

Eagle Lake Headlight

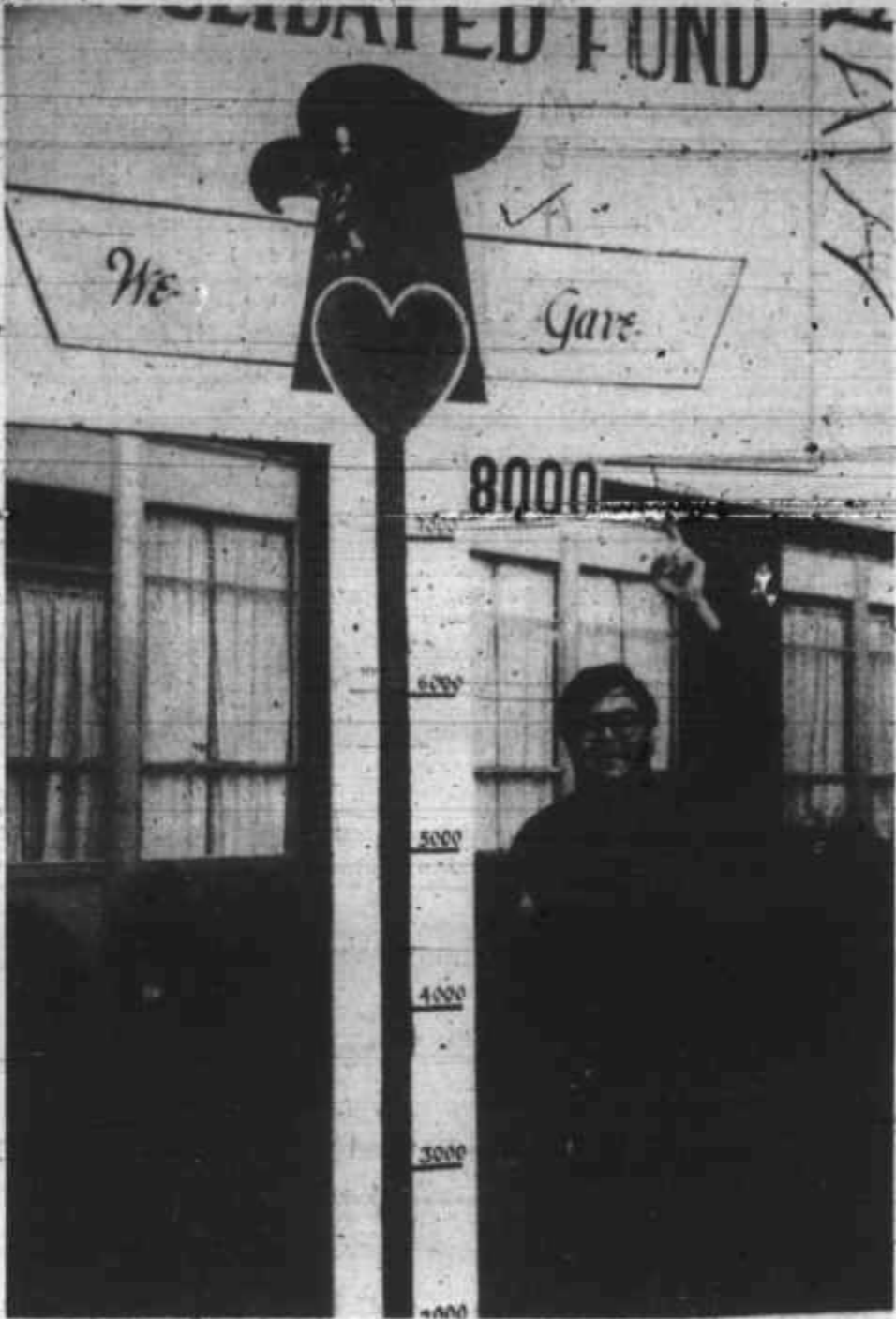
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Consolidated Fund Over The Top



1973 Eagle Lake Consolidated Fund drive chairman Willard W. Stuart gleefully points to the fact that the 1973 fund drive has gone "over the top" in the effort to raise \$8000.00 in this community for the benefit of worthy charitable organizations.

EL Consolidated Fund Passes \$8000 Goal

Thanks Extended To Citizens For Cooperation

Hip! Hip! Hoorah! Shouted Eagle Lake Consolidated Fund Drive chairman Willard W. Stuart last week when the 1973 fund drive went over the top in the collection of \$8000 for worthy charitable organizations.

"The citizens of Eagle Lake community came through with flying colors in the final days of the 1973 drive and pushed the total over the \$8000 mark on Friday morning," said the drive chairman. "Each of you who contributed may rightly be proud of this effort for it has been a number of years since the fund has been able to reach its goal."

