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FROM OUR READERS

VFW To Oppose Reduction In Vets' Pensions, Medical Care

[Editor's Note: Our readers and especially service veterans and their families will be interested in the following proposals made by the Congressional Budget Office relative to changes in veterans' compensation and pension programs and medical care. This article is by Cooper T. Holt, executive director of the Washington Action Reporter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. The article was brought to our attention by James Cash, commander of the Eagle Lake VFW Post.]

The all-powerful Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has proposed sweeping changes to veterans' compensation and pension programs and to the Veterans Administration medical care system.

Three cuts are proposed in compensation payments for service connected disabled veterans.

First, the CBO would like to end veterans compensation to persons with what the CBO calls "limited disability." It would have Congress authorize compensation only to those with disabilities rated above 30%. Under this proposal, nearly 1.3 million persons would lose their payments.

CBO's argument is that the less severely disabled are able to work at some kind of job and receive an income. So, the CBO submits compensation payments to an income test.

The VFW argument, agreed to by the Congress, recognizes the special service performed by veterans. They served their country, were injured or wounded and should be compensated by special payments.

Second, the CBO suggests eliminating payments, compensating those who are rated 10% or less for service connected disabilities. This proposal would cause 700,000 veterans to lose their monthly payment.

Again, the CBO argument is that those so rated by the VA are not significantly affected in their ability to work.

The VFW argument, once again, is that disability awards are viewed as compensation for the pain and suffering of a service related injury or disease suffered performing special service. Most probably it would not have occurred unless the veteran were in the service.

Third, the CBO feels that if VA compensation cannot be changed through one of these methods (the VFW will fight to see that it is not changed), then it recommends that payments be taxed.

The CBO rationale for this proposal is not quite clear, but is based on the contention that compensation payments are not closely targeted to financial need and that in many cases earning power is often unimpaired. CBO admits that, while those who suffered disabilities in the service of their country are surely entitled to some compensation, benefits for minor disabilities may have a lower priority during a time when there is less money to go around.

Its proposal would increase payments by 10% for veterans rated 50% or more to offset the taxation something.

The VFW maintains that Congress has taken into account the non-taxation of veterans' compensation by setting most of the payments – especially those of the lower ratings – at levels which merely allow the veteran to know that a grateful nation compensates for injuries and disabilities suffered during a difficult period of service and not for the lack of being able to find some work which does not aggravate these disabilities.

The CBO has recommended a 10% reduction in VA medical care. It wants to close 30 of the smallest and least crowded VA acute care facilities. It argues that many VA hospitals do not operate at full capacity and could care for those veterans turned away because of the proposed closures.

The VFW, with first hand knowledge of its Service Officers, knows that many VA facilities are not full because the VA lacks funds to treat all those veterans eligible for admission to a VA facility. We also know that veterans cannot or will not travel perhaps hundreds of miles to a VA hospital or clinic because of the distance or they lack the money for travel and the VA runs out of reimbursing funds.

Last, the CBO has proposed that Congress end veterans' pensions.

The argument is that these pensions duplicate or overlap other welfare programs for the financially needy.

The VFW has pointed out that a veteran is a special person who has performed special service and deserves special programs. He is not a general welfare recipient and should never be so considered. CBO's proposal would affect over 3 million veterans, dependents and survivors.

If any one of these proposals comes up for action, the VFW will ask you to voice your opposition to your elected Representatives in Congress.

Marathon Carries Message Of Cutback Protest To Vice-Pres. Bush's Office

Members of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity of St. Mary's University in San Antonio drew national attention to cutbacks proposed by the Reagan Administration in aid to students of colleges and universities by carrying the message right to the front door of Vice-President George Bush's office in Houston last week.

Nineteen members of the fraternity volunteered to run in intervals of one mile along the route from San Antonio to Houston via Highway 90A starting Wednesday. The group passed through the Eagle Lake area shortly after noon Thursday and were due to arrive in Houston by nightfall Thursday and appear on the steps to VP Bush's office Friday morning.

