

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

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Pictured above are members of the Eagle Lake Preservation Alliance who helped with the plant sale last Saturday. Back, from left are, Evelyn Stowers, Mary Ann Kaluza, Joe McCreary, Susan Stacey, Martin Herman and Robert Stowers. Middle row: Dianne Kelso, Pat Matula, Lois Herman and Dorothy Kohleffel. In front, Len Matula and John Stacey.

## Preservation Alliance Holds Plant Sale

Eagle Lake Preservation Alliance (ELPA) of Eagle Lake had their first plant sale Saturday June 25 at the vacant lot across from the Furniture Shoppe.

ELPA had approximately 400 plumerias ranging from 18" to over 7' and at least 20 other varieties of

small plants.

The ELPA said that the sale was very successful. All members of ELPA would like to extend their appreciation to all who purchased plants.

A good number of people turned out to purchase plants and the ELPA raised much needed funds for helping

preserve the beautiful town of Eagle Lake. Thanks Again!

## County Commissioners Lift Ban On Outdoor Burning

Colorado County commissioners, meeting Monday, June 26, rescinded a ban on outdoor burning in the county.

The action came on a 3-1 vote, with County Judge Al Jamison and Commissioners Tommy Hahn and Darrell Gertson voting in favor and Commissioner Herbie Helmcamp against. Commissioner Doug Wessels was absent.

Helmcamp said he had talked to fire officials in Weimar, who felt it should be kept on.

Gertson said the area around Eagle Lake was green and he felt it should be lifted.

County Judge Al Jamison noted that the drought or dryness index for the county dropped after recent rains to 452 currently. He said above 500 is the point at which a burn ban is normally advised.

County Attorney Ken Sparks said that state law provides that when the dryness index drops below a critical point, the burn ban is automatically lifted.

Commissioners noted that the ban was also lifted on the sell or use of skyrocket sticks and missiles with fins.

In other action, commissioners: --Approved updated subdivision regulations.

One of the changes is a requirement that all roads in a new subdivision be paved. Previously gravel roads were acceptable.

Also, Sparks said, some of the requirements for a preliminary plat were reduced to lower the initial costs for a developer who is doing preliminary work.

Commissioners noted that individuals wanting copies of the new regulations could contact the county clerk's office.

--Discussed the status of repairs to the district courtroom ceiling, part of which collapsed at the end of May.

They acknowledged a permit authorizing the repairs issued by the Texas Historical Commission.

They also authorized the county judge to contract with an architect to draw up plans for repairs to the ceiling.

Jamison said Drymalla Construction suggested that the county contract with an architect familiar with work in historical buildings.

Commissioner Darrell Gertson said that after looking at the support structure for the ceiling and the

dome in the courtroom, he felt that an expert should examine the structure to determine whether there were any other structural problems.

There was also some discussion about replacing the plaster with sheetrock or some other lightweight ceiling covering, while retaining the textured look of the ceiling.

It was noted that a jury trial was scheduled in district court for July 18. Sparks said the current plans were to have jury selection at the Stafford Opera House, with the trial in the county courtroom on the first floor.

--Approved a mutual aid agreement with other counties in the Gulf Coast Planning Region in the event of an emergency or disaster, such as a hurricane.

--Awarded bids for fuel and road materials.

--Accepted 6/10ths of a mile on Schmitt Road in Precinct 3 into the county road system.

--Renewed the county's membership in the Association of Rural Communities in Texas and the payment of \$350 in dues.

## Commissioners Start Work On Budget

As Colorado County commissioners held their first budget workshop for the 2007 budget on Monday, June 26, County Judge Al Jamison said that commissioners may be looking at a slight reduction in the tax rate this year because of increased property values.

The Colorado Appraisal District has released preliminary estimates that property values in the county will increase by 13.1 percent this year or \$164.6 million.

That would bring the total property values to \$1.416 billion.

At the current tax rate, that would generate \$700,000 in additional revenue.

