

Eagle Lake Headlight

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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

JUNE 12, 2008



Pictured above are Laura Myres, left, and Shelly Wied holding the limbo stick as Trent Kelley goes under at the Margaritaville held on June 7.

County To Honor Fallen Officers

A monument honoring law enforcement officers from Colorado County who were killed in the line of duty is in the works.

County commissioners Monday approved placing a monument on the west side of the

courthouse.

County Attorney Ken Sparks, who has been involved in the project, said the monument will be about seven feet tall and four feet wide and will list the names of 14 officers who were killed in the line

of duty, dating back to the origins of the county.

Sparks said the idea for the monument started several years ago when the son of DPS Sgt. Gary Chandler compiled a list of the officers.

Sparks said the bulk of the funds, approximately \$4,000, have already been raised by the Colorado County Law Enforcement Association, but he said that anyone wishing to donate may contact his office.

He said he expected the monument to be put in place within the next several months.

County Judge Al Jamison said there is no cost to the county for the monument.

Remembering A Fallen Hero, Ten Years Gone By

An obelisk stands near city hall that many people pass by every day.

Many people here can clearly remember what it stands for, but some may have never bothered to read it, or even really notice it.

The monument was erected nine years ago on the one-year anniversary of the death of Eagle Lake Police Officer Tobin Thomas.

Thomas was killed in the line of duty when he and his partner responded to a call that someone had been shot in town. The officers arrived to find a 28-year old woman, Betty Lou Holloway, shot to death.

When Thomas's partner went to question an individual who appeared to be leaving the scene, Thomas was shot in the back with

a shotgun.

Police said it seemed apparent that the assailant, 64-year old Woodrow Wilson, Jr., was lying in wait with the intention of shooting police officers when they arrived on the scene.

Despite being mortally wounded, Thomas managed to return fire, killing Wilson.

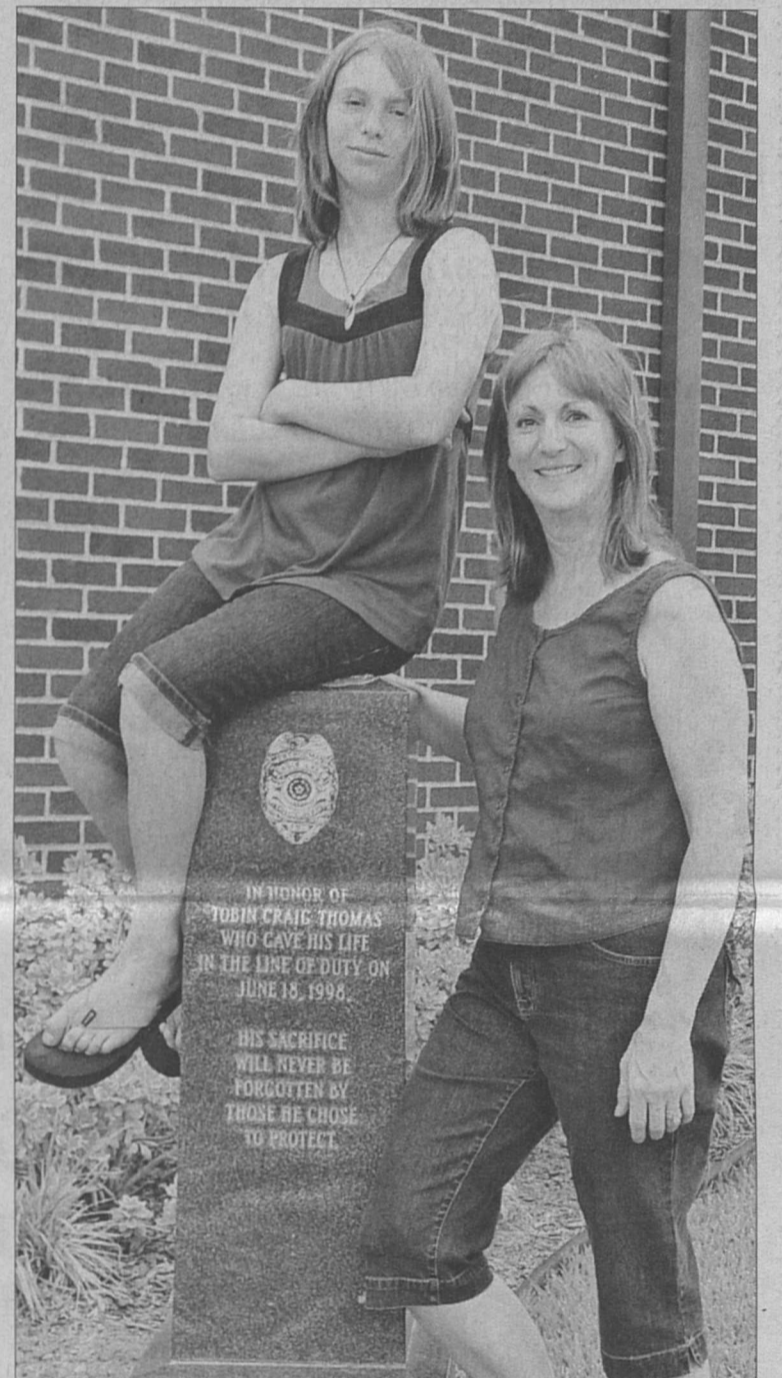
Law enforcement officers said later it appeared Wilson was in the process of reloading his shotgun when Thomas shot him, probably saving his partner's life.

