then put together one of their best drives of the night, scoring on quarterback Jon Alexander's four-yard run, with Alexander scrambling for the two-point conversion to tie the score at 8 each early in the second quarter.

The Raiders took the lead for good when Michael Cooper took the ball on a reverse and scampered 15 yards for the score less than six minutes into the second quarter.

Patrick Milentz added the PAT to give Rice a 15-8 lead.

After a scoreless third quarter, the

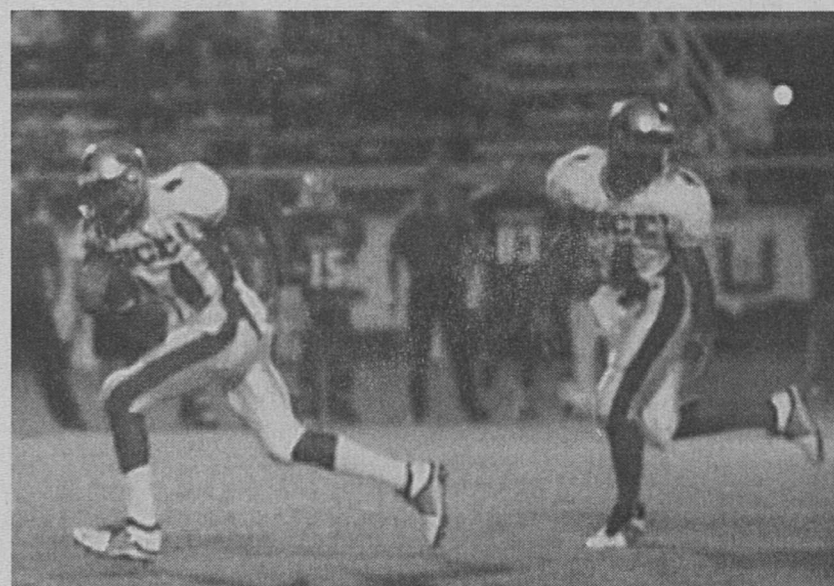
Raiders scored early in the fourth on a four-yard run by Michael Spears, followed by Milentz's PAT.

Rice now led the neighboring Cardinals by what ended up being the final score of 22-8.

The Raiders were plagued all night by the yellow hanky. It seemed every time Rice went on the move the laundry started flying and stopped the drive.

"Columbus is well coached and plays hard," said Head Coach Russell Roark. "Anytime you can knock someone from the undefeated ranks it's a plus, especially when they're close neighbors like the Cardinals."

Spears was a double award winner for the Raiders, being named Gatorade Player of the Week as well as Special Teams Player. He ran the ball 10 times for 88 yards, caught one pass for 28 yards, averaged 24 yards (See Varsity, Page 8)



Rice junior defensive end James Johnson put the first touchdown on the scoreboard for the Raiders when he scooped up a Columbus fumble and hot-footed it to the end zone. Running interference for Johnson is junior outside linebacker Branden Jenkins, #4. *Headlight Photo*

## Channel 13's Rascon to be at CCFA benefit

Colorado County Firefighters Association (CCFA) announced Art Rascon, news anchor for KTRK-13 Eyewitness News, will be their special guest Saturday, Oct. 12, for their fifth annual benefit at the Columbus Opry.

Rascon joined KTRK in 1998 to serve as co-anchor of the five o'clock news. Since then, he has covered such major events as the war in Kosovo, Middle East conflicts, natural disasters in Latin America, the Pope's travels, the U.S. presidential elections and the terrorists attacks.

Rascon came to Houston from the CBS Network where he was a traveling correspondent for "The Evening News with Dan Rather" and a fill-in reporter for "48 Hours".

Earlier in his career, he worked as a reporter and anchor at several stations in Texas, including KMOL in San Antonio; KVIA, El Paso; and KRBC, Abilene. He has been nomi-



nated for 19 Emmy awards, winning eight. He has also received more than a dozen local and national awards including the National E. Murrow Award and Texas Headliners Award.

Born in El Paso, he was reared in Denver and graduated from Brigham Young University with a degree in communications-journalism. He also studied humanities and European politics in Madrid, Spain.

He and his wife, Patti, have seven children including a young man from Kosovo.

The CCFA Benefit Opry is a special performance at the historic Oaks Theatre (715 Walnut, Columbus). It

offers visitors and residents an opportunity to support their volunteer fire departments (VFD).

All proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the county's nine VFDs: Bernardo, Columbus, Frelsburg, Eagle Lake, Rock Island, Weimar, Oakland, Garwood and Sheridan.

Ticket sales will help fund much-needed equipment and help sponsor firefighter training held annually at Texas A&M University.

Tickets will be sold in advance and at the door for \$7 a person. Contact Columbus Butane for advance tickets at 979-732-2074 or go by 1340 Walnut, Columbus.

