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Summary Of Proposed Amendments

[Editor's Note: Following is a summary of the seven proposed constitutional amendments which will appear on the general election ballot next Tuesday, Nov. 3, 1981. The proposals were passed by the last State Legislature in regular and special sessions, and most relate to tax relief and development of natural resources].

Proposition One

SJR 8—Authorizes local governments to improve, develop, or redevelop certain areas through property tax relief and the issuance of bonds and notes.

Proposition Two

HJR 117—Authorizes the Land Commissioner to issue patents for certain public free school fund land held in good faith under color of title for at least 50 years as of Nov. 15, 1981.

In effect, the General Land Office would issue a patent to clear up the title problems of a Leon County rancher who believed he had bought his land 50 years ago. However, errors going back to the Republic of Texas clouded the title.

Proposition Three

HJR 38—Allows the Legislature to grant to a state finance management committee the power to manage the expenditure of certain appropriated funds.

The amendment, by Rep. Bob Simpson of Amarillo, would create a "state finance management committee" composed of the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House and chairman and vice chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance committees.

Proposition Four

HJR 6—Authorizes the use of part of the state surplus revenues to develop water related projects; authorizes state credit to guarantee bonds of local governments for water-related projects; increases the interest rate that may be paid on previously approved but unissued state bonds; and authorizes a program to retire state bonds.

This is the "water trust fund" amendment sponsored by House Speaker Bill Clayton, intended to put surplus money to use solving future water needs.

Proposition Five

HJR 49—Include livestock and poultry with the types of farm products which are exempt from taxation.

This amendment will clarify confusion in existing law which already exempts "farm products" from property taxes.

Argument has occurred over whether livestock and poultry are to be included as "farm products," and a 1976 Attorney General's opinion concluded the issue is questionable.

Highly sought by the agriculture sector, this amendment would mean an estimated $6 million to $10 million tax break in local property taxes for farmers.

Proposition Six

HJR 81—Authorizes local governments to provide property tax relief for owners of residence homesteads and changes certain property tax administrative procedures.

It would allow a minimum $5,000 exemption, unless the Legislature votes otherwise, with an exemption of up to 40 percent between 1982 and 1984, 30 percent for 1985 through 1987, and 20 percent in 1988 and thereafter.

Proposition Seven

HJR 4—Authorizes additional bonds to finance the Veteran's Land Program and to increase the maximum interest rate (from 6 to 10 percent) allowable on Veteran's Land Fund bonds.

The emergency measure was passed when Land Commissioner Bob Armstrong notified the Legislature the land fund was running out of loan money.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★ 3 Suits Seek Damages From 3 Accidents

Three suits were filed in district court in this county during the past week seeking damages resulting from three recent wrecks on highways in this county.

The first was filed Oct. 22nd by Patricia Brandt and Bob Brandt, individually, and Bob Brandt doing business as Bob's Garage and Wrecker Service against Armston Transportation Co., a subsidiary of E. C. Farmer Co.

The plaintiffs allege in the petition that on May 29, 1981 Mrs. Brandt was driving a 1981 Chevrolet truck west on IH 10 when the truck hit a slick spot on the pavement allegedly caused by drilling mud that fell from the Armston truck, resulting in a wreck.

Patricia Brandt is asking for medical expenses for injuries received in the wreck, past, present and future; and her husband says his truck was a total loss and he also lost his wife's support, household duties and consortium during her time of recovery and asks for judgment in excess of the minimal jurisdiction limits of the court, said amount to be set by a jury.

Second Suit In Fiery Crash

On Oct. 26th, Maria Montalvo and others filed a suit against Patton Transportation, Inc., of Uvalde as the result of a fiery four-truck crash on IH-10 1.4 miles east of Weimar on Sept. 2nd.

The plaintiff says in the petition that she is filing the suit as the widow of Rafael Montalvo, 52, of El Campo, who was one of the victims of the crash and in behalf of their two sons and four daughters.

The petition sets out that Montalvo was parked off the roadway when hit by a truck owned by Patton Transportation. Damages in an amount in excess of the minimal jurisdiction limits of the court are asked, plus interest from date of judgment and costs of court.

Last week the mother of a 19 year old young man killed in the collision, Jeffery L. Hill, filed a $350,000 damage suit in district court in this county against the Patton company.

Vehicle Hit By Tires

In another suit filed Oct. 26th, Inez B. Hamilton filed suit against Olympic Transport, Inc. and Leroy Sherman Brewer seeking damages as the result of an accident on IH-10 Sept. 4th, 1981.

In the petition, the plaintiff says that she was operating a vehicle on IH-10, heading west, when her vehicle was hit head-on by two huge tires which allegedly fell from a truck owned by Olympic and driven by Brewer.

The petition asks for damages in the amount of $75,000, plus interest from date of judgment and costs of court.

