

# Eagle Lake Headlight

50¢

Serving Southern Colorado County  
www.eaglelakeheadlight.com

50¢

VOLUME 103 NUMBER 49

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

FEBRUARY 22, 2007



## Lighthouse Gets New Building

Pictured above is a donation to The Lighthouse from the Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge. The 1,400 square foot building was moved in on Friday and will be renovated for a child development center.

## Council Approves Four-Way Stop

At their regular meeting Tuesday, Feb. 13 the Eagle Lake City Council voted in favor of an ordinance to make the intersection of Warwick and Waverly Streets a four-way stop.

Currently, there are yield

signs at the intersection on Warwick Street, but a resident who lives near there said the yield signs are ineffective at slowing down traffic.

The resident stated in a previous meeting that she was con-

cerned for the safety of children in the area because of traffic moving too quickly through the intersection.

Council voted unanimously in favor of the measure.

Council also voted to deny a request for rate increase by American Electric Power (AEP). A representative from AEP said that company has not gone up on its rates since the mid-nineties.

He asked that council either deny the request or accept it.

He said that if the request was denied, that it would speed up the process of getting the rate increase matter before the Public Utility Commission of Texas for arbitration.

He indicated that AEP would prefer this, so that a final decision can be made.

He also wanted to make it clear that AEP is a wire company, meaning the rate they are charging customers is only for the use of its wires, and not for the electricity running through them.

He said that the electricity providers have continuously increased their rates over the years to cover increasing costs, while AEP's rates have remained the same.

He said that AEP must increase rates in order to cover increasing costs of doing business.

In other council action: Council agreed to continue participation in a purchase pool for electricity.

Council voted to call an election on May 12 for the purpose of electing three council members.

## Rice School Board Exploring Bond Options

The Rice Consolidated School Board of Trustees continued discussions about the possibility of a May bond election to address facility needs during their regular meeting Feb. 19.

If the board wants to call an election for May 12, they must do so by March 12, otherwise an election could not be called until November.

Calvin Powitski of Bay Architects gave a brief presentation on plans modified from last year's failed bond election.

Powitski broke the plan up into three phases, which could be put on the ballot as three separate propositions.

"I felt after the last discussion on the issue that this is the direction we needed to go," said Superintendent Mike Lanier about the three propositions.

He said that depending on what the board wanted the propositions could be changed and rearranged in whatever manner the board wanted.

Under the plan drawn up by Powitski, voters could choose from any of three options for new construction in Altair.

One phase or proposition would provide funding for 14 classrooms, two science labs, and a library for use by sixth through eighth graders from Eagle Lake. The new building could accommodate all junior high students in the district. The cost of this portion would be about \$7 million.

Another phase includes a new gymnasium and gymnasium with locker rooms. Cost of this portion would be about \$5.1 million.

The last phase would be for an auditorium and technology center, which would cost about \$4.8 million.

"The most pressing need is for classroom space. I think these are all things we need, but it is hard for someone to argue over the need for academic space," said Lanier.

He said that he thought by giving voters a choice, that it would be more likely that they would accept at least a portion of the bond.

"The fear in doing something like this, however, is that the classrooms would fail and some other portion passes," he added.

Trustee Wayne Bowen said that feedback he has gotten about moving the junior high students to Altair is that many parents felt that sixth graders were too young to be with the high school.

Lanier indicated that if only the seventh and eighth graders were moved to Altair more work would need to be done to the Elementary School in Eagle Lake.

He said that the current plan would be to demolish part of the school that is in ill repair, and basically rebuild those classrooms in Altair. If they wanted to keep

sixth grade in Eagle Lake he said that probably four classrooms and a library would need to be re-constructed at their current location.

