

## 2004 County Committee election draws near

County Committee election will be held in LAA-2 as the term of County Committee member W.A. (Billy) Hefner III will be expiring Dec. 31, 2004. Hefner is eligible for re-election of another three-year term.

The County Committee received

nomination petitions for the following producers: Arvis Bluntson, row crops, rice, swine, sheep, cattle, horse, hay, landowner; Hefner, rice, cattle, hay, landowner; and Karol Jo Kallina, rice, cattle, landowner.

Ballots were mailed to eligible voter on Nov. 8. Voters have until Dec.

6, 2004 to return their ballots to the county office.

Your vote is important! Take time to return your ballot and be sure to sign your ballot label. You must sign your own ballot - power of attorney's cannot be used in the election process.

Nov. 25, 2004

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# Eagle Lake Headlight

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Closing in observance of Thanksgiving

The following will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, Thursday, Nov. 25: The Colorado County Courthouse, the Eagle Lake Headlight and Eagle Lake City Offices will be closed Nov. 25 and Friday, 26. There will be no trash collection on those days. Trash collection will resume Monday, Nov. 29 with Mondays route. The First National Bank will close Thursday, Nov. 25 and on Friday close at 3 p.m. and the Wallis State Bank will be closed Thursday, and close at 4 p.m. on Friday. The Wintermann Library and the Eagle Lake Post Office will close on Thursday only.

### Nativity display in Bellville starts Nov. 29

Come and enjoy a fabulous 300 piece Fontanini® Nativity Display featuring villagers, animals, lighted village buildings in natural scenery - an entire room as its setting. Display schedule starts Monday-Friday, Nov. 29 from 9 a.m. to noon. Weekdays afternoons and Saturdays by appointment for church, club or other groups. Call 979-865-2360 (reservations at least five days in advance).

### WCJC closes due to inclement weather

Due to inclement weather: Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) cancelled all of its classes and closed all of its campuses, extension centers, and administrative offices. The college remained closed Wednesday, Nov. 24. The college will reopen Monday, Nov. 29.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Mixer is Nov. 30

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Mixer will be held at the Farris Hotel Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 5 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us for refreshments and a good time!

### Registration schedule announced for Blinn College Sealy campus

Blinn College admission and advising staff members will be in Sealy on Dec. 1, 8 and 15 and on Jan. 5 and 12 to assist students in registering for spring 2005 classes at The WorkSource, Suite 140, in the Sealy Outlet Mall from noon to 5 p.m. each day. To register, a first-time student must have a completed application, must have a high school or college transcript and must be advised. Students may also register by Internet Nov. 28 through Dec. 3, Dec. 5-8, Jan. 2-7, Jan. 9-13 and Jan. 16-20. Registration instructions and a schedule of courses are found at [www.blinn.edu](http://www.blinn.edu) <http://www.blinn.edu>. Classes begin on all Blinn campuses on Jan. 18. For more information call 979-627-7997 or e-mail [sealy@blinn.edu](mailto:sealy@blinn.edu).

### Senior Citizen's Dance is Dec. 3

The public is invited to a Senior Citizen's Dance, a place to meet old and new friends, Friday, Dec. 3, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Daniel and the Country Boys will provide the music. Admission is \$5 per person. For more information, call 979-234-3795.

### WOW tree drawing to be held Dec. 4

The Wonderland of Wildlife ("WOW") Christmas tree on display at the First National Bank will be drawn for Saturday, Dec. 4. Purchase your chance to win the tree from The Golden Goose, Creative Expressions, First National Bank and Tee-Up Pro Shop. Get your tickets now!

### 4-H to host dinner for seniors

The Colorado County 4-H Council is inviting senior citizens in Colorado County, age 60 and older, and to whomever transports them to attend a Christmas dinner on Saturday, December 11. The dinner will be held at the Colorado County Ag Building with serving to be from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 4-H Council members are asking for monetary donations, food donations and volunteer help. Anyone wishing to donate or help in any way can contact the Colorado County Extension Office at 979-732-2530.

### Christmas parade is Dec. 11

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 11. If you need information concerning the parade, entry form, concession request form etc. call the Chamber at 979-234-2780.