"I join the directors and officers of the Fund in extending sincere thanks to the many workers in the campaign and to each and every citizen who contributed, whether his contribution was large or small," added Stuart. The directors of the Fund will meet this month to formally allocate funds to the participating agencies, said Jim Clipson, Jr., president of the Consolidated Fund in Eagle Lake.

Car Fire Last Saturday

Eagle Lake volunteer firemen were called to the final fire of 1973 Saturday last week, when a car fire was reported on Melody Lane in the Meadowbrook Addition.

A service towel was left on the manifold of a 1974 Cadillac owned by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Clipson and the rag ignited but the fire was extinguished without heavy damage.

Friends will be happy to learn that Mrs. Gladys Gold, owner of the Epps' Department Store in Eagle Lake, is recuperating nicely in Methodist Hospital in Houston following surgery on Friday of last week. Mrs. Gold is in Room 492 of the Methodist Hospital.

Icy Roads Create Traffic Problems

Temperature Down To 25 Early Thurs.

A light drizzle of rain and sub-freezing temperatures made traveling on the roads and highways in this county hazardous early Thursday of this week.

The temperature in Eagle Lake reached a low of 25 degrees.

More of the same weather is expected for the rest of Thursday and Friday before a warming trend is due to begin.

Because of the icy conditions on highways, especially on overpasses on IH 10 there was a rash of minor accidents early Thursday, reported the sheriff's department, as vehicles skidded on the slick surface before the highway department was able to sand down the dangerous places.

Because of the weather the schools in Columbus closed Thursday, but all classes at schools in the Rice District continued on schedule and are expected to be open again Friday unless conditions worsen considerably.

Supt. E. A. Krivacka said that any announcements on possible school closings will be made over local radio stations.

Hearing On Rd. 285 Load Limit Jan. 14

Commissioner L. W. Stiles, Jr., of Precinct 4, has called for a public hearing on a proposal to establish a 50,000 pound load limit on the County Road 285 which leaves FM 102 near Matthews and goes southwest some three miles during which time many

for the date of the hearing. The commissioners' court, in session Dec. 10th, approved the publication of a notice calling for a public hearing on the proposal to be held on January 14th, 1974 at 10 a.m.

Next Issue Of Headlight Wed. Afternoon

The next issue of the Eagle Lake Headlight will be printed next Wednesday afternoon (with a Thursday dateline) as the Headlight returns to weekly publication.

Publisher Fred R. Frnka has announced the change back to weekly publication due to the shortage of newspaper and due to the energy crisis, rising costs of production and other factors.

Deadlines for the next issue and those to follow will be as follows: advertising must be placed not later than 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays; news reports will be taken up to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, except that club reports and social events such as showers, parties and weddings must be reported not later than 5 p.m. on Mondays.

Subscription rates will remain the same, \$5.50 for subscribers in this and adjoining counties; \$6.00 for those elsewhere in Texas; and \$6.50 for subscribers outside the state of Texas.

Schools Start Later Monday

School children in the Rice School District will begin classes an hour later when the Daylight Saving Time zone is put in effect on Monday.

Supt. E. A. Krivacka and Assistant Supt. C. W. DeShazo met with the five building principals to discuss the advisability of the later starting time primarily because of the fact that when the new time schedule begins, there will be almost an hour of darkness during which time many

Prowler Enters Sommerlatte Home Here

A prowler entered the Lonnie Sommerlatte home during the early morning of Monday, December 31st, setting off a six-hour manhunt that ended unsuccessfully.

City Patrol Officer Buford Ashley who was first called to the scene at 1:45 a.m., reported the prowler broke out a glass in a floor-level window in the front of the Sommerlatte home at 600 Melody Lane and then went into the living room and entered a bedroom of the home. He later left the home through the same window.

Austin County Deputy Sheriff Ernie Watson and his dogs were called to the scene in an effort to pick up the trail of the man. Highway Patrolmen Rodney Green and Gary Eden were also called to the scene to assist; and a brother-in-law of Mr. Ashley, Jim Smith of Junction City, Kansas, a recent graduate of the FBI Academy, assisted in dusting for fingerprints at the scene of the entry.

The dogs picked up the trail of the prowler and retraced his steps to a point on Burns Street where he apparently got into a car and left the scene and the trail was lost.

Mr. Ashley said that the man apparently went to the windows of several homes on the west side of Melody Lane until he crossed the street to the Sommerlatte home.

Mr. and Mrs. Sommerlatte were awakened by a daughter who got a glimpse of the man and said the man was of Latin American descent.

Local officers are still investigating the entry, and are checking on several possible suspects.

