

Eagle Lake Headlight

Serving Southern Colorado County
www.eaglelakeheadlight.com

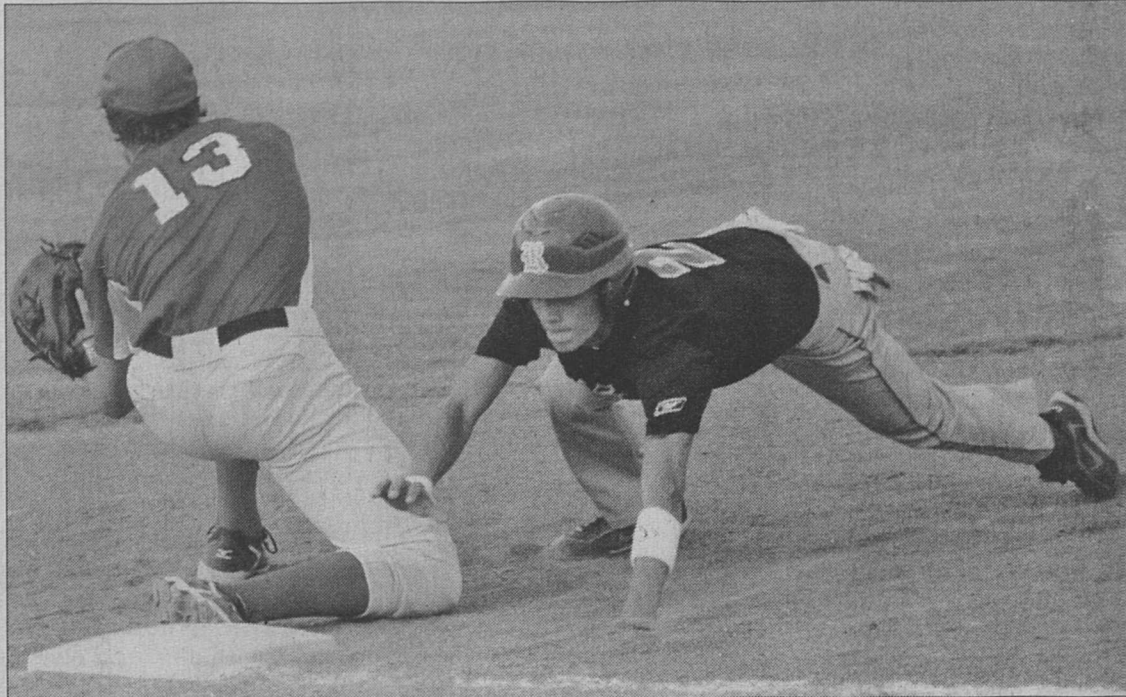
50¢

50¢

VOLUME 106 NUMBER 09

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

MAY 21, 2009



Carlos Sosa dives back toward first during the playoff game last Thursday.

Council Votes Against Supporting Sex Offender Halfway House

The Eagle Lake City Council voted against supporting a proposal for a halfway house for sex offenders to lease the space formerly occupied by the Eagle Lake Juvenile Facility.

The action came following a presentation to the council by David Kopnicky, Ph.D.

Kopnicky said that he was a sex offender treatment provider and was interested in opening the Eagle Lake facility as a halfway house for sex offenders.

He indicated that the men that would be housed there would be parolees who had made application to be in the facility following their incarceration for a sex crime.

He said that the men would be required to work in some capacity and that after a year in the facility would be permitted to do community service of some type.

The men would be monitored and transportation to and from their work would be provided.

He indicated that the residents at the facility would not be allowed to use drugs or alcohol and would be strictly monitored.

He also indicated that the program was highly selective and

that since the program's inception nine years ago nearly 7,000 individuals had gone through the program and only three had committed another sex offense.

Following the presentation, council discussed the matter and agreed that they didn't feel comfortable with the idea of the facility being used for that purpose.

County Judge Al Jamison was on hand and assured council that if they did not want to go ahead with this that it would not be done.

The vote not to endorse the sex offender halfway house was unanimous.

It was noted during the discussion that the county is still receiving payments from Youth Services International, the company that started to open the facility for use as a juvenile detention center, but ended up shutting down abruptly before moving any juveniles in.

In other council action:

-Council voted to change the leaf and grass pickups to include the first and the third Monday of every month. This action came after citizen feedback indicated that storing leaf and grass clippings for a month was a burden.

-Council voted to move ahead with purchase of a new mosquito fogger, roof repairs at the community center, a security wall at the city office, and a new printer for the city. These items total around \$21,000 and council will use the money budgeted for police vehicles to pay for these projects.

-Council also voted to move ahead with repairs to a water leak at the pool in advance of the summer pool season.

