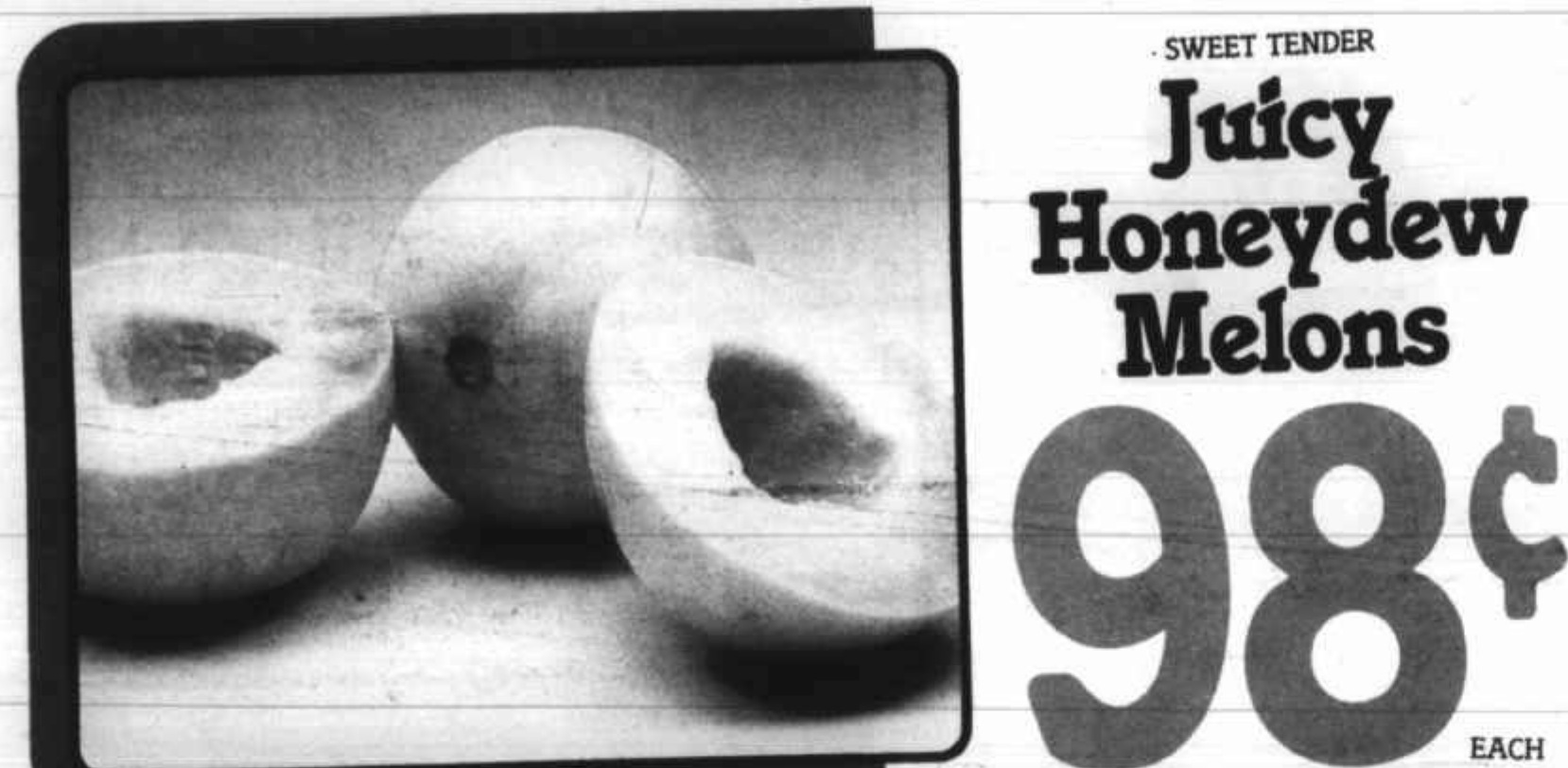




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**Juicy
Honeydew
Melons**

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CALIFORNIA JUICY PLUMP

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Thursday, August 22, 1986
(USPS 153-700)
Vol. 52, No. 20
Eagle Publishing, Inc.
P.O. Box 67
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434
(800) 234-0551
32 CENTS PER COPY
(30 CENTS PLUS TAX)

TPWD asked to change hunting season & license

More than 20 area residents signed a letter last week that asks the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission to consider changing the hunting season dates, eliminating the staggered start of goose hunting on area prairies.

In researching the impact of the cost of the non-resident license, they learned sales declined by about 35 percent the year after the first hike. The \$10, short-term, non-resident license was eliminated two years ago, and replaced with the \$37.50 small-game license valid for the entire season. "For reasons that we find quite questionable," the letter states, the non-resident, short-term license was lumped into the season-long small game license. Also, it became mandatory the hunter purchase a Texas Duck Stamp at the same time, with the total effect of a 400 percent increase.

"With the present proposed increase in small game license fee following just one year upon the heels of the past increase, the non-resident waterfowl hunter is faced with an increase of over 700 percent."

"Explaining to the hunter that the license was valid for the entire season did not alleviate the anger and frustration as each retorted quickly to the effect that his visit to Texas was a brief vacation not winter residency."

"We fear, with good reason, that if this proposed fee of \$75 (plus the \$5 Texas Duck Stamp making it \$80) is enacted, we will see the virtual total elimination of non-resident waterfowl hunters coming to this state by the time the 1988-89 season arrives."

In asking also for a change in the season dates, the Farris point out that closing the season for a week, just seven days after the season opens in November, produces "dire economic effects."

"As business persons in a small town now seriously affected by today's plight of agriculture, construction and energy, every single day that holds the possibility of attracting outside revenue becomes a precious commodity not to be taken lightly." They also point out the economic problems for employees who are laid off during that second week of the season when hunting is closed.

