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Let's Look Back

48 Years AGO

[September 3, 1932]

Eagle Lake's Trades Day expected to draw crowd of people here. . . Hahn wins county judge by 90 votes in Saturday run-off. Frank Hoegemeyer re-elected sheriff; Kansteiner commissioner in Prect. 3; McMahan elected Columbus constable.

Football season prospects good is coach's belief. Eagles out yesterday for first workout in new season and some promising new material is being lined up.

Drummer's Home gives way to modern brick veneer duplex building. Carpenters are at work tearing down Drummer's Home Hotel building, years ago most popular hostelry in entire section. . . Dr. B. F. Forrest passed away at his home here at early hour Monday. Was prominent practitioner here for many years, having moved to Eagle Lake from Illinois twenty-five years ago. . . Columbus dentist badly injured in a fall fr[illegible] cars office window. Dr. W. W. Gunn, prominent dentist of Columbus, falls sixteen feet to pavement in attempt to catch package thrown up. . . Luna Drug Store adds prescription department. . . Mrs. Ferguson gets majority in county over Ross Sterling. Woman candidate carries Colorado County by 794 votes in closest governor election in the history of Texas. . . G. M. Jackson, manager of Richmond Irrigation Company, died Monday. Sudden and unexpected death in Richmond Hotel early Monday came as distinct shock to friends throughout section. . . District Court to convene on September fifth. List of members of grand jury named and many new cases have been filed for this court. Ninety-three year old citizen, E. J. Ahsley, suffers stroke Monday afternoon.

24 YEARS AGO

LET'S LOOK BACK

[June 7, 1956]

Highway Patrolman Tom Halbert, a veteran of four years service with the Department of Public Safety, is now on duty in the Eagle Lake station. . . Thousands of dollars worth of damage to row crop farms and to pasture lands are caused by drouth which is pinching the farmers and ranchers. . . City Building Bonds are passed with a record vote cast with a 287 to 199 win. . . A Bartlett man, Theopol Isidor Foltyn, escaped serious injury when he fell asleep and hit the bridge on Hwy. 71 south of Altair. . . A second son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Frnka of Bridgeport. They named him Ernest Francis Frnka, Jr. when he made his arrival on June 4th at 11:15 p.m. . . Staff Sergeant Joe B. Manning, Marine Corps Recruiter, will visit Eagle Lake to select and interview qualified men and women for the U. S. Marine Corps. . . A miscellaneous shower was given to Miss Barbara Smith, bride-elect of Sammy Tiss, at the W. L. Brumbelow home. . . Dr. and Mrs. J. R. Laughlin captured the championship of the 9-hole event with an impressive score of 42 at the ladies and men's Scotch Golf Tournament. Second place winners were Mr. and Mrs. Bob Ashby. . . Miss Wilma Arnold, bride-elect of Floyd L. Hodde, Jr., was complimented by a miscellaneous bridal shower May 31st at the Colly Memorial Methodist Church parlor. . . The women of the First Presbyterian Church honored Miss Barbara Smith with a miscellaneous bridal shower on June 4th. . . The Polocheck family reunion was held at Mentz on June 3rd for a family get-together. . . John Lotz, formerly with Universal Supply Co., is now managing a new processing plant for Universal Mills in Algoa. Mr. and Mrs. Raymond H. Waddell, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Cook, and R. P. Wilcox attended the Lions Convention in Galveston. Mr. Wilcox is zone chairman and presented the third place trophy to El Campo for best record of attendance.

Wharton KC Bazaar Sun.

The Knights of Columbus of Wharton will hold a bazaar and celebration Sunday, September 14 at the K of C Home at 2820 North Fulton in Wharton. Barbecue and all the trimmings for $3.50 a plate. Lunch served from 11 a.m. til 1:30 p.m. and an auction will be held at 1 p.m.

Dancing will be from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight with the Texas Plainsmen providing the music.

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Can God see the inside of an apple?
Hear
Bishop Mack Stokes
October 20-21.
(N. Mt.)

Rotary Dist. Gov. and Wife Celebrate 30th Anniv.

Rotary International District 589's District Governor Paul Jury, right, made his official visit to the Eagle Lake Club on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week and during the visit here the Jurys celebrated their thirtieth wedding anniversary at The Farris 1912 where they were overnight guests on Tuesday night. Local club president Bill Harrison, Jr., left, presented Mrs. Jury [Marjorie] with a bag of brown rice and rice recipes on the occasion of the anniversary. The club also presented the couple with a dozen red roses on their wedding anniversary. The Jurys are from Houston where he is a member of the Harrisburg Club.

