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Appraisal Dist.

(Continued from page one)

Under the 50% tax levy, 50% parcel value allocations (with county participation) were listed as follows: County, \$55,658; Rice CISD, \$40,419; Columbus ISD, \$30,184; Weimar ISD, \$15,945; City of Eagle Lake, \$6,732; City of Columbus, \$6,520; City of Weimar, \$4,287; Garwood Water District, \$1,148; Glidden Water District, \$587; and Provident ISD, \$442.

Amendment Coming Up
During the discussion in the Commissioners' Court meeting Monday, County Judge Lester Crank noted that voters in Texas will be asked to vote yes or no on a constitutional amendment at the forthcoming Nov. 4th election on a proposal to make it mandatory for counties to participate in the appraisal district. At this time, it is optional.

Judge Crank added that in the final analysis, the taxpayers of the county will have to foot the costs of the appraisal district, "no matter how you slice it." He noted, however, that in all likelihood some entities (including the county) would have to raise tax rates to absorb the additional costs imposed by the appraisal district. He added that S.B. 821 was designed as a tax equality measure and not necessarily as a tax reduction process. The judge pointed out that "if we decide to withdraw from the appraisal district, we will be creating an atmosphere that we probably will have to live with at a later date." He recommended that the court approve or disapprove the central board funding proposal, but to give "strong thought" before considering withdrawing from the district.

Commissioners Comment
Leyendecker said the appraisal district is a "duplication of costs," we can't afford it, claiming that the appraisal would be paying more than its share of the costs. He also noted that needs to be done in the county and urged that "we have too many things to take care of first."

"greatest peril facing this nation is too much government" and he contended that taxes won't be decreased by entities when collecting and assessing is assumed by the central district. He contended that "there is equality in each taxing district," adding, "the central district is taking the voice away from the people, removing politicians from election by the voters."

Vesela made an attempt to table action on the matter of withdrawal at least for two weeks but his motion died for lack of a second. He expressed hope that some kind of a compromise could be reached.

Loeinstein asked if there was a deadline for the decision on participation and he was informed by Youens that Oct. 1st is the deadline for allocation of costs to the agencies, but most will have budgets to set prior to that date.

Plan Made To County
Chief Appraiser Youens urged the commissioners to remain in the district so that the task set out in S.B. 821 could "get off on the right foot." He said equality is important and pointed to the fact that many districts are adopting budgets much larger than in this county. He also pointed to advantages of equality and convenience which the central district would bring about.

Youens admitted that the first year will probably be the most expensive, but Leyendecker responded by asking if there is an assurance that would keep the central board from assessing the total budget cost to the county in the future.

equalization has completed its work, hence the ratio cannot be changed, at least for the 1980 tax year.

In response to a question, Youens said that at this time, he could not foresee much of a reduction, if any, in the central district's budget with the action Monday accepted. "We will have the same task of re-appraising virtually every parcel in the county at 100% of fair market value."

County Tax Assessor-Collector Henry J. Hajovsky said the budget for his office might have to be increased as much as \$100,000 to handle this chore. Stiles commented it could be done for a lot less.

The suddenness of the county's move will necessitate some re-thinking by the County Central Appraisal District's board of directors at a time when school districts and the county are only a few weeks away from consideration of 1980 tax rates and the 1981 budget.

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

Enjoy Cruise
Mr. and Mrs. Billy Joe Williams, Mr. and Mrs. John Mahallie, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Gerton returned July 5 from a seven day Caribbean Cruise on the Song of Norway which left from Miami June 28.

Dr. Edwards
(Continued from Page One)
active of Corpus Christi, is also a graduate of Texas A&M University with a BBA Degree in Business Management. She will be assisting Dr. Edwards in the new dental office.

Courthouse

(Continued from Page One)

Lyendecker asked the project director if funds will be adequate to complete the work and Willrodt said that the project is in good shape and down to the finishing stages in many areas.

