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Businesses

(Continued from Page One)

and Saturday, July 4th and 5th.

Gifts of Distinction in Eagle Lake will be closed Friday and Saturday, July 4th and 5th.

Sears Catalog Sales store announces they will also be closed Friday and Saturday, July 4 and 5.

Colorado County Courthouse will be closed all day Friday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day.

Royal Cleaners in Eagle Lake will be closed Friday and Saturday, July 4th and 5th for the Independence Day observance. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Jack's Restaurant will be closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 4, 5, and 6. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Listowski, owners, ask your cooperation during that time.

Gala July 4th Slated Here

(Continued from page one)

barbecued chicken and trimmings dinners will be served at the Community Center with dining in the air-conditioned center or in a fast curb service line. Ticket sale ended Monday. No tickets will be sold July 4th.

★ 6:00 p.m. The portion of Walnut Street in front of the Eagle Lake Community Center will be closed to traffic and booths offering food, drinks, recreation and entertainment will open in the covered pavilion area on the north side of the Center. Also there will be some entertainment activities inside the air-conditioned center, beginning also at 6 p.m.; and kiddie rides on the street.

★ 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Free concert by "Lust" musical group, directed by Andy Gertson;

★ 8:00 p.m. A free street dance featuring the music of the Country Playboys will begin on Walnut Street in front of the Community Center. Free-will donations will be accepted several times during the dance, however to help defray expenses of the music.

★ 9:00 p.m. or at the first intermission of the dance, a special group of twirlers from Marilyn Thomas' Super Strutters will present a "Live Fire" twirling demonstration.

★ 12:00 midnight. All activities will cease and the clean-up of the area begins.

Heading up the arduous task of cleaning up the tons of debris which are usually left on the streets and sidewalks will be Gerald Bradshaw, Gene Jones, Louis Schorlemmer and T. J. Smith and other chamber and city personnel.

They ask your cooperation in clearing the area as soon as possible so that this mammoth task can begin uninterrupted in order that streets and sidewalks will be normal for the opening of business on Saturday morning.

Ralph Truly is general chairman of the event and he and the chamber members have done an outstanding job in preparing for this annual event. All they need now is your attendance and cooperation to make the fifth annual Fourth of July observance here another outstanding success.

Bob McInteer, C. of C. president, said this week, "we invite all citizens of the area to come join us for this gala Fourth of July celebration. Proceeds derived from the event will aid the chamber in maintaining the part-time office in the Municipal Building and to allow the chamber to continue to sponsor outstanding projects this year and in the future."

Bride-Elect Twyla Trim Is Honored

A coffee shower Saturday morning, June 28 from 9:30 to 11:30 complimented Miss Twyla Trim, bride-elect of Jeff Seaholm, in the R. R. Thomas home.

Carnation corsages in peach tones were presented to the honoree; Mrs. Carl Seaholm, Jr., mother of the groom-elect; and his grandmother, Mrs. Price Beaven of San Antonio.

Hostesses for the social were Mesdames Mae Ashby, Anna Lee Higgins, Mary Lou Szymanski, Elle Thomas and Betty Wegenhoft.

The bride's table was centered with a silk floral arrangement in summer hues.

Houseparty members were Mrs. Ernie Rodgers, Mrs. Dwight Hadley, Mrs. Bill Blair, Miss Margaret Wilcox and Miss Cindy Wegenhoft.

The hostesses' gift was a hand mixer.

The wedding is calendared for July 19 in Austin.

Visiting Grandparents

Billy Breithaupt of Rockdale spent Thursday and Friday, June 26-27 in Mission visiting the family of his sister, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Henske. Kevin and Tanya. Kevin accompanied his uncle to Eagle Lake Saturday to spend some time with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Breithaupt.

Booths Listed For C. of C. Celebration

For those planning to attend the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce Fourth of July celebration at the Eagle Lake Community Center Friday there will be lots of entertainment and a variety of food items for all ages.

This is a list of the various booths which have been booked with the chamber:

Kiddie rides will be available beginning at 6 p.m. on July 4th courtesy of Eagle Lake Lions Club

The Chamber will also sponsor an entertainment activity inside the air-conditioned Community Center, beginning at 6 p.m.

