

Colorado County Crime Stoppers

Sometime between 6 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 3 and 10 a.m., on Monday, Oct. 4, 2004 unknown(s) removed a number of plants from a flowerbed located at a residence in the 400 block of W. St. Charles Street. Approximately 25 plants were removed.

If you have any information about this crime, or any other felony crime, call Colorado County Crime Stoppers toll free at 1-866-522-TIPS (8477). You never have to give your name and if your information leads to any arrests and charges being filed on the criminal, you could earn up to a \$1,000 reward.

Colorado County Crime Stoppers, citizens, law enforcement and the media, are working together to make our community a safer place to live. Together, we can make a difference.

Eagle Lake Headlight

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NEWSBRIEFS

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War

If you are a female descendant of a soldier who fought on the Union side in the Civil War, you will be interested to learn of the proposed organization of a local branch of *Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War*. With the recent surge in interest in genealogy, many persons are finding they have ties to both sides of the conflict. Currently, approximately 100 women in Texas belong to this organization. Chapters, known as "Tents," exist in Arlington, Kerrville, and Amarillo. If you are interested, please telephone 979-234-2807 or 234-2937. Please leave a message on the machine.

EMT class

Are you interested in becoming an EMT? Colorado County EMS is planning an EMT-Basic class to start around the beginning of the year in Eagle Lake. If you are interested and/or would like more information please call Carolyn Baird at 979-234-5864 or Jonna Bowen at 234-7855.

E.H. Henry Historical meeting tonight

The E.H. Historical School meeting will be held Thursday, Oct. 21 at 6 p.m. at White Cloud Baptist Church.

Annual flag retirement ceremony is tonight

The Eagle Lake American Legion Post #108 will hold its annual United States flag retirement ceremony Thursday, October 21, at the City Park at 6 pm. If you have a flag that is worn from use you may turn it in to The Prairie Edge Museum, The Furniture Shoppe or A. J. Struss Auto for proper disposal. New flags may be purchased through the V. F. W. at The Furniture Shoppe.

Booster Club to sponsor stew supper Friday

The Rice Raider Booster Club will sponsor a stew supper Friday Oct. 22 after the Hempstead game. All Rice High School students are invited.

RIVFD Halloween Carnival is Saturday

The Rock Island Volunteer Fire Department (RIVFD) will hold their Halloween Carnival Saturday, Oct. 23 starting at 7 p.m. at the Rock Island Community Center. There will be many activities for all ages! A Halloween costume contest will be held at 8 p.m. Enjoy the dunking booth, moon walk, pumpkin patch, country store, silent auction, cake walk, fish pond, lollipop tree and much more. Come hungry for the good food!

Sheridan 4-H meeting is Sunday

The next meeting of the Sheridan 4-H will be held Sunday, Oct. 24 at 1:30 p.m. at the Sheridan School Cafeteria.

It is P.J. Time Again!!!

Children ages 5-15 are encouraged to participate in this year's production of "The Emperor's New Clothes". The first practice is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Prairie Edge Museum. A parent or guardian will be required to attend all practices with his/her child(ren). Contact Danielle Day at 234-3798 if you have questions.

Colorado County hay show is Oct. 26

The annual Colorado County Hay Show will be held Tuesday, Oct. 26 at 4 p.m. at the New Bielau Community Center. If you plan to attend please RSVP by Friday, Oct. 22. One CEU will be offered to private applicators. Dr. Steve Livingston, extension agronomist with the Texas Cooperative Extensive Service will serve as judge of the show.

Wintermann Library to hold book sale

The Wintermann Library will hold their annual book sale Friday, Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come by and see what they have. The proceeds will go toward the purchase of books for the library.

Muziky, Muziky

A musical production "Muziky, Muziky" will be held at the new Amphitheater of the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange (adjacent to the Fayette County Fair Grounds) Oct. 29 and 30 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each-Book Now! For more information call 1-888-785-4500 or 979-968-9399 or czech@cvtv.net.

Wear your costumes downtown Oct. 29

Downtown merchants of Eagle Lake invite all young goblins to wear their Halloween costumes downtown to take part in a street full of tricks and treats on Friday, October 29 between 5:00-6:30 pm.

Pumpkin Patch now in Altair

If you need a pumpkin for your yard there is now a Pumpkin Patch in Altair by old bowling alley with 10 types of pumpkins through Oct. 30. Call 979-234-2866 for more information. Proceeds go 100% to the Rice High School Band Boosters.

