

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

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## Grand Champion Steer

Kallie Fuchs exhibited the grand champion steer purchased by Tornado Trucking Inc. for \$7,000. On hand for recognition were, from left, Colorado County Fair Queen Kylee Werland, Junior Fair Queen Cortny Alvarez, Membership Queen Kayla Kana, Thomas Wostarek, Fuchs, Ashleigh Wostarek and Emily Mahalitic. Livestock Photos were taken by Treasured Portraits of Sealy. (More photos on pages 6 and 7)

## Fair Auction Brings \$273,596

Sales at the Colorado County Fair Junior Livestock Show on Saturday totaled \$273,596 for 170 exhibits.

The sales set a new record and surpassed last year's total by \$79,410.

Following are the Grand and Reserve Champion exhibitors at the show.

Grand Champion Market Steer- Kallie Fuchs; buyer, Tornado Trucking, \$7,000.

Grand Champion Commercial

Heifer, Austin Trojacek; buyer, Kerry and Joy Gilbert, \$5,250.

Grand Champion Pen of Three, Kevin Hillmer; buyer, Black Creek Drilling, \$6,500.

Grand Champion Market Hog, Jordan Mahalitic; buyer, Maverick Contractors Inc., \$4,750.

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## Will Vote September 26 City Holds Tax Hearings

By Fred Kaiser

The Eagle Lake City Council met Sept. 12 to conduct a public hearing on the proposed tax rate.

A regular session of the city council followed the public hearing.

Three members of the public attended the public hearing.

"Nobody likes increases and it'll be tough on folks around here, but we know [the council] is doing the best it can," said Rev. Joe James.

The council is considering a 16 percent increase in taxes and increases in water, sewer and garbage rates.

"I'm against increases, however our priority is to make sure that the city can provide basic services such as water, sewer, and garbage and these increases are necessary to do that," said Mayor Mike Morales during the hearing.

Gene Brown was the sole attendee at an additional public hearing concerning the tax rate of Sept. 19.

"I know that we have to cover the expenses to provide services, but a friend of mine may lose her house so if [the council] could cut anything out of the budget that would be great. I just wish more people would take an interest in

the process," said Brown.

The council plans to vote on the proposed rate Sept. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

In regular session the city council decided, in a 3-2 vote, not to waive the \$20 reconnect fee for customers in the New Town area who had not paid by Sept. 15.

New Town customers had until Sept. 15 to pay both their initial utility deposit and the fee for their meter, before being cut off.

Council members Larry Contreras, John Young, and Chris Schuirring voted not to waive the fee and Jane Meldahl and Dave Curry voted in favor of waiving

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## Rice Board Hears Bottled Water Plans

By Fred Kaiser

The Rice School District Board of Trustees heard a presentation at their regular meeting Monday from Dale Behm, chief operating officer of PureTex Waterworks, regarding a tax abatement for a bottled water plant that the company may build within the district's boundaries.

"This visit is more of a 'heads up', but we would be seeking a standard tax abatement in the neighborhood of 25 cents on every dollar over the next ten years," said Behm.

Behm said that PureTex Waterworks plans to drill three 1,200 foot deep wells that would operate on an alternating basis to supply the plant with water.

Behm said total water usage

would amount to approximately 1,500 acre feet per year.

When questioned by Rice Superintendent Mike Lanier, Behm said the company would be willing

to provide legal guarantees that pumping would not exceed 1500 acre feet per year.

However, Lanier also raised

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## Columbus Woman Charged In Child's Death

A 20-year-old Columbus woman has been charged with capital murder in the death of a 14-month-old child.

The suspect was identified as Brittanie Nichole Kloesel. She was arrested Sept. 15 after giving a statement to sheriff's investigators. Bond was set at \$100,000 by Peace Justice Dodie Dungen.

The victim was identified as

Emily K. Fitzgerald.

Sheriff's Lt. Troy Neisner said that Kloesel is the step-mother of the child.

According to Neisner, deputies were called to the Columbus Community Hospital emergency room about 9 p.m. Sept. 7 "in reference to the death of a 14-month-old child that occurred at

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Historical group meets tonight

The Colorado County Historical Commission will hold their monthly meeting Thursday, Sept. 21 at the Prairie Edge Museum, 408 E. Main St., in Eagle Lake. Sidney Struss will present the program, "Rise and Fall of the Eagle Lake High School". Hosts for the event are Eve Lucas, Evelyn Stowers, Len and Pat Matula and William and Shirley Kell. Please bring a covered dish meal.

### EH Henry meeting is tonight

The E.H. Henry Alumni and Ex-students will hold their monthly meeting Thursday, Sept. 21 at White Cloud Baptist Church. The meeting will start at 6 p.m.

