

Eagle Lake Headlight

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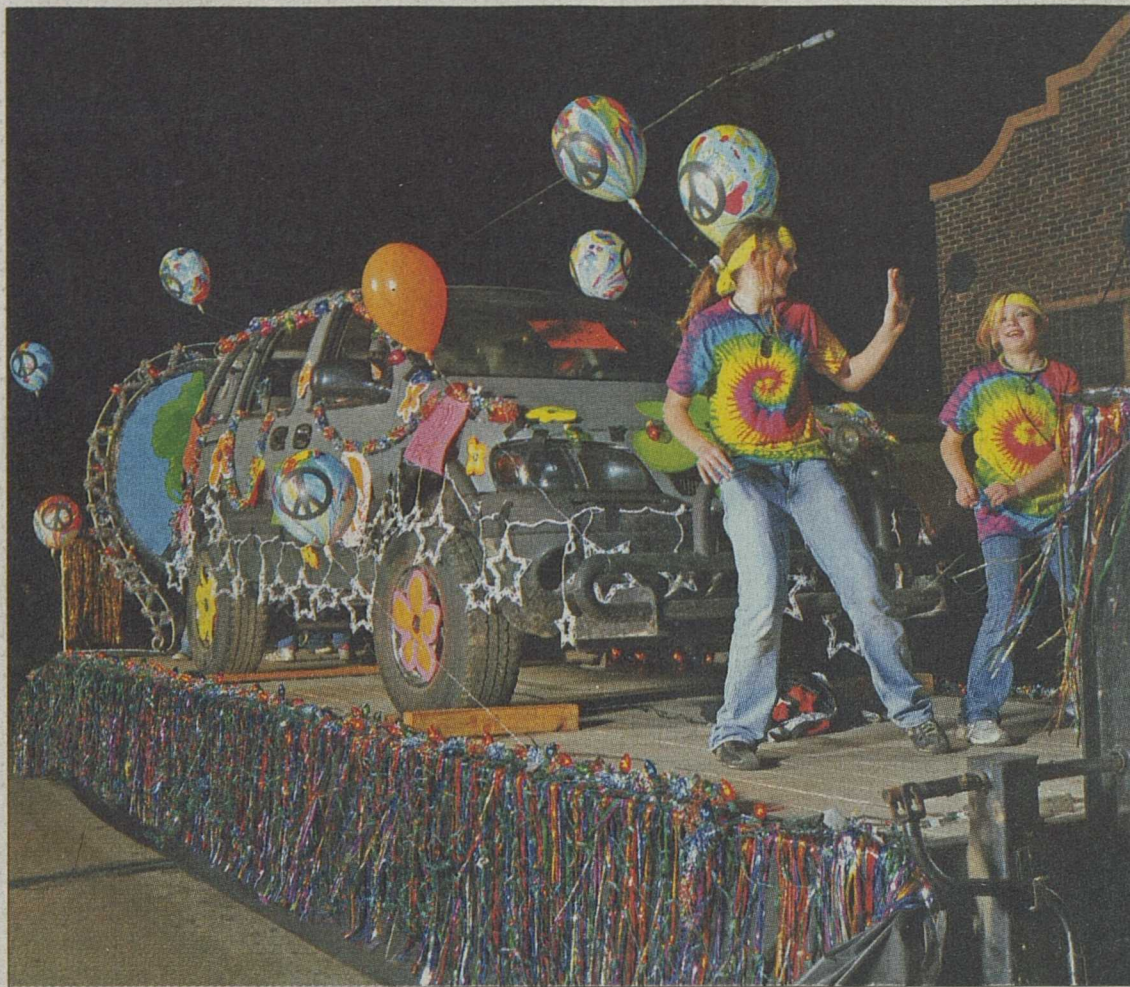
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VOLUME 106 NUMBER 39

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

DECEMBER 17, 2009



Golden Goose Design won the Grand Marshal's Award in the Chamber's Annual Parade of Lights held Saturday. The parade had over 50 entries, the most in recent memory.