Dist. Gov. Tells Rotarians To "Take Time To Serve"

The coming of the District Governor for Rotary International to this community is always a special occasion but the visit this year was made even more significant because of the fact that District Governor for District 589 Paul Jury of Houston and Rotaryann Marjorie were celebrating their thirtieth wedding anniversary.

The Jurys met with local club officers and directors Tuesday night at The Farris 1912 where they chose to spend this special wedding anniversary. During the evening the local Rotary Club sent to the Jurys a bouquet of red roses and at the meeting of the club on Wednesday, President Bill Harrison, Jr., presented them with additional gifts of brown rice and favorite rice recipes.

District Governor Jury is a member of the Harrisburg Club in Houston. A former YMCA director, he is now associated with the People's Bank in Houston.

During the luncheon meeting Wednesday, with Mrs. Jury (Rotaryann Marjorie) and Mrs. Harrison (Rotaryann Margo) as special guests, the district governor spoke to the club and stressed the theme of the current Rotary International president, "Take Time To Serve."

He challenged the Rotarians to "make certain that your club is a life-saving station and take time to serve, not just a clubhouse."

He commended the Rotarians and citizens of Eagle Lake for their "obvious sense of pride" and expressed thanks for the hospitality which he and Mrs. Jury enjoyed at The Farris 1912 on the occasion of their thirtieth wedding anniversary.

Objectives Set Out

District Gov. Jury discussed the objectives of Rotary International this year and some of the objectives for District 589 which is comprised of 48 clubs.

On the district level, the district governor's goals include: a net growth in each club in the district expanding from within to offer the opportunity of Rotary to others; chartering of two new clubs and this goal is assured since a club has been formed at Sweeny, another is soon to be formed at Greenspoint and another at Alief.

He also discussed objectives in the avenues of service, challenging the local club to hold a career day at the high school level and attend a craft assembly under vocational service; seek to form a Rotaract and Interact club and hold a senior citizens week observance under community service; and expansion of the district's contribution to the Rotary Foundation program up to $100,000.

He stressed the importance of establishing better relationships with people of other countries through exchange and scholarship programs of the Rotary Foundation.

"Your club lacks balance without active participation in international service," said Jury, adding that "this is your opportunity to act on a people to people basis."

On the local level the district governor urged members to seek more knowledge and become more committed to the foundation programs; to "look hard" at classifications and seek to expand membership through open classifications or through the additional active membership.

New Subscribers

Added to the Eagle Lake Headlight subscription list during the past week have been: Congressman Pickle Re-election Headquarters in Austin; Jill Steward, Weimar; La Noal Eachberger, Hallettsville; Mrs. Ruth Sims, Houston; Fred Glickman, Montgomery Village, Maryland; Jane Dostal at Texas Tech in Lubbock; Ben Anderson, SHSU, Huntsville; Debbie Balusek, Univ. of Texas, Austin; John Grammer, Oklahoma University, Norman, Oklahoma; Robby Cook and Darrel Appelt, both at SWTSU in San Marcos.

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33rd Garwood Lions Fair Set Oct. 25

Garwood Lions Club has set Saturday, October 25th as the date for their 33rd annual Lions Club Fair and Carnival to be held at the Garwood School grounds.

Features of the event will include a parade at 10 a.m.; a barbecue dinner at 11:30 p.m.; a talent contest at 2:30 p.m. and the Fairest of the Fair contest at 6 p.m.

Commercial and domestic exhibits, concessions, games and rides will be open throughout the day.

Proceeds from the event are used to sponsor many worthy community projects.

Free Tony's Dinner

Sophie Zoeller this is a ticket for a free Tony's Deluxe Dinner at Taco Tony's on Highway 90A just west of the city. You'll find delicious foods in a pleasant atmosphere. Clip this out and present at Tony's not later than Sept. 14, 1980.

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County OK's $25,000 C.O. On Courthouse Restoration

Heat Relief, Home Energy Assistance Programs Discussed

Colorado County Commissioners' Court, in session Monday, authorized the issuance of a $25,000 Certificate of Obligation for work done between July 28 and Aug. 25 on the courthouse restoration project.

A statement from contractor Circle Double (C) Enterprises was presented and discussed by Project Director Arthur J. Willrodt. The statement was for $29,914.90, but since payments are made only in increments of $5000, a $25,000 payment was approved.

