

# Eagle Lake Headlight

50¢

Serving Southern Colorado County  
www.eaglelakeheadlight.com

50¢

VOLUME 103 NUMBER 16

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

JULY 6, 2006



The Eagle Lake Fireworks show went off with a bang on Calhoun Road Monday night. Many members of the community were treated to a patriotic production of fireworks and music.

## Probation For 2004 Accident Could Be Revoked Llanos Headed Back To Court

Christina Llanos will be back in court on July 27 for a hearing in which her probation for causing the death of five passengers in a 2004 accident could be revoked. County Attorney Ken Sparks

advised that he filed a motion to revoke probation due to her failure to comply with the terms of her probation. "She has also been charged with a misdemeanor offense of

making a terroristic threat in Wharton County," he said.

He said that part of probation is performing the community service that is assessed as well as staying out of trouble during that time period.

He advised that the witnesses in Wharton County case have been subpoenaed and will appear at the probation hearing this month.

A terroristic threat is when a person makes a verbal threat of imminent, severe bodily harm or death towards another person.

Sparks said that the judge has a good deal of leeway in this type of hearing.

He said she could receive up

to 180 days in jail for violation of probation.

She could also have probation revoked and be sent to state jail for six to 24 months, he advised.

Llanos plead guilty in the deaths of five passengers in a 2004 vehicle accident near Altair and received five years of probation and community service.

At the time of the accident, Llanos was sixteen. She swerved into oncoming traffic on Highway 90A, colliding head on with an eighteen wheeler killing all five passengers in her car; Heather Kieborz, Yesenia Castillo, Robin Aguillar, Patricia Ruiz and Ruiz's infant son, Jeremiah Cooper.

## Council Addresses Citizen Complaint

The Eagle Lake City Council addressed issues at last Tuesday's meeting raised by Vic Corman after his house was crashed into by a vehicle.

Corman addressed city council and asked that something be done to curb speeding in his neighborhood.

He advised that it has been an ongoing problem and he was also concerned about other issues such as loud music and the police department's handling of the person who crashed into his house.

Corman's home is located beyond a "T" intersection at Melody Ln. and Burns St.

A vehicle driving down Melody Ln. failed to stop at the intersection with Burns St. and crashed into the living room of his home.

Fortunately, no one was home at the time of the accident and no serious injuries resulted.

Corman also questioned police efforts to charge the individual responsible with drunken driving.

Police Chief Bill Lattimore explained that the most he could be charged with was driving under the influence.

This was due to the fact that the individual would not submit to a breathalyzer or blood test, and field sobriety tests could not be done to obtain a warrant for these tests because the individual had suffered a head injury, Lattimore explained.

He said that if they could have done the field tests (the pen test, walking-the-line, etc.) then they may have been able to obtain a warrant for the blood sample.

Lattimore said that in cases where there is a head injury, these tests are not reliable because the injury would influence the results.

"We did everything the law allows us to do," said Lattimore.

City council responded to the request for speed bumps.

City Manager Ron Holland said that he had been in contact with an attorney from the Texas Municipal League and had been advised that the city could be held liable for injuries or property damage resulting from speed bumps even if the complainant was speeding.

Council also noted that speed bumps would reduce emergency response times, and could result in a shift of traffic around the street with the speed bumps which could just create another problem.

After answering questions and a discussion council voted to put a stop sign at the corner of Melody Ln. and Burns St. The stop sign will be on Melody Ln. at Burns St.

Corman also asked about the noise ordinance and what could

be done to curtail loud music from vehicles.

Lattimore advised that if an officer hears the loud music, they can issue a citation.

He also advised that if a citizen makes a complaint to the police department and they have a description of the vehicle, that a citation can be issued if the officer can locate the vehicle.

If the music is turned down when the officer arrives, a citation can still be issued, but that the complainant would likely have to make an appearance in court for the ticket to stand.

"I don't want it to look like we don't care or aren't doing anything," said Lattimore.

"I looked at six years worth of calls from the area around Melody and Burns," he said.

Lattimore advised that in that time period the police department received about 18,000 total calls in the whole city.

Of those calls, only 436 were from the area around Melody and Burns.

Only 83 calls have been received from Burns St. in those six years, and only one was reporting a speeder and six were in regards to loud music.

Lattimore advised that a good portion of the police department's work was responding to complaints.

"We want to assure you that we are not ignoring things, we just can't be everywhere at once," he said.

