

Eagle Lake Headlight

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Past President Appelt Gets Plaque



Louis Schorlemmer, right, incoming president of the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce, presents a plaque of appreciation for outstanding service in

1978 to William (Bill) Appelt, outgoing president of the chamber at the membership banquet held last Thursday night in the Community Center. See story on page 12.

Council Asks For Full Report On Derailment

By Jeff Frnka

The Eagle Lake City Council, in session on Tuesday, Jan. 23rd, authorized a request for a fully detailed report of the recent derailment of five railroad tank cars near the Canaris Nursery on West Main Street on January 15th.

Councilman Jimmy Cash, a resident in the area of the derailment, noted the concern of citizens there and asked the council to request the report from Southern Pacific. He suggested that if any negligence be involved, the city find out exactly what the railroad officials plan to do to correct the situation.

The councilman also proposed that the city consider passing an ordinance controlling the parking of any train cars, in the city limits, that might contain a substance that could be unsafe to people or animals.

Included in the proposal was a section that would also forbid the

parking of locomotives or engines that are left running, without supervision, in the city limits.

The council authorized the request by Cash indicating that a strong concern to curtail such activity in the city is apparent.

City Manager T. J. Smith reported that Southern Pacific is currently preparing a location outside of the city for the parking and fueling of the engines which would alleviate the parking problem in the city.

Other Ordinances

Mayor Elmer Struss noted to the council that should it be necessary to control the railroad activities in the city by an ordinance, other problems should also be considered at the same time. Items that would also be considered on the ordinance list include: alcohol consumption at the city ball parks; negligent driving on city streets; and increased enforcement for parking meter violations.

Rice CISD School Bond Election Next Tuesday

Over 15,000 Bales Hay Destroyed By Fire Near Garwood Saturday

Fire destroyed 15,000 regular bales and 125 large round bales of hay and heavily damaged the metal shed in which they were stored just south-east of Garwood early Saturday morning. The hay had been stored in the metal shed, once used for cattle feeding pens, on the east side of the Colorado River for over six months and cause of the blaze has been undetermined at this time.

The hay and shed, 40 feet wide and 900 feet long, were the property of Billy Wegenhoft and T. Cattle Company. Wegenhoft said the hay was valued at around \$2.00 per bale for the small bales and \$30 for the large bales, making the loss in the hay alone nearly \$40,000.

The blaze was spotted by an employee around

3:00 a.m. Saturday, said Wegenhoft. Garwood firemen were called to the scene, but the blaze was beyond control as a strong north wind fanned the blaze along the full length of the 900-foot long building. The firemen spent most of their efforts containing the blaze and keeping it from some pens and a scale house at the north end and another scale house on the south end of the shed. Only a few large bales were able to be removed from the blaze, according to the owners.

Garwood firemen were at the fire from around 3:45 until 7:00 a.m. Investigation by the owners and firemen had been unable to reveal, early this week, as to what had started the fire.

Voting 7 AM-7 PM In Eagle Lake, Garwood, Sheridan

Next Tuesday, February 6th will be another day of decision for voters in the Rice Consolidated Independent School District when they will be called upon to vote on a proposed \$825,000 bond issue for construction of essential building needs at the Eagle Lake Middle and Primary Schools.

Polls will be open during the day in three places with the polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

In Eagle Lake voting will be in the Eagle Lake Community Center;

In Garwood, in the Garwood Elementary School;

And, in Sheridan at the Sheridan Elementary School.

Absentee voting will continue until 4:30 p.m. this Friday, Feb. 2nd.

You may obtain an absentee ballot at the Administration Building at the Rice High School in Altair.

The Rice Board of Education and administration say that they have "trimmed the fat" out of the proposal and that only those construction items necessary to provide adequate classroom space and cafeteria facilities are included in the proposed issue.

In September of 1978, voters cast ballots on a \$1.46 million issue included in four propositions, with all four being defeated. However since only 536 ballots were counted out of a possible 2385 or more in the district, the board felt that the response was not representative and after a public meeting in Eagle Lake where dire needs for additional facilities were aired, the

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New State Gov. Pledges Accountability, Responsibility, Mrs. Clements Tells C.C.

A stirring address on "accountability and responsibility in state government" by Texas' first lady, Mrs. Rita Clements, wife of Texas' new Republican governor William P. (Bill) Clements, highlighted the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce's 28th annual banquet last Thursday night, Jan. 25th in the Community Center. The event was hailed as another outstanding success with a delicious banquet, excellent entertainment and a thought-provoking address by Mrs. Clements.

The speaker was introduced by Jim Clipson, Jr., who noted with pride that Gov. Clements is the first Republican governor in present day time and predicted that the new governor will provide "the best leadership in Texas since John Connally." He told the speaker that she and Gov. Clements have "our prayers, love and support in your roles as leaders of our great state," added Clipson.

