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Election year sees many hats in political ring

Halfway through the campaign filing period, more hats were thrown into various political rings, but the front-line nitty gritty emerged when the major gubernatorial candidates revealed their contribution reports.

Meanwhile, as the machinery of state government took a backseat to campaign headlines, various state agencies went scrambling to assess last week's cutbacks in federal dollars and the Comptroller went after the mail-order sales tax.

With the federal government shifting the revenue burden back to states, state agencies were wondering how much money they really lost after the feds announced $11.7 billion in automatic cuts for 1986.

Most of the cuts came in Medicaid and other health care programs, guaranteed student loans, as well as defense.

The lost revenue-sharing is caused by across-the-board budget cuts mandated by the Gramm-Rudman balanced budget law.

Lost dollars

The Texas agencies preparing for the worst are the Highway Department, Department of Community Affairs, and Health Department. Washington sources said Texas would be hit hardest in highway construction, health programs and community grants.

The Health Department expected cuts in AIDS testing even as it held hearings on whether to quarantine AIDS carriers. Officials decided to drop the idea last week. But they're not close to the predicament of the Texas Department of Community Affairs, funded 99 percent with shared revenues.

Comptroller Bob Bullock, searching for new dollars without a tax hike, said mail-order sales cost Texas $130 million a year. He wants Congress to give Texas the right to collect taxes on those sales and said a little headway has been made.

Governor's trail

When the 1985 contribution reports were reported, Gov. Mark White showed much more on hand, $2 million, than his three GOP challengers.

The surprise in GOP ranks is former Gov. Clements trails Tom Loeffler and Kent Hance in money collected. Clements can fund himself, but his momentum is questioned.

Hance showed $1 million he can spend in 1986, but $900,000 was borrowed. He did release a list of 1,000 Dallas supporters he says have switched to him from Clements to show his momentum.

Loeffler has done well with a half-million cash collected but he needs a successful fundraiser in a city other than his San Antonio base to stay credible. The race is on.

Hats in the ring

•The most dramatic of last week's announcements probably came when San Antonio State District Judge Roy Barrera Jr. said he would try to become the first statewide elected Hispanic by running as a Republican.

Barrera joins the already crowded field in the Attorney General race against Democrat incumbent Jim Mattox. The son of a former Democratic Texas Secretary of State, Barrera's mystique promises to erode the traditional Mexican-American Democratic bloc, and challenge their leader, San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros.

•Another interesting twist: Mattox's former Dallas law partner, A. Don Crowder, told reporters he will run against Gov. White in the Democratic primary to capture the "disenchanted vote." Crowder said Mattox didn't put him up to it.

•Land Commissioner Garry Mauro, a Democrat likely to avoid a serious GOP opponent, announced his re-election bid, citing his office has increased revenues to public schools despite the oil industry slump.

•The young political genius generally credited with Jimmy Carter's carrying Texas in 1976 jumped into the crowded Railroad Commission contest. Now a Dallas attorney, John Pouland, vowed to run a progressive campaign.

•Oak Cliff State Rep. Jesse Dean Oliver and former Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson will both try for a predominantly black Dallas Senate seat. Their chances were boosted when potential rival Rep. Paul Ragsdale departed the political arena altogether.

Ragsdale, who chairs the House Black Caucus, left with some choice words about his political foes in the black community, said he was "burned out" and tired of violent threats.

•Former State. Rep. Bob Barton of San Marcos, who lost his seat to Ann Cooper, R-San Marcos, announced plans to attempt a comeback in November. Cooper is expected to run again.

•Grand Prairie State Rep. Carlyle Smith will end 12 years as an independent voice in the legislature to concentrate on his architectural and engineering firm.

•Sen. Oscar Mauzy, D-Dallas, announced for the Texas Supreme Court seat held by Sears McGee, Saying McGee, 69, wouldn't be able to complete a six-year term because he would have to retire at 75.

•Former Rep. Jay Gibson, D-Odessa, filed for the Supreme Court seat held by Raul Gonzalez.

