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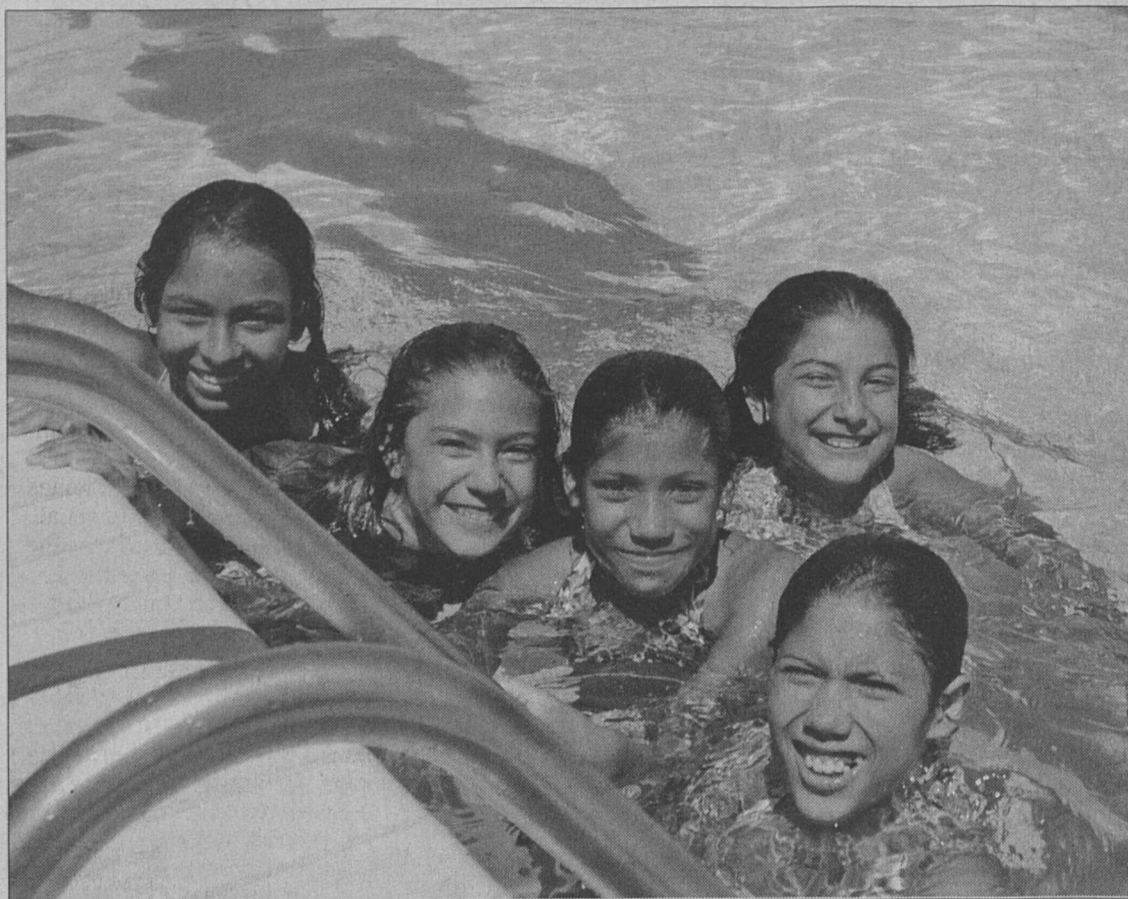
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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

JUNE 18, 2009



Keepin' Cool For The Summer

Some youngsters cool off in the city pool on Tuesday afternoon with temperatures reaching the century mark.

Judge Enacts Burning Ban

Colorado County Judge Al Jamison enacted a ban on outdoor burning for the county by executive order on Tuesday, June 16. Jamison said that his executive order is good for seven days,

but that the issue would be on the agenda for the next commissioners' meeting on Monday, June 22.

"It's just too dry," he said. "We try to wait as long as possible to give people the chance to burn, but it is just too dangerous now," he added.

NEWSBRIEFS

Benefit for Ramirez Saturday

A BBQ benefit for Mary Ramirez will be held Saturday, June 20 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. BBQ chicken with sides \$7 a plate. Drive thru pick up at Eagle Lake City Park. For tickets please contact Mary Ramirez at 281-660-6411 or Stephen Aguilar at 979-232-1066 if no answer please leave contact info. Plates will be sold without tickets until sold out. All proceeds go towards medical expenses.

Juneteenth festival is Saturday

The 4th annual Juneteenth Festival will be Saturday, June 20 at Roadside Park in Altair. Fun, food, festivities, contests, music and more. Saturday's 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 the park. There will be domino and card tournaments. Come on out and have some fun! Bring lawn chairs! Door prizes!

Frnka family reunion is Sunday

The 71st Frnka family reunion will be held on Sunday, June 21 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Sts. 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.