Stiles commented that he had found eight windows that need work done, but the project director said these will be taken care of when a subcontractor with scaffolding returns to the job site soon.

Willrodt said that \$500 worth of glass has been broken out of windows in the courthouse, apparently with BB or pellet guns and rocks.

Tax Office Moving Week
Plans were completed for the move of the equipment and records from the county tax office to the Stafford House during the week of July 14-18. The work is done in restoration of the tax office (expected to be completed by Sept. 1st). County personnel will assist tax office personnel in the move beginning on Wednesday morning of the week and continuing through Thursday and possibly Friday.

County Judge Lester Crank said that the schedule calls for the county auditor's office to move to the former school superintendent's office during restoration in that office; then the county judge's office will move to the auditor's office, the treasurer's office to the third floor and the county clerk's office (except for records) to the county courtroom, thus allowing almost all of the lower floor to be restored at once. Work is expected to be completed in the upper floors by the time this schedule begins.

Discussion was also held on refinishing much of the furniture in the courthouse under a program offered by the Texas Department of Corrections. This is expected to begin as soon as the prison system personnel complete work on school equipment. The first portion of the furniture has been stored at a Waterman Warehouse. A waiting refinishing "but is expected to be moved to prison system warehouses in the immediate future. It is estimated that the cost of this work will run around \$2000 as compared to an estimate of \$6000 by a private individual.

Jail Certification
The county officially accepted a certificate of compliance with the minimum state jail standards. The inspection of the jail was made on June 20th and at that time the jail was officially certified, but the action Monday accepted the certification as a matter of record.

Other Action
In other action the court: Approved a payment for \$300 to a Victoria psychiatrist for examination of a defendant in a district court suit in this county. Dr. Kenneth Owens submitted a statement for \$400 last month but payment was tabled until Dr. Owens could be contacted and in a return letter he said he felt the fee was justified since three appointments had been blocked out and not filed prior to the examination, but told the court to set a fee which it felt satisfactory and the court approved a

payment of \$300 instead of the \$400 requested. Accepted a \$150,000 bond for the period ending June 28, 1980 to bring bond posted by General Telephone Co. for a 10-year period to insure satisfactory work in laying cable on county road right of way in this county. It was noted that the posting of the bond was done voluntarily.

Voting Box Changed
The court authorized, on recommendation of Commissioner Leyendecker, that the voting place in the Buecher voting precinct (No. 10) be changed from the Weider-Kannstatter home (the former Elv Wegelung home) to the new location.

Smith Retires

(Continued from Page One)

affairs and especially in the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department where he is a long-time First Assistant Chief and Chaplain and she is active in the Firemen's Auxiliary. Mr. Smith has also been a long-time member of the Eagle Lake Rotary Club and a past-president and winner of the "Rotarian of the Year" award; he has served numerous terms as a director and assistant secretary with the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce.

The Smiths have always played an active role in youth activities and especially in FFA, FFA, and 4-H work and are actively engaged on committees and working in support of the Colorado County Fair.

"Whenever there has been a cause that needed hard-working dependable individuals, the Smiths have been there in support," said Mayor Elmer Struss. "We do appreciate the many years of service which Mr. Smith has rendered as city manager and the many years of active participation that he and Mrs. Smith and their family have shown in this community."

Children of the city and surrounding areas join in praising the Smiths for their outstanding community contributions and extended best wishes for the future.

Plans To Stay Active
Mr. and Mrs. Smith are owners of the Eagle Lake Dairy Delite in Eagle Lake and will continue to operate this business. He also plans to devote more time to ranching interests in South Texas, and to an active role in real estate, since he holds a realtor's license and other activities. The family will continue to reside in Eagle Lake.

He informed the city council last week that he will continue to work in any way possible on a consultative basis, if needed. "I plan to remain in the Eagle Lake community and will continue to show the same interest as in the past toward continuing a progressive program in Eagle Lake," he stated.

