

Eagle Lake Headlight

50¢

Serving Southern Colorado County
www.eaglelakeheadlight.com

50¢

VOLUME 103 NUMBER 26

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

SEPTEMBER 14, 2006



Pictured above are some of the items that are going to be auctioned off in the Annual Study Club Auction.

Study Club Auction Sept. 16

By Betty Wilcox

Now is the time for all good citizens of Eagle Lake to come to the aid of the Wintermann Library. Once each year for 26 years the Eagle Lake Study Club has sponsored an auction to benefit the budget of the library.

This is the main income each year. The success depends on each one of us. The library not only needs books and more books; but also a staff to care for the

books and utilities to service the building.

On Saturday, September 16 the auction evening will start with the bake sale and the silent auction at 5 p.m. This auction will run until 6:45 p.m. then close so the cashiers can tally the sales.

At 7 p.m. sharp Joe Herbert and Candy McCreary will start the main auction. See the complete listing in this paper on page 14.

Fill your pockets with cash

or bring a checkbook and let's have a fish dinner and enjoy the auction.

See you all there!

County Cool To Bottled Water Plans

Colorado County commissioners gave a cool reception to a request by a company for a tax abatement to build a plant in the southern part of the county to produce bottled water.

The plant would take an estimated 480 million gallons of underground water annually, based on figures the company presented.

Dale Behm, chief executive officer of American PureTex Water Corp., made a presentation to the commissioners about the abatement.

He noted that the company had not selected a site yet.

Later in a telephone interview, a spokesperson, Sara Corbin, said that the company was still looking at possible sites in either Colorado, Austin or Wharton counties.

Behm said the bottling plant would occupy 440,000 square feet and employ up to 370 people.

Even at a use of 1,500 acre feet or 480 million gallons a year, he claimed, it would use less than 1 percent of the water currently being taken from aquifers in the county.

He estimated the building would cost \$250 million and pro-

Continued on back page

2007 Budget Totals \$11.4 Million County Adopts Tax Rate

Colorado County Commissioners, meeting Monday, adopted a budget for 2007 of \$11.4 million.

They also approved the tax rate of 41.389 cents per \$100 valuation after a public hearing.

The tax rate is a slight decrease from the previous year of 42.758 cents.

Only one person, Marge Raborn, spoke during the public hearing before the adoption.

She said she had received recently figures about expenditures, comparing counties.

She said that the figures showed that in 2000 the spending for county government was \$85 per resident and was \$156 in 2004.

"There were only four counties where it increased more," she said.

County Judge Al Jamison defended the budget and said the budget includes things like EMS and roads that the county is not required to provide.

"What do you citizens want cut as services?" he asked.

He also said he did not think there was fat in the budget.

The budget includes 4 percent raises for county officials and employees.

Following are amounts approved for elected officials for 2007.

County Judge, \$64,800.
County Auditor, \$45,360.

Commissioners, \$42,936.
District clerk, county clerk, county tax assessor collection and treasurer, \$40,104.

Sheriff, \$45,000.
Justices of Peace, \$25,584.
Constables, \$9,000.

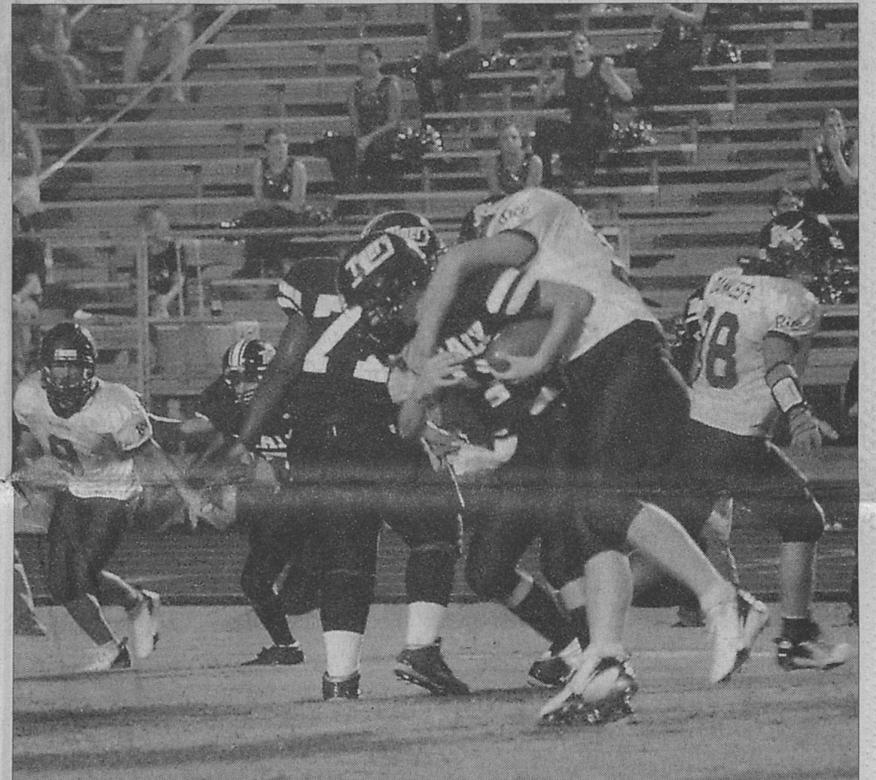
District Judges, \$128,400, which includes \$3,400 from the county and \$125,000 from the state.