VBS set for UMC

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held June 22-June 26 from 5:30-8:30 at United Methodist Church (UMC) - Eagle Lake in partnership with First Baptist Church - Eagle Lake. VBS is open to all children in the community, completed kindergarten through 6th grade. If you would like to volunteer to help or have any questions, please contact Laura Myres at 979-733-9949. We look forward to seeing you there.

7 on 7 selling plates for June 25

The Rice 7 on 7 will be selling chicken spaghetti plates on Thursday, June 25. Plates are \$8 and will consist of chicken spaghetti, green beans, garlic bread and an apple streusel dessert. Pick up locations are Eagle Lake Junior High (Johnnie D. Hutchins Dr.) from 5-6:30 p.m., drop-off at Garwood Elementary at 5:30-6:30 and Sheridan Elementary from 5:30-6:30.

Validations set for major shows

Exhibitors planning to show a steer in one of the major shows will need to validate these animals on Tuesday, June 23 from 7:30-9:30 a.m. or 6-7:30 p.m. at the Rice FFA barn. Steer tags must have been pre-ordered. Any youth planning to show a lamb or goat in the State Fair of Texas will validate these animals also on Tuesday, June 23. The validation will take place at the Rice FFA barn from 7:30-9:30 a.m. and 6-7:30 p.m. Lamb and goat tags for the State Fair also must have been pre-ordered.

Fireman's frolic and tractor show set

The Wallis Volunteer Fire Department's Fireman's Frolic is set for June 28 at the American Legion Hall in Wallis. There will be a BBQ 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 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 drawing 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 fireworks 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.

Rice Board Awards Bid For Elementary School Work

During their regular meeting on June 8, the Rice Board of Trustees voted to award the construction and remodeling bid on the Eagle Lake Intermediate School on Tate Street to Bass Construction out of Rosenberg.

The total bid for the project came in at \$2.709 million and includes a few other projects that were added on to the project.

Those projects include a bus barn in Altair, canopies in Altair, new roofing for the whole Eagle Lake project, and a new fire alarm system at the high school.

Bass was the low bidder for the project and has been in business for about 50 years.

Other bidders on the project included Drymalla Construction, the current contractor for the new junior high in Altair, BLS Construction, Inc., Division

One, Galaxy Builders, Polasek Construction, and State Construction.

The estimated date of completion for the project is April 1, 2010.

Trustees also got a report on the progress of the junior high facility.

Assistant Superintendent Bill Hefner said that work is nearing completion and that it was down to finishing work and touch-ups for the most part for that facility.

He said that some sort of opening for the public would be done, but no firm dates were discussed.

In other board action:

-Approved a salary schedule for the coming year. Teachers will receive a state funded \$800 pay increase. Non-professional hourly employees will receive a 20

cents per hour raise. The district loyalty stipend was increased from \$3,000 to \$4,000 and is available to any professional employee who remains with the district for 25 years or more.

Administrator salaries were increased by \$8.71 per day based on the number of days in the employees contract.

-The board presented plaques of appreciation to the baseball, golf and football coaches for the hard work during the year.

-Heard a report that Rice High graduates had received \$148,000 in scholarships with a total of about \$600,000 when university and college scholarships were figured in. It was noted that some of that total was due to the same students receiving multiple offers from different universities and colleges.

City Council Upholds Home Mechanic Variance

The Eagle Lake City Council voted against overturning a decision by the board of adjustments to allow a mechanic to operate out of his home on Fairview Street.

The board of adjustments had earlier approved a variance in zoning, but a protest was filed during the waiting period for that variance.

The individual indicated that he is not able to afford a proper garage and that working from his

home on cars was his only viable means of income.

Members from the board of adjustments explained that there was no opposition at the board's meeting when the decision was made and that the individual agreed to certain provisions.

He agreed that he would not have more than three vehicles at a time that he was working on on his property and that the cars would not be parked on the street

and that he could not have any sort of sign nor could he advertise for business.

He also agreed that he would only work between the hours of 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

One individual spoke against granting the variance at the council meeting. He said that he did not think it was fair that this person was granted a variance to work

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Vets Say Thanks For Poppy Purchases

To the nice people at the First National Bank of Eagle Lake, the Wallis State Bank and B&B grocery for allowing us to use their locations. And to all of the wonderful people that contributed to our cause, we of VFW Post 8783, Eagle Lake salute you for your support of our Buddy Poppy event of Friday, May 29. From left to right Melvin Stancik, Isidoro Ramirez, August Servantes, JC Cooper, Harry Supak, David Haas, Earl Rodgers. Not pictured Jason Jones.



Rice School District Honors Retirees

Rice CISD retirees were honored at the recent end of year awards luncheon. Retiring were: Jane Clipson, Rice High School; Gloria Garcia, Garwood Elementary and Jr. High; Loretta McCloud, Rice High School; Bennie Machac, Sheridan Elementary and Jr. High; Barbara Williams, Central Administration; and Judy Pustejovsky, Eagle Lake Elementary.