Kappa Sigma Fraternity of St. Mary's University in San Antonio conducted a Marathon Relay from San Antonio to Houston last week to protest cutbacks being made by the Reagan Administration in benefits to students and to benefit the University Endowment Fund. The marathon ended on the steps leading to Vice-President Bush's office in Houston Friday morning and received nationwide publicity. A total of nineteen runners from the fraternity took turns at running one mile each, leaving San Antonio at noon Wednesday. They arrived in Houston Thursday evening and came through Eagle Lake shortly after noon Thursday. Two of the runners shown above pass the "baton" just west of Eagle Lake. The lead runner is Bob Debardino of Germany and the runner just completing his mile jaunt is Pat Valls of Laredo.

A number of other fraternity members participated by providing autos which carried supplies and for protection of the runners.

The route for the marathon was approved by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The marathon was organized by the fraternity members in protest of the cutbacks in an educational aid and for benefit of the University's Endowment Fund.

Grand Master of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity at St. Mary's is Brad Bowerschulte of St. Louis, Mo. and coordinator was Joe Dante of Houston.

Members in the marathon said, "we're not experienced runners, just good ole boys trying to bring attention to educational needs at our colleges and universities."

Ex-Aggies To Muster In Columbus Wed.

Former students of Texas A&M University will assemble in Columbus Wed., Apr. 21 for the annual Texas Aggie Muster, announced chairman Bruce Bayless.

The muster activities will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Columbus KC Hall in Columbus, according to the chairman.

Cash bar will open at 7:00 p.m.Casual wear preferred.

Advance reservations will be $8.00; at the door $9.00.

Let's Look Back 48 YEARS AGO

[April 21, 1934]

Miss Ruby Francis Bartine of Houston and William Ernest Lenhart of Eagle Lake announce their engagement and approaching marriage on Wednesday evening, May 2nd at the Central Presbyterian Church in Houston. The groom-to-be is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Lenhart of Eagle Lake. . . Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Austin Dromgoole are in the process of having their home built on the Herbert plantation near Eldridge by contractor R. H. Reese. . . L. J. Spanihel celebrated his eighth birthday with a party at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Spanihel Wednesday afternoon. . . Joe, Meissner, 72, passed away at his home in Nada Thursday. Funeral services were held Saturday morning with burial in Nada Cemetery. . . . Funeral services were held for George N. Brown of San Marcos, former resident of Garwood, Thursday. . . Mr. and Mrs. Henry Meyer of Bernardo entertained a number of friends Friday on the occasion of Mr. Meyer's birthday.

24 YEARS AGO LET'S LOOK BACK

[April 10, 1958]

Miss Rose Ann Miller, Chapter Sweetheart of the Garwood Future Farmers of America chapter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Miller of Garwood, is a contestant in the District IV FFA Sweetheart contest to be held in Brenham on April 15. . . A successful drill on the Mosbacher No. 1 Lehrer well five miles west of Garwood has produced pure oil at a depth of around 6600 feet. . . James Wylie Dodson, 36, formerly of Bellville, is assuming duties as city manager for Eagle Lake. He is filling this position left vacant since the resignation of J. M. Johnson last October. . . Voters of Eagle Lake re-elected Louis Muzny, Jr. to his second 3-year term to the school board and the citizens voted in two new trustees, Raymond H. Waddell and Paul Powers, for their first terms on the board. . . Miss Elizabeth Seaholm, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Seaholm, was complimented with a Be-Bop party on her ninth birthday Thursday, April 3rd. . . K-Lu Carroll and Doris McCreary placed third in senior girls' doubles, Walter Jones and Johnny Nash won third in the boys' doubles and John Behrens won third in the boys' singles in the tennis matches in Katy last Wednesday.

Tax Installment Due

The first installment of estimated 1982 federal income tax payments by individuals other than farmers and fishermen is due by April 15, 1982, the Internal Revenue Service says.

Generally, taxpayers having estimated tax of $200 or more and estimated gross income not subject to withholding exceeding $500 must file a Form 1040-ES, "Declaration of Estimated Tax for Individuals," according to the IRS.

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REGULAR MEETINGS
Every Second Friday Night
Jack Dannels, W.M.
H. E. Tate, Sec.
Visiting and local Brothers are cordially invited and welcome.

County OK's Bids For Pickup, Lawn Mowers, Minerals Lease

Colorado County Commissioners' Court, as part of a busy agenda Monday, approved bids for a new pickup for Precinct 4, for a new riding lawnmower with mulcher unit, and bids for lease of 0.60 acres of land for oil and gas exploration.

