

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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VOLUME 105 NUMBER 06

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

APRIL 24, 2008



## School Board Gets Building Update

The Rice Consolidated School Board approved a bid for electrical work at the Eagle Lake Elementary School.

The total cost of the project is about \$72,000 and will begin as soon as school is out.

Administrators said that the facility would be completely shut down for about two months while major work is done on the electrical system at the school.

Some of the work will have to be completed during the following summer after school is out.

Trustees also heard an update on construction of the new junior high facility in Altair.

Assistant Superintendent Bill Hefner said that work has begun and seems to be on schedule to this point.

He advised that by the end of the week, the district would have a more concrete construction schedule as to when things would be happening.

He also advised that the crews, currently working mainly on dirt moving, sewer and getting ready for the foundation, have been working with the high school staff on noise and safety issues pertain-

ing to the project.

Trustees were also made aware of a bus driver shortage issue.

Superintendent Michael Lanier said that shortages have been a problem for some time and that it always seems to be a problem. He said drivers that are not full-time employees of the district earn \$15.50 per hour and that district employees earn a minimum of \$14 per hour, with many getting time and half of their normal pay.

He said one of the biggest problems is that people are interested in doing it, but then often don't qualify due to something on their driving record.

Lanier said that he was open to suggestions on the issue.

In other board action:

Trustees approved receipt of Texas Educator Excellence Grants of \$50,000 and \$60,000 for Rice High School and Eagle Lake Elementary School, respectively, for incentive pay. The schools qualified due to their improvement on test scores and the amount of students considered socio-economically disadvantaged.

Work has started to pick up at the site of the new junior high in Altair

## NEWSBRIEFS

### OSO City wide game is Saturday

The Old Skool Organization (OSO) will be holding their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual City-Wide Kick Ball Game on Saturday, April 26, at 3 p.m. at the E.H. Henry Park. Other activities are scheduled for the day as well. OSO will be selling hot dogs, hamburgers and various other snacks, so come hungry! Bring lawn chairs and/or blankets, so that you can sit back and watch the games. We look forward to seeing the citizens of Eagle Lake and surrounding communities. Come out and support the youth of the city.

### ELVFD dinner is Sunday

The Eagle Lake Fire Department (ELVFD) and Ladies Auxiliary will hold their chicken fried steak dinner Sunday, April 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Drive-thru ONLY at the Fire Station. Plates are \$7 each. Thank you in advance for your support.

### April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Promote healthy families. Help a friend, neighbor, or relative. Be a nurturing parent. Report suspected abuse and neglect: 1-800-252-5400.

### Announcing Narcotics Anonymous

If you have a drug or alcohol problem or think you might have one and you want to stop, then Narcotics Anonymous is the solution! Every Wednesday, night from night from 8 to 9 p.m. beginning April 2 in Columbus. For more information and location, please call (713) 858-5162.

### Gospel group coming to UMC

The gospel group, "David's Song" will be performing at Lehrer Memorial United Methodist Church in Garwood on Sunday, April 27 at the 9 a.m. worship service. The public is invited to attend this special service and to enjoy the talents of these Christian vocalists.

### CCHFH meeting set for April 28

Colorado County Habitat for Humanity (CCHFH) will hold its monthly business meeting on Monday April 28 at 6:30 p.m. at 1336 Fannin in Columbus (Youth and Family Services Building across from Brookshire Brothers). Individuals wanting to learn more about the activities of CCHFH are welcome.

### Raider band garage, bake sale is May 3

Mighty Rice Raider Band members will hold a garage and bake sale on Saturday, May 3 at 517 East State St. Stop by between 7 a.m. and noon. All proceeds benefit the Mighty Raider Band field trips. They thank you in advance for your support.

### Gators to hold registration May 3

Eagle Lake Gator Swim team will hold registration at Golden Goose Designs on Saturday, May 3 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registration is \$35 per swimmer plus the cost of swimsuit. For questions contact Jeanne Youn at 979-234-3393.

### Garden Club plant sale is May 3

The Columbus Garden Club will hold a plant sale, Saturday, May 3, at Brookshire Bros. on Hwy. 71 in Columbus starting at 8 a.m. till they sell out. Check out the annuals, perennials, sun and shade plants, unusual ferns, plumerias, bromeliads, succulents and lots more. A giant bake sale will also be held.

### PEM Fundraiser is May 4

Prairie Edge Museum will hold a fried chicken dinner fundraiser on Sunday, May 4 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Drive Thru Only). Ticket price is \$7. Buy tickets at the museum or call Christine Owen at 979-234-2575. Homemade desserts will also be sold.

### County Beef and Forage Field Day

On Tuesday, May 6, at 5:30 p.m., at Jim Will Ranch in Cat Spring the Colorado County Beef & Forage Field Day will be held. Topics to include Brush Control, Managing Improved Pastures with Price of Fertilizer, Managing and Re-establishing Native Pasture and Bangs Vaccinating/Fever Ticks - Animal I.D. This program will offer 3 CEU hours for Commercial, Non-commercial and Private Applicators. Bring lawn chairs. This program sponsored by the Colorado County Beef and Forage Committee. For more information contact the Extension Office and keep watch in our local papers.

### RHS Reunion slated

The Rice High School (RHS) classes of 2001, 2002 and 2003 are planning a High School Reunion on Saturday, May 10 in Eagle Lake. If you are interested in attending please contact Meagan Staff at meagan\_marie@hotmail.com (979-450-1803), Kinsey Hoffman at kinseyhoffman@yahoo.com (979-758-4891), Erin Gold at erin\_jg@hotmail.com, or Jenna Hoffman at jenna1288@yahoo.com (758-4718) to find out more information and details. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Public Meeting On Sewage Held

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) hosted a public meeting in Eagle Lake on April 15 at the Eagle Lake Community Center to discuss an amendment to a sludge application permit by Synagro Technologies, Inc.

The meeting, attended by a good-sized crowd, had two portions, a question and answer portion followed by an official comment portion. The meeting was the last opportunity to make an official comment on matter.

During the first part, anyone could come to a microphone and ask representatives of both the TCEQ and Synagro questions, and receive answers.

During the second part, citizens could make an official comment, which would be reviewed and officially responded to by the TCEQ Board at a later date. It was noted that the board was not present at this meeting, nor was any individual that could make decisions on the matter.

It was also explained that if the board thought it necessary, the case could be reviewed in a contested case hearing, though

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Officer John Sebastian works a minor accident between a tractor-trailer and a car recently.



Citizens from all over the county gathered last weekend in Weimar for the Annual Relay For Life.