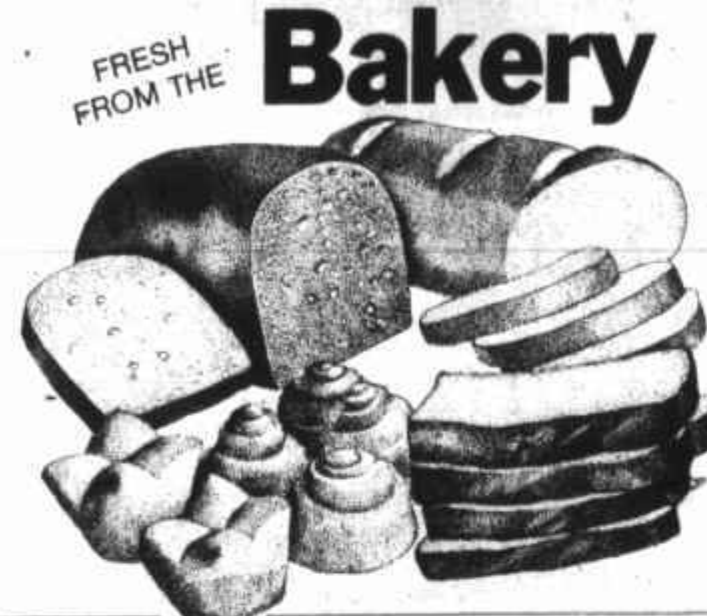
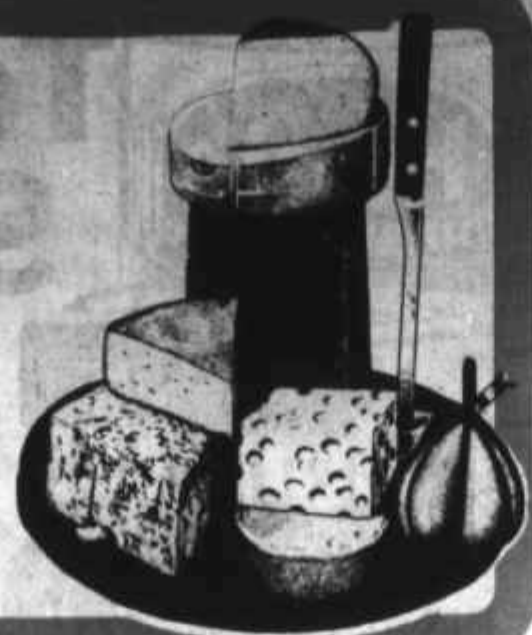


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VOLUME 79 P. O. BOX 67 EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS 77434-0067 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1982 PHONE 713 234-5521 NUMBER 25

Commissioners Court

AGENDA: ambulance policy, tax rate, waste dumping, revitalization committee, Sheridan election judge



These students at Eagle Lake Middle School proudly show off their entries in the 1982 Eagle Lake County Fair. Above, front row from left is Marsha McTeer, first; and Odessa Thomas, 3rd; back row, Brian Balas, best of show for western art, elementary division, and Dusty Jackson, first in fine arts and western art, junior high. In the lower photo are Grady Crayel, 2nd in fine arts and 1st in western; Melissa Perry, 1st in western; Carrie Perry, 2nd in fine arts; Thonda Hodde, 2nd in fine arts; Beth Ferguson, 1st in fine arts, and Johnny Tomascus, 2nd in fine arts. Not pictured is Phillip Ferguson who won a 1st and best of show in fine arts, elementary division.



82 Fair a success
Winners listed in Section B

The complete list of winners from the hundreds of entries at the 1982 Eagle Lake County Fair are included in the second section of the Headlight this week. The list of winners was furnished by the fair association and was received too late for publication last week.

The fair, held for four days September 16-19, in Columbus has been declared an unqualified success by co-producers Tom and Katie Northrup.

"We consider it very successful in terms of the way everything came out... the livestock show was super and the comments people made" were great, he said.

The fair didn't go on without problems. One serious one was a power failure in the Veterans Community Center. Northrup said it probably was a power overload, and even as it was being repaired people were volunteering to change the system for next year's fair to the benefit of the center and the fair exhibitors.

Another problem was the accepting of exhibits Wednesday at the center, when the regular bingo night was scheduled... preventing table and display set up. Northrup said that tentatively the fair might move into the Friday through Sunday time period next year.

"We will have an association meeting probably within 30 days," he said last week, "to wrap up this year and lay basic plans for next year."

A new office for the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce has been opened for the public. Located in the corner building on Main Street across from Miller's Grocery, the office is being staffed on a volunteer basis.

The decision to open the office was made at the chamber's board meeting last week.

The address is 300 East Main St., and the number remains 234-2790, the same number used when the chamber office was in the city municipal building complex.

Fred Frnka, chamber board member, suggested the United Way share the office to reduce chamber expenses, and the board agreed. Frnka will be one of the volunteers to staff the office during business hours.

New policies for public and private ambulance services in the county were adopted Monday as Colorado County Commissioners churned their way through a shorter than usual agenda.

The 1982 county tax rate was adopted on a 3-1 vote, when county tax assessor-collector Bill Youens presented commissioners with a certified tax rate listing 33,569 taxable parcels valued at \$688.7 million.

Paulette Klockman, spearheading the Eagle Lake revitalization effort, spoke to the group, asking for free county dump privileges for Eagle Lake residents involved in a clean-up campaign.

