

McDonalds to gross \$1 million ; restaurant to be open by mid-June

Approval of an annexation ordinance probably will be swift next Tuesday in Columbus, paving the way for a new McDonalds on U.S. 71 at I-10. If everything goes according to plan, construction on the

restaurant could begin around mid-March, and the building ready for the public as early as mid-June. City manager George Purefoy said Monday he saw no problems with the annexation petition.

For a long time, he said, it was suspected that it was a Chicano problem. But, that is disproved through death certificate records. Each year there are 10-12 inhalant deaths in Texas and only three of them might have Chicano surnames. The rest are from Anglo families, with a few from black families.

Just recently, he said, a group of Anglo kids in Austin stole a canister of laughing gas from a dentist's office. They got under a canvas sheet, released the gas, and the result was that one kid died.

The Youth Advocacy Program now is nationally recognized and has had influence on legislators who have stiffened the inhalant abuse laws. There are 20 chemicals on the list that stores are required to know about. Those sprays are not for sale to youngsters 17 and under. One Lions Club member said he went his teenage son to a store here to get a can of spray paint for work he was doing at home, but the store refused to sell it to the boy. The law is the reason.

Flares noted that referring to inhalant abusers as "glue sniffers" now is a misnomer. When he was a young teen, he sniffed glue, but through adults he associated with, was able to realize the danger, and stopped. Because of the widespread glue sniffing in the decade of the 1960s, Testor's, the glue manufacturer, started adding a mustard or horseradish extract to the glue to make it painful to sniff.

Inhalant manufacturers also are looking for a similar additive. But, the job for all adults is to understand the problem, and help keep it from occurring, Flores said. If your child, starts losing a lot of interest in school work and activities, and withdrawing from family life, then you should investigate. Physical signs of abuse include bloodshot eyes, irrational behavior, and a tendency toward more violent and aggressive action. Pamphlets on the subject recommend that you should make an effort to talk it out with the kid when the child isn't under the influence, and when the parent or adult isn't mad. "If you can't deal with

this type of counseling," he said, "contact your school or one of the programs in Houston for advice."

Johnson said his department can get involved and its position is to help with counseling, and use the criminal justice system only as a last resort. The police department here has a list of programs, and their telephone numbers, to help parents contact agencies. Another source of help, Johnson suggested, is your family doctor.

Remember, Flores said, sniffing drugs causes immediate damage to the brain, and over a period of time signs of mental retardation appear. It also affects lungs, liver, bone marrow and kidneys, he said.

Eagle Lake Headlight

Inhalant abuse discussed by Austin expert

By JOHN F. FEARING

One area of police enforcement that has been on the mind of Ben Johnson, police chief here since the first of the year, is "inhalant" abuse.

Recently, he said a man in his 20s, who had been sniffing spray paint, was found with a plastic bag over his head. "He was totally out of it," Johnson said. Had the man not been found, he likely would have died, the chief added.

Because of that, and his contact with stores that sell materials listed under state law as abused inhalants, Johnson invited Jesse Flores, to speak in Eagle Lake last Thursday. Johnson wants the stores to know that materials on the abused inhalants list need to be

Flores is director of the Youth Advocacy Program in Austin that has been operating for a decade as a private, non-profit organization to work with youngsters who inhale various chemicals to get "high."

He spoke here to Charles Abel, principal of the Middle School, and to members of the Lions Club.

Upon prompting, Flores noted that statistics show that inhalants are abused by youngsters from all classes and families of financial standing, but more often males are in-

volved than females. For a long time, he said, it was suspected that it was a Chicano problem. But, that is disproved through death certificate records. Each year there are 10-12 inhalant deaths in Texas and only three of them might have Chicano surnames. The rest are from Anglo families, with a few from black families.

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MAGIKOTER

PICTURE IT PAINTED!

