

VINE RIPE
LARGE

**Slicing
Tomatoes**

48¢

LB.

FROM CHILE
WHITE THOMPSON
OR RED FLAME

**Seedless
Grapes**

88¢

LB.

JUMBO

**Pascal
Celery**

48¢

STALK

U.S. NO. 1

**Premium Russet
Baking Potatoes**

39¢

LB.

JUMBO

**California Pink
Grapefruit**

288¢

FOR

WHITE-SLICING SIZE

Onions LBS **3/.99**

TENDER SWEET

Carrots 1 LB PKGS **3/.99**

CALIFORNIA GREEN

Onions BUNCHES **4/.99**

FRESH GREEN LEAFY

Spinach 10 OZ. PKG. **.79**

RED RIPE CHERRY

Tomatoes PINT. **.79**

NORTH CAROLINA GOLDEN

Yams LBS **3/.99**

WASHINGTON HOT HOUSE

Rhubarb LB **\$1.29**

FOR PALM SUNDAY...

AT PARTICIPATING STORES ONLY

Areca Palms EA **\$5.99**

ASSORTED FLAVORS

**Refreshing
Coca-Cola**

\$1.59

6 PACK
12 OZ.
CANS

PREMIUM

**Miller Lite
Beer**

\$4.99

12 PACK
12 OZ.
CANS

FRESH BAKED

**Roman Meal
Bread**

99¢

24 OZ.
LOAF

Helyn Farris
named First
Lady of '86
See Page 9



New stop
signs at
Lake St. & RR
Ignored. Be
safe & stop



City Council
adopts new budget.
Story Below

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Water rates lowered too

\$131,844 rebated to Garwood farmers

Customers of Garwood Irrigation Co. enjoyed an oyster-fry meal Friday but found the desert was a two-layer cake in the form of rebate checks on their 1985 rice irrigation water bill and a \$5 per acre lowering of 1986 irrigation costs.

Bill Lehrer told the farmers gathered in the former Garwood Implement Co. building that last Thursday, about 24 hours earlier, the board of directors of the Lower Colorado River Authority had approved an "interim agreement" between LCRA and Garwood Irrigation. It meant that water used on the 1985 crop, and water used this year, will come from the Colorado River without payments to LCRA.

Therefore, the \$131,844.14 the farmers paid Garwood Irrigation last year as the water portion of the bill was returned to those farmers Friday because it did not have to be paid to LCRA. "I cannot say without certainty that we will never have

to pay LCRA something for water again," Lehrer said near the end of the program, "however, I am reasonably certain we will not be required to pay as much as we paid in the past."

Because the agreement deleted any water cost requirement, Garwood Irrigation was able to lower its first crop rates. Gravity irrigation will cost \$56.50 per acre and first crop relief water will cost \$59.50. Last year those costs were \$5 per acre higher. Prices per acre are unchanged from last year for second crop gravity (\$20), second crop relief (\$22), flushing gravity (\$5) and flushing relief (\$5.50).

The Friday luncheon compliments of Garwood Irrigation was attended by about 100 area farmers who had no idea that Lehrer would make such announcements. In February, a day after the LCRA board met, Garwood Irrigation officials and

LCRA officials hammered out the new agreements that had to be approved this month by the LCRA board. When word was received that the approval was made Thursday, March 20, the Garwood Irrigation staff spent the better part of 24 hours preparing the 1986 water contracts reflecting the new water rates, and writing the checks that rebated the \$131,844.

As Lehrer started his remarks, he told the audience: "Gentlemen, I'll say we are entering a new era in our relationship with Lower Colorado River Authority, one that I hope will be beneficial to all of us." Negotiations on the new "Interim Agreement" started last July under the direction of just-retired LCRA general Manager Eloy Soderberg.

According to an inter-office memorandum from LCRA's Bill West, water resources director, to the LCRA board for its March 20

meeting, "The interim agreement reflects a commitment to develop a long-term water supply agreement that accurately takes into consideration respective water rights." West recommended the agreement be approved.

That agreement is outlined in a letter dated February 27 and signed by Soderberg, by his successor David Freeman, and by Mr. Lehrer.

"The Authority and Garwood Irrigation Company ('Garwood') entered into a Letter Agreement dated March 20, 1985 (the '1985 Letter Agreement') relating to the use of water for irrigation. The basis of the Letter Agreement was the 1937 contract between the parties."

"In light of these changed circumstances, the 1985 Letter Agreement is hereby amended to delete any requirement for payment by Garwood..." The letter also said that the document did not mean either party gives up water rights and that the parties would be working in the future to develop a long-term water supply agreement. "We will be meeting and working

with LCRA over the coming months to develop such an agreement," Lehrer said.