## Kids and karts, again...

By Candy McCreary  
Contributing Writer

In my last article, I stated I didn't want to just report the minutes of City Council, but wanted to report in a way to give you a feeling how hard Council works for you.

Sometimes, funny things also go on in the meetings, and I'd also like to give you the lighter side of Council.

So, this is City Council as I see it - the good with the bad.

I also hope to add things happening around town which you get not noticed. Hope you enjoy.

Eagle Lake Police Chief W.E. "Bill" Lattimore was present to intro-

(See Council, Page 4)

## Haynes at RHS Oct. 8

Dr. Karen Haynes, President of the University of Houston-Victoria, will present a compelling and thought-provoking educational program, *Community at the Crossroads*, in the Rice High School Library on Tuesday evening, Oct. 8, at 7 p.m. with a coffee and dessert reception followed by Dr. Haynes' presentation.

Dr. Haynes has been President of the University of Houston-Victoria since 1995. Previously she was Dean of the University of Houston Graduate School of Social Work from 1985-1995. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin, holds a Master of Social Work degree from McGill University in Montreal, and a B.A. from Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland. She has authored several books and numerous publications in a distinguished academic career.

With civic awards and honors too numerous to mention, Dr. Haynes, as part of the University of Houston-Victoria's outreach to the 15 counties in its service region, goes on the road



Dr. Karen Haynes

to talk about the educational needs of young people in our communities. *Community at the Crossroads* highlights the importance of making sure the youth in our region complete high school and some type of post-secondary education. This will assure that our region has an adequate work force in the near future on which to build a strong economy. Current data on educational attainment suggest this region of Texas has far to go in building the type of work force that can compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Community leaders, teachers, concerned parents and the general public is cordially invited to attend this important event and hear Dr. Haynes' award-winning presentation.

## City's sales tax still behind last year

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander delivered \$303.1 million in monthly sales tax payments to Texas cities, counties, transit districts and special purpose taxing districts recently.

Rylander sent sales tax rebates of \$203.8 million to Texas cities, \$17.4 million to Texas counties, \$8.2 million to the state's 73 special purpose taxing districts and \$73.6 million to Texas' six metropolitan transit authorities and two city transit departments.

Sept. sales tax rebates include local sales taxes collected in July and reported to the Comptroller in Aug. The state's share of sales tax reported during this period was \$1.3 billion.

The City of Eagle Lake received \$10,668.63, down 27.79% from the \$14,775.69 received last Sept. Year-to-date, Eagle Lake's rebate total is down 7.67%.

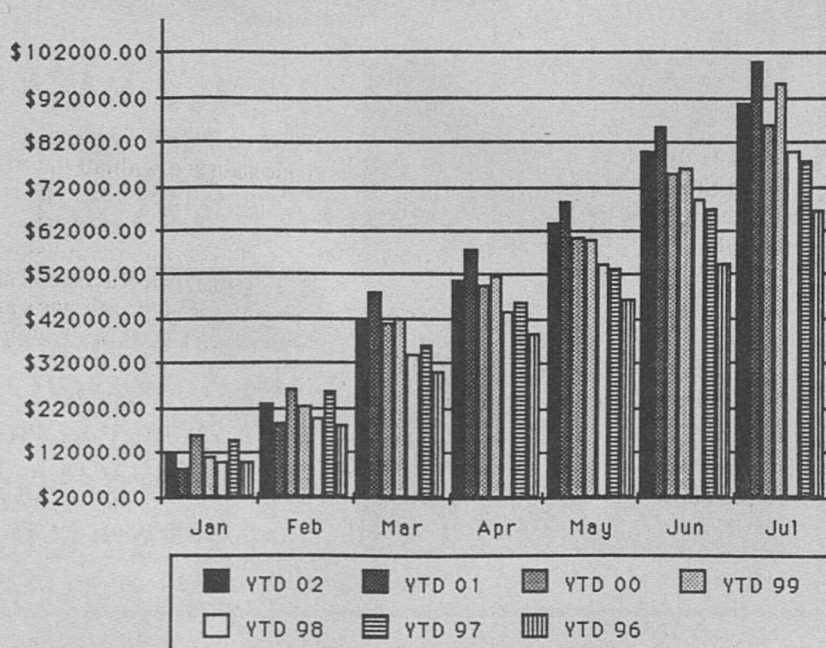
Rice Hospital District, one of the special purpose districts, received (See Sales, Page 2)



It's Auction time again!

Connie and Willard Lange of Eagle Trailer Parts donated this 26-inch Schwinn Cruiser SS ladies bike for the energetic woman on the go. With health and fitness on everyone's mind, this would be the perfect gift for those watching their figures.

*Headlight Photo by Carol Cardenas*



Eagle Lake's year-to-date totals for sales tax rebates are charted against the month the tax was collected, not the month the rebate was delivered by the Comptroller.