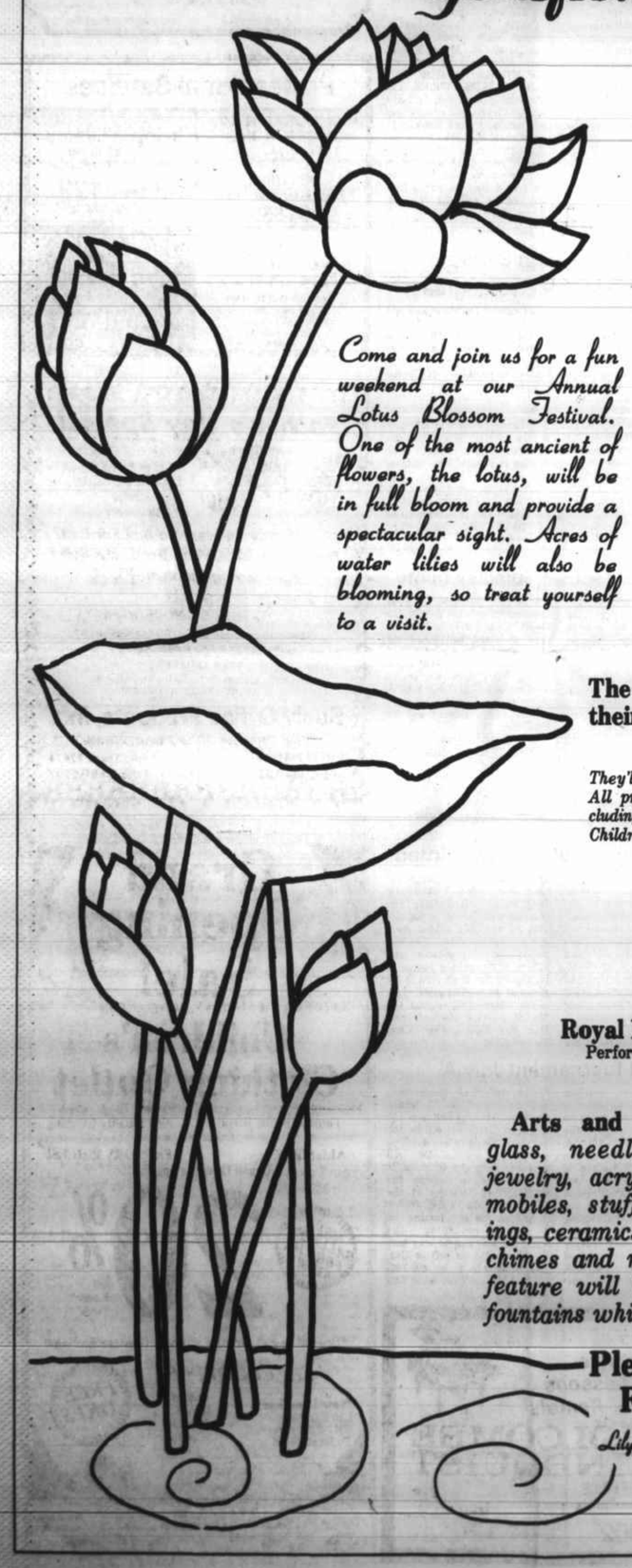
Lilypons Water Gardens

Aquatic Plants
Goldfish

Presents
Its Annual
Lotus
Blossom
Festival



Come and join us for a fun weekend at our Annual Lotus Blossom Festival. One of the most ancient of flowers, the lotus, will be in full bloom and provide a spectacular sight. Acres of water lilies will also be blooming, so treat yourself to a visit.

Saturday & Sunday,
June 15th & 16th
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Brookshire Lions Club will be serving their excellent Bar B Que sandwiches and sausage on a stick.

They'll also have Blue Bell ice cream and other refreshments. All proceeds from the food sales benefit Lions' charities including the Eye Exam and Eyeglass Program, the Crippled Children's Camp, Diabetes Day Camp and sponsorship of Cub Scouts of Brookshire.

Please come by, have lunch and support the Lions' activities!

Music will be provided
for your entertainment by the
Royal High School Falcon Stage Band
Performances will be at 12 noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Arts and crafts displays *featuring stained glass, needlework, woodwork, hand crafted jewelry, acrylic Blue Bonnet paintings, crystal mobiles, stuffed animals, oil and rub out paintings, ceramics, potpourri, wreaths, ceramic windchimes and more* **will be on display.** *A special feature will be hand-crafted bronze and copper fountains which will be on display.*

Please plan to come and join us
For a Most Delightful Day!

Lilypons is located 1/4 mile south of I-10 on FM 1489

For more details call
934-8525 or 391-0076

Colorado County Commissioner's report

The regular meeting of the Colorado County Commissioners on Monday was routine, with several decisions made involving Eagle Lake and the southern Colorado County area.