New City Manager Is Native
Bob Klockman, the new city manager for the city of Eagle Lake, is a native of this community, was born in Eagle Lake, and was a graduate of Eagle Lake High School and attended Texas Lutheran College and received a degree from the University of Texas. He also attended a graduate school at the University of Texas majoring in public administration. He had been associated with a private business in Austin.

Mr. Klockman began industrial duties here on June 15th, and has been becoming familiar with the city's method of operation and he took over full-time duties as city manager Monday morning.

Mr. Klockman, the former Paulett Blumek, is also a former Eagle Lake and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roland J. Blumek. They have two children, Kristi, 8, and Robert, 4, and are residing in the Ricks home on Austin Road.

Nearly \$5,000 Raised At Benefit Social

(Continued from Page One)

Nearly \$5,000 was raised for the benefit of the FIRE Fund at the benefit social and dance held in the Eagle Lake Community Center on Friday evening of last week. The proceeds to the Firemen's Injury, Relief and Endowment Fund will go to aid firemen who were severely burned in a fire explosion here on June 28th.

Many citizens from throughout the area attended the home-made ice cream social, including homemade cakes, pies and cookies and for the dance which followed.

Those who have not given to the FIRE Fund would like to do so are asked to make checks payable to the Eagle Lake Volunteer Firemen's Fund and forward the checks to the First National Bank or the local fire department or the City of Eagle Lake.

Eagle Lake Volunteer Firemen and Auxiliary Members who sponsored the social last Friday extended thanks to all who contributed to the event and otherwise participated in making it an outstanding success.

A complete list of the donors to the FIRE Fund is being compiled and plans are to publish the list in the Headlight, possibly next week.

Firemen Recreational
Meanwhile, citizens will be happy to hear that the injured firemen continue to make good progress in recovering from burns received in the explosion of a steel acetylene tank.

Tim Lueddecke and Lane Voelcker, who were injured most seriously, are getting along nicely in the Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston. They may write to them in Ward 13B, Third Floor, Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78241.

Tim's father, Wilfred Lueddecke, and Monroe Briscoe, also injured in the blast, are both out of the hospital and recovering nicely from their injuries.

Sales Tax Collections Here Up 33%

State Comptroller Bob Bullock Thursday said city sales tax payments to Texas cities for the first seven months of 1980 are running about 30 percent more than payments during the same period in 1979.

The City of Eagle Lake received a check for \$7,077.00 for the period ending June 28, 1980 to bring bond posted by General Telephone Co. for a 10-year period to insure satisfactory work in laying cable on county road right of way in this county. It was noted that the posting of the bond was done voluntarily.

3-Day Fiber Arts Workshop At RHS July 22-24
(By Donella R. Pantel - County Extension Agent)
The public is invited to participate in a three-day Fiber Arts Workshop July 22, 23, and 24 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Rice High School Band Hall. Fiber Arts is learning to make things from fiber or fabric. Participants will learn how to knit, crocheted or Macramé. Tuesday July 22: Needlepoint or Crochet Wednesday, July 23: Quilt or Knit Thursday, July 24: There will only be a small fee for the cost of the kits used for learning. The instructions will be free.

This program is a special summer program designed to teach new skills and encourage participation in the County Fair and various craft shows. The Rice High School Home Economics Department is hosting the event with assistance from the Colorado County Extension Service. To pre-register for the classes you should contact the Colorado County Extension Office 715-732-2530 between 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. any day, or Mrs. Dorothy White after 4:00 p.m. Friday and the weekend at 756-8677 or at Rice High School Monday at 234-3638.

Kidnapping, Robbery Alleged

(Continued from Page One)

Colorado County Sheriff's Department was called at 12:15 p.m. Friday, July 11th that a Houston man, Charles H. Morrell, allegedly was kidnapped and robbed.

