

Eagle Lake Headlight

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City's New Public Works Director



Eagle Lake City Manager T. J. Smith, right, welcomes Buddy J. Jacobs of Garland as this city's new Director of Public Works.

a position which has been vacant since January of 1977. Citizens of Eagle Lake also join in extending a welcome to the Jacobs family to this community.

Buddy Jacobs Named Director of Pub. Works

The City of Eagle Lake administration is pleased to announce the employment of Buddy J. Jacobs of Garland, Texas, as Director of Public Works for this city. This position has been vacant since W. C. Alley terminated his employment on January 30, 1977, to accept a position with Lakeside Irrigation Company, Inc.

Mr. Jacobs has been working in the utilities operations for the City of Garland since 1970. His present position with the City of Garland is in the water and waste water treatment operations as an operator and shift supervisor. He currently holds valid Texas "B" water and "B" waste water licenses. He is a college senior working towards a Bachelor of Business Administration de-

gree while attending night school. He plans to continue his education by commuting to a university in Houston.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs have two daughters, ages 5 and 2, and they are members of the Baptist Church. They are looking for a home to buy in Eagle Lake. Anyone having a home for sale should contact the City Hall and leave the necessary information.

City Manager T. J. Smith, who have been actively searching for a Director for more than four months and interviewing more than a dozen applicants, told the Council recently that Eagle Lake should be proud to have the Jacobs' as members of the community. "We look forward to the association with Mr. Jacobs with great expectations," he stated.

Grand Opening At Connie's Crafts & Gifts Thurs.-Sat.

Connie Herman, owner of Connie's Crafts and Gifts at 310 East Main Street in Eagle Lake, invites one and all to a grand opening Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

She invites citizens to come by to register, without obligation of purchase, for valuable prizes to be awarded at the close of the grand opening event.

2 Shotguns Stolen From Parked Jeep

Two shotguns left in a vehicle parked for a short time in the area of 601 Colly Place were stolen at 10:15 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30th, according to an investigation made by City Patrolman Jimmy Jenkins.

The officer said that Darrell Gertson and Larry Broesche were in a Jeep and had been hunting and they left the guns in the vehicle when they stopped to visit

St. Roch's In Mentz To Have Picnic Sunday

St. Roch's Catholic Church in Mentz will hold its annual Picnic Sunday, Oct. 7th and citizens are invited to attend the popular event.

Holy Mass will be said at 10:00 a.m. and a buffet style barbecue beef and sausage dinner will be served at noon for \$3.00 for adults and \$1.75 for children under 12. Barbecue beef and sausage will also be sold at the pit by the pound and at 3 p.m. barbecue sandwiches will be sold.

A big auction will be held at 2 p.m. and the event will climax with a dance featuring the music of Donnie Wavra and The Hi-Liters.

Bikes Being Stolen

Officers in the Eagle Lake police department report that a rash of bicycle thefts have been reported during the past few weeks. They ask owners of bicycles not to leave the bikes where they might be easily taken, and to report to the officers any information that might assist in determining the identity of those taking part in the bike thefts.

for a short time at a residence at 601 Colly Place and when they returned their shotguns were gone. Gertson reported a Ducks Unlimited, special edition, 12 gauge Remington shotgun was stolen and Broesche said a Browning automatic 12 gauge was taken. Investigation of the theft continues.

5 Year Old From Wallis Victim of Accident Sat.

A five year old boy from Wallis was killed instantly in the collision of two vehicles on Farm Road 1093 four and four-tenths of a mile east of Eagle Lake at around 6:00 p.m. last Saturday, Sept. 29th.

The accident was investigated by Highway Patrolman Joe Garcia, assisted by Highway Patrolman Andy Taquard.

The report indicated that a 1963 Chevrolet pickup truck was being driven east on 1093 by Simon Navarro, 55, of East Bernard, apparently en route to visit relatives in Wallis. The investigating officer said that Navarro apparently attempted to pass a truck, also heading east, and the pickup collided with a 1977 Oldsmobile being driven west on 1093 by Richard L. (Ricky) Higgins, 26, of Eagle Lake.

The officer said that Higgins applied brakes and skidded to the right side of the pavement and that Navarro apparently did not attempt to stop but veered to his left and the pickup struck the Higgins car two feet on the shoulder of the road.

In the pickup with Navarro were two grandsons, John Moreira, 10, of East Bernard, and Scotty Navarro, Jr., 5, of Wallis. Scotty was killed instantly. John suffered critical injuries and Navarro also had severe injuries and they were brought to Eagle Lake Community Hospital by the Eagle Lake Ambulance Corps and later transferred by ambulance to John Sealy Hospital in Galveston, both in critical condition.

Justice of the Peace M. M. Jones of Eagle Lake, Precinct No. 8, held an inquest at the

scene and ruled the five year old died from injuries received in the wreck.