The salary was increased from \$101,700 on Dec. 1, 2005.

County Attorney, \$125,000, paid from state funds. No local funds are paid.

In other action, commissioners tabled for more study a request by the county probation department

Continued on back page



Brent Botard wraps-up a Sealy ball carrier during the Raiders' 41-28 win over Sealy last Friday night in Sealy.

Raiders Roll: Defeat Sealy 41-28

By Fred Kaiser

The Rice Raiders scored an impressive victory in their second game of the season, defeating the Sealy Tigers 41-28.

The Raiders' offense ran rampant in a game where the score did not fully reflect the quality of the team's performance.

The Raiders' offense gained 453 total yards.

Junior Quarterback Taylor Cook passed for 222 yards and four touchdowns.

Cook went 10-23 passing with a long of 82 yards.

"The passing game was excellent. Occasionally there will

be some drops or bad decisions, but we are a threat to go deep at any time," said Rice Coach Brad

Continued on page 8

Raiders To Battle Brookshire

By Fred Kaiser

The Rice Raiders will square off this week against district 24-3A Brookshire Royal High School Falcons (0-1) this week.

Although Brookshire was picked to finish seventh out of

eight teams in their district, they gave number seven ranked Hempstead a tough game last week, losing 19-0.

The final score failed to reflect the quality of Brookshire's per-

Continued on page 11

NEWSBRIEFS

County Tax office to close

The office of the Colorado County Tax Assessor (CTA) Collector will be closed Friday, Sept. 22 to attend new legislation training from the Texas Department of Transportation. Regular business hours will resume Monday, Sept. 25. If you have any questions please call Mary Jane Poenitzsch at 979-732-2710.

Power Unlimited to hold bake sale

Power Unlimited will hold a bake sale Friday, Sept. 15 from 8 a.m. to noon in front of First National Bank. Proceeds benefit the Community Softball League.

Parade entries being accepted

The Colorado County fair Parade Committee is accepting entries for the 2006 Colorado County fair parade scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16 in downtown Columbus. You may pick up entry forms at Potters Western Store or The Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau located in The Stafford Opera House. For more information about parade entries call Kim Dyer at 979-732-8385 or Melissa Kilpatrick a 713-652-6500.

Wild game dinner and auction is Sunday

The Eagle Lake Masonic Lodge #366 will hold their wild game dinner and silent auction Sunday, Sept. 17 at the Eagle Lake Museum. Dinner starts at 11 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m. Donations: adults, \$10; children under 12, \$5. Silent auction, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There will be live entertainment. They invite the public to come by and spend the afternoon with them. Proceeds go to local charities and Masonic Maintenance Fund. For tickets or more information call 234-5879, 234-3090, 234-5363, 234-3836, 234-2792, 234-5464, 234-3698 or 713-614-4417.

Nature Club to meet Sept. 18

The Tom Waddell Outdoor Nature Club (TWONC) of Eagle Lake invites everyone to their first meeting of the fall. Royce Jurries of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will present the program. The meeting is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 18 at the Christ Episcopal Church Parish Hall on Stockbridge and Lake Ave. in Eagle Lake at 5:45 p.m. and everyone is welcome. For more information call 979-234-5981 and ask for Jane.

Officer Training set

An officer training for all council and club officers of Colorado County 4-H clubs has been set for Monday, Sept. 25 at the County Ag Building at 6:30 p.m. in Columbus. Courtney Dodd, District 11 4-H Specialist, will present some of the topics for the training. Please call the Extension office, 979-732-2530 no later than Sept. 18 if you plan to attend so that adequate handouts can be prepared.

Project graduation meeting is Sept. 18

There will be a Rice Project Graduation meeting Monday, Sept. 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Rice High School commons. All seniors and their parents are urged to attend. Anyone interested in getting involved with Project Graduation is encouraged to attend as well. For more information or questions call Missy Jurica at 979-758-2213.

Horse Club to meet Sept. 19

The Colorado County 4-H Horse Club will have their first meeting of the new year Tuesday, September 19 at 7 p.m. at the Extension Office. Those Horse Club members interested in riding in the Fair Parade or have any 4-H questions please contact Jeri Jobe at 979-732-8044. Thank you and look forward to seeing you soon!

Time to register for encounter weekend

It is time to register for the Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend that will be held Oct. 20-22 at the Holiday Inn, 15222 JFK Blvd. in Houston. This weekend which creates intimacy through better communication is for persons of all faiths or no faith. For more information and registration forms, contact Laird and Winnie Engle at 979-578-0292

Continued on back page



2006 Colorado County Fair Queen Crowned

The 2006 Fair Queen contestants were, front, from left: Lauren Trojacek (Second Runner-Up), Kylee Werland (Fair Queen), Simone Petrosky (First Runner-Up) and Megan Smith (Miss Congeniality). Back, from left: Whitney Mayo, Cortney Urban, Ashlie Nawara, Terri Prihoda, Kayla Kana, Kylee Nitschke and Brandy Rossignol.