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234-2513 "Open Til Noon On Saturday" Eagle Lake

Library

(Continued from page one)

Wilson of La Grange, State Representative from the 30th District of Texas, will also participate on the program and will present a Texas flag which was flown over the State Capitol in Austin to the library.

The Wintermanns, donors of the library; Mrs. Adkins as president of the Study Club; and Mrs. Wells, as chairman of the Library Board will also be on the program.

The Honorable Elmer A. Struss, mayor of the City of Eagle Lake, will officially accept the building on behalf of all of the citizens of the Eagle Lake community; and A. J. Williford of Columbus, architect for the building, will also be on the program.

After the ceremony and ribbon cutting, visitors will be invited to view the wonderful facilities available in the new building. Refreshments will be served until five p.m. in the Community Center but no refreshments and no smoking will be allowed in the new library facility.

"We hope that every citizen in this community will be on hand for this momentous occasion," said Mrs. Wells.

"This is a dream come true through the graciousness and kindness of the Wintermanns and we want everyone to be on hand to view our beautiful new library and join in the ceremonies dedicating the new building."

In the event of inclement weather the dedication ceremony will be held in the Community Center building.

Eagle Lake Troop 71 Senior Girl Scouts assisted the Library Board and Study Club members in moving the books from the present library facilities in the Community Center to the new library building this past Sunday. However the library will remain closed and will not be open to the public until after the official opening on Sunday, Feb. 9th. After the dedication an expanded schedule of opening will be announced in order to afford all citizens of the community maximum access to this public facility.

Mrs. Marian Wozencraft will continue to be the librarian in charge.

Mr. and Mrs. David Wintermann are making the building, complete with landscaping and furnishings, a gift to the citizens of the Eagle Lake community. The building is one of the most outstanding library facilities in the area and is designed to serve the library needs of this community and for expansion for the next twenty years.

The building, in addition to the large library area, has a large workshop area, restrooms, an archives room in which will be placed historical items and memorabilia; and a large community meeting room complete with projector and disappearing screen.

The meeting room will be available for use of recognized groups and organizations and details of the procedures to be followed in securing use of the room are being worked out by the library board and will be announced in the immediate future.

The building is completely furnished with unique furniture for all ages, young and old; is completely carpeted and has central air-conditioning and heat.

Mother Of Mrs. Victor Scott Dies

Friends learned with regret Tuesday of the death of Mrs. Ruby Brewer of Schulenburg, mother of Mrs. Victor Scott of this city.

Funeral services were pending at press time.

No Pay Increases

(Continued from page one)

crease for additional duties involved in the collection of school taxes for the Columbus and Weimar school districts, over and above any cost of living increases that might be granted, but this motion died for lack of a second. Also another motion by Mr. Whitcomb to recommend 5% cost of living increases died for lack of a second.

All of the grievous officers, including the six elected officials serving on the board and County Commissioners Walter J. Henicke in Precinct 1 and Rafael Veselka in Weimar Precinct 2, asked for a 10% cost of living increase in their salaries. Mrs. Bodungen received an increase of almost 10% in Jan. since her salary was under the \$8000 mark set by the Commissioners' Court above which no pay increases were approved. Ten per cent cost of living increases were approved in the county budget for all employees under the \$8000 salary level on a split 3-2 vote of the court.

County Judge Lester J. Cranek presided at the grievance committee hearing, but was not a voting member. All of the session was held in public although the committee had the prerogative of going into executive or closed session to discuss personnel matters.

OFFICERS TESTIFY

Mr. Hajovsky summarized for the committee some of the work carried on by his office and the extra work caused by the handling of school taxes for which he had asked an additional \$1000.

Mr. Whitcomb spoke at length on the point that the requested cost of living increases were "not a raise" since purchasing power has been reduced from 12 to 18% by current inflationary trends.

He pointed out further that the budget for precinct operations in the 1975 budget increased from \$475,000 to \$600,000. He said that since the action to deny pay increases to county officials making over \$8000 was taken on a split 3-2 vote it was not a "unanimous mandate from the people of this county."

Mrs. Bodungen asked the committee to consider a \$1000 increase in her pay for duties she performs in keeping books for the volunteer ambulance service.

Mrs. Bodungen pointed out that in the past year a total of \$20,766.56 was put on the books for calls made by the three volunteer units and she had managed to collect, through letters, billings, etc., a total of \$13,594 and \$7,172.12 remains to be collected. "Some of this never will be collected," she added, but all efforts will be made to do so.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Walter J. Henicke suffered a bad heart attack last week-end and was unable to be present although Mrs. Henicke was on hand to make his plea for a 10% increase. The other commissioner, Mr. Veselka, did not attend the meeting.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Crockett Leyendecker, who along with Precinct 4 Commissioner Bill Stiles and Judge Cranek voted against pay hikes for county officials making over \$8000, read a statement to the committee. He pointed out that the inflation was having serious adverse affect on farmers and ranchers in the county, as well as some businessmen. He commented on the privileges enjoyed by county officials who were elected with "no investment and no risk".

Leyendecker labeled legislation authorizing the grievance committee, as a "mockery of county government."

"Our county officials were elected to represent and not dictate according to their desires."

He added that it was his opinion that the committee was a "serious mistake" and added the possibility that the county taxpayers may rebuke the action by forming a taxpayers union or similar organization to oppose such proposed increases.