MMBC church anniversary set for Oct. 31

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church (MMBC) of Alleyton would like to invite you to its Church Anniversary Family and Friends Day Sunday, Oct. 31 at 4 p.m. The special guest church will be Grace Fellowship Church on Brenham, George Nelson Jr., pastor. The guest soloist will be Ronnie Porter of Houston.

Rice FFA families and friends

Interest has been shown in organizing a booster type club to support the Rice FFA Chapter. An organizational meeting will be held at the high school Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. At this time a board of directors will be elected. All interested family and friends are invited. For more information contact Missy Jurica at 758-3725.

Childbirth classes to be held at GCMC

Will your baby arrive between Dec. 15 and Feb. 15, 2005? Come join other moms and coaches for childbirth classes at Gulf Coast Medical Center (GCMC) in Wharton! Classes begin Monday, Nov. 1 through Monday, Dec. 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the GCMC classrooms. Registration is \$60. Also, weekend class is scheduled for Nov. 5 and 6. For more information and to register please call 979-282-6280.

ELVFD stew supper, silent auction is Nov. 2

The Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department (ELVFD) will hold their stew supper and silent auction Tuesday, Nov. 2 at the fire station. Serving is from 5

Mighty Raider Band advances to Area Contest

The Mighty Raider Marching Band had an impressive day at the 2004 UIL Region 13 Marching Contest Saturday, Oct. 16.

For the first time in 16 years the Raider Band advanced to Area competition. Area will take place in Calallen High School (north of Corpus Christi) on Saturday, Oct. 23.

Bands are scored from I (superior) to 5 (poor) from a panel of three judges. Bands in the 3A division can only qualify for state honors every even year. A band must receive a division I rating in order to advance to the next level. The 3A bands, and their scores, that competed in the region marching contest were as follows: Columbia (2), Cuero (2), Yoakum (3), Goliad (3), Palacios (2), Edna (3), Rice (1), Sweeny (1), Gonzales (2), and Needville (2). Rice High School and Sweeny High School were the only two 3A bands from Region 13 to advance to Area.

Area competition will include all



2004-05 Mighty Rice Raider Band.

Photos Courtesy of Rice High School

of the 3A bands that received a superior rating from five different regions. This contest will include prelims and finals with only one band for every five entered advancing to the state marching championships.

The Raider Band's contest show this year includes music from the

musical *Chicago*. Songs include *And All That Jazz*, *Cell Block Tango*, and *We Both Reached For the Gun*. Soloists include Keith Drlak on trumpet, Manda Cummings on mellophone, Gerardo Zabalala on alto saxophone, and Chris Supak on trumpet.

The Raider Band staff consists of



Drum Major Laci Raybon with trophy.

Houston Cummings, Dan Brodt, Hollis Willis and flag instructor Lucinda Cummings.

Council proposes rate hike for Hall rental

—Further Rate Increases on the Agenda

By contributing Reporter Sidney E. Struss

The Eagle Lake City Council convened on October 12, 2004 at 7:30 pm. Several citizens during the open-comment phase asked the council to consider not leaving the vacant councilman position once held by Mayor Morales unrepresented, develop an ordinance for enforcing single-family dwellings where multiple families are residing, and what the city is doing to attract business and economic development to Eagle Lake in response to the expansion and development of the Wal-Mart Distribution Center.

Because none of these items were on the evening's agenda, the council could only hear from the concerned citizens without any response.

The two million dollar bond fund passed over a year ago is now reaching the road construction phase. The

council is concerned about over-increasing to date and the required funds to repair all the roads initially budgeted for repair.

In a search to reduce costs without affecting quality, the council approved bonding technique during the street repairs that is going to lower the cost of street repairs without suffering the quality. Councilman Eric Nethery motioned to accept the bonding proposal change order and John Young seconded the motion. The Change Order was passed unanimously.

Two weeks ago the *Headlight* reported the approval of the budget with many rate increases. In this meeting, the Council discussed and acted on the approval of a Utility Rate Ordinance. Explanations given on the utility rates for water and wastewater was that the rate increase would not be 20% as earlier reported, but an average of 20%.

This means that citizens who do not conserve may see even healthier rate increases in their upcoming water bills on the first of the month. Alderman Dave Curry showed much concern over this increase. He said

that he knows the rates must be increased, but the Department should only increase for the amount to run the Department. The city manager explained that the expenses for the Department were \$1,409,000 and the revenues projected were \$1,486,000. Nethery made a motion to approve the Ordinance and Larry Contreras seconded the motion and the ordinance won approval.

