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'80 Cutlass Brougham 4-Dr. Low Mileage and Loaded. A Real Cream Puff. \$7495.00

'77 Olds Starfire Coupe A Genuine Economy Car. Has 5-Speed Transmission with Economical V6 ENGINE. Has TACHOMETER. Previous Owner Reports 27 M.P.G. Highway Driving. \$3595.00

'72 Chev. Station Wagon Will Make A Good Work Car. \$295.00

**DEMONSTRATOR**

**★ 1980 Olds Cutlass Brougham 4-Door ★**

A Good Looking Car with Lots of Extras PRICED RIGHT FOR YOU!

1979 Chevrolet Bonanza HD10 Pick-Up. \*REDUCED\* Loaded with Extras, including Power Windows and Power Door. \$5995.00

1979 LuV 1/2-Ton Pick-Up With Mikado Package. Low Mileage. Has Air Conditioning and Other Nice Extras. \$5495.00

1978 Chevrolet 3/4-Ton Pick-Up An Above Average Unit. Price Way Below Market Price. \$2995.00

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**El Campo Man Dies In Wreck On 71**

A tragic two-vehicle accident claimed the life of a 44-year-old El Campo man at 2:15 a.m. on Wednesday last week, May 29th, bringing to six the number of persons killed on highways in the county so far this year (excluding one death in Eagle Lake).

Highway Patrolman Joel Garcia of the Eagle Lake station investigated the accident. His report revealed that a 1974 Western Star gravel truck and trailer was heading south toward El Campo, driven by Felipe Perez of Houston, and had almost completed a right turn off Highway 71 onto County Road 111 leading to Thorntberg Materials Co. plant between Garwood and Populim. The other vehicle involved was a 1979 Chevrolet flatbed truck also being driven south on Highway 71.

The officer, Jr. of El Campo, said that Charles Evidenti did not see the truck turning off of 71 onto 111 and his truck crashed into the side of the trailer. The flatbed truck went under the trailer in impact and Charles was probably killed instantly. He was pinned in the cab of the truck for some time until wreckers called to the scene were able to pull the cab of the truck apart enough to remove the body.

Justice of the Peace W. A. Hefner of Garwood, Precinct 2, held an inquest at the scene and pronounced the man dead at 3:10 a.m.

Trooper Garcia said there apparently were no witnesses to the accident.

The flatbed truck was demolished in the accident, the gravel trailer sustained some damage but the driver, Perez, was not injured.

**City Council (Continued from Page One)**

any action. The city manager is expected to prepare a budget change to accommodate for an additional office which will present it for the council's consideration at their next session Tuesday, June 10th.

**Other Action**

In other action last week the council heard a report, but took no action, on a proposed mobile home park on property owned by Gene Payne at the intersection of Waverly Street and Cat Spring Road on the west end of one of the parcels. The proposal indicated accommodations for about 63 mobile homes being considered.

The council also authorized execution of the sale of a piece of property to Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Johnson of 109 Center Street. The surplus property is located north of the city water tower on North McCarty Street.

**Approves Rehab. Bids**

In 11 of the council approved six bids for housing rehabilitation in the Westmoreland addition (the flat section of the city) amounting to \$42,100. The costs include contract and administrative services and will be funded through the Community Development Fund and the HUD grant.

**The Perfect Gift For All Occasions—A Subscription To The Headlight—234-2753**

**43 Cases Filed In City Court Last Week**

City Judge M. M. (Mac) Jones reported Monday that a total of forty-three cases were filed through his office last week on a variety of traffic violations and on misdemeanor charges, as the local police department continues an active role in law enforcement in the community.

Included in the 43 cases filed from the period of May 23rd through June 1st were: 21 traffic violations, 10 public intoxication cases, one case for assault, one for disorderly conduct.

**Investigate One Accident**

Eagle Lake police were called to investigate one accident during the past week that one on May 30th at 2:45 p.m. when two vehicles collided at the intersection of Highway 90A and FM 3013.

Patrolman Michael Moore was the investigating officer. His report showed that a 1978 Toyota driven by Patrick Hugh Richie of Humble was heading east on 90A and a 1975 Pontiac was traveling south on FM 3013 and the driver failed to yield right-of-way and the two vehicles collided.

Charges of failure to yield right of way were filed against the driver of the Pontiac, Raymond Lynn Craig of Houston.