Judge Cranek told the committee members that any decision they take will not be an "easy vote." He agreed that lower income personnel need more aid and that inflation is taking its toll. He said that he regarded his vote against the increases as a "move against spiraling inflation." He said that he did not believe that any member of the committee really thought

that he voted against the pay hikes because of the fact that his pay was increased January 1st, 1975 by \$2600 when he assumed additional duties as county school superintendent ex-officio.

The three public citizens expressed concern about the proportionate pay increases and expressed the opinion that lower salaried employees should be considered for increases of greater percentage than the higher paid elected officials.

"Ten per cent of very little is very little," pointed out Mr. Leopold.

Prior to any of the motion-making Mr. Friedrich expressed the opinion that he was opposed to a 10% across the board pay increase for the county officials.

Mr. Whitcomb had reported earlier that ten per cent cost of living increases to the elected officials would cost about \$6927.96 year. Cranek agreed that funds are available in the officers salary budget to absorb this. But he added that any increases to county officials other than those who petitioned for the grievance committee meeting would have to come from a budget amendment with prior notices published in the papers in the county.

The sheriff, the county clerk, district clerk and the county attorney now make \$10,269.60 per year; the tax officer gets that amount plus \$240 for handling vehicle registrations; Mrs. Bodungen's salary now totals \$8000 per year.

Pay for the commissioners was set in the 1975 salary schedule at \$8,781, same as in 1974.

Present for the hearing in addition to the committee members, Mrs. Henicke, and Commissioner Leyendecker were special sheriff's deputy Harry Townsend; and Fred R. Frnka of the Headlight and Jim Belcher of the Citizen; and Charlie Rau of Columbus.

Parish Mission

(Continued from page one)

Vigil and Sunday Masses. During the week, Monday through Friday, there will be two identical services to accommodate all the parishioners: married or single adults; high school and college students. One service will be at 4:30 p.m., and the other service at 7:00 p.m. The services will last one hour only.

All members of the parish and friends in the community are invited and urged to attend this Mission Renewal, said Father Edward Geiser, pastor of the Eagle Lake Catholic churches.



GARLAND WIEMERS

Asst. Agent Is Promoted

Effective February 1, Garland Wiemers will be named County Extension Agent at Ford County. He will be officed at Crowell which is 70 miles west of Wichita Falls.

Wiemers has been Assistant County Extension Agent in Colorado County since September 1972. His major responsibilities in Colorado County included 4-H agriculture projects and all adult feed grain production aspects of the Extension Education Program.

Wiemers received his Master of Science degree from Texas A&M University immediately before employment in Colorado County. Field of specialization was weed control which was an asset to the weed control problems confronting agricultural production in the county.

Four-H enrollment expanded in Colorado County through the new fishing project, embryology project, rifle clubs, and various established club activities while Wiemers was in the County.

Ford County is noted for their large acreage of winter pastures and stocker grazing programs, where in excess of 100,000 acres of wheat are grazed, then harvested for

No successor to the vacant Assistant County Extension Agent position in Colorado County has been named.

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Derailment

(Continued from page one)

diligent efforts of the volunteer firemen who were on the scene until after five p.m. directing traffic and playing water on the tank car while it was upright and placed back on the wheels on the track, and because of the windy, cool and cloudy weather.

Safety engineers from the Celanese plant were called to the scene and they informed Mayor Struss and Fire Chief L. J. Spaniel that the liquid did present a potentially dangerous situation, but said that fortunately the car was not ruptured and only a normal amount of the vapors escaped during the time the work was being done at the scene. They commented that the brisk wind would disperse the fumes which themselves were considered to be flammable if concentrated in any amount. Also they stated that the cloudy weather helped prevent excessive pressure building up in the tank car. The tank in which the liquid was being hauled was an insulated vehicle with a dual outer and inner protective container.

Firemen were advised by railroad officials on the scene that in the event the tank ruptured, firemen should remain clear of the vehicle and should divert efforts to saving the homes in the area in the event of a fire.

Bulldozers, heavy winch trucks and other heavy equipment were moved into the area and shortly after noon operations began in the effort to get the tank car back on its wheels on the railroad track. Finally, shortly after five p.m. the operation was completed and Mr. Gibson notified Chief Spaniel that the immediate danger had passed and the firemen began to secure the equipment. All of the department's firefighting equipment manned by many of the firemen remained at the scene from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jack Listowski and the Ladies Auxiliary provided sandwiches and coffee and cold drinks for the firemen throughout the day.

Residents in the area were permitted to return to their homes as soon as the tank car was back on the tracks. An engine removed the tank car from the scene several hours later ending a hectic ordeal for all involved in the incident.

Highway department personnel, department of public safety officers joined officers from the county sheriff's department and the city of Eagle Lake in standing by in the area in the event a catastrophe resulted, and to assist in directing traffic.

It was the second such incident for this community for some 3 years ago a tank car of volatile liquid was derailed on railroad tracks only a short distance north of scene of Tuesday's derailment.

Fortunately there were no injuries in either incident despite the highly dangerous situation that resulted in both derailments.

Commr. Henicke Suffers Attack

Precinct one Colorado County Commissioner Walter J. Henicke of Columbus, suffered a severe heart attack Saturday and is confined to the Columbus Hospital.

Friends in the county join in prayers for his recovery to good health in the near future.

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