Mayor Extends Congratulations to Bill Chavis



Mayor Elmer Struss, right, congratulates Eagle Lake Special Officer Will [Bill] Chavis, center, on the occasion of "Bill Chavis Day" staged by appreciative friends for the

officer's 31 years of service as a law enforcement officer in the Eagle Lake community. At the left is Mrs. Chavis, known affectionately to friends as Lou, short for Louvenia. The event was attended by over three hundred persons in the Eagle Lake Community Center last Sunday, Dec. 28th. See page 3 for more on the reception.

Bill Chavis Cited For Dedicated Service To Citizens Of EL Area

A capacity crowd of over three hundred persons gath ered at the Eagle Lake Community Center from three to six p.m. Sunday, Dec. 28th to pay tribute and offer accolades of praise to Will (Bill) Chavis, special officer with the Eagle Lake Police Department for the past thirty one years during a special "Bill Chavis Day" The event was sponsored by Chavis' friends under the supervision of the Rev. Coby Shorter, Jr. and wife, Claudine, and many other friends.

While Officer Chavis has retired from his automotive repair business, he does plan to continue an active part-time role as a special officer for the Eagle Lake Police Department.

Mr. Chavis was commissioned on June 18, 1949 as a special officer for the Eagle Lake Police Department by the Mayor at that time, Emmanuel Roos, and has served in that capacity since.

The Rev. Obie Rhodes, pastor of White Cloud Baptist Church, served as master of ceremonies for the impressive program during which much praise was heaped on Officer Chavis and wife, Louvenia, for their many years of dedicated and unselfish service to citizens of Eagle Lake community and . Colorado County.

While guests were registering, Patrick Johnson ren-

K.C.'s To Sell

dered musical selections at the piano. The Rev. O. Scott. pastor of Rising Star Baptist Church, read the scripture reading; and the Rev. Paul L.

Barrow, pastor of Greater Mount Olive Baptist Church, led in prayer. Mrs. Helen Glover, Junior High School counselor for the

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ECA Course, **EMT Refresher** Begin Tues.

An Emergency Care Attendant Course will begin Tuesday night, Jan. 6 at the Ambulance Hall at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in taking the course is urged to be prompt so that registration can be accomplished quickly.

Ambulance Corps EMT's and ECA's are reminded this will be for their recertification, also. Anyone whose certification is not out yet should attend anyway so that local Corps members will be on the same rotation.

If you are interested in joining the Ambulance Corps for even if you just want the

Senate Bill Calling For State Legal Fees Backed By C. Ct.

missioners' Court, in session on Monday of last week, voted unanimously to support Senate Bill 12 pre-filed with the Texas Legislature for the 1981 session, which would require the state to pay for court-appointed defense law

yers in capital crime cases.

Colorado County Judge Lester Cranek noted that at the present time the county is required to pay for court-appointed lawyers in criminal cases. He added that the county could face a big expenditure in the event of a major criminal case which could linger on for years as it moved through the various

courts of appeals. Judge Cranek added that the Bill filed By Sen. E. L. Short passed the state senate in the session two years ago,

knowledge for the protection of yourself and your family) you are welcome and urged to take the course.

An EMT Course will begin on February 9 in Columbus. If you are interested in becoming an EMT, get in touch with your Corps president or EMS Instructor June Mahalite at 234-2678.

Colorado County Com- but died in the house of

representatives. Sheridan Road Request

The court considered but took no action on a request that the county take over a road in the Lake Sheridan area known as the Greak Road. The court recently inspected the road after a request was made by a number of landowners in the area that the county take over the road and provide maintenance.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Rafael Veselka said that he did not have funds for construction of any bridges that might be needed on the road. He said he favored

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No Garbage Pickup Thurs.

The city's sanitation department will not pick up garbage this Thurs., Jan. 1st. New Year's Day. Thursday's route will be run on Friday in order that the employees & may enjoy the New Year's Day holiday.

through a plate glass window at the front part of the business under the covered parking area. Owner Clyde Farthing received a call around 4:50 a.m. from 'Mrs. Florence

store, that the alarm was sounding. Her son-in-law and a friend went to the area with guns but did not see any one

Goodson, who lives near the

Possible Burglary

At-Clyde's Food

Mkt. Thwarted

A possible burglary at the Clyde's Food Market on

Postoffice Street in Eagle

Sunday morning when an

alarm in the store sounded

hurled an electric motor

in the area. Mr. Farthing arrived at the store a few minutes later and found that the electric motor. probably from a washing machine or some other appliance, had been hurled through the plate glass door. The motor struck a counter some ten feet from the door

about two feet off the floor, bence it was apparent that the motor was thrown through the door with great force shattering glass in the impact. Eagle Lake Patrolman

Lupe Villarreal, Jr. was called to the scene to investigate and he checked the motor for fingerprints.

Fortunately the alarm apparently fightened the burglars off and nothing was missing from the store, said

was continuing this week.

