

Features



The old stands proudly alongside the new in front of the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department station on Post Office Street. Recently refurbished, the 1924 truck stands to the right of an older truck, back when both were in service. Note the thin hard rubber wheels which were replaced.

In this photo, loaned by William Harrison Sr., the 1924 truck stands to the right of an older truck, back when both were in service. Note the thin hard rubber wheels which were replaced.



The metal work on the truck was stripped down, cleaned and polished to add to the truck's brand new appearance.

A large chain drive transferred power from the engine to the rear wheels to drive the truck.



The front bumper of the 1924 truck was spring mounted to absorb shocks. Such a feature on today's automobiles is "new." The hand crank in the lower right of the photo still works.

Eagle Lake has a new 'old' showpiece

To take a giant step back in time—say about 55 years—just keep your eyes and ears open the next time there's a parade in the area. What you'll see and hear is a 1924 model American LaFrance fire truck that the volunteers of the Eagle Lake fire department have so painstakingly rebuilt.

For some time, members of the department had talked about having it rebuilt. But it wasn't until this spring that they got something started, according to L. J. Sonny Spaniel, who has been with the department more than 40 years.

He called Sheriff Jim Brounard to find out where their old bus had been rebuilt, and was told the work was done at the Texas Department of Corrections facility at Huntville.

With the help of a truck from Eagle Lake Implement Co., and three or four of the firemen, the old fire truck was loaded and taken to Huntville. After only a couple of inspection trips to watch work in progress, the implement company truck and crew picked up the new looking shiny red truck and brought it home the first of September. It was gone less than six months.

Some of the firemen and to Harold Raabe, who runs the service department at J. F. Miller Ford, corrections were made.

Almost like new For the novice, looking at the truck, you might think it is brand new. Unless you are a fire engine buff, it would be difficult to see that use of the rear fenders was rebuilt, or that some of the other parts aren't exactly new.

All the wood on the truck, like the running boards, are new, and the water pump was changed. Raabe made a change in the cooling system which was designed to allow some water to flow out through the exhaust manifold which is not muffled making the truck quite loud.

The truck was designed with a large flywheel as a power take-off for the pump and other auxiliary equipment. To operate the siren, for instance, depress one of two pedals on the front floor board, and the rotation of the flywheel provided power to the siren.

Spaniel pointed out the truck's front bumper, with a reminder of the machine's age. The bumper is spring mounted so when the truck hit something, all of the force of a collision would not be transferred to the frame.

Also of note is the chain drive on the rear wheels. When it was delivered, it had coal oil lights and two lock rubber tires. The truck was wired and inflatable tires were added. Those same tires are on it today.

So, the next time there's a parade around, be on the lookout for the new Eagle Lake fire truck. And, remember when it used to be one of the department's main pieces of equipment.

Obituaries

Mrs. Geraldine Cason, former resident, dies

Mrs. Geraldine Cason, long time resident of Eagle Lake, passed away Sunday after a brief illness in St. Luke's Hospital in Houston. Funeral services were held Tuesday at 2 p.m. from the Mill-Bauer Chapel with the Reverend Charles Runk and the Reverend Lorena Matthews officiating. Clara Mae Nash provided the organ accompaniment.

Interment followed at the Lakeside Cemetery. Pallbearers were Johnny Vasut, Charlie Vasut, Emil Hamilton, Machian and Frank Tate. Mrs. Cason was born to James L. Walker and Clara G. Taylor in Columbus on October 26, 1903. She was a lifelong resident of Colorado County and lived

in the Eagle Lake area during her adult life. She founded and was past president of the Eagle Lake Garden Club and served as its secretary for years. She was also an active member of the United Methodist Church, Eagle Lake, the Anita Wilcox Circle of the United Methodist Church, the Retired Teachers

Irene Sunderman's mother dies

Mrs. Jewell Dutcher, mother of Irene Sunderman, died Friday in the Ganado Hospital after a sudden illness. Mrs. Dutcher was 78. Funeral services were conducted Sunday at 2 p.m. from the United Methodist Church in Ganado. Pastor Bernard Ritchie officiated at the service.

Mrs. Dutcher was born June 15, 1904 in Markham, Texas to Captain J.A. and Vina Barnett. In 1925 she married Albert W.E. Dutcher who died in 1951 and a son James Dutcher who died in 1959. She is survived by a son, Albert Dutcher of Ganado; her daughter, Mrs. Eleanor Sunderman of Eagle Lake; a sister, Mrs. Jimmy Hall of Pledger; thirteen grandchildren; 9 great grand-

Farm Bureau week

The Texas Farm Bureau is 50 years old this year. Feb. 7-12, 1983, has been designated as Farm Bureau Week in Colorado County in recognition of the observance.

