

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

MARCH 20, 2008



Signs of Easter have sprung up all over Eagle Lake as the holiday nears.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Bake sale to be held Friday

The Contreras Family & Friends Relay For Life bake sale will be held Friday, March 21 starting at 8 a.m. in front of First National Bank. For special orders call 979-234-2654 by 6 p.m., Thursday, March 20 and leave a message. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. Thanks in advance for your support.

### Farmer's market opening soon

The farmer's market will open soon for the season. The actual reopen date will be determined by the weather and how our gardens grow. Gardeners and farmers, plan now to bring your abundant harvests to the weekly farmer's market. For information, send email to [rwspal@elc.net](mailto:rwspal@elc.net), snail mail to P.O. Box 508 in Eagle Lake, or call Randall Spalinger at 979-243-4261.

### Project Graduation meeting March 24

Project graduation will be having a meeting on Monday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Rice High School Commons.

### TGGA to hold meeting March 25

The Texas Gulf Coast Alumnae (TGGA) Panhellenic Association was formed to promote the ideals and leadership opportunities offered to college girls through the sorority system. Alumnae of sororities are invited to the next meeting on Tuesday, March 25 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall in the First United Methodist Church in Wharton. The church is located on the Boling Highway between Wharton Funeral Home and Wharton County Junior College. For more information contact Betty Joyce Sikora at 979-532-2435.

### RMC Golf tourney is March 29

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Rice Medical Center (RMC) Classic 4-player scramble golf tournament will be held Saturday, March 29. Shotgun starts at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> places. Entry fee is \$200/team and includes the meal and a gift. For information call Noble Anderson at 979-234-5571.

### Sheridan School accepting applications

Sheridan Elementary and Junior High School is accepting applications for the Pre-Kindergarten class for the 2008-2009 school year. Qualified applicants will be accepted based on Texas Education Agency (TEA) and Rice CISD guidelines. Qualified students will be bussed to the Garwood School where the Pre-K class is located. Applications are available in the Sheridan school office. Return the application with a copy of shot record, birth certificate, and social security card by 4/1/08. These documents are required by TEA, if you don't have copies you must obtain duplicates. All applicants must be 4 yrs. old by 9/1/08 and reside within the Sheridan School attendance zone. You will be notified of acceptance or denial. If you live out of the Rice CISD you must apply for an Out-Of-District transfer by 5/1/08. The Rice School Board will approve or deny transfers. Call the school office if you have questions, 979-234-7334.

### Relay for Life to be held in Weimar

The Colorado County Relay for Life will host their event this year in Weimar on April 18 at 6 p.m. at the High School Stadium. Teams are still being sought. Anyone wishing to have to team can contact Robin Maertz at 979-732-1687 for a team packet. Funds raised goes towards research against Cancer. Come out and participate for a very good cause. Meetings are held weekly in Columbus at the St. Paul Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m.

### Sheridan School to hold kinder registration

Sheridan Elementary and Junior High School is registering students for the 2008-2009 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 9/1/08 and live in the Sheridan School attendance zone. If you live out of the Rice CISD you must apply for an Out-Of-District transfer by 5/1/08. 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.

### School reunion is April 5

The 7<sup>th</sup> Novohrad School Reunion and Dedication will be held Saturday, April 5 at 10 a.m. The dedication of the historical marker will be at the site of the former Novohrad School Building. Following that the reunion will take place at the Praha Parish Hall in Praha. If you don't plan on attending the dedication head for the hall. A catered meal will be served. Coffee, tea and paper items will be furnished. Anyone who wishes may bring a dessert and also an items for the silent

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## Council Gets Bad News On Well

At their regular meeting last Tuesday, the Eagle Lake City Council heard that a problem with one of the city's wells could cost up to \$200,000 to repair. Council will meet on Thursday, March 20, to discuss the matter further.

The problem came to light when the city started rehabilitation of the above ground storage tank on Davitt Street.

A large amount of sand and gravel was found after the tank was drained, indicating that there was likely a problem with the well.

The 16-inch well was originally drilled around 1980 and is about 850 feet deep.

It is the city's largest well, currently capable of pumping about 950 gallons of water per minute, but was originally about 1,250 gallons per minute.

A video survey of the well was done after the problem was discovered and showed that there is a large amount of sediment in the bottom 50 feet of the well reported, a representative from the city's engineer.

