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Goodyear Blimp At Columbus Wed., Thurs.

The Magnolia Homes Tour of Columbus received word last week that the famous Goodyear blimp will be in the Columbus area for two days, Wednesday and Thursday, May 12th and 13th to promote the annual Homes Tour and related activities which will be held this week-end in Columbus.

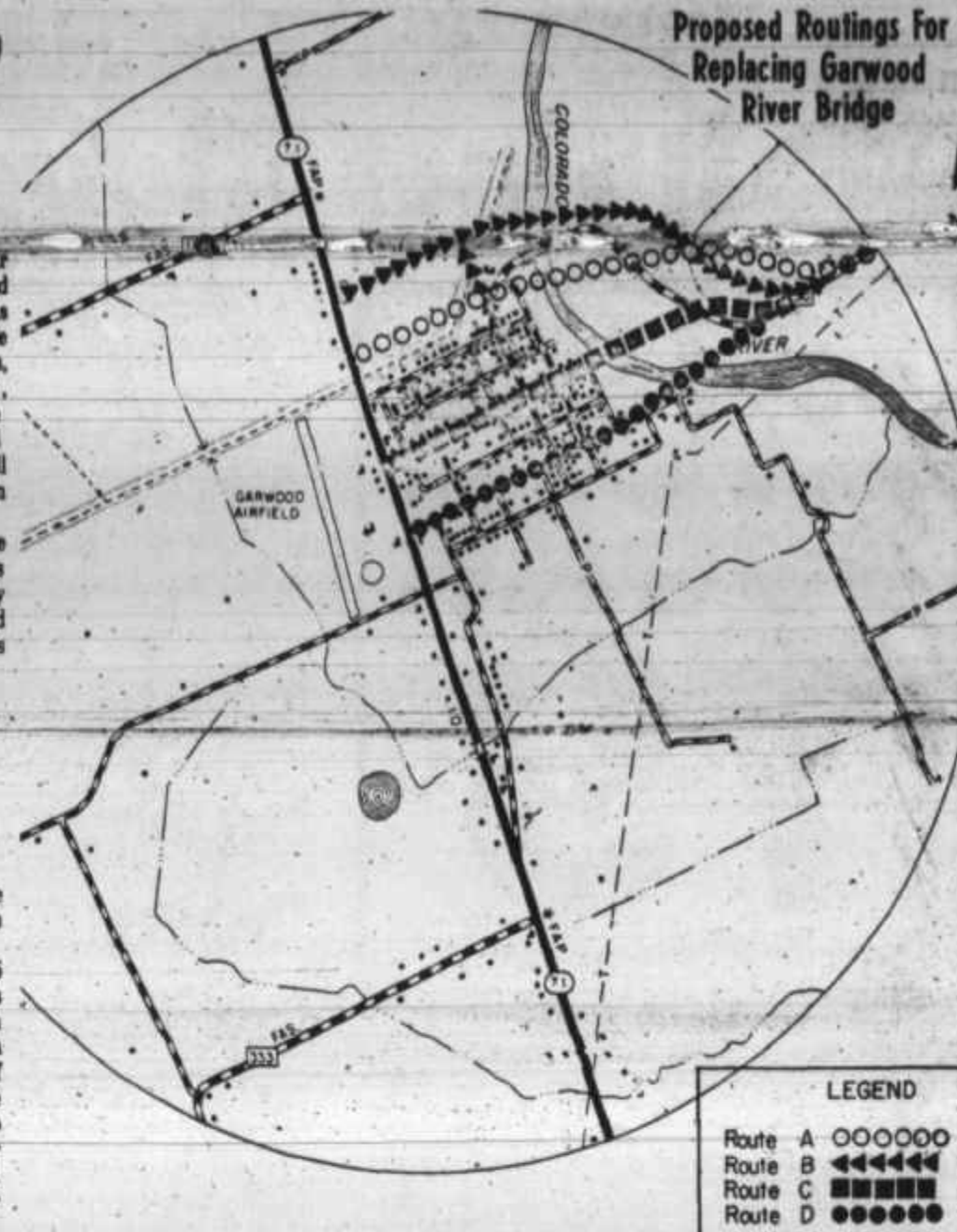
The Goodyear blimp will be tied down at the Columbus airport during its two-day visit in the county and probably will be making trips to many areas of the county.

2 Accidents In This City

Eagle Lake police investigated two accidents in the city this week.