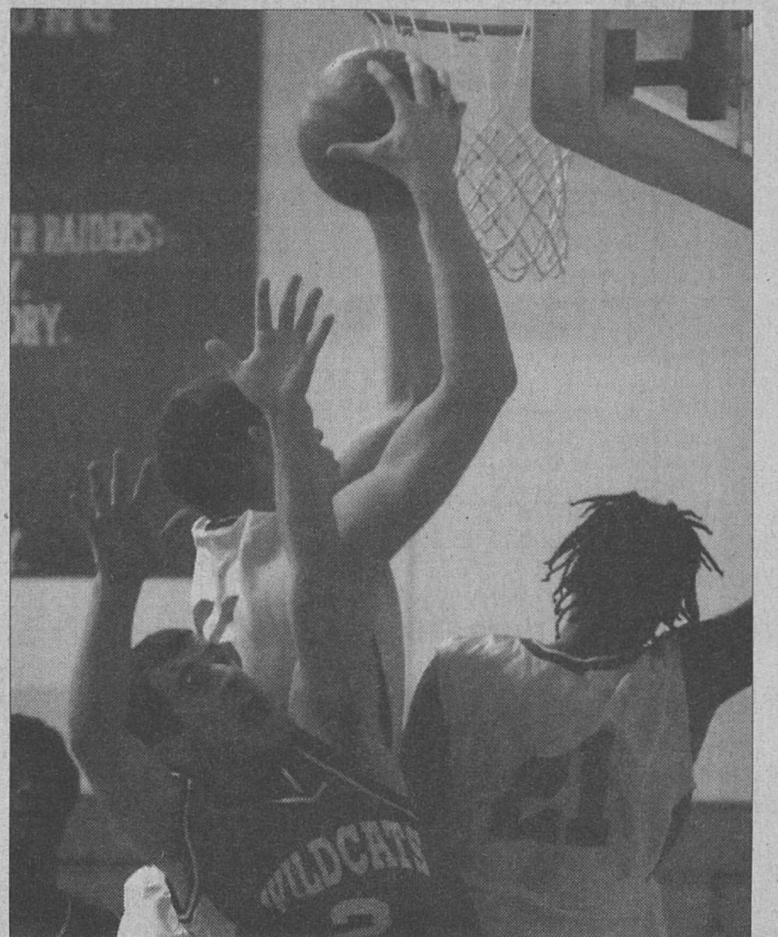
Trustee Joe Lee Perez said that he felt a new cafeteria should

be added for the junior high portion. Under the proposal all the students would utilize the current cafeteria space at the high school.

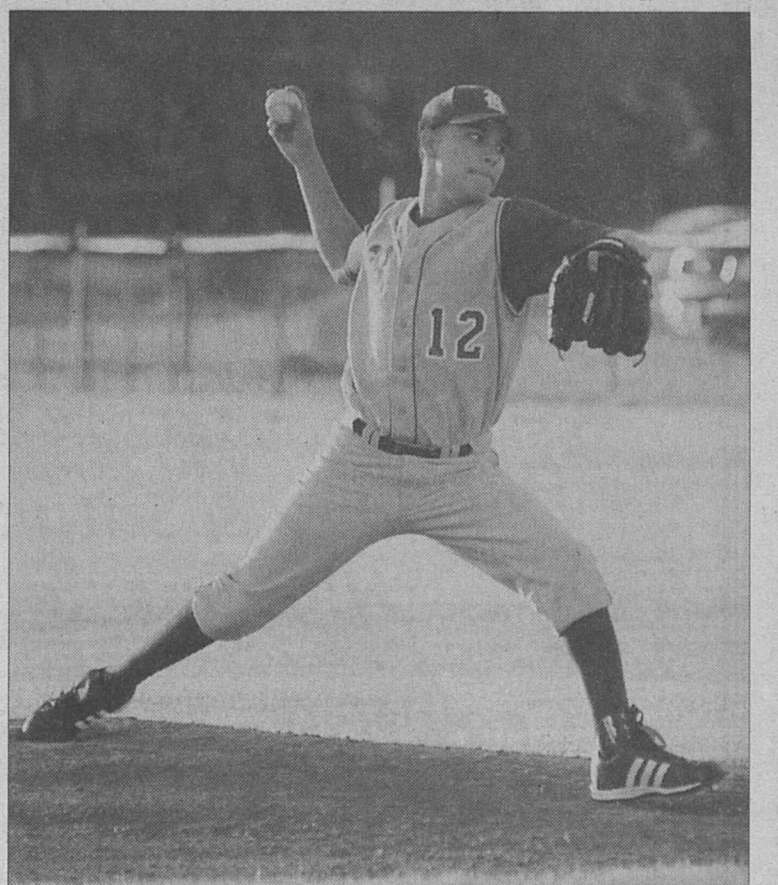
Perez said that he thought this

*Continued on back page*

## Raiders In Playoffs



Taylor Cook goes in for a lay-up in a recent match-up against Weimar. The Raiders face Brazos in the first round of the playoffs Wed. Feb. 21 at 7:00 p.m. in Columbus. Check our website for updates on the basketball playoffs (www.eaglelakeheadlight.com).