Dist. Clerk Allen Asks Re-Election

District Clerk Charlie W. Allen announces this week that he will be a candidate for re-election to the office of District Clerk in this county in the forthcoming Democratic primary election to be held in May, 1974.

Mr. Allen is completing his fourth term in the office and is seeking a new four-year term in office.

He commented that he has enjoyed serving the public in his office and pledges to continue to give the same conscientious attention and effort to the citizens of this county if re-elected.

"I earnestly seek your support and vote in the coming primary election," said Mr. Allen.

Hoffman Shop Supervisor At Lake Motors

Joe S. Reed, Jr., owner of Lake Motors, Inc., announces that effective January 2nd James Hoffman has been appointed to the position of supervisory shop foreman for his firm.

Mr. Hoffman has nineteen years of experience in servicing and repairing fine cars of all kinds said Reed.

Daylight Saving Time Begins This Sunday

The United States Congress has passed and President Nixon has signed new legislation which will make Daylight Saving Time in effect the year round, beginning this Sunday, January 6th as a measure to conserve energy during the current crisis.

During the night of Sat., Jan. 5, the clocks will be moved ahead one hour so that when you awake on the morning of the 6th you will be on schedule under the new Daylight Saving Time program.

Pistol Charge Filed In Incident Jan. 1

Leticia Hurd, 23, of Eagle Lake is charged with possession of a prohibitive weapon as the result of an incident at the Berger Mobil Service Station on East Main Street at 1:30 a.m. on New Year's Day morning.

Investigating Officer Buford Ashley said the woman and her husband Ernest Hurd were involved in a family argument. He said the woman came up behind the man at the station shortly after the argument with a .38 caliber pistol and took aim at the man and snapped the pistol seven or eight times, but fortunately the two loaded shells in the gun failed to go off.

The charge of possession of a prohibitive weapon was filed in county court and trial is pending.

Henry Balls Purchase Style Shop In Hillsboro

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ball of Eagle Lake have completed the purchase of The Style Shop, a ladies store, in Hillsboro, Texas and plan to move soon to that city to take over operation of the store on Feb. 1st.

Mr. Ball recently resigned his position with the faculty of Eagle Lake Middle School where he was a teacher for the past eight years. Mrs. Ball has been doing nursing duty in the hospital here and in Columbus and has also operated a part-time service for sewing of fashionable ladies clothing.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ball plan to devote their full time to the operation of the store which they purchased from Mrs. Jewel Murphee of Hillsboro.

The Balls are offering their home in Eagle Lake for sale.

Friends join in wishing them well in their new venture.

New Brucellosis Regulations In Effect Jan. 15

The new brucellosis regulations (Proclamation of the Texas Animal Health Commission #AHC-1) were adopted unanimously by the Texas Animal Health Commission at an official Commission meeting in Laredo, Texas, on October 15, 1973. These new regulations will bring the Texas Brucellosis Program into compliance with the National Uniform Methods and Rules which are considered minimum standards.

In brief this regulation requires that all breeding cattle two years of age and over that change ownership are required to be brucellosis tested. Breeding cattle may be tested on the farm or ranch or at an auction market. Slaughter type breeding cattle may be sold through livestock markets without test un-

Elections Are Coming Up In Year Of 1974

Dr. Lewis Kopecky, Dentist For 44 Years, Retires From Practice

Dr. Lewis Kopecky who has been practicing dentistry in this community for the past forty-four years, has announced that he has retired from the general practice of dentistry effective with the beginning of the new year.

Mr. Kopecky, a native of Fayetteville, attended Sam Houston State University in Huntsville for a year and received a temporary teacher's certificate and taught for a year in Kinney, Texas before entering Texas Dental College in Houston. While attending high school in Tanager and later for the year at Sam Houston he was an outstanding basketball player with a sharp shooting eye that more than compensated for his relatively short stature.

Dr. Kopecky graduated from Texas Dental College with a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree. He passed his state board examination and came to Eagle Lake to establish an office in 1929. He was 23 years of age at that time and has continued to practice here since then. For many years he spent a short time each week in East Bernard, meeting the dental needs of citizens of that community as well as for Eagle Lake area.

His office was located for thirty-three of those years on the second floor of the Fitzgerald building in downtown Eagle Lake. Eleven years ago he moved his practice to offices at his home on McCarty Avenue.

Dr. Kopecky took as his bride, Miss Marie Jank, in the year of 1932. They have two children, Mrs. Jerry (Lois) Gibson of Alvin and Lewis Kopecky, Jr., of La Porte. They are also the happy grand parents of 5 grandchildren.