-Heard from a citizen regarding trash in the area of the Little League fields. A citizen said that in recent weeks trash has become a big problem in the area. A Little League representative was on hand and said that they would try to curb the trash problem by making more announcements during games to be mindful of the situation.

-Council discussed looking into the city's zoning ordinances to see if any adjustments needed to be made. The discussion came following a variance being granted for a business in a residential area. Some council members expressed that they did not want to see more businesses in residential areas.

Raiders End Historical Season Against Salado

The Rice Raider Baseball team made their first ever playoff appearance last week following a win over Weimar to take third place.

The Raiders faced Salado in the Bi-District round, losing the two-of-three series in two games.

The score of the first game on Wednesday, May 13 was 5-2 and the second 12-1 on May 14.

This ended the Raiders historical-making season.

Trent Popp pitched the first game and went the distance for the Raiders.

In that game Damian Stevens was 1 for 3, Kevin Ellis was 1 for 2 and Matt Sosa was 1 for 3 with a stolen base and an RBI.

The Raiders fell behind 5-0 but battled back adding a single run in the sixth and seventh innings.

In the second game Mario Hull started on the mound and Matt Sosa finished the game.

After a scoreless first inning Salado came alive scoring three runs in the second and four in

Continued on page 6

NEWSBRIEFS

Chamber has new hours!

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce office hours are Monday thru Friday 2-5:30 p.m. The Chamber now has a posting board for events, items for sale/rent and etc. You may fax, mail, email or drop off any items to be posted during our business hours call 979-234-2780 or email at Chamber@elc.net. Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce, 303 East Main St., Eagle Lake, Texas 77434. Items will be posted at the discretion of the Chamber.

Artwork on display at Library

The artwork of students from Lois Raabe's Little Red Barn Art Studio is now on display at the Wintermann Library. Students with art on display are Genny and Ariel Quenneville, Cameron Muzny, Reagan Dopslauf, Emma and Sophie Kelley, Lydia Garbee, Cameron Marsalia and Katherine Myers. Come by the library and see more of our local talent.

Historical Commission meeting is today

The Colorado County Historical Commission (CCHC) will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, May 21 at 7 p. m. at Trinity Lutheran Church Annex, 3209 FM 1291 in Frelsburg. The program: "Nesbitt Archives Project" will be presented by Dr. James Smallwood, Prof. Emeritus, Oklahoma State University. Hostesses will be Janice Houghton, Jean Ellis, Larry Uhlig, Roger Wade Susan Rogers, Joe Fling and Sterling Fling. Please bring a covered dish meal. This will also be a good time to pay your dues if you haven't already done so.

Farmer's Market to open May 21

The Eagle Lake Farmer's Market will open on Thursday, May 21 at 4 p.m. and will be open on Thursdays throughout the season from 4-6:30 p.m. in the Community Center pavilion on Walnut Street. Farmers and gardeners, bring your harvest, large or small. To get information, call Randall Spalinger at 979-243-4261.

Homecoming, memorial service set

The Annual Homecoming and Memorial Day Service will be held at the air-conditioned Rock Island Community Center, Sunday, May 24. A beef and sausage dinner with all the trimmings (dessert and iced tea or coffee included) will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The memorial service and program will commence at 12:30 p.m.

Memorial Day Closings

The following businesses will be closed in observance for Memorial Day. Colorado County Courthouse, The First National Bank, Wallis State Bank, Wintermann Library, Eagle Lake Post Office, and The City of Eagle Lake. There will be no trash collection on Monday. Monday and Tuesday's routes will be collected on Tuesday. The Headlight will be closed on Monday. The deadline for advertisements for the May 28 edition will be Friday, May 22 at 5 p.m.

Athletic Banquet May 26

Rice High School Athletic Banquet will be held Tuesday, May 26 at the Rice High School Commons. Silent auction begins at 6 p.m. (Silent auction donations will be gratefully accepted). Meal and program at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at school offices, Buc-ee's, Johnny's Sport Shop, Larry's (Garwood), and Sandy Creek Drive Inn (Sheridan).

V.F.W. selling Poppies May 29

The V.F.W. Post 8783 will be selling Buddy Poppies on Friday, May 29 at the First National Bank, Wallis State Bank, and Brookshire Brothers from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. to benefit all disabled veterans.

Little Raider Basketball Summer Camp

Looking for some basketball skills and fun? Come June 8-11 to Eagle Lake Elementary Gym from 8-11 am. All incoming 3rd-6th grade boys & girls who are interested in summer basketball camp can pick up forms at their elementary school: Eagle Lake, Garwood, and Sheridan. The cost of the camp is \$30. The form and money are due on May 29 to your school office. For more information contact: Rachel Patton @ 979-234-3531 or rpatton@ricecisid.org

Lady Raider Basketball Camp

Want to step up your game for the next season? Come June 15-17
Continued on page 10

The Rice School Board got another update on progress at the new Junior High facility during their regular meeting on Monday, May 18.

