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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS

FEBRUARY 4, 2010



Chriss Schiurring installs one of the new banners going up downtown. The project is being done by the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce with area businesses sponsoring individual banners. Laura Myres, on left, and Mary Parr watch the progress.

NEWSBRIEFS

Town hall meeting tonight

Come one, come all, all people for justice. You are invited to a town hall meeting, Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. hosted by White Cloud Baptist Church 1493 Old Altair Rd. and Rev. Obie Rhodes. Workers/residents of Eagle Lake claim company's illegal dumping causes cancer and organ failure. William's Bros. Construction Co. has allegedly been cited with a number of OSHA violations. The company was also allegedly cited many years ago by Harris County for contaminating local waterways. For more information call 832-519-5561 or 281-865-7271.

City council to hold meeting tonight

The City of Eagle Lake will conduct a meeting for all interested parties to share information regarding the new electrician and code enforcement officer position duties and responsibilities. The meeting will be held Feb. 4 at 6 p.m. at the municipal building.

Logo contest underway

Help us design a logo for Rice Little League to be used on fan shirts during the season and at All Stars. Submit your logo by Feb. 19. Stop by registration for more details.

Reminder from City

Residents of Eagle Lake are reminded to bring by some sort of statement if you had broken pipes caused by the freezing temperatures. That way the City can take into consideration the amount of water used as a sewer averaging rate is underway. For more information call the City at 979-234-2640.

Revival Feb. 3-7 in El Campo

Spirit and Truth Church, 708 E. First St. in El Campo will hold revival Feb. 3-7. Speakers will include Jonathan Suber, David Hendrickse, Bobby Rivera, Michael Smith, Mike Blume, Jabo Green, Larry T. Smith and Luther Williams. For more information call the church at 979-543-2360.

Senior citizen's dance is Friday

A senior citizen's dance will be held Friday, Feb. 5 at the Eagle Lake Community Center from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. The Lazy Farmers will provide the music. For more information call 979-234-2903.

Letters of Love, set for Feb. 6

Faith Academy presents "Letters of Love," Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Austin County Expo Center. Admission is \$10, doors open at 5 p.m. Dinner at 5:30; auction at 7 p.m. Music provided by All Around Cowboy Church Band. Childcare for eight and under also provided. Reservations required, call 979-865-1811.

Homerun derby contest is Feb. 6

A homerun derby contest will be held Saturday, Feb. 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fee - \$5 for 10 cuts. Winners will receive awards on opening day. Age 9 and under will hit on the small field; ages 10 and up on the big field.

Dance Saturday in Sealy

The Sealy Dance Club will host a dance, Saturday, Feb. 6 at the American Legion Hall in Sealy. Dance time, 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Music provided by the Donnie Wavra Band. This will be the traditional Valentine's dance. Pictures will be taken for couples and individuals. Free cake, coffee, sandwiches, chips, dips and door prizes. For more information call 979-885-3489.

Bennett to be in Garwood Feb. 7

The Lehrer Memorial United Methodist Church of Garwood is hosting Nashville recording artist Jerry Bennett during its 9 a.m. worship

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Historical Commission Awards County \$1.78 Million

Colorado County has been awarded a \$1.78 million matching grant for exterior restoration of the courthouse by the Texas Historical Commission.

The award was made by the commission at its quarterly meeting on Jan. 29 in Austin.

Colorado County Judge Al Jamison said that the renovation would include replacing windows and restoring the original brown brick color to the structure.

In addition, he said, it would require removal of two first floor additions that were made in the 1950s and house the county clerk and tax assessor collector offices.

Jamison said the county would be required to provide \$665,000 in matching funds, bringing the total cost of the project to \$2.4 million.

Jamison said he would like to consider asking the commission for an exemption to allow the additions to the courthouse to remain.

He said commissioners court will discuss the grant at its meeting on Monday, Feb. 8.

The judge said he was not expecting to receive the grant this soon, because he was told funds probably would not be available this year.

If the commissioners decide to proceed, he said, the county will also have to build an annex to house the offices that will be moved.

He said there would about \$800,000 left from certificates of obligation that the county issued earlier and that could be supplemented with additional county reserve funds, if the commissioners decide to proceed.

