



Eagle Lake Headlight

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VOLUME 106 NUMBER 40

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

DECEMBER 24, 2009

Christmas Services Listed

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:

First Presbyterian Church: Christmas Eve service will be held Thursday, December 24 at 5 p.m. The church is located at the 106 E. State St. The public is invited.

First Baptist Church: Christmas Eve service will be held Thursday, December 24 at 6 p.m. The service will be "Lessons and carols".

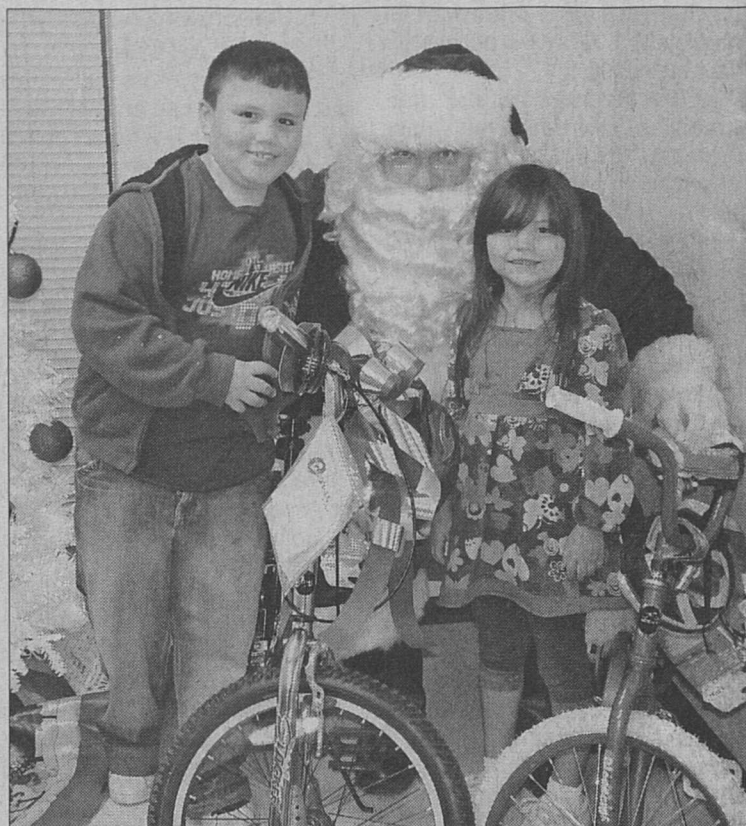
Christ Episcopal Church: Christmas Eve service will be held Thursday, December 24 at 6 p.m. The church is located at the 401 N. Lake @ Stockbridge (pink church).

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 lots of singing



Pictured with Deputy Santa are Robert Paul Moreida, Jr. and his sister, Pricilla Moreida of Eagle Lake. Story on page 3.

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 10 Holy Night accompanied by his daughter, Christine.

Parish of the Nativity of Eagle Lake:

Thursday, December 24

Continued on page 8

Murder Charges For Eagle Lake Woman After Fatal Collision

Gary McTear, Jr., 23 of Eagle Lake, is dead and a 22-year old Eagle Lake woman, Crystal Smith, has been charged with murder following an altercation that ended with Smith allegedly running over McTear with a vehicle.

The incident happened in the early hours of Tuesday morning, December 22.

Eagle Lake police officers were dispatched to the scene in the 300 block of Fourth Street at about 1:15 a.m.

When they arrived on scene, they found McTear dead under a 1993 Ford Taurus.

Justice of the Peace George Cason pronounced McTear dead on the scene and ordered an autopsy.

Eagle Lake Police Chief W. E. Lattimore said that the investigation is ongoing and that they are still interviewing witnesses and trying to get all of the details.

He said that there are individuals who directly witnessed the incident.

He said that it was his understanding that McTear and Smith had been dating since about April of this year.

Lattimore said there were reports that the woman was ending the relationship with McTear on the night of the incident when an altercation arose, ending with the fatal collision.

