

Crime Stoppers 'Crime of Week'

The Eagle Lake Crime Stoppers is offering up to \$1,000 in reward for information which will lead to the arrest and indictment of any person or persons involved in the following burglaries of businesses:

Lake Oil Company (gas station at Main and Lake-side), Dec. 12, 1998; Lake Crest Flower Shop (McCarty at Union), Dec. 24 and Jan. 1; Golf Course Pro Shop (golf course), Dec. 25; Royal Cleaners (McCarty

at Main), Dec. 29 and Jan. 1; Shoppa's Farm Supply (John Deere), Dec. 30; and Eagle Lake Middle School (Tate Ave.) Jan. 1.

If you have any information involving these cases, or any case being investigated by the Eagle Lake Police Department, please call the Eagle Lake Crime Stopper at 234-5555 or the Eagle Lake Police Department at 234-2727. You will remain anonymous!

Eagle Lake Headlight

Jan. 7, 1999

(USPS 163-760)
Volume 95, No. 42
8 Pages Plus 2 Inserts
Eagle Publishing, Inc.
P.O. Box 67 — 220 E. Main St.
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067
409-234-5521

35¢ PER COPY

NEWSBRIEFS

RHS Western Art Show is Saturday

The Rice High School (RHS) Western Art Show will be held Saturday, Jan. 9, in the RHS commons. Students' art from all campuses will be on exhibit. Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (HLS&R) judges will arrive at 1:30 p.m. to hand out ribbons. The show will be closed to the public at this time. Winners will advance to the HLS&R Art Show and are eligible for scholarships and money from an auction held if they desire to release their art work.

ELPS PTO schedules meeting

The Eagle Lake Primary School (ELPS) PTO Support and Officers meeting is set for Monday, Jan. 11, at 6:30 p.m. at the Primary School.

The ELPS PTO regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Eagle Lake KC set dinner for Jan. 17

The Eagle Lake Knights of Columbus Council #4843 will be serving a fried chicken dinner Sunday, Jan. 17, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 710 E. Main. Tickets for the to-go plates are \$5 each and may be purchased from any KC member or in the serving line. The Rice High School National Honor Society will be selling dessert plates to raise money for their yearly trip.

PJs fundraiser set for Jan. 24

The Prairie Edge Juniors (PJs) has set their fundraiser for Sunday, Jan. 24. The barbecue beef with all the trimmings meal will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Austin's BBQ. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased starting Jan. 10 from any PJ member or by calling Sherry Thomas at 234-3251 or Mary Kay Cook at 234-2713. Desserts will also be sold.

SBE seeking high school seniors to compete

San Bernard Electric Cooperative (SBE) is sponsoring a Safety Poster Contest. The first place winner will receive a \$500 scholarship; second place, a \$200 scholarship; and third place, a \$100 scholarship. To be eligible, you must be a high school senior for the 1998-99 school year. The deadline for the contest is Feb. 3. All interested seniors may acquire detailed information and an entry form from your high school counselor or principal or at any SBE office.

Library closing for automation

The Eula and David Wintermann Library will be closed beginning Jan. 11 for a period of two to three weeks due to the automation project being instituted. Your patience is requested.

Study Club meeting set for Jan. 13

The Eagle Lake Study Club will meet Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 2 p.m. at the Eula and David Wintermann Library. The program to be given by Rev. Jim Crawford, pastor Methodist Church, will be entitled "Six Women in the Bible".

Jan. is National Glaucoma Awareness Month

Senior Friends of Gulf Coast Medical Center...January is National Glaucoma Awareness Month. Take advantage of a free Glaucoma Screening compliments of the El Campo Eye Center. Call 409-543-6821 to schedule your free appointment. For more information about Senior Friends contact Sherri Ziegenhals at 409-282-6808.

Little League meeting, Jan. 12

The Eagle Lake Little League will hold a meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. at the LCRA Pumping Plant. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Meet the new extension agent today

Everyone is invited to come by and get acquainted with Benard Mitchell, the new Colorado County Extension Agent for Agriculture, Thursday, Jan. 7, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the County Ag Building, located at 316 Spring Street in Columbus.

