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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

DECEMBER 10, 2009



Pictured above is what remains of the Jones Residence at 4878 FM 102 South. A fire in the early hours of Monday, December 7 destroyed the home and claimed the life of Troy Richardson, a seventh grader at Rice Junior High. Richardson lived in the home with grandparents Andrew and Deborah Richardson. No cause for the fire had been established as of press time.

Fund Set Up To Help Family Early Morning House Fire Claims Life Of Local Youth

A Rice Junior High seventh grader, Troy Eugene Richardson, 13, died in a house fire south of Eagle Lake in the early hours of Monday, December 7.

The home, at 4878 FM 102 South, was the residence of Andrew and Deborah Jones, grandparents of the deceased.

The Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department was called to the scene at 12:19 a.m.

The house was already fully engulfed by flames when firefighters arrived said Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department Chief Darrell Stancik.

He said that about 35 firefighters from Eagle Lake and Garwood fought the blaze.

The fire took about three and a half hours to fully extinguish, said Stancik.

On Monday, a state fire marshal was at the house, which was leveled by the blaze, to conduct an investigation into the cause of the fire. Stancik said he did not know when a report would be given.

He said that there was no preliminary finding on the cause of the fire.

Justice of the Peace George Cason pronounced Richardson dead at 1:37 a.m.

A friend of the family, Mrs. Ronnie Baines, said the youth, his grandparents and a cousin, Laquita Shropshire, 17, were in the house at the time the fire broke.

She said that the grandparents were asleep and were awakened by a banging on the wall from another room where the boy was located as he apparently tried to warn them.

Mrs. Baines said the grandparents and the cousin were able to get out, but the fire spread rapidly.

"His grandfather broke out a window and tried to go back in several times, but he was driven back by the smoke and flames," she said.

She said the family lost all of their possessions and clothes in

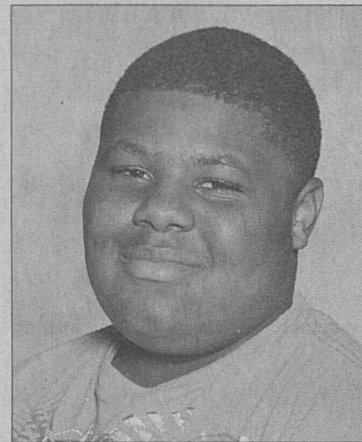
the fire.

Mrs. Baines said a fund to help the family was being set up at First National Bank of Eagle Lake.

She said donations of clothing and other household items could be made at the home of Jewel Hurd at 1750 Strickland Lane, 979-234-3527.

Mrs. Baines said Troy loved

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Troy Richardson

Chamber Mall/Parade Saturday

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce is preparing for a day full of activities to start the holiday season.

The festivities start at 10 a.m. and continue through 9 p.m. on Saturday, December 12, with a Christmas Mall in the Chamber Building, 303 East Main Street.

This is a great place to get ready for the holidays. Vendors will be selling crafts, jewelry, woodwork, novelties, gifts and more.

Food will be sold in the food court on Jones Street from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and everyone can enjoy live music by the community choir, local artists and others throughout the day.

Individuals can also take the opportunity to save a life by donating blood.

The Gulf Coast Regional Blood

Center will have a coach parked in front of the Chamber building from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to accom-

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Candidates Have Begun Filing In Primaries

Candidates have begun filing in the upcoming March Democratic and Republican Primary elections.

Candidates have from Dec. 3 through Jan. 4 to file.

Local positions up for election in Colorado County and filings as of last week include:

County Judge, Incumbent Al Jamison has said he will not seek

another term.

Ty Prause filed in the Republican primary.

Commissioner Precinct No. 2. Incumbent Herbie Helms said he will not seek another term. Darrell Kubesch filed in the Republican primary.

Commissioner Precinct No. 4. Incumbent Darrell Gertson filed in the Republican primary. Also filing in the Republican primary include was Ed Sunderman. Chriss Schiurring has also announced as a candidate.

County Clerk, Incumbent Darlene Hayek has filed in the Republican primary.

County Treasurer, Incumbent is Diane Matus who has announced for re-election.