**Baptist Ch. To Honor Gerry Odom Sunday**

The First Baptist Church of Eagle Lake will have a Dedication Service Sunday night, June 8, at 7:30 p.m. for Gerry Odom who was recently appointed a foreign missionary by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. She will teach in a school for children of missionaries in Taiwan. The missionary children are from various Christian churches.

The dedication service will include a slide presentation of the service where Gerry was appointed to mission service shown by Dale Cassidy, Mrs. Herman Boothe, president of the Women's Missionary Union of the church, will give the narration. Miss Odom will give a personal testimony followed by a prayer of dedication by Pastor Melburn Sibley.

The First Baptist Church has provided a scholarship to enable Miss Odom to secure her Master of Religious Education degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Following the service, refreshments will be served in a fellowship period. The public is invited to attend.

**Chief of Police and Mrs. Jimmy E. Smith and children**

Chief of Police and Mrs. Jimmy E. Smith and children moved last week to a new home in the Ridgelea Addition, at 721 Partridge Lane and are now located in their new home. The chief extended thanks to numerous neighbors and friends for their assistance in the move into the home.

Mrs. Ethel Newwander, author of a book on the history of Rock Island, advises that she was swamped with orders for the book and the supply was depleted long before the demand was met.

**Conviction**

In the obituary on Miss Elsie Matten published in last week's Headlight, the names of Miss Matten's parents were erroneously printed. She was the daughter of Jacob and Anna Hoffmann Matten.

**Eagle Lake Headlight**

VOLUME 77 P.O. BOX 67 EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1980 AC 713 234-2753 NUMBER 8

**Over 70 Stolen Bicycles Recovered Here**



Eagle Lake Chief of Police Jimmy Smith is shown above among the many bicycles, whole and in parts, recovered by local officers last week and seventeen juveniles were said to be involved in the thefts which date back for at least two years. If you're missing a bicycle, check with the local police, your bicycle may be among those recovered.

**72 Bicycles Recovered By Police; 17 Juveniles Involved**

Many Dismantled, Parts Exchanged

Eagle Lake Police Department cracked down on juveniles in the community allegedly involved in stealing bicycles during the past week and have recovered an estimated 72 bicycles and parts of at least three bicycles.

Chief of Police Jimmy Smith, Special Officer Bill Chavis and State Game Warden Sam Center conducted the roundup of stolen bikes and of at least seventeen juveniles, ranging from ages of 12 to 16, believed involved in the thefts.

Chief Smith said that some of the bikes recovered were reported missing as long as two years ago. Many of the bicycle parts were interchanged and some parts apparently sold separately.

He advises that anyone missing a bicycle should contact the local police department and claim the bicycle by providing serial number and positive identification. Color of the bike is not sufficient since many have been repainted. They range from single speed to ten speed bicycles.

Also assisting in the investigation was Susie Nelson, the county's juvenile officer, since all of the youth, blacks and latins, are juveniles. It is anticipated that a hearing will be held in juvenile court on the thefts within the near future, said Chief Smith.

Bicycles, or parts of bicycles, not claimed within thirty days will be disposed of at public auction, added Chief Smith.

Chief Smith also commented that regular patrols will be

**Another Lissie Flying Service Plane Damaged**

Damage to wings and the landing gear on an Ag-Cat airplane owned by Lissie Flying Service, Inc. resulted when the plane failed to clear a canal at the end of a short take-off strip being used for aerial agricultural applications last Thursday. The accident occurred a mile and a half east of Eagle Lake, near the Donnie Wise home, and the pilot was uninjured.

The loaded aircraft report, edly was unable to clear the runway and almost made it across the canal before the landing gear hit the canal bank causing damage to the gear and to wings on one side of the plane.

Another Ag-Cat owned by Lissie Flying received heavy damage when the plane flipped over during agricultural operations May 12th.

**Rice CISD Valuations Up Nearly \$10 Million**

**Oil, Gas, Utility Valuations Up \$8,796,520**

**Marshall To Continue As Part-Time Advisor To Rice CISD**

The Board of Equalization for the Rice Consolidated School District met in harmonious session Monday with representatives of about twenty oil companies and with representatives of the tax valuation office of Latham and Stults of Austin, to set tax valuations on oil and gas properties and utilities for the 1980 tax year. The district's tax officer Roy Marshall reported to the Rice CISD board of education in session Monday night that an increase of \$8,796,520 in oil and gas and utility valuations resulted when the total was compiled. Marshall also anticipates an increase of about \$1 million in local tax assessments, giving the Rice District an anticipated total increase in valuations of nearly \$10 million.

