

Eagle Lake Headlight

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Armed Robberies Here Mon., Tues., 2 Arrested

2 Nabbed For Rice Pkg.

Douglas T. HUGS

Two Houston men are in the county jail and will be charged with armed robbery following the second daylight robbery in Eagle Lake in as many days, Tuesday afternoon. The two men, armed with a pistol, hit the Rice Package Store on East Main Street at around 4:47 p.m., and through the help of an observant witness, good radio communications, and cooperation between county, city and state officers, the two men were arrested near the Western Club just south of Altair less than an hour later, at 5:15 p.m.

Fred Douglas Penn, 20, and Thomas Hudson, Jr., 26, are in the county jail under the armed robbery charge. Bond had not been set late Tuesday.

The two men reportedly went into the Rice Package Store, and one told the attendant, Mrs. Lucille Booker, to "lie down on the floor and be quiet or I'll blow your brains out." She complied and the two men each hit a cash register and removed cash estimated to total \$239.

Following interrogation by Eagle Lake Chief of Police Roy Chism at the Eagle Lake police station, the two told the officers where they had hid the money and the gun used in the holdup, at the Miller Texaco Station at Altair, after apparently spotting law officers in the area. Officers found \$39 in coins in the car's radiator reservoir and then found \$37.00 in dollar bills in a trash can, beneath paper, in a restroom at the station. Further investigation revealed the pistol and the rest of the money which had been stuffed into cracks in a storage room at the rear of the station. The officers also located a saved off shotgun which had been left there by the two men. Also located was a bottle of whiskey taken from the Rice Package Store.

The officers have to date been unable to connect this robbery with the one which occurred here Monday morning at Dick's Minute Stop. The Rice Package Store was hit by armed bandits almost a year ago, on June 20, 1974, and at that time Mrs. Booker was severely beaten by the bandits. Four men were later charged and convicted of the 1974 robbery.

Others assisting in the investigation and search for the car were Highway Patrolman Rodney Green, Lawrence Berger, T. J. Smith and Alvin W. Kohlfel, owner of the package store, and others. Officers said that the pair admitted borrowing the gun used in the armed robbery from a local area person and investigation of this matter is expected to be made.

\$200 Taken At Dick's Monday, No Arrest Yet

A Negro man, estimated to be from 25 to 28 years old, armed with a large knife, successfully pulled an armed robbery at Dick's Minute Stop in Eagle Lake at around 9:30 a.m. Monday, and got away with some \$200 in cash. The man reportedly wait-

State Solo Contest Winner



Miss Janie Rodriguez, winner of a First Division rating in U.I.L. Solo Competition in Austin last week, displays her gold medal to Rice High School Band Director Floyd Sperrath. This is one of the top ratings for a high school musician and is an outstanding accomplishment.

Janie Rodriguez Wins First Div. In State UIL Solo Contest

For Rice H.S.

Miss Janie Rodriguez, a May 1975 graduate of Rice High School, won a coveted first place division award in the State University Interscholastic League Solo and Ensemble Music Competition in Austin last Saturday.

Rice band director Floyd Sperrath commented that this is truly an outstanding achievement since relatively few music students over the state have won first division medals in the state competition. He added that this is another "first" for the Rice Raider Band.

Miss Rodriguez won a first division award in the regional competition in Brazoswood with her Bass Clarinet solo.

In Austin she played from a Division I prescribed list of music and was accompanied at the piano by Mrs. William C. Abell of Garwood. Her first division award was one of only a few awarded in the state solo and ensemble competition.

For her outstanding accomplishment, Miss Rodriguez received a beautiful gold medal.

The only other Rice entry in the state solo competition was Wayne Pirtle and he was awarded a third division rating, which the director said was also an outstanding performance.

A brass sextet from Rice

Another Gravel Pit Fatality Last. Wed.

3rd Death In Less Than Week

A third fatality as the result of accidents at local gravel pits resulted late last Wednesday night when Willie Washington was critically injured at the Offord gravel plant between Matthews and Eagle Lake.

Washington became entangled in a large conveyor belt being used to move gravel and the lower portion of his body was mutilated and was partially buried in gravel at the end of the conveyor. He was brought to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital by the local Emergency Ambulance Corps but was pronounced dead shortly afterward.

Washington was the third person to die as the result of injuries received at local gravel pits in less than a week since one man died as the result of injuries at the Lons Star Industries plant May 22 and another as the result of injuries at Gifford Hill on May 23rd.

2 Injured In Accident At Horton & Horton

Two persons were hospitalized, one with serious electrical burns, as the result of a truck accident at the Horton & Horton gravel plant in Eagle Lake on last Thursday morning.

