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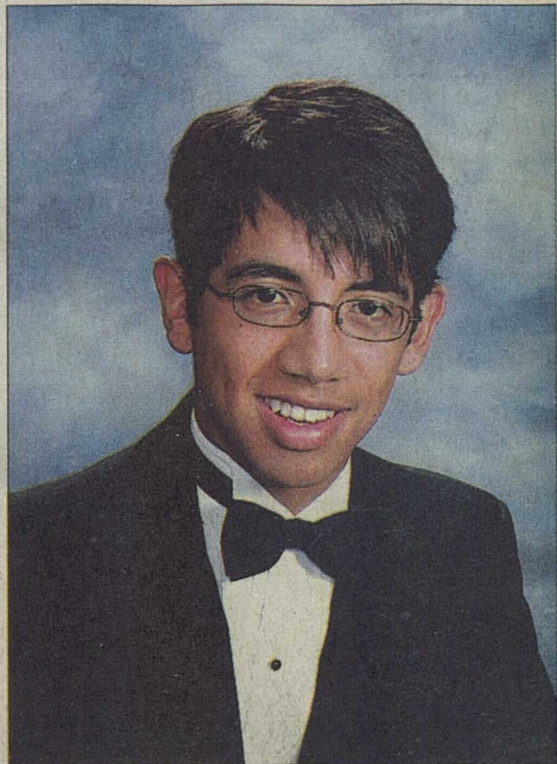
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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

MAY 29, 2008



Hillary Johnson was named Valedictorian and Eduardo Losoya, Jr. Salutatorian of the Rice High School Class of 2008. Commencement exercises are Thursday in Altair at 8 p.m.



County Revises Plan For \$5 Million Debt Issue

Colorado County commissioners, meeting on Tuesday, approved expanding the possible use of part of \$5 million in certificates of obligation to include construction of a courthouse office annex.

The action came on a 3-1 vote to issue a new notice of intent to issue the certificates. Commissioners Herbie Helmcamp, Darrell Gertson and Doug Wessels voted in favor, and County Judge Al Jamison was opposed. Commissioner Tommy Hahn was absent.

The new notice gives July 14 as a date for action on issuing the certificates.

There was also considerable discussion about cutting down the scope of work to be done on repair of the courthouse.

Commissioner Helmcamp said he favored repairs on the roof and waiting until the county sees whether it will get a grant before doing electrical work or replacement of windows.

In October, commissioners had authorized Jamison to proceed on repair of the roof, windows, electrical and the courthouse dome.

Jamison asked if the commissioners wanted to rescind that

order. "If you're going to crawfish on me it's not the first time," he said at one point.

Helmcamp indicated he favored rescinding the previous order, but County Attorney Ken Sparks said the commissioners would have to wait to take action on that at another meeting.

Under questioning, Helmcamp said he envisioned the following possible breakdown of spending the \$5 million as: \$2 million for courthouse, \$2 million for an annex and \$1 million for roads.

When they originally discussed issuing the financing certificates, commissioners had mentioned only the courthouse and roads, not an annex.

In answer to questions, Helmcamp said he envisioned each of the commissioner precincts getting \$250,000 for roads.

Jamison also indicated he was not interested in talking to the architects about changes in the scope of repairs and asked Helmcamp if he was willing to do so.

Helmcamp said he was.

Earlier the commissioners and judge split 2-2 on a vote on the construction method to use on the repairs.

Jamison and Gertson favored

hiring a construction manager to oversee the project, while Helmcamp and Wessels favored a competitive bid process with contractors.

Jamison said he felt with the specialized nature of the repairs a construction manager would provide better oversight. Bids would also be taken on that approach.

Helmcamp and Wessels indicated they felt that the architect already hired to draw plans could provide adequate oversight.

Because neither side prevailed, the issue will come back to the court at a later date when all five members are present.

In other action, commissioners approved:

- Revised wording to be used when bans on outdoor burning are put in effect. The wording would allow burning by farmers in the planting or harvesting of crops. No ban was put into effect at the meeting, with Gertson saying he felt it was not dry enough yet.

- Allowing the investment of county fund with Tex Star/Logic and investment pool.

- A resolution asking the legislature to increase to \$50,000 the level of a purchase at which

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Rice Commencement Thursday

Eighty-four students are set to graduate during ceremonies at Rice High School in Altair on Thursday, May 29 at 8 p.m.