Four file for city elections; three file for school board

Peggy J. Byrn, Lena Hutchison, Joe Duncan and Alvin W. Kohleffel filed this week for the City of Eagle Lake council election. Kohleffel has been a councilman for 24 years. Councilman Mike Duarte said last week he has not made a decision on becoming a candidate again, and one-term councilman Dub Alley said he did not intend to file again.

John R. Thomas of Eagle Lake filed for the Rice School District race along with incumbents Reggie Brisco and Billy Hefner. Bill Appelt of Eagle Lake said last week he will run again but has not made it official by filing papers at the district's administrative office on the Rice High School campus.

Both the city and school election will be held on Saturday, April 6, with Wednesday March 6 the last date to file as a candidate.

Byrn, 55, lives at 301 N. McCarty and uses P.O. Box 443, Eagle Lake, as her mailing address. She has lived in Texas for 35 years and in Eagle Lake four years. She filed Monday, and listed Susan Ferns of 5206 Grape St., Houston, as her campaign treasurer.

Lena Hutchison, 31, of 304 Walnut, Eagle Lake, filed Tuesday. She has lived in Texas for 35 years and in Eagle Lake four years. She filed Monday, and listed Susan Ferns of 5206 Grape St., Houston, as her campaign treasurer.

Joe Duncan, 55, of 315 W. Waverly in Eagle Lake, filed Tuesday. He lists his mailing address as P.O. Box 395, Eagle Lake, and he and his wife Martha operate the Duncan and Son clothing store here. He designated himself as campaign treasurer. He has lived in Texas for 38 years and is a long-time area resident but has lived in the city for the past three years.

Kohleffel, 69, lives at 1218 E. Main, and receives his mail at P.O. Box 766. A rice farmer, he has lived in Eagle Lake all his life. He filed Tuesday and will be his own campaign treasurer.

For school board, in addition to incumbents Brisco and Hefner, is John Ralph Thomas, 39, lives at 114 Vinna Lane, Eagle Lake, and uses P.O. Box 783 here as his mailing address. He owns and operates WildSeed, Inc., and American Hydro-Grass. He filed his candidate papers on Monday. Thomas has lived in the district for 39 years, and is his own campaign treasurer.

Items needed now for Museum garage sale

Once again the Prairie Edge Museum is planning a garage sale to provide funding for maintenance and expansion. Anyone wishing to contribute items can take their things to the museum almost any morning from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., or on Saturday and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. when the museum is open to the public.

The sale is scheduled for March 8 and 9, and "anything and everything" can be donated for sale.

Ernie Grimes new police officer

Ernie Grimes, Ft. Bend County resident, is the newest member of the Eagle Lake Police Department, taking the place of Darrell Phillips who left the force this month.

Grimes started work here Monday. He most recently was a deputy constable for precinct three constable R. G. Parker. He has been in law enforcement more than eight years, has attended many law enforcement schools and seminars, and has expertise in civil process law. He said one of the reasons he accepted the job here was to give him experience in criminal law. He also prefers working in smaller communities. He is not married.

Grimes and his 18-year-old son, Greg, lives in Richmond.

Officer A. Munoz resigns from force

Eagle Lake police officer Andy Munoz handed in his letter of resignation from the force Monday, February 28, which was his last day on the job here. Munoz said he resigned after a discussion with Chief Ben Johnson said the resignation came after such a discussion, but said he should not elaborate because it was a personnel matter.

Munoz has been on the police force here as a patrolman for about three years.

Rotary pancake eater

Three-and-a-half year-old Jim Thornton wasn't shy Tuesday night at the Eagle Lake Rotary Club Pancake Supper. Although others diners may not have used the fingers-in-the-plate method, they too wolfed down the delicious cakes and sausage. Jim is the son of Bob and Jane Thornton of East Bernard.

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Ten to compete in steer judging

Ten vocational agriculture students at Rice High School will be exhibitors in the Commercial Steer Division of the Houston Livestock Show Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week.