### WCBC musical set for Dec. 12

White Cloud Baptist Church (WCBC) 1493 Old Altair Road invites the public to come and help them lift up the name of Jesus in a Musical Sunday, Dec. 12 at 3 p.m. For more information call 234-3800.

### Pink ladies to hold drawing Dec. 15

The Rice Medical Center Ladies Auxiliary better known as the "Pink Ladies" will hold a drawing for two gift baskets Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 10 a.m. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Buying a ticket(s) will assure you a chance at winning either of the baskets. For more information call 979-234-5571.

### TCHCC 2005 calendars for sale

The 2005 Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center (TCHCC) Calendars will be available for purchase in early December. Featuring photographs of

(See Newsbriefs, Page 6)

## MIGRATORY BIRD REPORT

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

The region continues to be the hot spot for duck hunters in Texas. Ducks remain steady on the rice prairies near Altair, Garwood, Eagle Lake, Lissie, Collegeport and Palacios. Most bags are being filled with teal, gadwalls, shovelers and wigeons. The prairie has more than enough water. Wharton County, specifically the town of El Campo, received over 16 inches of rain last weekend which hampered hunting efforts to say the least. Fields along FM 1300 are one solid sheet of water, which has scattered ducks and geese. Lighting over most of the rice prairie this past weekend made geese skittish. Snow goose hunting has been below average across the region. Standing water has made every field a potential roost pond. Goose hunters are hoping the upcoming full moon will bring new geese to the region. Red-heads, pintails and wigeons are building on the shoalgrass shoreline of the middle and lower coasts. Good hunts have been posted near Port O'Connor and Rockport. Mad Island WMA near Bay City and Peach Point WMA near Freeport have enjoyed good hunting since the seasoned opened. An influx of green-winged teal this weekend fattened bags. The Guadalupe Delta WMA near Port Lavaca remains closed due to flooding. Prospects are good.

Migratory bird hunting reports are posted weekly from early September through mid-February at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us).



The Nada/Garwood TEEA Gadabouts honored their community veterans of the Korean, Vietnam, Gulf War and other recent wars at a social and luncheon Thursday, Nov. 11 at the Garwood Volunteer Fire Department Station. Standing, left to right Joe Fling, guest speaker and attorney at law in Eagle Lake; Lawrence Berger, Walter Braden, Gregory Popp, Lydia Cooper, Frank Kasmiersky, James Drlik, Clarence Zbranek, Charles Schneider, Meth Hoffman; seated, left to right, Lawrence Pavlu, George Koenig, Booker T. Dabney, Joe J. Kallina Jr., Jerry Zbranek, Bernard Kristynik, Arthur Mahalite, Leon Meisner, and Anita Miesmer, President of the Nada/Garwood Gadabouts. Not pictured is James L. Bunge Jr.

Photo courtesy of LaJuan Braden

## Helping your young neighbors

Have you ever considered what it would be like to be uprooted from your home, family, school and community and forced to live in someone else's family in another place? Too many children are cut off from family and friends and forced by circumstances that are out of their control to live with "foster parents" or in a "group home".

Evenings, weekends and holidays are especially tough for children in foster care because those are the times when they most miss their familiar home surroundings. Just imagine what that must be like...

Right now Colorado County has three-dozen of our children in foster

care living outside of our county. Each year our County Child Protective Services (CPS) Board tries to brighten these children's holiday season with a cash gift that will enable these children to have some money for Christmas. Experience has shown us that often these kids spend the money we give them to purchase gifts for their family and/or foster family. With some guidance they may be able to get something for themselves that they can really use.

For many of us times are a little tougher economically and this is no less true for the Colorado County CPS Board.

If you would like to lend assistance

to some kids who could use a little encouragement TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS may be mailed to: Colorado County CPS Board, 2449 FM 109, Columbus, TX 78934.

For more information contact one of the board members: Rev. Obie Rhodes, 234-3257; Darnell Varley, 234-2426; Arline Brune, 979-732-5185; Peggy Pitchford, 732-3945; Rev. Walt Glasscock, 732-9032; Virgie Ann Halcom, 732-3733; Billie Smith in New Ulm, 357-2952; or Mary Corcoran in Weimar, 979-263-5045.