•Carole Keeton Rylander resigned from the State Board of Insurance in anticipation of running for the congressional seat of veteran Rep. Jake Pickle, D-Austin. Rylander, 46, who switched to the Republican party last year, is a former Austin mayor.

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Go-Texan queen contest, ticket sales Feb. 1

Colorado County Go-Texan ambassador Henry Potter has announced plans for Go-Texan Day activities for Saturday, February 1. The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo ticket trailer will be at Potter's Western Store from 9 a.m. to noon that day selling tickets for all performances of the rodeo, which will run from February 19 to March 2 in the Astrodome.

Tickets for seats on the chartered bus for Colorado County night, Tuesday, February 25, also will be available.

Later that same day, the 1986 Colorado County Go-Texan queen contest will be held. The contest is open to single girls between the ages of 14 and 21 who are residents of Colorado County. Contestants must wear western attire for the contest. The winner will represent the county by riding in the grand entry at the rodeo on Colorado County Night Entertainment for that evening will be by Conway Twitty. County Go-Texan queen for 1985 was Misty Ventura, daughter of Jane Ford and John Ventura of Columbus.

Entry blanks and rules for the queen contest may be picked up in the office at the three county high schools or from Potter's Western Store and Heinsohn's store in Frelsburg. Additional information may be obtained by calling Pam Potter at 732-2705 or Dale Heinsohn at 732-5336.

Colorado County Go-Texan committee members, in addition to Henry and Pamela Potter, are county judge Lester Cranek, Leslie Heinsohn and Henry Beken.

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Pilots collect funds for UCP

Members of the Eagle Lake Pilot Club and the Medical Explorers Post spent Sunday afternoon working at the Delta Savings office on McCarty St. to collect funds for the United Cerebreal Palsy telethon that was aired nationally. At left is Gwen Paschal, club president, and Pilot and Delta Savings branch manager Cindy Gohlke, talk with Lucille Lange to get a final report before Mrs. Paschal left for an appearance on the telethon in Houston. The efforts raised $1,075 through donations and sales of barbecue sandwiches and balloons.

Plans made for historical 'Ranger' marker

The Colorado County Historical Commission held its regular meeting at 7 p.m. on January 16 in the parish house of Christ Episcopal Church in Eagle Lake. Forty members and guests toasted on a covered dish meal.

Hosts for the evening were Mrs. Gladys Gold, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. John Matthews and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davidson.

Rev. George Welsch, pastor of Christ Episcopal Church, welcomed the members and gave the invocation. Chairman Edward Woolery-Price presided over the business meeting.

Final arrangements are being considered for placement and time of dedication of the marker at the courthouse, which has already been approved, commemorating the beginning in Colorado County of the Texas Rangers.

Mr. William Harrison was called up to report on the historical preservation committee which had been so ably chaired by the late Mrs. Bernice Koliba. The committee met and elected Dr. James H. Wooten as their new chairman. Dr. Wooten continued the report stating that an expert on archival material had looked over the commission's collection of material and recommended that the they turn over to certain others the county records and library material while keeping, preserving and cataloguing the private papers and records. This he put in the form of a motion which was seconded and passed.

The honorable Elmer Struss, mayor of Eagle Lake, was introduced by William Harrison as the speaker of the evening.

Mayor Struss spoke on the involvement of Texas in the Civil War paying particular attention to a secret organization "Knights of the Golden Circle," and including the happenings in Colorado and nearby counties. It was both informative and delightfully presented. Our thanks to the him.

Larry Uhlig reminded the committee of the sesquicentennial celebration and costume ball on January 24 and 25. Mrs. Pattie Woolery-Price reported that pictures and certain chapter revisions need to be completed and in the hands of our county history publisher by February 1 so that the book may be published with a target date of June of this year.

Frank Davidson,

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Sunshine Class met at Larsons

The Sunshine Class of the United Methodist Church met in the home of Nellie Larson. Ophelia Raabe gave the devotional after nine members answered roll call with a favorite Bible verse. A business meeting followed with Elsie Beane giving a full secretary-treasurer report. Jonie Mae Muzny will be hostess in February and Tommie Neiswender will lead the study.

