



The Eagle Lake Fire Department draped their truck in black streamer in remembrance of Malcom Thomas.

Greater Rising Star Baptist Church Brotherhood

580 Old Altair Road

Will sell lunches, Friday, Dec. 15, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Come try some delicious fried chicken, butter potatoes, green beans, dessert, bread and a drink.

Plates are \$6 each. Delivery Available!!

Call 979-234-2423 (church) • 979-232-0560

SUGARY TREATS

Even though there are many kinds of bacteria in our mouths, only a few are associated with cavities.

When these bacteria find carbohydrates, they digest them and produce acid. As "sugary foods" (candy, sugar frosted breakfast cereals, ice cream, soda, etc.) and other carbohydrates are eaten, the acid level in the mouth increases. It is this acid that begins to dissolve the hard enamel that forms the outer coating for our teeth. Every exposure to these goods allows an acid attack on the teeth for about twenty minutes.

Some dentists tell their patients to avoid most or all foods that contain a high quality of sugar to help prevent cavities.

A more realistic bit of advice is to avoid sugary foods if you can, but if you can't, just make sure you brush your teeth right afterwards.

Presented as a service to the community by:

SEALY DENTAL CENTER

Wesley Zboril, D.D.S. 979-885-4856
226 4th Street • Sealy, Texas Se Habla Espanol

FALL SPECIALS

SAVE \$60. SAVE \$99.

New Patient Exam & X-rays

\$30

Dental Bleaching

Reg. Price \$300

Legion Holds Christmas Dinner

W. Cherry-M. Perry American Legion Post #108 celebrated Christmas Tuesday December 5 with a dinner at The Farris 1912.

Honored guests were Evelyn Thomas, Jean Thornton, Kathryn Mehner, and Virginia Bauer.

Following the meal, Sidney Struss gave a brief speech, PEACE DURING WARTIME, relating the story of World War I in 1914 when the British and the German armies had an informal armistice at Christmastime.

Door prizes were awarded to Legion members Mark Anderson, Rollin Baker, Ted Brunner, Fred Frnka, David Haas, Frank Higgins, Marshall Holloway, Henry Kretschmar, and Ralph Truly.

A gift basket of rice products was presented to speaker Struss, courtesy of the Eagle Lake Rice Dryer.



Best Non-Profit

The Eagle Lake Gator Swim Team Won the Non-Profit category.

Host The Perfect Holiday Party

It's time to hang the lights, dust off the china, pull out your favorite recipes and get set to throw the perfect bash.

In fact, more of us would get in the party spirit if throwing a holiday shindig weren't so much trouble.

Although nearly half of Americans report experiencing stress during the holidays, according to a recent Gallup survey, holiday entertaining should be an enjoyable form of self-expression.

Entertaining at home can be made much easier by knowing how to use common household items to dress up your party, foregoing the need for lots expensive or time-consuming decorations.

"Whether you're having the in-laws over for brunch or hosting an elaborate cocktail party with co-workers, entertaining can be simple and fun if you plan ahead and take inventory of your belongings," said Robert Zollweg, creative director for Libbey Inc., a leading provider of tableware products. "Everyday household items, such as martini and wine glasses as well as forgotten dishes, can be transformed into elegant conversation pieces, making it quick and easy to make a lasting impression on your guests."

For your next holiday gathering, try one of these simple tips from the entertaining experts at Libbey:

* Cut down on the holiday chores by throwing a themed holiday pre-party with friends, such as a bake-off, tree decorating or gift wrapping party.

* To engage your guests, set up a do-it-yourself bar. Instead of the old standby, make it a hot cocoa or eggnog bar. Offer different liquors, toppings and recipe starters.

* Take photos of guests throughout the night. Use them for a holiday scrapbook or send them to your guests in their holiday card.

* Set up a station where guests can make their own wine charm. Have on hand a variety of charms, ornaments, stones and beads. It also makes a great keepsake.

* Play old holiday movies on a projector or flat screen with the sound muted. This makes for a simple and fun backdrop.