The Eagle Lake Ambulance Corps will sell T-shirts with iron-on patches, frisbees and other novelty items;

The VFW will man a beer stand;

Boy Scouts will sell cold drinks;

Mt. Olive Church will sell foods;

Alpha Delta Phi Sorority will sell cup cakes and balloons;

Little League will sell snow cones;

Catholic Youth will sell sloppy Joes;

Steve Almanza's softball team will sell tacos and tamales;

Catholic Altar Society will sell sandwiches and cakes;

Also expected to have booths will be the Colorado County Fair organization and the Nada CYO group.

For last-minute information on booth space call C.C. secretary Dorothy Jones at 234-2783 by 1 p.m. Thursday.

White Is New Garwood Lions President

Randy Wallgren, center, outgoing president of the Garwood Lions Club, is shown presenting the gavel, symbol of leadership in the club, to the incoming president, David White, right. At the left is Frank Teykl, Deputy District Governor, Zone 6, of Wallis, who installed the new Garwood Lions Club officers in a ladies night program at Schobels' in Columbus on Wednesday evening of last week. See story on page 6.

Firemen Injured In Blast

(Continued from page one)

about the explosive materials stored in the out-building.

All agreed that the accident was unfortunate, but also agree that the potential for an even greater tragedy was present, and that possible fatality to one or more of the city's finest - our volunteer firemen - was narrowly escaped.

Helicopter Refuels Here

The distance from San Antonio to Eagle Lake was just out of the range for the Fort Sam Houston helicopter. In order to make the trip here the helicopter had to refuel at the Lakeside Irrigation Co.'s lake plant facilities before making the return trip to San Antonio.

Eagle Lake firemen were on stand-by basis with equipment at the lake plant and at the helicopter landing pad at Eagle Lake Community Hospital. Eagle Lake Police officers assisted at the scene of the fire and explosion and at the hospital.

Cooperation Praised

Mayor Elmer Struss expressed praise and cooperation in behalf of the city for the splendid rescue and emergency work of the firemen, the ambulance corpsmen, the police department, all hospital physicians and personnel, Brooke Army Medical Hospital personnel, and other volunteers. He acknowledged that the unfortunate accident was one of very few on the brilliant record of the Eagle Lake volunteer firemen. Deepest concern and prayers for complete recovery of all injured firemen and councilman Kohleffel was expressed by the mayor, as he echoed the sentiments of all residents of the Eagle Lake area.

2 Firemen Transported To S.A.

Tim Luedecke and Lane Voelcker are being loaded aboard a helicopter from Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio to be transported to Brooke Army Medical Hospital for treatment of critical burns received in the fire explosion at a barn on McCarty. Street shortly after 11 a.m. Saturday. Both are reported to be in stable condition and will recover but will face a long period of convalescence.

First Milo Harvested At Nada Mon.

Frederick Leopold, of Leopold Bros. Grain Dryer, reports that the first milo was harvested in the Nada-Garwood area on Monday of this week and within the next week there should be a lot of activity in milo fields of the area.

The first milo was harvested by Allen Bubela and the quality of the grain was reported to be very good and the yield is expected to be good, also. Leopold noted, however, that some of the later milo is being hurt by the extended dry hot weather.

He said that Lawrence Shimek and Son, Victor Valchar and Louis Hoffman were also bringing in milo to the Leopold Dryer Tuesday.

Some corn is expected to be ready for harvesting within the next week or ten days especially if the hot, dry weather continues.

Fireworks Illegal

City officials remind that it is a violation of city ordinances to shoot fireworks of any kind in the city limits. They especially caution about shooting fireworks in the downtown area during the Fourth of July celebration.

BUZZIN' ABOUT TOWN

We always enjoy hearing from our friends, especially those who have spent some time in the community and have now moved elsewhere.

Former Garwood School coach Mike, wife Jo Ellen and sons, Robbie and Richie Stansifer, recently sent us a letter to renew their subscription to the Headlight and said the following:

"We have certainly enjoyed receiving our paper this last year after leaving Garwood. It has been nice keeping up with the news from 'down there'.

"We have truly missed all of our friends from the area, but are happy here in Levelland, too.

"Mike really likes his job as a corrosion specialist for Amoco Oil Co. and I have thoroughly enjoyed my job as the Data Processing teacher at the high school.

"We have also increased our family with another son, Richard Alan, born on March 10, 1980.

"Hopefully, we are planning a visit sometime this summer and are anxious to see all our friends."