4-H rifle project underway

The Colorado County 4-H rifle project will get underway Thursday, Jan. 7, at 7 p.m. at the Columbus Elementary School (CES) cafeteria. A second safety meeting will be held Thursday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. in the CES gym. The project is open to boys and girls, ages third grade through 19 years, throughout the County. If interested stop by the Extension Office at 316 Spring St. to secure enrollment forms. Forms must be completed and turned in at the meeting on Jan. 7. For more information call 409-732-2530 or 732-2082.

Notice to sewer customers

In order to calculate residential sewer rates for the upcoming year, the City of Eagle Lake will be considering water consumptions of each customer from approximately Dec. 15 through March 15.

Customers are encouraged to fix any water leaks as soon as possible 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.

College Information Hotline '99 open Jan. 16, 17

All Texans can call a free hotline at 1-800-347-3475 on Jan. 16 and 17 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. to find out more about post-secondary educational opportunities and financial options.

Students and parents will be able to call the College Information Hotline with questions about college selection, admissions, testing and financial aid. The phones will be answered by professional admission counselors and financial aid personnel. Spanish-speaking counselors will also be available to answer questions.

Please take advantage of this free opportunity to explore opportunities in higher education.

Senior Friends highway clean up set for Jan. 13

Senior Friends will meet at 10 a.m. in the lobby of Gulf Coast Medical Center on Jan. 13 for the quarterly Highway Clean Up. Be sure to dress appropriately for the weather and bring gloves. After the Clean Up we will meet in the classrooms for a Warm-Up lunch and short meeting. For further information or to sign up for this project, call Sherri Ziegenhals at 409-282-6808.

Rice FFA Show, Sale set for Jan. 16

The Rice High School FFA Show and Sale will be held on Saturday, Jan. 16, starting at 8 a.m. The sale will begin at 1 p.m. A barbecue lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. catered by Austin's BBQ and Catering of Eagle Lake. There will be approximately 30 projects on which to bid.

ICE House needs volunteers

The Ice House has been well received by the youth of our community. A total of 470+ youth have attended to date, an average of 23-24 per day the ICE House has been open. We have signed up over 150 youth as members. With this

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\$1 Billion stamp hike Jan. 10 is 'greedy'

Submitted by the Coalition To Make Our First Class Mail FIRST CLASS

Congress denounced it, four years of record profits preceded it, postal executives planned a \$124,000 retirement party while demanding it and now postal consumers will pay for it.

The most controversial stamp hike in Postal Service history will take effect Sunday, Jan. 10 and the nation's largest coalition of everyday consumers of the Post Office says the process that brought it about screams for more accountability.

The increase in first stamp class stamp prices to 33¢ means another billion dollars a year in revenue for the

Postal Service, money members of the Coalition to Make Our First Class Mail FIRST CLASS say the agency doesn't need and will almost surely waste.

"There is not one good reason advanced by the Postal Service to justify the upcoming billion dollar increase in first class mail rates," said John F. Robinson, president and CEO of the National Minority Business Council (NMBC) which is a member of the coalition.

"Combine that with the fact no one—not even Congress—was able to halt this greedy money grab from the captive customers of the first class mail monopoly and you can see why

we must have more protection for postal customers in 1999.

"The final say on first class mail rates must be taken away from the Postal Service Board of Governors and given to the independent Postal Rate Commission."

Robinson pointed out that Congress—outraged by Postal Service shenanigans—voted 393-12 to demand no first class rate hike. Even that didn't deter the Postal Service Board of Governors who voted to approve the increase anyway.

While the controversy raged, postal executives were busy throwing a retirement party for outgoing Postmaster General Marvin Runyon. The

tony affair included a three course dinner, live music and a beautiful location inside the elegantly restored Union Station.

The final bill was more than \$124,000. All paid for by the same postal customers who these executives claimed must save the Postal Service from a crushing debt!

Robinson said the retirement party is just the latest example of Postal Service mis-spending money. Others include:

- Millions of dollars spent on feel-good advertising for the first class mail monopoly.

- Sponsoring a bike team in the Tour de France with its largely European audience.

- Losing almost \$85 million on starting up new non-delivery related products that largely compete with private business and do nothing to help get the mail delivered on time.

- 1998 year-end bonuses to 900 postal executives that averaged \$10,400 each despite ongoing serious delivery problems.