Marshall said the 1979 tax valuations totalled \$93,380,000 and with the addition of the \$8,796,520 increase in oil and gas and utility valuations and the estimated \$1 million increase in local valuations, the Rice District should have a total assessed valuation for 1980 taxes of about \$103,176,520.

The tax officer estimated collections for 1980 at 96.5% (the district normally collects a higher percentage than that), thus \$99,295,000 of the total valuations would be available for the 1980-81 budget. Based on the \$1.75 tax rate, in effect currently and expected to continue for the 1980 tax year, a 25¢ collection on the \$99,295,000 total would make \$256,425 available for debt service. (He noted that \$252,839 is actually needed to meet bond and interest requirements.) Marshall noted further that the 1980 tax year would have a valuation of \$1.49 per acre for the local operating fund, a total of \$1,490,985 would be available for the 1980-81 budget. This would be an increase of \$78,985 over the operating fund for the 1979-80 year.

Latham and Stults do work cooperatively for Colorado County, Columbus and Rice Districts and the Rice School District's board of equalization. E. L. (Butch) Parma of Eagle Lake, Lawrence Berger of Garwood, and W. P. Crumpton of Sheridan.

Meetings were previously held on May 29th and May 30th with local taxpayers desiring to discuss valuations.

**Mark Burke Receives Doctor Of Medicine Degree**

Mark Stoney Burke, son of Mr. and Mrs. George R. Burke, Jr. of Eagle Lake, received his Doctor of Medicine degree with Honors from Baylor Medical College in Houston on June 2, 1980. The commencement exercises were held in Jones Hall at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Michael E. DeHafey, Chancellor, Baylor College of Medicine, delivered the commencement address and presented the diplomas to the 114 graduates.

King informed the board that Mr. and Mrs. Marshall have kindly consented to be available on a consultative part-time basis for the next eight-month period or until the countywide tax district becomes operative. Provided that the Marshalls do not spend more than half

**Rice Meeting**

(Continued from Page One)

Dr. Jim Stasos, director of the Texas A&M Rice Experiment Station near Eagle Lake, told the gathering that the rice industry in Texas is a race for survival. He pointed to the squeeze being felt in water supply and on the increasing costs of production.

Stasos said that the cost of producing rice in Texas is the highest anywhere and noted that Mississippi and Arkansas continue to increase production.

Stasos also commented on a long grain variety which is being released in the state of California which could prove to be competitive with the long grain rice which is produced in this area. He stressed the need for effective research programs that are designed to help you, the farmer.

After stressing that the 1980 rice crop will be the most expensive ever produced, the rice experiment station director said that rice yields in this area are expected to be average up to five percent above average. He said that cold weather and weed problems have allowed what appeared to be a 15% figure in yields down to average to five percent over average at this date and time.

He stressed that the farmers should not expect excessively high yields to bail them out in light of increasing production costs.

Stasos said that it takes 10 to 12 years to develop a new variety of rice and added that the California long grain variety has shown some promise, but testing to date has shown that the variety doesn't do well in this area.

**RCISD Board To Hear Results Of Competency Based Test**

During March of this year, Rice CISD's 5th and 9th grade students were administered the Texas Assessment of Basic Skills Tests in keeping with the mandate of the 66th Texas Legislature concerning all public schools in the state. In the succeeding years, the tests will include 3rd, 5th, and 9th graders.

The TABS test relates test item to specific objectives or levels of proficiency in basic skills students are expected to have mastered in reading, writing and mathematics.

District wide test results will be reported to the Rice CISD Board of Education on Monday, June 9, during their regular monthly meeting. This report should serve to identify specific strengths and weaknesses in the present program and serve as a guideline for changes in the curriculum.

Individual student results will be available to their parents in a conference with their principal or counselor on the fall of 1980-81.

**Bill Abel**

(Continued from Page One)

short distance from the scene.

The body was brought to Mill-Bauer Funeral Home in Eagle Lake where services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday last week. Rev. Melburn Sibley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Eagle Lake officiating.

Mrs. Helen Norman Osterman of League City sang the Lord's Prayer with Mrs. Abel as the soloist. Burial was taking accompanying.

The body was taken to League City for interment in a final resting place in Forest Park East. The Rev. Elvin Gibson, pastor of a Baptist Church in Nederland, conducted the graveside services in League City.