Attend Twirling Camp

Susan Kalura, Melissa Wilcox and Laura Appelt attended a twirling camp at Blinn Junior College in Brenham June 22-26. The girls received helpful training for future twirler try-outs scheduled in August.

Friends who would like to write to Tim Luedecke and Lane Voelcker, two Eagle Lake firemen who were critically burned in a fire explosion here last Saturday, can address their cards and letters to the respective young men in Ward 14A Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234. They will be happy to hear from you.

FIRE Fund Benefit Set Fri., July 11

An ice cream social with homemade ice cream, cakes, cookies and pies is being planned at 7:00 p.m. Friday, July 11th in the Eagle Lake Community Center with proceeds earmarked for the new FIRE (Firemen's Injury, Relief and Endowment Fund) Fund which has been started at First National Bank to benefit local firemen, and their families, injured in the line of duty in a fire explosion last week.

A live band will be available for listening and dancing pleasure throughout the evening.

The event will be sponsored by the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Dept. and Eagle Lake Firemen's Auxiliary.

All citizens of the community are invited to make plans to attend the event.

Annexation Rate Hearing Next Tues.

(Continued from Page One)

operations out of the red. Truly pointed out that the last increases in water and sewer and garbage collection rates were approved in May of 1976. The only other recent increase prior in that time was in 1965.

Klockman compared the proposed rate schedules with those in Columbus, Weimar, Sealy, Wallis, La Grange, Sugar Land and Hallettsville as being "very compatible".

Five Objectives

The committee pointed out, in its recommendations, that the city has 1,486 water and 1,349 sewer customers and the increases would provide funds for five objectives: hiring of an additional skilled employee to work without supervision on water taps and similar duties ($900 month); provide $600 per month for additional power costs due to the operation of the new water plant and well on Davitt Street; pay back at the rate of $1,000 per month $70,000 transferred from other funds to complete the water project; and add revenue for an estimated 15% inflation cost, or $936.00 per month, making the total additional cost of $3,636.00. The fifth objective is for $3,540.00 to service bonds for the new water system but this figure is included in the budgetary requirements.

Proposed Rate Increases

Proposed rate hikes in the water department to increase revenue by $3,789.95 are: first 3,000 gallon minimum up from $2.50 to $3.75. Rate for the next 7,000 gallons would go up from 60c to 90c per M; and all over 10,000 gallons, 70c per M. Klockman noted that 32% of the water customers fall in the minimum category, 40% in the next 7,000 gallon category, and 28% in the over 10,000 gallon group.

Changes proposed in sewer rates are: residences, $2 to $3 per month; multi-family establishments, per family unit, $2 to $3; mobile parks, per unit, $2 to $3; drug stores, large offices, etc., $4 to $5; small offices, $2 to $3; grocery stores and markets, $5 to $7; service stations and restaurants $6 to $8; motel, tourists courts, $10 to $12.50; all others, including car washes, would have rates set on individual negotiation. Increase in revenue estimated at $1,732.

Water tapping fees for ¾" service would go up from $75 to $100 (cost of materials only); for 1" service from $135 to $150. Other sizes would be negotiated. Estimated increase in revenue $835. For sewer taps, the 4" service change would go up from $30 to $40, and for 6" service from $50 to $60; estimated increase in revenue $330.

Garbage Rate Increases

Truly reported that the primary objective of the garbage rate increase is to obtain funds to expand the dump site to a point where two crews can operate in more shifts per week, however, one crew would not be full-time. The employees, when not working in the garbage department, could be utilized in other departments. He estimated that $1,133 per month additional would be needed for this ($1,829 would be generated) with the rest going to operation of the trucks. The department services 1,500 customers.

The proposed garbage collection (or waste disposal) monthly fee would go up from $3 to $4 per month for residential customers; and from $3-$30 range to $5-$50 for commercial customers. Fees for department stores, etc. will go up from the $10-$30 range to $15-$50 range; building contractors, etc. from $6-$20 range to $10-$25; and professional offices, etc. from the $3-$15 range to $5-$25. (Actual fees are determined by the amount of time required monthly to provide service).

Other Rate, Fee Changes

The committee also recommended increases in some fees and rates not controlled by ordinances, including:

Use of trash truck, $12.50 to $17.50; moving charge, $3.00 to $7.50; building permits, $1 to $5; tax certificates, $1 to $3; sale of gravel for ditch crossings, $20 to $25 per load; asphalt, $20 to $30 per ton; and moving permits, $5 to $10.