Mrs. Clements commented that many have worked hard to achieve "Bill's victory... isn't it nice to win for a change." She asked for the support of all for the next

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Consol. Fund Reaches 98% Of Its Goal

Gene Brown, director of the Eagle Lake Consolidated Fund, announces that the fund had reached \$11,583 as of Monday. "This puts us only \$262 short of our goal of \$11,845 for this year," added Dr. Jim Stansel, Fund president and drive chairman.

"The response has been great. Eagle Lake and the surrounding area has shown that 'Caring is Sharing,'" said Dr. Stansel. "This is what community spirit and pride is all about. Thanks go to the whole community but special thanks go to the First National Bank for taking on the chore of receiving the Consolidated Fund donations. The Eagle Lake Headlight played a significant role in bringing the campaign to the people with its weekly stories and recognition of those who contributed."

The drive chairman added, "The success of this year's campaign would not have been

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Williams Is Now Salesman At Lake Motors, Inc.

Joe S. Reed, owner of Lake Motors, Inc. of Eagle Lake, announces the association of Harold Lloyd Williams, a long-time resident of this community, as new and used car salesman for the local Chevrolet, Oldsmobile and Cadillac dealership.

Reed said, "we are happy to have a person with Williams' experience and capabilities to join our staff. Come by and meet him personally."

Spotter Class Here Mon.

H. E. (Ed) Tate, Eagle Lake Civil Defense Director, announces that a Skywarn Spotter Short-course will be held here Monday, Feb. 5th, beginning at 7 p.m. in the meeting room of the fire station. He invites all interested persons to attend.

A speaker will be present from the National Weather Service in Houston to discuss warnings when severe storms threaten the area.

Council To Discuss Financing Of New Water Well Feb. 13

The financing of a new water well for the city of Eagle Lake will be the main topic of discussion at its city council's regular meeting on Tuesday night, Feb. 13th.

The council, in session on Jan. 23rd, set that date since plans for the well are nearing approval by the Water Development Board.

Dick Green, engineer for the project, prepared the plans for the city and estimated the cost to be about \$250,000.

The council will consider the possibility of a bond election or acquiring some type of loan from a financial institution to finance the project.

New City Health Officer

Dr. Curtis Laughlin was appointed by the council, last Tuesday, as the city's health officer for 1979. Dr. J. C. Laughlin had served in that capacity for many years but noted health reasons for not being able to continue.

The council passed a resolution expressing its sincere appreciation to Dr. J. C. for his faithful

Bruno Shimek To Get \$1500 Scholarship

Rice High School senior Bruno Shimek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence C. Shimek of Garwood, has been selected as the winner of the \$1500 scholarship awarded by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Bruno was named winner of the award from a number of entries from Colorado County and will receive the scholarship formally in activities Feb. 27th at the Houston stock show arena.

Shimek is serving as

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Gulf Coast Savings Branch Opens Here

Gulf Coast Savings, home office in Richmond, Texas, announces the opening of the branch office in Eagle Lake at 112 North McCarty. The new office was opened here on Friday of last week, and citizens are invited to drop by for a visit at any time. A formal opening ceremony will be held at a later date.

Office hours for the new branch office is Mrs. George (Ann) Matthy's.

Office hours for the new business are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday.

Bank Deposits Up \$2.46 Million Over 1977

The First National Bank of Eagle Lake reported an increase of over \$2.46 million in deposits for the period ending Dec. 31st, 1978 as compared to a similar period in 1977.

The bank's statement, published elsewhere in this issue, notes that deposits for the period ending Dec. 31, 1978 amounted to \$28,107,906 as compared to \$25,639,275 on Dec. 31, 1977.

Total assets for the current period totaled \$33,493,796 up from \$29,614,822 at the end of 1977; and loans also increased from \$17,682,866 at the end of 1977 to \$19,295,213 at the end of 1978.

Three CC Members Cited For Service



Bill Appelt, outgoing president of the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce, second from left, presented plaques for outstanding service to 3 members of the chamber at last Thursday night's annual banquet. Fred R. Frnka, left, received a plaque for leadership; Mrs. Dorothy Jones,

secretary of the chamber, was cited for her outstanding service to the chamber; and at right, Alvin W. Koblief, received the President's Award for outstanding service to the chamber and to the community.

First Hearing On '79 Comm. Development Program Tues.

The first of three public meetings scheduled for the purpose of receiving citizens' views and comments regarding the development of a Citizens Participation Plan for the 1979 Community Development Block Grant program will be held at 7:00 p.m. next Tuesday, Feb. 6th in the

Providence Baptist Church at 1209 East State Street. As required under provisions of the program, the meeting is being held in the area which is being considered as a priority area for the 1979 grant application, namely the area known as "the rice mill area" in the eastern part of the

city. Other meetings will be held at 7 p.m. Feb. 13th and Feb. 20th in the council room of the Municipal Building.

All persons interested in participating in the planning and discussion sessions are invited to attend, said Mayor Elmer Struss.