System acreage down: Conservation demanded. In other business concerning Garwood Water, Lehrer said that acreage on the system is down 2,408 acres this year and is only 71 percent of their capacity. With CP&L telling the company that electric rates will increase six percent this year, Lehrer said the company still is reducing rates to the "bare bone."

"We will, however, have to have the utmost cooperation from you all in conserving water particularly during second crop irrigation." Apparently water wasted during the second crop season is the worst offender. He said that their farming operations don't produce much second crop rice from levees, and suggested plowing them to repair leak-causing runs made

(Continued on Next Page)

Buck Frazar opens used tractor business

Amidst woes concerning the agricultural economy, let alone the economy in general, a new tractor dealer has opened in the Eagle Lake, featuring used farm equipment in the 50-horsepower and under range.

Bryan "Buck" Frazar of Houston, a distant cousin of Joe Frazar of Eagle Lake, was the new business last Saturday morning shaking hands with those who came to wish him well on his grand opening.

Frazar picked Eagle Lake out of towns between San Antonio and Houston, including those along Interstate 10, because of its large agricultural base, and

building availability. He had several tractors on hand Saturday morning, and some people who stopped by were shopping.

"The economy doesn't worry me," he said, "there always is a demand for equipment in this size range." His market ranges from the largest rice farmer that always needs something like this, to the weekend farmer with only ten acres to work.

When he settled on Eagle Lake he met with Ralph Truly to talk about building availability. Frazar proposed a lease to Robert Saunders of M&S Distributing in Columbus, owners of a warehouse on Stephenson which

the distributing company no longer uses. And, Frazar added, Bill Harrison at the First National Bank has been "very, very accommodative."

Frazar is not in the repair business, per se, but when he does acquire a used piece of equipment, he will go over it and fix those things that need fixing. Then, when it sells, he and the customer both know the machine is in good working condition. For instance, he is waiting for parts on a Ford 3000. He has changed all the fluids, and is putting in a new injection pump, battery and tires. "If it's not broke I don't

fix it," he said.

Over the past three years, Frazar has developed a personal network of dealers around Texas to help him find something a customer might want. If someone needs a piece of equipment, even if it's over 50 horsepower, he usually can find out in three to five days if something is available. He doesn't buy tractors at auctions, he said, for fear of getting something like a cracked crankshaft. But, franchisee, tractor dealers he talks to are a good source. They don't need a used Ford on an International lot, he said, so I sometimes buy them to resell.



Buck Frazar took time Saturday morning to start one of the tractors he has available at his new used equipment business in Eagle Lake.

Vote on Darden 4-3

Permanent addition proposed for Middle School; teacher contracts approved

A move to build a permanent expansion of the Eagle Lake Middle School was made by the Rice district school board of trustees during its marathon session earlier this month.

At that meeting, where teacher pay raises were authorized, trustees also voted on teacher contracts. Rice Athletic director Clifton Darden's contract was approved on a 4-3 vote; two teachers holding one-year contracts have learned their contracts were not extended; no action was taken on two teachers holding two-year contracts that expire at the end of the 1986-87 school year, meaning they have only one year remaining with the district unless board action next year is different, and the board accepted the resignation of Doug Wright, RHS counselor.

When a teacher is hired, that person is given a one-year contract at the beginning of each year of the two-year probationary period. Mike Tankersley and Mike McMahon were teaching on those one-year contracts, and since they were not given new contracts, they will not be teaching at Rice next year. Tankersley was the girls varsity basketball coach, and McMahon is an ag instructor. The ag staff is being reduced

because of declining enrollment in that program.

The meeting started Tuesday evening March 11, and lasted until 3 a.m. Wednesday morning. The vote on Darden included votes for contract approval by Reggie Briscoe, Bill Heffner, Fritz Leopold and Natalie Dupre; votes by Steve Balas, John Thomas and Wayne Corman were to not approve a new contract.

The board is moving toward building a four-classroom "concrete and steel" extension to the north end portion of the ELMS cafeteria, which already contains four classrooms in addition to the cafeteria-auditorium combination. The extension also would include restrooms. At present, anyone in that portion of the school must exit that building, cross a covered walkway, and use the restrooms in the main building.

Two new classrooms are needed on that campus because of an earlier decision of the board to move the third grade classes there from the Eagle Lake Primary School. The primary school will grow this fall with the addition a new state mandated "Pre-Kindergarten, and board members were concerned that it would become the largest campus in the system, with the smallest and almost oldest facilities.

A temporary building, with temporary meaning mobile-home type structure, was added to the primary school last year when the state began requiring a student-teacher ratio of 22 to one in grades kindergarten through two. According to superintendent Harold King, that ratio will be extended to grades three and four starting with the

1989 school year, so two additional classrooms will be needed then. He said the board felt the district would be better served by permanent structures, than a continuous annual addition of temporary buildings dotting campuses.