Stevenson's Cafe Entered

Eagle Lake Officer Villar real was caffed to Stevenson's Cafe on the Boothe Drive to investigate entry of the building early Monday morning. The officer said that entry probably occurred between 4 and 5 a.m. Monday since Special Sheriff's Deputy Ike Etheridge had patrolled that area prior to that time. The burglars gained entry through a window inside a garage at one side of the building. Once inside a juke box was broken into and an undetermined amount of

GRASS FIRE MON.

coins taken.

Eagle Lake volunteer firemen were called to a grass fire on railroad right of way near the Ramsey community shortly before noon on Monday of this week.

City Council To Name Police Chief This Week

According to the investiga-

ting officer, Deputy Keith

Riehs, two men Carl Smith

and Robert Pratt became

involved in an argument in

the Williams Bar and Grill-in

Garwood. Pratt reportedly

left the place but returned

with a gun and he fired one

shot, missing Smith, but

hitting two other persons in

the bar and grill, Wilma

Shorter of Eagle Lake and

Colorado County Sheriff's

department received word

from the Eagle Lake Com-

munity Hospital at 4:23 a.m.

Dec. 25th that two persons

with gunshot wounds were

being treated at the hospital.

They were found to be

Shorter with a wound in her

right arm and Smith with a

wound on one of his fingers

on his left hand. Shorter

remained in the hospital and

Carl Smith and Pratt were

arrested by the sheriff's

deputy on warrants issued by

Adstice of the Peace W. A.

Hefner. Pratt is charged with

two counts of aggravated

leased under \$500 cash bond

on each of the charges

pending action by the

February grand jury. Smith

was charged with disorderly

assault and he was re-

Smith was released

Willie Smith of Garwood.

C.C. Banquet Lake was thwarted early **Tickets Are** when the would-be burglars Now On Sale

Tickets for the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20th, 1981 in the Community Center, went on sale this week with all officers and directors of the chamber and also in the chamber office in the Municipal Building.

"We hope that citizens who plan to attend will make arrangements for tickets early so that adequate plans may be made for the large gathering expected for the event," said Chamber of Commerce President Bob McInteer.

During the banquet, the 1981 officers will officially take over their respective offices, including T. J. Smith succeeding McInteer as the chamber's president for 1981.

Investigation of the case OK's \$25,000

Colorado County Commissioners' Court approved a \$25,000 Certificate of Obligation as a payment on work done in the county courthouse restoration program in special session Monday and heard disappointing news that the work on the restoration project will not be completed for another six

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2 Injured In Shooting At Garwood

Charges were filed against two men following an argument and shooting at a Garwood bar and grill early on Christmas morning. Two persons who were in the place received injuries from a gunshot that was fired in the

The tickets are \$6.00 each which includes a delicious catered meal, entertainment and an address by Johnny Baker, former Houston Oiler.

Commr. Court Ct. House C.O.

Six Weeks Away From Completion Of Restoration Project

Precinct 3 Commissioner Crockett Levendecker, whose term will expire Dec. -31st since he chose not to seek re-election, expressed deep disappointment that the project could not be completed before the end of his term. Leyendecker said the court had received assurance on

conduct and his case will be heald before Justice of the Peace Hefner. **NOW Account** Program At

First Nat'l Bank

Interest on checking accounts is now available at The First National Bank according to President Bill Harrison, Jr.. "We have been! working for several months to offer a competitive NOW account program and we are pleased to have it available at the earliest possible time forour customers," said Harri-

First National's program will pay the highest interest rate presently allowed on the average monthly account balance. Service charges may be incurred if state minimum . to returning the local police balance requirements are not met. Balances on deposit in regular savings accounts may quality a customer for a free

NOW account. "Federal regulations determine which types of checking accounts are eligible to become NOW accounts," said-Harrison, "Individuals, sole proprietorship businesses, charitable and civic organizations, non-profit corporations, and school districts are among those eligible. Partnerships, corporations for profit, and municipalities are among those who are not

"NOW accounts should be effective and profitable for those customers who can meet the balance requirements," commented Harrison. "Others may find a conven-(Cont. on page 10, sec. 1)

Sgt. Larry Hill Also Resigned Last Saturday

Eagle Lake City Council was due to meet in special session at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday of this week, Dec. 30th (after our 12 noon press deadline) to hire a new Chief of Police for this city.

City Manager Bob Klockman said that he has reviewed five applicants for the position and expects to recommend to the council that William Earl Winebrenner, former chief deputy sheriff in Wharton County, be hired to fill the position of chief of police.

Winebrenner joined the Wharton County Sheriff's Dept. in 1974 and in 1977 became chief deputy and later assumed the position of Acting Sheriff following the death of Sheriff Jim Flournoy. He was defeated in his bid for the Democratic nomination for the sheriff's office in primaries held earlier this year and following election of a new sheriff in Wharton County in November, ended service with the Wharton County department.