The contract price was $687,200 less a $130 credit for a changeover, and to date $605,461 in work has been completed or materials on hand. Ten percent is retained until completion to make the total earned at $549,914.90 [illegible] to the amount of $515,000 have been issued.

Tax Office Nearly Done

Work is progressing on finishing stages, reported Willrodt. It is anticipated that the county tax office will be finished by next week. During the period of restoration in the tax office, the office was moved to the Stafford Opera House.

Judge Lester Cranek questioned the project director about the direction doors in the restrooms open and on other discrepancies previously noted by the court. He asserted that "it is the responsibility of this court to see that the courthouse job is done to the best interest of the citizens and taypayers of this county."

Action on issuing the $25,000 C.O. passed on a 3-1 vote, 4th Precinct 4 Commissioner Bill Stiles voting against.

Ask Bids For Minerals

The court authorized advertisements for bids, to be opened at the October 13th session, for mineral lease on 170 acres of land in Precinct 3 formerly owned by the county. Surface rights were sold a number of years ago to J. H. Wooten and now owned by Gus Obenhaus and other Wooten heirs.

The court also authorized bids for the sale of a number of window air conditioning units (15 or 16 units) formerly used in the courthouse, ranging in size from one-half to five tons. Bids will be opened at a special meeting Wed., Sept. 24th. Weimar School District has expressed interest in purchasing the units which are now stored in the Precinct 2 barn in Weimar.

Report On Energy Programs

Walter Hunt, a director for Gulf Coast Community Action, Houston, met with the court to discuss a heat relief program and a home energy assistance program, available or to be available soon, in the county.

Judge Cranek expressed displeasure at the fact that the county officials have not been kept informed on the programs. He said the court needs information so that it can give answers without embarrassment when approached about the programs.

Hunt reported that a heat relief program which began Feb. 1st provides funds for purchase of fans or for repair to air conditioning units to low-income families or persons whose health might be endangered by the long hot weather. He said that $13,000 is available in this county and to date 30 to 32 fans have been delivered in the county. A maximum of $100 is paid for repairs to air conditioning units. This program expires Sept. 30th, he noted.

A medical statement attesting to the fact that a person's health is being endangered is required but Hunt added that the statement does not necessarily have to come from a doctor.

Applications for the heat relief program are being taken through the Senior Citizens director or the Department of Human Resources, said Hunt. Rosalind Overton, a worker for Human Resources, said that little if any information on the programs has been received by workers in this county.

A future program expected to begin Dec. 1, 1980 will be a home energy assistance program to provide funds for assistance with heating costs. This, said Hunt, will be a "one-time payment" and could run from $37 to $152. He stated that details of the program are still being developed.

He stated that 60 percent of the payments would go through the mails to citizens getting welfare or social security checks, if they qualify, and the other 40 percent would be administered on the county level.

Judge Cranek urged Hunt to keep the court advised on such programs and to bring them before the court for its consideration before they are implemented in this county.

TV Dinners ... Jail

Upon payment of accounts, Judge Cranek reported that a plan is being developed by Chief Deputy Sheriff Jim Broussard to serve TV dinners to jail prisoners, instead of preparing regular meals, beginning Oct. 1st. The TV dinners will be used on a trial basis to determine if they are economically feasible.

Judge Cranek reported that two bounties of $20 each, were paid in August to special trappers who killed or trapped wolves or coyotes; and five bounties of $5 each to private citizens.

Vida Abundante Singers At Gethsemani Sun.

The public is cordially invited to hear Yolunda and Lazaro, singers on Vida Abundante, Channel 26. They will be at Gethsemane Baptist Mission this Sunday, Sept. 14 to sing at the 11:00 morning worship service.

Yolunda and Lazaro will also be singing in the evening service beginning at 7 p.m.

The Rev. Rogelio R. Rodriguez is pastor of the church.

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Delegations Appear At County Budget Hearing

(Continued from page one)

ambulance collections, but without proper operation these collections could drop to as low as $7000 to $8000 as was the case before the collection began through the judge's office.

A suggestion to have the collections done through the county auditor's office, met with little reception by auditor M. L. Briscoe although he did offer the assistance of this office in catching up on the "backlog" of unpaid accounts which have been piling up since the judge's office discontinued the collection processes last month.

The notice to archive the [illegible] health nurse's secretary with the ambulance accountant passed unanimously when Dr. Sisley said that any assistance received would be appreciated.

The court also authorized an expenditure of $620 for purchase of a new audiometer for use of the county health nurse when reports were received that the present unit (although still in use at this time) is obsolete and no parts are available for repairs. To provide funds for the purchase the court cut the allocation for bounties and wolf trapping from $3500 to $2880.