* For an easy centerpiece, fill a clear bowl with greens, kumquats, oranges, crab apples or multi-colored glass ornaments. Finish with holiday greenery or seasonal

white flowers.

* Fill drinking glasses -- stemless wine glasses work great -- with decorative stones, then place a tea light inside.

Or, turn traditional wine glasses upside down and use them as candleholders. Use different heights and group them together for an elegant look.

* Use clear martini glasses or margarita glasses to serve eggnog, desserts, sorbets, condiments or other side dishes.

* Fill beer pilsners with nuts, mints and other candy and use ribbon to tie a bow at the stem. Place glasses throughout the house so guests can munch while mingling.

* Broke a saucer? Missing a

plate? Create a festive look by mixing and matching patterns.

* Create custom glassware by painting a simple pattern onto a plain wine glass, using egg whites and a small paintbrush -- immediately sprinkle fine sugar over the egg-white pattern.

* An inexpensive way to dress up your party is to pick up some specialty barware like unusual martini glasses or stemless wine glasses.

Whether you are throwing an elaborate dinner party or an impromptu get-together, some simple touches can make any holiday bash more festive.

For more free entertaining tips, visit www.Libbey.com and click on "For Your Home."

USDA Announces Rural Telecommunication Loans

Deputy Agriculture Secretary Chuck Conner announced that broadband and telecommunications loans totaling almost \$210 million are being awarded to communications firms in four states.

The funds, provided through two USDA Rural Development programs, will allow for the extension of new and improved telecommunications services to more than 40,000 residential and business subscribers.

In Texas, the Southwest Texas Telephone Company of Rocksprings will receive a loan to connect 68 new consumers and deploy 125 miles of cable in six counties of Edwards, Real, Medina, Uvalde, Val Verde, and Bandera.

"Providing state-of-the-art communications service in rural areas not only allows for improved access to educational services, it promotes the development of business ventures and increased job opportunities," said Conner. "This is part of the President's commitment to make quality communications services available to the residents of rural America."

Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director in Texas, said "These funds will provide for the expansion of the telecommunications infrastructure and is important to the residents of the area," said Daniel. "The funds further demonstrate USDA Rural Development's dedication to enhancing the quality of life in

rural Texas."

The USDA Rural Development telecommunications loan program, consisting of hardship, cost of money, and guaranteed loans, finances voice telephone service, and since 1995, every telephone line this program has constructed has been capable of providing broadband service using digital subscriber loop (DSL) technology.

The loan program authorizes USDA Rural Development to make loans to deploy broadband service to communities with a population of 20,000 or less, with first priority going to communities without broadband service. The loans are low interest and allow for the technology to be market driven.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life in rural communities. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development has invested over \$76 billion since the beginning of the Bush Administration to provide equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

About 1.5 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments.

Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office.

South Texas Medical Clinics Newest Women's Health Care Specialist



Karyn-Anne Cumberbatch, M.D.
Board Certified OB/GYN



Dr. Cumberbatch comes to STMC from Georgia. She completed her internship and residency at Howard University in Washington, DC and has been board certified by the American Board of OB/GYN since 1998.

South Texas Medical Clinics OB/GYN Team cares for the health of women from teen through maturity, pregnancy through menopause.

Most major insurance plans are accepted including Medicare and Medicaid.

Women's Health Specialists - Wharton

Karyn-Anne Cumberbatch, M.D.

John Fink, M.D.

Jeffery Gubbels, M.D.

Marc Sangalli, M.D.

Maureen Voulgaris, R.N.-C

Greg Keffer, M.D.*
(979) 245-4555

*Also in Bay City

James Ely, M.D.*
(979) 245-3690



South Texas Medical Clinics, P.A.

stxmc.com

2100 Regional Medical Drive, Wharton

979-532-1700

Fill Yourself With Holiday Spirits at

The Liquor Barn

300 Boothe Drive • Eagle Lake

979-234-5661

Open Mon-Sat 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Headlight Subscriptions Make Great Stocking Stuffers

Call Today 979-234-5521