Investigation of the case revealed that Morrell had gone to a friend's camp house near New Upp to do some fishing. He stated that he went inside the camp house for a few minutes and when he came outside, a Mexican male was standing near the porch pointing a .45 caliber pistol at him. He said there was another Mexican male in a shed near the camp house. The subject with the gun reportedly took Morrell's wallet, removed approximately \$60 and some credit cards and returned the wallet to Morrell. He then made Morrell get in his (Morrell's) car and told him to drive to Houston. The other man stayed behind.

Morrell said that when they reached Katy, the man told him to stop the car, lay down in front seat for thirty minutes. Morrell did so and when he got up from the seat, the subject was gone.

David Myers, owner of the camp house, also from Houston, reported to the sheriff's office that he was missing a Browning .22 caliber rifle, a Winchester .22 caliber bolt action rifle and a RCA table model color television set, taken from the camp house.

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England Police Officer To Speak At Lions Club Thurs.

Peter James Hazelton, a policeman from Southampton, England, will be the guest speaker at the Eagle Lake Lions Club's noon meeting this Thursday at the Dider Hall (inside of the Community Center).

Hazelton, 26, and his wife Jacqueline have been visiting in the Eagle Lake area since June 14 with John and Nancy Adkins and family. The two couples made their first acquaintance in 1976 when Hazelton received a Christmas package on board his ship while he was in the Merchant Navy.

The package he received was part of a project by the Lissie United Methodist Church women who prepared packages each year and take them to the Seaman's Center in Houston to be given to men on ships in the Port of Houston.

The package Hazelton received from the Adkins' was a Christmas package.

Sunderman Opens Rice Harvest Here
The 1980 rice harvest got underway in Eagle Lake on Monday when Henry Sunderman started combining rice in the Ramsey area. The rice is being delivered to the Eagle Lake Rice Dryer.

Eagle Lake Rice Dryer also started taking rice shortly after the first delivery by Sunderman from Powers Bros. (Lanny and Clark), Donnie Wiese, Wiese Bros. (Jim and Ted) and from Frank Higgins.

The county's first rice was harvested on Monday at last week by Larry K Ranch of Garwood and was dried at Kallina Dryer.

Numerous other dryers in the area are receiving rice and most will be busy with the 1980 rice harvest by the end of the week.

Community Vacation Bible School Begins Mon.

(Continued from Page One)

A Community Vacation Bible School will begin next Monday, July 21st and continue through Friday, July 25th. Children who are 8 years old through the completed sixth grades are invited to attend. The churches sponsoring the school are the Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches of Eagle Lake.

Children planning to attend are asked to bring one package of cookies and one large can of Hi-C juice on the first day of Bible School.

Sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m. on the 21st of July and will disband at 11:30 a.m. each of the five days.

Pink Ladies Composing Cook Book

The Eagle Lake Community Hospital Auxiliary (Pink Ladies) are in the planning stage of having a new recipe book published as a fund raising project. To this they need your help. Send in your recipes, any kind French, Mexican, rice, microwave, etc. Send them today to Mrs. Frank Higgins in Eagle Lake or Mrs. E. H. Stienke in Garwood.

Ladies that have expressed a desire to become a Pink Lady are extended a warm welcome to join this group of volunteers.

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Raymond Mahalitic Is State FFA "Star" Lone Star Farmer Of Texas

Ricky Miller Of Rice FFA Chapter Is "Star" Runner-Up

Raymond Mahalitic, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mahalitic of Eagle Lake, was recently named the "Star" Lone Star Farmer of Texas at the 32nd annual State Convention of the Future Farmers of America held in Houston, Raymond, a senior at Rice High School, was selected as "Star Farmer" from 1,720 candidates for the Lone Star Farmer Degree from all over the state of Texas.

Raymond competed against nine other area winners for the State title in June at Austin. The selection was made by a committee consisting of area supervisors, Ag teachers from across the state, and university professors from the state's agricultural colleges. He was commended for his outstanding project program, his participation in agriculture and FFA activities, and his thorough knowledge of his record keeping system in relation to his project program. Rice FFA members and advisors are extremely proud of Raymond and his great accomplishment.

