

Eagle Lake Headlight

Serving Southern Colorado County
www.eaglelakeheadlight.com

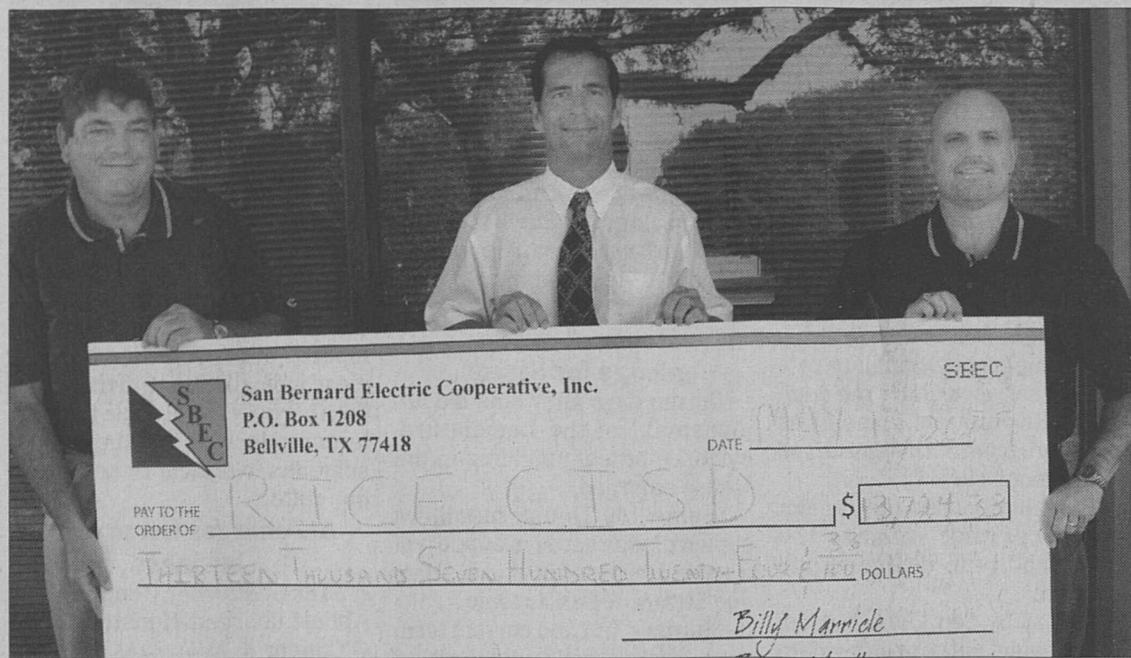
50¢

50¢

VOLUME 106 NUMBER 12

EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

JUNE 11, 2009



San Bernard Electric Cooperative, Inc. President and General Manager, Billy Marricle, and Business Group Manager, Bruce Mueller, visited Rice ISD to present the school district with a generous check in the amount of \$13,724.33. The San Bernard Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Board of Directors voted to pay out capital credits to their members earlier this year. The co-op gave back to the community by sharing a percentage of their year-end margins with its members. Pictured left to right are, Billy Marricle - SBEC President and General Manager, Bill Hefner - Rice ISD Assistant Superintendent and Bruce Mueller - SBEC Business Group Manager.

Commissioners Looking At Preliminary Budget Information

Preliminary figures on Colorado County's tax appraisal roll show a decline of \$81 million this year, which will cause the county tax revenue to drop by about \$360,000, based on the current tax rate.

The figures were released by the county's central appraisal district, five days after County Judge Al Jamison wrote a letter

to county elected officials and department heads about the tight financial situation.

He suggested that commissioners might have to consider a slight increase in the tax rate to offset some of the loss of revenue.

"Commissioners have agreed to freeze the budget at the current level for 2010," Jamison said

in the letter, which was written on June 3.

The preliminary figures released Monday by the appraisal district show \$1.578 billion in property values this year.

That is below the figure of \$1.659 billion last year.

In his letter, Jamison said that

Continued on page 8

County To Apply For Stimulus \$

Colorado County commissioners, meeting on Monday, approved a \$286,000 grant application for the sheriff's office from federal economic stimulus funds.

Skip Edman with the sheriff's office said there is about \$7.6 million in funds available in the region.

Applications are made through the Houston-Galveston Area Council.