Joe Mike's Crew and First National Bank took the Traditional Christmas Award with their horses and horse drawn carriage. More parade pictures on pgs. 14 and B10.

Rice CISD Approves Projects; Talks Football Stadium Improvements

The Rice CISD Board of Trustees voted to move forward with several projects around the district and also discussed possible improvements to the football stadium.

The projects were recommended by a facilities committee and were also discussed at the previous board meeting.

The board discussed replacing the fence at the football stadium as well as the possible construction of a new concession stand and restroom facility.

The issue is one that has come up several times in recent years, but has not been pursued due to other needs in the district.

"Those facilities are 40 years old and it is time to start looking at some of this," said Superintendent Michael Lanier.

The district currently has a contract with Bay Architects for work on the Eagle Lake Intermediate School and the district discussed the possible football field work with them.

Bay Architects said that they would be willing to work on drawings for the district and if they wanted to pursue it further after that, they could amend their current contract to include this work.

The board agreed to proceed with getting drawings done at a cost not to exceed \$7,000. This will give the district a better idea of what the project would cost if they were to go ahead.

Other items mentioned along with the fence, concession stand and rest rooms were the press box and home side seating.

Lanier noted that seating capacity on the home side has been an issue for a while and that the press box is very outdated.

There was no discussion as to how the district would pay for a project like this, if it were to proceed.

The board voted to go ahead with several small projects at various campuses.

The two largest projects on the list are renovation of rest rooms in Sheridan and demolition of an old field house, also in Sheridan.

Both of those projects have an estimated cost of \$7,500.

It was noted that there was a small amount of asbestos in the field house and that the proper procedures have been gone through for dealing with it.

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County Approves Weimar Land Purchase For EMS

Colorado County commissioners, meeting Monday, authorized purchase of a lot in Weimar for construction of a new building to house Emergency Medical Service ambulances.

The 60 by 89-foot vacant lot is just west of the Precinct No. 2 maintenance yard on Church Street.

Commissioner Herbie Helmcamp said the Weimar Volunteer Fire Department needs the area now used to house the EMS in the fire station.

Commissioners had earlier set aside \$100,000 for an EMS building.

Helmcamp said the building would have space for two ambulances as well as an area for EMS personnel to stay while on their shifts between calls.

In other action, commissioners:

—Were told a "fly-in" at Robert R. Wells Airport in memory of Robert "Bobby" Cowart, the former airport manager, will be held

at 10 a.m. on Dec. 19. Cowart died earlier this year.

—Heard that repairs had been completed to the courthouse elevator and the sewer line.

—Were told that work on the

courthouse roof and dome was substantially complete.

—Appointed Darrell Gertson as county judge pro-tem for 2010.

—Accepted bids for herbicides

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Cause Of Fatal House Fire Still Pending

The cause of a fire that claimed the life of teenager just south of Eagle Lake remained under investigation Tuesday.

Sheriff's Lt. Troy Neisner said the state Fire Marshal's Office was investigating the cause and a report on their investigation has not been filed.

Troy Eugene Richardson, 13, a student at Rice Junior High died in the fire that broke out after midnight on Dec. 7 at a residence at 4878 FM 102 South in the Matthew community.

His grandparents, Andrew

and Deborah Jones and a cousin, Laquita Shropshire were able to escape.

The grandfather attempted to re-enter the dwelling to get Troy, but was driven back by intense smoke and flames.

The family lost all of their possessions and clothes in the fire.

A fund to help the family has been set up at First National Bank of Eagle Lake.

Also donations of clothing and other household items were being accepted at the home of Jewel Hurd at 1750 Strickland Lane, 979-234-3527.

NEWSBRIEFS

Mt. Olive taking donations for Fire Victims

Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church (GMOBC) is a drop off place for the Jones Family. If you are interested in donating any items you can do so by dropping them off at GMOBC or any of the other locations. If you'd like to drop off items at GMOBC please call Olivia Maxie at 979-234-7062.