Jamison said he understood work would need to start within

about six months after the grant is accepted.

The state commission awarded matching grants totaling more than \$20 million to 20 Texas counties to help preserve their historic courthouses.

In addition to Colorado County, the counties to receive finds in Round VI of the program are Comal, Edwards, Franklin, Fort Bend, Old Glasscock, Hamilton, Hardeman, Hopkins, Houston, Karnes, La Salle, Lee, Marion, Mason, Medina, Navarro, Stephens, Throckmorton and Upshur.

The awards include three full construction projects (La Salle, Hamilton and Comal); three exterior construction projects (Colorado, Franklin and Hardeman); and four emergency construction projects (Hopkins, Karnes, Lee and Old Glasscock).

The remaining ten grants are for planning projects.

A total of 44 grant applications requesting more than \$173 million were submitted in Round VI.

Applicant requests were larger than in previous rounds due

to inflation and higher funding caps.

Pending additional funding from the Texas Legislature, the THC anticipates continuing the program with additional rounds of grant opportunities.

"The goal of this program is to assist as many counties as possible," said THC Architecture Division Director Stan Graves.

"Our historic county courthouses are often the heart of communities throughout our state and the Texas Historical Courthouse Preservation Program strives too preserve these temples of justice and remains dedicated to these important architectural landmarks."

In 1998, Texas' courthouses appeared on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's list of America's 11 Most Endangered places.

As a result, the Texas Legislature established the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program and appropriated funding to preserve and protect them.

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New Football, Basketball UIL Alignment Announced

Travel times to football games for the next two seasons will be significantly increased due to the recent University Interscholastic League football district re-alignment.

Part of the realignment included splitting the 2A classification, which covers schools with enrollments from 200 to 429. The cutoff for the split is 293.5; schools larger

than this will play in Division I and smaller ones in Division II.

Following are the teams and enrollment numbers in the new district, 14AA Div. I:

Rice (349), Hallettsville (313), Hempstead (393), Edna (416), Hitchcock (351), Van Vleck (297) and Industrial (334).

Hallettsville and Hempstead
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District Court Dismisses SAWS Suit

A Travis County judge Monday dismissed a \$1.23 billion lawsuit filed against the Lower Colorado River Authority by the City of San Antonio.

State District Judge Stephen Yelenosky ruled in favor of LCRA and against the San Antonio Water System.

San Antonio had requested that the discussion of whether its suit was valid be delayed while it developed more legal information and depositions.

SAWS said it wanted to interview state officials, county judges, more river authority Board and staff members and others.

SAWS had already been given hundreds of thousands of pages of documents and e-mails by LCRA, but said it needed more time and information to prove its allegation that LCRA had defrauded the city.

LCRA, which has spent well over \$800,000 on the lawsuit so far, said no more time or money should be spent because San Antonio could not sue a governmental agency except for money that was "due and owed" under the agreement.

LCRA has never refused to pay what may be due and owed
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American Legion Post No. 108 of Eagle Lake again presented a check to Sue Weller, Principal of Eagle Lake Primary School, to purchase coats for needy children. This project took the place of the "Toys for Tots" project sponsored by the Legion for many years. Pictured from left are: Ken Craig, Commander; Debbie Ugarte, RCISD School Nurse; Weller, and Victor Scott, Post Adjutant. It was felt that adequate clothing in cold weather or school supplies was a much more worthwhile use for the donations to the Legion's project fund. Due to the extreme cold weather this winter, the project fund is nearly depleted. To make a tax exempt donation to the American Legion Post #108, send it to 407 North Walnut, Eagle Lake TX 77434.



The Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department (ELVFD) was called to a wreck a couple of miles east of Eagle Lake on Highway 90A at the intersection with McCormick Road around noon on February 2. Initial reports indicate that the accident occurred when a box truck, heading eastbound, prepared to turn left onto McCormick and the RV, also eastbound, attempted to pass the truck on the left, colliding with it. No serious injuries were reported. Texas Department of Public Safety is handling the investigation. Assisting on the scene were the ELVFD and the Colorado County Sheriff's Department.