Items in the application, he said, include two vehicles equipped with crime scene investigation equipment and courtroom security equipment including metal detectors and replacement and updating of video equipment in patrol cars.

Included in the grant request is \$63,000 for two vehicles to be equipped with crime scene investigation equipment.

There is also \$129,000 request for updated video equipment for patrol cars.

Commissioners were told no matching funds are required from the county.

In other action, commissioners:

-Recognized the county's garden clubs for their work as part of the observance of "National Garden Club Week."

-Took no action on naming

the building at 1117 Travis Street, which had formerly been occupied by the Colorado County Farm Bureau. They also heard from Precinct 3 Peace Justice Francis

Truchard, who said he wanted to remain in his present location.

Commissioners noted that

Continued on page 8

Antique Teller Window Donated To Museum

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Meitzen recently donated the 104-year old Teller's cage that served for over 50 years in the first bank building of the First National Bank of Eagle Lake.

When that building was partially razed in the early 1960s and

portions of it incorporated into the new present structure, the beautiful "cage" was stored in a local barn.

In 1975 Mr. Meitzen acquired the item and installed it in the Meitzen's new home just west of town being built adjacent to one

of the new man-made lakes that was the result of sand and gravel mining.

Morris Howland, co-curator, has replaced several boards that were lost or misplaced during the interim times.

The fixture is in perfect condition complete with a brass rail and a cuspidor for customer use.

The museum staff is deeply grateful to John and Pat Meitzen for their generosity, and we invite the citizens of Eagle Lake and surrounding area to come in and see it and the many other historic items.

"Although the museum has just about reached its capacity of artifacts and historical items, we do have room for an old-fashioned ice box with the lid on top where a large cake of ice is installed. If anyone has one, we will make room for it", says Bill Harrison, Sr., co-curator.

NEWSBRIEFS

Health fair, blood drive Saturday

Rice Medical Center (RMC) Health Fair and Blood Drive will be held Saturday, June 13, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Free lab work, carotid artery screening, lots of booths and lots of information. Also Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center will be collecting blood from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Both events will be at RMC, 600 S. Austin Rd. in Eagle Lake.

KC Golf tournament June 14

The 25th Annual Knights of Columbus Council #4843 Golf tournament is Sunday, June 14 (rain-out date Sunday, June 21) four player scramble 1:30 p.m. Shotgun Start at Eagle Lake Golf Course Entry fee \$200 per team. Includes caps, mulligans, grab-bags, and chicken fried steak lunch. The chicken fried steak lunch will also be offered to the public. Cart rent: at player's expense call 979-234-5981. (limited carts available, reserve yours early). Be a hole sponsor! A bargain at only \$100. Proceeds to benefit Knights of Columbus charities. For information contact Glen Janow at 979-234-5282, Gus Seaholm at 979-234-2261 or Michael Duarte at 234-2630.

Colorado County row crop tour

The Colorado County Row Crop Tour will be held on Monday, June 15 at 4:30 p.m. starting from Nada Hall located in Nada. There will be four Texas AgriLife Extension Specialist speaking at the field day. C.E.U.'s will be offered for private, commercial and non-commercial applicators toward re-certification. The tour is being sponsored by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Colorado County Row Crop Committee and local and area agri-businesses.

Photographers, Unite!

The Plaza Theatre on Monterey Square in Wharton cordially invites local photographers to an organizational meeting June 16 at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served. In addition to allowing camera aficionados to share their passion for their art, the group hopes to produce a yearly calendar to benefit the Plaza building fund and to exhibit their work in the theatre lobby. For more information, please visit www.whartonplazatheatre.org.

Juneteenth festival June 20

The 4th annual Juneteenth Festival will be Saturday, June 20 at Roadside Park in Altair. Fun, food, festivities, contests, music and more. Saturday parade line up at 11:30 a.m. (anyone wanting to participate in parade should meet at Hwy 71 Main in Altair). The parade will start at noon with festivities starting at 1 p.m. at park. There will be domino and card tournaments. Come on out and have some fun! Bring lawn chairs! Door prizes!

Frnka family reunion June 21

The 71 Frnka family reunion will be held on Sunday, June 21 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church Assembly Hall, 1031 Church Lane, Frelsburg. There will be a business meeting, potluck lunch, and auction. So please bring a main dish, side dish, appetizer and/or dessert and an auction item. Entertainment and games will be provided for the children.