Other Rice FFA Winners
First runner-up to the "Star" Chapter Farmer of Texas was Ricky Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arlin Miller of Garwood. Ricky was the Area Star Greenhand last year and the Area Star Chapter Farmer this year.

New Students To Register At RHS July 28-30
Students planning to enter Rice Consolidated High School at Altair in August and who have not previously attended a school in the Rice District or St. Mary's School in Nada should register at the office of Principal Fred Grahmann at Rice High School on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, July 28, 29, or 30th, between 8 a.m. and 12 noon.

Turkey Dinners
Friendship Baptist Church Mission will sponsor a turkey dinner this Saturday, July 19th. The menu will include turkey, peas, potato salad, gravy, cranberry sauce. Tickets to the event are \$2.50 per plate.

Dinners will be served from Mrs. Mamie White's home and you may call 234-2668 for orders and for delivery.

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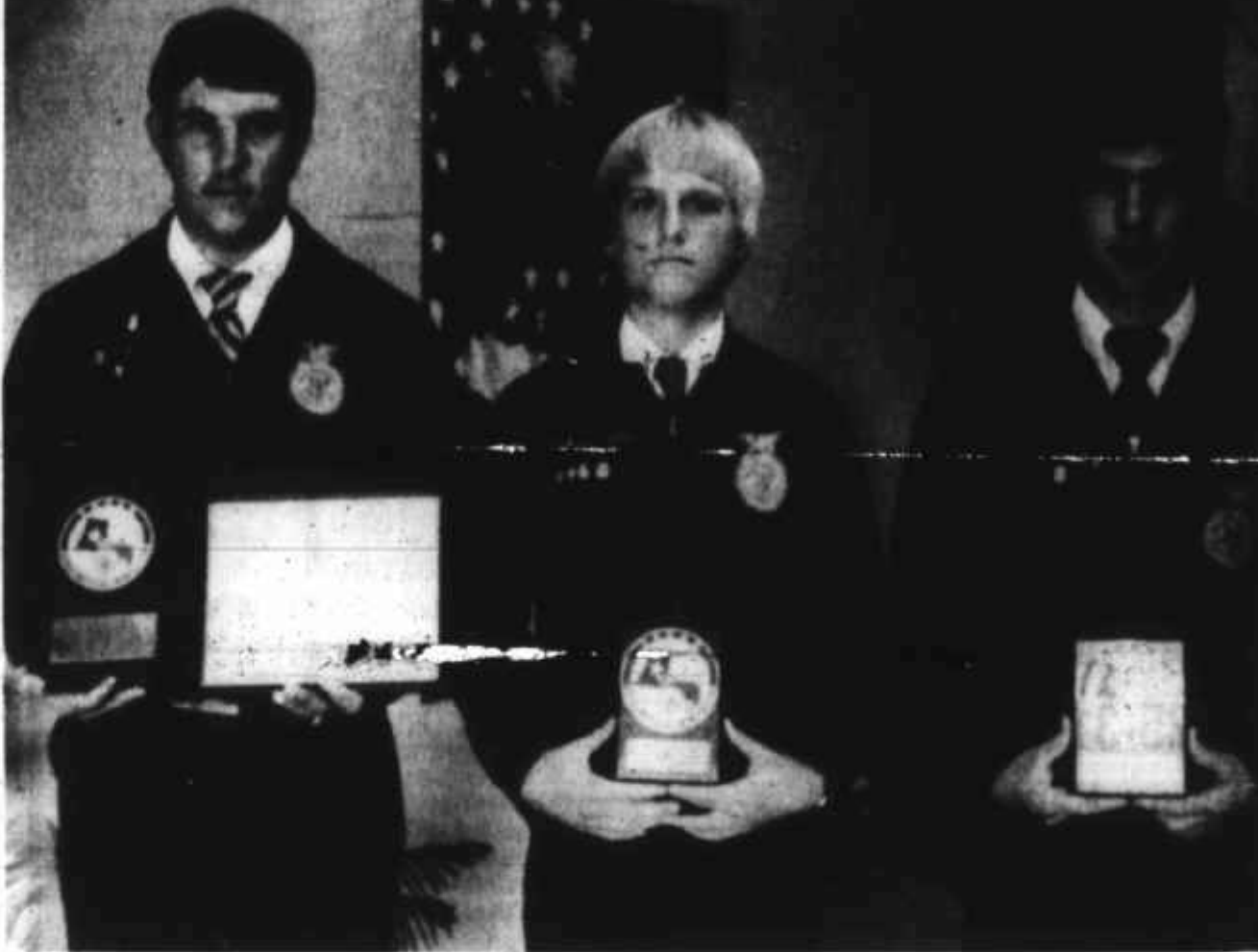
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EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1980