His partner was current Eagle Lake Police Chief Bill Lattimore. At the time Lattimore was a Ser-

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Pictured above is Moira Thomas kissing the memorial to her father Tobin Thomas at the dedication of the monument nine years ago.



Pictured above are Moira Thomas and Laura Cousar, Tobin Thomas's daughter and wife. They recently returned to Eagle Lake in remembrance of the ten-year anniversary of Thomas' death.

NEWSBRIEFS

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.

Head Start taking applications

Head Start is accepting eligibility applications for the 2008-09 school year. If you have a child that will be 3 or 4 years old by Sept. 1, 2008 and you would like to enroll them in an Early Childhood Development Program that is FREE to parents you should call 1-800-433-7570 for an application or visit our website at ctfhs.org.

Head Start aceptando aplicaciones

Head Start esta aceptando las aplicaciones de elegibilidad para el ano escolar de 2008-09. Si usted tiene un nino que sera 3 o 4 anos de edad el 1 de septiembre de 2008 y le gustaria matricularlo en un Program de Desarrollo Temprano de Ninez que es GRATIS a los padres usted debe llamar al 1-800-433-7570 ext. 10 para una aplicacion o visite nuestro sitio del web al ctfhs.org.

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.

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: 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.

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.

Extra Pleasures to meet June 20

"Extra Pleasures" organizational meeting will be at the library on June 20 at 1:30 p.m. Come and bring your ideas for future activities. Our first activity will be a day trip to Martha's Bloomer's Garden Center in Navasota.

Disaster preparedness seminar is June 28

The Colorado County Disaster Preparedness seminar will be held June 28 from 10 a. to 3 p.m. at the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church, 1229 Milam St. in Columbus. Registration is free. Call Miriam Moerbe at 979-732-5275 or Miriam.Moerbe@MHM.org.

10th Annual fireworks show July 3

There will be a fireworks display held in Eagle Lake on Thursday, July 3 beginning at 9 p.m. on Calhoun Road. This year marks the 10th anniversary for the July fireworks festival and will once again feature an action-packed 30-minute display. For more information or to donate, please stop by the Eagle Lake Post Office during regular office hours or call 979-232-0233.

Council Talks City Manager At Workshop

During a workshop on Tuesday, June 3, the Eagle Lake City Council discussed how to proceed with the hiring of a new city manager.

The discussion centered mainly on what the city would be looking for in a city manager and what the powers of the city manager would be.

Council discussed whether the city manager should have the power to hire and fire without council oversight, or if the council

would have final say in employment matters.

Currently, the city manager position, according to the ordinance detailing the position, has the power to hire and fire, without final approval by the council.

There is a grievance process, which the council would be involved in, should an employee file for a grievance if they feel they have been unjustly fired.