Ophelia led the study — this chapter, "Obey God Moment by Moment." Our conscience is the voice of the Spirit telling us to witness for Christ, stay attached to him at all times and leave the choices to him.

The hostess served cherry pie a la mode, chips, nuts and coffee and a social hour was enjoyed.

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Colorado County Courthouse Report

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

Bradford E. Craven, 39, and Kay B. Ripper, 24, both of Columbus; 1-20-86.

Edward Wayne Bahner, 25, Houston, and Diane Marie Polasek, 24, Columbus; 1-17-86.

Charles William Huffman, Jr., 22, Columbus, and Karon Gayle Adams, 20, Eagle Lake; 1-16-86.

Eudoro Abrego, 20, Fresno, Calif., and Norma Angelica DeLeon, 20, Houston; 1-15-86.

Pedro Cedillo, 28, and Matilda Herrera Gutierrez, 32, both of Rock Island; 1-15-86.

Gregory Edward Venghaus, 29, Columbus, and Edna F. Frenzel Burris, 24, Cat Spring; 1-13-86.

Truman O. Engstrom, 61, Garwood, and Velma L. Peterson Christiansen, 57, El Campo; 1-8-86.

Albert Rodriguez Flores, 29, and Eunice Salazar Vega, 23, both of Houston; 1-6-86.

Matthias Herwig, 34, and Gabriele Stehr, 33, both of Gottingen, Germany; 1-3-86.

DISTRICT COURT SUITS FILED

All American Pipeline Co. vs. Wray and Todd Interests, Ltd., and Billy Bob Strunk, tenant; seeking injunction to gain access to land; 1-15-86.

Ramrod Trucking, Inc., vs. Haber Oil Co.; suit on account; 1-10-86.

Estate of Elsie Glass, deceased; transferred from Colorado County Courtl 1-9-86.

Ernest Anderson vs. Stephanie Anderson; divorce; 1-9-86.

All American Pipeling Co. vs. Louie V. Culver and wife Elsie S. Culver; seeking injunction to gain access to land; 1-7-86.

All American Pipeline Co. vs. Robert G. Adkins and wife Catherine Callihan Adkins; seeking injunction to gain access to land; 1-7-86.

Pat Aldridge vs. Sam Aldridge; divorce; 1-6-86.

Emma G. Labay vs. Guy R. Botard; personal injury suit; 12-27-85.

Ken Drlik vs. Jeff Dugie and Richard Krenek Jr.; personal injury suit; 12-27-86.

REAL ESTATE DEED TRANSFERS

Rio Seguan Venture Partners to Carl F. Gulley, et ux, 15.875 acres, Robert G. Tobin Survey; 1-3-86.

Ray Lemon, receiver, to William H. Smith, et ux, 56.382 acres; Richard Dowdy Survey; 1-6-86.

Lance Bruce Wood, et ux, to David C. Weido, 10,737 square feet of land, Smith & Jones Addition, town of Columbus; 1-9-86.

Mary Ellen Bolton, et al, to Jerry Mikeska, 0.5946 acres; John Hadden League; 1-9-86.

LEASES

Isabel Moeller, et al, to Davis Oil Co., 276.75 acres, William Reney Survey; 12-28-85.

Charles Lewis Kinchloe Jr., to Davis Oil Co., 120 acres, William Reney Survey; 10-28-85.

David Charles Kroboth, et ux, to Corbin J. Robertson, 20 acres, H. Austin Five League Grant; 10-16-85.

Estate of Eugene J. Harbich, deceased, to George D. Artusy III, 213.89 acres, S.P. Birt Survey; 12-5-85.

Alden J. Richter, et al, to Louis A. Newitt, 24.83 acres, Conrad Gurgens Survey; 3-15-85.

Gilbert Wendel, et ux, to Cenergy Exploration Co., tract in J.W. Burton Survey and D. Miller Survey; 12-11-85.

Commissioners split funds for 1986 road maintenance; $1.7 million total

Among items Colorado County commissioners discussed at their regular monthly meeting last week was the division of funds commissioners have available for road and bridge work.

A total of about $1.7 million was split between precincts for use in 1986. The road account in each precinct budget was first given $50,000, and the remainder was split according to the percentage of roads in each precinct.