ACT 13 234-2753

NUMBER 15.

Area, State "Star" Farmers From Rice FFA Chapter



Rice Future Farmers of America members won the distinction of sweeping Area III "Star" Awards during the 1979-80 school year and also won high State "Star" Awards at the 1980 State FFA Convention in Houston, recently. Congratulations are being extended to: left to right, Raymond Mahalitic, who received the Lone Star Farmer Degree, the top degree for an FFA member, and also was the top state award of "Star Lone Star Farmer of Texas"; Ricky Miller, who was Area Star Chapter Farmer for 1979-80 and was runner-up to the Star Lone Star Farmer award; and Stephen Mahalitic, Area Star Greenhand and runner-up for the State Star Greenhand award.

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2 Die In Wrecks In County

Colorado County added two traffic fatalities to its death toll on highways and streets in this county during the past week, in two tragic accidents, one on IH-10 at 11:25 Friday night and the other on Highway 90 near Weimar early Monday morning.

In the first of the two accidents Friday night, a 39 year old San Antonio woman was killed. The accident occurred 5.9 miles west of Columbus, Highway Patrolman Sam Trammell of Columbus was investigating officer.

Involved was a 1968 Chevrolet driven east on IH-10 by Joe Garcia, Jr., 17, of San Antonio. In the car with him were his mother, Mrs. Maria Garcia, 39, and a brother, David Garcia, 15. In the other vehicle, a 1980 Chevrolet pickup driven west on IH-10 by Roger McClure, 19, of Houston, were William Klein, 20, and Mary Mabry, 18, also of Houston.

The officer noted that Garcia lost control of his car in a construction area and the vehicle crossed the median and collided almost head-on with the westbound pickup. Mrs. Garcia was thrown from the vehicle and witnesses said that she and perhaps two cars ran over her body, killing her instantly. Justice of the Peace Richard C. Schmidt of Columbus held an inquest at the scene.

Joe Garcia and Mabry were taken to Columbus hospital and later Life Flighted to Hermann Hospital in Houston. Other occupants were treated at Columbus Hospital.

Rotary Gives \$1000 To Comm. Center; \$500 To FIRE Fund
Eagle Lake Rotarians, in their meeting on Wednesday of last week, voted to contribute \$1,000 to the project of installing new flooring in the Community Center, their regular weekly meeting place, and also \$500 to the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department's FIRE Fund for assistance to firemen who were injured recently in a fire explosion here and their families.

President Bill Harrison, Jr. reported that the board of directors decided to reinstate the duck and goose gumbo supper as a fund-raising project to obtain some of the funds for these projects and the membership voted to accept the recommendation of the directors.

The duck and goose gumbo supper will be held on Wednesday, July 16th and 23rd in Dider Hall during the period the new flooring was being installed in the Center but is expected to return to the regular meeting place on Wednesday of next week, July 30th.

The gumbo supper will be held in the early part of next week.

