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Ben Mieth and his mother Hellene Mieth are volunteer First Responders in Sheridan's new first responder program.

First Responder Program Started In Sheridan

By Fred Kaiser
The problem of providing emergency medical care to rural areas in a cost effective and efficient manner presents a major challenge.

For large rural counties such as Colorado County, with its popu-

lation of 20,736 spread over nearly 963 square miles, the problem remains particularly pertinent.

Despite the best efforts of local and county officials, the potential for hunting accidents or injuries on remote work sites mean that EMS response times in the more

isolated parts of the county range up to 20 minutes.

In order to help address this problem, civic-minded volunteers established a First Responder unit in Sheridan.

In service since June 1, the

Continued on back page

Passes By 3 to 2 Vote City To Pursue Hangar Grant

By Fred Kaiser
The Eagle Lake City Council voted 3-2 at their meeting July 25 to approve a resolution requesting grant funds to allow for the construction of new hangar facilities at Eagle Lake Airport.

Councilmen Larry Contreras, John Young and Chriss Schuirring voted in favor with Councilman Dave Curry and Councilwoman Jane Meldahl voting against.

The Texas Department of Transportation plans to allocate \$113,000, with the City of Eagle Lake providing \$28,250 in matching funds.

The planned development consists of one new hangar building with two bays.

The city plans to finance its portion of the construction through a loan.

City Manager Ron Holland said he expects the revenue from renting the hangars to total around \$1,200 per month, with about a \$500 per month payment toward the loan.

Mayor Mike Morales objected to the plan, calling it a 'blank check' and saying that, "I wanted the city to know that this was not a decision made by the Mayor."

He continued by saying, "I am going by what I think is best for the city."

In other council action: -The council approved an ordinance forbidding the keeping of bees within the Eagle Lake city limits and making it a class C misdemeanor offense punishable

by a fine of up to \$500. -The council also considered an ordinance that would repeal the city's power to issue journeyman and master electrician's licenses, abolish the city electrical board, and recognize electricians licensed by the state of Texas.

Electricians must also show proof of liability insurance.

The council tabled to ordinance in order to insert a grandfather clause allowing electricians currently licensed by the city to continue operating in Eagle Lake.

The council plans to reconsider the revised ordinance at their next meeting.

-Public Works Director Thur-

ston Webb reported on the status of the city's repair of the city's garbage truck. The truck returned to service August 1.

He also discussed the possibility of purchasing a new truck. A truck roughly equivalent to the city's current model currently costs \$136,000, an increase of roughly nine percent from last year. Holland said the council will likely wait to consider the purchase until the next fiscal year.

-Chief of Police Bill Latimore reported on the purchase of two new radar units, two new computers, and one additional taser.

The purchases cost roughly

Continued on back page

Llanos To Serve 60 Days In Jail

An 18-year old El Campo high school student on probation for five counts of negligent homicide received 60 days in jail for probation violations.

After reviewing the State's motion to revoke and receiving input from the Community Supervision and Corrections Department, Colorado County District Court Judge Dwight Peschel ordered Christina Llanos' conditions of probation modified. Llanos was taken into immediate custody to

begin serving 60 days in the Colorado County Jail. Upon her release from jail she will be required to attend anger management classes, submit to an MHMR evaluation and avoid contact with the victim of a Terroristic Threat alleged to have been committed in Wharton County. She will still be under rules of probation upon her release from jail.

Christina Llanos pleaded

Continued on back page

NEWSBRIEFS

CCA Banquet is tonight

The CCA Live Oak Chapter will hold their banquet Thursday, Aug. 3 at the Columbus KC Hall. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the dinner at 7 p.m. Advance tickets are \$25; at the door \$30; 12 and under, \$10. Door prizes will be given and there will be a live and silent auction. Corporate tables are available for \$400. For more information call Dwight Mazac at 979-732-5786 or 732-5635 or Todd Radke at 732-0486.

Community softball event set

Would you like to participate in a Community Co-Ed Softball League? Registration deadline is Aug. 3 with a \$25 registration fee. You must be 18 years or older to play. Concession booths will be available. For more information call 281-989-2555 or 9790257-7835.

RHS to register new students

Rice High School (RHS) will be registering new students to the district through Thursday, Aug. 3 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Counselor's office. To enroll in RHS you will need to bring: proof of residency in the school district; copy of the student's birth certificate; original copy of the student's social security card so a copy can be made; copy of the student's immunizations; and a withdrawal form from the previous school, signed by the parent or guardian that is enrolling the student.

Also, RHS students can pick up their schedules Monday, Aug. 7 and Tuesday, Aug. 8 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the counselor's office at RHS.

Senior citizens dance is Friday

A Senior Citizens Dance will be held Friday, Aug. 4 from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Admission is \$6 per person. The Fabulous 4 will provide the music. For more information call 979-234-2903.

Beauty captivates beast at plaza

The Footeliter of the Community Theatre of Wharton and Betty and Sylvan Miori present Disney's Beauty and the Beast Friday through Sunday August 4-20 at the Plaza Theater on the Square in Wharton. Curtaintime is 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets are \$15 for adults, with discounts available for full-time students age 22 and under, seniors age 65 and over, and groups of 10 or more. Reservations are advised. For tickets, reservations or additional information, call 979-282-2970 or visit www.whartonplazatheater.org.

Sheridan 4-H to hold BBQ Saturday

The Sheridan 4-H Club will hold a BBQ fundraiser at the Sheridan Community Center, Saturday, Aug. 5 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. The meal will consist of brisket, sausage, German potatoes, green beans, dessert and tea. They will also hold a drawing, silent auction, plant and prize drawing and cake walk. For ticket information call 234-2426 or 234-3739. The proceeds from this event will benefit those members who are showing animals at the Colorado County Fair.

MMBC Pastor's aide is this weekend

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church (MMBC) of Alleyton will present a Pastor's Aide Weekend "Ministering in Song and Dance" Saturday, Aug. 5 at 5 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 6 at 4 p.m. the church featuring gospel artists from all over Texas and surrounding area. The public is invited to attend. Admission is FREE. For more information call 281-935-3573.

St. Peter and Paul festival is Sunday

The Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Frelsburg will hold its

Continued on back page



Rice Athletes Gearing-Up For Year

Rice volleyball players take some initiative and participate in voluntary workouts to get ready for the start of practice next week.



Rice Harvest Rolls On

Area rice farmer David Guthman operates a rice combine in a field east of Eagle Lake as local rice harvesting continues.