

Eagle Lake Headlight

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Vornsand Elected District Clerk

Veselka Wins Close Contest For Commr.

Just over one fourth of the qualified voters in Colorado County, Texas, are naming a Democratic nominee for the office of District Clerk in the runoff election held last Saturday. Harvey Vornsand of Weimar drew solid support from his home community polling 935 votes in Weimar alone, to defeat Albert W. Hahn by better than two to one margin countywide. Since there will be no Republican candidate on the ballot in the November general election the nomination is virtually tantamount to election.

Mr. Vornsand drew a total of 1489 votes and Mr. Hahn 722 although Mr. Hahn carried eight of the eighteen voting precincts plus the absentee voting. But the big vote in Weimar 935-95 put him well out front in the final vote.

Only 89 Vote In Eagle Lake

In Eagle Lake only 89 voters went to the polls and they gave Mr. Vornsand a 53 to 36 margin in this voting precinct. Voting in the district clerk's office went as follows:

No.	Precinct	Vorn.	Hahn
1.	Columbus	80	147
2.	Glidden	37	25
3.	Altair	5	12
4.	Garwood	18	42
5.	Nada	20	25
6.	Rock Island	10	25
7.	Sheridan	22	6
8.	Oakland	87	12
9.	Weimar	935	95
10.	Buescher	33	22
11.	Shaw's Bend	4	10
12.	Brushy	6	14
13.	Frelsburg	34	30
14.	Mentz	29	3
15.	Bernardo	21	11
16.	Alleyton	8	7
17.	Eagle Lake	53	36
18.	North Columbus	66	175
	Absentee	21	25
	TOTALS	1489	722

Correction On Sequestration Suit on Truck

The report published in the last issue of the Headlight regarding a writ of sequestration suit filed in District Court last week by Denton Leasing Co. carried erroneous information and the Headlight is happy to publish the following correction:

The story published last week indicated that the suit filed by Denton Leasing was against Jack Wagner, doing business as Eagle Lake Diesel Service.

Actually Mr. Wagner was called to tow in a tractor and trailer which were in the possession of John Scott after the vehicle broke down in March of 1974. After repairing the truck tractor, Mr. Wagner was holding his mechanic's lien on both the tractor and trailer until he received payment. The truck was not under lease to Mr. Wagner as the story indicated.

Denton Leasing Co. contacted Mr. Wagner and wanted the trailer. Mr. Scott reportedly had shown Mr. Wagner a conditional sales agreement signed by Dye Trucking Co. whereby he was purchasing the trailer from Dye. Mr. Wagner refused to turn over the trailer to Denton Leasing.



HARVEY VORN SAND

2nd Reading Phone Rate Ord. Tuesday

Eagle Lake City Council will have the second reading of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. rate increase ordinance at the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday in the council room of the Municipal Building. Interested persons are invited to attend.

The first reading of the ordinance was passed Tuesday, May 28th and it is anticipated that the third and final reading will follow June 25th. The increased rates will become effective at the first billing after June 25th.

The new ordinance will increase the one party business rate from \$11.25 to \$12.50; the one-party residence rate from \$5.75 to \$6.25; the two party residence rate from \$4.50 to \$4.75 per month. Other increases will up the suburban 4-party business rate from \$9 to \$10.50; the suburban 4-party residence from \$5 to \$5.25; the rural 8-party business from \$7.50 to \$9.00; and the rural 8-party residence remains at \$4.25.

Sheriff's Traffic Control Report

Bryan A. Toucheck, Deputy Sheriff in charge of the Colorado County Sheriff's traffic control program, has submitted a summary of his activities for the month of May. The officer traveled a total of 3355 miles, made seven arrests, served sixteen sets of papers, assisted other departments in five cases and transported prisoners four times; and he issued a total of 54 traffic violation tickets and 73 warnings during the month. A total of 37 driver's license checks were made making a total of 164 stops. Fines on the arrests totaled \$2,624.50.

Eighteen of the tickets issued were for speeding; 8 were for passing a stopped school bus, 7 for depositing injurious materials on the roadway, 7 for running stop signs, 3 for improper passing and the rest for a variety of charges. Of the 73 warnings issued, 26 were for speeding, 13 for unsafe passing, 8 for rolling stops, 6 for no head light or tail light, 5 for depositing on the highway, 4 for loads over sideboards, 4 for following too closely, and the rest for various charges.