Sunday morning at 12:45 a.m. Miss Nancy Simcik was driving a car west on Main Street when the vehicle, a 1969 Buick, went out of control and struck a large utility pole. She was taken to Eagle Lake Hospital for treatment and was released. Patrolman Steve Skinner investigated.

At 5:30 p.m. Monday on East Main vehicles driven by Mrs. John Garza and R. F. Spaniel collided in front of the Spaniel and Son store. Patrolman Bufford Ashley investigated. Damage was minor and there were no injuries.



C. of C. Still Has Patriotic Bunting

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce reports that it still has a supply of patriotic bunting for use of local

merchants in their decorations for the Bicentennial year.

You may buy the bunting, by the foot, at the chamber office in the Municipal Building or call 234-2780.

An average of only 2.58 per cent of the 3.7 million Texans covered by the state's unemployment insurance law claimed jobless benefits during the last 13 weeks, indicating an improvement in the economy according to Texas Employment Commission.

School Board

(Continued from page one)

auto accident, was unable to complete all requirements for graduation. He asked the board to waive its graduation policy and permit him to march into the graduation exercises with his class. He said that if he had not been in a coma and unable to attend classes, he felt that he would have completed requirements for graduation. Powell asked that he be allowed to march in and to sit with his class, but not take part in the remainder of the exercises.

After much discussion, board member Alton Smith made the motion to deny the request and it was seconded by Lavo Brisco. Both expressed the feeling that the board should not set a precedent by altering the graduation policy. Board member Bill Appelt contended that due to the circumstances Cotton was unable to attend because of physical condition beyond his control that he should be given special consideration. The ensuing vote, 10-2, was in favor of the request. The other board member Jose Garcia was not present and president Jane Clifton did not vote.

David Pavlicek, Eagle Lake Middle School teacher, appeared before the board to offer constructive criticism as a professional teacher. He had taught in the district for six years. Pavlicek said that the "Watergate atmosphere" in the district will cause teachers to leave or force them to turn to unions for support of their causes. "He was asked to comment on the 'Watergate atmosphere' and described it as one in which the teachers were not judged on their professionalism, but on what they say and when."

A letter was also read from the Steve Taylors asking that the age for attending kindergarten be waived for their daughter who will be five a few days after the school starts. The matter is due for consideration at the next meeting.

Policy Considerations

The board authorized membership in a special policy program by the Texas Association of School Boards. Under the program the district will be provided with a manual to serve as a guideline in adopting board policies. The manual is being prepared by a legal staff and a workshop will be provided in use of the manual once it is completed. Cost to the district will be \$275 per year.

Board of Equal.

A board of equalization to set 1978 tax valuations for the Rice District was appointed and will include Travis Wenghoff of Eagle Lake, Herbert Engstrom of Garwood, and Harry Brisco of Sheridan. The board will meet with oil and gas

interests on June 7th and with individual property owners on June 15th and 16th.

Supt. E. A. Krivacka reported the district received \$1100 for the girls' basketball tournament.

Board president Mrs. Jane Clifton noted that in light of the fact that at least three faculty members had appeared before the board expressing dissatisfaction with the report between teachers and administration in recent months, she was appointing a special committee to study policies in this regard. Named to the board were Bill Appelt, Alton Smith and Lavo Brisco and she will serve as ex-officio member. She asked the group to have a preliminary report by the June meeting and a final report at the September meeting.

Special Meeting.

The board also voted to hold a special meeting at 8 p.m. next Monday, May 17th, to hear reports from the athletic director and from counselors, and to consider communication opposing combination of grades one and two, and three and four in the Garwood School. This is discussed in another article in this issue.

Bicentennial

(Continued from page one)

the parade marshal and urges that local and out-of-town organizations and individuals plan to have entries. Bands, floats, marching units, decorated vehicles of all kinds and other entries in keeping with the Bicentennial theme are welcome. The deadline for entry in the parade is June 21st. There is no entry fee. To place an entry call the local Chamber of Commerce office, 234-2780, or write to Box 216, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434.

Trophies will be presented in the following categories: best civic entry or float; best commercial entry or float; best children's entry (12 years and under); to the best band in the parade; to the best individual entry or float; to the best in an open category to encompass entries not included in other classifications; to the most outstanding entry; and to a grand prize winner. The trophies will go on display soon at local businesses in the downtown area and will be rotated weekly until the parade ends.

Street Dance.