The resignation of election judge, Mrs. Miller Kincheloe of precinct 7 for Sheridan, was accepted and alternate judge Reggie Brice was appointed to take her place. A new alternate will be appointed.

The ambulance policies covered guidelines for operation of the three county supported ambulance corps, as well as any private ambulance service. They involved written definitions for various types of transportation by ambulance, waiting period costs and various other items.

The policies also outlined reimbursement procedures for private carriers. After a private carrier transports a patient in non-emergency situations, that carrier must attempt to collect for the service. However, if not paid in 60

days, they can file with the county to be paid. The majority of commissioners felt the county has a responsibility to pay for matters involving the health and well-being of county residents, and established this reimbursement policy to help keep private ambulance transport services available to the citizens.

However, just because the county pays for a citizen's service after the 60 days, doesn't mean the service is free to county residents. Commissioners also adopted legal guidelines they will use to file in Justice of the Peace court against persons not deemed to be indigent. If you have not paid for ambulance service and the county pays the private carrier for you, the county ultimately will go to collect if it feels you should be able to pay.

Commissioners agreed to Mrs. Klockman's request, made on behalf of the Eagle Lake revitalization committee, that the court will ask Sprint Materials Co., operators of the county dump sites, to open the dump one Saturday a month free to residents. The committee, as its first major project, will initiate a city-wide clean-up campaign as one of the early steps in reshaping the looks and economies of the city.

On the other hand, court discussed the solid waste disposal situation in Colorado County. Sprint hauls solid waste sludge from

Houston sewer plants into the county for dumping. That action is sanctioned by the state health department. The material is disked into the soil, and said to be of no health hazard to county residents.

The point was brought up on reference to a new dump site across from Rice Consolidated school district's high school in Altair.

Although there was no action asked, County Judge Lester Cranek told court members to think about their position. He was asked to ask court members to consider joining in a \$100,000 study to be made of solid waste disposal in the Houston metropolitan area, including Colorado County.

Commissioner Billy Stiles, expressing dissatisfaction with the Sprint dumping, made two points. First, he said he felt we should not support a study that may ultimately decide that Colorado County is a perfect dumping grounds.

Continued on Page 4

Tax rate set for county

A rate of 28.202 cents tax due for each one hundred dollars of property you own was set Monday by Colorado County Commissioners Court.

That rate, compared to last year's rate of 28.8 cents, was established after tax assessor-collector Bill Youens presented commissioners a final, certified listing of property valuations that took the computer most of the night, to print, and filled four volumes with 11 by 14-inch paper more than two inches thick each.

Commissioners set the budget earlier this month, but waited until now to set the rate, so they could be fairly assured of generating tax revenues to meet expected expenditures. Funds generated by the rate are an increase of more than 22 percent according to commissioners and county judge Lester Cranek.

Revenues generated from the property in the county for the past three years have been up less than three percent, while inflation has increased in double digit numbers.

Youens spoke out Monday morning in defense of his office and staff. At the last commissioners' meeting, Judge Cranek told fellow court members the property valuations used to set the budget had decreased by seven million. While he did not fully explain the decrease then, Youens did Monday, telling the court that the larger number used in budget preparations was a preliminary estimate. He said that his advice of reducing that preliminary number by at least one percent apparently was not followed. Explaining that as the tax rate was entered into the computer for the first time, then checked and re-verified, properties were found that were not previously on the role, while others were found that were duplicated.

Computerizing the records was a massive effort. However, information now can be extracted from the

Religious lectures Monday, Tuesday

Gate, Dr. Pinson was pastor of First Baptist Church of Wichita Falls, Texas, for two years. From 1963-1975 he was professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern Seminary.

He was associate secretary of the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas from 1957-1963, vice president of that convention in 1976, and chairman of the Order of Business Committee of the convention in 1976. He served as chairman of the Baptist World Alliance study commission on freedom, justice and peace from 1975 to 1980 and currently serves on the Commission on Doctrine and Interchurch Cooperation.

A prolific writer, Dr. Pinson has authored nine books and co-authored five, including the 13-volume "Twenty Centuries of Great Preaching." In addition, he has contributed to 18 other books and had numerous articles published in more than 11 magazines and journals. Among the most recent books are "Families with Purpose" and "The Word Topical Bible."

He has been listed in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in Religion, Who's Who in the South and Southwest, the Director of American Scholars, the Dictionary of International Biography, Men of Distinction, Men of Achievement, Who's Who in California, and Outstanding Young Men of America. In 1960, he was selected as a distinguished alumnus of North Texas State University.

Dr. Pinson was born August 3, 1934 in Fort

3rd graders to draw fire safety posters

Once again third graders in the Rice Consolidated School District will be drawing fire prevention week posters and looking forward to prizes awarded by Eagle Lake Insurance Agency.

Fire Prevention Week starts Monday, October 4. The program is aimed at educating children and adults in the measures of fire safety as an attempt to prevent fires that last year claimed 9,000 Americans.

More than 100 third graders at the schools in Eagle Lake, Sheridan and Garwood will be asked to draw posters. Winners will be announced the second week in October.

Each participating third grader receives a fire helmet, and "Junior Fire Marshall" T-shirt will go to the two top poster drawers in each third grade room, according to Maxine Griffith, who with her husband Robert, own the local insurance agency.

The special promotion is sponsored in conjunction with The Hartford Insurance company.

The poster contest isn't all either. On the more serious side, teachers have been given a manual, "Teaching About Fire," to help students learn and understand the dangers, and what can be done to improve safety to save lives.

Also, a film strip has been made available to use in teaching students.