County Surveyor, Incumbent Matthew Loessin has filed in the Republican primary.

Justice of Peace No. 1. Incumbent is Billy Hefner who has announced for re-election.

Justice of the Peace No. 2. Incumbent is Richard Luhrs. Chris Maddux and Jack Holman have filed as candidates in the Republican primary.

Justice of the Peace No. 3. Incumbent is Francis Truchard who has announced for re-election.

Justice of the Peace No. 4. Incumbent is George Cason, who has announced he will seek another term. Ed Holland has also filed in the Republican primary.

NEWSBRIEFS

Blood drive is today

Rice Medical Center is having their quarterly blood drive on Thurs. Dec. 10, from 2 to 7 p.m. The donor coach will be at the visitor's parking lot at the hospital. With the success of our blood drives, the hospital is able to have ample supply of all different types of blood for use when needed. Please call Barbara at 234-5571 to schedule an appointment. Walk ins are always accepted.

Christian City Christmas gala

A "Christmas Gala," a festive and elegant night of celebration, will be hosted by Covenant Hearts Women's Ministries at Christian City Fellowship (CCF) located on Hwy. 36 between Sealy and Bellville Fri., Dec. 11, at 6:30 p.m. The Gala begins with a wonderful catered meal and live music followed by a time of ministry. Pastor Vicki Hankins, who serves the congregation of Church In the City-Metro Dallas alongside her husband, Michael, as Senior Ministers and has ministered internationally, will minister after the meal.

Chamber Christmas mall Saturday

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce presents Eagle Lake Parade of Lights and Christmas Mall, Sat., Dec. 12. The Christmas Mall will be from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Chamber building, 303 Main St. Stop by and check out the food, drinks, crafts, jewelry and gifts. Community sing-a-long throughout the day. The parade starts at 6:45 with judging at 5:30 p.m. The Chamber is also accepting late entries for the Christmas Mall and parade. The Eagle Lake Community Choir is singing at 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the Chamber office building.

Blood drive set for Dec. 12

Start saving your blood...We are having a blood drive! 'Tis the season of giving and Eagle Lake is replenishing the blood bank that has generously given blood to area residents. The drive will be held Saturday, Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. outside the Chamber Office, 303 Main St. The drive benefit Steven Meinecke and other area residents that have needed blood this year.

Second anniversary to be observed

Mount Sinai Evangelical Ministries, 510 E. Prairie St. in Eagle Lake welcomes the public to the Pastor and Wife (Rev. and Sis. Thomas Kuykendall) 2nd Year Anniversary Services, Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. Truman Scott pastor of Greater Rising Star Baptist Church.

Project graduation meeting Dec. 14

There will be a Project Graduation meeting on Monday, December 14 at the Rice High School Commons at 6 p.m. Seniors and their parents are invited to attend. Wish Lists handed out to the seniors can be turned in at the meeting if they haven't been returned yet.