A gala street dance to be held on Commerce Street on the east side of the square is scheduled to begin at 8:00 p.m. and continue until midnight with several bands due to provide music for dancing and entertainment. The booths and entertainment features will remain

Commr. Court OK's Employees Cancer Plan

Colorado County Commissioners' Court voted Monday to enter into a program with the Family Cancer Plan Insurance Co., represented by Gardner A. Seaholm, of Eagle Lake to provide optional cancer protection insurance to the employees at a reduced rate. The employees will be required to pay for their coverage, either on an individual or family basis.

Mr. Seaholm told the court that an estimated 32,000 persons are expected to die of cancer in Texas in 1978 and that cancer affects one out of every four families in the state.

He noted that his company will pay benefits in addition to those provided under Medicare or in addition to money received from any other similar protection policy. Also he said the policy is guaranteed renewable. Coverage becomes effective 60 days after signing up for the plan, said Seaholm. He noted that "as one really has enough coverage, if and when cancer strikes."

With the county agreeing to enter into the program, county officials and employees will be able to obtain the coverage for a 25% reduction or \$42.00 for an individual or \$57.00 for a family regardless of the number of children under 23 years of age.

In the action, the court authorized a group plan with the American Employers Council Trust Fund and authorized Mr. Seaholm to send out literature or to make personal contact with all county employees for their optional enrollment in the plan.

and a feature of the service will be music by the Community Choir under the direction of Dr. R. R. Thomas. Rehearsals are now underway for an outstanding musical.

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NUMBER 5...

Officers Tally Confiscated Marijuana



State Highway Patrolman Randy Balish, left, and City Patrolman Steve Skinner, right, inventory forty-one lbs. (or ounces) of marijuana found in the possession of two men when they were stopped on traffic warrants early Saturday morning.

Local Officers Make 3rd Major Marijuana Arrest

Local officers arrested two men, both members of the U. S. Armed Forces, Saturday morning and charged them with possession of marijuana in an amount over four ounces, a felony. It was the third major arrest made for possession of marijuana in this city during the past two months.

At 3:05 a.m. Saturday, City Patrolman Steve Skinner and Highway Patrolman Randy Balish were on routine patrol when they spotted a driver of a vehicle known to be wanted on several traffic warrants. They stopped the vehicle and found the two men in the vehicle had in their possession a carrying bag which contained a quantity of substance believed to be marijuana.

The vehicle was stopped on East Main Street near the Nu Courts Motel.

Len Carson Matthews, 21, and Don Steven Williams, 21, were taken to the Eagle Lake Police Station for further interrogation. It was found that the bag contained forty-one ounces of marijuana neatly wrapped in one-ounce packages, known as "lids".

Assisting the arresting officers in the interrogation were City Patrolman Bufford Ashley, Highway Patrolman Rodney Green and Game Warden Sam Center. The officers estimated that the going rate for a "lid" of the material is around \$10.

Carson and Williams were brought before Justice of the Peace M. M. Jones and he bound the men over to consideration of the grand jury on the charge of possession of over four ounces of marijuana. They were placed in the county jail under \$5000 bond pending action by the grand jury. Early this week it was reported that the two had posted bond and had been released.

Eagle Lake police arrested local residents on Fri., April 23rd and he is charged with possession of ten ounces of marijuana; and the local officers also arrested two Beaumont men two months ago with two pounds of marijuana and a substance believed to be cocaine in their possession.

First Aid Course

Tues., Wed.

A First Aid Course will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, May 23 and 24th from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Ambulance Hall.

For further information call Joe Ababiah, 234-2478, or LaVon Toliver, 234-3111.

GARWOOD DELEGATION ASKS "ONE TEACHER, ONE GRADE"

Rice CISD Board To Take Action On Requests June 14

The board of education of the Rice Consolidated Independent School District met in special session Monday night in a review of an administrative decision to reorganize the lower four grades in the Garwood Elementary School under two room teachers and to hear reports from the athletic director, the new reading coordinator, and the counseling department.

A delegation of Garwood citizens met with the board at the regular meeting May 10th to oppose the combining of grades one and two under one teacher and grades three and four under one teacher due to the drop of enrollment in these grades, but since the item was not on the agenda, discussion was limited May 10th to reading of a letter from W. X. Priemeyer, Monday night of this week, six persons representing many of the citizens of the Garwood community asked to speak before the board on the matter.