Residential sewer averaging

Annual residential sewer rates are determined by water consumption from through March 15. The readings for these three months are averaged and that average will be your sewer charge for the next 12 months, starting April 1, 2010. Customers are encouraged to fix any water leaks as soon as possible and limit water usage (like watering grass or washing cars) in an effort to keep water consumptions at a minimum during this time. Each residential sewer rate is based on the actual water consumed at that particular location. If you have any questions, please call city hall at 234-2640.

Lady Raiders vs. Cancer

The Lady Raiders will be hosting the Needville Lady Jays on Friday, Dec. 18 at 6:15 p.m. This won't be any ordinary basketball night as the Varsity team will dedicate the game in support of the American Cancer Society. Donations will be accepted at the gate or anyone interested can pledge money to a player for the amount of points she will individually score. During halftime of the varsity game, we will celebrate the success of cancer research as all Rice Consolidated cancer survivors are honored. Please join us if you are a survivor, a victim, or a citizen willing to support a wonderful cause! Any donation will be greatly appreciated. See you on the 18th!

3rd Annual Old Skool X-Mas Bash

Advance Tickets are on sale for the 3rd Annual Old Skool X-Mas Bash held on Dec. 19, at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. For ticket purchases or more information please contact: Kevin Earls 979-997-2853, Jerome McAfee 979-531-9070, or at: oldskool2007@sbcglobal.net. Also, if you wish to make a charitable donation to the Old Skool Organization, please visit the First National Bank of Eagle Lake. iStriving to support and broaden our kids' horizons, One Child at a time.

Closing for Christmas holiday

The following will be closed in observance of the Christmas. The First National Bank will be closed at noon on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, closed Christmas Day. The Post Office will be closed Friday. The City office will be closed Friday. For Christmas Eve pickup (Thursday) you are asked to have your trash out early. The Wintermann Library will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Wallis State Bank will close at 2 p.m. on Christmas Eve, closed Christmas Day. The Colorado County Courthouse will be closed Dec. 24 and 25. The Eagle Lake Headlight will be closed Christmas Day.

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Many Christmas Services Planned For Area

Eagle Lake residents will celebrate Christmas with a variety of family and religious services. A number of churches will be holding special services.

Here are some of the observances planned:

Christ Episcopal Church:

Christmas Eve service will be held Thursday, December 24 at 6 p.m. The church is located at the 401 N. Lake @ Stockbridge (the pink church).

Living Hope Church: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6 p.m. New Year's Eve service, 9 p.m. to midnight (prayer service).

The Children of Altair:

Welcome everyone to come to their Christmas program and celebration, Friday, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. The program will be held

at Wright Grove Baptist Church, 1129 Challenge St. in Altair. Please come out and support the youth.

Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church:

Will host Texas Teen Challenge on Sunday, Dec. 20 at 11:30 a.m. Rev. Dave Curry and the entire congregation invite the public to hear the "Voices of Hope" along with singing and testimonies.

Greater Eagle Lake Ministries:

Will hold a New Year's Eve service at White Cloud Baptist Church from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m.

United Methodist of Eagle Lake:

Christmas Eve Candlelight services will be held at 5 p.m.

Lehrer Memorial United Methodist Church of Garwood: Christmas Eve Candlelight

services will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, December 24. Bill Carpenter will be singing "O Holy Night" accompanied by his daughter, Christine on piano.

City Council Looking Into Honoring Rev. Coby Shorter

The Eagle Lake City Council discussed the possibility of renaming or dedicating Seaholm Street in honor of Rev. Coby Shorter, who recently passed away.

The matter was brought to council at the previous meeting by H. O. Williams.

Williams was on hand to discuss the matter and said that basically he wanted to honor the

Parish of the Nativity of Eagle Lake:

Thursday, December 24

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life of an important figure in the community.

"This man's life should not be forgotten because he has generated many great things in the community," said Williams.

A member of the Seaholm family was on hand and indicated that they would like to investigate further why the street was originally named Seaholm before

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The Eagle Lake Civic Garden Club handed out Christmas lighting awards Tuesday night. First Place is the home of Johnny and Scharlene Prazak at 807 Austin Road. The Prazaks used angels and the nativity scene for decorating. More pictures and story on page B10.