

# VOTE ON SATURDAY!

# Eagle Lake Headlight

50¢

Serving Southern Colorado County  
www.eaglelakeheadlight.com

50¢

VOLUME 105 NUMBER 08

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

MAY 8, 2008



Pictured above are the State Bound Lady Raider Runners. Back left to right: Jaquita Woods, Annica Williams, and Hillary Johnson. Front left to right: Chelsea Korenek, and Rebecca Dota. Woods competes in the 300 meter hurdles on Saturday at 2:05 in Austin. The mile relay team, which all of the girls participated in at regional, will be at 3:05 on Saturday

## Cites Heath Reasons City Manager Resigns Position

During a special meeting on Tuesday, May 6, the Eagle Lake City Council accepted the resignation of City Manager Ron Holland.

Council has authorized City Secretary Sylvia Rucka to act as city manager to handle normal operations.

Holland has been fighting cancer for some time and in recent months has had to miss time for treatment. He said that the city's insurance would not cover a treatment that he needs, but he could receive it through Medicare when he retires.

"It has been a good 15 years," Holland said.

"I want to thank the council and all of the department heads for being the great people they are," he added.

"It is with great reluctance that I leave, but it is necessary," said Holland. "I want to thank everyone for their support."

Holland indicated that he would be willing to help the city in any way that he is able until a new city manager can be found.

Council briefly discussed options for operation after Holland's

retirement.

Mayor Mike Morales said that he felt the city would be better off by working on the budget and getting through that before making a decision on a city manager.

He indicated that it would be difficult to both search for a city manager and get the budget done.

"I feel that with the experience and the expertise of the people at this table, and the help of Mr. Holland, we can get through the budget," said Morales.

Morales asked each council member for input, and they all echoed the sentiment that the budget should be the priority.

Michael Cooper said that everyone needed to remember that the city manager had a lot of other duties than just the budget, and that they need to make sure that Rucka is not overburdened and is appropriately compensated for her efforts.

Jane Meldahl also added that it might not be a bad idea to think about advertising for a city manager sooner rather than later, as the process takes several months from start to finish.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Garwood emergency number changed

The local emergency number for the Garwood Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD) and ambulance will no longer be available. Starting June 16 you will no longer be able to reach the GVFD and ambulance by dialing 758-3500. Due to changes in the AT&T system, the Group Alert System for the GVFD activated by dialing 758-3500 will no longer be available. All emergencies should be reported by dialing 911.

### Diabetic support group meeting set

A diabetic support group meeting will be held every third Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. at Methodist Fellowship Hall, 200 W. Prairie Street. ALL diabetics and their friends are welcome. The meeting will be held by and for diabetics as a means of support. The meeting will not offer medical treatment and is not affiliated with the Methodist Church. For more information call 234-2853.

### 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 8 to 9 p.m. in Columbus. For more information and location, please call (713) 858-5162.

### Library has display aprons for Mother's Day

To celebrate Mother's Day the Wintermann Library has a colorful display of vintage aprons to share with you. The aprons were generously loaned to the library by members of the study club. The aprons will be on display through the month of May.

### Rock Island Bingo to be closed Saturday

The Rock Island Volunteer Fire Department Bingo will be closed on Saturday, May 10 in observance to Mother's Day.

### Study Club President's Luncheon set

The Eagle Lake Study Club president's luncheon will be held on Friday, May 9 at the Prairie Edge Museum. Mrs. Helyn Farris will present the program on Dr. Malcolm Dallas McLean, who is a retired professor from TCU and U.T. at Arlington. Dr. McLean has compiled 19 volumes about the Robertson Colony in Texas. Please makes plans to attend.

### Stamp out hunger drive is Saturday

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 10 to help families in need in our community. You can help by placing your donation at your mailbox on May 10 before your letter carrier arrives. It will be taken to the post office and then delivered to local food banks or pantries. Please do not include items that have expired or those in glass containers.

### 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\_lg@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.

### FBC prayer garden dedication is May 12

Members and friends of the First Baptist Church (FBC) will dedicate a new prayer garden in a 10 a.m. service on Monday, May 12. The public is welcome to attend. Already open daily, the garden on Prairie Avenue is a place of prayer for all people.