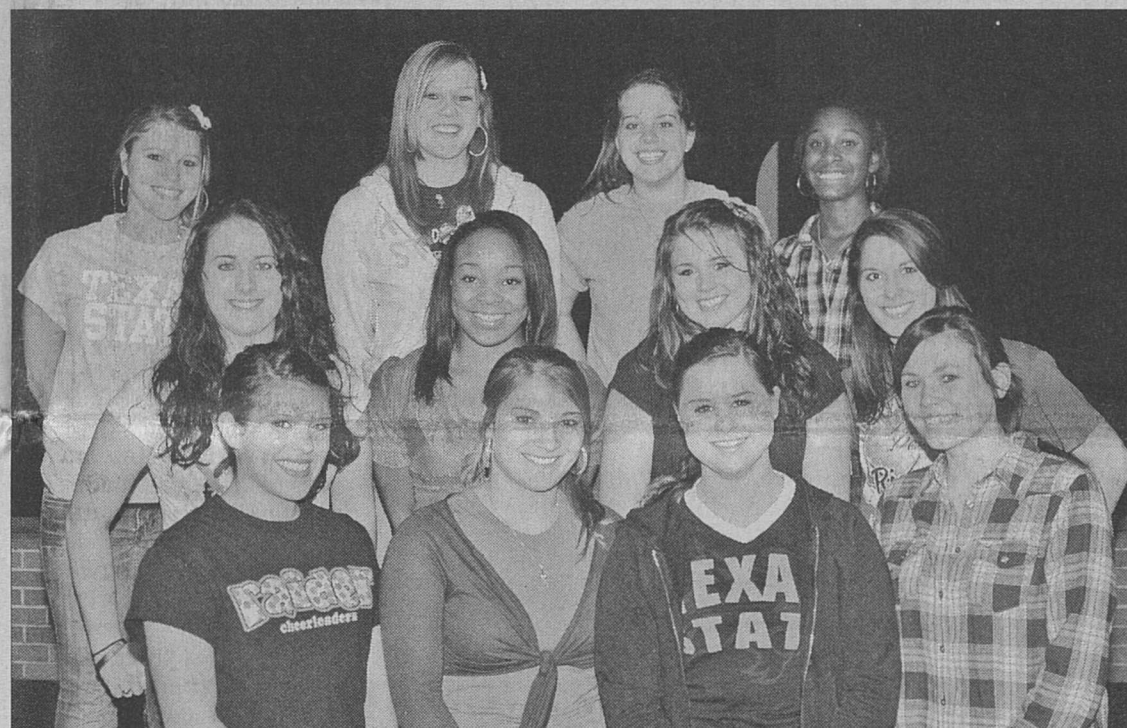
GED Classes slated in Weimar

Anyone interested in registering to take adult evening GED Classes should call Jerry F. Hudec at 979 263-5829. Registration will be taken on a first-come first-serve basis. The dead line for Registration for the Spring Semester is Monday, December 14. The Adult GED Classes is open to the public, and will meet at 6 p.m. every Monday and Tuesday. The GED Registration must be completed before one can attend classes. There is no charge for the classes.

Garden Club reminder to citizens

The Eagle Lake Civic Garden Club would like to remind all citizens about their lighting contest. The time is now to get out and decorate. Garden club members will be out and about on Dec. 15 to choose first,

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Above are the All-District selections for the Lady Raiders volleyball team. From left to right, front row, Kaydi Gold, academic; Brooke Popp, honorable mention, academic; Kristyna Lobpries, first team, academic; Cynthia Quinney, honorable mention, academic; middle row, left to right, Jordan Mahalitic, academic; MaChelsea Thomas, honorable mention, academic; Nicole Drlik, academic; Kelsey Danklefs, academic; back row, left to right, Rachel Korenek, academic; Lauren Shimek, first team, academic; Kaycie Rathburn, academic and Jaquita Woods, second team.

Lady Raiders All District Volleyball

Twelve Rice Lady Raiders were recently named to All District Teams.

Making 1st Team were Lauren Shimek and Kristyna Lobpries.

Jaquita Woods was named to the 2nd Team.

Honorable Mention were

Brooke Popp, MaChelsea Thomas and Cynthia Quinney.

In addition, nine Lady Raiders were named to the Academic All-District Team.

They are: Kaydi Gold, Shimek, Jordan Mahalitic, Rachel Korenek, Nicloe Drlik, Lobpries, Thomas,