Providence Ch. Bible School

Providence Baptist Church, 1207 State Street in Eagle Lake, will hold its Vacation Bible School beginning Monday, June 10th through Friday, June 14th from 4 to 6 p.m. daily. The Rev. Coby Shorter, Jr., pastor, invites all youth and the public to attend.

ly used for this possession and at the time of filing suit, Denton placed a bond with the District Clerk and took possession of the trailer. Mr. Wagner deal with Denton Leasing in leasing the trailer himself, as the story last week indicated.

Assault With Intent To Murder Charge Filed

A charge of assault with intent to murder was filed this week against Otis Howard of Eagle Lake as the result of a shooting at the Five Sons night spot here last Friday night.

City patrolman Buford Ashley was the investigating officer. The officer's report stated that Howard and two minor Latin American youth got into an argument at the Five Sons. The boys started to leave and were told to stay further words and witnesses said that Howard went back into the building and came back with a pistol which he reportedly fired five times at the boys, missing on all of the shots.

He was taken to the county jail in Columbus Tuesday and is under bond pending action on the case by the September grand jury.

Immunization Clinic Here 9 to 11 A.M. Tues.

A free immunization clinic will be held at the Eagle Lake Middle School from 9 to 11 a.m. next Tuesday, June 11th and all interested persons are urged to attend the clinic.

Mrs. Covington, State Health Department Immunization Nurse, will give inoculations for diphtheria, tetanus, measles, whooping cough, and polio.

Eagle Tractor Fish Fry Tonite, Thurs.

Eagle Tractor, Inc., local J. I. Case dealer, will host the annual Catfish Fry for the farmers and ranchers of the community at Eagle Tractor, Inc. location at 908 East Main Street beginning at 7:00 p.m. this Thursday, June 6th.

T. Lang, owner of the firm, said that invitations have been mailed but if there were any who were missed, they are invited to the stag affair. Delicious Clippson fried catfish will be served.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

The Board of Equalization for the Garwood Water District will be in session from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, June 11 and all persons interested in meeting with the board should do so at that time.

Good Prices Expected For Record Rice Crop

1973 Crop Grossed Over \$24 Million Here

ARG Gen. Mgr. Reports at EL Division Dinner

Despite an anticipated record world rice crop in 1974, prices paid for new crop rice are expected to be good, but perhaps short of the record high prices paid in the 1973 season, reported George Blair, general manager of the American Rice Growers Cooperative Association to the local rice producers and guests at the annual dinner meeting at Marvin's Monday night.

Mr. Blair discussed the record rice crop which has just been completed in Burma and Thailand as one of the pos-

Noon Lions Win Efficiency Contest Award At Dist. Meet

Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club received a number of outstanding awards at the District 253 convention held at College Station May 17-19.

The local club for its many outstanding activities for the year received a plaque for placing second in the District Governor's Efficiency Contest.

Noon Lions president Roy Dean Van Nort also received a 100% president award from District Governor Freddie Wolters, and secretary Jack Benge received the 10% secretary award.

The Noon Club also received the 100% club award for participation in the Crippled Children's Camp, Kerrville, project.

Miss Margaret Wilcox represented the local club in the Lions Queen competition and did an excellent job in representing her club and the community. She was accompanied to the convention by her parents, Lion and Mrs. Robert P. Wilcox. Also attending were: President Roy



MARGARET WILCOX

Dean Van Nort; Past Dist. Gov. and Mrs. Dexter Anderson; Zone Chairman and Mrs. Mark Anderson; and Lion and Mrs. Gene Brown and Luann.

The Eagle Lake Noon Lions will hold the installation of officers ladies night program at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 13th in the Eagle Lake Community Center.

Last Rites Held For H. C. Ripple Mon.

Friends learned with regret of the sudden death of H. C. Ripple Saturday, June 1 in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital. He became ill Friday evening at his home, and was taken to the hospital late that evening. Following tests on Saturday morning it was learned he had suffered a heart attack. At 7:30 p.m. Saturday he passed away.

Mr. Ripple, with a total of 33 years in teaching, became principal at Guy, Texas in the elementary school following his marriage and continued there for fourteen years; he then taught vocational agriculture in the former Richmond High School for one year; also taught in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital. He became ill Friday evening at his home, and was taken to the hospital late that evening. Following tests on Saturday morning it was learned he had suffered a heart attack. At 7:30 p.m. Saturday he passed away.