MH-MR Request

Appearing in behalf of continuing the allocation to the Mental Health and Mental Retardation activities in this county at $2665 were: board members Rev. E. S. Dean Jr. of Weimar and Layton Golemon of Columbus; also Sid McAlister Fretzie Kulhanek, Rita Ruffeno and Randall Amour.

Judge Cranek explained that the allocation was reduced in the proposed budget to $1332.50 because the court was not sure if the additional funds would be needed now that the programs are operated out of the Waldvogel MH-MR Center.

Mrs. Ruffeno explained that the needs for the funds have not changed and that the establishment of a Mental Health Center in the area where the MH-MR clinic formerly operated, is planned. The budget would also call for activity centers in all three major cities of the county. She noted that $900 of the program's proposed $3565 budget would come from contributions from community chest or other funds or groups in Eagle Lake, Columbus and Weimar.

The Rev. Mr. Dean, pastor of United Church of Christ in Weimar, stressed that the type of work done through the program is not always visible. "It's a small dollar amount to spend for returns of untold amounts in productivity."

After the court deliberated for some time on where the additional funds could come from, Precinct 2 Commissioner Rafael Veselka offered to pay the additional $1332.50 out of his precinct funds and this motion passed unanimously.

Other Requests

County Extension Agent Leroy Hajdik appeared with a request for a new typewriter for the extension offices. He acknowledged that the county purchased one new typewriter last year for $800, but noted that the one replaced and the present one both went through the fire in the agriculture building. He read reports from two repair companies that the typewriter, a Remington model, is beyond repair. $325 was spent on repairs already this year, said the agent. He estimated a new typewriter would cost $1000 and is essential in getting materials out to the farmers and ranchers in the county.

After much discussion, the court was unanimous in passing a motion that a typewriter not currently in use in the county judge's office be used in the extension offices; and if and when a position now vacant in the judge's office was filled, a new machine would be purchased.

Additional Tax Costs

Another thorny issue was discussed in the budget hearing when County Tax Assessor and Collector Henry J. Hajovsky (now vacationing in Scotland) reported that since the county withdrew from the countywide appraisal district and it would be mandatory that all 28,000 to 30,000 parcels of property in the county be converted to 100% of market value, he would "need to rent an additional processing machine for $700 per month for five months and that he would need to hire an additional [illegible] for $2880 on an annual basis to assist in this program.

In the end the court voted unanimously to authorize rental of another machine for the tax office for $3500 but cut the tax officer's request for a full-time additional deputy into half, allocating $4492 for six months and then intends to take another look at the need for such additional deputy. The new deputy will make eight deputies for the tax office.

Also present for part of the hearing was Justice of the Peace Richard C. Schmidt of Precinct 1 who had indicated he was unhappy with only a 10% increase in salary for 1981, however he did not remain to contest the proposed allocation and the court voted unanimously to approve the 10% increases for all JP's as scheduled. Judge Schmidt had requested a raise in pay to $11,340 and the court approved $10,848.

In other minor action, the court approved moving $200 allocated to the county judge's office from a miscellaneous expenditure to extra help to be hired during the secretary's vacation period.

Also the court moved $14,000 allocated for two new autos for the sheriff's department in 1981 to a contingency fund. It was reported the funds were placed in the contingency fund so that the purchase can be given further consideration at a later date.

No Appraisal Funds

The court unanimously approved the budget, with the amendments discussed, as filed in the county clerk's office in the courthouse.

In a following discussion, Judge Cranek pointed out that the 1981 budget does not include any funds for possible participation in the countywide appraisal district. Voters in the state will cast ballots in the November election on an amendment (No. 3) which would make the county's participation in the countywide appraisal districts mandatory. The judge indicated that if the amendment passes, as it appears likely, the county will have to come up with from $37,000 to $50,000 not budgeted for participation in the district.

Earlier in the session Monday the court authorized the appraisal district to use a vacant room in the third floor for temporary offices from Oct. of 1980 to Jan. 1, 1982. The use of the office was authorized without cost to the district.

However after approving the budget, Judge Cranek reported that neighboring districts are assessing a rental fee to the appraisal districts for full operation of the taxing facilities as will take effect on Jan. 1, 1982 and the Colorado County commissioners are expected to keep that in mind for further consideration prior to the Jan. 1, 1982 date.

Beginning balances in 1981 are expected to be $354,002.82 as compared to $577,823.40 in 1980. Total resources are listed at $2,244,518.85 or $63,360.55 less than in 1980.