Volkswagen, Truck Collide Mon.

An accident on U.S. Highway 90A about 1.5 miles west of Lissie around 4 p.m. Monday afternoon resulted in a near tragedy when a gravel truck and a Volkswagen station wagon collided. According to a witness of the mishap, the Volkswagen, driven by Castulo Aviles, was headed west on 90A when it veered into the lane of the east bound gravel truck driven by Raul Rudolfo Palomo of Laurel Truck Co. of San Antonio. The witness reported that an attempt to avoid the collision was made by the truck but it hit the driver's side of the Volkswagen, which came to a stop on its side in a ditch. A tire on the truck blew out after the impact and it finally came to a stop on the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks over 100 yards away. Eagle Lake firemen, ambulance corpsmen and police department personnel are shown carrying Aviles from his car in which he was trapped for over 30 minutes before volunteer firemen could free him with special metal cutting equipment. Aviles received severe leg injuries and other cuts and abrasions from the wreck and was sent to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital and later transferred to a Galveston hospital. Palomo received minor injuries and was released from the hospital at noon Tuesday. A highway patrolman assigned to Wharton County worked the accident since it occurred only a short distance inside the Wharton County line. Eagle Lake police and a Colorado County deputy assisted at the scene also.

New Minister

(Continued from Page One)

terian Church, Trinity Presbyterian Church and in the Association of Communities Organized for Reform Now (A.C.O.R.N.)

The local congregation of the First Presbyterian Church has been without a regular preacher since the Rev. Olen Kennell retired almost a year ago.

Citizens of the area welcome the Rev. and Mrs. Barron to this community.

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Eagle Lake Headlight

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Clifton Darden Named New Head Football Coach At RHS

NEW RHS HEAD COACH - CLIFTON DARDEN

(By Jeff Fraka, Sports Editor)

Clifton Darden, assistant football coach at Rice High School for the past three seasons, has been named as the new Raider Head Coach for 1980-81, succeeding Mike Rice who resigned from that position in June to accept a coaching job in the Mount Pleasant School District.

The Rice CISD Board of Trustees approved the hiring of Darden during its regular monthly session held on Monday night.

In the action Monday night, the board voted to honor the two-year contract which Darden now holds with the district and to offer him a two-year contract as head football coach. He will also teach Math and Athletics classes. In the motion it was noted that evaluation of the new coach will be made at the time for consideration of teacher contracts next year, but extension of the contract will be by-passed until the end of the two-year contract period. In vote on the motion, all board members present voted for, with the exception of board member Steve Balas who abstained from voting.

Billy Hefner initiated the possibility of reducing two conference periods given to coaches to "no more than one." However, Hefner voted for the motion to hire Darden under the contract recommendations made by Supt. Harold King. Balas had indicated he favored a one-year contract for the new coach.

It is the fifth head coaching position for Darden, having previously served in that capacity at Class B Sheridan during the 1962 to 1965 seasons, at Class A Hubbard, his home town, the seasons of 1966 through 1970, at Class AA Groesbeck from 1971 to 1973 and again at Hubbard from 1974 to 1976. Prior to his term as head coach in Sheridan, Darden was an assistant coach for two years at Bellaire High School in El Paso and for one year at Schulenburg.

During the past three years at Rice, Darden has

(Continued on page 7)

Injured Firemen's Benefit Social This Friday Night

Public Urged To Support Fund To Aid Burned Firemen

All citizens of the area are invited and urged to attend a benefit social to be held this Friday evening, July 11th, in the Eagle Lake Community Center to aid firemen who were injured in a fire explosion on Sat., June 28th, and their families.

The event will feature homemade ice cream, cakes, cookies and pies and will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the air-conditioned Community Center. A live band will be available throughout the evening for the listening and dancing enjoyment of all who attend.

The event is being sponsored by the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department and The Firemen's Auxiliary and all proceeds will go to the FIRE Fund (Firemen's Injury, Relief, and Endowment Fund). The FIRE Fund was established at the First National Bank to benefit the local firemen injured in the line of duty in the fire explosion, and to their families.

If you will not be able to attend and would like to contribute to this very worthy project, you may leave your contributions at the First National Bank on the City Offices in the Municipal Building, or give them to any member of the fire department or auxiliary or to a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the contribution will be added to the fund.

It has been suggested by fire department and city officials in order to assure tax exempt status on donations that checks be made payable to the Eagle Lake Fire Department. The department will make deposits to FIRE Fund in name of the donor.