Council also discussed the

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County To Hold Off On Courthouse Windows

Colorado County commissioners, meeting Monday, approved holding off on replacing windows at the courthouse as part of an overall repair and renovation.

The action came with little discussion, but County Commissioner Herbie Helmcamp said that elimination of the windows from the scope of work would bring the cost figure for repair of the roof and dome into the range of \$2 million.

He said that if the county

obtained a grant from the state, much of the cost of the window replacement would be covered.

Figures presented by the architect in February had put estimates of the cost of roof, dome, electrical and windows in the range of \$3 million.

Commissioners also named Helmcamp to replace County Judge Al Jamison in advising and directing the architect on the repairs.

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Groundwater District Proposes Budget

The newly created Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District has scheduled a public hearing on Wednesday, June 18, at 7 p.m. at Columbus City Hall on a proposed \$272,000 budget for the coming year.

If approved, the directors will consider later approving a tax rate to raise the funds, said the district's secretary, Marian Schonenberg.

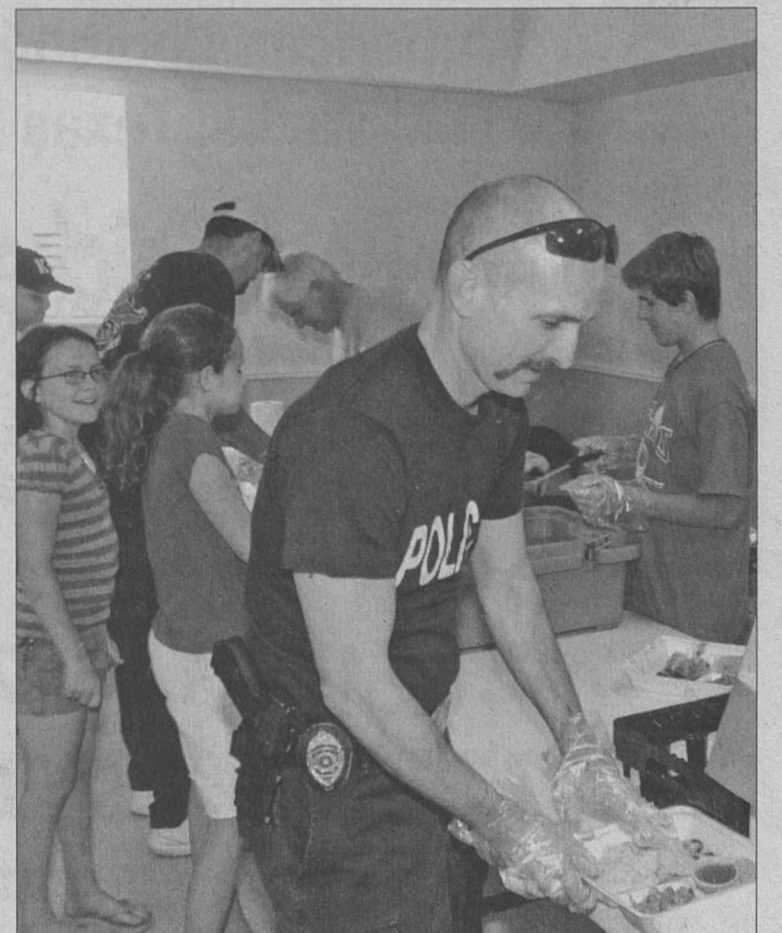
Notices of proposed property values, issued by the county's ap-

praisal district, have listed a possible tax rate of 2 cents per \$100 valuation.

Schonenberg said that officials with the appraisal district had indicated that a 2-cent rate would raise \$330,000.

The district was created by voters last November and has been holding meetings to begin operations since that time. The maximum rate the district can levy is 3 cents per \$100 valuation.

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Police Chief Bill Lattimore, along with many volunteers, helps serve food during the Equipment Fundraiser held June 5.

Burn Ban Extended In Colorado County

A ban on outdoor burning in Colorado County was extended Monday by county commissioners.

Commissioners also voted to ban the use of flying fireworks that are classified as "skyrockets with sticks" and "missiles with fins."

Last week, the burn ban was

instituted by order of County Judge Al Jamison.

Commissioners agreed Monday that the ban should be extended because of dry conditions.

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

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