'80 Rice Yields, Quality Falling Below Normal

Harvest In Full Swing; Hot Weather Affecting Quality

The 1980 rice harvest is in full swing in this area, but some interruptions from showers of rain, but indications are that both quality of the rice and yields will be considerably below early expectations.

The long hot weather during the past month has affected the quality of the rice and considerable chaff is showing up in the first samples of rice graded at the local office of the American Rice Growers Cooperative Assn.

Yields for the 1980 crop, which were expected to be about average or slightly above average, are also falling below expectations and first cuttings are running between 23 and 31 barrels per acre, wet weight. Drying processes will reduce that by some ten percent, so the average yield for the first crop is expected to be near the 245 barrel figure recorded in 1979. This, however, was considered to be about ten percent below the normal yield for this area.

No Sale In Sight
Donald Oberhaus, manager of the Eagle Lake rice office, said this week that he did not know at this time when the local office will hold its first sale of rice. He stated that the mills have not shown much interest to date. Some offers in the \$11.25-\$11.50 Cwt. range were reported in some of the rice producing areas.

July 31 Deadline For Garwood Sorority Birthday Calendars
The Alpha Sigma Omicron sorority in Garwood announces that Thursday, July 31 is the deadline for ordering a Community Birthday Calendar.

If interested, call any of the following ladies between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.: Charlotte Crank, 756-3888; Judy Engstrom, 756-3463; Kathy Layke, 756-3661; Betty Schuring, 756-3661; or Kathy Stienke, 756-3661.

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Eagle Lake Headlight

VOLUME 77.

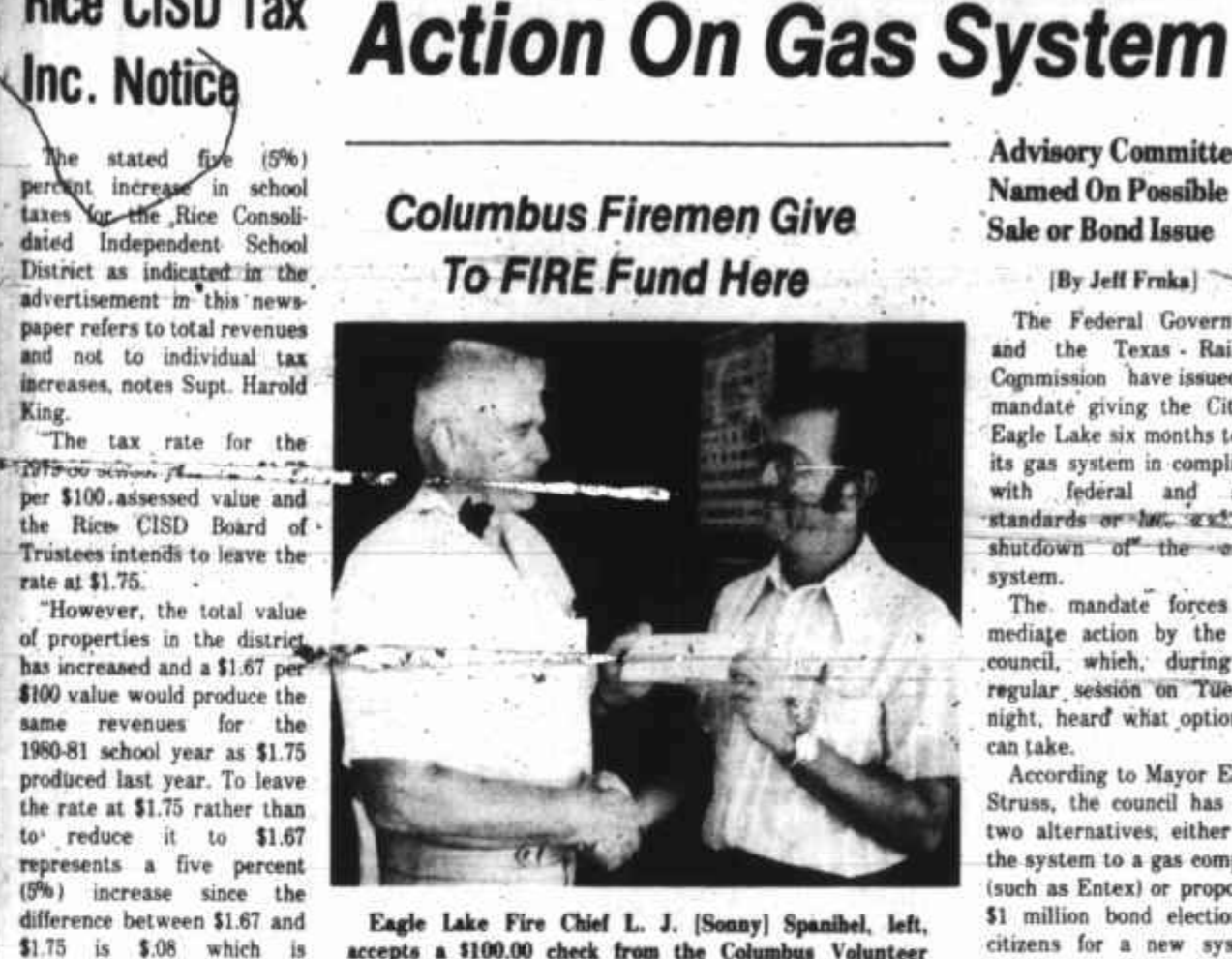
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Eagle Lake Fire Chief L. J. (Sonny) Spanhel, left, accepts a \$100.00 check from the Columbus Volunteer Firemen for the FIRE Fund to assist injured firemen and their families. Presenting the check to Spanhel is Bobby Walls, Chief of the Columbus VFD. Spanhel expressed appreciation to the Columbus firemen for their contribution, noting that a good feeling of cooperation has always existed between the two departments and that "the check will be put to good use in assisting firemen who were injured here in a recent fire explosion and their families."

