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Eagle Lake Headlight

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Garwood street to get 10-ton load limit

Sheridan sewer plant application to get second try

The old saying, "Well keep doing it until we get it right," was meant as humor but was applied Monday to a very serious plan to build a sanitary sewerage plant in the Sheridan area.

Because of the state control of federal community development funds, applications for community improvement grants to a regional review board can be resubmitted, year after year. Grants are made on a point basis, and the grant application with the most points get the money.

Monday, Colorado County commissioners adopted a resolution to resubmit last year's proposal. That gives the application 10 to 25 points more than it scored last year, when it ranked in the lower half of the 34 applications submitted. Of those, 12 were funded. Bruce J. Spitzengel, consultant to the commissioners who wrote last year's proposal, said Monday he expected 30 to 40 applications this year, and that eight to ten of them would receive funding.

"Those people (in the Sheridan area) need it badly,"

county judge Lester Crank said. He is a member of the regional review committee. Rafael Veselka, who now is the commissioners for the Sheridan area because of a boundary change last year, agreed. Spitzengel said that at two public hearings in the area last year, 50 to 60 people attended, and were very vocal in their support of the plan. He explained that if the half-million dollar grant isn't funded, in the entire, the plant and some of the sewer pipe could be constructed, with additions made in later years, much like the fresh water system there.

Rice board receives strict football rules

If this were football season in grades 9 through 12 would be intelligent to participate because of the strict state rules, according to a report heard by the district's board of education last week.

The board held its March meeting last Thursday, March 7, instead of this week's Spring break schedule. Among other items on the agenda were adoption of the 1985-86 school calendar, discussion of eligibility for career ladder bonus pay for teachers, and the acceptance of resignation of four teachers, including two coaches at the high school.

The district turned in a report to the state education agency after the 4th six-week grading period, to show how many students were knocked out of extra-curricular activities. Rules this year prohibit such participation if a student is failing at least one course.

If this were football season, Harold working with 18 football players would be ineligible for the team. Two members of the golf team, and nine members of the track

planned that if the half-million dollar grant isn't funded, in the entire, the plant and some of the sewer pipe could be constructed, with additions made in later years, much like the fresh water system there.

The commissioners paid Spitzengel to develop the application last year, with the agreement that he would resubmit the proposal each year at no additional consulting fee to the county. It sometimes takes two or three years to get an application approved, he said, and rarely are they funded 100 percent. Spitzengel will file the application in June, he said, and it probably will be late August or early September before its fate is known.

The discussion of Garwood streets started with Commissioners Otto Loomis and Commissioner approval to the water system there to dig up a street to replace a water main. Loomis said the main was busted, because gravel trucks use the street. He said residents also complained when a public hearing next month to load limit the street — Bonham Avenue — to 10 tons. The agenda for the meeting suggested 30 tons, which would allow empty trucks on the street. The 10 ton limit will make it illegal for them to be on the street at all.

In other business, commissioners accepted a proposal from Pierce Arthur Jr. of Columbus for a county audit as required by revenue sharing.

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Council takes look at new budget, tax rate

The city budget for the fiscal year that starts April 1 is well on its way to adoption, with a tax rate of 28-cents tax for every \$100 worth of property on the tax roll here.

City sales tax share skyrockets

The city's share of the sales tax collected on goods sold in Eagle Lake in January skyrocketed over the same period a year ago, according to a report received this week from the state.

Monday the city received a check for \$15,791.44, which is 48.3 percent more than the check received last year in March. That amount was \$10,662.88. City manager Robert Klockman said he had no explanation for the increase. A cover letter with the report from the state comptroller's office said that across Texas in general, the city checks represented large increases over March of last year, but added the reason was the way the city money was processed and did not necessarily indicate anything about the economy.

"Simply in January several really large national corporations paid late and their money is included in the March checks," a news release quoting state comptroller Bob Bullock said. March checks to cities are supposed to represent taxes collected on sales made in January

only those necessary to keep the City running — to keep existing systems (water, sewer, streets, etc.) patched," he wrote in the budget cover letter. It does not propose any new streets, water or sewer mains, parks, etc., for the City. "This is the same type of budget," Council has considered and adopted the past few years," he continued.