Step Backward

John Engstrom was the first speaker for the delegation from Garwood. He noted that forty persons met for a discussion of the decision by the Rice Administration to combine the lower grades at the Garwood School. Engstrom said those attending the meeting felt that the Garwood residents were not in a position to go to the Rice Board of Education to ask for a step backward to a point where we were before consolidated, he stated.

"Why trade an optimum situation for the betterment of education for one recognized as detrimental to the basic foundations of education," he reported that two resolutions came out of the meeting last Saturday in Garwood. The first called for the board to completely review the budget to determine areas where economy might be affected without jeopardizing the basic foundations of education. The second resolution was to petition the Rice Board of Education to discontinue the consolidation of grades one and two.

They contended in the petition that their sons was a student trainer for the East Lake Middle School football team and as such was an employee of the school. They pointed out that the arm of the youth became entangled in a dryer while in the act of washing uniforms as part of his regular duties. They said that as an employee of the district, death benefits are due to the surviving family.

Garage Sale, Dinner Sat.

The Providence Baptist Church's Bible Band will sponsor a garage sale and dinner this Sat., May 22 at the church.

TB X-Ray Unit Here Thurs.

On Thursday, May 20 and Friday, May 21 the Mobile X-Ray Unit of the American Lung Association-Alamo Area will be in Colorado County. T. J. Smith, City Manager, has arranged for the Mobile Unit to be located at the Eagle Lake City Hall on Thursday morning, May 20. Hours of operation will be 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Thursday afternoon, the Unit will move to Columbus. Miss Dorothy Schomberg of Columbus has announced that the location there will be the (Continued on last page).

Mental Health Drive in Garwood Fri.

May is Mental Health Month. This Friday, May 21st at 4:30 p.m. Bellinger workers will be going house-to-house in the Garwood area to collect for this worthy cause.

"By giving what we each can afford, our community can proudly join the forces working to fight mental illness, the Texas Association for Mental Health. The need is tremendous," said the Rev. Thomas Hogan, chairperson at Garwood.

114 Seniors Candidates For Graduation Monday

The 1975-76 school year will ask for school students in the Rice Consolidated School District next Monday, May 24th with graduation exercises for 114 seniors culminating the school year's activities.

All schools in the Rice District will dismiss at 2:15 p.m. the last three days of school, Thurs., Fri., and Mon., May 21, 22, and 23. Parents are urged to arrive earlier closing and earlier bus schedules.

The graduation exercises will be held in the Rice High Raider gymnasium at 4:00 p.m. Monday night and another capacity crowd is expected. Each student in the class has been given two tickets for parents or guardians to sit in a specially reserved section.

The program will be presented by the members of the senior class. Brenda Kallina will play the processional; D'Ann Davison will give the invocation; Phyllis Korenek will deliver the salutatory address; and the seniors will deliver the valedictory.

The seniors will sing their class song accompanied by Beryl Shorter at the piano; the Alma Mater accompanied by Sheryl Smith. Mary Jo Spaniel will give the closing benediction.

Principal Fred Gramham will certify the graduates to the Rice Board of Education. The seniors are taking their final examinations on Thursday and Friday of this week. Other classes at Rice High School will take examinations on Friday and Monday.

Teachers' workshops will be held for the faculty members on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 25th and 26th to officially close out the 1975-76 school calendar.

The complete list of Rice High School Seniors in the Class of 1976 follows:

Carol Alexander, Mercy Alvarado, Laurel Annette Anderson, Michael Zhon Argo, Michael John Armstrong, Denise Ann Austin, Mary Lou Banks, Rudy Barrios, Darl Gene Behele, Henry A. Bens, Jr., Cynthia Maria Berger, Dexter Bald, Carol Denise Botard, Carolyn (Continued on page two)

Ladies To Sell Dinners Sat.

The ladies of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church will be selling luncheon dinners in Andrew Hall, near the church, this Sat., May 22nd, from 11 a.m. until sold out.

You may dine in the air-conditioned hall or there will be plates to go.

Rice High's Top Athletes Named

September. She will be making in music and voice. She will be working with the youth of the church for the next 12 weeks.



Southwest Texas University's head basketball coach Vernon McDonald, right, entertained with an outstanding talk at the Rice High School All-Sports Banquet held last Tuesday, May 15th. He is shown in the photo above with RSHS athletic director Jack Grammer, left, and Rice High School's outstanding athletes for 1975-76: Donald Glover and Miss Mary Jo Spaniel. (For more on the banquet see page nine)