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VOLUME 103 NUMBER 17

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

JULY 13, 2006



Pictured above are the trailer and truck involved in a train wreck Monday that claimed the life of a horse. The accident happened near the intersection of FM 3013 and Highway 90A.

Train Wreck Claims Life Of Horse

On Monday around 12:30 p.m. a train collided with a farm trailer hitched to a pickup near the intersection of FM 3013 and Highway 90A.

According to reports the truck was stopped behind an 18-wheeler on FM 3013 facing south at the

intersection. Reports indicate that the truck had stopped with the trailer on the tracks.

According to police reports, Michael Leopold of Hallettsville, the driver of the pickup, said he never heard the train or the whistle.

The train, coming toward town, hit the trailer and spun both truck and trailer 180 degrees and dragged them 20 to 30 yards down

the track. Leopold suffered only minor injuries, but the horse he was carrying in the trailer was thrown from it and died before a vet could reach the scene.

The accident was investigated by Eagle Lake Police Officer John Sebastian with Lt. Wendy Alley, Colorado County Sheriff's Department and the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department assisting.

NEWSBRIEFS

Youth, Sunday School Annual Day Sunday

New Greater Smith Chapel Baptist Church, 833 Preston St. in Columbus will host their Youth & Sunday School Annual Day Sunday July 16 at 3:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Minister D.T. Porter along with the youth choir and drill team from New Mt. Pleasant Berean Missionary Baptist Church of Victoria. Everyone is invited to come and have a uplifting evening of worship and praise and support the youth.

Gator fundraiser scheduled for Sunday

The Eagle Lake Gator Swim Team will hold a fundraiser Sunday, July 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. To go only plates of barbecue, green beans and buttered potatoes will be sold for \$7 each. Pick up at the Eagle Lake Pool. Dessert plates will be available. For tickets contact any Gator Swim Team member or call Gail at 234-5488.

BVFD 41st BBQ dinner is Sunday

The 41st Annual Bernardo Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) will hold their chicken and sausage barbecue dinner Sunday, July 16 at the Mentz Parish Hall. Serving starts at noon. Dine-in adult plate, \$7; child's plate (age 12 and under), \$3.50; (coffee and tea included); drive thru plate, \$7. Meat to go at the pit, drive-thru line for plates to go. Music and entertainment all day! Outside band in the afternoon: Johnny Underwood and Solo Sounds. Drawing for lots of prizes and the auction starts at 1 p.m.

GUBC Annual youth day set for Sunday

The Greater Union Baptist Church (GUBC) will hold their annual youth day program Sunday, July 16 at 3 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. George Franklin of Mt. Zion BC in Edgar, Texas. The public is invited to attend. GUBC, Pastor Robertson and Youth Director, Rosalyn Edwards.

Munke-Laux-Oeding reunion is Sunday

The Munke-Laux-Oeding Reunion will be held Sunday, July 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Swiss Alp Farm Bureau Hall located at Hwy. 77 north of Schulenburg. Fried chicken, bread, and tea will be provided; bring side dishes and/or desserts. Call 979/561-6114 or 210/533-1746 or e-mail iwilliams@swri.org. Reservation for two or family is \$5 and \$3 for one. Mail to I. Williams, 4001 Skyridge Ave., San Antonio, TX 78210 or pay at the door. Bring items for silent auction and white elephant exchange.

Bake sale set for Friday

The Eagle Lake Youth Football and Cheerleaders will hold a bake sale Friday, July 14 from 8 a.m. to noon in front of First National Bank in Eagle Lake. Stop by and pick up some goodies. The organization thanks you in advance for your support.

FBC Sheridan to hold VBS July 23-27

The First Baptist in Sheridan will hold vacation bible school July 23-27 from 6 to 8:20 p.m. The theme, "Take the VBS Artic Edge Challenge" will be for children age pre-k through sixth grade.

Vine of the Lord Church VBS July 24-26

Vine of the Lord Church located at 1300 East State Street invites all children in the area to attend their Vacation Bible School (VBS) Monday, July 24 through Wednesday, July 26 from 2 to 5 p.m.

Raider volleyball camp is July 24-27

Texas Thunder Volleyball is coming to Rice High School to put on a volleyball camp. There will be two sessions. Elementary/Middle School will go from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and varsity and sub-varsity from 2 to 6 p.m. The camp session is \$100 if you are interested please call Coach Blaschke at 234-3535 ext. 1111.

CCA Banquet is Aug. 3

The CCA Live Oak Chapter will hold their banquet Thursday, Aug. 3 at the Columbus KC Hall. Doors open at 6 p.m. with the dinner at 7

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Cites Economic Loss County Votes To Oppose LCRA Project

Colorado County commissioners, meeting Monday, approved a resolution that opposes possible condemnation of 10,000 acres of land in the county by the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) as part of a plan to ship water to San Antonio.