Succeeds Jimmie Smith

The chief of police hired by the council at the session l'uesday will succeed Jimmie Smith who resigned to accept a position with the Wichita County sheriff's department, after serving as chief of police here since May 15th. Smith's resignation was to become effective Dec. 31st but he ended active duty here last Saturday, Dec. 27th.

City Manager Klockman also announced the acceptance of a resignation, effective Sat., Dec. 27th from Larry Hill, who had been serving as sergeant with the local department since midsummer.

It was reported that Hill will become employed with a local business

Earlier this month, the city's first woman patrol officer, Linda Gail Travis, submitted her resignation. She plans to become married.

The local police department, which had been in full strength since Ms. Travis was hired, dropped back to a one-man full-time force temporarily. Guadalupe Villarreal, Jr., who served for a time as chief of police here. continues as a full-time officer and he is being assisted by Special Officer Bill Chavis, Special Sheriff's Deputy Ike Etheridge, former police chief Bufford Ashley and officers from the highway patrol, Parks and Wildlife and sheriff's department to provide adequate around-theclock patrolling in Eagle Lake, said Klockman.

Action by the city council Tuesday in hiring a new chief of police will be the first step staff to full strength.

Swearing in

Ceremony Thurs.

County Judge Lester J. Cranek has announced that a swearing in ceremony will be held at 10:00 a.m. New Year's Day morning. Jan. 1st at the county courthouse in Columbus.

Two new officials will include County Attorney Edward Woolery-Price who will succed Durward Self in the county attorney's office: and Jerome Wicke, the new Commissioner in Precinct 3. to succeed Crockett Leyen-

A number of re-elected officials are also expected to receive their oath of office

1981 Expected To Be A Year For Regrouping

BBQ Chickens This Sunday (By Babson's Reports Inc.,

The Eagle Lake Council of the Knights of Columbus will sell barbecued chickens this Sunday and every first Sunday of the month.) You must reserve your orders In advance by calling Andrew Hartisch & 234-5524 during the day or Chuck Stephens at 284-5340 at night. Orders must be placed by 12 noon the Saturday before each first Sunday of the month.

The chickens will be sold for \$3.00 for a whole chicken and \$1.76 for a half chicken and must be picked up at the K.C. Hall on Pendleton Street,

100

Wellesley Hills, Mass.] A year ago, our forecast for

1980 predicted that the American economy would experience a recession, the main thrust of which would be felt early in the year. Technically speaking, however, the generally accepted definition of an economic recession was not fulfilled. That is, the "real" gross national product (the GNP stripped of inflation) did not experience two consecutive calendar quarters of negative readings. However, the massive second-quarter 1980 slump (down nearly 10%)

suffered by the gross national product in terms of 1972 dollars, and the minuscule growth rates of the year's remaining quarterly spans, surely must be regarded as ample indication that a recession did indeed occur.

While the severity of the economic contraction during the spring weeks of 1980 exceeded the expectations of most economists, the letdown's brevity underscored the intrinsic resilience of the nation's economy. Had it not been for the drastic credit curbs which the Carter Administration and the Pederal Reserve employed in the

bold bid to curb burgeoning inflationary forces, the ecohomy might not have been subjected to such a pronounced buffeting in the spring and early summer of 1980. But even if the reins had not been pulled back so radically, it is doubtful that a business slowdown could have been averted completely.

After all, the growth of the nation's money supply re-mained consistently higher than the targets that had

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'80 Rainfall Total Runs Over 20" Short of '79

27.76 Inch Total Is One Of Lowest Ever

Last year at this time, the Eagle Lake Headlight's headline read "Foot More Rain In '79 Than In '78" but this year the heading presented (and then some) as the total rainfall to date (Dec. 30th) is running over twenty inches behind that of the 1979 total and about a foot less than the normal for this area.

According to the gauges at the Lakeside Irrigation Co. plant, the 1980 total is 27.76 inches as compared to a total of 48.53 inches in 1979. The normal rainfall total for this area is just over 39 inches.

The total measurement in-1980 is the lowest in the past decade and probably one of the lowest ever recorded here, although official records are not complete.

May was the wettest month of the year with a total of 6.26 inches with less than months, April, June, July and August. The least rainfall fell in the month of June, when only .08 of an inch was recorded at the lake plant. Monthly rainfall totals in

an inch of rain in four

1980 were reported by Raiphy Johnson, superintendent at the lake plant, as follows: January 2.90, February 1.82, March 2.74, April .37, May 6.26, June .08, July .74. August .66, September 5.35, October 2.84, November 2.81, December 1.19.

Rainfall recordings at the lake plant for the the past ten years are as follows:

	1980	 27.76
ď,		 48.50
	1978	
	1977	
	1976	 45.65
t	1975	
	1974	140
1	1973	58.10
	1972	
	1971	
	1970	