### 2007 Football video for sale!

VIA Video has created a professional, television quality highlight DVD of our 2007 Raider Football Team's dream season. It will include highlights of games, special features, and a look back at the historic 2007 season, set with music and special effects! Capture the memory of the 2007 season forever with this highlight DVD! It's great for students, parents, alumni, the entire community and members of the team (makes a great gift!). The DVD will be available for sale for \$40 at the May 12 Sport Banquet or you can reserve your copy by calling Booster Club Treasurer Lydia Crumpton at 979-232-0385 or at Buc-ee's at 979-234-2003. (Any proceeds to benefit the athletic department). A silent auction will begin at 6:30 followed by the banquet at 7. Tickets for the banquet are \$7 a person. Tickets will be for sale at school offices, Buc-ee's, Larry's, and Sandy Creek Store.

### Coffee klatch is May 13

The Garwood Veteran's Memorial Library will hold their monthly coffee klatch Tuesday, May 13 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The public is invited attend.

## County Looks To Scale Back Annex

Colorado County commissioners, meeting on Tuesday, discussed looking at paring down the size of a possible \$5.6 million annex for county offices.

At the same meeting, County Judge Al Jamison removed himself from a committee studying the annex.

Added to the committee were Commissioners Darrell Gertson and Doug Wessels and County Auditor Raymie Kana.

Earlier in the meeting, several

commissioners expressed reservations about the proposed 24,000 square foot size of the annex.

"Of the people I've talked to, the support of the annex is not there," Commissioner Tommy Jahn said at one point.

He also said that commissioners were not discussing building an annex last year at this time.

"I don't see asking the people for more money," he said.

Continued on page 14

## Area Rice Farmers File Suits Against Bayer

Seven suits were filed on May 2 by rice farmers in the county against several companies.

The suits claim the farmers were damaged by the improper use of genetically modified rice seed.

Those filing suit included: Richard Clipson, Rudy Till, W.A. Hefner IV, Travis Hefner, Engstrom Bros., George Williams Farms, Krenek Bros. Farms, M&P Farms and Mike Henske

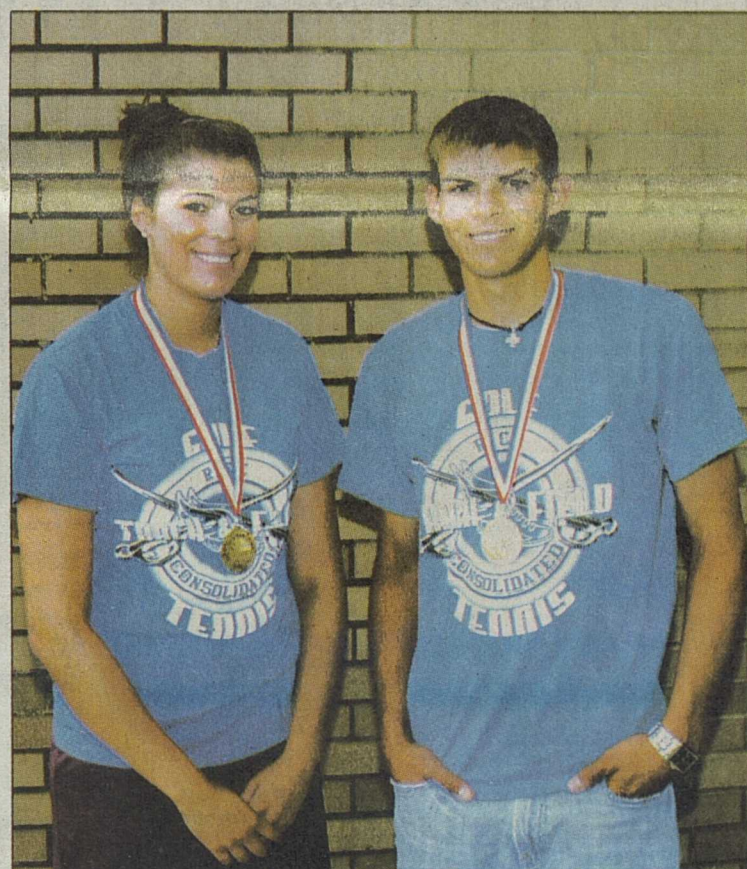
Farms, Jeffrey Dugie and Albert Bittner.

The suits were filed against several subsidiaries of Bayer AG, which are involved in research and manufacture of genetically modified rice seed.

Another defendant is Garrett Seed Rice, Ltd. of Danbury and several related companies.

The suit claims the farmers

Continued on page 14



Shelly Myres and Trey Staff pose with their third place medals from the regional tennis tournament.



Pictured above are members of the golf team that recently took third place at the Regional Tournament. Back left to right: Adam Shimek, and Taylor Cook. Front left to right: Nick Duarte, Travis Kaley, Myles Dumont, and Wesley Arrison.