During his many years of



DR. LEWIS KOPECKY

residence here, Dr. Kopecky has been interested in community, county and national affairs. He was a charter member of the Eagle Lake Lions Club and was a staunch supporter of school athletic programs for many years.

Dr. Kopecky extends sincere thanks to all who have shown so many kindnesses to him and to his family during the past forty-four years; and to all for their generous support of his practice here.

"We shall continue to be a part of this community," said Dr. Kopecky, "and want everyone to know that we are grateful beyond words for the friendship of so many fine people, both in the Eagle Lake and East Bernard communities and surrounding areas."

68.10 Inches Rain Recorded

Nearly Double Normal Rainfall

Total rainfall for the year of 1973 lacked only a few drops of doubling the normal rainfall of 37 inches for this community, according to figures compiled by Ed Tate at the Lakeside Irrigation Co. lake plant.

The total of 68.10 inches was probably one of the highest totals ever recorded here but accurate figures on this are not available.

The total was the biggest in the past fifteen years exceeding the 64.61 total in 1969 by almost four inches. Total rainfall for the year of 1972 was a mere 34.39 inches.

Totals since 1960 were recorded as follows:

1960	44.53
1961	46.46
1962	34.12
1963	25.73
1964	35.76
1966	34.63
1967	33.85
1968	64.61
1969	36.39
1970	39.86
1971	38.14
1972	34.39

During the year of 1973 June was the month with the heaviest total of 15.71 inches. September was second with 11.86; while the current month of December was the month with the least rainfall total of 1.56 inches.

Monthly rainfall totals at the lake plant were as follows:

Jan. 3.86; Feb. 3.10; Mar. 3.49; April, 7.56; May, 1.80; June, 15.71; July, 3.00; Aug. 5.32; Sept., 11.86; Oct., 9.16; Nov., 1.88; and Dec., 1.56.

Effective January 15, 1974, these regulations will be in full force and effect.

The announcement of Charlie W. Allen as a candidate for re-election to the office of District Clerk in Colorado County opened the political activities for this important election year.

The deadline for filing for offices to be filled in the 1974 election and to take office Jan. 1, 1975, will be on Monday, Feb. 4th. The first primary election is scheduled for Saturday, May 4th.

This year the voters will go to the polls to elect a county judge, county clerk, district clerk, county treasurer, county surveyor, and county commissioners in precincts 2 and 4; and justices of the peace in all eight of the precincts in the county for four year terms in office.

Other important state and national offices will be filled during 1974.

County Judge Lester J. Cranek was elected in 1972 elections to fill the unexpired term of Willard Stuart who resigned. Judge Cranek is expected to make an announcement soon on his intentions whether or not to seek re-election for new term. Others expected to seek re-election will be County Clerk Lester Schneider; County Treasurer Martha Bodgens; and County Surveyor Frank Davidson and County Commissioners L. W. (Billy) Stiles of Precinct 4; and A. J. Kainer of Precinct 2.

Justices of Peace in the eight precincts of the county including M. M. (Mac) Jones in Eagle Lake Precinct 8; W. A. Hether in Garwood-Nada-Shoridan-Rock Island Precinct 2 are expected to seek re-election.

One of the offices that normally would be filled this year for a new four-year term is that of County School Supt. However county commissioners' court voted several years ago to abolish that office at the expiration of the present four year term held by Herbert A. Schroeder of Columbus on Dec. 31, 1974.

Candidates who wish to file in the May Democratic Primary must submit their applications for a place on the ballot to the county chairman Sam K. Seymour, Jr. in Columbus by 6 p.m. Feb. 4th.

Postage Rate Increase Is Delayed

A proposed postage rate increase which was scheduled to go into effect on January 5, 1974, has been postponed until 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, March 2nd, 1974.

At that time it is anticipated that the first class letter will require 10c; the six-cent postcard will cost 8c; and the 11-cent airmail letter will go up to 13 cents.

Comparable increases will likewise apply to second-class matter such as newspapers and third class matter which includes circulars, etc.

The hike will be approximately 36% for newspapers and over 25% for circulars. The per piece circular rate will increase from 4.8c to 6.1 cents on March 2nd.

Raabe New Univ. Motor Service Mgr.

Harold Raabe assumed duties as service manager at Universal Motor Company Wednesday, January 2nd succeeding C. R. Richter who is making plans for retirement after forty-four years in the automotive business.

Steve Taylor, owner of Universal Motor Co., said it was a pleasure to have Mr. Raabe with his service department. He has had thirteen years of experience in repair and service positions.

Mr. Richter will remain at Universal Motor Co. for a time while Mr. Raabe is acclimated to the Ford and Mercury automobile service and will retire later this year.

Going to church is a habit that one should cultivate in 1974.