J. F. Miller Ford, Inc. of Eagle Lake was the low bidder on a 1982 Ford pickup truck for Commissioner Bill Stiles' precinct 4 with a bid of $8,995 after trade-in of a 1971 Chevrolet pickup. Other bidders were: Lake Motors, Inc. of Eagle Lake, which offered a 1982 Chevrolet pickup for $9,481.82 after trade-in; and Brasher Motor Co. of Weimar, a 1982 Chevrolet pickup for $9,380 after trade-in.

Eagle Lake Implement Co. was the low bidder for a riding lawnmower with mulcher and a pushing lawnmower for use in maintenance of the Colorado County courthouse lawn. One of the specifications for the riding unit was that it have a gathering and mulching unit capable of picking up and mulching leaves from the magnolias which are on the courthouse square.

Eagle Lake Implement Co. offered an 11 horsepower John Deere riding mower with 38-inch blades and mulcher for $1,750 and a 3 H.P., 18" push-type mower for trimming for $163 or a total bid of $1,913.

The only other bidder was Loessin Implement Co. of Weimar which offered a 11 H.P. John Deere riding mower with mulcher for $1,800. and the push-type mower for $220 or a total of $2,020.

Inmediate delivery is expected for the mowers, about six weeks delivery for the precinct four pickup.

Mineral Bid

The court received only one bid for minerals leases on the 3.60 acres which the county owns, just north of the Lakeside Irrigation Co. canal crossing under Highway 90A between Eagle Lake and Altair. Houston Standard Oil, Inc., had originally asked the court to take bids on the plot since it has leased some 600 acres surrounding the lot for oil and gas exploration.

Under terms of the three year lease, the firm will pay the county a bonus of $75 per acre, plus $10 per acre for delayed mineral exploration in second and third years and one-fifth royalty in any production which might result.

In other action the court:

* Approved an amendment on the application of the Columbus council of Knights of Columbus for a bingo license;

* Accepted a request from the Columbus Homes Tours Committee to place the courthouse on the tour of historic places and allow use of the basement restrooms and the courthouse square for homes tour activities. The Homes Tour will provide attendants in the restrooms, pay for supplies, and pay for an officer to be on duty in the courthouse while it is open to the public;

* Approved a payment of $500 per month as this county's share of the salary of the Assistant District Attorney Paul Findley ($6,000 had been placed in the budget for the payment);

* Certified to the Highway Department that all of the 731.1 miles of lateral roads reported to the department in February are maintained roads. The number of miles will be used in determining the county's refund from the state from the sale of vehicle licenses.

Election Officials

The court accepted resignations from the presiding election judges in the Glidden Precinct No. 2 (Ernestine Henneke) and Buescher Precinct 10 (Ruby Simpson Beard). The court accepted the resignation of the alternate judge in Glidden, Jo Carol Besch. The court then appointed Henry Radack as presiding judge and Mrs. Helen Radack as alternate in the Glidden voting precinct, but made no appointment for the Buescher voting box.

Final Rites For Frank Cernoch Held

Funeral services for Frank B. Cernoch, lifelong resident of Nada, were held Monday, April 12th at 2:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada with Bishop Hugo Gerbermann officiating. He was laid to rest, with military honors, in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery under the direction of Triska Funeral Home of El Campo.

Mr. Cernoch passed away Saturday, April 10th at 7:45 p.m. in the El Campo hospital following a lengthy illness.

A rosary was recited at St. Mary's Catholic Church Sunday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m.

He was born June 4, 1897 in Nada to Joseph and Mary Monoch Cernoch. The retired farmer was a member of St. Mary's Church, the Knights of Columbus and K.J.T. Society.

Survivors include his widow, Martha; one brother, Lad Cernoch of Ganado; and other relatives and a host of friends.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Easter Sunday Guests

Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Seaholm, Cameron, and Glenngale on Easter Sunday were: from Houston: Mr. and Mrs. John Seaholm and children, Bud Seaholm and Ms. Marie Givens and [illegible] from McAllen: Mr. [illegible] from [illegible] Mrs. Richard [illegible] and children, Kurt Payne and Mr. and Mrs. Scott Watkins;

Also, from Corpus Christi: Ms. Gwen K. Payne; from [illegible] Texas Children: Mr. and Mrs. Tony Mikulenka; and from Eagle Lake: Mr. and Mrs. Gus Seaholm and Kari.

