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PRODUCED BY:
 John & Jeannine Fearing,
 Marilyn Mueller, Vannell Lueddecke,
 Shirley Lueddecke

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Thanks to the Beth's; some suggestions for future

By JOHN FEARING

The moon must be full, someone said in the office Monday morning, when we were talking about the content of this week's issue of the Headlight. There seems to be more to write about this week.

Much of this week's issue is about nice things, however, there are some unpleasant reports. However, on the pleasant side, I would like to say thanks to a few people, on behalf of the community. Also, I would like to put a bug in the ear of city council and the Industrial Foundation, about the future of our fair city.

First though, I think it would be nice for each of us to publicly express thanks to the Chamber of Commerce and its members for their sponsoring the Easter Bunny visit.

Saturday morning, and to Fred and Beth for their personal sponsorship of Saturday afternoon's Easter Egg Hunt. Those items may not be very important for some people, since they don't have young children, but, since Jeannine and my daughters are getting old enough to enjoy the fantasies of youth, like the Easter Bunny, Saturday was truly a pleasant day.

Those who say there is nothing to do here are wrong. Saturday was the first of many weekends where there is something to do. Next week, Come April Fest is scheduled. The Lion's Club golf tournament is that same weekend, and in May, the Chamber of Commerce barbecue is scheduled. Don't forget the Community Swimming Pool opens soon thereafter.

But to the matters at hand, Fred and Beth have been sponsoring the egg hunt for several years, with much success. This past Saturday was no different. As several hundred parents and children turned out, I really enjoyed the time my daughter Amy and I spent there. She even found a couple of eggs, after a little prompting from dad to join the hunters.

Thanks, Fred and Beth, and all your volunteer helpers, and to the Chamber of Commerce for making Saturday a beautiful day in Eagle Lake.

About our future

Since a lot of the discussion around town is about the current state of the economy, and since we have a "new" council sitting, it is time to stop talking about our future and start doing.

The Industrial Foundation members should take note too, since it is almost time for that group's annual meeting. Now is the perfect time to reverse the downward trend of the city. Business is down, city services are holding their own but preventive maintenance and improvements of the city's visible responsibilities are not keeping pace. And, the industrial foundation has the opportunity to make something happen here, but only if it works at it.

For the city, the mood at budget time for the past three years has been to adopt a "maintenance" budget. Don't raise taxes appears to be the thinking. The national news tells us that inflation is below four percent, but I would guess that if you really compared the cost of goods to the city purchases, it is well over the inflation rate. In fact, needed raises the city has been giving employees have been about five percent. The facts then show us that without tax increases, the city simply has to reduce spending somewhere, because revenues are keeping pace.

Where that is leading us is to a shopping tax increase sometime in the future. Eventually, streets, vehicles and buildings, if not maintained properly, will crumble, then the taxes will go up a bunch, just so the city can stay even.

Council ought to look to the future, and a taxing plan that builds for tomorrow, rather than one that works in typical knee-jerk fashion. Since city property taxes make up only about a fourth of the city's revenue, that's going to be hard to do, but, if the city kept up with a taxing plan, say of increasing taxes five to seven per cent a year, and used the money to fund improvements, we would become more attractive. Even if the

city built one mile of new streets, curbs and gutters annually, and extended sewer service a block or two at a time to the residential portions of the city where there is no service now, we would be showing improvement.

Today, just like any other point in history, is the best time to think about tomorrow, but only if we lay a plan of action. That's bound to be a better course than letting the tail wag the dog, as we are doing today.

Foundation action needed
 The Industrial Foundation has the opportunity now to leap ahead too. It will be electing new board members and new officers this month. It has in place the means to attract new business here, to replace the ones lost the last few years, if enough members will lend their active support. Membership now is mostly passive. We have ~~and~~ talked, now is the time to meet for action.

I would like to call on those people in the community who would benefit directly from new business — the merchants and businesses who sell locally. Some aren't even members of the foundation. They should volunteer their time, and probably some of their money. The time should be set up in scheduled blocks, rather than just asking for a commitment to do something when you can. Again, let's lay a plan to ferret out prospects, a plan to contact companies we know are looking for new locations (the list is long), and a plan to meet with them personally, on their ground. Any salesman knows that the personal touch is a winning sales approach.



Bunny brings smiles here this weekend

Saturday morning's visit of the Easter Bunny, and Saturday afternoon's Easter egg hunt brought smiles to many children (and parents) as a part of the festive and religious weekend. Saturday morning (right photo) Morgan Causey was all smiles when she sat in the Easter Bunny's lap. Watching in the background at right are Morgan's mother, Sue Causey, and sister, Mackenzie. The visit was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Above, youngsters and their parents scour the grass at the Eagle Lake Middle School, searching for Easter eggs, compliments of Fred and Beth of Rice Drug Store. They were looking for prizes that ranged from jelly beans to coupons the children could trade in for live rabbits.

Dull legislature interrupted by University of Texas students

The dull, business like atmosphere of the current Legislature, which has drawn complaints from Capitol-wilders hungry for a little action, was interrupted last week by all the hubbub anyone could want.