Among the different organizations he had membership in were the Retired Teachers Association; AARP; the Brethren Church; SPJST and the Masonic Lodge. In March he received the 32nd degree in Masonry which is the highest degree earned.

Funeral services were held from the Nelsonville Brethren Church on June 3 at (Continued on last page)

EL Primary Parents Council Candy Sale Sat.

The Parent Council of the Eagle Lake Primary School will sponsor a candy sale in front of Rice Drug Store and Wilcox Minimax beginning at 8:30 a.m. Sat., June 8th. The parents will be selling delicious chocolate candy with proceeds earmarked for purchase of playground equipment at the Primary School.

Burglar Has Coke, TV Party at Rice Ind.

A hungry and thirsty burglar with a craving for watching television entered the offices of Rice Industries, Inc. east of the city, during the night of May 27th.

Entry was made by breaking out a window in the building. County sheriff's officers reported that once inside the burglar ransacked drawers in desks in the office and in the coffee room. He took cookies and a case of Cokes from the coffee room to a neighboring office where he hooked up a television set and proceeded to enjoy the cookies, drinks and the television.

Later the burglar apparently went to a nearby tractor and attempted to start the tractor and left some cookies on the tractor and then went to a nearby flatbed truck and left headlights burning on this vehicle.

County Oil, Gas Values Expected Up \$3 Million

Delegation Asks For, Gets Pay Hike For Garwood Deputy

A delegation of Garwood and Nada citizens, many of them prominent businessmen, met with the Colorado County Commissioners' Court in a special session last Friday, May 30th in support of an increase in pay for Special Deputy Sheriff F. E. Wines, who is assigned to duties in that area.

Persons who appeared in seeking more pay for Deputy Wines rendered testimony on the effective manner in which he has served and pointed to a decrease in crime in the area since his appointment to office. Mr. Wines presented to the court a written summary of his activities since taking over the office.

The group also commented that pay for the sheriff's deputies was inadequate across the board.

County Judge Lester Crane commented that the officers are on call for most of the time on a 24 hour basis and are called on to solve problems "that we can't solve ourselves." He said that the pay of a law enforcement officer working under those conditions should be entitled to more money than the 40-hour a week employee.

After considering the matter the commissioners unanimously approved an increase in Mr. Wines' pay from \$525 to \$575.30 per month, the pay for regular deputies in the sheriff's department.

Among those on hand in the delegation were: Joe J. Kallina, Albert Leopold, Lee Allen Schoellmann, Leo Prihoda, Robert Prihoda, W. X. Priemeyer, W. N. Lehrer, P. B. Priemeyer, Justice of the Peace W. A. Hefner, Mrs. Ruth Wines and Mrs. Ann Zbrunek all of Garwood and Nada; and Sheriff's Deputies John Moody and Charles McCaleb of the Sheriff's office.

UP TO MINIMUM WAGE

During the special session County Auditor M. L. Briscoe reported that all employees in the county are meeting the \$1.90 per hour wage minimum which went into effect May 1st.

National Guard Armory at Columbus Entered

The FBI, the Columbus police department and the county sheriff's office are investigating the entry of the National Guard Armory at Columbus during the night of May 31st or morning of June 1st.

Troy McQueen notified the county sheriff's office that the armory had been entered. Columbus Chief of Police Ed Potter and deputies from the sheriff's department answered the call and FBI officers later joined in the investigation.

Entry was made by prying up a back door so that the burglar could crawl under the door. Once inside, the burglar tried to enter a supply room using a crow bar. He ransacked two large wooden boxes and other supplies and ransacked the office of First Sergeant Lucien Lacourse and there he found a set of keys to the communications room.

Sgt. Lacourse reported that an inventory showed that two back pack radios and two cases of soda water were missing, all valued at around \$1400.

New Sheriff's Phone Number

Colorado County Sheriff George Smith has announced a new rotating phone system and the number to his office has been changed from 732-2424 to 732-2388. In the event this number is busy the system will automatically dial in 732-2389 in order to give better service.

School Bd. Of Equal. In Session Mon.

The Board of Equalization for the Rice Consolidated Independent School District will be in session at 1:15 p.m. Monday, June 10th to meet with citizens relative to their 1974 tax assessments. Notices have been mailed out by the school tax office notifying property owners that the assessment ratio will increase this year from 35% to 40% and farm lands that were assessed at \$45 per acre will be assessed at \$97 per acre; those assessed at \$35 per acre will increase to \$85; improved pasture will be assessed at \$42 per acre; and poor pasture or waste land at \$32 per acre.