Hillary Johnson will deliver the valedictory address and Eduardo Losoya, Jr. the salutatory.

Honor graduates in the class include: Hillary Johnson, Eduardo Losoya, Jr., Courtney Andrejczak, Yolanda Cisneros, Taylor Cook, Ashley Donnelly, Daniel Goodwin,

Robert Hernandez, Kaci Kazmir, Kourtney Korenek, Shelly Myres, Kacie Smith, Trey Staff, Marisol Tapia, Katlyn Thomas, MaCesly

Thomas, Clayton Watz.

See the graduation section inside for more on the Rice High School Class of 2008.

ELPD Fundraiser June 5

The Eagle Lake Police Department (ELPD) will hold their 4th Annual Fundraiser on Thursday,

June 5 at the Eagle Lake Commu-

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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. All emergencies should be reported by dialing 911.

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.

Chamber's "Margaritaville" is May 31

Join the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce in "Margaritaville" on Saturday, May 31 from 4 to 10 p.m. at the Parish of the Nativity Pavilion on S. Austin Road. Meal tickets are \$10 for adults (children under 6 eat free). Adult beverages sold separately. Stay for the horseshoe tournament. Prizes will be given. Purchase tickets from the chamber office or any chamber officers. Call 979-234-2780 or check the website at chamber@elc.net.

June celebration and parade

The concerned citizens of Colorado County will be holding meetings on the following dates preparing for the annual 19th of June celebration and parade. The meetings will be held at Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, 1003 Columbus Street in Altair. Executive meetings will begin at 9 a.m. regular meetings to begin at 10 a.m. Dates are as follows: Saturday, May 31 and June 6; June 14 at 7:30 p.m. there will be a memorial candlelight service at Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church; June 15 our parade will begin at 2:30 p.m. with honored guest as parade marshals, there will be awards, games, food and fun for all.

Little Raider, Lady Raider Basketball Camp

Incoming 3rd-6th boys and girls are welcome to attend basketball camp at Eagle Lake Elementary gym on June 2-5 at 8:30-12 pm. Participants can get forms from Garwood, Sheridan, and Eagle Lake schools. There will also be registration on Monday, June 2 from 7:30-8:15 at Eagle Lake Elementary gym. The cost for camp is \$20. For more information or registration forms contact: Rachel Patton at 979-234-3531.

ELPD fundraiser is June 5

The Eagle Lake Police Department (ELPD) will hold their 4th annual fundraiser Thursday, June 5 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Tickets are \$7 each and can be purchased from the ELPD or by calling 234-2727. A silent auction will be held from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Door prizes will be given. Anyone wanting to make a donation to the silent auction or a monetary donation should call 234-2727 and speak to Lt. Wendy Alley.

Senior citizen's dance is June 6

A senior citizen's dance will be held Friday, June 6 from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Johnny Underwood will provide the music. For more information call 979-234-2903.

County fair broiler orders due

Broiler chicks for the Colorado County Fair must be ordered through the Colorado County Extension office on or before June 6, 2008. Each exhibitor must purchase a minimum of 25 birds and chicks will cost \$1.20 each. Chicks will be picked up at M-G, Inc. in Weimar on August 1, 2008. Contact Lee Hasse, chairman, at 979-263-4254 for more information.

White Cloud to hold birthday fest June 7

You are cordially invited to the birthday fest June 7 at 4 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center sponsored by the White Cloud Baptist Church.

KC Golf tourney is June 8

The 24th Annual Knights of Columbus (KC) golf tournament will be held June 8. (Rain out date June 15). The 4-player scramble will have a shotgun start of 1:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Golf Course. Entry fee

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The Eagle Lake City Council honored Leo Cordova with a resolution at their meeting on Tuesday night. On hand were members of Cordova's family. In front, from left, Natalie Segura, Adriana Cordova, Jose Posada (in red), Danny Ray Segura, Frances Posada, Leo's widow Hortencia Cordova (holding plaque), Christian Cordova (dark blue shirt), Mayor Mike Morales. Middle, from left, Christopher Cordova, Danny Segura (in black), Amanda Cordova. In back, Eagle Lake City Councilmembers Wilbert Williams, Chris Schuirring, John Young, Michael Cooper and Jane Meldahl.



Crews are preparing to pour the slab at the new junior high facility in Altair.