Grapefruit & Oranges

The Colorado County Farm Bureau will be offering Texas Ruby Red Grapefruit and Oranges direct from the Valley to the Farm Bureau members.

Grapefruit (40 lb. box) . . . $9.15 ea.

Oranges (40 lb. box) . . . $9.60 ea.

Orders and payment are being received at the county Farm Bureau office in Columbus, October 5, 1981 to November 6, 1981, deadline being 5:00 P.M. November 6th.

(10 15&29, 11 5)

Rep. Saunders On Joint Committee On Water Co-ops

Texas State Representative Robert Saunders of La Grange has been selected by House Speaker Bill Clayton to serve as a member of the Joint Committee on Rural Water Cooperatives.

This interim committee will be composed of members from the standing house Committees on Agriculture and Livestock and Natural Resources.

The purpose of this committee is to investigate the problems of funding, service, and financing of rural water cooperatives and to report its findings and to make recommendations to the 68th Legislature.

Rural water cooperatives are non-profit systems owned by their customers.

Specifically, the joint interim committee is asked to examine the advantages and disadvantages of changing the designation of rural water cooperatives to special utility districts.

Saunders is serving his first term in the House of Representatives and is a member of the Committee on Agriculture and Livestock and Local and Consent Calendars.

"Rep. Saunders is concerned about the plight of rural water cooperatives. His dedication and interest will make him an excellent member of this committee."

Small Dams Take Brunt Of 17-Inch Rain

[Soil Conservation Service]

A network of 41 small flood water retarding dams took the brunt of up to 17 inches of rain during a 24-hour period near Gainesville last week, reducing flood damages by an estimated $750,000.

Preliminary estimates indicate the dams held back about 22,000 acre-feet of floodwater from tributaries draining into Upper Elm Fork of the Trinity River.

"Our engineers believe the rain could have been of the intensity that you can theoretically expect to occur on an average of about once every 500 years," George C. Marks, state conservationist for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (SCS) said. "The rain, which fell on soil already saturated by six inches of rain the previous week, caused extensive erosion and flood damages in the watershed; but the damage would have been much more severe without those dams."

The upstream dams, built in the 1950's and 1960's, were designed and installed by the SCS. The Upper Elm-Red Soil and Water Conservation District and the Cook County Commissioners Court, local sponsors of the project, also operate and maintain the dams.

Built in rural areas, the dams were designed to store runoff from storm intensities that can be expected once every 50 years. By means of a conduit built through the dam, water is released at a rate slow enough to prevent downstream flooding. When rains of higher amounts occur, water flows through emergency spillways. For safety purposes, the structures are built to withstand some flow over the top of the dam in unusual situations.

Exercise Classes At Weimar School

Ladies who are interested in an exercise class may want to join a class in Weimar every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Mrs. Linda Kobersky, high school and junior high Physical Education teacher, will lead the class.

For more information phone 725-8275 or 263-5829. Classes will start Monday, October 26th at 6:30 p.m.

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Saturday, Oct. 31

Beginning at 6 p.m.
SHERIDAN SCHOOL GYM

★ Variety Show (Trophies Awarded)
★ Queen's Contest
★ Costume Judging

Fun For One And All!

Concessions, Games, Food & Drinks
Dozens of Homemade Items at Calico Country Store
BOOTHS OPEN AT 7:00 P.M.

Everyone's Invited!!

Benefit Children In Sheridan School

Variety Show entries should contact Rocky Jahn at 234-5057 or Sandy LeBouef at 234-5351 after 6 p.m.

Eagle Lake Lions ★ Club History ★

[On the occasion of the Fortieth Anniversary of the founding of the Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club in Eagle Lake, the following is a history of the club, as compiled by the 40th Anniversary Committee.]

CLUB HISTORY

The Eagle Lake Lions Club was organized on June 26, 1941 and the Charter Banquet was held September 14, 1941 in the Eagle Lake High School Gymnasium. The Lions Clubs of East Bernard and Rosenberg were our co-sponsors. Charter Night speaker Roy Keaton officially welcomed the 17 charter members into the International Association of Lions Clubs. Two of these members, Lion Rudolph Spanihel, Charter President, and Lion Joe Lee McCreary have continually maintained their membership and support to the club during its entire forty years existence.

The club has had four meeting places during its forty years. The first location was the back-end of the old Darby's Cafe. The second location was a long narrow rented space between the Darby Cafe and Royal Cleaners commonly called Lions Hall. Here the Lions had to furnish their own tables, chairs and all equipment that was used. The new bank drive-thru window now occupies this place. The third meeting place was in the back of Gingham Girl Cafe which was later converted to Rice Drug Store and is now presently incorporated into new bank facilities. In 1952 the Lions meetings were moved to our present location which is in the Eagle Lake Community Center.