Lattimore said that this morning, Smith called in to the police department and that he then went and picked her up and brought her in to the station.

He said that she gave a statement to him about the collision.

Lattimore said that early indications from the medical examiner suggest that McTear died from injuries received when he was hit by the vehicle.

He said that Smith has been

charged with murder and is being held at the Colorado County Detention Center. Bond was set at \$1 million by Judge Cason.



Gary McTear, Jr.

Shorter Honored As Parade Marshal

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce Parade of Lights - "Christmas Around the World" was honored to have Mrs. Claudine Brooks Shorter serve as the 2009 Parade Marshal honoring not only her contributions to Eagle Lake but also her late husband, Reverend Coby Shorter, Jr.

Mrs. Claudine Brooks Shorter was born in Egypt, Texas, to Mr. and Mrs. Young Brooks. She was reared by her aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Campbell after the death of both parents at age 3.

Mrs. Shorter attended public schools in Egypt, Texas City, and Galveston and graduated from Powell Point High School in Kendleton in 1950.

She went on to receive her Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Huston-Tillotson University in Austin in 1954 with Secondary and Elementary Certification and her Master of Secondary Education degree was received from Texas Southern University in Houston in 1963.

Mrs. Shorter received additional postgraduate instruction from the University of Houston in Houston and the University of Texas and St. Edwards University in Austin.

Mrs. Shorter teaching career began in the Houston Independent School District in 1955 and continued in 1956 at the Powell Point High School in Kendleton, teaching science, physical education and typing.

Mrs. Shorter's service in the Eagle Lake Independent and Rice Consolidated School Districts began at E.H. Henry in 1963. This service included instruction in first grade, third grade science, high school physical education, Jr. High mathematics and elementary courses in the Rice Consolidated GED program.

Mrs. Shorter continued to serve in the education profession for a total of 35 years with a retirement in 1990. She continued to serve as a substitute teacher after retirement in the Kendleton ISD under the supervision of a former student serving as the superintendent of the district.

Mrs. Shorter was listed in Who's Who Among American Teachers in 1996, 2000 and in 2005 was distinguished as Eagle Lake Lady of the Year.

Mrs. Shorter has served in many organizations including the Colorado County Retired Teachers Association (Life Member); St. Roseway Chapter OES; Diamond Life member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, INC, a public service sorority and is a charter member



Claudine Brooks Shorter

of Suburban Houston-Fort Bend Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, INC Missouri City, TX; Colorado County 4-H Adult Leaders member; Eagle Lake 4-H manager & project leader; Eagle Lake United Way; and Houston Tillotson University Alumni Association.