Morales and Sons of Eagle Lake was the low bidder for the work commissioners have ordered done on the Waldvogel Opportunity Center. The bid of $8,525 was well under the bids of $19,656 by K-C Construction and $21,432 by Pelts & Sons Construction Co., both of Columbus. This is the another phase of work on the center, and involves installation of insulation and gypsum board.

For the Eagle Lake unit of the county ambulance corps, commissioners approved purchase of three pagers and chargers.

In one discussion, commissioners talked about a grossly over weight truck a sheriff's deputy stopped on a county road between Rock Island and Columbus. The truck had a permit to be on the Interstate and U.S. 71, but the driver decided to take a short cut on a county road. Such heavy trucks tear up roadways, commissioner Otto Loessin noted. If a road is not posted, the weight limit is 80,000 pounds. The truck involved weighed 128,000 pounds.

When it came time to approve bills for payment, commissioner Bill Stiles questioned purchases made at Nada Grocery for groceries used to feed county jail prisoners. He said this month's bill was about $1,700, and that in recent months, the bill has been nearly $2,000 per month.

Stiles suggested the sheriff attempt to make purchases through wholesale distributors, to see if the bill can be reduced.

In the Rock Island area, commissioners studied a proposal to trade lots owned by the county for lots owned privately. Herbert Schroeder owns three lots across from commissioner Loessin's precinct barn. Commissioners want to see if the trade is possible, without having to advertise for public bids.

In other business, commissioners:

● Established a policy that orders specifications, of items and materials the county plans to buy through public bidding, be posted in the courthouse for 30 days before bids are sought. This gives prospective bidders a chance to review specs and make suggestions, and is intended to keep the county from being accused of "locking-out" bidders by defining specifications too narrowly. Therefore, specifications for two six-yard dump trucks for Rafael Veselka's precinct two will be available for the next 30 days in the courthouse, and will be sent out for bids next month.

● Took no action on a petition filed by Deer Hollow residents in western Colorado County, because names were typed in but no signatures were made. Residents of the area their road to become a part of the county system. The road is off of County 156, was was built as an oil field service road.

● Learned that county judge Lester Cranek and the two district judges have given their annual approval to the juvenile facilities at the county jail. However, a state law takes effect on December 12 that forbids detention of juveniles in the same building with adults. That will eliminate any juvenile prisoners from the county jail, but the county usually doesn't hold juveniles there more than 24 hours now. They transport them to the juvenile facility in Fort Bend County and pay $28 per day for each youngster. That's much more cost-effective than building a juvenile facility here, Cranek said. He lauded sheriff Jim Broussard for agreeing to such transfers, noting that some sheriff's demand their own jails. Broussard, he said, is more interested in good law enforcement at a reasonable cost, Cranek said.

● Approved a request by Loessin that Billy Henry and Roy Lee Girndt be given one-step salary increases. They also approved a request by Sierra Production Co. to lay a pipe across county road 111.

● Learned the office of county clerk Annie Franta had its busiest month ever. The office took in $19,000 last month in fees and licences.

Teachers honored

Continued from Page One

maximum of $2,000 per year, but the district chose to award the minimum of $1,500 per year so more teachers could be rewarded.

Because it is such a new program, and only one of many hundreds of immediate changes made last year in the educational system, each district in the state had to improvise its measurement system used to find the most worthy teachers. Probably within a year, the Texas Education Agency will provide each district with an appraisal system for evaluating teachers, and provide schooling to those who will be appraising teachers, so the system will have some measure of standardization across Texas.

In the Rice district last year, the board followed the law and appointed three administrators to a five-person career ladder evaluation committee. Two of those three were supt. Harold King and assistant supt. Charles DeShazo. The third administrator was a campus principal on a rotating basis. That was done, King said, to add another element of objectivity. For instance, when teachers at the Garwood school were appraised by the committee, that school's principal John Mader, was not on the committee.

The other two members of the committee were outlined in the law as being the first two teachers chosen to receive the career ladder recognition. In another move to add fairness, the district asked for nominations from the faculty. Twenty were nominated, and the two chosen were Mae Ashby a teacher from the Eagle Lake Primary School, and Lilian Horecka from Rice High School.

In order to be considered for presentation to the committee, teachers have to meet certain requirements. If the teacher holds a bachelor's degree, they also have to have shown performance exceeding expectations during the 1983-84 school year; had at least satisfactory performance for two before that, and have earned nine semester hours of advanced educational work or 100 hours of advanced academic training, such as attendance at educational seminars, or a combination of the last two. For those with master's degrees, the same criteria apply, except past experience for one-year before the 83-84 year is studied.

