

Eagle Lake Headlight

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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

JUNE 5, 2008



The Rice High School Class of 2008 celebrates their commencement last Thursday night.

Trans Texas Plans See New Changes

On May 29, The Texas Transportation Commission adopted guiding principles and policies that will govern the development, construction and operation of toll road projects on the state highway system and the Trans-Texas Corridor.

The Commission's unanimous vote reaffirms policies and the requirements of state law regarding toll projects, particularly involving the use of comprehensive development agreements (CDA).

"The Commission's action today reflects the comments we have received from Texas drivers, legislators and members of our citizen advisory committees," said Commission Chair Deirdre Delisi.

"Texans deserve a clear, straightforward explanation of what we are doing to solve our transportation challenges and how we are doing it."

The Texas Transportation Commission is a five-member board appointed by the governor to oversee the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

The Commission reaffirmed its commitment to meet or exceed the requirements of state law on five key issues:

-All state highway facilities, including the Trans-Texas Corridor, will be completely owned by the State of Texas at all times.

-All Comprehensive Development Agreements will include provisions that allow TxDOT to purchase or "buy back" the

interest of a private developer in a CDA at any time if buying back the project would be in the best financial interest of the state.

-The Texas Transportation Commission shall approve, in a public meeting, the initial toll rates charged for the use of a toll project on the state highway system and the methodology for increasing the amount of tolls.

All rate-setting actions will come after consultation with appropriate local metropolitan planning organizations.

-Only new lanes added to an existing highway will be tolled, and there will be no reduction in the number of non-tolled lanes that exist today.

-Comprehensive development agreements will not include "non-compete" clauses that would prohibit improvements to existing roadways.

The Department and any governmental entity can construct, reconstruct, expand, rehabilitate or maintain any roadway that is near or intersects with any roadway under the CDA.

In recognition of the Texas Legislature's commitment to protecting landowners' property rights and in following the department's long-standing practice with other transportation projects, the commission affirmed two additional principles:

-TxDOT will always consider the use of existing right of way that satisfies the purpose and

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Burn Ban In Effect For Colorado County

A ban on outdoor burning was put into effect in Colorado County, effective on Monday, June 2.

The ban was instituted by order of County Judge Al Jamison. He said it was needed because

of the increasing threat of fire because of conditions that are becoming drier in the county.

The ban affects burning of trash, brush and open campfires.

It does not prohibit outdoor

barbecues using above ground grills.

Jamison noted that commissioners will review the ban when they meet on Monday, June 9.

Meanwhile, there is no burn ban currently in effect in Fayette County.

NEWSBRIEFS

Attention all Seniors of RHS 2008

Attention all Seniors of Rice High School (RHS) 2008. Connie's Studio by Glen, Inc. will still take orders for graduation pictures. Please contact Glen at 1442 CR 358 P.O. Box 387, El Campo, Texas 77437 or conniesbyglenn.com or 979-543-4211.

ELPD fundraiser is tonight

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.

Senior citizen's dance is Friday

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.

June celebration and parade

Concerned citizens of Colorado County will hold meetings on the following dates preparing for the annual 19th of June celebration and parade. Meetings will be held at Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, 1003 Columbus St. in Altair. Executive meetings will begin at 9 a.m. regular meetings to begin at 10 a.m. Dates are as follows: Saturday, 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.

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.

Gentry benefit tickets available Friday

Help Delilah Gentry get to the 2008 Colorado Fireworks National Softball Tournament June 28-July 7. The BBQ chicken plate benefit is Saturday, June 14. Tickets available Friday, June 6 at Brookshire Brothers from 8 to noon or at First National Bank from 2 to 6 p.m. or call 713-298-3979. Thank you in advance for your contribution.

Kutach benefit to be held Saturday

A benefit for the late Cody Steve Kutach will be held Saturday, June 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Parish of the Nativity Pavilion, 545 S. Austin Rd. in Eagle Lake. The meal is \$7 a plate and will consist of BBQ brisket, buttered potatoes, green beans and tea with the dine-in plate. Desserts will be \$2 per plate and dine in or to go. A live auction will start at 1 p.m. A drawing will be held after the auction and tickets are \$5 each. Proceeds go to help with funeral expense and a memorial for Kutach. For more information call 234-3932, 758-1512 or 234-5509.

Thrift Shop open Saturday

The Prairie Edge Museum thrift shop will be open Saturday, June 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stop by and check out what they have to offer.

WCBC birthday fest is Saturday

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

KC Golf tourney is Sunday

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 is \$200 per team and includes caps, mulligans, grab bags and a fried pork chop lunch. Proceeds benefit KC charities and scholarships. 1st gross and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes for net, closest to the pin #4 and #7 and longest drive. Cart rent at player's expense. Call 979-234-5981 (limited carts available reserve yours early). For more information call Glen Janow at 234-5282, Gus Seaholm at 234-2261 or Michael Duarte at 234-2630.

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Top: Hillary Johnson delivers the valedictory address at Rice's graduation. Bottom: Eddie Losoya, Jr. gives the salutatory address.



Mayor Mike Morales was recently sworn in to another two years as Eagle Lake's Mayor.



Eagle Lake volunteer firefighter Tim Jones helps fight a grass fire last Friday afternoon on FM 102 north of town. The recent hot, dry weather has contributed to several grass fires and a burn ban has been initiated for the county.



V.F.W. Installs New Officers

Rice Area Memorial Post 8783 installed their 2008-2009 officers May 8 at Taco Tony's Restaurant. Installing officer for Post 8783 was past Post Commander Melvin Stancik.

New officers from Post 8783 are: back row, from left; Melvin Stancik, Adjutant; August Servantes, Sr. Vice Commander; Joe Duncan, Service officer; Isidoro Ramirez, Jr. Vice Commander; Len Matula, Commander; Harry Supak, Chaplin. Front row, from left; James McClain, member; David Haas, member; Earl Rodgers, Quarter Master.