

Thank you, volunteers

By Bernice Bornstein, Community Advisory President to the CCJDF

As the Community Advisory Board to the Colorado County Juvenile Detention Facility (CCJDF) fully enters this holiday season, they wish to thank all the volunteers who have been such a support whether through community meals, mentoring, life skills and religious services classes. These activities not only

greatly encourage the youth but also offer an opportunity for them to interact in a positive way with adults in the community.

Each month for several years various churches and community groups have gone to the facility on the third (See CCJDF, Page 5)

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NEWSBRIEFS

Boy Scouts anyone?

If you are the parent of a boy in the fifth grade why not give him something special to do? Enroll him in Boy Scouts! There will be a meeting Monday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. For more information call Michael Duarte at 234-2630.

Heritage House Open House is today

The Heritage House at 751 Heritage Lane will host an Open House Thursday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Meet the caring staff and join them for refreshments, fun, entertainment and fellowship.

Senior Citizen's Dance is Friday

The public is invited to a Senior Citizen's Dance, a place to meet old and new friends, Friday, Dec. 6 from 8-11 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Daniel & The Country Boys will provide music. Admission is \$5 per person. For more information call 979-234-3795.

Civic Garden Club luncheon, auction is Dec. 9

The Civic Garden Club's Christmas Luncheon and Silent Auction will be held Monday, Dec. 9 at 11:30 a.m. at the home of Brenda Corman. Members are reminded to bring an auction item. Anyone interested in joining may call Becky Anderson at 234-3522. Cost of membership is \$25 for the club year.

Video Bible Study is Dec. 9

Beth Moore's Video Bible Study "Breaking Free" will be hosted by the United Methodist Church at 12 noon Mondays at the home of Pastor and Mrs. David King. The introductory session will be held Monday, Dec. 9, with the following 10 sessions starting on the first Monday in Jan. All are welcome. For a workbook or further information, call Bernice Bornstein at 234-3214 or Sandy Bendy at 234-3925.

Study Club to meet Dec. 11

The Eagle Lake Study Club will hold their monthly meeting Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. at the Eula and David Wintermann Library. Vicki Powers will moderate the program, "Christmas With My Friend's House". The public is invited to attend and Study Club members are asked to bring a friend.

Grief support group to meet Dec. 11

A Grief Support group will meet at The Hospice Office, 1102 N. Mechanic in El Campo on Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Pat Matthews, LMSW, Professional Education Liaison will facilitate the program, "An Empty Place at the Table and Holiday Celebrations" for Hospice Support Care. The group is open to anyone interested in learning more about grief following the death of a loved one. For information call Hospice Support Care 979-578-0314.

Help the library decorate its Christmas tree

The Eula and David Wintermann Library would like to start a new program this holiday season. They would like to ask your help in decorating their Christmas tree in the library. If you would like to come in and make a donation in memory or in honor of someone, an angel will be placed on the tree with their name attached as well as you the donor. Then following the holiday season when the tree is taken down, you may come in and pick up your angel for your tree next year. The cost for this project to you is any amount you would like to donate but the minimum will be \$2.

Special activities, worship services at FBC

Special activities and worship services scheduled for Eagle Lake's First Baptist Church (FBC) include: Dec. 15: Children's Christmas Program (with Getsemani Baptist Mission), 6 p.m.; Dec. 22: Christmas Candlelight Service, 6 p.m.; and every Sunday, Bible study for all ages (four classes for children, one class for teens, seven classes for adults); 9:45 a.m. and worship at 10:50 a.m. For more information contact the church office at 234-2571.

I-10 Expansion Revival 2002 scheduled

The I-10 Explosion Revival 2002 is set for Friday and Saturday, Dec. 6 and 7, at Greater Macedonia Baptist Church, 315 N. East St. in Weimar at 7 p.m. each evening with Evangelist Kevin G. Hall "Texas Tornado". On Saturday, Dec. 7, a men's only conference will be held with a basketball shoot-around at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call 979-725-1593 or 725-8349. For transportation, call 725-1107. Sr. Pastor is J. Wayne Nelsen.