The LCRA is looking at sites in Colorado and Matagorda counties to build a reservoir to ship as much as 134 million gallons of water a day to San Antonio.

The vote by commissioners was 4-1 in favor of the resolution. County Judge Al Jamison and Commissioners Tommy Hahn, Herbie Helmcamp and Doug Wessels voted in favor.

Commissioner Darrell Gertson was opposed. Gertson said he wanted to get more information on the project before voting on a resolution.

An earlier motion by Jamison to table action on the resolution and continue negotiation with the LCRA failed by a 3-2 vote. Jamison and Gertson voted to table action, and Commissioners Hahn, Helmcamp and Wessels were opposed.

The resolution states that commissioners court goes on record "as opposing the purchase or condemnation of 10,000 acres of land in Colorado County to provide water to the citizens of San Antonio and urges the LCRA and the city of San Antonio to

locate suitable property in Bexar County to service as a water storage facility."

The resolution cites the loss of 10,000 acres from the tax rolls and the economic activity related to the use of the land.

It also states that the LCRA plan could be amended to allow it to send massive amounts of groundwater to San Antonio.

Jamison said he had been in negotiation with LCRA about possible loss of property from the tax rolls.

He said he had gotten a letter Monday from LCRA General Manager Joe Beal in which Beal said he would recommend to the LCRA board that the project move forward only if the potential tax less is mitigated.

"Our commitment would be no net loss of tax revenues," Beal said in the letter.

"I think it overcomes some of the points (of the resolution)," Jamison told commissioners.

"The door is open to negotiation on everything."

Wessels said he felt the entire economic impact of the project on Colorado County needed to be examined.

Helmcamp said he felt the resolution opposing the project would be part of the negotiations with LCRA.

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County Discusses Courtroom Repairs

Colorado County commissioners heard Monday that an architectural firm from Austin has been contacted about repairs to the ceiling of the district courtroom that partially collapsed in May.

County Judge Al Jamison said he had contacted the firm of Volz and Associates Architects, which has experience in working on historical buildings.

Commissioner Darrell Gertson said there was some indication of movement in some of the support structure for the ceiling.

Jamison said he was told that it might be possible to get some grant funds to pay for part of the repairs, but he said the county would have to pay \$34,000 to \$40,000 for a master plan for the courthouse.

He also asked County Auditor Raymie Kana about the possibility

of issuing certificates of obligation to pay for the repairs.

Kana said it would be possible, but indicated that normally is reserved for something in the range of a million to two million dollars.

The judge said he did not want to guess at the amount of money needed to make the repairs.

Jamison said he was waiting to get more information from the architects on the scope of repairs needed.

In other action, commissioners:

—Approved a subdivision plat for Yaupon Creek Estates subdivision in Precinct 3. The subdivision of 462 acres will have 16 lots.

—Approved appointing Austin County Judge Carolyn Bilski to

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County Eyes Four Percent Pay Raise

Colorado County commissioners, meeting Monday in a budget workshop, gave a tentative nod to a 4 percent pay increase in 2007 for all county employees, including elected officials.

The commissioners took no formal vote, but County Auditor Raymie Kana said she would work that figure into the budget.

An exception to that amount was made for peace justices. Currently three of the four justices make \$22,080 a year, while the precinct No. 1 peace justice makes \$32,136.

Kana said she felt the salaries of all the peace justices should be the same.

Commissioners discussed setting the salaries of all the peace justices at \$25,584 yearly.

County Judge Al Jamison said that figure was arrived at by averaging the current salaries and

adding 4 percent.

Commissioners also discussed giving constables a \$1,000 a year increase to a total of \$9,000 a year.

A 4 percent salary increase for all employees would cost the county \$134,210, Kana said.

Commissioners also discussed increasing the amounts paid to fire departments in the county.

Commissioners said they would consider a \$1,000 increase for the Columbus, Eagle Lake and Weimar Fire Department and \$1,250 for the smaller fire departments.

The commissioners also discussed adding two dispatchers in the sheriff's office at a cost of \$74,000 a year.

Sheriff R.H. (Curly) Wied said the additional dispatchers would

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Clayton Bowen, 17, a senior at Rice High School and son of Wayne and Jonna Bowen of Eagle Lake, attended the Western Art Academy in Kerrville June 4-24. Clayton attended the Academy as a recipient of a scholarship won at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Pictured above is an oil painting that Bowen painted while at the academy. The painting sold for \$300.



Gators Finish Season

Alex Roque shows off his freestyle form at the Eagle Lake Gator Swim Team's final regular season meet. See page 5 for more.