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Supt. Explains Rice CISD Tax Inc. Notice

The stated five (5%) increase in school taxes for the Rice Consolidated Independent School District as indicated in the advertisement in this newspaper refers to total revenues and not to individual tax increases, notes Supt. Harold King.

The tax rate for the 1979-80 school year was \$2.72 per \$100 assessed value and the Rice CISD Board of Trustees intends to leave the rate at \$1.75.

"However, the total value of properties in the district has increased and a \$1.67 per \$100 value would produce the same revenue for the 1980-81 school year as \$1.75 produced last year. To leave the rate at \$1.75 rather than to reduce it to \$1.67 represents a five percent (5%) increase since the difference between \$1.67 and \$1.75 is \$0.08 which is approximately five percent (5%) of \$1.67."

"The increased valuation of the district has resulted primarily through the increase in oil prices, increases in gravel producing equipment and in other new properties. Persons with the same properties with no significant improvements since last year will experience no change in school taxes," explained the superintendent.

C.C. Nets \$1900 From July 4th Fete
The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce directors met Monday for the monthly session and heard reports indicating that the chamber will net around \$1900 in profit from the Fourth of July activities sponsored here.

Ralph Truitt, the Fourth of July chairman, reported that 912 diners were served with net profit of \$1259.17 on the diners. Of the 912 diners, 728 were diners to the chamber and the remainder of the proceeds are due to come from events sponsored by the chamber and by other organizations of the community.

Those who have not turned in the chamber's share of the proceeds from the booths held at the Fourth of July celebration (10%) are urged to do so as soon as possible. For more information call Dorothy Jones at 234-2790.

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R.R. Comm. Mandates Action On Gas System

(Continued from Page One)

The Federal Government and the Texas Railroad Commission have issued a mandate giving the City of Eagle Lake six months to get its gas system in compliance with federal and state standards or face a shutdown of the entire system.

The mandate forces immediate action by the city council, which, during its regular session on Tuesday night, heard what options it can take.