In the Rice District, 50 of the 101 teachers in the district qualified. Included in the non-qualified group were teachers who were new to the district for 1984-85; the board ruled that since their performance for the 83-84 year was with another district, judgments could not be made in comparison with teachers who were in the Rice district that year, since district operations are not standardized.

The criteria the district used to select the 50 teachers was written, then approved by the board, based on a "Positive point system," King said. A candidate could earn 60 points in the following categories:

1. Satisfactory evaluations during prior years, 20 points.
2. Years of experience. One point awarded for each year, up to five years.
3. Holding a master's degree, five points.
4. Attendance, 10 points, and
5. Performance above expectations as determined through input to the committee by that teacher's principal.

King said each committee member worked independently, and scores were combined and averaged to reach the rating.

One of the teachers chosen was a half-day teacher, which worked out well, since the funds provided by the state funded 29.5 career ladder payments. The top rated teacher earned to maximum of 60 points, and the lowest points earned by a career ladder recipient was 44 points. The district will tell a teacher the number of points he or she earned, if they ask, King said.

Recognized for their good educational performance were, from Rice High School: Sandra Benge, Clifton Darden, Jack Grammer, Michael Vornsand, Joseph Wendel, Reuben Wunderlich, Henrietta Baumgarten, Ronel Roberts and Iris Dankleff; Sheridan School: Annie Kossa, Charlene Lawson, Bessie Machac and Darnell Varley; Garwood School: Jo Ann Bunge, Irene Mader and Tom Rohwer; Eagle Lake Middle School: Jeannette Abel, Helen Craig, Eddie Gibson, Diane Schneider, Martha Sibley and Raymond Sykowski, and Eagle Lake Primary School: Lynda Appelt, Marie Argo, Agnes Klekar, Jean Leopold, Claudine Shorter and Jeannette Spenrath. Mrs. Dankleffs and Mrs. Ashby have retired, opening two career ladder appointments for next year, and Mrs. Argo has moved from the Primary School to the Eagle Lake Middle School.

Next year, King said, the state will furnish $40 per average daily attendance unit, meaning that as many as ten more career ladder slots may be available. When a teacher first receives the award, he or she moves to Level II. They remain on that level, and earn the $1,500 each year, unless their performance is judged to have slipped, or until they are rewarded with another award to Level III, for which they become eligible after five years at Level II. At Level III, the financial reward is a doubling of the Career Ladder payment to $3,000 per year. There also is a Level IV on the ladder.

Police reports become seasonal

With the temperatures in the 90's for days and days, items in the local police report are becoming more seasonal.

For instance, police wrote one citation last week for unauthorized, after-hours swimming in the community pool. Then, last Thursday night, an air conditioner was taken from a residence at the corner of Norris and Curry.

The swimming item is described in the Page One pool story, and details about the air conditioner were not available.

In other police news, the sheriff's department and Eagle Lake police department are working a forgery case involving some checks stolen from John Fields in Altair. Elaine Fields reported on June 5 that her purse had been stolen from the laundry room of their home. Several of the checks were forged at Dan's Minute Stop, D&S Grocery, Lipperdt Exxon and Canaris' Cupboard.

Leonard Smith of Altair has been charged with the burglary of Fields' residence, and one count of forgery. Other warrants have been issued. Smith is in the county jail.

The sheriff's department also reports that in conjunction with a narcotics investigation by the department, Texas Ranger Ray Nutt and the department of public safety officers, two arrests have been made and more are contemplated.

Arrested on June 7 was Brenda Smith, 29, of Sealy. She is charged with delivery of a controlled substance, and has been released on $2,000 bond. Arrested June 10 was James Reginald Washington, 33, of Columbus. He is charged with delivery of marijuana and as of Tuesday was in the Colorado County Jail in lieu of $5,000 bond.

Shifflett transferred

Wayne Shifflett, 44, who has been manager since 1976 of the Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge near here, has been transferred to the newly acquired Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge at Sasabe, Arizona. He and his wife Carol will live at the refuge when quarters become available.

The Attwater refuge is a 7,980-acre open prairie refuge created to prevent the extinction of the endangered Attwater Prairie Chicken. Before coming here, Shifflett was manager of the Santa Ana NWR, Alamo, Texas, and assistant manager at Cross Creeks NWR in Tennessee, and the St. Mark's NWR in Florida. He graduated from Bridgewater College in Virginia and started his federal career in 1966 with the Fish and Wildlife service research center at Patuxent, Maryland. While there, he helped propagate several endangered animals, including the masked bobwhite quail, which the Buenos Aires refuge is being created to protect.

Once the 118,000 acre Arizona property is transferred to the fish and wildlife service sometime before July 31, Shifflett will be busy managing, planning and developing this new national wildlife refuge. He soon will begin hiring wildlife biologists, a range manager and administrative and maintenance personnel.