Explaining that outdoorsmen traditionally take vacations in November, and not in December when business years end and when there are strong family and religious holidays, they asked that hunting be allowed to continue.

They asked the members of the commission to consider the economic effect their decisions have on communities such as ours that depend on out of state travelers. To eliminate future problems, they ask the commission to create a temporary, non-resident license at a cost of \$37.50, and to change the hunting season dates.



New books invite students

With schools set to open Tuesday, September 3, in the Rice District, this huge stack of books at the Eagle Lake Middle School await their assignments. This week and next week, The Headlight presents its annual Back-To-School editions. Today you can read about the two Eagle Lake schools, and about Rice High School. As a special feature, The Headlight presents an easy-to-read version of the school calendar for 1985-86.

County fair queen candidates sought; fair association to meet

While members of the Colorado County Fair Association will be meeting again August 22 to continue work on the September 13-15 fair, the county's young women are reminded that the queen's contest entry deadline is September 1.

Entry forms and contest rules may be obtained by calling one of the members of the Queen Contest committee: director Pamela Potter in Columbus, 732-2705; committee chairman Dale Heinsohn in

Frederburg, 732-5336; Weimar chairman Catherine Gunn, 725-8654; Eagle Lake chairman Melody Grigar, 234-3608, and Garwood-Nada chairman Kim Crane, 758-9888. Sheridan-Rock Island residents may call either Mrs. Grigar or Mrs. Crane.

The deadline for girls to enter is Sunday, September 1. The new fair queen and membership queen will reign over the 1986 Colorado County Fair on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 13-15, and represent the fair association at other events throughout the year.

The most recent check the city received was for \$22,000, compared to last year when the monthly check was \$23,388. For the year, the city has received \$114,872, which is just under one percent more than it received last year.

The money is derived from one cent of the \$125-cents paid on certain retail sales.

For the month, Columbus received \$37,788, compared to \$34,801 last year. Weimar received \$18,905 compared to \$18,240. For the year, Columbus has received almost \$100,000 more than Eagle Lake. Their checks totaled \$214,254, which is 8.5 percent more than last year.

Weimar has received nearly \$50,000 less than Eagle Lake, at \$77,451 which is 1.5 percent more than last year.

In Austin county, the combined year-to-date total for the cities is \$412,786, a 6.7 percent increase; the Fayette County city total is \$484,507, an 8.5 percent increase; Lavaca County, cities have received \$488,028, a 14.7 percent gain; and Wharton County cities of El Campo and Wharton have received \$963,253, and increase of 12.6 percent.

The Commerce Street no-turn ordinance was one of the many suggestions made during recent meetings, including the possibility of making the street one-way northbound. However, the no-left-turn answer appears to be the best one to council, although council did not state clearly why any ordinance is needed.

In its brief discussion about the airport, councilman Roy Van Nort advised council that most of the businessmen that showed interest in purchasing excess property involved with extending the runway, appeared to have declined. Mayor Elmer Struss discussed the city's needs and probable costs. Van Nort explained that the new airport in Seely is being financed with a 90 percent federal grant, and that the local 10 percent is being donated by developers. Struss said it would be nice if someone in Eagle Lake would donate the city's right-of-way cost. Council also discussed the airport after the meeting adjourned.

In other right-of-way matters, council's ROW committee was instructed to research Mrs. Tina's property. She intended to sell it, but learned there is a city sewer in the middle of it, with no records of the city being granted rights through the property. Also, Perry asked the city to allow him to purchase the alley behind his house where he is constructing a garage. Mrs. Lena Broyles also asked the alley from Stockbridge in Lake St. between State and Church, be researched. City ROW committee members are Van Nort, Alvin Kohleffel and Joe Duncan.

Duncan told council that his committee which has been researching certain building codes is ready to ask that the national electrical code be adopted here. Struss agreed and called for first reading of such an ordinance next week. In the future, other codes, such as a plumbing code, will be adopted as well.

Also, the city has resumed testing sewer lines. By pumping smoke in them, crews can find leaks. The city fixes leaks when they are in city lines, but requires leaks on private property to be fixed by property owners. Of 45 recent leaks found, 20 were on private property. The city sends owners letters, and if not contacted in 30 days by the owners, the city sends another note. That one tells owners they only have 15 days left to make repairs, or the city will cut off water to the property.

Struss told city manager Robert Clockman to "be tough" and see that all repairs are completed on Page 10.

City sales tax receipts lower

Sales tax receipts from June purchases in Eagle Lake show that portion of the city's economy continues to slip slightly. For the year, the economy barely is keeping pace with last year. Weimar and Columbus sales show increases.

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Season football tickets

If you held season tickets to last year's Rice Raider home football games, those same seats may be purchased again beginning Monday, August 26 through Friday, August 30. Unsold tickets will be available to the general public beginning Tuesday, September 3 through Friday, September 5.

The season package is \$15 per seat for the five home games. Tickets may be obtained at the high school principal's office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Pilots to clown for CF

Although Cystic Fibrosis is not a matter to clown about, members of the Eagle Lake Pilot Club will put on their costumes Saturday and take collections. The money will help the CF drive now underway here. Chairman Helen Pilkington said the help of the Pilot Club is very much appreciated, since donations this year have been quite slow. The clowns will be in the vicinity of Wilcox Minimax, Miller's Grocery and between Dan's Minute Stop and S&W Parts from 8 a.m. to noon. Donations also may be mailed to Mrs. Pilkington at 509 Strickland, Eagle Lake.

The 1985 Rice High School yearbooks have been received at the school and will be distributed starting Thursday, August 22, at the principal's office. Students with receipt's may pick up the books from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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