

Citizens Air Views On Rice CISD Election Issues

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Voc. Ag. Student Teachers Praise Facilities At Rice HS

To Whom It May Concern: Being students in vocational agriculture at Prairie View A&M University, and, at present, student teachers at Rice Consolidated High School, we feel this letter will express our appreciation for the opportunity to practice teach and gain experience in the field of agriculture.

Thus far, our stay at Rice has really been rewarding to us as a whole. Each day that passes affords us a new challenge.

The excellent organizational setup at Rice is far past modern day standards. Mr. Grahmann, principal, and the rest of the faculty have

all received us in a professional manner which is characteristic of all teachers at Rice.

The school building and its facilities are top quality and cannot be compared with any other schools in this area. The students are well-mannered and very respectful to all teachers and their fellow peers.

In closing, we extend our sincere gratitude to the supervisors, Troy Krensch, Willie Fitzgerald, and Ronel Roberts, for all the rewarding help given us thus far.

Sincerely yours,
John Lane Freeman
Marlene Fitzgerald
Edward A. Zungis

Young People Of Rice District Work For Benefit Of Whole School

Mr. Fraka, The recent controversy that has developed over the upcoming school board election has stirred up memories of the not so distant past when Rice High School opened its doors for the first time. As a member of that first student body, I can recall walking into a classroom that was filled with almost as many new faces as there were old friends. At first, the kids from the various communities may have stayed within their old groups and cliques but within a few months, these groups had changed and before long, students from all the communities were functioning as a single student body.

We also had a gentlemen's agreement during that first year which assured each community of having fair representation in student government and that agreement worked quite well. However, by the time elections rolled around for a second year, it was felt that such a gentlemen's agreement was no longer necessary and anyone from any community could run for any office. This may have been disconcerting to some but elections were held and those candidates with the majority of the votes were elected. In that election, the student body president and vice president were from Sheridan. The next year, another election was

Integrity Of School Patrons Being Put To Severe Test

Dear Editor: Integrity, as defined in The Random House Dictionary of the English Language, is "soundness of and adherence to moral principle and character; uprightness; honesty."

It is my opinion that the integrity of the citizens of this community is being put to a severe test. If we are people of our word, and if we believe in honest agreements, verbal or written, then we must vote against Mr. Garwood. Mr. Garwood, admittedly, has filed for the position for which his residency disqualifies him.

The Rice Consolidated Independent School District was formed by action of the Colorado County School Board on March 14, 1977. The school district was formed by the consolidation of the following schools: Garwood, Rock Island, and Eagle Lake. The school district was formed by the consolidation of the following schools: Garwood, Rock Island, and Eagle Lake.

Representation On School Board Does Not Halt Progress

Dear Editor: This coming school board election has stirred more interest than any other since the consolidation. The reason for this is the fact that the school board is the only body that can make decisions that affect the entire school district.

Many other situations similar to this could be cited but the point to be made is simply this: why is it that the young people of the Rice Consolidated District are able to work together for the benefit of the whole school while their parents cannot? When will the elders of this district learn to trust one another so that they can work together for the benefit of the whole school?

One board member mentioned that it would be good if all members were elected on an "at large" basis. It is a fact that if this method is used in the length of time it would take for each place on the board to be elected, the board would be made up of people from all over the district. This would be a good thing for the district as a whole.

Whatever happens, remember, the schools are for the benefit of the students. Please do not let the firm bond of friendship with our children have been established here weakened by this controversy.

Sincerely,
R. Russell Thomas, Jr.
RHS '71

Pride In Rice High School Expressed By Student Leader

Dear Editor: As a student of Rice High School and a representative of the student body in my position as President of the Student Council, I feel I must express my personal opinion of Rice as my school for the past four years.