Fireman's frolic and tractor show set

The Wallis Volunteer Fire Department's Fireman's Frolic is scheduled for June 28 at the American Legion Hall in Wallis. There will be a Barbecue Beef and Chicken dinner with all the trimmings from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. A cakewalk and moonwalk are also planned and the big auction gets underway at 12:30 p.m. A Grand Raffle drawing takes place after the auction. There are 10 great prizes with tickets sold for \$5 or a book of five for \$20. The Brazos FFA Tractor Show also returns for the second year. For information on the tractor show, contact Jayson Hill at 979-478-6012. To donate items for the auction or raffle contact Clay at 979-478-2230, cell 979-885-9990 or Dennis at 979-478-6213, cell 979-481-2106.

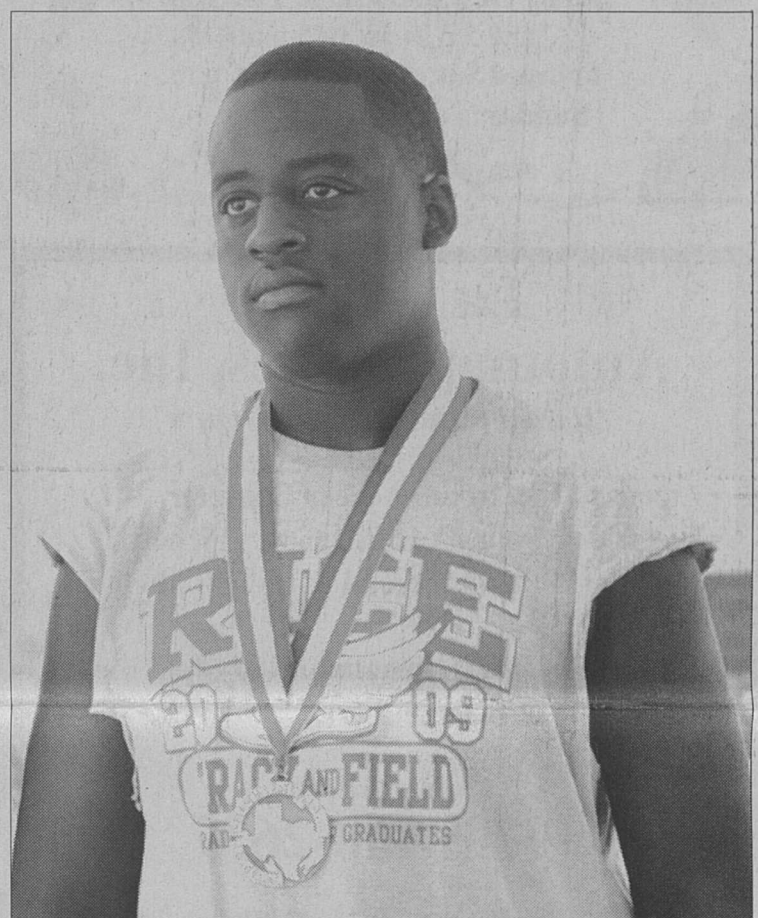
Wildlife workshop deadline is July 3

A wildlife workshop "Range, Water and Wildlife" will be held on Friday, July 10 at St. Roch's Parish Hall in Mentz. Deadline to register for the workshop is July 3. For more information, please call 979-732-9565.

Firework Show July 3

A firework's show will be held Friday, July 3 to kick off the Independence day weekend on Calhoun Road in Eagle Lake. The 11th annual celebration will blast off at 9 p.m. The event is open to the public and admission is free, however, goodwill donations will be accepted. For more information call 979-232-0233.

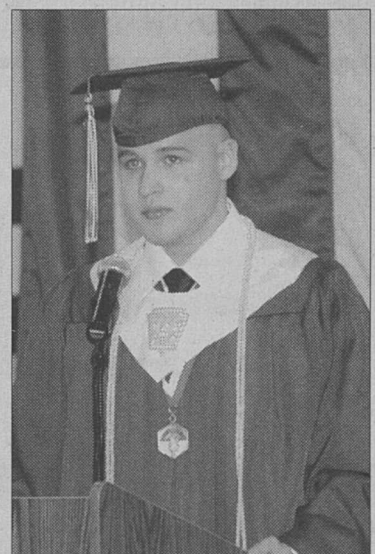
Continued on page 7



Chris Dorsey earned the bronze medal in discus at the State Track and Field Championships last Friday. His best throw was 158' 2". See page 7 for more photos.