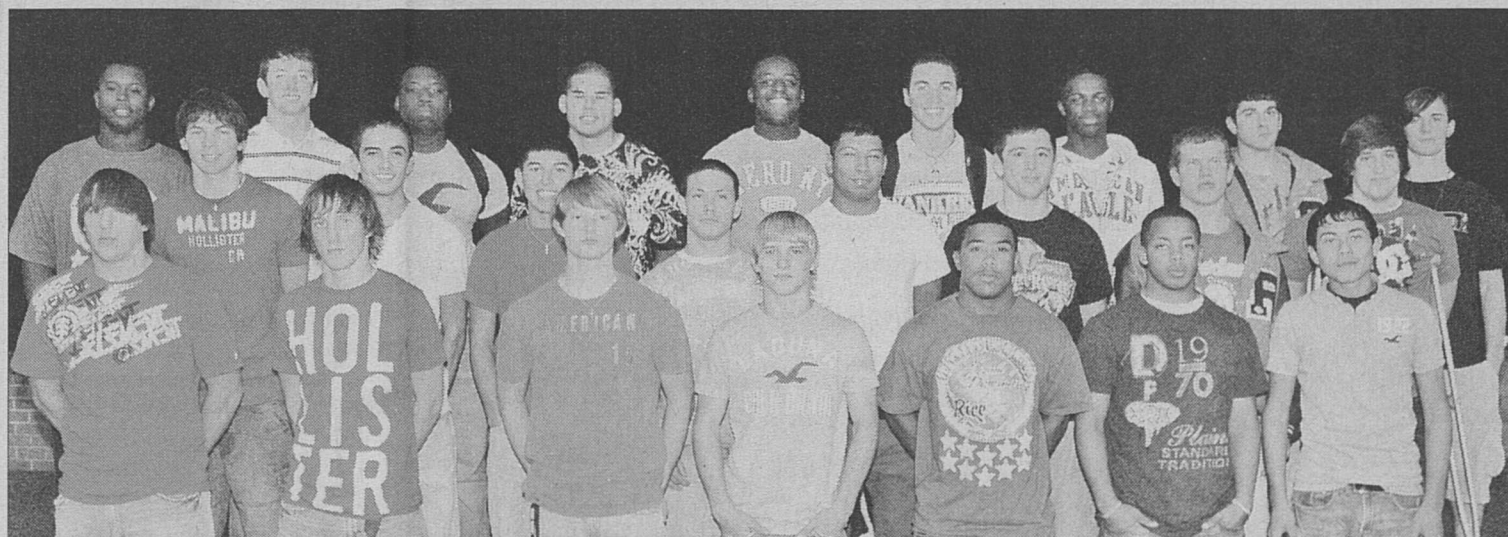
Popp and Quinney.

Following are other all district selections.

Offensive Player of the Year: Leah Mikesky, Schulenburg.

Defensive Player of the Year: Timisha North, Hallettsville.

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Pictured above are players named to the 26AA All-District teams for the Rice Raiders. From left to right, front row, Spencer Spencer, second team offense; Cody Lantelme, first team defense; Myles Dumont, honorable mention; Lance Howard, academic; Michael Scott, honorable mention, special teams expert defense; Terrance Shorter, honorable mention, second team defense; Christian Samaniego, honorable mention; middle row, left to right, Matt Hoffman, academic; Carlos Sosa, first team defense; Tim Morales, second team offense; Kevin Ellis, first team defense; Chito Vazquez, first team defense, second team offense; Kody Miller, honorable mention; Erik Gold, first team defense; Stephen Lafferman, first team offense; back row, left to right, Jonovan Allen; Jared Kaster, first team offense; Damian Stevens, first team defense; Jacob Munoz, second team defense; Chris Dorsey, defensive MVP, first team offense, first team defense; Mario Hull, overall MVP, first team offense, first team defense; JJ Reggins, first team offense, first team defense; Patrick Dota, second team defense; Ryan Moore, academic. Not pictured, Ryan Korenek, first team offense; and Brian Kallina, academic.

26 Raiders Named To All District Teams

The Rice Raider Football team had 26 players named to 26AA All-District lists for the 2009 campaign.

Included among those is Mario Hull, named Overall District MVP, 1st Team Receiver, and 1st Team Defensive Back.

Chris Dorsey was named Defensive MVP, as well as 1st Team Tight End and 1st Team Defensive Line.

Other 1st Team Raiders included:

Jared Kastor, center; Stephen Laffermann, offensive line; Ryan

Korenek, offensive line; J. J. Reggins, offensive utility, defensive back; Erik Gold, defensive line; Damien Stevens, linebacker; Francisco Vasquez, linebacker; Kevin Ellis, linebacker; Carlos Sosa, defensive back; Cody Lantelme, defensive back, Michael

Scott, special teams.

2nd Team Raiders are:

Tim Morales, receiver; Vazquez, tight end; Spencer Spencer, offensive line; Jacob Munoz, defensive line; Terrance Shorter, linebacker; Patrick Dota, line-

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