The local youngsters will be competing with about 60 other youth from throughout Texas for recognition and prizes. Each participant has been feeding three steers on a commercial feed lot basis. The contestants will be judged on written exam, interviews, grading of steers, feed conversion, gain in weight of steers per day, cost of production, cleanliness of pens and record-keeping accuracy.

Rice students participating include Rob Pavia, Duane Kornek, James Havens, Leslie Sunderman, Vance Corman, Louis Mahalic, Shari Popp, Bill Hefner, DeWayne Doplas and DeWhite Doplas.

First place winner in the competition wins \$1,000 cash and a new pickup truck, compliments of KKKK Radio, Houston; second place, \$500 cash and a neckerchief; third place, \$250 cash; fourth place, \$200 cash. The "rookie of the year" contestant receives a \$500 cash prize.

Vocational agriculture teachers at Rice High School are Ronel Roberts, Finest Axel and Mike Mahon.

There were no participants in the Commercial Steer Division of the Houston show from either Weimar High School or Columbus High School, according to spokespersons at both Weimar and Columbus.

Easter Bunny to visit here again

The Easter Bunny is coming to Eagle Lake again, according to the Chamber of Commerce's active retail trade development committee.

The chamber's board of directors met Monday at noon at the Snack Center and discussed other committee reports, including possible development of a "Citizen of the Year" or "Employee of the Year" award. President Don Bandy brought up the awards idea. "This might increase Chamber program and banquet interest," Bandy suggested. Board member Kate Spangler said the chamber used to sponsor a similar program here, but she did not know why it was discontinued.

John Mahalic made suggestions, and William H. Harrison said perhaps a "Citizen of the Year" could be awarded one year, and the "Employee of the Year" the next.

Bandy said he may appoint a committee to discuss development. He said he attended this year's Columbus Chamber banquet, where they give such awards. There were twice as many people at that banquet, he said, than attended the Eagle Lake chamber banquet in January.

As for the Easter Bunny, Mrs. Mahalic, retail committee chairman, said after the meeting the Bunny would visit sometime before Easter Sunday on April 7. Promotional ties-in with local stores during the visit will be discussed by the committee.

In other business, the board: *Scheduled its next meeting at The Lone Star Plaza and Sandwich Shoppe on March 18.

Agreed to share up to \$150 of the costs of the trophies awarded recently at the Rice FFA chapter project sale. Total cost of the trophies is \$387.

Remember the Eagle Lake High School class of 1939 reunion held here last year? A member of that class, Donald Winnett, suffered a stroke Sunday at his home, according to Elmer Struss. He suggested his friends here send him a get-well card to cheer him up.

Donald, who is retired from the Air Force, is in St. John's Hospital, room 436, 2650 Space Park Blvd., Vietnam Bay, Texas, 77058. The hospital is opposite the Johnson Space Center there. Donald has many friends and relatives in the Eagle Lake area.

Speedy recovery is wished

*Friends with Mrs. Jerry Linda Hesse of Aqua Dulce wish a speedy recovery. She underwent back surgery in Spohn Hospital in Corpus Christi on February 13 for a ruptured disk. She is recuperating at home with the help of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Brethaupt and her 6-1/2 Mrs. and Mrs. Fred Hesse.

What if it had been awake?

*Sleep peacefully citizens, your police force is on duty. Last Wednesday afternoon Chad Johnson answered a dangerous call in front of Bill's

Win vacation at Wilcox

Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Cone were presented information last week by Robert Wilcox on the Hawaiian vacation they won. Mr. Cone's name was drawn from those submitted by the Minimax here and the 29 other Minimax supermarkets as part of the month-long January Anniversary Celebration. The Cones will enjoy accommodations for seven nights at the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Honolulu. The vacation includes round-trip flights, membership in the Waikiki Beach Club, \$600 for meals and incidental expenses, and other items. In presenting the trip vouchers last week, Wilcox wished the Cones a "great vacation" and expressed appreciation to all the Wilcox Minimax customers who participated in the vacation promotion.

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