MOBC to present program Saturday

City Wide Prayer and Mission Ministry presents the Four Gospels at Mt. Olive Baptist Church (MOBC) Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. The public is invited. Rev. T. Kuykendall, pastor.

WCJC offering winter short courses

Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) is offering Winter Short Courses. Get more course work completed in a shorter period of time! (Dec. 16 through Jan. 13) Study the following American National and State Government: Institutions, Rights and Public Policies; U.S. History I; U.S. History II; Physical Geology; and Fundamentals of Speech. Students should register by Dec. 11. Call 979-532-6303, 281-239-1544 or 281-243-8410 for more information.

RMC fundraiser is underway

The Rice Medical Center Auxiliary (better known as the Pink Ladies) is (See Newsbriefs, Page 6)

WEEKLY BIRD REPORT

The following migratory bird hunting report, prepared for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department by Bink Grimes, was updated Nov. 27.

COASTAL PRAIRIES: Snow goose numbers in Katy, Eagle Lake, Garwood and El Campo are impressive.

Decoying action improved during the week due to a lower ceiling and consistent wind.

Many light goose concentrations moved to plowed ground after the front

pushed through. Since, they have been jockeying from rice to plowed throughout the day.

Specklebellies are abundant as well, though decoying action has been only fair. Specks have grown "smarter" since their bag limit was doubled from one to two a few years ago.

Hunters are scratching their heads due to the low duck counts on the prairie.

Conditions are excellent; however, duck hunting has been fair at best. Prospects are fair to good.

Holiday of Lights Parade is this Saturday

Eagle Lake is having its annual Holiday of Lights Parade Saturday, December 7. Join in the fun and excitement Saturday night at 6:45.

The parade will begin at Beaks and continue down Main Street.

Come see Santa and Mrs. Clause and many of your friends and family in the parade.

Afterwards, greet Santa and join in all of the fun at the Community Center at the 9th Annual Christmas with "Family and Friends-God's Helping Hands." Food and beverages will be sold at the Community Center by Family and Friends as well as along Main Street by several area civic organizations.

Come join in the excitement of the holiday season at the Lighted Christmas Parade!



Joe Duncan

For more information, please call the Chamber of Commerce 979-234-2780.

Duncan named 2002 Parade Marshal

Joe Duncan has been named the 2002 Holiday of Lights Parade Grand Marshal.

Duncan, who moved to Eagle Lake from Alabama in 1946, graduated from Eagle Lake High School and was later employed by Shell Oil Company.

A year and a half later, July 15, 1951, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving until May 1953.

On Nov. 14, 1951, he married Martha Morrison. They recently celebrated 51 years of marriage.

During the time he was stationed in Korea as a medical aid, he was awarded the Bronze Star for "gallantry in action" in a battle for "Old Baldy" Hill by assisting and evacuating the

wounded under fire.

Following his many years in the Army, he returned to his position at Shell Oil until he resigned in 1972 to go into business with his father at Duncan and Son.

That same year, he helped organize the Eagle Lake Volunteer Ambulance Corps, serving as president of the organization for six years.

During his years in Eagle Lake, he has been involved in many civic organizations, and is a member of the First Baptist Church, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8783 and served as president of the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce in 1976.

Mr. Duncan was also active in city government, serving as member of council from 1985 to 1991.

He has been a great asset to the Eagle Lake community and the Chamber of Commerce is proud to honor him as the 2002 Holiday of Lights Parade Grand Marshal.

Grammer inducted into the Texas High School Basketball Hall of Fame

Jack Grammer, former Rice High School boy's basketball coach, was inducted into the Texas High School Basketball "Hall of Fame" Nov. 9, and a week later, the Board of Trustees of the Rice CISD added another distinctive honor by naming the basketball court in the Rice High School Gymnasium "Jack Grammer Court".