Answering the some-time expressed fear that more students at the middle school would make traffic congestion there even worse, King said that by placing the addition on the north end of the cafeteria, the district has enough land to also add a street to that building from Burns St.

Although the board apparently doesn't plan to do that now, when a street is built it means cars could drop students at the main entrance on Center St., or at a new building entrance on the new street off Burns.

King also said that the

permanent addition would be a better investment for taxpayers. The temporary building added at the primary school last year cost about \$23 a square foot to complete. The four-room addition to the ELMS campus is projected to cost about \$30 to \$35 a square foot.

The board plans to pay for the structure with reserve funds. IT is contracting with Drymalla in Columbus for engineering work. In fact, King met with Don Naiser last Thursday to look at sketches, so the board should have definite plans to look at during its April meeting.

The board also has approved the advertising for bids on the new maintenance and bus barn to be built on the Rice High School campus. Both buildings should be ready for the next school year, King said.

had everyone paid their tax bill. The city, through its contract with the central appraisal office in Columbus, is becoming more

Continued on page 17

Bridge tournament at Farris AprilFest event

If you thought last week's advertisement about the April Fest, scheduled April 18 and 19 at the KC grounds on FM 3013, listed all the activities for that week, think again. There are so many activities scheduled during that week they can't be listed in one place, and not all events are at the main fair site.

One item of note is the bridge tournament that will be held on Saturday afternoon, April 15. Mrs. Paul Causey and Mrs. Russell Thomas are the chairmen of the event, and are taking registrations. They emphasize that the tournament is for players of all skill levels, and that last year's tournament proved to be a fun, relaxing afternoon at the beautiful Farris 1912.

The deadline to register is April 10.

April Fest chairmen Becky Anderson and Annie Mae Wiene said this week the installation of electrical power to the site is

been approved and should be ready soon. That will provide power for the Mighty McDaniel Carnival that will set up there on Tuesday before the festival, and provide power to the many booths that have been reserved.

The committee is searching for several well-known people to

be the judges for the various contests to be held, including the first queen's contest, and the annual Little Miss and Mr. Eagle Lake.

Don't forget the Friday evening Mexican dinner at the Community Center to be followed by the auction.

Crime prevention program scheduled April 16 at Eagle Lake Middle School

District attorney Bud Kuykendall of Seguin will be the main speaker April 16 for a Crime Prevention program to be held at the Eagle Lake Middle School from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

According to police chief Ben Johnson, there is no charge to the public, with printed material donated by Eagle Lake area insurance agencies.

Other speakers will be sheriff Jim Broussard, fire chief Sonny Spanihel, DA investigator Buster

Hobbs, and Chief Johnson. Representatives from Lake Lumber and Eagle Lake Farm & Home Supply will be on hand to answer questions about locks, doors and security devices.

Insurance agencies donating printing are Robert Griffith of Eagle Lake Insurance Agency; Jim Allen of Anderson-Allen Insurance Agency; Doris Thomas of the W.M. Thomas Insurance Agency; and Louis Griggar of the Farmers Insurance Group.

City holds expenses with budget, tax rate

After discussing two subjects at the public hearing concerning Eagle Lake city expenses for its financial year that begins next Tuesday, council adopted a new budget and tax rate this past Tuesday evening.

A group of residents asked council to allocate more of its parks budget to the maintenance of the tennis courts in the Recreation Center area, and T.J. Smith suggested some sections of the budget be better defined.

Also on the agenda was a resolution commending the beautification of the municipal building grounds and the parcel of property at the intersection of Boothe Drive and McCarty; further discussion of installing four-way stop signs at Lake and Davin; and discussion of wrecker service and vehicle storage.

The budget predicts taxable valuations will decrease from \$62.4 million to \$60.6 million. That should generate \$161,220 in revenue, taking into account

not everyone always pays taxes. With the fiscal year just ending, the city collected \$151,970 in revenue, although the tax base should have generated \$174,077.

Continued on page 17

Van Nort to intro Rockets

Mayoral candidate and veteran city councilman Roy D. Van Nort has been added to the program scheduled April 15 to reach the youth of Eagle Lake.

For the second year in a row, the Greater Rising Star Baptist Church has invited members of the Houston Rockets basketball team to Eagle Lake to speak to the youngsters, and provide them with a positive role model.

Van Nort has accepted an invitation to introduce the rockets, with Robert Reid as one of the players who has confirmed he will attend. Wilma Tillman, organizer, said other players also have been

invited to speak.

Dr. Russell Thomas will be a speaker as well.

The evening with the Rockets will include a barbecue meal, and is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Van Nort said the community should be encouraged to make sure as many young people as possible attend. Tickets are \$5 per person and are available at the Headlight as well as from Miss Tillman and most members of the church. If anyone in the community is interested in buying tickets to be donated to deserving youth, contact the Headlight.