Hundreds of University of Texas students, upset with Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby's plan to triple state college tuition, marched five blocks from campus to Capitol and, unluckily for Hobby, cornered him in a hallway for a 15-minute confrontation.

When Hobby escaped into the Senate chamber, the students ran upstairs and filled the Senate gallery, where they heckled and booed as Hobby tried to explain his proposal.

Hobby stuck to his guns, however, and the following day his position was reinforced by

STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS
 By Lynell Williams
 TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

the UT Board of Regents. The Texas Student Lobby, which opposes the tuition hike, also sent apologies for the confrontation.

Dead last
 Hobby's proposal would raise in-state tuition from \$4 per hour to \$120. Texas is currently ranked 50th — dead last — among the states in tuition charges.

Before he walked out the back of the Senate chamber, Hobby told students in the

gallery, "Texas is so low that if tuition is tripled, Texas would leap up and become 48th."

An important provision of his plan dedicates nine percent for business aid, as opposed to 25 percent included in a House plan.

Scuffling match
 As if the student protest weren't enough excitement, the next day a representative and a senator, both from Houston, got into a scuffling match by the tourist desk just outside the governor's door.

The governor, who was with them when the finger-pointing and insult-grabbing began, retreated into his nearby office. A third lawmaker stepped in just as blows were about to be exchanged and broke it up, leading the senator away from the scene.

The subject of the argument was of minor importance: whether, son of them had requested an attorney general's legal opinion regarding minority contracting by the City of Houston. But, it's the local

issues which can provoke some heated debate, as demonstrated once again.

In the House
 On a more positive note, the House voted last week to:

- Increase the penalty on checks returned for insufficient funds, up to three times the amount, when the writer of a hot check refuses to pay.
- Give committee approval to a \$200 million fee hike package on items such as wrestling and boxing permits, personalized license plates and vehicle inspection fees.
- Offer a \$96.1 million package of enticements to bring a battleship home port to the Texas coast.
- Send to the Senate a bill requiring licensing and regulation of time-share interests by the Texas Real estate commission.
- Add fines up to \$2,500 for dentists who violate state rules.

Senate action
 Meanwhile, their colleagues in the Senate acted to:

—Allow police officers to use deadly force when assaulted by persons armed with modern electric "stun" guns.

—Let state banks charge a "reasonable fee" between \$18 and \$24 each year to credit card customers. This bill affecting only in-state banks attempts to give consumers a break by eliminating interest charges where the account is paid off monthly.

—Give the state the right to enter privately-owned land in order to gain access to landlocked state tracts to develop minerals.

—Apply the death penalty to mass and serial murderers.

—Include gang rape as an aggravated offense under the sexual assault statute, punishable from five years to life imprisonment.

The bill also provides for suspension, or expulsion of students for assault, possession of weapons, drugs or alcohol, or chronic bad behavior.

Mattox opinion
 Texas Attorney General Jim Mattox filed a lawsuit last week seeking a special master to oversee the charity operations of a Houston hospital for the poor.

Mattox charged that theft and mismanagement of money from the multi-million dollar Hermann Hospital Estate has occurred, presumably by some of the directors and executives of the hospital.

Colorado County Judge Lester Crane looks over the plans of the county child welfare board. At left is Linda Fitzwater, supervisor for the child protection services, and at right is Rev. Ernest Dean of Weimar, president of the county child welfare board. A dinner meeting is planned Friday for various county officials and professional people, and a public meeting will be scheduled soon, Dean said, to help others combat child abuse and neglect problems.

County Courthouse Report

DISTRICT COURT

SUITS FILED
 Carolyn Ann Stanford vs. Tommy Clint Jones; reciprocal child support; 4-1-85.

COUNTY COURT

Cases filed

Paul Thomas Kana, charged 3-29-85 with making alcoholic beverage available to a minor; No. 9410.

David Wayne Anderson, charged 3-29-85 with making alcoholic beverage available to a minor; No. 9411.

Gary Dean Fuller, charged 3-29-85 with making alcoholic beverage available to a minor; No. 9412.

Darren Paul Sloan, charged 3-29-85 with making alcoholic beverage available to a minor; No. 9413.

Darrell Brian Sullivan, charged 3-29-85 with making alcoholic beverage available to a minor; No. 9414.

Cynthia L. Danklefs, charged 3-29-85 with making alcoholic beverage available to a minor; No. 9415.

Julia Alexander, charged 3-29-85 with making alcoholic beverage available to a minor; No. 9416.

Donald Tiekens, filed a speeding appeal from Justice of the Peace Precinct 8, case set for trial 5-7-85; No. 9417.

Vernell Burley, charged 4-2-85 with theft by check; No. 9418.

Manuel Cardenas, charged 4-4-85 with driving while intoxicated; case 9419 set for 4-17-85.

GAS, OIL LEASES

Emmie Burr Darling to Roy R. Gardner, 10 acres, John Meyer Survey; 2-18-85.