The video also revealed two holes in the casing as well as buildup of minerals and other debris in some areas of the casing. It shows that there is significant clogging in a screen, as well.

The entire length was to be scraped late last week with a stiff wire device that is designed to remove any buildup on the sides of the well casing. The well was also going to be cleaned of the debris in the bottom of the well. This will help determine if there are any other holes in the well and also give a better idea of its condition.

As of Friday, the cost of work done so far was estimated at around \$38,000.

The city was given a rundown of possible scenarios during the meeting as to how the matter could be resolved, though much of what would need to happen would not be known until the scraping was completed and a new video done.

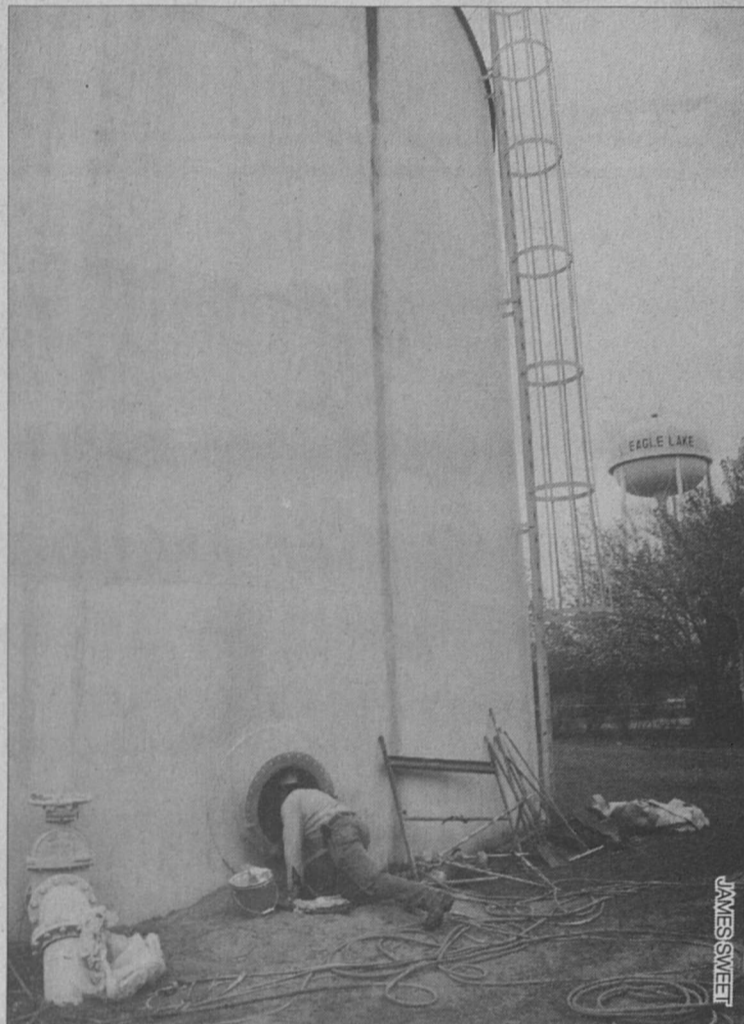
Council is set to meet Thursday to discuss the results of the scraping.

One possibility would be to repair the well by patching the holes and to clean the screens of the well.

The pump on the well is going

to be repaired as well, using as many parts from the original as possible. An entirely new pump would cost about \$60,000. The well's capacity would likely improve after rehabilitation, though capacity was not a problem for

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Above, a city worker checks out the progress on water storage tank restoration. Below, a view inside the tank.



## Holy Week Services Scheduled

Numerous church activities are planned in the area this week in observance of Holy Week and Easter.

The following are activities that were submitted to the Headlight:

The Lissie United Methodist Church invites you to the Easter Sunrise Service to be held at Jim and Esther Ross's location at FM 2764 on March 23 at 6:30 a.m. Rev. John Woody will bring the message, continental breakfast will be served afterward. All are

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## Eagle Lake Sales Tax Payments Up

Sales tax payments to the City of Eagle Lake in March were \$16,557, an increase of 44.40 percent from last March, figures from the state comptroller show.

For the year, payments total \$52,747, an increase of 11.41 percent.

State sales tax revenue for February and March payments made to local governments today primarily represents sales that occurred in January.