John Ilse, of Columbus, the foreman for the Horton & Horton gravel plant, is in Columbus hospital with severe burns on the arms and across his chest as the result of the accident. Dean Venhaus, in charge of Horton & Horton gravel operations, suffered burns on his hands when he extinguished fire in Ilse's clothing, and George Horton, Jr., official for Horton & Horton Co., escaped injury.

The three, escaped reportedly were checking on a dredge malfunction and Mr. Ilse attempted to get a reading on a fuse box so that it might be replaced when an electrical short shot flames across his arms and chest. Fuses in the box went out immediately and he was saved from more serious consequence by this.

Mr. Ilse and Mr. Venhaus were rushed to Columbus Hospital by private car. Mr. Ilse was in serious condition during the week-end but was reported to be improving Monday.

Bake Sale Sat.

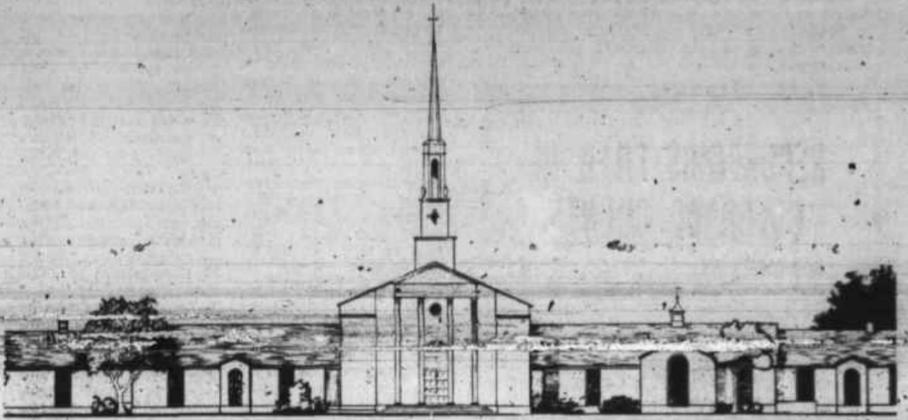
Troop 39 will sponsor a Bake Sale, Saturday, June 7 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon in front of Emily's Realty in downtown Eagle Lake. All kinds of goodies will be offered for sale. Plan now to purchase some sweets for the weekend.

Ed Causey Retires As Director of Rice Assn.



Ed Causey, a director on the local and central boards of the American Rice Growers Cooperative Association for forty years, shown at center, was presented with the engraved plaque he is holding, for his many years of service to the association. He was presented the plaque by David Wintermann, right, in behalf of the association at the annual meeting Monday night at Marvin's. At the left is J. R. Thomas, currently serving as president of the Eagle Lake division of the ARG Association.

Sketch of New United Methodist Church



First National Ground-Breaking For New Offers Tax Shelter Plan Methodist Church Sunday

Word was received recently from the Comptroller of the Currency authorizing the First National Bank of Eagle Lake to accept deposits for the newly enacted IRA's. IRA stands for Individual Retirement Account which permits most wage-earners, merchants, and farmers to set up their own personal retirement programs and deduct the cost of same from their personal income taxes.

The Pension Reform Act of 1974 provides that 15% of net income or \$1500.00, whichever is less, can be deducted from current income taxes and be deposited in a custodial account for future retirement.

Details are available from our bank officers," said Wm. R. Harrison, President, "and we will provide this new service to our customers free of charge. There will be no fees, commissions, or service charges made. This is another of the new innovations being implemented this year by our bank."

Computerization of the installment loans, certificates of deposit, and savings accounts has been completed. Drive-in facilities will be open near the end of June, and the new personalized account numbers for individuals and businesses should be effected by late November, he added.

Mobile X-Ray Unit Here Monday

The Mobile X-Ray Unit of the American Lung Association-Alamo Area will be in Colorado County for three days soon. Malvin K. Merrem, Superintendent of the Weimar ISD, announced the unit will be at the Fire Station in Weimar on Thursday, June 5th. The hours for x-raying will be from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Miss Dorothy Schomburg, member of the Board of Directors representing Colorado County, made arrangements for the unit to be located on the northside of the County Courthouse in Columbus on Friday, June 6th.

T. J. Smith, City Manager of Eagle Lake, announced the unit will be located at the City Hall in Eagle Lake on Monday, June 9th. The hours for getting x-rayed will be from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

It is urged that all persons 15 years of age or older take advantage of this health service. It is also available to school employees and other individuals requiring tuberculosis certification.

Contributions are encouraged to help offset the ever increasing cost of operating this community health service.

RICE BD. OF EQUAL.

The Rice School District Board of Equalization is in session this week and will be meeting with oil and gas interests on Thursday of this week, beginning at 9 a.m., at the Administration Building in Altair.

City Plans To Hire A Dog Catcher

Eagle Lake City Council, in session on Tuesday night of last week, took the first step for an active dog control program for this community with the purchase of a tranquilizer gun for use in catching pets roaming the city's streets and creating a nuisance.

