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## Tennis courts are set for new face lift

The Tennis Association of the Eagle Lake Recreation Center is planning to revamp the city tennis courts. A special paint will be brushed on the existing surface in order to safeguard the asphalt and some asphalt will be added to the sides of the courts this we hope will discourage the grass to grow over the double lines.

The association is asking friends and patrons to donate \$25 or more to build up a fund toward installing lights for night playing, to move the

backboard to the back of the courts and to eventually afford to resurface the courts.

Should you be interested in supporting this project please contact one of the following: Bill Appel, Joe Dumes, Charles Abel, Nelson Isenhower, Michele Isenhower.

# Eagle Lake Headlight

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## School gets 'okay' for option period



Eagle Lake's first baby

Felipe and Susie Castillo of 523 Fairview in Eagle Lake are the proud parents of the city's first baby of the year born at Eagle Lake Community Hospital. Dr. Russell Thomas who made the delivery, holds the little girl who weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces at birth, and was

about 19.5 inches long. She was born January 9, at 1:50 a.m., and was named Elizette Castillo. The first baby of the year born at the hospital was a daughter born to Columbus parents, and also was delivered by Dr. Thomas.

The problem of how to give some Rice High School students the opportunity to take more elective classes, without forcing other students into an additional class, was solved Monday. That is, it was solved until other problems present themselves, one board member said.

After a long explanation by Supt. Harold King, to the board and some interested teachers and parents, the board approved King's recommendation of adding an optional seventh period to the high school's current six-period schedule. There was no comment from the audience.

The only thing to be offered in that 7th period will be band and athletics.

Students not taking those two subjects will be dismissed at the end of 6th period. Band and athletic students will be dismissed at the end of 7th period, and students who stay after school for extra band or sports practice, will go home even later.

King said the major problem with that schedule is that the transportation system will have three different times to take students home.

The board faced the schedule adjustment task for the 1983-84 school year, because students in advanced courses must take another required credit for graduation. This year, they need 20 credits, but next year they need 21. There are 24 credits possible during a student's four years in high school, one-half credit is earned for each course each semester.

The early suggestion that a seventh period be added for all students was rejected by faculty, the administration and some students. One reason for the rejection, King said, was that "We have many, many kids in our high school. I'd guess more than 50 percent, that can't handle or don't have interest in 7 periods. You would have to assign them to a class or offer study halls, and we don't like them (study halls) as we think they are non-productive," he said.

Anything we do now is kind of on a trial basis," King said. Some of the many rules established last year by the legislature still are being interpreted by the Texas Education Agency, and may cause future changes. For instance, the tutorial program for students who fail courses, according to some, should be held after school, but others think it should be held during school. In a city where the school is

## Bock's is 'True Value' dealer

The first shipment of merchandise from the nation-wide, well-known True Value hardware company is expected in Eagle Lake any day now, John Bock said Monday.

Hallettsville native John and his wife Frances recently purchased Spaulinger Hardware on Main St., and renamed it Eagle Lake Farm and Home Supply. The Bock's and their two children, Angela, 6, and Miranda, 20 months, live in Hallettsville but plan on moving to the Eagle Lake area.

In addition to becoming part of the True Value hardware system, the store has expanded its feed department, and now is a distributor of M-G Feeds out of Weimar, another well-known area brand. The Bock's also will add the complete TrueTest line of paints, and expand the cattle care health aid products.

"That's probably about all we are going to do this year," John said. Some of the store layout is changing, but basically he said the stock is in real good condition.

As for the staff, Kate and Charlie Spaulinger will be there for some time to help with the transition, and other familiar faces still are there to serve customers: Rex Sanders, John Young and Heidi Mills. John Bock is there during store hours, with Frances driving over to help out on Saturdays. Store hours remain the same: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

With the purchase of the hardware store on January 1, the Spaulinger name ends its 45-year association with the hardware business in Eagle Lake. William Spaulinger and son Lloyd purchased the International Harvester dealership on January 1, 1980, from the Frank Stephens Co. They purchased the Stephens Co. hardware department a year later.

On June 1, 1948, the International Harvester dealership was sold to Lloyd and Louise Spaulinger purchased his dad's interest in the hardware business.

Charles and Kate Spaulinger bought the hardware store from his brother on December 1, 1967.

Bock said he purchased the store because he felt it was a solid business. He was a salesman for a wholesale hardware supplier, and had been calling on the Spaulingers since 1980. "If they (the Spaulingers) can be successful," Bock said, "hopefully that will continue."

"We hope everyone will continue their patronage of our store," he added.

The sheriff's department is investigating the death of a three-year-old boy, who was admitted to Community Hospital in Columbus about 4:30 p.m. last Friday, but died 60 minutes later.

According to a report, the child suffered a head wound. A spokesman for the sheriff's office said they are awaiting an autopsy report.

leading vote getter on the ballot, except for one year that I had an opponent.

I also was elected president of the Texas Association of Taxpayers in 1963 and served through the chair.

