

Colorado County Commissioners told:

Dust control chemical blamed for 'eating up' metal along county road

A calcium chloride substance, which Colorado County commissioners court was told three years ago was not corrosive, and that has been used on a few

county roads in Jerome Wicke's precinct, was blamed Monday for "eating up everything (metallic) along the road" to rid them of the problem, and even see

109 north of Columbus. A delegation of residents along the road asked commissioners Monday to rid them of the problem, and even see

if the manufacturer, Dow Chemical Company, and sales agent, W.W. Sales, might stand liable for corrosion damage.

John Darr presented commissioners a petition asking the road be paved to cover the material, and gave Wicke a laboratory analysis that shows the chemical content of the road was 200 parts and now is more than 6,000 parts. He also showed pictures of what has happened to metal cattle guards and vehicles.

"I'm disturbed about that," county judge Lester Cranck told the delegation. He said that when commissioners first looked into using the material three years ago, they were given a report from Oklahoma A&M University that said it was not corrosive.

"Apparently the 'smarts' in the lab were wrong," he said. Another member of the audience said that perhaps the material mixed with something that was already on the road to become as damaging as their pictures show.

Wicke said there was a very serious dust problem along the road and that application of the calcium chloride eliminated that problem very well. Ray Bartlett, who resides on the road, said he bought \$500 worth of it and applied it to his 1,600-foot driveway.

Wicke said he has used it on another road in precinct 3, and

Otto Loessin said he used some in precinct one, on the B&B Gravel Co. road, but has since paved that here "within a few days" to see what they have to say about it. As for paving the road, he said "it was on the list" but that funds always are limited for new paving.

Cranck said that 62 percent of Colorado County's county roads are paved, thanks to tax revenues from oil and gas properties, compared to about 10 percent in Wharton County and less than that in Lavaca County.

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Teachers' pay raise, ag staff reduction, school board topics

The monthly meeting of the Rice Consolidated Independent School Board of Trustees was held Tuesday night, a day later than normal due to the state teacher testing Monday.

Among agenda items approved was the granting of the state mandated—but not state funded—teacher pay increase.

The three-man vocational agriculture staff at Rice High School also was discussed, and reduced by one teacher. The board made that decision based on the declining enrollment.

In pre-registration last year, 142 students signed up. But this year only 116 students signed up. The board indicated that should enrollment increase, it would add the teaching position back to the staff.

The board also spent the better part of an hour discussing the dress code for the prom at the high school. It is sticking by a

previous decision that says anyone wearing a tuxedo would be turned away at the door. Some students already have ordered tuxedos for this year's event.

With the legislature telling school districts that teachers should get a \$114 per month increase each year for the next decade, the Rice Board agreed to fund it. However, it granted a flat \$1,140 increase to teachers.

Those teaching on 10-month contracts will receive \$114 per month, but teachers working 11 or 12 months during the year will see the \$1,140 divided by the number of months they work. The increase keeps Rice district teachers \$2,000 above state base.

In discussing revenues for the next school financial year, which begins Sept. 1, 1986, the board agreed that valuations may drop dramatically, since oil and gas property make up a fairly large

part of the district's taxable property. Also Reggie Briscoe said he understands that the state legislature will be scrambling for revenues, and it is doubtful whether the district will receive as much from the state for next year, as it did this year. Board president Balas said the district could fund the salary increase from its surplus funds.

The school calendar for next year was adopted, and will be published in next week's Headlight. The first day of school for students is on Tuesday, Sept. 2, and the last day is on Thursday, May 28.

Also on the agenda but discussed later in the evening were future building plans, consideration of policies regarding acceptance of transfer students, and consideration of recommendations for teacher contract renewals.

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Faculty luncheon

Pictured at right are the winners of the contest. From left to right are Mrs. Claudine Shorter, Mrs. Jean Leopold, Mrs. Lois Zwernemann, Mrs. Rosalinda Laos and Mrs. Patty Stephens. Below left, several Primary school parents are pictured preparing the noon meal for the faculty and staff. Another 25 parents were working in the classrooms and office. Below right are a few of the teachers and staff enjoying the delicious luncheon prepared especially for them.