"The Postal Service is clearly an agency that is out of control and Congress has the power to rein it in," said Robinson. "It would be great if customers would use their first 33¢ stamp to send a letter to their congressional representative demanding more control over postal rates."

More information on the Coalition to Make Our First Class Mail FIRST CLASS is available at www.firstclassmail.org.

More than 200 organizations representing more than five million Americans are members of the coalition. They include the Association of Retired Americans, American GI Forum, National Ass'n of Realtors, Aging in America, National Federation of the Blind and the American Farm Bureau Federation.

30 Die on Texas roads over holiday

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) estimated that as many as 36 people could lose their lives on Texas roadways during Christmas Operation Motorcade which began at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24, and ended midnight Sunday, Dec. 27.

As of 3 p.m. Dec. 28, law enforcement agencies across Texas had reported 30 fatalities to the DPS.

While this is a final press release

for the Christmas holiday, the fatality count may increase if crash victims later succumb to their injuries.

Alcohol use has been a factor in at least eight crashes and speed contributed to at least seven fatal collisions.

Where seat belt usage is a concern, reports show eight people died with safety belts on, 15 people have been killed not wearing safety restraints, and it is unknown whether four were

wearing seat belts or not.

In addition, one pedestrian and two unhelmeted motorcyclists were also killed.

The final tabulations were not in for the New Year's holiday.

Those will be published when the information is available from the DPS.

Read about DPS online at <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us>.

EAGLE LAKE POLICE REPORT

The Eagle Lake Police Department reported the following calls and cases for the week ending Jan. 5.

On Dec. 30, Officer Michael Krenek was dispatched to the 100 block of W. Main Street in reference to criminal mischief. A report was filed.

At 7:21 a.m., Officer Krenek was advised of a burglary in the 1700 block of E. Main. Officer Krenek responded to the call and filed a report.

A fight was reported on E. Main at 8:58 p.m. and Sgt. Tim Crume responded to the call. However, there was no one fighting at the time of his arrival.

Dec. 31, at 12:44 a.m., Sgt. Crume was dispatched to Raezer Street in reference to a juvenile disturbance. The juvenile was located and escorted back home.

A burglary at 600 S. Austin Road was reported at 10:43 a.m. Lt. Clem Johnson responded to the call, gathered information and filed a report.

At 10:50 a.m., Officer Krenek was dispatched to the 300 block of N. Stevenson Street in reference to criminal mischief. A report was filed.

Jan. 1, at 1:28 a.m., Sgt. Crume conducted a traffic stop in the 100 block of Beaks Street which resulted in the driver, Rickey Toliver, being arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Toliver was processed at the police department and transported to the County Detention Center for confinement.

At 7:05 a.m., Officer Krenek and Sgt. Crume responded to a burglary of a building in the 700 block of Tate Avenue. Information was gathered and a report filed.

At 8:14 a.m., Officer Krenek was dispatched to a burglary in the 100 block of W. Union Street. He met with the owner, gathered information and filed a report.

Officer Krenek was dispatched to the 200 block of N. McCarty at 11:28 a.m. in reference to fence damage. Through investigation, the vehicle doing the damage was located. The driver contacted the complainant and paid for the damages.

Another burglary in the 100 block of N. McCarty was reported at 12:55 p.m. Lt. Johnson arrived, investigated the scene and filed a report.

A report of unlawful restraint was filed with Sgt. Crume at 7:45 p.m. The case is being investigated.

Jan. 2, at 4:50 p.m., Officer Stephen Nelson was flagged down by a person who requested a civil standby at her residence. Officer Nelson, along with Sgt. Bill Latimore, provided civil standby for the complainant.

Jan. 3, at 1:44 a.m., Officer Lasley met with a victim in reference to an assault. The suspect, Jimmy Louis Grounds, was later located and ar-

rested for family violence. He was processed by the police department and transported to the County Detention Center for confinement.

At 11:55 a.m., Officer Nelson met with a complainant on East E Street in reference to a house burglary, investigated and filed a report.

Officer Nelson was dispatched to a

domestic dispute in progress at 5:48 p.m. on Raezer Street between an adult and a juvenile. The matter was resolved at the scene.

Jan. 4, at 12:15 a.m., Officer Lasley met with a complainant on D Street in reference to a civil matter. Subjects were advised to see the municipal

(See Police, Page 8)

July through December...