Being involved in athletics, UIL, and cheerleading, I have had the opportunity to visit several other schools for various activities and never have I been so proud that I could say, "We're from Rice High School." There were disorderly students, general disorganization and sparsity among the students of these other schools. They had no pride in their school. Their bathrooms were defaced with unsightly markings, their dress and overall attitude was one of indifference and meanness. It was at this time that I realized just how good I have at Rice. I am not afraid to go to a halfway house, I have no fear of someone lurking in some corner waiting to harm me. Our ladies' and men's restrooms are spotless. One would not find marks of vandalism anywhere on our campus. I realized just how lucky I am that the students of Rice

Sheridan School Principal Reports

[Editor's Note: This is one of a series of reports made by Principals of schools in the Rice District to the Board of Education. This week Sheridan School Principal W. C. Cobble reports on the needs assessment and five year plan for the school.]

Rock Island petitioned the County School Board and moved to Columbus. The issues of the consolidation were: (1) site location of the new high school and (2) "land reorganization." There would be no Rice Consolidated Independent School District today if the voters had thought that the representation would be changed at a later date. Sheridan was voted against the consolidation.

We have an excellent school system. On March 14, 1977 the Rice CISD Board passed, unanimously, a resolution recommending that the representation on the Board should not be changed from that of the original formation of the system.

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RHS '71

"Why Was The Rice School District Created?"

"Why was the Rice School District Created?" In 1965 it appeared there was going to be a state law that would require high schools to be 2500 or more. If this became law, then there would be one high school for the entire county and all high school students would be transferred to Columbus. It was at this time that the creation of a district involving the southern third of the county was south of the highway 90A, including Garwood, Rock Island, and Eagle Lake. The district was created to keep the students of the county from being transferred to Columbus.

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Rice District Has Achieved Outstanding Accomplishments

Dear Mr. Fraka, When the Sheridan and Garwood Communities joined the Rice Consolidated Independent School District, they brought with them a long history of educational achievement. The district has achieved outstanding accomplishments in many areas, including academic excellence, extracurricular activities, and community involvement.

Free Tony's Dinner

Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Brethaupt and their grand daughter, Karl Rene Soholm, enjoyed the past weekend in Rockdale with their son and wife, Bill Brethaupt, and also with Mr. and Mrs. Billy Taylor and children, Mrs. Brethaupt's brother.

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Present Reading Book Story



Several students in Mrs. Kieker's third grade class acted as story presenters in their reading book entitled "Lost in the Woods". Standing, left to right are: Jean Van Nort, April Rhodes, Susan Kalira and Laura Appelt. Seated are: Denise Stark, and the puppy, Monica Marshall.

DAR Hears Speaker On Nat'l Defense

The March meeting of the John Everett Chapter D.A.R. was held in the parlor of the Colorado County Federal Savings and Loan building in Columbus. Miss Lee Nesbitt, assisted by Mrs. Julie Rhodes and Mrs. O. A. Schade as hostesses, standing in for Mrs. Jack Draper and Mrs. N. J. Mauser who were both ill.

Headlight Classifieds really pay off. Call 234-2783.

Mental Health, Retardation Services Available In County

Mental health and mental retardation services are available in Colorado County and the following is a summary of the services available:

Mental Retardation
The Colorado County Adult Work Activity Center is located on 419 Washington Street in Columbus. The purpose of the center is to help the mentally handicapped of Colorado County. The focus is on the vocational needs of each individual person.

Some of the activities include: sewing, cooking, home and money management, grooming, job training and other independent living skills. The adults also work on a contract for which they receive a small salary. Leisure time activities include: bowling, croquet, volleyball, croquet, bingo, going to the library and reading.

The Colorado County Mental Health Center is an outreach effort of the San Antonio State Hospital. It is located in the Colorado County Federal Savings and Loan building in Columbus. The center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Jenkins Completes Basic Training

Marine Private First Class Jack R. Jenkins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Jenkins of Columbus, has completed basic field artillery training. The five-week skill course was conducted at Twentynine Palms, Calif. The training was designed to prepare students for future assignment as field artillery.

