

Don't Forget To **VOTE** This Saturday, May 12 - Voter Info On Pages 6-9

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

MAY 10, 2007



Josh Williams will compete in the pole vault at the State Track Meet in Austin on Saturday, May 12 at noon. Two other Rice athletes Cunneisha Foster and La Quendra Thomas also qualified for the State Meet. See page 12 for more information.

## Voters To Decide On Rice Bond Election, Again

Voter will head to the polls on Saturday, May 12 to decide on, among other things, a bond election for Rice CISD that totals over \$16.5 million for the purpose of building new facilities in Altair.

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Community Center in Eagle Lake for Rice CISD and City of Eagle Lake, and for Rice CISD only at the Garwood and Sheridan Schools.

The new facilities would house seventh and eighth grade students district-wide.

The proposal is on the ballot following a failed bond election

from one year ago. The previous bond would have constructed a new high school facility in Altair and renovated the existing school to house all junior high students in the district.

That bond, totaling about \$14.5 million, was defeated by a mere 36 votes.

Voters will also vote on a constitutional amendment that would provide tax relief for elderly or disabled individuals that did not receive relief after the 79th Legislature.

Voters will also vote in two new school board members, with only one contested race.

Jack Vawter is unopposed for re-election to Place 4 while incumbent Carolyn Baird faces Carlos Gonzalez for Place 5.

Voters will also elect three at-large Eagle Lake City Council Members. Jane Meldahl seeks re-election while Wilbert Williams and Michael Cooper are also on the ballot. There are two write in candidates as well, Rene' Cooper-Scott and Shirley Compton.

The candidates for school board and city council were invited to submit a statement to the Headlight and the statements of those who chose to participate appear on pages 6 and 7.

## Bond election meeting tonight

A bond election meeting will be held Thursday, May 10 at 7 p.m. at Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 709 N. Lake Ave. Mike Lanier, Rice CISD Superintendent will be on hand to answer any questions.

## Book signing is May 10

Brenda Shirley, will hold a book signing on Thursday, May 10 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Wild Goose Chase in Eagle Lake. Lunch is available. Take time to visit with the author. Shirley is the former juvenile facility administrator.

## President's luncheon is May 11

The Study Club President's Luncheon will be held at noon, on May 11 at Prairie Edge Museum. The program by Merle Hudgins is entitled, "Yellow Dogs & Republican Allen Shivers & Texas Two Party Politics by Ricky Dobbs.

## Food Drive set for May 12

The National Association of Letter Carriers, in conjunction with the United States Postal Service, will be collecting non-perishable food items like canned meats and fish, canned soup, juice, pasta, vegetables, cereal and rice on Saturday, May 12 to help families in need in our community. You can help by placing your food donation at your mailbox on May 12 before your letter carrier arrives. It will be taken to the Post Office and then delivered to local food banks and pantries. Please do not include items that have expired or those in glass containers.

## Bake sale and drawing is May 12

Nada Catholic Daughters Court #1595 will hold a Pre-Mother's Day Bake Sale and Drawing on Saturday May 12, at Nada Grocery from 8 a.m. until 12 noon. Tickets for the drawing may be purchased at Nada Grocery or from a Catholic Daughter member. For more information contact Anita Meisner at 758-3119.

## Junior High Band concert is May 14

The Eagle Lake Junior High (ELJH) bands will present a free concert on May 14 beginning at 7 pm in the ELJH cafeteria. Admission is free.

## High school band concert/banquet

The Rice High School Band will present its annual spring concert and banquet on May 15. Tickets for the meal are \$7 each and may be purchased from any band member or by calling the high school at 234-3535. The ticket is only for the meal and is not required to attend the concert, which is free. Banquet meal served at 6:30 and the concert is at 7 in the RHS Commons.

## Athletic banquet is May 17

The Rice Athletic Banquet will be held Thursday, May 17 in the Rice High School Commons. A silent auction will start at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 each and are available at RHS Office, Johnny's Sport Shop, Buc-ee's, Nada Grocery and Sandy Creek Drive In.

## Historical meeting is May 17

The Colorado County Historical Commission (CCHC) will hold a meeting Thursday, May 17 at 7 p.m. at the Prairie Edge Museum in Eagle Lake. The program by Doug Kubicek, President of Lavaca County Historical Commission will be entitled, "Old Cemeteries Re-organized". Please bring a covered dish meal. Have you paid your dues?