Assistant Superintendent Bill Hefner presented a picture slide show of progress on the construction project.

Flooring in the new gym is being installed as well as bleachers for the facility.

Grass sod has been laid in around the new building and furnishings have been installed in the reception area.

The new school has multimedia projectors mounted in every classroom as well as one being installed in the auditorium for large presentations.

Hefner advised that the water treatment plant is up and running.

He also said that all the furniture for the new school has been ordered.

He told the board that the project is running within the original budget and that he does not expect it to go over.

He also gave a report on progress of the Tate Street project in Eagle Lake that will eventually be the Eagle Lake Intermediate School.

He said that the project is out

for bids and that they are due in on June 3.

He said that he expects the project to cost \$2 to \$3 million but will know more when the bids come in.

In other board action:

-Trustees Clark Peterson, Wayne Bowen and Vivian Spanihel where sworn in to new terms.

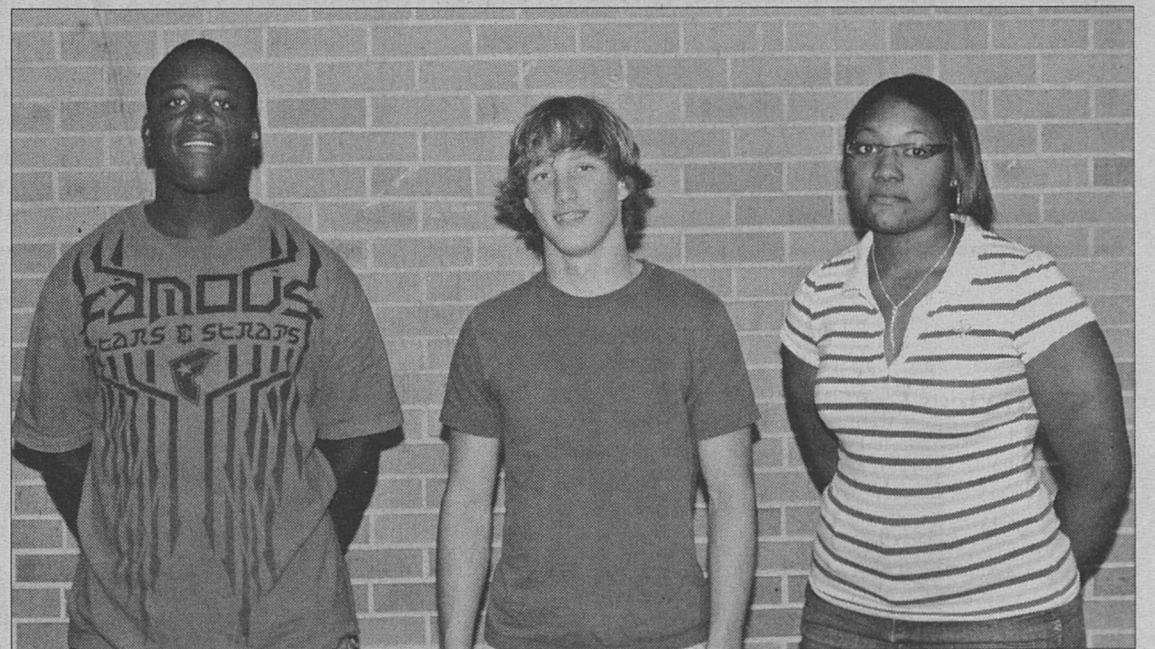
They were all unopposed for re-election.

-The board voted Vivian Spanihel as Board President, Clark Peterson as Vice President and Wayne Bowen as Secretary.

-The board changed the date of their June Meeting to Monday, June 8.

-Discussed student insurance,

which covers athletic injuries as well as students involved in vocational programs like shop. It was noted that the insurance premium for the coming year would be \$41,000. Hefner said that in 2001 it was about \$10,000. He said that the rates were based on the claims that are made under the policy.



Chris Dorsey (left), Cody Lantelme and Brittany Parker qualified for the State Track Meet at last week's regional in San Antonio. They will compete on June 5 in Austin. Dorsey qualified in discus, Lantelme in pole vault, and Parker in shot put.



VFW Installs New Officers

The Rice Area Memorial V.F.W. Post 8783 installed their 2009-2010 officers Thursday, May 14. The installation was held at Taco Tony's meeting room in Eagle Lake. Front row left to right: Len Matula, Commander; Isidoro Ramirez, Jr. Vice Commander; Melvin Stancik, Adjutant; James McCain, member. Back row, left to right are: Warren Dupre, Post Guard; August Servantes, Sr. Vice Commander; J.C. Cooper, Surgeon; Jason Jones, Officer of the Day; Earl Rodgers, Quartermaster; Harry Supak, Chaplin. Not pictured: Joe Duncan, Service Officer.