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs announced state sales tax revenue in February totaled \$1.79 billion, up 8.8 percent compared to February 2007.

Combs delivered \$436.1 million in March sales tax payments to Texas cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, a 9.9 percent increase compared to March 2007.

## Democratic Runoff Set For April 8

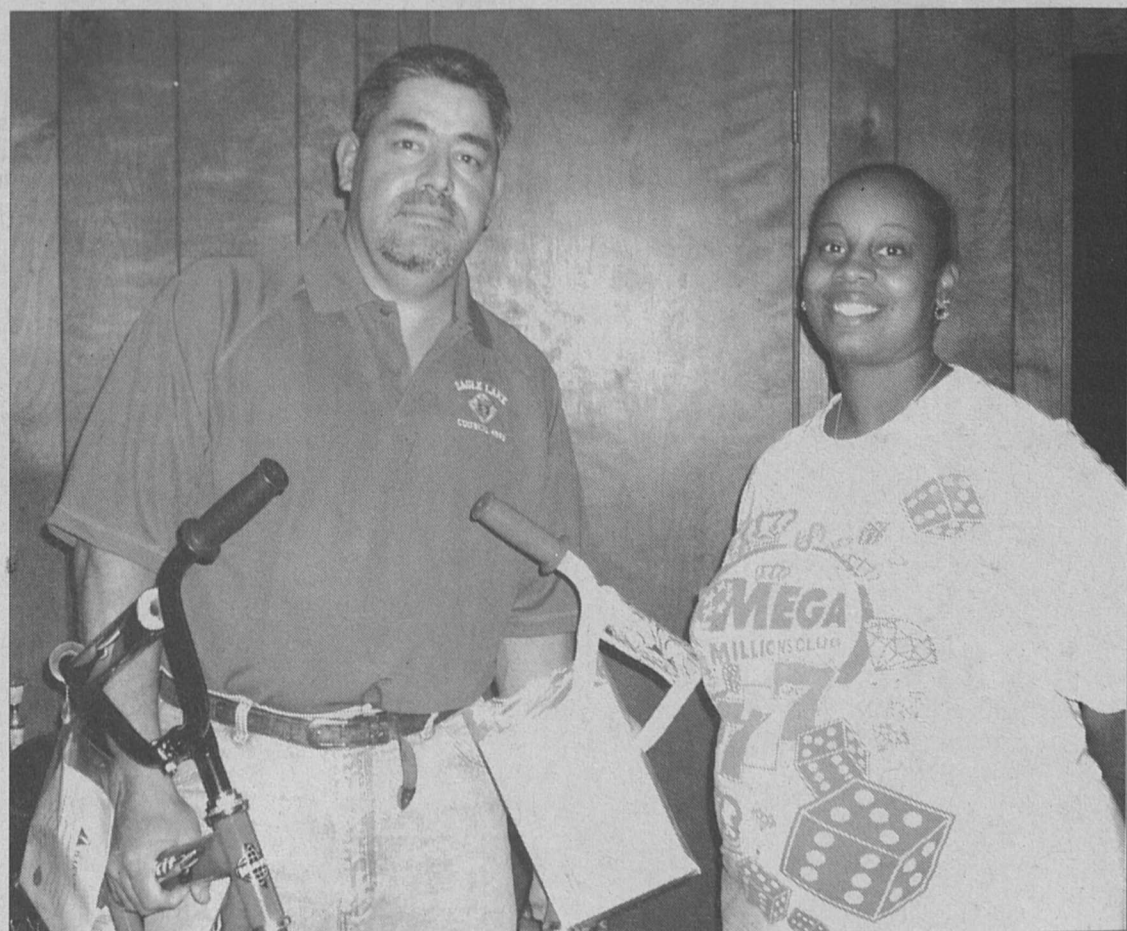
Early voting begins on March 31 for the Democratic Primary runoff on April 8.

There is only one contested runoff election for Railroad Commissioner. The candidates are Mark Thompson and Dale Henry.

There is no Republican runoff.

The early voting will be conducted at the county clerk's office in Colorado County from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The final day for early voting is April 4.



The Eagle Lake Knights of Columbus donated two bikes to Power Unlimited for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Pictured above is Michael Duarte Grand Knight and Shundricka Tolliver, Power Unlimited Historian.