"As Council considers this budget, it should keep in mind that our streets will need replacement. The City's utilities, especially the sewer system, will need either major rehabilitation or replacement in some of our larger units. Also, with any luck, the Industrial Foundation may get a company to locate at their site and the City will be faced with a major utility extension," he said.

A summary of expenses and revenues shows that at this time last year, the city expected to receive \$1.04 million in revenues. Klockman thinks that by the time the books are closed at the end of this month, the city will have received \$1.24 million. For the new year that starts in little more than two weeks, Klockman thinks the revenues will be \$1.09 million.

City residents and businesses will pay only \$157,330 of that million-dollar total through property taxes, with taxable values estimated at \$62.4 million and a 10-percent non-collection rate. The remaining 88 percent of the revenue comes from other tax sources such as occupational, gross receipts, mixed drink and sales taxes, licenses and permit fees and fees, as well as from revenues generated by utility charges, and a very small portion from revenue sharing.

As for expenses, the projection for this year was to spend \$1.04 million, but the city actually will spend \$1.2 million, which is about 15 percent over budget. Council approved those additional expenses as the year progressed, including a new computer system for city hall.

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Little League baseball slated

Important dates have been established for the 1985 Eagle Lake Little League season, according to Jim Wiese, president. League officials also decided to hold another opening day barbecue on May 4.

The important date for young players is March 18. That's when registration cards will be distributed at schools to league participants. Those must be returned by March 25. Wiese said, with parents urged to help their children get the cards turned in on time.

Tryouts are scheduled for Saturday March 30. Registration fees must be paid by the players before a player can try out. Fees are the same as last year: individual registration is \$15 and for a family \$25, if paid before tryouts. After tryouts the individual fee is \$20 and the family fee is \$30.

Registration fees should be paid between 9 and 10 a.m. at the league field on tryout day, March 30. "Don't send money to the schools," Wiese emphasized. Here is the tryout schedule: boys' majors, 10 a.m. at Little League field; boys' minors, 1 p.m.; Little League field; girls' majors; Eagle Lake Middle School gym at 10 a.m., and girls' minor league, 1 p.m., middle school gym. Tryout for T-Ball will be held that day on the east side of the middle school at 10 a.m. Team selections will be made that day.

Opening day is scheduled for May 4. Games will be played all day, with the fund-raising barbecue from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., when opening day ceremonies are scheduled.

At the league meeting on Wednesday last week, Wiese was re-elected president. Other officials are Laura Hilden, secretary-treasurer; Bennie Miller in charge of boys senior league, ages 13-15; Sam Center, boys majors, ages 10-12; Draper Stephens, girls' majors, ages 10-12; Bruce Hicks, boys minors, ages 8-9; Glenda Moore, girls' minor, ages 8-9, and Clark Powers. "Ball for boys and girls ages 6-7."

Gary Glaizer is in charge of the barbecue and fund raiser. Wiese said the league, as always, is in need of volunteers: coaches, umpires, field and equipment maintenance people and barbecue workers. Volunteers can contact the appropriate person from the above list.

Wacker speaks at Columbus

The 1984 Southwest Conference Coach of the Year, Jim Wacker of Texas Christian University, will be the featured speaker at the Columbus 1984-85 All-Sports Banquet set for 7 p.m. Friday, May 3, at the Columbus Knights of Columbus Hall.

The banquet features awards to Cardinal athletes who have lettered in sports during the 1984-85 school year.



Rice school district art winners, who recently participated in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo art contest, displayed their work last week. Above, Mrs. Harold Raabe holds one of the Houston trophies won by Bonnie Bengt, left, and Jon Tillman, right. They are students of Mrs. Raabe at Eagle Lake Middle School. Below, Patrick Isenhower, center, shows the work that earned him a \$2,000 scholarship. At left is Michael Smidovic of Garwood, and Charli Jones of Eagle Lake. All three are seniors at Rice High School.