There have been many different types of fund raising programs in our history, to name a few, light bulb sales, Bar-B-Que, Chicken Fry, Dances, Womanless Wedding, Lighthouse for the Blind Broom and Mop sale and Golf Tournament. In 1945 under the leadership of our 5th President, Joe Lee McCreary, the first annual Lions Carnival was held and has continued from that time to be one of our major and more profitable fund raising projects. Just as fast as money was raised it was distributed throughout the community to benefit as many areas as possible. Our communities of Eagle Lake have benefited from the work that has been done of this Lions Club.

The Lions of Eagle Lake have readily recognized the many benefits that Lionism has to offer a community and because of this fact it has extended Lionism into three of our neighbor towns, namely, Columbus Noon, (co-sponsored) Garwood and Wallis.

Leadership has been a key to the club from the beginning. Many members have served in various capacities on the district and state levels. The club has been represented on the District Cabinet for over twenty consecutive years with 12 different Lions serving in many different positions. Two of its members served as District Governor of District 2-S, ? Dester Anderson serving from 1968-69 and went on to serve in several of state positions including Membership Chairman and Extension Chairman. He received the Melvin Jones Growth Award during his year as Governor. Mark Anderson served as Governor 1978-79 when he received the Presidential Award and previously served two years on the Texas Lions League for Crippled Children Board.

The strength of the Eagle Lake Lions Club is shown by the number of the Past Presidents that are still active members. Twenty-one of the forty-one Past Presidents are active and supportive members of the club. Additional strength is proven by the consistent emphasis that is placed on members. The present membership of the club stands at 64 which is an all time high.

Colleen M. Meagher Weds Gary N. Waldrep Oct. 24th

Mrs. Gary N. Waldrep

Miss Colleen M. Meagher and Gary N. Waldrep were united in marriage in a ceremony on Saturday, October 24, 1981 at St. Michael's Church in Lake Jackson.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Meagher of Lake Jackson and the groom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Waldrep, Sr. of Sheridan.

The bride wore a gown of white organza with lace covering the bodice and featuring a Queen Anne neckline and long bishop sleeves. From an empire waist flowed the skirt overlaid with lace.

To complement her gown she wore a matching chiffon veil bordered with lace and carried a cascading bouquet entwined with ribbon.

Bride's Attendants

Serving the bride as bridesmaids were Donna Zubcik and Maureen Meagher.

The groom chose Clark Peterson and Parlon Morton IV as groomsmen. Ushers were Brian Meagher and Harvey Waldrep, Jr.

Trip To Hawaii

For their honeymoon they toured beautiful Hawaii.

City Council OK's Liability Ins. For Officials And Police

Speed Limits On FM 3013 In City Lowered To 45 MPH

Eagle Lake city council, in regular session Tuesday night passed separate liability policies for public officials and for law enforcement personnel and approved an ordinance controlling the speed limits near the FM 3013 and Highway 90A intersection at the eastern edge of the city.

The council, after two months of discussing the purchase of liability insurance for public officials (council, mayor, city manager and city secretary) and city law enforcement officers, finally approved policies at Tuesday night's meeting.

Robert Griffith, representing Eagle Lake and Strickland Insurance Agency, was the only local agency to offer the liability policy, despite efforts by the council to solicit other agencies to participate. Griffith offered the two separate insurance policies through Hartford Insurance with the public officials' plan costing the city $1,273.00 and the law officers' policy costing $1,666.00, each based on one year coverage.

More details of the new insurance plan will be reported in this newspaper next week.

Speed Limits On 3013

An ordinance controlling vehicle speed along Farm to Market 3013 north and south of its intersection with Highway 90A was approved by the council during the session Tuesday night.

Speed limits on FM 3013 will be lowered to 45 miles per hour near the intersection with 90A as recommended by the State Highway Department following a survey of traffic in that area earlier this year.

The council had hoped for lower limits but anticipates the 45 m.p.h. limit will help curtail excessive speeds by vehicles traveling along the road. Speed limit signs are expected to be posted by the State Highway Department within two weeks and both state and local law officers will be patrolling traffic in that area to enforce the new limits.

Other Action

In other action the council:

- Approved a $38,989.55 bid by Civil Constructors of Katy for construction of water and sewer extensions to the Austin Estates Subdivision, southeast of Eagle Lake near the Lakeside Lots Addition. However, no action will be taken in the matter until a final plat of the subdivision is submitted to the city by the developer, Kenneth Austin. The city's share of the project would be $17,986.52 with the balance being covered by the Austins.
- Authorized city manager Robert Kockman to seek bids for the demolition of 27 buildings that have failed to meet regulations specified in the city's Dangerous Building Ordinance;
- Heard a report from Kockman that the street paving program has been completed successfully;
- And heard a report from Mayor Elmer Struss concerning the highway department's interest in widening Highway 90A from Austin Road to a point near the Eagle Lake Recreation Center. No definite plans have been arranged; however, city officials are obtaining information from property owners along the highway concerning such a project.