It is anticipated that the tax rate for the district will be decreased from \$1.52 per \$100 assessed valuation to \$1.70 per hundred.

The Rice board will meet again on Tuesday, June 18th with oil and gas interests in the district.

Members of the board of equalization for the Rice CISD this year include: Mrs. Ben Pavlu of Garwood, W. C. Benner of Sheridan and Willard W. Stuart of Eagle Lake.

Joey Targac Back With Sheriff Dept.

Sheriff George (Doc) Mueller announces this week that Joey Targac of Weimar has been employed as the countywide night patrol deputy sheriff. He was formerly with the department in 1971 and left to go to the Yukon police department. There he earned a certified peace officers certificate and later went to the Elgin P.D. where he earned the rank of sergeant.

Targac will succeed Jerry Staten who has been serving as a fulltime deputy in the absence of a regular deputy. Staten will return to duties as a part-time officer, working mostly on week-ends.

Egret On Sharp Increase; Destroy Tons Of Insects

Thousand Banded In Rookeries Here

Over 5000 egrets, mostly of the cattle egret variety, were banded to continue the study on this bird which is rapidly becoming a part of the wildlife scene in Texas. The banding operation took place here last week at two large rookeries, one on the lake and the other on the Horton and Horton land between the Calhoun road and the river, by officers of the Parks and Wildlife Management Division under the direction of management officer John Smith.

Bands were placed on young egrets taken from the nests, some ready to fly, and will be used by the P&W specialists to determine the movement and habits of the birds.

Mr. Smith commented that the egrets came to the United States only a few years ago and they were blown to this country by a storm or hurricane from Africa or South America. "The first pair of cattle egrets were spotted in Texas in 1959 and today there are an estimated 300,000 to 500,000 of the birds in this state alone," said

Price For Oil, Gas To Hike Values

Representatives of the oil and gas valuation engineering firm of Latham and Stults met with the County Commissioners' Court last Thursday in a special session to give the commissioners and the county voters a briefing on the proposed changes in oil and gas taxes.

They estimated that the county should have a gain of minimum of \$3 million in oil and gas valuations this year due primarily to the increased prices being paid for oil and gas.

It was conceded that the reserves in some areas, in particular in the Shell Oil Co. interests at Sheridan, are down some due to depletion; but additions to the tax roll from increased drilling in the energy crisis, and the increase in the price of products sold should more than offset this and result in a sizeable increase in the total valuations.

Oil and gas valuations in 1973 totalled \$22,673,090 and the total valuations were \$65,815,850. This total however was reduced to \$63,719,480 by the 65-and-over homestead exemptions.

County Tax Assessor and Collector Henry J. Hajovsky said that valuations other than oil and gas should run the same as last year with the addition of more exemptions due to the extension of the program to single persons, more than offset with new construction, etc.

The Commissioners' Court will sit as a board of equalization at 1:30 p.m. this Wednesday, June 5th to hear local citizens interested in discussing their tax valuations; and then have set a hearing for Sat., June 15th with oil and gas interests.

First Baptist Vacation Bible School Plans

First Baptist Church of Eagle Lake has scheduled a Vacation Bible School June 17-21 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. for children age 4 to grade 6 (last school year). A large faculty has been selected to direct a program which includes Bible study, mission study, handwork, recreation and refreshments.

The church extends a welcome to children of all churches to participate in the school.

Smith

He commented on the value of the cattle egret to the farmer and rancher since the bird has a diet strictly of insects and snakes and frogs and the like with a particular craving for the grasshopper. "Tests made by our biologists have shown that a rookery of two acres will devour an estimated 100 tons of insects annually," said Mr. Smith. He estimated the two rookeries that were worked here at around five acres each which means that the birds in each of the nesting areas have devoured an estimated 250 tons of the insects in the past year.

The rapid growth in the number of the cattle egret is attributed to the fact that some 90% of the young that hatch reach maturity. This compares to 30 to 40% of the young of other species of egrets that reach maturity.

The cattle egret, since it lives on insects, is often seen in its movement cause the insects to fly or attract some flies, mosquitoes and other insects. Also local citizens have seen more and more of the egrets on the edges of the

(Continued on last page)