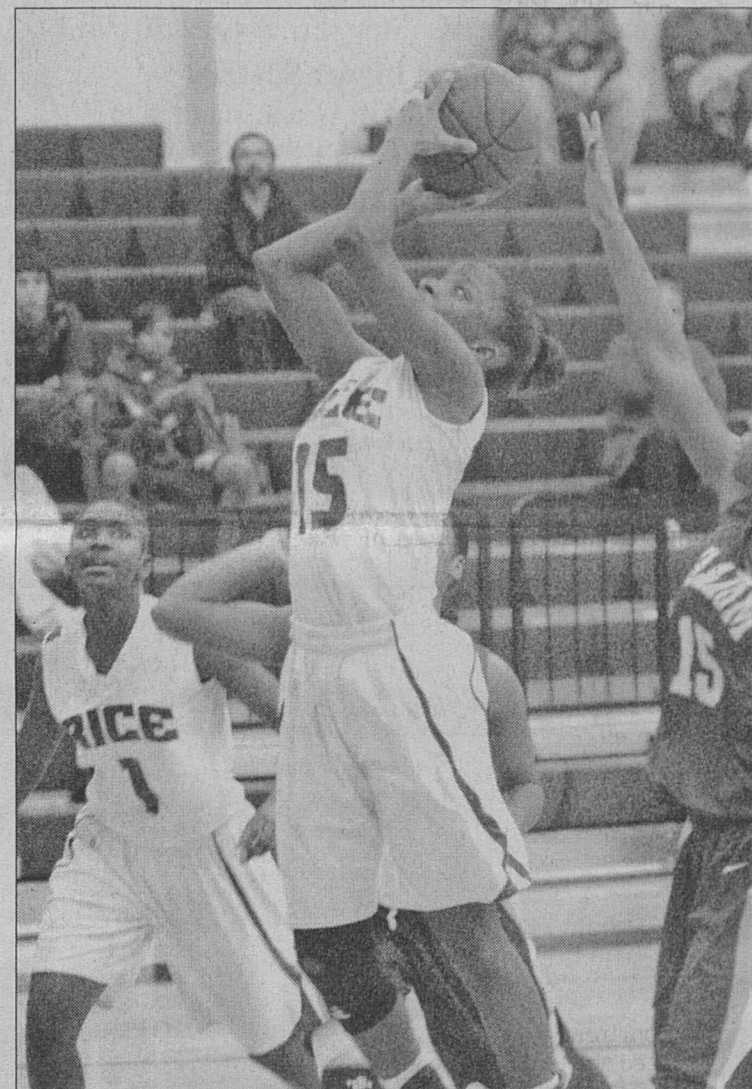
Mrs. Shorter's religious activities over her many years of service include serving as the church corresponding secretary; member of Mission I and Bible Band, Finance and program committees, Sunday school teacher, youth sponsor, and served as member of Mission I Education Committee in Independent Missionary Baptist General Association of Texas.

Mrs. Claudine Brooks married Reverend Coby Shorter, Jr. in Egypt in 1954. They had three children, Sheryl Henry (Rudolph), Beryl Shorter, and Coby Shorter, III (Patricia) and have six grandchildren: Kirsten and Krystle Henry, Chelir, Ulysses, III and Alyssa Grady, and Coby IV.

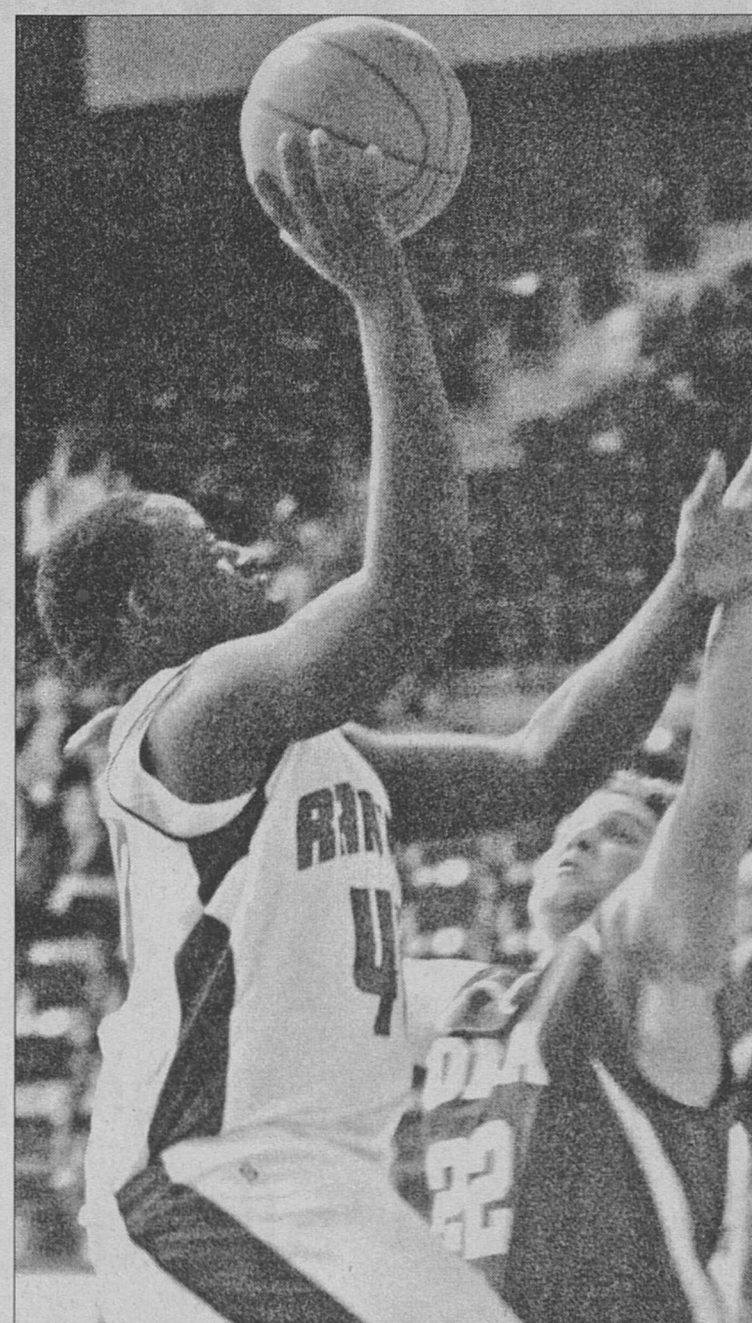
The Shorter's have been in Eagle Lake for nearly fifty years. Reverend Shorter's ministry as a pastor began in 1955. By 1956, he accepted the call to pastor the Union Baptist Church in Eagle Lake which later merged to be named Providence Baptist Church. Reverend Shorter was also a pastor in the Independent Missionary Baptist General Association of Texas for over 50 years.