Lattimore advised that he would have his officers be more attentive to loud music and would ask for some radar patrols of the area in question.

In other council action: -Council voted to close Conner St. were it crosses the path of the airport runway. This came after a public hearing in which no one spoke against it.

This action was taken after a request by the Airport Advisory Committee so that they would have full use of the runway (an extra 400 feet) in order to attract larger business class aircraft, which could in turn lead to some economic growth for the city.

-Council voted to amend the mobile home ordinance so that any mobile home that is not new, would have to be approved by the Board of Adjustment before it would be allowed to be moved into town.

-Council heard a report concerning the New Town Water System. A preliminary hearing was held and the fine imposed by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is expected to be reduced to around \$1,400. This fine will still be the responsibility of the New Town Water System. A court date of October 11 was set for the official ruling.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### 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.

### Senior citizens dance is Friday

A senior citizens dance will be held Friday, July 7 from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Rabbs Creek and will provide the music. For more information call 979-234-2903.

### 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 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 a medically accurate babysitting preparation program designed for boys and girls ages 11 to 13. This nationally recognized program teaches sitters how to have fun with children, recognize a medical emergency and know the appropriate action to take, how to handle specific ages, injury prevention techniques, safety for the sitter and the children, care of the choking child, preventing problem behavior and the business of babysitting. For more information or to sign up for the class please call Vicky Pavlu or Shara Sunderman at 979-234-5571 x 5216 by July 9.

### July Fest is July 9

July Fest at the Parish of the Nativity is set for July 9 at the pavilion on 545 S. Austin Road. Come and enjoy a plate of BBQ chicken, baked beans and buttered potatoes, \$7 per plate. Serving is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Take out or eat under the pavilion. A drawing will be held at 2 p.m. under the pavilion.

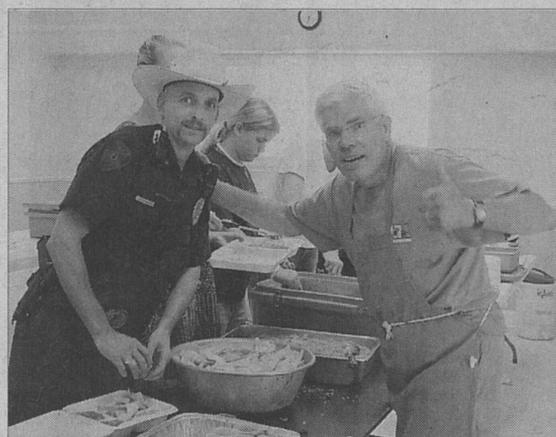
### GMOBC Homecoming set for July 9

The Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church (GMOBC) officers and members will celebrate their 120<sup>th</sup> Homecoming, Family and Friends, and Church anniversary Sunday, July 9 at 3 p.m. They are inviting the public to come and join them in this joyous celebration of praise and thanks.

### TAKS testing scheduled for July

TAKS Exit summer testing will be held Tuesday July 11 through Friday July 14 at the Eagle Lake Jr. High campus (Formerly Eagle Lake Primary School), 600 N. Johnny Hutchins in Eagle Lake. Students who are planning to test should arrive at 8:15 a.m. so that testing can begin at 8:30 a.m. Testing will be administered according to the following schedule: July 11 - English/Language Arts; July 12 - Mathematics; July 13 - Science; July 14 - Social Studies. Tests will be given to those students who have taken the TAKS Exit, but who have not yet met the state standard.

Continued on back page



Police Chief Bill Lattimore helps Doug Schwemm make dinner plates at the Police Department's Annual Fundraiser held last Thursday.

## Jobless Rate At 4.4 Percent

The unemployment rate for Colorado County for May 2006 was 4.4 percent, figures from Texas Workforce Commission show.

For May in Colorado County, 10,013 persons were employed and 466 seeking work.

The figure compares to statewide unemployment in May, 4.9.

For Fayette County, unemployment was 3.7 percent, with 11,522 persons employed and 438 looking for jobs.

For Lavaca County, unemployment was 3.6 percent, with 10,328 persons employed and 388 looking for jobs.

For Wharton County, unemployment was 5.0 percent, with 19,734 persons employed and 1,043 looking for jobs.



Eagle Lake residents relax and get ready for the fireworks show on Monday. Many folks brought out refreshments and lawn chairs for the event.