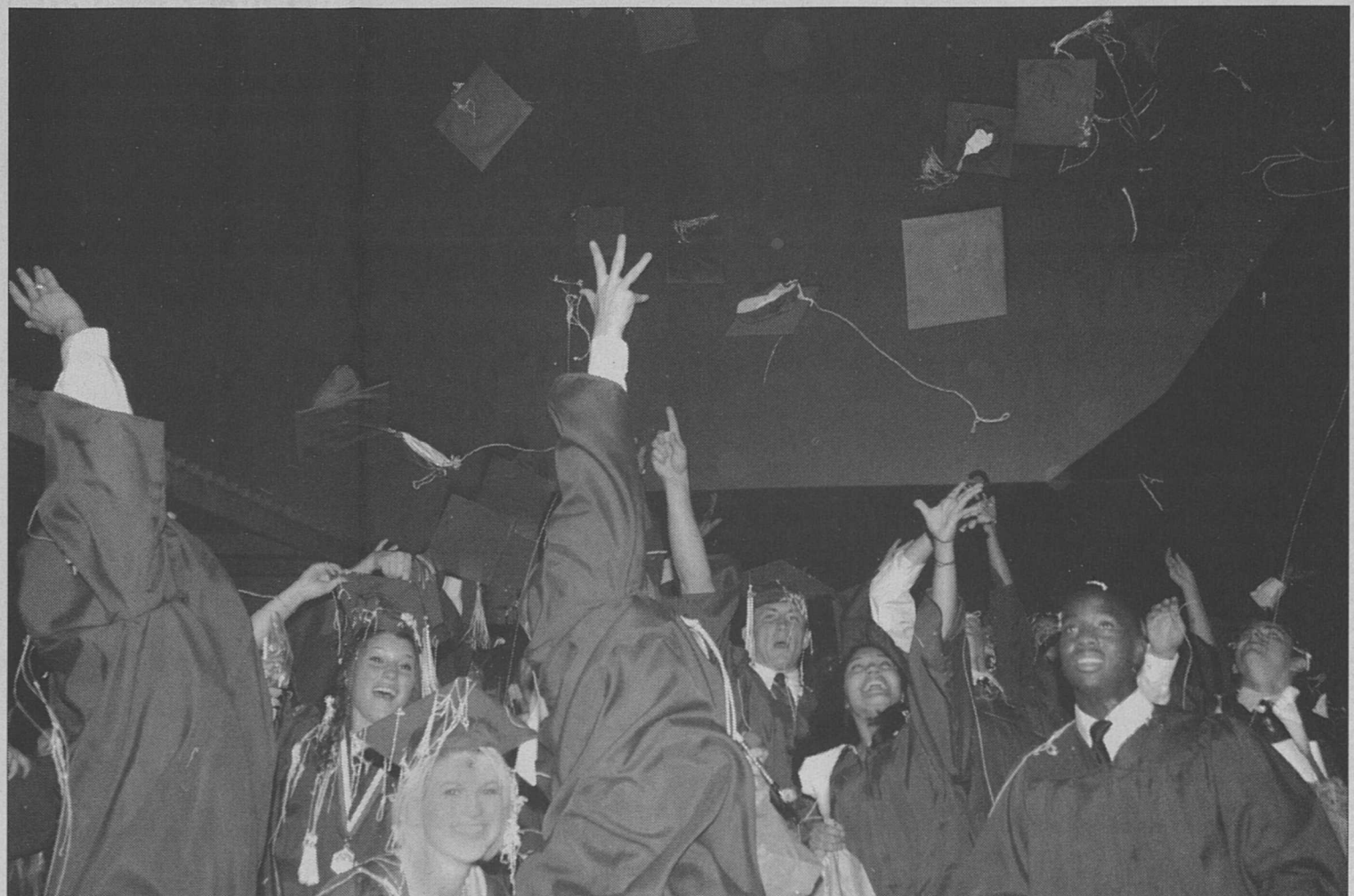
The Meitzen family recently donated an antique bank teller window to the Prairie Edge Museum. A large window in the Meitzen home had to be removed in order to get the fixture out of their home.



Garreth Casper gives the valedictory address.



Sabara Saenz gives the salutatory address.



The Rice High School Class of 2009 celebrates their graduation in the traditional manner.