## Area pageant scheduled

The Eagle Lake Area Pageant, representing the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce, will be held Saturday, June 2, at the Eagle Lake Primary School on Tate Street. You must attend a Rice School and/or live in the Eagle Lake, Garwood, Sheridan, Altair, Nada, Chesterville or Rock Island area. Boys ages 3-8 and girls ages 3-18 will compete for the Eagle Lake Area titles. Contact Helen Alvarado at 234-7634, Gail Gertson at 234-5488 or Sherry Thomas at 234-3251 for more information. Applications may be picked up at the Rice High School Office or the

## City Asks For Mosquito Help

The City of Eagle Lake has asked that residents do what they can to help out with mosquito issues by dumping any standing water out around their residences.

Officials said that the mosquito fogging program has begun, but every thing that can be done to limit mosquito breeding spots will help.

They ask to look out for tires, birdbaths, basically anything that would hold stagnant water and empty them after rains.

## County Man Sentenced For 2005 Wreck

A 20-year-old Weimar man, Luke Janak, was ordered jailed for 120 days and then placed on probation for 10 years after pleading guilty to manslaughter and aggravated assault in an accident in August 2005 that left two Weimar teenagers dead.

The sentence was handed down by District Judge Dan Beck in Austin County District Court after a two and a half hour hearing on Thursday, May 3 in Bellville.

Janak was immediately taken into custody to begin serving his jail sentence.

Killed in the wreck were Blake Ryba, 18, and Katie Schimcek, 17.

Janak and two other teenagers, Oscar Rubio and Mario Nino, who were both 18 at the time, were also injured in the accident on Aug. 27, 2005.

Janak was driving a 1994 Suburban that went out of control on a curve and rolled over several times, ejecting all five occupants of the vehicle.

The accident happened about 1.7 miles north of Industry at 2:25 a.m.

Janak was a recent graduate of Weimar High School at the time and the other four were students at Weimar High School.

They were reported to have been traveling to Brenham to see a former Weimar student who was attending college there.

Austin County District Attorney Travis Koehn said he had



Judy Pustejovsky, left, was named Teacher of The Year by Columbus Wal-Mart. She is pictured with Elementary School Principal Sue Weller, right, with a \$1,000 check for the school.

## Pustejovsky Named Teacher Of Year

In 2007, the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year Program enters its 12th year. Every Wal-Mart, Neighborhood Market, Sam's Club, Pharmacy Warehouse, and Distribution Center will honor a top local teacher through the Teacher of the Year Program.

The award is a significant event for our school, our local educators, and especially for the teacher who we are honoring today.

The 2007 winner for the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year for the Columbus Wal-Mart is Judy Pustejovsky.

Judy has been a teacher for many, many years. Before she came to Rice, she worked in the Columbus School District as the Life Skills Teacher.

She began at Rice CISD in 1991 where she began working with the special education children. Special education children have always held a special place in her heart.

Even though she has retired from the special education program, she continues to work with her "special children" through the Special Olympics Program.

Every year she works with the children to do their very best in the events and she is always a part of the group who participates in the State competition. Another subject that is close to her heart is reading.

For the past few years, she has coordinated and planned the Dr. Seuss Birthday Party that encourages reading through the Catholic Daughters of America.

And, speaking of reading, for the past four years she has worked on our ELES campus as a reading interventionist for the READING FIRST Program.

Working with children has always been a part of her life, and her students and colleagues have been the beneficiaries.

Her family includes her husband, William Pustejovsky, known as "Skip" whom she has been

married to for 37 years. They have one daughter, Shannon, who takes after her mother as a great schoolteacher in the Rice School District.

Shannon is married to Joe Lee Perez, one of Rice's School Board Members, and they are the parents of Judy's favorite sidekick,

Keslie, who is one of our former students.

As you can see, education is one of this family's top priorities.

We are very proud to have Judy as one of our great teachers on our campus, and especially proud to honor her today as Wal-Mart's Teacher of the Year.



Roman Herek, left, and Lee Fields recently competed in the Area 13 Special Olympics in Round Rock.

## Locals Compete In Area Special Olympics

By Judy Pustejovsky

Lee Fields from Eagle Lake Elementary and Roman Herek from Eagle Lake Junior High competed in Area 13's Special Olympics track meet hosted by Round Rock High School during April 27-28.

Fields captured a fifth in the 50-meter dash and a bronze award in the shot put. Herek brought home a silver award in both the

25-meter wheelchair race and the 25-meter walk, plus a gold award in the softball throw.

Coach Judy Pustejovsky was exceptionally pleased with the meet outcome for two reasons: one, both athletes exceeded most of their entry scores, and second, the Raider team was competing with athletes from 33 other teams.

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