Details are available from our bank officers," said Wm. R. Harrison, President, "and we will provide this new service to our customers free of charge. There will be no fees, commissions, or service charges made. This is another of the new innovations being implemented this year by our bank."

Council authorized the purchase of a tranquilizer gun and equipment for use by the dog catcher so that the campaign may be carried out in keeping compliance with the humane society.

It is anticipated that Mr. Rosprim will be reimbursed at the rate of \$4.00 per head for animals removed from the city's streets and placed in the city pound according to the current city ordinances. Mayor Elmer Struss suggested that the council might wish to revise the ordinance in order to clear up several points and make the ordinance more effective, but this is due to be considered at a later date if it is felt needed once the control program goes into effect here.

Anderson Accepts Compromise Offer

Mayor Struss informed the council that Everett Anderson, developer of the Anderson Industrial Park on the southeastern edge of the city, has accepted the city's compromise offer to refund Mr. Anderson on the basis of \$1530 per connection, up to 10, for services connected in the new addition for costs of installing water and sewer lines in the subdivision. The city will also pay Mr. Anderson \$900 for the cost of enlarging a sewer line on Glen Flora Road as per an original agreement made in 1972 when the project was started. Mr. Anderson has also provided the city with a utilities right of way easement.

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Record Year For EL Rice Assn.

\$24,185,000 Sales
In 1974 Crop Year

Members of the Eagle Lake division of the American Rice Growers Cooperative Association held their annual dinner meeting at Marvin's in Altair Monday night and heard a report from the local manager Donald Obenhaus reflecting the fact that the association had a record year in 1974 with a total of \$24,185,000 in sales.

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Bishop Slater To Speak At 10:55 AM Service

Sunday, June 8th at 10:55, the membership of Colly Memorial Methodist Church and friends will gather at the site of their new church to witness the official ground-breaking ceremony for the new United Methodist Church for this community. The ceremony will be followed by an afternoon of picnicing and recreation and games on the block of land which formerly was the site of the Eagle Lake High School.

Special guests for the occasion will be the ministers of the community and their families.

The Colly Church will be honored on the occasion to have Bishop O. Eugene Slater, San Antonio Area Bishop; and Dr. William M. Harris, the Austin District Superintendent for the Southwest Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, present for this momentous occasion.

Bishop Slater will deliver the message at the 10:55 a.m. morning worship service in the Colly Memorial United Methodist Church. A native of Sibley, Louisiana, Bishop Slater received his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Perkins School of Theology in Dallas in August of 1932. He has been awarded honorary degrees as follows: Doctor of Divinity at McMurray College, Doctor of Humanities at Southwestern College, Doctor of Laws from Baker Uni-

(Continued on last page)

Scholtz Const. Low Bidder; Work To Begin Immediately

The Building Committee of the Colly Memorial United Methodist Church and pastor David Edgar met Friday afternoon to open bids for the new Methodist Church to be constructed on the site of the former Eagle Lake High School building, a block east of the present church facilities.

Bob Ashby, chairman of the building committee, announced to the congregation at the

bid of the Scholtz Construction Co., Inc. of La Grange to erect the beautiful new church facility at a cost of \$323,956.

There were three other bidders on the project, the Drymalla Construction Co. of Columbus, Grohmann Construction of Weimar, and Braden Construction of San Antonio. The Scholtz bid was the low bid offered.

All members of the building committee; the Rev. David Edgar; Frank Hill of Houston, architect; and representatives of all four bidding firms were on hand for the bid opening.

Comprising the building committee for the construction of the new United Methodist Church are: Mr. Ashby as chairman and members J. R. Thomas, Don Dendy, Henry Sunderman, A. F. Wiese, Dr. R. R. Thomas and Mrs. Gayle Thomas.

A name for the new church is to be selected in a charge conference scheduled in Colly Church at 7:30 p.m. Mon., June 18th.

Ground-breaking ceremonies will be held at 12:15 p.m. this Sunday, June 8th, as discussed in another article on this page.

Year To Complete

The contractor is expected to begin work immediately and it is anticipated that the project will be a year in construction.

The bid accepted was for construction only and does not include cost of property, the architect's fee and costs of equipping the new structure.

A special fund-raising committee for the new church project has reported to the congregation that approximately a third of the costs has been received in cash and another third is pledged and the committee is confident the remaining third of the cost will be contributed by the time the project is completed.

MYF Plans Car Wash Sat.

The Eagle Lake Junior Methodist Youth of Colly United Methodist Church will have a Car Wash this Saturday, June 7 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Johnny's Phillip 66 Service Station.

The proceeds from donations will go toward summer recreation for the youth.

Support the youth by bringing your cars for a wash job Sat., June 7 say the members of the MYF.