Grammer's induction ceremony was held at the Texas Sports Hall of Fame Museum in Waco, where he was accompanied by his wife, Dolores, daughter, Sandy Jarka and family, John Grammer and family, and Steve Grammer. Also attended were several friends and former players. Six other basketball players and coaches from around the state were inducted during the festivities.

A dedication ceremony to officially name the Rice High School basketball court will be announced at a later date.

Grammer compiled a 615-271 record during his 29-year coaching career, including a State Championship with his 1981 Rice High School boys' basketball team. The Raiders won or tied for the district championship in all but one of his 13 seasons from 1971 to 1984, compiling a 275-104 record.

He coached the Austwell-Tivoli girls' basketball team from 1956 to 1963 and had a 140-69 record; and, the Austwell-Tivoli boys' team from 1961 to 1970 with a 200-98 mark.

Grammer, who resides in Eagle Lake, retired from coaching after the 1983-84 season.

The coach, in a respectful way, has often been called the "poor man's Abe Lemons" because of the dry humor for which both men are famous. In his induction speech, the former Raider coach broke the ice of the gracious and sometimes somber mood by saying, "I'm going to borrow a line from an old friend of mine, Abe Lemons, and say that I don't deserve this honor," hesitating and adding, "but... I have arthritis and I don't deserve that either." After the laughter ended the added, "I guess it all evens out."

Coach Grammer went on to admit that it was a great honor but one he did not expect, noting that he had been out

of the game since retiring in 1984 and admitting that "the game has passed me by."

"The game is just a blur," he told the crowd of over 300, referring to games he sees at Memorial High School in Victoria where his son coaches. "In today's game, the players run so fast and jump so high," he marvelled. Then, in his dry-humor way about a subject that wasn't a laughing matter when he was coaching, he added "and they throw the ball away so often!"

A portion of the introduction noted, in quite some detail, the successful basketball careers of all of Grammer's four children. "Judged on what the introduction said," Grammer quipped, "I'm getting inducted more as a sire than a coach."

The Hall of Fame inductee, concluding his remarks, praised the Texas Sports Hall of Fame Museum as a "first class" facility and added, "it's something to be proud of and I'm very proud to be a part of it."

Following the ceremony, Grammer was asked what he was going to do now that he had been inducted into the Hall of Fame he answered, with no surprise to anyone who knows him, "I think I'll go for a quail hunt."

Other inductees were Wanda Bender of Jourdanton, Thelma Overstreet Bledsoe of Bowie High School, Jill Rankin-Schneider of Phillips High School and David Wesley of Longview High School.

Come celebrate the fullness of the Christmas Season, ring in the New Year

Preparations for the Second Annual Nativity Gala for New Year's Eve this year includes a drawing for a 20-piece glazed ceramic nativity scene (see picture). The tallest piece is 16 inches. Figures of the scene will be on display at the Parish Office and the businesses where Gala tickets may be

purchased.

The Nativity Gala will once again be held in Didner Hall and a \$25 ticket will admit a person to all the festivities which will include an open bar, a full banquet meal, music, dancing, a silent auction and a money drawing.

Only 200 pre-sale tickets will be sold. The drawing will include a \$500, a \$250, two \$100, and a \$50 drawing for a total of \$1000, if all 200 tickets are sold.

The social hour begins at 7 p.m., the banquet at 8, and dancing will be from 9 to 1 a.m.

All proceeds will benefit the Parish of the Nativity Memorial Build-

ing Fund for new construction.

Philip Soto will organize the silent auction. He may be contacted about donations through the Parish Office at 545 S. Austin Rd., 979-234-2842.