Thomas Kallina

Thomas Kallina Named First Sgt. In A&M Band

Thomas Kallina, a sophomore agricultural engineering major at Texas A&M University, has been selected to serve as First Sergeant of C-Battery in the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band.

As second-in-command over approximately sixty bandsmen, Thomas will head a six member staff charged with the responsibility of attaining goals for the 1982-83 school year set by his Commanding Officer.

He received this prestigious position as a result of his academic achievement and overall performance within his outfit.

Thomas is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Kallina of Garwood.

Broussard Elected President Of Columbus V.F.W.

Sheriff Jim Broussard was elected Commander of Paul Perry Hastedt V.F.W. Post 6113 of Columbus at last Thursday's regular meeting.

Other elected officers are: Senior Vice Commander, Max Rogers; Junior Vice Commander, Leroy A. Muesse; Post Advocate, Judge Lester J. Cranek; Post Quartermaster, Robert H. Perkins; Post Chaplain, Thomas A. Spaeth; Post Surgeon, Frank Braden; Three-Year Trustee, Warren E. Wilbur.

The next meeting, Thursday, May 13 at 7:30 p.m., will start with a covered dish supper for V.F.W., Ladies Auxiliary and families. Installation of newly elected officers will follow.

Here From Oklahoma

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Shaver and young son Jack Garrett of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma were guests over the Easter weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Shaver.

Republicans Announce Plans For May 1st Primary Election

Mark Anderson of Eagle Lake, County Chairman for the Colorado County Republican Party, announced places for the May 1 Republican Primary.

Location of polls in Colorado County will be:

No. 1, Rock Island North of Columbus; 2, Glidden; 8, Lake Sheridan-Oakland; 9, Weimar; 10, Gay Hill-Brushy Creek; 11, Shaws Bend; 12, Rocky Hill; 13, Freisburg; 14, Zion; 15, Bernardo; 16, Alleyton; and 18, Mentz to Columbus will vote at the Columbus Fire Station, 602 Spring;

No. 17, Colorado River east to Wharton to Austin County lines north to FM 949 and I-10 to include Eagle Lake, Ramsey, Matthews, Eldridge, Chesterville will vote in the American Rice Growers Office, 124 W. Main in Eagle Lake;

No. 4, Garwood and 5, Nada will vote at the Veterans Memorial Library, downtown area of Garwood;

No. 3, Altair; 6, Provident City to Skull Creek and 7, Sheridan will vote at the Robert Weil residence, 90A West.

Absentee balloting began Monday, April 12 and will end Tuesday, April 27. Ballots may be obtained at the County Clerk's office in Columbus during regular office hours.

Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. on May 1st.

Republican Precinct Conventions will be held at polling places at 7:15 or as soon after this time as can be arranged, added Anderson.

Causey Families Have Annual Easter Picnic

The Causey families enjoyed a delightful annual Easter covered dish luncheon at the Ray Thomas Lob Lolly Lodge at Mentz on Sunday, April 11 beginning at noon. Indoor and outdoor games and lots of visiting were thoroughly enjoyed following a sumptuous lunch.

Present for the annual occasion were Dr. and Mrs. Ray Thomas, Dr. and Mrs. Russell Thomas and son Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Griff Thomas, Kurt and Julia Thomas, Jerri Clipson, Brian Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Halvorsen, Chris and Brian, Mr. and Mrs. George Causey, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Causey and Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Causey and Jill and Amanda, Mark and Cindy, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Brown, Ashley and Allison, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Kucherka, Ralph Thomas and Wanda Matcheski, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Seaholm, Mrs. Sophie Zoeller and Max Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Causey.

Market Report

Columbus Livestock Market

The Columbus Livestock Market this week was fully steady with a full house of buyers on hand which made a good active sale. Packer cows and bulls sold stronger with good packer demand. The firm handled 358 head of cattle last week.

Good to choice butcher calves and yearlings sold for 58 to 62c with Heiferett packer cows selling for 45 to 52c a pound. Commercial packer bulls went for 54 to 57c a pound. Heavy Hereford and Angus and Crossbred steer calves brought 65 to 75c a pound while heifer calves went for 58 to 63c. Good stocker cows and heifers sold for $400 to $500. No.1 hogs went for 50 to 52.10c a pound and lambs 40 to 50c.

Easter Guests

Mr. and Mrs. John J. Grigar, III and children, Joseph and Katie, were Easter Sunday guests of their parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred R. Frnka, and Jeff Frnka. On Saturday they visited in East Bernard with his parents, the John J. Grigars, Jr.