Thank you in advance for your help and consideration.

## BSE test results

By Dale Rankin, Colorado County Extension Agent

On Nov. 19th, we were notified that an inconclusive BSE test result was received on a rapid screening test used as part of our enhanced BSE surveillance program.

"The inconclusive result does not mean we have found another case of BSE in this country. Inconclusive results are a normal component of screening tests, which are designed to be extremely sensitive so they will detect any sample that could possibly be positive. "Tissue samples are now being sent to USDA's National Vet-

erinary Services Laboratories-the national BSE reference lab-which will run confirmatory testing. "Because this test is only an inconclusive test result, we are not disclosing details specific to this test at this time. "APHIS has begun internal steps to begin initial tracebacks, if further testing were to return a positive result. However, it is important to note, that this animal did not enter the food or feed chain. "Confirmatory results are

(See BSE Results, Page 6)



The home of Frankie & Cowboy Jobe, located along the Colorado River at Jobe Road, was engulfed by the steady rains of this weekend.

Photo Courtesy of Janet Duncan

## Happy Thanksgiving

Here's wishing you a Thanksgiving Holiday complete with all the trimmings - good food, good friends and good times. We're always thankful for your patronage.

## Eagle Lake Headlight

Jeannine, Carol, Cathy, Amy, Shirley & 'Doc'

## RCISD holds Nov. meeting

The Rice CISD Board of Trustees took less than an hour and a half to work their way through a brief, routine agenda at the regular monthly meeting on Nov. 8. Present at the meeting were President Tanya Wiese, trustees Carolyn Baird, Laurel Mileantz, Jack Vawter, Vivian Spanihel and Betty Schiurring.

Assistant Superintendent Bill Hefner led a discussion on the use of charter bus services for transporting students. Guidelines are being developed for the use of charter busses in the future. The district is also seeking a settlement with the bus service recently contracted by the band. The bus service did not uphold their obligations under the contract.

The board unanimously approved the purchase of 8 Automated External Defibrillators (AED). Two units will be placed at the Rice High School campus, one at each of the other campuses and one at the special education

co-op. The staff on each campus will be trained in the use of the AEDs.

After receiving a letter of support from team doctor Russell Thomas, the board approved the purchase of a TENS unit for the athletic department by the Rice Raider Booster Club. The TENS unit is used for physical therapy after some types of injuries and surgery.

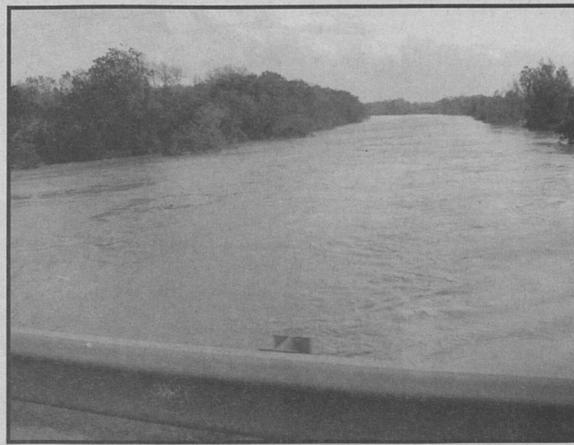
Superintendent Michael Lanier presented the San Bernard Electric right-of-way easement to the board. The easement is needed for the installation and maintenance of lights on the softball field. The easement was approved as presented.

In other business the board approved Steve Henderson as the Colorado County Central Appraisal District selected board member, discussed the need for a facilities tour by the facilities committee and approved minutes of the October meetings, financial reports and budget amendments.

## RETRACTION

In reference to the article in the issue of the *Headlight* dated: Nov. 4, 2004 "City Council Meeting Cancelled" by Contributing Writer, Sidney Struss. The story mentioned that City Secretary Sylvia Rucka contacted both councilmen without success.

It was incorrectly reported that both councilmen were contacted by telephone when in fact Mr. John Young had previously notified the administration that he would not be present at the meeting and that the city secretary did not call him.



Our local area was hit hard by the unstoppable rain that came this weekend and continued through Monday. Pictured above is the Colorado River exceeding its banks.

Photo Courtesy of Janet Duncan