The FIRE Fund is reported to be growing daily and fire

(Continued on page 3)

City Patrolman Michael Moore Resigned July 3

Eagle Lake Chief of Police Jimmy Smith reported last week the resignation of Michael Moore as city patrolman for the city of Eagle Lake.

Moore had been serving as city patrolman since around May 1st.

Chief Smith said that he is considering some applications to fill the vacancy left by Moore's resignation, which became effective Thurs., July 3rd, but had no announcement early this week.

Rice CISD OK's 4 Resignations, Hires Five

The board of education of the Rice Consolidated School District met Monday night in the library of the Eagle Lake Middle School and voted to accept four resignations submitted by faculty members and voted to offer contracts to five new teachers for the 1980-81 school year.

Resignations were accepted from: Jerry L. Baker, a third grade teacher at Eagle Lake Primary School, who plans to teach in East Bernard where she resides;

From Mike Rice, head coach at Rice High School who is going to Mount Pleasant;

From Paula Valis, girls physical education and athletics instructor at Rice High School who plans to be married and will live in Yoakum and teach in Cuero;

From Barbara Vasek, who had been hired earlier by the board to teach Math and Computer Programming at Rice High School but has decided to teach elsewhere.

Supt. Harold King, in reviewing the resignations Monday night, told the board that the outlook for obtaining an instructor for the new Computer Programming course to be offered this year for the first time at Rice High School, is not good and plans

(Continued on Last Page)

Chesterville Cemo. Meet

The Chesterville Cemetery Association will meet Sunday, July 13th at 12:30 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Center for an annual meeting and covered dish luncheon.

All interested persons are asked to attend.

County Appraisal Dist. Proposes Tax Levy-Parcel Count Formula

If Approved By Entities Formula To Be Used In Pro-rating Budget Costs

The Colorado County Central Appraisal District, in a regular meeting of the board July 1st, came up with a formula using Dollars generated by the Tax Levy in the district and Parcel Count to distribute the cost of the 1981 Central Appraisal District budget to taxing jurisdictions participating in the County District. The proposal made by the board is that the formula includes using 50% of the Dollar Tax Levy and 50% of the total Parcel Count to pro-rate the costs of the anticipated $170,002 budget to the ten participating entities.

Senate Bill 621, which created the Central Appraisal Districts, specifies that each taxing unit participating in the appraisal district be allocated a portion of the amount of the budget equal to the proportion that the total dollar amount of property taxes imposed by that unit bears to the total amount of property taxes imposed in the appraisal district ($ Tax Levy)."

However, the Senate Bill allows the Central Appraisal Board to come up with an optional formula, provided however that three-fourths of the voting jurisdictions (6 of 8) agree. Voting jurisdictions include: Colorado County, Rice Consolidated School District, Columbus School District, Weimar School District, Provident City School District, Cities of Eagle Lake, Columbus and Weimar. Non-voting but participating districts include the Garwood Water District and the Glidden Fresh Water District.

In action Monday night the board of the Rice Consolidated School District approved a resolution adopting the Central Appraisal District's proposed formula; and Tuesday night, Eagle Lake City Council adopted a similar resolution of approval.

Members of the Central Appraisal District Board have said that "the Board feels that a 50% Tax Levy-50% Parcel Count formula is the most fair method

(Continued on Last Page)

Council OK's Annexation, Rate Increase Ordinances

New Rates To Be Effective For July Services

Eagle Lake City Council, in session Tuesday night, approved three ordinances on single readings, one approving annexation of 13.63 acres of land on the southeastern edge of the city, and another increasing rates to be charged for water and sewer services and one for waste disposal (garbage) service. The new rates will become effective with services for July and will be reflected in bills to be received around August 1st.

The annexation order was passed without opposition since all property owners involved had petitioned the city to annex the properties which include the new Eagle Lake Implement Co. (John Deere) facilities and the Louis Grigar home and insurance business.

A complete list of the new rates to be charged for water, and sewer service and for garbage collection was published in last week's issue of the Headlight.

No one appeared before the council Tuesday night to speak out in favor of or against the proposed rate increases, the first made by the city since May of 1976.

Lazy K Ranch, Garwood, Cuts First '80 Rice

The first 1980 rice was combined this week with Lazy K Ranch cutting a field of LaBelle rice west of Garwood Monday and Tuesday.