Mr. Higgins, his wife, Melba, and their young son, Richard Lee, Jr., received cuts and bruises. Mrs. Higgins was confined overnight in Eagle Lake Community Hospital for observation and was released this week. Concern was expressed over her condition since she is expecting a child in the near future.

Funeral services were held at Lakeside Cemetery in Eagle Lake Monday at 2 p.m. for Scotty Navarro, Jr., 5, of Wallis the victim of the two-vehicle accident.

Scotty was the son of the Julian Navarros of the Wallis area.

Burglar Enters Wilcox Minimax

A burglar, obviously badly cut, broke a hole in a thick plate glass window at the side of one of the doors at the front of the Wilcox Minimax store on McCarty Street some time during Tuesday night and entered the store, however owners believe that very little was taken.

City patrolman Jimmy Jenkins was called to investigate shortly after 6 a.m. Wednesday when some employees in the meat department came to work and found the entry.

Patrolman Jenkins reported shortly before 9 a.m. that a suspect in the burglary had been arrested and investigation and interrogation was continuing at press time.

The hole was believed to have been knocked into the glass by a small rock found at the scene and the burglar either cut himself in making the hole or in crawling through the hole, less than two feet in diameter, and into the store.

Drops of blood were found throughout the store and in the storerooms, but not in the office. He apparently stopped at the milk and cheese area and a broken bottle of instant coffee was found in a storeroom.

Three packs of Buglar smoking tobacco, each with signs of blood on them, were found scattered outside the building near the front door.

R. P. Wilcox and Buck Swords, owners of the store, say that all other doors remained locked.

Considerable glass fell into the front of the store. Also at the top of the glass was a hole resembling one that might have been made by a bullet, but there had been no sign of the bullet at press time Wednesday morning.

Appraisal Dist. Meet 10 AM Thurs.

A nominating convention will be held by the seven entities who will participate in the countywide tax appraisal district at 10 a.m. Thursday morning of this week (Oct. 4th) in the county courtroom in Columbus.

Colorado County, the cities of Eagle Lake, Columbus and Weimar, and Rice, Columbus and Weimar school districts will have representatives present to nominate directors to the five-member board for the district.

The directors will begin two-year terms of office on January 1, 1980.

Nominations for the five positions must be submitted to the county clerk's office

\$920,000 Estimate On Improving Gas System

First Reading Of Cable TV Rate Hike Request OK'd

[By Jeff Franks] A rate increase request by Eagle Lake Cable TV received approval on the first of three readings by the Eagle Lake city council, in session last Tuesday, Sept. 25.

Approval is expected on the final two readings by the council at the October 9th and 23rd meetings, allowing the cable service to put the increase into effect on November 1st.

The last increase for the local Cable TV franchise came in March of 1978 upping the rate from \$6.95 to \$8.00.

The new request is for a 50c increase that would raise the current rate of \$8.00 to \$8.50; and the second set rate from \$1.50 to \$2.00.

Representing the firm at the meeting were Rick Arlitt, manager of the Eagle Lake and Columbus offices; and Faye Coldeaway of Communications Services' Yoakum office, representing R. L. Thiessen, vice president of the firm.

Channel To Be Added "We plan to construct a satellite earth station re-

ceiver to bring in WTBS, channel 17, from Atlanta, Georgia," said Coldeaway. "The installation of this earth station receiver will require an additional investment in excess of \$31,000.00."

Communications Services, Inc., operators of Eagle Lake Cable TV feels that the 50c increase would adequately cover that cost, providing an additional revenue of \$5,500.00 per month, based on the present level of subscribers.

The new station will provide Cable TV viewers with 24 hour-a-day entertainment, including up to 40 movies a week, and sports coverage of Atlanta's football, basketball, baseball and hockey teams.

The Cable TV representatives also indicated that the firm will be offering a new service after the first of the year called "Showtime." First run movies (G, PG and R only), Las Vegas acts, and top sporting events are among the features that will be seen.

[Continued on last page]

\$345,700 For FM 3013 Work OK'd

Work in Colorado County is included in the 1979-1980 Texas Farm to Market Road Program approved recently by the State Highway and Public Transportation Commission.

District Engineer Carl V. Ramert said that the program includes construction funds of \$345,700 for a section of previously designated Farm to Market Road 3013 which will extend from the end of present FM-3013, 4.5 miles South of US-90A in Eagle Lake, South to the Wharton County Line, for a total distance of 1.0 mile.

Statewide the two-year program includes \$48 million for new construction or additional financing on 413 miles of Farm and Ranch to Market Roads in the state.