1980 taxes are estimated at $105,890,037 (based on 25% of market value) for the 70c ad valorem tax and $99,890,037 for 30c additional ad valorem tax.

Total of taxes levied is $1,040,900.25 and the budget is prepared on a 95% collection which would yield $988,856.03, up 16% from $825,198 from last year. Also the budget anticipates $17,711.80 in delinquent taxes will be collected.

$630,000 In CO's

The county's total debt on January 1, 1981 is estimated at $630,000 for certificates of obligation for courthouse restoration. The budget allocates $45,000 for payment on the principal and $37,969 for interest on the CO's.

The division of the $1.00 tax rate (70c ad valorem and 30c additional advalorem) is as follows: Jury Fund 1c, Road & Bridge Cl. 2 23, Road and Bridge Special 15c, General Fund 23c, Interest and Sinking Fund 8c, and 30c to additional ad valorem. This increases the allocation of money to the road and bridge fund by 7c to road and bridge special by 1c, and to interest and sinking fund by 4c.

Pay Hikes Included

The 1981 budget includes 10% pay increases for most county elected officials, except that the four commissioners' salaries are increased 22.5%; and 17.5%, along with increased travel expense of $600; for the county judge. It also includes raises of about 10% for county employees in all departments.

General fund expenditures are set at $363,685, up from $347,468 in the current year. Included is an increase from $27,807 to $39,078 for operation of the county auditor's office (additional help and salary increases are included); a $5000 expenditure for county's share of financing the office of assistant district attorney; and $12,111.50 for maintenance personnel to include a maintenance supervisor for courthouse. However a $10,000 expenditure in 1980 for an outside audit required for revenue sharing requirements is not necessary in the 1981 year.

Revenue Sharing Budget

Also during the public hearing Monday the Commissioners approved expenditures for a $120,356.00 revenue sharing budget in EP Allocation 12.

In the revenue sharing budget, the county plans to spend $7,000 for a car for the sheriff's department; $3,500 for environmental protection; $63,856 for construction and maintenance of public roads $3,600 for lunacy and alcoholism cases; $1,332.50 for mental health and mental retardation; $19,502 for ambulance service; $609 for county health officer; $2100 for rent for county health nurse facilities; $1,500 for indigent medical care; $7,000 to the libraries of the county; $2,000 to services to senior citizens; $4,782 to veterans' service officer; and $3,574 for foster child care; a total of $120,356.

Regular Budget Expenditures

The approved general budget for 1981 includes the following expenditures: $28,022.50 to the jury fund; $155,910.60 to countywide road and bridge funds; $600,718.50 to precinct road and bridge funds; $363,685.66 to the general fund; $75,000 to perm. improvements; $566,505.30 to the officers' salary fund (which also includes county employees' salaries); $318,000 for the additional ad valorem fund for precinct use in road and bridge construction and maintenance; and $82,969.00 in the interest and sinking fund; a total of $2,190,811.56.

Salary Increases

The approved increases in pay for elected officials adds a total of $28,719.50 to expenditures for 1981.

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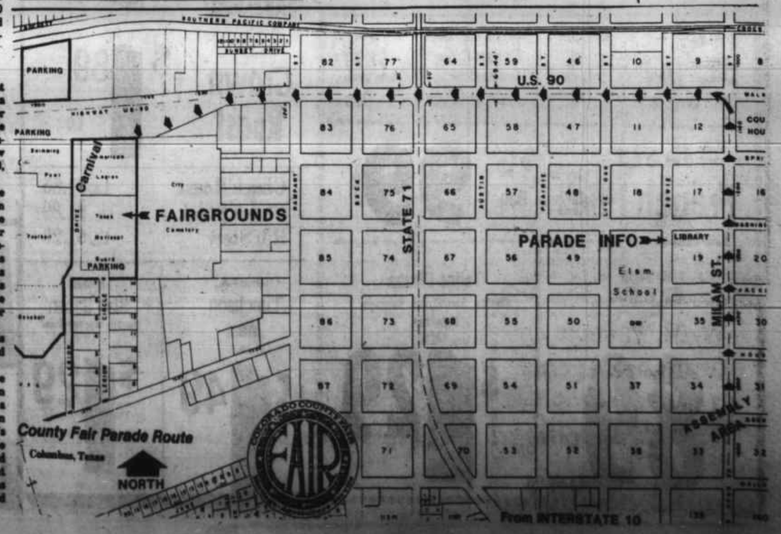

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