My office had very good relations with the voters and tax payers for those 28 years. Again, my thanks.

Sincerely,  
Henry J. Hajovsky  
Private Citizen

## Hajovsky says thanks to county taxpayers

## Commissioners hold new year 'housekeeping' session

With a few exceptions, Colorado County commissioners spent the majority of their first meeting of the year taking care of "new year's housekeeping" chores. They approved bids on two new cruisers for the sheriff's department, and work on the Department of Public Safety Building.

Then, they spent time putting into effect the budgeting work they completed last fall.

A major change this year is that the county will make quarterly allocations of its funds to the agencies it supports, rather than make all the payments in January. The idea is to keep county money in county-owned interest bearing accounts. For instance, the county pays the 4-County Council on Alcoholism \$10,000 for the work it does in Colorado County. Last year the agency received its money in one check in January, but this year will receive \$2,500 this month, then another \$2,500 in April, July and October.

Among other in-county agencies that will receive their money quarterly (with their annual amount listed here) are:

- \*Fire departments: Eagle Lake, Columbus and Weimar, \$5517.60 each; Sheridan, \$1,586; Garwood, \$4,502; Rock Island, Freisburg, and Bernardo, \$1103.50 each; Libraries: Eagle Lake, Columbus and Weimar, \$3781.25; Garwood, \$2,610, and Sheridan, \$1,740.
- Their other new year's chores included approving the number of employees and the salaries the county pays. There were no changes from the amounts established in the fall. County judge Lester Crane, who earned \$22,540 last year, will earn \$23,667 this year, plus expenses; commissioners earned \$20,088 last year and this year will draw \$21,092.40 plus expenses. Some other salaries in clear county clerk, \$21,280 last year and \$22,218 this year; tax assessor-collector Henry Hajovsky (See Letter to the Editor) earned \$21,140 last year, and retired Dec. 31. The newly elected assessor-collector, Evelyn Thomas, will earn only \$16,000, because commissioners felt the job was not as large now, since many of the tax duties were taken from that office and given to the central appraisal district; county attorney \$20,222 last year, and

\$21,243.60 this year. Those increases are based on the county-wide five percent increase commissioners granted all county employees. The county will continue to pay employees 25 cents a mile reimbursement when using their personal vehicle for county work. That is the same rate the state pays.

There was some discussion, initiated by Otto Loezin, that perhaps the county could reduce its budget by reducing the number of Justices of the Peace. Crane said a similar discussion about the number of voting boxes raised the criticism that the smaller communities' identities would be jeopardized. No action was taken.

Riceland Ford-Mercury of Eagle Lake was the low bidder on the two new patrol cars for Sheriff Jim Broussard. They bid \$20,926.32, with a 90-day delivery. Other bidders were Lake Motors, Brasher Motors and Morrisroe Ford.

Another Eagle Lake firm was the low bidder on one of the repair and painting jobs the county has been advertising. Morales and Ross bid \$16,550

for repairs to portions of the Courthouse. However, commissioners will make a decision on that work later this week. They did award the bid on work on the county public safety building, Barta Construction was the low bidder at \$2,192.46. Morales bid \$3,265; Baker Electric of Oak Spring bid \$3,560 and L&M Wall Covering bid \$3,747. The highest bid on the courthouse was \$26,796.

In other business, commissioners authorized the county to advertise for bids:

- \*\*For a county funds depository as required by law that they be named each two years on the year following general elections.
- \*\*For lime used in repair of weather. Johnson said there were no problems on the street here. In fact, he said, we were real fortunate there was a lot of courtesy on the streets.

At last week's city council meeting, Chief Johnson gave a report on recent police activity.

In December, he said five people were arrested for public intoxication, two for disorderly conduct, one for criminal trespass, and one ticket was written for a traffic offense. Three warrants were served, and one stolen vehicle was recovered.

The department recovered two stolen "V" years in missing," the chief said, "some by and identify it for us."

## Reward offered for school damage

A \$25 reward was posted this week in connection with severe damage done sometime this weekend to the playground area near Eagle Lake Middle School.

According to Eagle Lake police chief Ben Johnson, someone drove a vehicle onto the grounds probably Sunday night, and made four "doughnuts" in the mud. He said the vehicle apparently became stuck, and had to be pulled free by some other vehicle. No arrests have been made.

Johnson said damage was so extensive, the school district will have to use a grader to smooth the area before it can be used this spring for baseball practice sessions.

He said the police department can be contacted for information on the reward.

In other police business, an Eagle Lake man was arrested last week on burglary charges involving a break-in at Coastal Contracting.

Kenneth Humphreys 30, of the 500 block of First St., was lodged in the Colorado County jail after his arrest on January 10. Judge M.M. Jones set bond at \$5,000. Humphreys was in parole from a TDC unit for an earlier conviction.

Police also investigated a burglary at the Jazz Room on Sunday, January 8. They are working with Sheriff Jim Broussard's deputies on the investigation.

As for last weekend's freezing