Matt Sosa delivers a pitch Monday night during the Raiders' game against Columbus. (More baseball on page 5)

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Pre-K Registration on going in Sheridan

Sheridan Elementary and Jr. High School is accepting applications for the Pre-Kindergarten class for the 2007-2008 school year. Qualified applicants will be accepted based on Texas Education Agency and RICE C.I.S.D. guidelines. Applications are available in the school office, return the application with a copy of shot record, birth certificate, and social security card by April 2, 2007. These documents are required by Texas Education Agency, if you don't have copies you must obtain duplicates. All applicants must be 4 yrs. old by Sept. 1, 2007 and reside within the Sheridan School attendance zone. You will be notified of acceptance or denial. If you live out of the Rice C.I.S.D. you must apply for an Out-Of-District transfer by May 1, 2007. The Rice School Board will approve or deny transfers. Call the school office if you have questions, 979-234-7334.

### Kindergarten registration underway

Sheridan Elementary and Jr. High School is registering students for the 2007-2008 Kindergarten class. Registration forms are available in the school office. Return the forms with a copy of Shot Record, Social Security Card and Birth Certificate. These documents are required by Texas Education Agency, if you don't have copies you must obtain duplicates. Students must be 5 yrs. old as of Sept. 1, 2007 and live in the Sheridan School attendance zone. If you live out of the Rice C.I.S.D. you must apply for an Out-Of-District transfer by May 1, 2007. The Rice School Board will approve or deny transfers. The Kindergarten teacher will assign a date for you and your child to visit her classroom, she will notify you by mail. Call the office if you have questions, 979-234-7334.

### Furniture available at MMBC

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church (MMBC) of Alleyton, has Church furniture available. For more information call 281-342-7557 or 281-935-3573 or 713-303-4371.

### Co-ed softball registration underway

Co-ed softball registration will be held through March 18. For more information please call 281-989-2555.

### Lock-In set for Friday

Power Unlimited will host its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Youth Valentine's Day Lock-In Friday, Feb. 23 at the Guadalupe Hall for 8-12 year olds. There is a \$3 admission fee. Concessions will be available. Parents welcome. Call 234-6990 for more information.

### KC Fish fry starts Friday

The Nada KC will hold their fish fry every Friday starting Feb. 23 through Friday, April 6 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Nada Community Center. The all you can eat meal is \$9 for adults; \$4 (kids 6-11); and under 6 years of age eat free. Plates to go are \$7. Same great catfish, fries, slaw and trimmings. Homemade desserts will be sold by the Nada Catholic Daughters.

### MMBC to hold Bazaar

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church (MMBC) located at 1206 Alleyton Road in Alleyton, will present a Church Bazaar and Treasure Find Saturday, Feb. 24 at 9 a.m. on the Church grounds. The public is invited to come by and see who you can find. For more information call 713-303-4371.

### Project Graduation fundraiser Feb. 25

Rice Project Graduation will have a BBQ with all the trimmings fundraiser, Sunday, Feb. 25. Plates are \$7 each. Plates may be picked up at Eagle Lake Primary School (Tate St.), Sheridan School and St. Mary's Community Center in Nada, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at all locations. Purchase your tickets from any Rice High School senior, or call Gail Gertson at 758-4285 or Jonna Bowen at 234-5524 or 234-7589 after 5 p.m. Rice Project Graduation thanks you in advance for your continued support and generosity.

### Black History Month program Feb. 25

Providence Baptist Church will honor nine African Americans with roots in Colorado and Fort Bend counties, Sunday, Feb. 25 at  
*Continued on back page*

## Ecstasy Case Bond Amount Explained

Peace Justice Richard Luhrs said he set a \$200 personal recognizance bond on the man arrested for transporting \$6 million worth of the drug Ecstasy after he was told the man had cancer and had a colectomy bag.

He said law enforcement officials indicated they felt the medical costs associated with holding the man would be extremely costly.

He said law enforcement officers did not express opposition to the personal recognizance bond. "They kind of recommended it," he said.

Luhrs said the man was coming from California and apparently headed to Florida.

"People will be waiting for him there," he said.

He also noted that the Texas Department of Public Safety narcotics unit was investigating the case.



Rice CISD employees recently underwent CPR training by the Red Cross. Pictured kneeling from left are: Judy Engstrom, Jane Wied, Robyn Machac, Clarice Dumont, Clifton Wengler, in back.