Marine Pvt. Larry Falcon Completes Recruit Training

Marine Pvt. Larry Falcon, son of Juanita and Benito Rodriguez, Sr. of Eagle Lake, has completed recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

During the 11-week training cycle, he learned the basics of battlefield survival. He was introduced to the typical daily routine that he will experience during his enlistment and studied the personal and professional standards traditionally exhibited by Marines.

A 1981 graduate of Rice High School, Altair, he joined the Marine Corps in June 1981.

Woody Herman Concert At WCJC Mon.

Internationally known big band leader and famed jazz musician Woody Herman brings his "Thundering Herd" to Wharton next Monday, October 26 for a concert at 8 p.m. in Wharton High School Auditorium sponsored by the Wharton County Junior College Stage Band.

Admission is only $5 and tickets will be on sale at the door. Advance purchases can be made from WCJC Stage Band students or their director, Jim Paul. Phone (713) 532-4560 weekdays during business hours or (713) 532-0789 at night and weekends.

Free Portrait Pkg. At Bill's Dollar Store Thurs. - Sat.

Bill's Dollar Store in Eagle Lake is offering a special Portrait Package when a photographer is present at the store Thurs., Fri., and Sat., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Magic Camera Portrait Package includes 20 professional portraits, two 8x10's, three 5x7's and 15 wallet size for only $12.95. A complimentary 8x10 of parent(s) and child will be given with the $12.95 portrait with a coupon from the ad on page five of this issue.

Minors must be accompanied by parents for this special offer.

Make the Connection — Texas Department of Public Safety

Joe Mahalitc Buyer At Red Brangus Sale

One hundred thirty Red Brangus heifers sold for $232,900 for an average of $1,792 on September 19th at Paleface Ranch near Spicewood, Texas. The sale initiated a new concept in Red Brangus sales.

All the cattle, most in lots of five head, were priced in advance from $1,000 to $3,000 per head. A lottery was used to select the buyers from among the bidders on each lot.

Among the volume buyers was Joe Mahalitc of Eagle Lake.

Subscribe to the Headlight - Call 234-2783

Operation Specialist Joseph Eldrige Home On Navy Leave

Operation Specialist Seaman Recruit Joseph Eldrige is home on leave for 15 days after completing training at the Fleet Combat Training Center at Virginia Beach, Virginia.

On his return, OSSR Eldrige will be stationed at Norfolk, Virginia. Joseph is the brother of Mrs. Joel Foster and Ms. Audrey Eldrige of Eagle Lake.

Free Tony's Dinner

Mrs. Dick Wood 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 Nov. 3, 1981.

Amtrak Train In Two Collisions Early Sun.

An early-morning Amtrak passenger train had a hard time making it through this area early Saturday morning, colliding with a pickup truck parked on the tracks at Lissie at around midnight; and then colliding with a car at the Live Oak Street intersection in Columbus at around 1:30 a.m.

The driver of the pickup truck which was hit broadside by the passenger train in Lissie at midnight Friday, was located a hundred yards or so from the wrecked truck, uninjured. The pickup was demolished.

In the second collision, the Amtrak train was in collision with an Oldsmobile auto driven by Mrs. Clifton (Susan) Tyler of Columbus at an intersection in Columbus.

Mrs. Tyler was seriously injured in the accident and was lifeflighted to the Hermann Hospital in Houston where she is still confined. She reportedly received severe facial injuries, broken ribs and other injuries. Friends in the area may write to her in Room 717 of the Hermann Hospital in Houston, Texas.

★★★★★★★ Curly Trapps To Be Honored On 50th Wed. Anniv. Sun.

Relatives and friends in the area are invited to attend a reception to be held from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 1st honoring Curly and Marie Trapp on their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary.

The event will be hosted by their children, Eunice Venghaus, Bo Trapp, Joy Holbrook and J. C. Trapp, in the Rock Island Community Center.

★★★★★★★

Surface Mining Reclamation Workshop Held

Connie M. Fair, District Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Columbus, Texas, attended a statewide workshop concerning planning, and reconstruction or reclaiming surface lignite and uranium mines.

Landowners considering lease agreements may receive technical assistance from the SCS through the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District to develop Soil and Water Conservation Plans for the reclamation process.

Eagle Lake Knights of Columbus WILL SELL BBQ Chickens This Sunday

Reserved Orders Only!!

Chickens to be picked up at the K.C. Hall on Pendleton Street between 11:00 and 12:30

Call to reserve your order before 12 noon the Saturday before!!

Price: $3.00 for whole chicken; $1.75 for half

To place orders call:
During the day: Andrew Harbich 234-5524
At Night: Chuck Stephens 234-5340

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