Teachers, staff honored during Texas school week

Friday, March 7 was the final day of Texas Public School Week. The faculty and staff of the Eagle Lake Primary School were honored, by the students' parents, with their second luncheon. The theme for this year's luncheon was "Your O.K. in our Books."

While several parents served and catered to the faculty and staff, other parents worked in the classrooms with the children and in the office.

A prayer, led by Debbie Powers, was the introduction to the luncheon followed by a delicious meal consisting of ham rolls, brown rice salad, fresh fruit salad, lemon tarts and banana bread.

After dessert was completed, Christine Hruzek asked H.M. Bengie, principal, to draw the winning numbers for the five centerpieces to be given for souvenirs of this occasion. Winners were Mrs. Rosalinda Laos, Mrs. Jean Leopold, Mrs.

Claudine Shorter, Mrs. Patty Stephens, who was substitute for Mrs. Cherry Johnson, and Mrs. Lois Zwernemann.

Mr. Bengie concluded the luncheon by commending all the parents who participated in the

Unemployment seminar in Columbus this Friday.

An unemployment seminar, presented by Ser-Jobs for Progress, will be held this Friday, March 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Columbus.

Representatives from Texas Employment Commission, Dept. of Human Services, Dept. of Mental Health, Dept. of Public Health, Combined Community Action, Ministerial Alliance, Financial Counseling and Ser-Jobs for Progress will be available at the seminar. There also will be Ft. Bend Job Fair registration forms available. Admission is free.

luncheon as well as in the classrooms and office. Gratitude and appreciation was shown by everyone that attended for making this their best public school week that has ever been experienced.

Chairman for the luncheon was Joan Matthews with Sheila Mathis as co-chairman. A special thank you to Johnny Meitzen for donating the plastic table cloths.

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Garwood News by Mrs. J.F. Struska

Dr. and Mrs. Tim Zboril of Houston announce the arrival of a baby boy born on February 28 in a Houston hospital. He was named Robert William and is being welcomed by a sister, Adriane, two years old. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. William Zboril of Garwood and great grandmother is Mrs. A.G. Faykus of Garwood.

Get well wishes to Henry Labay of Napa who had bypass surgery in Houston this past week.

Mr. and Mrs. James Berger and children of Rosenberg visited Mrs. Bertha Rees in Garwood and Mrs. Helen Berger in Napa last Saturday.

Mrs. Mary Sue Wilbeck and Mrs. Josie Barr of Pierce visited Mrs. C.P. Hopkins and Mrs. Laura Littleton last Friday.

Mrs. Freda Kubesch accompanied her son, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kubesch and family of Wharton and Mrs. Ray Trant of El Campo to Victoria where they all attended the Miss TEEN pageant at the Holiday Inn. Miss Shannon Kubesch was a participant in the pageant. She is the daughter of the Ray Kubesch. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kubesch and family also attended the pageant and visited with the family.

Shophire Upon chapter of UDC will meet March 13 at Nesbitt Memorial Library meeting room at 2 p.m. A sesquicentennial program will be presented.

Hostesses will be Mrs. H.C. Mueller Jr., Mrs. Thomas Enderidge and Mrs. J.H. Wooten III.

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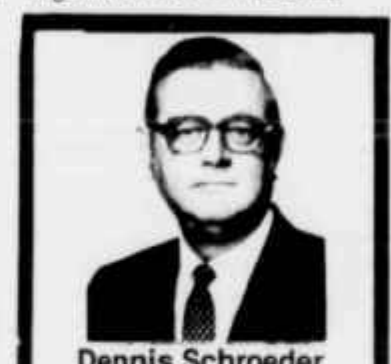
NOTICE

There will be a
PUBLIC HEARING

on the Sharing Budget
Tuesday, March 25
at 7:30 p.m.

In the Council Room of the City Municipal Building

Revenue Sharing Proposed Use:
Equipment.....\$41,480.00



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