Serving as pallbearers were Kevin Harrington of League City, Victor Brewer of Rosenberg, and Johnny D. Cooper, Keith Matchick, Glen Janow and Danny Ishee of this community.

**Rice Industries Hosts Family BBQ Supper**

Rice Industries, Inc. rice dryers, hosted its annual Family Barbecue Supper in the Eagle Lake Community Center on Thursday evening of League City sang the Lord's Prayer with Mrs. Abel as the soloist. Burial was taking accompanying.

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**Sheriff's Dept. Investigates Five Burglaries and Thefts**

Colorado County Sheriff's Department investigated entries of two houses, one business, theft from a van and also theft of a pickup truck during the past week. The sheriff's department received a call at 7:15 p.m. Sat. May 31st from Mrs. Emma Riggins of the New Town area, that her house had been burglarized. Investigation revealed entry was gained by forcing open a window to the house. The only thing missing was \$6.00 taken from a dresser in the bedroom. Mrs. Riggins said that the burglary occurred between 10:55 a.m. May 30th and 6:15 a.m. May 31st while she was away from the house.

At 6:30 p.m. May 29th, James Nawara of New Uim, reported that his residence had been broken into. Entry was gained through an unlocked front door and missing were two rifles and four .38s&w.

Investigation of all five of the incidents continues by the sheriff's department.

**Grand Jury Returns Eight Indictments**

Larry Thomas Given 10 Years In Pen For Murder Here

The February grand jury met in its third session on Wednesday last week and returned eight indictments, four of them for theft in the burglary of the Henry Beyer sporting goods business in Weimar on March 2nd.

District Judge E. W. Patterson presided in District Court and heard a plea of guilty issued by Larry Allen Thomas, 27, of Eagle Lake, on a charge of murder of a relative Frank Thomas in an affray at 405 C Street in Eagle Lake at 3 a.m. on Sat. April 12th.

Thomas, who was indicted by the grand jury earlier on the charge of murder, waived rights for delay in sentencing and he was given a term of not less than five nor more than ten years in the state penitentiary and has already started serving his term.

Eleven of the twelve members of the jury studied charges brought to their attention. John Engstrom of Garwood was accused of murder.

Indictments of theft in the Beyer burglary March 2 in Weimar were returned against Phillip White, Walter Wright, Johnnie Prince Bishop and Bonnie Earl Brown.

The indictment against Wright noted that he had also been convicted of a crime in Harris County Jan. 9th, 1970.

Billy Joe Kusey, Chad Zapalec and Dan Pierce were named in indictment for theft and charged with taking an auto manifold and a riding lawn mower from the home of Jane Sisson.

David John Bellunas was indicted for burglary for allegedly entering the habitation of Edwin Kernek on March 30th.

Avelino Torro for aggravated assault for allegedly beating the head of Jose Rangel on jail cell bars May 2nd.

And Steve Breit and Teresa Schobel for burglary of the Craft Cottage in Columbus on April 20th.

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**McCormick**

(Continued from Page One)

Mr. McCormick was born and reared on the Lasse and Eagle Lake prairies. He attended the Lasse and Eagle Lake schools during 1920' and early 30's. His recently published book is his nostalgic and humorous recollections of a country boy remembering the personal happenings and events on the surrounding prairies.

Accompanying Mr. McCormick to the autograph sessions will be George Winstine, an accomplished accordionist who will play tunes from the area about which the book was written, during the reception hours.

**Free Refreshments**

Free cake, coffee and iced tea will be served throughout each session Friday, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Farris invite interested persons to drop by for an informal visit to Ralph McCormick and take a coffee break at the hotel. Mr. McCormick will autograph copies of his book purchased that day or will gladly autograph copies thereafter, earlier if brought along.

**Rock Island Happenings**

(By Bonnie Baker, 234-5043)

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Henson and sons, Wayne and Jeff, of Boerne were visiting relatives over the weekend. Mrs. Henson lived in Rock Island when a child.

Sp. Spann of Victoria visited with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Moss.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendall Hay and son of Bellville visited the Robert Hoopers for a barbecue. Mr. Hay and Mr. Hooper went to Zapata County to check on their hunting lease.

Mrs. Evelyn Botard of Boerne is visiting relatives in Rock Island and Sheridan.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Hooper and daughter were visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hooper, in Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Barger and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Newton of Needville visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barger.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Morrow moved to San Marcos where he will be employed with a fish hatchery.