Roger Kilgough Jr. to Roy R. Gardner, 10 acres, John Meyer Survey; 2-18-85.

Henry J. Hajovsky et ux to Roy R. Gardner, Lot 5, Block 72, Sheridan; 2-5-85.

Arthur Reese Price et ux to Stanley Oil Co., two acres, James Cummins Survey; 3-8-85.

Reginald Taylor et al to Maxford Exploration Co., 6291 acres, 1&GN RR Co. Survey; 3-13-85.

Centier Trust Co. et al to Haber Oil Co., Inc., 26.16 acres, Augustus Haderstrom Survey; 1-21-85.

W.F. Walters et ux to Charlie A. Hudson; 130 Acres, Colorado County; 12-20-84.

Eda Tesch to Charlie A. Hudson, 130 acres, Colorado County; 12-20-84.

Evelyn Tesch Criswell to Charlie A. Hudson, 130 acres, Colorado County; 12-20-84.

E.A. Schumaker to Charlie A. Hudson, 17.5 acres, Miguel Muldoon Survey; 12-20-84.

Roscoe Hurd to Clarence A. Cruver, 10 acres, Thomas Cartwright Survey; 5-16-84.

Gu F. Obenhaus Jr. to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 30 acres, Leander Beason One Third Lease; 7-19-84.

Margaret Marilla Wooten Shook to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 80 acres, Leander Beason One Third Lease; 6-15-84.

Helen Wooten Sanderson to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 90 acres, Leander Beason One Third Lease; 6-21-84.

William A. Harrison et ux to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 30 acres, Leander Beason One

Partition deed, Donald G. Nooka to Ernest G. Nooka; 19,934.5 acres, F.A. Zimmermarchid League; 3-12-85.

Partition deed, Ernest G. Nooka to Donald L. Nooka; 19,934.5 acres, F.A. Zimmermarchid League; 3-12-85.

Partition deed, Ernest G. Nooka et al to Donald L. Nooka; 19,934.5 acres, F.A. Zimmermarchid League; 3-12-85.

Deed, Barbara Meyer to Leobert A. Brune et ux; 14,092 acres, James Murphy Survey; 3-12-85.

Deed, Wilbertha Ulrich Lacine et ux to James H. Kahden et ux; E. 10 feet of lot 8 & W. 75 feet of lot 7 blk. 23, Weimar; 3-13-85.

Deed, Michele B. Ellis to B.J. Ellis; undivided interest, tracts of land, Columbus; 3-12-85.

Deed, Timothy A. Seaton et ux to T.L. Larson et al; 33,712 acres, Robert Maxwell Survey; 3-11-85.

Gift deed, Henry Rutledge et ux to Ralph Rutledge et ux; undivided interest in & to 62.5 acres, Dahney League; 2-26-85.

Deed, Barbara R. Wright et ux to Ralph Rutledge et ux; undivided interest in & to 62.5 acres, Dahney League; 2-26-85.

Gift deed, Clifford Leyendecker to Jackie Leyendecker; 0.431 acres, Leander Beason Survey; 2-20-85.

Deed, Barbara R. Wright et ux to Ralph Rutledge et ux; undivided interest in & to 62.5 acres, Dahney League; 2-26-85.

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Third Lease; 6-21-84.

James S. Berger et ux to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 50 acres, Leander Beason One Third Lease; 6-20-84.

Luvenia Norman to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 1.25 acres, John Hadden League; 7-18-84.

Billie Scott Jr. et ux to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 1.25 acres, John Hadden League; 7-18-84.

Tommy Bolden et al to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 44.22 acres, John Hadden League; 7-18-84.

Lester Hasted et al to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 52.22 acres, John Hadden League; 7-18-84.

John Wallace Rogers et ux to I. Jon Brook Jr., Inc., 10 acres, John Hadden League; 7-18-84.

C.G. Ackley et ux to Adena Exploration Inc., 10 acres, John Dunlavy Survey; 1-15-85.

C.G. Ackley et ux to Adena Exploration Inc., 15,974 acres, John Dunlavy Survey; 1-15-85.

McDowell Criswell et ux to Roy R. Gardner, 20 acres, Amos Alexander Survey; 2-21-85.

J.D. Ashley et ux to Roy R. Gardner, lots 1-8, 13-16, block 23, Sheridan; 2-19-85.

Gloria Griggs Hodge to Roy R. Gardner, lots 1-8, block 22, Sheridan; 2-19-85.

Morris V. Jacks to Roy R. Gardner, 10 acres, John Meyer Survey; 2-19-85.

Claude C. Harris Jr. et ux to Lincum Oil & Gas, Inc., 80 acres, James G. O'Farrell League; 3-1-85.

J.D. Ashley et ux to Roy R. Gardner, 10 acres, John Meyer Survey; 2-19-85.

G.H. Harist Jr. et ux et al to The Louisiana Land & Exploration Co., 15,974 acres, John Dunlavy Survey; 1-15-85.

Marvin Texch et ux to Charlie A. Hudson, 130 acres, Miguel Muldoon Survey et al; 12-20-85.

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