The week is part of a state-wide observance during which county farm bureaus will make a special effort to enroll new members according to Leon Hattermann of Weimar, president of the Colorado County Farm Bureau. Ted Wiese of Altair is chairman of the membership committee which is

Soil Conservation News

Gully control Gullies occur in most parts of Colorado County. They are caused by the collection, in narrow channels, of water which removes soil from the area to depths ranging from one to two feet to as much as 20 to 25 feet. They may occur along roadsides, in pastures, or in cropland fields leaving unsightly erosive scars on the land which are rough and unproductive.

The Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District provides technical assistance through the local personnel of the Soil Conservation Service in helping farmers and ranchers treat conservation problems such as gullies. Cost-sharing assistance is also available through the local ASCS office for gully shaping and other conservation practices.

Police working on case involving Goodyear tires

Officials of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. began working with Eagle Lake police last Friday on a case involving the embezzlement in Houston of an estimated \$300,000 worth of tires.

The Eagle Lake connection, according to police chief Gil Steen, involved area truckers purchasing tires in Houston. The purchasers are in no trouble whatsoever, Steen said Tuesday. In fact, when the company representative finds tires in the area that are involved, the company is replacing them free of charge.

Vo-ed week Feb. 6-12

February 6-12 is National Vocational Education Week. Groups participating in the Future Homemakers of America, Future Farmers of America, Vocational Overseas Education, VICA (cosmology and auto mechanics) and Industrial Cooperative Training.

Goals set for commission

New officers were elected and goals set for the next term of the Colorado County Historical Commission at its orientation meeting Thursday afternoon in Columbus.

Demand for booth space good

According to Candy McCreary, chairman of the Festival Committee, response for booths and exhibit space for the spring festival has been very good.

Volleyball Schedule

The volleyball schedule for the next two weeks is as follows: February 6, 6 p.m.: teams 3 vs 9, 4 vs 10; 7 p.m.: teams 1 vs 7, 6 vs 12; 8 p.m.: teams 5 vs 11, 2 vs 8.

Josh Ashton, Jr., employee at Ashby Oil Co., dies

Funeral services were held for Josh Ashton, Jr., 61, on Wednesday, January 26 at 2 p.m. from the Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Eagle Lake with Rev. R. Kiser, pastor, and Rev. Coby Shorter, Jr. officiating. Interment was in Williams Cemetery in Vox Populi.

Josh Ashton, Jr. was born to Josh and Lena Ashton in Colorado County on March 1, 1921. He attended school in Colorado County and was called to the U.S. Army in 1941. He was united in marriage to Miss Evelyn Turner in 1948; to this union two children were born.

He had many talents; he invested his talents in helping mankind. Everyone that knew him, loved him. He entered eternal rest Sunday, January 23 at 2:30 a.m.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Evelyn Ashton; sons, Josh, III and James; daughters, Mrs. Frank and Peggy of Eagle Lake; grandchildren, Bonita, Josh, IV, Dawryn, Kimberly, Demetra, Bodrick; sisters, Mrs.

Mrs. Marshall's daughter dies

Friends of Mrs. C.E. Marshall and Mrs. J.R. Thomas were saddened to learn of the death of Mrs. Marshall's daughter, Mrs. John Juantia Kellum, on January 16.

Dentist's brother dies

E.D. Johnson, brother-in-law to Dr. Rose Roquemore, died suddenly of a heart attack while on hunting. Funeral services were held in Louisiana last week. Deepest sympathy is expressed to Dr. Roquemore and her family at this loss.

Anna Ripper, 78, dies

Services are pending for Mrs. Anna F. Ripper, age 78, of Eagle Lake. Mrs. Ripper passed away Tuesday morning at the Heritage House Nursing Home. Arrangements are being made by the Mill Bauer Funeral Home.

Tune in this week: Feb. 7-13

THE GREATEST COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCHEDULE EVER.

SYRACUSE vs. PITTSBURGH	Monday 7 PM
ODU vs. MARQUETTE	Tuesday 8 PM
MARYLAND vs. WAKE FOREST	Wednesday 6 PM
VIRGINIA vs. NO. CAROLINA	Thursday 8 PM
MARYLAND vs. DUKE	Saturday Noon
ILLINOIS vs. IOWA	Saturday 8 PM
SO. ALABAMA vs. WEST KENTUCKY	Sunday 4 PM



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Will Be At Sears Catalog Store
103 W. Main Street-Eagle Lake
Friday, February 4
10 a.m.-1 p.m. 2-5 p.m.