### County Tax Office to be closed

The office of the County Tax Assessor (CTA) Collector will be closed Friday, Sept. 22 to attend new legislation training from the Texas Department of Transportation. Regular business hours will resume Monday, Sept. 25. If you have any questions please call Mary Jane Poenitzsch at 979-732-2710.

### Sheridan 4-H to meet Sept. 24

The Sheridan 4-H Club will meet Sunday, Sept. 24 at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Larry and Darnell Varley. Please bring your lawn chairs. If you need directions call 234-2426.

### SIDS workshop offered

A SIDS/Shaken Baby Syndrome Workshop will be offered by the Texas Cooperative Extension Office of Colorado County for Child Care Providers on Tuesday, Sept. 26 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the conference room in the County Agriculture Building, 316 Spring St. in Columbus. This workshop will fulfill the requirements for the annual, mandatory training for child care providers. For further information or to register, contact the Colorado County Extension Office at 979-732-2530.

### College/Career fair at RHS

On Thursday, Sept. 28, Columbus High School and Rice High School (RHS) will co-host their annual College/Career Fair for juniors and seniors in each school. Parents of these students are also invited to attend. The event will be held in Jack Grammer Gymnasium of RHS in Altair from 1 to 3 p.m. If you represent a local school or business and would like to participate in the fair with other colleges, technical schools, and military recruiters please contact Lee Politsch at RHS at 234-3535 for more information.

### Mentz picnic is Oct. 1

The 152 annual Mentz Picnic will be held Sunday, Oct. 1 at St. Roch's Church. Holy Mass at 10 a.m. Serving begins at 11 a.m. till 2 p.m. Enjoy BBQ beef, pork and sausage with all the trimmings. Adults, \$7; children under 12, \$3.50 (tea included). Drive-thru line and BBQ and sausage sold by the pound at the pit. Get a hamburger at 3 p.m. The auction starts at 1 p.m., and bingo from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Enjoy music throughout the day by Bobby Jones. Bouncin' Buddies will provide entertainment for the kids. Stop by the country store and take part in the cake and grocery walk.

### First annual reunion set for Oct. 7

The first annual Autry, Upson and Thomas family reunion is set for Oct. 7 at Andrew Hall in Eagle Lake. If you need any information call Aberleen Lemons at 979-234-7124 or Ruby Johnson at 234-3567. It is asked that each family pay \$25; each single person, \$10 and for each additional guest, \$10. Please forward your money to the aforementioned persons on or before Sept. 22.

### GED Classes to be held in Weimar

General Educational Development (GED) classes in preparation for the High School Equivalency Examination will be held every Monday and Tuesday evenings. Persons wanting to attend must pre-register to sign up for the classes by calling or contacting Jerry

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## Rice Beats Brookshire 50-24

The Rice Raider Football team put together an impressive 50-24 win over Brookshire-Royal last Friday night in Brookshire.

"It's our explosiveness that makes us the most dangerous," said Coach Brad Dumont about the Raiders win Friday.

"We feel like if someone lets up a little, we can explode quickly," he added.

Quarterback Taylor Cook had a great night connecting on nine of 20 pass attempts for 188 yards including three touchdowns. Cook also ran for one touchdown and 17 yards.

"Cook is progressing very well. His yards are good," said Dumont of Cook's performance.

Ziggy Foster paced the rushing attack with 133 yards on 17

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## Above and Beyond The Call of Duty Awards

Four Colorado County law enforcement officers were given the annual Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award by Colorado County Attorney Ken Sparks for utilizing superior investigative skills to develop prosecutable cases. Shown above are Sparks, Lt. Wendy Alley, Chief W.E. Lattimore, and Sgt. Stephen Nelson of the Eagle Lake Police Department and Deputy Jeremy Pardo of the Colorado County Sheriff's Office.



## Eagle Lake City Council Honors Citizens

The Eagle Lake City Council presented a resolution last week honoring two Eagle Lake citizens for their role in helping stop an assault in progress on January 31 of this year. Eugenia Ruiz and Julia Barrios were on a walk when they noticed something wrong and heard the screams of Anita Contreras from her home. They approached and banged on the door and windows causing the assailant to run away, leaving behind crucial evidence that was used to apprehend him later. Pictured are: Councilman John Young, Alvina Ramirez (Contreras's daughter), Anita Contreras, Councilman Larry Contreras, Eugenia Ruiz, Mayor Mike Morales, Julia Barrios, Councilman Dave Curry, Councilwoman Jane Meldahl and Councilman Chriss Schuirring.