Lazy K Ranch, owned by the Charles Kallina, Jr. Estate and Anthony Kallina, is annually among the first to cut rice in the Garwood area.

The rice was being dried at Kallina Dryer in Altair and yield was reported to be good and quality good, also.

Some rice farmers in the area are draining or plan to drain this week and combining is expected to begin in the Eagle Lake area possibly this week-end and lots of activity is expected by the end of next week.

Reports are that the 1980 rice crop looks good with prospects for an average to above average yield, although the presence of heavy infestations of grass in some fields may reduce yield potentials in some areas.

Last year James A. Schilling harvested the first rice of the year in the Garwood area on July 14th and Henry Sunderman had the first rice in the Eagle Lake area on July 16th.

White Cloud Ch. To Serve BBQ Dinners Sat.

The White Cloud Baptist Church will be serving barbecue lunches at 11:00 a.m. this Saturday, July 12th, from the church. Lorenza Isreal is in charge of the barbecue and the Rev. Obie Rhodes is pastor of the church.

Plates are $3.00 each. You may dine at the church or take the lunches home. For plates to go call 234-3800.

White Cloud Church is located at 316 Old Altair Road in the New Town area.

Patriotic Program At First Baptist Church Sunday

"Living Water", a drama group from First Baptist Church, Houston, will present a patriotic program called "America on Stage." It will be presented this Sunday, July 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Eagle Lake.

The public is cordially invited to attend this program celebrating our great country's heritage.

Firemen Are Recovering From Burns

Four Eagle Lake Volunteer firemen who suffered severe burns in a fire explosion during a fire alarm the morning of Saturday, June 28th, are reported to be recuperating nicely, but they will face a long recovery period.

Tim Luedecke and Lane Voelcker, both confined to the Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, are recovering from critical burns - Luedecke on 42% of his body and Voelcker on 28% of his body. They have been moved from intensive care to a room.

Some skin grafting was reportedly done on burns on Voelcker's body, and Luedecke also is reported to be making good progress.

Monroe Briscoe and Wilfred Luedecke have been released from Eagle Lake Community Hospital; however, they will continue to receive treatment periodically for burns for some time. Wilfred is the father of Tim Luedecke.

The four firemen and two others were injured when a drum of acetylene exploded during a barn fire at the Bobby Joe Simmons residence near the intersection of McCarty and Waverly.

SW Bell Co. Files Request For Increases In Rates

Inflation and the continuing need to pour billions of dollars into Texas telephone growth are prime factors in Southwestern Bell's request for $326.3 million in new rates filed Monday, July 7th with the Texas Public Utility Commission.

"Our need for new rates is basic," said Doyle E. Rogers, the company's vice-president for Texas. "As a utility company, we have no choice but to stay up with Texas' rapid growth. Billions of dollars are essential to meet that growth. We cut expenses. We gain revenue through increased sales. But soaring double digit inflation eats up all the gains we make. We're at the point where a request for additional rates is our only alternative."

If the request is approved, Southwestern Bell would net an overall increase of 11.65 percent in intrastate revenues. "Percentage increases for individual services will vary," Rogers said. "The 11.65 percent increase applies only to the overall revenue increase for the state, and not to specific services."

Rogers said Southwestern Bell has spent about $3 billion

(Continued on page 3)

Tax Officer Says County's Valuations Total $105 Million

Colorado County Tax Assessor and Collector Henry J. Hajovsky has completed computation of the 1980 tax assessment values and has determined that the county will have $105,890,037 in total taxable assessed values for 1980 taxes. This is an increase of nearly $10 million ($9,885,017) over the 1979 taxable assessed values total of $96,004,986.

He noted in the report which is required to be filed with the State that assessed value of taxable improvements made after January 1 of the preceding year totaled $7,983,800; and that total property taxes levied in the 1979 year were $614,379.75. Of this amount only $32,813 was levied to pay principal and interest on obligations issued or assumed by the county. He estimates that $82,969 in principal and in interest will be required in the 1980 budget.

Accordingly the officer is required to provide to the state also, the effective tax rate required for debt service and for the operating fund, under the Truth in Taxation House Bill 18. Mr. Hajovsky estimates that the effective tax rate which will be required for debt service is .076353c per $100 valuation and that the rate required for the operating fund would be .594000 per $100, or a total tax rate of .672353.