**Courthouse**

(Continued from Page One)

project director Arthur J. Willrodt of Willrodt and Associates of Columbus.

According to information from Judge Crank, some problems have arisen with the project because the contractor does not desire to proceed without some kind of an agreement with the county and the project director.

Mr. Willrodt has been

**Suit Seeks Damages From Drilling Well**

A civil suit was filed in District Court in Columbus Tuesday styled Hix Allen Shoop and John Michael Ramsey and Daniel Michael Harvey against Lenior M. Joyce, Inc. of Houston seeking damages to land which the plaintiffs own and on which the defendants drilled a well in search of oil and gas.

The plaintiffs allege that repairs were not made to the land and that fair market value dropped by \$5000. They ask for a total of \$20,000 in damages plus costs of court.

**Randy Hudsons Welcome Daughter**

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Randy Hudson on the birth of a daughter Sunday morning, June 1 at 7:55 a.m. She has been named Misty Dawn and at birth she weighed six pounds and four ounces. Grandparents are Mr. and

**Frank Pidgeons Observe 50th Wed. Anniv. Sun.**

In honor of the Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Pidgeon, an open house will be hosted by their children, Mr. and Mrs. Jean P. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Norman B. Handley and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pidgeon, on Sunday, June 15, 1980 in the Fellowship Hall of the United Methodist Church.

You are invited to share in the celebration of this event between the hours 2:00 - 5:00. The family requests no gifts, please.

**Connie's Crafts Moving To Sears' Location**

Connie Herman, owner of Connie's Crafts and Gifts, now located at 310 East Main next to Hudson Hardware, announces that she is moving her store during the Father's Day weekend to the former Sears' Store location at 218 East Main, next to the Shoe Tree. Connie's Crafts will remain open all day Saturday in the old location.

The store will be open for regular hours in the new location Monday and will add a complete line of Charnwick candles and Top 30 records in all sizes and tapes. Other items will be added in coming months, added Connie.

The administrator reported that occupancy at the hospital was 71.7% during 1979 and many of the days the hospital was filled to capacity. Admissions last year totaled 1927 up from 1786 the previous year, and average length of stay is being reduced with the local hospital, reporting average stay of 5.1 days as compared to a national average of 7.5 days.

Births were up last year to 138 compared with 113 in 1978; anesthesia minutes up from 39,749 to 41,604 indicating more use of the surgical facilities of the hospital.

The administrator also reported that 806 cases were handled in the emergency room as compared to 730 the previous year.

"Your hospital has a \$2 million budget and a big operation," said the speaker. He noted that the hospital recorded \$46,000 in free care

**Sears Store Opens Mon. At 103 West Main**

The Town and Country Gifts and Crossroads Bookstore at 1501 East Main (Town and Country) will be closed June 16th through July 28th for vacation and to attend the annual Christian Bookellers Association convention.

The cooperation of patrons during this vacation closing will be appreciated. Inquiries relative to accounts may be directed to 234-3576 or 234-3593.

**County Tax Dist. Names Youens Chief Appraiser**

The Colorado County Tax Appraisal District's board of directors, in session last week, approved the application of William T. (Bill) Youens, Jr. of Columbus to fill the position of county's Chief Appraiser. Youens is expected to begin duties not later than October 10th of this year and the board is still considering a possible change of appraiser, tax district, although the present site of the County Tax Office in the County Courthouse is believed to be the most suitable location. If such is the case, County Tax Assessor and Collector Henry J. Hajovsky and staff would move into offices in the basement of the courthouse.

Members of the boardbook firm members of the county-wide appraisal board, the choice of a chief appraiser "may be the most important decision that you make as a board of directors."

Among the chief appraiser's duties will be offering assistance in the establishing of a staff and preparation of a budget for the countywide appraisal district.

**Rice CISD Bd. OK's Resignation Hires 4 Teachers**

The Rice Consolidated School District's board of education Monday night accepted one resignation and hired four new teachers for the 1980-81 school year. The board accepted a resignation from Alfred Boudry, an Eagle Lake Middle School fifth grade teacher for the past five years, who plans to teach a fifth grade in West Memorial Elementary School in the Katy District.

New teachers hired included Dorothy V. Geraghty, who has a B.S. degree from the University of Houston and Master's from Texas A&M, and has 14 years teaching experience, in a resource teacher at \$23,850.

Louis Hunt, who had taught at Rice High School

**FLAG DAY JUNE 14**

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