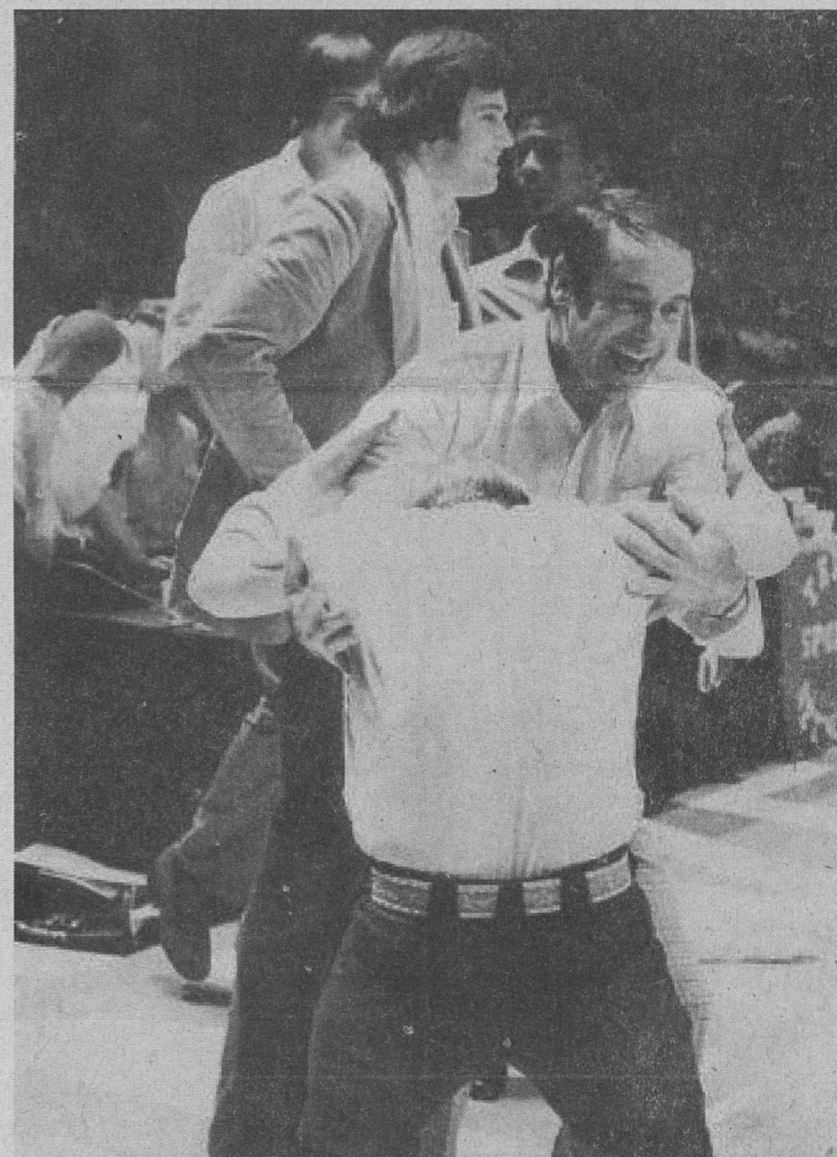
Tickets may be purchased at the Parish Office, Marcy's Beauty Salon, S&W Auto Parts and Tresses Hair Salon.

Vengan a celebrar completamente la Navidad recibiendo el Año Nuevo

Preparaciones para la Segunda Celebración Anual de la Navidad por el Año Nuevo. Este año incluye una (See Parish, Page 5)



Grammer, at left, visits with fellow inductee Gary Blair, the University of Arkansas women's basketball coach, during the Texas High School Basketball Hall of Fame induction ceremony. Blair started his illustrious career coaching girls' basketball at Dallas South Oak Cliff High School.



Above, Grammer celebrates his Rice High School Raider 56-52 victory over Powderly North Lamar to win the 1981 Class 3A State Championship. Embracing Grammer is then-high school principal Fred Grahmann. In the background is assistant coach Gil Stalbaum.

Photos Courtesy of Jeff Frnka



This is the 20-piece glazed ceramic nativity scene being offered by the Parish of the Nativity.