Rice CISD Sets Hearing Aug. 4 On Projected Tax Rate

Hearing Required Since Anticipated Tax Revenue Up Over 3%

The board of education of the Rice Consolidated School District, in session Monday night, set a public hearing for 8:00 p.m. Monday, August 4th in the Administration Building in Altair on the proposal for setting the 1980 tax rate in the district at the same level as for 1979, $1.75 per $100 valuation. However plans are to increase the Local Maintenance Tax from $1.48 to $1.50 while reducing the Interest and Sinking Fund allocation from 27c to 25c per $100 valuation.

Under Texas House Bill 18, known as the Truth in Taxation legislation, a taxing entity which expects an increase in tax revenue in excess of 3% over the previous taxing year, must call a public hearing on the proposed increase in tax revenue, noted Supt. Harold King.

He presented some projections for the 1980 tax year (funds for the 1980-81 budget) showing that the district had a surplus of $375,000 at the end of 1979-80. "We have calculated that to collect the same amount of tax revenue as last year, a rate of $1.67 will be required. We are allowed a 3% increase without notice of a public hearing. A rate of $1.72 will allow the 3% increase. But our present rate of $1.75 will produce approximately $30,000 more revenue than a $1.72 rate, hence a public hearing would be required," said the superintendent.

He recommended that the district maintain the same rate as last year, $1.75 per $100 valuation in order to provide funds needed to meet rising costs of operation.

In effect, the adoption of the $1.75 tax rate would be the same as for 1979, but the additional revenue gained through an increase in valuations from $93,380,000 to an estimated $103,176,520 would increase revenue above the 3% permitted without public notice. Collections of the tax levy are based, however on a 96.5%

(Continued on Last Page)

Rice Market Outlook For 1980 Has Promise

Prospects for a promising rice market will hinge on a number of "iffy" situations, commented Dr. Art Gerlow, Texas A&M Economist at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center Western Division's annual Field Day and Tour held on Wednesday of last week. Dr. Gerlow told the four hundred plus rice producers and others interested in agriculturally-oriented businesses, that the anticipated carryover of rice will be down this year, but more rice is expected to be planted, especially of the long-grain variety which will materially affect this area which is primarily a long-grain rice producing area.

Yields in Texas are expected to be about average, commented Gerlow, with farmers in the Western area of the state losing some production due to poor weed control and in the east because of ineffectiveness of full benefits of fertilization due to the cold weather in the early part of the growing season.

Gerlow told the gathering at the conclusion of his presentation that the $10.50 per hundredweight contract which is held by many farmers on portions of their 1980 crop, "is a good contract" and he urged the farmers to "cover their banker" or to contract enough rice at this level to pay off production loans with the banks and credit associations.

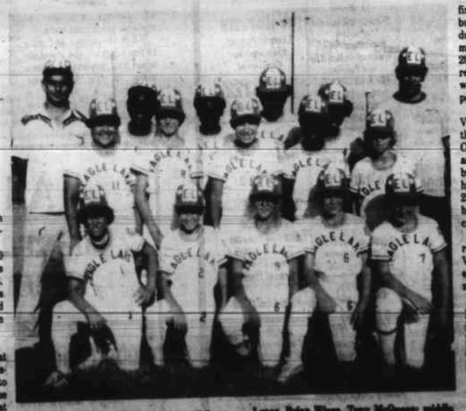
He said the $10.50 to $11.50 per hundredweight rice is possible if the U. S. Department of Agriculture's predictions on carryover and on anticipated production run true.

Export Outlook Strong

Dr. Gerlow said that United States export situation looks strong, about 8 to 10 million Cwt. above the 1979 figure, and added that Nigeria can increase this export outlook by taking on a good supply of rice even though production in Nigeria is reported to be up 9%. Earlier Gerlow reported that

(Continued on page 2)

Eagle Lake All-Star Little Leaguers



The Eagle Lake Little League All-Star team will open play in the Area III Tournament in Columbus next Tuesday against the Colorado Valley Little League All-Stars. Representing Eagle Lake in the competition will be: pictured, front row, l. to r., Glen Leopold, Peter Canaris, Roberto Lopez, Brian Wiese, Tony McQueen; middle row, l. to r., Stevie Almanza, Brian Smith, Paul Cardova, Cornell Hurd, Troy Webb; back row, l. to r., Coach Pete Canaris, Bobby Joe Simmons residence near the intersection of McCarty and Waverly.