But Jamison and County Auditor Raymie Kana pointed out that the county would face the possibility of a tax rollback election, if revenues are increased more than 8 percent above the county's effective tax rate, based

on this year's revenues.

Kana said she felt that the additional tax income would be between \$400,000 and \$500,000.

The current county tax rate is 42.758 cents per \$100 valuation.

The current budget is \$12.3 million.

Kana said she is still in the process of computing revenue estimates.

Commissioners reviewed budget requests by several departments.

They indicated they were inclined to give the same amount of annual support to county libraries as they had in the past.

They noted that the district judges propose to give court coordinators an increase in pay of 6 percent to \$38,273.

One court reporter is scheduled for a pay increase of 3.8 percent to

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Police department fundraiser is June 29

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Eagle Lake Peace Officers Equipment Fundraiser will be held June 29 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Sportsman's Restaurant will cater the meal consisting of 3 beef enchiladas, rice, beans, chips and salsa. A drive thru line as well as in door dining will be available. A silent auction will be held from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Door prizes will be awarded. Tickets can be purchased from the police department by calling 234-2727. Anyone wanting to donate a silent auction item or make a monetary donation should call 234-2727 and speak with Lt. Wendy Alley. Deadline for presale tickets was Monday, June 26. Some tickets will be sold at the door.

### Hemphill-English family reunion is July 1

The Hemphill-English family reunion will be held in Eagle Lake July 1 at the pavilion at 545 S. Austin Rd. The pavilion will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. for the families. However, they will have their traditional religious hour at 9 a.m. at a local church.

### GMOBC Grand musical is July 1

The Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church (GMOBC) will host a Grand Musical Saturday, July 1 at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

### CCC to perform in Nada

Because of the interest and many requests, The Columbus Community Choir (CCC) will perform its Germany concert, "Reaching Out Through Music" at St. Mary's Church in Nada Sunday, July 2 at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited!

### Fireworks display set for July 3

The Eagle Lake Fireworks Display is making plans for its annual Independence Day kick-off extravaganza set for Monday, July 3 at 9 p.m. The show is admission free and everyone is invited, so mark your calendars and plan to join family and friends at this inspirational patriotic celebration. For more information or to make a donation, please stop by the Eagle Lake Post Office or call 234-2627 during regular office hours.

### Closing in observance of July 4<sup>th</sup>

The following will be closed in observance of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. First National Bank, Wallis State Bank, The Colorado County Courthouse, The City offices in Eagle Lake will be closed. There will be no trash collection on Tuesday. Tuesday's route will be collected Wednesday. Wednesday's route will be collected on Thursday. Thursday's route will be collected on Friday.

### Major show turkey orders being taken

Any 4-H member planning to show market turkeys in one of the 2007 major livestock shows needs to contact the Colorado County Extension Office to submit their order. Orders are due in the office on or before July 7, 2006.

### 4-H to sponsor quilting workshop

The Colorado County 4-H council will sponsor a quilting workshop Friday, July 21. The workshop will be held at the Colorado County Ag Building and is limited to 10 participants. The workshop begins at 8:30 a.m. with registration and set up and will conclude at 4:30 p.m. There is a \$7 fee that covers all materials. Deadline to register is July 7. You will need to bring a sack lunch. Drinks and snacks will be provided. For more information call the Colorado County Extension Office.