The Council discussed further dramatic increases. The Fee Schedule increases seemed to run into a stumbling block because of the dramatic increases being proposed for the Eula and David Wintermann Community Center. Mayor Morales said that if we could afford it, he would like to see this meeting facility being available to all the community on a first come first serve basis. If we could get our finances in order, it would be nice if we could offer these facilities free. Alderman Nethery spoke up and said our government should not support this facility. It is losing money and rates for rental should be increased. As an example, if someone wants to rent the community center under the

proposed rate increases for a function that will begin in the afternoon and go into the evening, and alcohol will be consumed at the premises, expect to pay as much as \$1,300 for rental and required security. Because there seemed to be a separation in viewpoints on this issue, the Council decided to have a workshop to discuss this item at the next city council meeting on October 26.

The Council approved a city-wide curfew of 8 p.m. for Halloween Trick or Treat activities.

The last agenda item for consideration was the appointment of a new alderman to replace the vacancy by the newly elected Mayor, Mike Morales. Councilman Nethery said the same people that came and asked the council for an election by the people for the Mayor position vacated by Mayor Sidney Struss now are coming to us asking that we fill the vacancy on the council. Nethery motioned that Morales's chair remain vacated until next year's election. Alderman John Young quickly seconded the motion. No further discussion was held and the motion passed unanimously.

WAP available to citizens in surrounding areas

Gov. Rick Perry has proclaimed Oct. 30, 2004 as Weatherization Day.

Combined Community Action (CCA), Inc. has funds available under the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) to assist eligible households with Weatherization measures. WAP is designed to reduce energy consumption.

Eligible homes may receive energy saving measures such as caulking, weather-stripping, and insulation. Other energy saving measures such as doors, windows, heating/air conditioning, and various other measures may be installed.

Measures vary depending on the condition of the home and cost effectiveness.

CCA's WAP provides Lee, Fayette, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Blanco, Austin, Colorado, and Fort Bend Counties with service.

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance or more information, please call Phil Kirk at 979-540-29856, Jennifer Braneff at 979-540-2984 or 1-800-688-9065 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, or Friday between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The assistance is based on household income, household size and need for assistance. Eligibility for participation is established according to federal income guidelines.

Raiders turn Cardinals Red



Headlight Photo by Dwight Hadley

The Rice Raiders improved to 2-0 in district play with a 43-3 win over the Columbus Cardinals.

It was the fifth year in a row for the Raiders to defeat their rivals from

Colorado County.

The Raider defense was outstanding once again as they held Columbus to 54 total yards and only five first downs.

"Anytime we can hold an opponent under 100 yards we have played a very solid defensive game," stated Coach Dumont. The defense got a fumble on Columbus' first drive as Robert Scott gathered the fumble to set up a short Raider scoring drive.

Joe Cooper had an outstanding game with 15 tackles on the night. Also playing very well were Jeramie Hemphill and Scott with 10 tackles each. Zach Perry, Robert Salinas, DeShaun Fuller also played very well for the Raider defense.

Another bright spot for the Raiders was the punt return team as Brian Williams and Darkeith Pratt both returned punts behind excellent blocking. This gave Rice great field position, which enabled them to have short scoring drives on offense.

The offense only had 267 yards on the night but they scored six touchdowns. The longest scoring drive on the night was only 44 yards.

The Raider defense and special teams gave the Raiders great field position all night long. Charles Huffman had 77 yards in the game and Jay Thomas had 49.

Huffman did punch in 4 touchdown runs from short distance in the game. The Raiders other scores came on runs by Hemphill and Williams. Stuart Ray completed two passes to Robert Shaw on the night for 42 yards. The Raiders also ran three two-point conversions with Ray, Thomas and Williams all converting.

The Raiders will return home on Friday night to face the Hempstead Bobcats. The Raiders will be looking to move to 3-0 in the district campaign and 7-1 on the season.

Hempstead will feature some very quick and speedy players that the Raiders will have to contain. The Raiders will still be looking to improve in certain areas as they prepare to make a push at a district championship and to get ready for the Mighty Sealy Tigers and Mighty Bellville Brahmas.

The Raiders need two more victories to clinch a playoff spot.

Legion to dispose of unserviceable American flags

The United States Flag Code states that when an American flag has served its useful purpose and is in such a condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

The W. Cherry - M. Perry American Legion post #108 of Eagle Lake will hold its annual flag disposal ceremony on Thursday, October 21. The ceremony will be held at the city park beginning at 6 p.m. and the public is encouraged to attend. You are urged to check your flags and, if they are faded, worn or torn, let us dispose of them properly. You may turn them in at any time to Struss Auto, The Furniture Shoppe or the Prairie Edge Museum.