One important task Shifflett faces is developing a master plan. There are many questions about what development and programs will be compatible with the refuge and its objectives. The master planning process, which may take up to two years, will take a comprehensive look at the potential as well as the limitations for the refuge for both wildlife and public uses.

Fatal Post Office Street wreck

William Thompson Lyle, 64, of Bay City, died here Tuesday evening when his 1977 white International Scout truck hit the cement bridge bannister in the 700 block of Post Office St. (FM 102). According to the police report by officer Ernie Grimes, a tire then blew out, causing Lyle to lose control. The vehicle rolled several times along the roadway. The man, alone in the truck and heading west near the western edge of the city at Austin Road, was pinned beneath the truck and pronounced dead at the scene. Bill and Emily Stiles answered the call for the Eagle Lake unit of the county ambulance corps. The police department received the call about 6:41 p.m. There were no other vehicles involved. The body was taken to Dulany Funeral Home.

Tax Time

From Page One

if the taxpayer still is dissatisfied, we gladly will make an appointment." Call the appraisal office in the Courthouse at 732-8222 for an appointment. Last year, amidst the major changes, the review board handled only 150 protests.

Those who will be getting the notices fall into one of four categories: 1. Newly purchased property; 2. Property that was not on the tax roll in the past; 3. Property where the owner rendered a lower value than that listed on the tax rolls, and 4. Owners who requested a new valuation.

All in all, Youens said, values in the Eagle Lake city limits are declining only $1.3 million. That is only 2.1 percent less than last year's valuations of $1.3 million. If the city leaves its tax rate unchanged, such a valuation decrease will reduce local tax revenues for the city by less than $5,000.

In the Rice school district, the valuation is decreasing about $11 million from last year. There is an increase of $2 million from improvements added to the tax roll, a $2 million increase for property that was left off the tax roll last year; a $7 million decrease that mostly is in the gravel valuations, and an $8 million decrease in the value of oil and gas property.

Youens also noted that taxpayers in the Rice district will see some change in their tax situation this year. Last year state law allowed the district to grant a maximum 40 percent homestead exemption, but this year, the law allows only a maximum of only 20 percent exemption. On a $50,000 property, the taxable value last year was $30,000. At the 71.75-cent tax rate, the home owner paid approximately $215.25. This year, the taxable value of that $50,000 property goes up to $35,000, and if the tax rate remains unchanged, the tax would increase to $251.13 (an increase of 16.7 percent).

In the county, although the total taxable values still are pretty preliminary, Youens estimates a decrease of $8 million from last year's $239 million. He said part of the Rice district decrease was being offset by an increase in oil values in another part of the county.

Youens said that Capital Appraisal of Austin, the firm hired to estimate the value of oil and gas properties in the county, will be in Columbus on July 5 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to hear protests of oil and gas properties.

Delinquent tax suits for RCISD

In another matter, Youens said that the appraisal district soon will file suits against property owners in the Rice school district who have not paid their taxes in the past. Earlier this year the appraisal district filed more than 50 such suits against property owners in the Columbus school district. He said the Rice suits probably would be filed in July, after the appraisal district completes its certification of the tax rolls.

Grand jury indictments

from Page One

by the grand jury charged:

Richard Lee Dancy of Eagle Lake with criminal mischief. He is accused of using an iron rod to smash several windows out of a car owned by Paul Lee Smith.

John Dennis Dawkins of San Antonio with forgery by passing a $300 check to Larry Austin on January 31.

James Long of Eagle Lake with burglary of a habitation. The indictment said that on April 8 the home of Helen Perry was entered "with intent to committ indecency with a child."

Lorrie A. Herbrich of Weimar with abuse of a credit card. She apparently purchased items from David Boughton, manager of the Winn's store in Weimar. After the indictment was presented, she made restitution for the items purchased.

Frank A. Donohoo and Michael S. Freemen with burglary of a building on April 23, 1985, owned by Elaine Sonntag.

Kenneth L. O'Brien with burglary of a building on March 19 owned by John Hawks.

Jimmie B. Ellard with aggrivated possession of marijuana on April 7. He is accused of being the pilot of the airplane that police found at the Eagle Lake Airport with nearly 1,000 pounds of marijuana. A $100,000 cash bond was posted for Ellard, who was then released.

Dale J. Loewen with theft on April 29 of a 1979 Ford tractor owned by Fred Westergren.

Temperament

Temperament is a vital factor in selecting the crew of the Navy's NR-1 nuclear-powered research submarine. Members of the all-volunteer 10-man force, carefully screened and trained, most operate in cramped deck space averaging less than 10 square feet per man.

Man gets 10 years

Forrest Bryant, pleded guilty in April to sexual assault, was sentenced June 5 to 10 years in a state correctional facility. But, Judge B.B. Schraub said the man could be a candidate for "shock probation," meaning he could be released on probation within 180 days.