Visit Here

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Stansberry and daughters, Blayne and Meagan, spent Saturday and Sunday with her mother and grandparents, Mrs. Gladys Schenk and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Kretzschmar.

Bert Tise

Bert Tise Among Top Students In Texas A&M Class

Bert Tise, freshman student at Texas A&M University in College Station, has been listed as one of the top students in the Engineering Design Graphics classes, following results at mid-term of his second semester.

Two thousand students are currently enrolled in the graphics classes and Tise is among the top six students in that group based on grades and class work. He currently carries a 4.0 average and only five-tenths of a point separate the top six students.

Tise, valedictorian of the Rice High School class of 1981, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Tise of Sublime.

Hospital Auxiliary Salad Lunch-Meet Next Thursday

The Eagle Lake Community Hospital Auxiliary (Pink Ladies) will meet at the Christ Episcopal Parish Hall Thursday, April 22 at noon (12:00) for a salad luncheon. Each member will furnish a salad for the meal. Members may ask guests if they so wish.

An election of officers will be held and also the presentation of hour pins.

All Pink Ladies, active, inactive and life members, are invited to attend.

Easter Guests

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Tate's Easter guests were their children and grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Marshall, Cliff, Jeff, Susan and Steven of Giddings and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Harris and son Chris of Navasota.

Rice FFA Banquet Tonight (Thurs.)

Rice High School's Future Farmers of America Chapter will hold its annual banquet honoring parents, buyers and other supporters at the Rice High School Commons at 7:30 p.m. tonight, Thursday.

During the program, to be put on by the students, outstanding FFA members will be cited.

The event annually attracts one of the largest crowds of the year to a school-related activity.

Easter Guests

Easter guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Wiese were relatives, Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Richardson and children, Mr. and Mrs. Kent Richardson and Miss Denise Wiese of Houston; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Lowther and children and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Harriss, Glenda, Keith and Beth, all of Missouri City; Mr. and Mrs. Rick Christ and Jennifer and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Miles of Eagle Lake.

SHERIDAN NEWS

By Velma Kutzer
Ph. 234-3988

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Tesch and children visited relatives here during the Easter holidays.

Mrs. Sharon Whittaker and sons and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Don Hearn, all of Houston spent the past weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hearn.

Pat McKennon of Mineral Wells spent last week here visiting his mother, Mrs. J. K. McKennon.

Jerry Lloyd is spending his weekdays undergoing physical therapy in Houston. He is able to be in Sheridan with his family on weekends.

Kelly, John and Heather Bujnoch spent part of their spring break with their grandmother, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Selph. Also visiting with the Selphs was Kristie Myrick.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. George enjoyed spending Easter weekend in Victoria with their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Newman, children and grandchildren.

Has Surgery

A. S. Vawter had surgery Monday in Eagle Lake Community Hospital and hoped to be released possibly Wednesday.

Marathon Thru Sheridan

Last Thursday morning at approximately 10:30 25 members and pledges from St. Mary's University passed through Sheridan on their way to Houston. This in itself was not unusual but the fact that they were running was. Each young boy ran one mile with a track baton and at the end he handed the baton to the next one until each ran their mile. Their purpose was to raise money through donations for St. Mary's Scholarship Endowment Fund and also to protest their disfavor to the financial aid cuts affecting students. They expected to make it to Houston around 11:00 a.m. Friday morning at Vice President Bush's office.

Visit Relatives

Mr. and Mrs. Stacy Mueller and Stacie Marie traveled to Cat Spring to their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Drymalla, and then to Cuero to their aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. William Flessner for Easter Sunday, April 11th.

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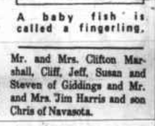

A baby fish is called a fingerling.

Enjoy a big weekend of fun this week at the
COWBOY HAVEN
(In downtown Columbus across from the Courthouse)
★ Friday Night, April 16
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Abandoned Shack Burns Mon.

Eagle Lake volunteer firemen were called Monday at 2:27 p.m. to a raging fire in an abandoned shack almost behind The Snack Center and Rice Package Store. Exact cause of the fire was undetermined and since the building was dilapidated and in ruins, the firemen allowed the fire to consume the building and contents. The building was on property owned by Hazel Tice.

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