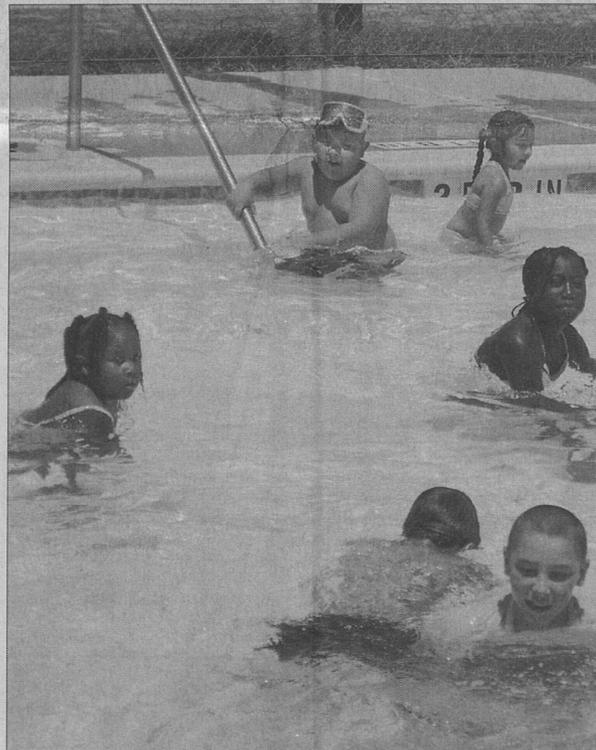
### Swimming lessons registration is July 8-9

Registration for American Red Cross swimming lessons for youth will be held Saturday, July 8 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. and Sunday, July 9 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Both registration dates will be held at the gazebo next to the Eagle Lake Pool. There will be nine lesson days scheduled to run from Monday, July 10 to Friday, July 14 and Monday July 17 to Thursday July 20. Lessons will be held in the mornings. Course fees for the two-week session are \$18 per student. Children must be at least six years of age to register. Call 234-5728 for additional information.

### RMC to hold safe sitter classes

Rice Medical Center (RMC) will be holding a Safe Sitter Class this summer. Our hospital currently has five certified Safe Sitter Instructors. Safe Sitter is

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## Keeping Cool In The Pool

Eagle Lake kids know how to stay cool during the hot summer months.

## Colorado County Grand Jury Indicts Ten

Ten individuals were indicted by the Colorado County Grand Jury on Tuesday, June 20.

They included: --Frank Ashton, 54, of Eagle Lake, charged with possession of cocaine, between one and four grams on May 29.

--Chad J. Brown, 29, of Dale, burglary of a building on May 24, involving the burglary of a building owned by

Fishbeck Catering in Weimar and the theft of beer.

--Brandon Burley, 19, and Joshua L. Ellison, 18, both of Weimar, charged with burglary of a building involving the theft of cameras from a classroom at Weimar High School on May 7.

--Manuel Stephen Ebarra, 40, of Eagle Lake, burglary of a building on May 21, involving theft of deer meat.

--John Clifton Haile, 47, of Houston, possession of a controlled substance on May 12, cocaine, between four grams and 200 grams.

--Marcial R. Hernandez, 26, of Weimar, charged with felony DWI on May 1.

--Cruz Martin Molina, 22, of Eagle Lake, unlawful possession of a firearm on May 6.

--David Perez, 40, of Eagle Lake, possession of a controlled substance, less than a gram of cocaine, on May 13, and assault causing bodily injury on the same date.

--Ernest Wayne Torres, 39, of Eagle Lake, burglary on May 18.

## June 29 Jury Service Cancelled

People summoned to appear for jury service on Thursday, June 29, 2006, in Justice of the Peace Court for Precinct 4 in Eagle Lake should not appear for jury duty. You are excused from jury duty for that date in that court.



John Young, left, and Jeff Frnka work on getting fireworks ready for the fireworks show set for July 3 on Calhoun Road.

## Eagle Lake Fireworks Show Set For July 3

The annual Eagle Lake Fireworks Display will be held Monday, July 3 at the usual location on Calhoun Road beginning promptly at 9 p.m.

The show will last 38 minutes and features a colorful array of beautiful bursts and showers accompanied by the sounds of inspirational patriotic music. Admission is free and there is lots of parking available, so bring

your lawn chairs and refreshments and plan to arrive early. In case of inclement weather, the show will be held Tuesday night.

For those not familiar with the event's location, take Hwy. 90A to the west side of Eagle Lake and at Brookshire Brothers turn south on Calhoun

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