A look back at 1998

JULY

- News arrived that Jason R. Bauerschlag, M.D., son of Rev. Barry and Donna Bauerschlag of Eagle Lake, graduated with honors June 6 in Rudder Auditorium from Texas A&M College of Medicine.

- The lives of three youngsters were cut short in a house fire: Justin Lee Hernandez, five years old; Daniel Fermin Tavera Jr., age five; and Jimmy Fermin Tavera, age two.

- Simple Simon's Pizza held their first anniversary ribbon cutting.

- Alliance for a Clean Environment (ACE) finally ended its battle with Laidlaw with a victory.

- Norman Shropshire from Eagle Lake graduated from Gary Job Corps Center in San Marcos Friday, July 2.

- On July 3, Mrs. Grace Wick was honored with a surprise retirement party by Dr. Raymond Thomas and Dr. and Mrs. Russell Thomas. Mrs. Wick had been a loyal employee of Thomas Clinic for 30 years.

- Kenneth and Doris Meineke celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary July 20.

- Southwestern Bell Telephone made a \$400 donation to Prairie Edge Museum to help in its beautification project.

- Johnny and Scharlene Prazak were awarded the July 1998 Yard of the Month by the Eagle Lake Garden Club.

- Rebecca Michelle Torian of Conroe, formerly of Eagle Lake, and Jason Brett Clarkson were married Saturday, July 25, in Conroe.

- Family and friends of the late Renee Balas Bullard gathered July 18 at the Stafford Opera House in Columbus to celebrate Renee's life and raise money to help fund research in finding a cure for Lupus.

- Mindy and Rusty Moulder, children of Billy and Becky Moulder of Eagle Lake, both advanced at the Division III Championship Swim Meet in Katy.

- Marshan Laquette "Pooh" Norris, 25, of Eagle Lake, passed away Monday, July 27. "Pooh" had won many athletic honors in both junior

high and high school.

- Michael Lanier, a 1977 graduate from Rice High School, assumed principal duties at his Alma Mater Monday, July 28, replacing Dr. Curtis Miles who retired due to health problems.

AUGUST

- Paula Richardson-Burrow of Eagle Lake held a live recording concert Saturday, Aug. 1, in Alleyton at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church.

- Rhonda Gail Satsky, daughter of Edward and Judith Satsky of Eagle Lake, graduated from Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi, with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

- The First National Bank donated the Historic Ice House Building and property to the newly formed non-profit organization ICE, which will open a youth recreation center this fall.

- A Rock Island resident, Michael Ray Reynolds, 27, was jailed on attempted murder charges. The incident took place Sunday, Aug. 2.

- Nancy Rangel and Ramiro Hernandez Jr. announced their engagement and approaching marriage to take place Oct. 3 in El Campo.

- Russell and Ruth Reese, formerly of Eagle Lake, celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary Thursday, Aug. 6, at Avalon Place in Wharton. They were married August 8, 1936.

- Maude Conic, the oldest resident in Wharton County, celebrated her 110th birthday in a joint celebration with the Reeses at Avalon Place.

- Kristie Yvonne Garza graduated from Houston Community College Aug. 7 with a degree in Surgical Technology.

- The Louis Schorlemmer home

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C.H.A.D. stickers available at GCMC

Children Have An iDentity (C.H.A.D.) Stickers are now available from Gulf Coast Medical Center (GCMC) through the Emergency Department, Nursery/OB Department and the Prenatal Clinic in El Campo.

These stickers should be completely filled out and attached under the infant car seat. This child safety seat identification program was developed as the result of a traffic crash involving a 13-month-old boy named Chad.

The babysitter, who had been driving, was killed. Chad was injured but no one at the scene knew his identity. Only because an emergency room nurse recognized him could his parents be quickly located and his injuries treated.

To ensure rapid identification of your child in such an emergency, Pilots (members of the Pilot Club of Wharton) have provided these stickers which can also be used on bicycles/helmets for identification purposes.

The Pilot Club of Wharton has graciously provided GCMC with the stickers.

Parents, please do your part by obtaining these stickers and placing the completed sticker under the infant car seat. This is where officers/EMS will be looking for them.

Please feel free to contact Sherri Ziegenhals at 409-282-6808 if you have any questions.