The center has acquired the services of Dr. O. L. Forbis, who functions as the staff psychiatrist and assists in directing treatment programs of the center. Dr. Forbis is currently holding clinic appointments in Eagle Lake, Weimar, and Columbus on various days of each month. The doctor has begun to receive many requests for psychiatric evaluations and interviews from both the Colorado County Cooperative and the County Court. The center also accepts individuals who are not officially referred but who voluntarily seek treatment for emotional or family problems.

The center operates in Eagle Lake on Mondays 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 400 Frazer in the Methodist Mission Center. Phone (713) 234-3022. In Weimar the center operates Tuesday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. phone (713) 725-8724. The center's mailing address is P. O. Box 776, Weimar, Texas 76862.

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Ref. Teachers To Hear Book Review Apr. 4

The Retired Teachers of Colorado County will hear Caroline Grohmann with a book review April 4 at 2:30 p.m. in the Colorado County Federal Savings and Loan Building at Columbus.

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CORRECTION
The Headlight reported in the issue last week that Rufus Tillman lived in a house owned by Tony Cardenas involved in a house fire March 19th, when actually Rufus Tillman lived in the house.

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Epps' Eagle Lake

Consolidation HAS Been Good For OUR Children Let's Stay Behind Them United District!!

We urge the citizens of the Rice District to support their Board of Education in allocating school board members, three (3) to Eagle Lake, two (2) to Garwood and two (2) to Sheridan

Resolution Reaffirms Promises:

The Rice Consolidated Independent School District's board of education approved unanimously a resolution Monday night, March 14, 1977 "reaffirming" the promises made to constituents of Eagle Lake, Sheridan and Garwood communities during the period of consolidation of the district.

One of the "promises" referred to in the resolution was one allocating two places on the board of education to Sheridan, two to Garwood and three to Eagle Lake so that all areas of the district might have equal representation on the board.

The resolution passed unanimously by all seven board members present including Mrs. Jane Chipman, Dr. Raymond Thomas and Bill Appelt of Eagle Lake, Cecil Allen Smith and Anthony Kallias of Garwood, and Lavo Brice and Joe Garcia of Sheridan.

Status of District Has Changed Little:

At the time of consolidation, the ratio of students within the district was 33% from Sheridan and Garwood. The remainder from Eagle Lake. The ratio of taxable wealth was 70% from Sheridan and Garwood and 30% from Eagle Lake. Now ten years later, the ratio of students in the district is approximately 33% from Sheridan and Garwood (this does not include the students attending the Nade School). The remainder are from Eagle Lake. The ratio of taxable wealth is 70% from Sheridan and Garwood and 30% from Eagle Lake. Why all of a sudden is the gentlemen's agreement as good?

The percentages have remained constant for ten years, why is the question of unequal representation brought up at this point?

Representation For All Areas:

Does Mr. Wiese's opponent really wish to represent the Sheridan area? He does not live in the area nor does he have any children in the Sheridan system. His supporters imply that his reason for filing for the Sheridan position is to drive for district unity. How can this be so when he did not attend the Open House at Sheridan during Public School Week, nor has he made an effort to meet the parents of Sheridan to discuss their representative rights.

Your vote for Ted Wiese on April 2nd will assure that unity continues in the Rice District. Our children deserve a quality education. The people of the Sheridan school area deserve a voice on the board. Mr. Wiese is that voice. His representation will be equal.

GO TO THE POLLS SATURDAY

Vote For Unity! Vote For Ted Wiese

for Sheridan Position No. 4 on the Rice CISD Board of Education

This message paid for by interested Citizens of the Sheridan Community

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ENJOY DANCING TO THE MUSIC OF THE BARONS

Fri., April 1 K.C. HALL, El Campo

Sat., April 2 American Legion Hall, Rosenberg

WELCOME BACK TO THE BARONS.

Richard Morgan