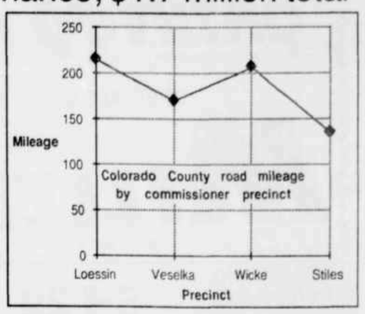
There are 723.91 miles of county roads. Therefore, Precinct One, with 215.01 miles of roads, which is 29.7 percent of all roads in the county, received $452,628. Precinct Two, with 169 miles of county roads, received $355,854, and Precinct Three, with 205.5 miles of county roads, received $432,663.

Precinct Four, which includes Eagle Lake, has the lowest percentage of county roads, with 134.4 miles, and received $283,006.

Commissioners also:

•Approved the bid from Brasher Motor Co. of Weimar for two new patrol cars for Sheriff Jim Broussard. The Brasher bid was $10,757.76, just $79 lower than the bid from Riceland Ford Mercury of Eagle Lake.

•Approved a salary order, reflecting action commissioners took last September when they adopted the 1986 budget, that gave all county employes a five percent salary increase. The county judge now earns $24,850 annually, plus $4,200 as one of three juvenile board members; commissioners each earn $22,146; the sheriff, county clerk and district clerk each earn $23,328, and the county tax assessor-collector makes $19,000 (up from $16,000).



The justice of the peace in precinct one earns $16,206, and the JP in the Eagle Lake area for precinct eight earns $9,891. Constables in precincts one, two, four and eight each earn $2,000 and the constables in precincts three, five, six and seven each earn $1,000.

One change the commissioners made in county staffing was to reinstate the position of landfill inspector. Last fall commissioner Bill Stiles of Eagle Lake succeeded in having that position deleted, but when commissioners learned that employe, Jerry Hayek, needed only 10 more months to qualify for the county's retirement plan, they extended the position through October when the retirement will become effective.

•Approved payments to libraries, fire departments and other agencies as called for in the 1986 budget.

•Deleted Sunday, March 2, as one of the official county holidays. That is Texas Independence day. The courthouse will not be closed March 3 as previously ordered.

•Authorized the advertising of bids for a new pick up truck to be used by county agricultural extension agent Leroy Hajdik.

•Agreed to hold a public hearing on February 10 to listen to public comment on the proposal to set all speed limits in Alleyton at 30 miles per hour.

•Approved an order to discontinue county hauling of trash from trash transfer bins.

Rice school board seeking public opinion on moving Eagle Lake 3rd grade to Middle School

The third grade in Eagle Lake may be moved from the primary school here to the middle school for 1986 Fall classes, according to the board of trustees of the Rice Consolidated Independent School District.

Board members said during their monthly meeting Monday night that they will vote on that issue in three weeks (at the regular February meeting), when they have had time to take a public reading on the move.

Another agenda item discussed Monday night ended with approval to build a district maintenance building on the Rice High School campus. It will include room for bus maintenance, meaning the district will close down its bus garage in Eagle Lake behind Austin's Barbecue. District officials have said the owners of that building now lease the space to the district but are seeking a buyer.

The barn, as planned now, would be about 50 feet deep and 120 feet wide. Almost half would be devoted to bus maintenance, a third to other maintenance activity and the remainder to district-wide storage. Cost of the building was not discussed since the board also hired Drymalla Engineering services of Columbus to complete building plans, then offer those plans for bid. The estimated construction cost discussed Monday night in closed session will be kept under wraps so contractors will not base their bids on that amount.

Another need for the maintenance building is to make room for materials and equipment the district has stored at school campuses. For instance, the material stored in the Garwood School can be moved to open a room that will be needed next fall for the Pre-Kindergarten classes the district will have to begin offering.

Those classes in Eagle Lake was the reason Supt. Harold King recommended moving the Eagle Lake third grade this fall. It would free space on the Middle School campus and prevent it from becoming one of the largest schools in the district.