This includes funding for 118 miles of new construction and additional financing for another 260 miles. Approximately 34 miles of projects were authorized previously and included in this program.

not later than Oct. 15th. In the event the seven entities can not agree upon five names to fill the positions, then each entity will be entitled to nominate five persons. October 15th is the deadline for submitting nominations to the office of County Clerk Lester Schneider. The votes will be cast by Nov. 15th and counted by Dec. 1st and the five directors will take office on January 1st, 1980 for two year terms.

Rotary's Chuck Wagon BBQ Supper Tuesday

Eagle Lake Rotarians will stage their annual Chuck Wagon Barbecue Supper next Tuesday evening, Oct. 9th from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Community Center.

Barbecue chicken and the trimmings will be served for \$3.00 per plate. Tickets to the event are on sale with all Rotarians or may be

obtained at the door Tuesday.

You may dine in the hall and enjoy continuous entertainment and music or receive plates in a fast curb service line in the pavilion at the rear of the building.

Proceeds from the event, will be used for numerous community projects.

[By Jeff Franks]

The Eagle Lake city council, at its regular meeting Tuesday, Sept. 25, heard a report on the city's gas system from the project engineer recommending the replacement of all steel pipes currently being used with polyethylene pipe for an estimated cost of \$920,000.

Charles L. Poole, P.E., engineer with O'Malley and Clay, Inc. of Brenham, made the recommendation, supported by an inspection and stress current gas system.

The study was necessitated by the increasing amount of gas losses being incurred by the city and because of several violations in the system being cited by the Texas Railroad Commission.

"To comply with State and Federal regulations, and to bring your leakage under control, it is recommended that all steel pipe be replaced with polyethylene pipe (similar to plastic)," said Poole. "I believe that it is possible to obtain Railroad Commission approval to perform this replacement over a period of years, but it can be demonstrated that the costs are greater and financing more difficult."

Financing Studied

Moroney, Beissner and Co., Inc. of Houston, the city's fiscal agent, is currently studying the proposal recommended by Poole and is expected to give the city some indication at the next meeting as to its recommendation for financing such a major project. The firm's representatives are also to aid a committee of councilman William Farris, the city's treasurer, and councilman Ralph Truly, along with city manager T. J. Smith, arrive at a new and higher gas rate schedule that would allow the gas department to operate without the losses currently being recorded.

O'Malley and Clay is currently surveying the city's gas lines for leaks, and will compare their report with one made about three years ago. After comparing the reports, a priority list will be arranged so that major leaks can be corrected first.

More than 26 percent of the leaks found in the last leakage survey can be attributed to poor welds or the use of "saddles" at service connections," indicated Poole.

Decision By End of Month

The nearly one million dollar project is all part of Mayor Elmer Struss' "crash program" for gas system improvements and is one that will require extensive study and securing of adequate financing before city officials can give approval. City Manager Smith has indicated that the project could take 18 months to two years to complete; and noted that "with the losses continuing to pile up, the city can ill-afford to wait too long to make a decision." Much progress has been made since the mayor called for the improvements and a decision on the fate of the project is expected by the end of the month.

Austin Bridge Interviewing

Austin Bridge Co. of Houston, which has been awarded a contract by the City of Eagle Lake for the drainage project in the Westmoreland Addition (the Flat area) is interviewing applicants for positions during the construction project.

The firm has representatives at the white trailer by the culvert next to S.W. Parts Co. on East Main Street. The interviews for various positions to be filled for the project will be taken through Friday, Oct. 5th.

Lions Carnival Opens With Parade 4 P.M. Sat.

The Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club invites one and all to attend the annual Street Carnival which will be held this Saturday, Oct. 6th, at the Eagle Lake Community Center.

Floats, marching bands, other marching and decorated units and commercial entries will be featured in the parade which will begin at 4 p.m., according to Bill Appelt, parade chairman.

The parade chairman said this week that late entries of all kinds are welcome. If you are not registered and would like to be in the parade, report to the Walnut Street area at least 30 minutes before parade time and you will be placed in the parade. Trophies will be awarded

and six classifications of judging will include: Civic, Commercial, Childrens (12 or under), Band, Individual, and Open.

The Lions will have for your entertainment and enjoyment a variety of booths and rides. There will be train rides and other rides for the kiddies, and a host of other booths for the entertainment of all ages.

Among the entertainment features will be a dunking stand and another feature of the carnival will be the bell-ringer machine where local citizens will be able to test their strength by swinging a large hammer in an effort to send a sliding plunger up to the ultimate going.

The Alpha Delta Phi sorority will be handling the food concession and the Boy Scouts will sell cold drinks. Cotton candy and snow cones will be sold by the Little League.

Parade Route The parade route will be the same as that used for parades of the past starting on North McCarty, south to Main Street, then left to Lake Avenue, left on Lake Avenue to a dispersal between Church and State Streets.

A complete list of the parade entries to date may be found on the last page of this issue.

Proceeds will go to benefit many worthy projects supported by the Noon Lions,