Reverend Shorter and Mrs. Claudine Shorter constantly supported the community efforts without the need for personal accolades. They always insured that the community's needs were accomplished.

Reverend Shorter passed away October 26, 2009. We take this time as a community to thank the Shorter's for all of their involvement and dedication to the community throughout the years.



Anicia Williams takes a shot for the Lady Raiders.



Chris Farrow takes the ball in for a lay-up in recent Raider hardcourt action.

NEWSBRIEFS

Drop off location for fire donations

Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church (GMOBC) is a drop off place for the Jones Family who lost their home and possessions in a fire Dec. 7. 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.

Closing for Christmas holiday

The following will be closed in observance of the Christmas. The First National Bank will be close 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.

Fireworks show is Dec. 31

It's On! Eagle Lake New Year's Eve Fireworks Show. Join the celebration Thursday, Dec. 31 at 6:30 p.m. on Calhoun Road. For more information or to donate call 979-232-0233.

Project graduation meeting Jan. 4

There will be a Project Graduation meeting on Monday, January 4 at the Rice High School Commons at 6 p.m. Seniors and their parents are invited to attend. This is the last meeting before Senior Serve.

Habitat Orientation is Jan. 9

Colorado County Habitat for Humanity (CCHFH) will host an Orientation for Prospective Homeowners on Saturday January 9, 2010 at 10 a.m. at the Wintermann Library. Families interested in learning how to become a Habitat homeowner should plan to attend. Call 979-732-5677 to reserve a seat.

Alzheimer's class set

The Houston-Galveston Area Council/Area Agency on Aging and the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services are sponsoring a free, "Alzheimer's, Dementia and Communication" class, Saturday, January 23, from 10am - 2pm. This class will address the following areas; 1) Types of Dementia and diagnostic criteria, 2) Memory Systems, 3) Communication in each of the 3 stages of Alzheimer's, 4) The correlation of exercise and language, and 5) Sample exercises and language activities. The class will be held at: First United Methodist Church, 419 Washington Street in Columbus. Dress comfortably and wear sneakers or rubber-soled shoes. Snacks, juice and water will be provided. Bring your lunch, if you wish. Certificates are issued upon completion of the course. In addition, the first 50 class attendees will receive a free copy of the book entitled, Learning to Speak Alzheimer's. Please RSVP for this class by calling the toll free telephone number; 1-877-747-1542 by January 21.