Pre-Kindergarten classes are only for those youngsters four or five years old who are socially or economically disadvantaged. King estimates that at least two classrooms will be needed at the primary school. "...We don't even have a kitchen down there," King said. Meals now are cooked at the Middle School and are trucked to the Primary School.

When that cafeteria was built at the Middle School several years ago, there was discussion about moving the third grade to that campus then, but board president Steve Balas said there were recommendations against that. King said he has seen such moves made with no major problems. Board member John Thomas suggested a vote on the item be tabled to allow public comment. (See related story for pro's and cons provided by the district.)

Advantages, disadvantages and recommendations listed for proposal to move Eagle Lake third grade classes to Middle School

ADVANTAGES:

1. Pre-Kindergarten will require at least one additional classroom and possibly two at Eagle Lake Primary School next year. If the third grade were moved to ELMS, then ELMS would need at least two additional classrooms. One portable building (two rooms) can be moved to ELMS (from ELPS) since four rooms would be vacated at ELPS. If the two rooms were to be left at ELPS for future space, then two new rooms could be added to ELMS which was the number (of new rooms) planned (in the 1985-86 budget) for ELPS.

2. Lunchroom at ELMS can more easily accommodate additional grade. Lunches now are prepared at ELMS and transported to ELPS. It will probably be necessary to add 1/2 person to cafeteria at ELMS with PK-3 grades at ELPS. It is anticipated no additional staff would be needed at ELMS with added third grade.

3. The ELMS has a central library. Third grade is when resource materials usually begin to be used. A classroom library for primary grades is very useful, but third grade could move classroom libraries to ELMS and have both.

4. Third grade at ELMS can be scheduled to receive PE, Art and possibly music with special teachers who are familiar with ELPS requirements and expectations and also able to communicate readily with fourth grade.

5. If some of current third grade teachers moved to ELMS, a beneficial link would occur by having teachers who are familiar with ELPS requirements and expectations and also able to communicate readily with fourth grade.

6. Traffic conditions at ELPS are more of a problem than at ELMS. ELMS can handle the increased traffic more easily and safely than ELPS.

7. The administration and counseling functions of the ELMS can more easily accommodate additional students or grades (additional staff).

DISADVANTAGES:

1. Although it is not a general consensus, some feel 3rd grade students fit better with 1st and 2nd graders than with 4th and 5th.

2. Teachers who may have to move will experience some emotional discomfort and will have some additional work to move and organize.

3. Changes will occur in the in-town bus route. At present, the degree of change can only be estimated.

4. At least $500 worth of A/V equipment would be needed at ELMS.

5. The school nurse may not be as available to third grade at ELMS as at ELPS.

6. The ELMS administration initially would not be as familiar with third grade as the ELPS administration.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Consideration was also given to gymnasium, furniture, library books, teaching materials and supplies, special instructional programs such as Special Ed. ESL, Chapter I, and additional staffing needs with teachers and aides. There appears to be no appreciable change related to such areas.

A current transfer of third to ELMS appears to be most advantageous. The future is difficult to predict. I would predict a rather stable enrollment or a decline for the next few years unless we simply get people into the community who have more children. We may eventually feel more impact from Houston based economy locating more near Eagle Lake but I would anticipate this not to be significant before the early 1990s.

The administration feels that emotional impact of students moving to another grade or campus is mostly related to teacher expectations, philosophy or methods. It is felt that if third grade were taught at ELMS as at ELPS, then the impact would not be significantly different than between third and fourth.

School for the elementary grades at ELMS is now conducted practically as a separate campus. The only times that students of the upper and lower grades are exposed to each other are before and after school.

I would respectfully ask you to consider moving third grade to ELMS and recommend such a move.

—Harold King,
Superintendent

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Of course, women experience certain hormonal changes during pregnancy. These changes may produce a temporary condition of puffiness or bleeding of the gums. This condition is called "pregnancy gingivitis" and can be controlled by keeping the mouth "preventive clean" by the proper use of brushing and floss.
Equally false is the notion that baby robs the mother's teeth of calcium. The composition of adult teeth cannot be changed one fully formed. Babies may be responsible for stretch marks - but not dental decay.
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