

CALIFORNIA

White Seedless Thompson Grapes

58¢

LB

CALIFORNIA

Crisp Iceburg Lettuce

48¢

EACH

MONTERREY

Snow White Mushrooms

88¢

8 OZ PKG

LARGE SWEET

Juicy Bartlett Pears

79¢

LB

YOUR CHOICE, RED TOP

Green Leaf or Romaine Lettuce

58¢

EACH

TROPICAL

Mangoes

79¢

EACH

FRESH JUICY

Pineapples

99¢

EACH

TASTY NEW ZEALAND

Kiwi Fruit

3 99¢

LARGE SIZE FOR

RIPE Red Tomatoes **69¢**

CALIFORNIA Hass Avocados **2/.99**

FRESH KENTUCKY Wonder Beans **.89**

FRESH Red Potatoes **3/.99**

JUMBO SIZE, TASTY CALIFORNIA Honeydew Melons **1.99**

RIPE Red Watermelons **STARTING AT \$3.49**

TASTY Yellow Onions **4/.99**

LEAFY Green Spinach **10 OZ PKG .89**

GREAT FOR SALADS, FIRM Belgium Endive **LB \$2.49**

6 INCH POT ASSORTED Tropical Plants **EACH \$4.49**

ASSORTED VARIETIES

TV Brand Potato Chips

79¢

8 OZ BAG

ASSORTED VARIETIES

Sparkling Cella Wines

\$4.29

1.5 LITER BOTTLE

PREMIUM

Miller Genuine Draft Beer

\$4.99

12 PACK 12 OZ

Eagle Lake Headlight

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Steve Balas' purchase Eagle Lake Drugs

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Balas have purchased Eagle Lake Drugs at 702 S. McCarty from Mr. and Mrs. L.D. Euen, effective Tuesday, July 15.

The announcement of the purchase ends several weeks of rumors, and follows by several days the closing of Rice Drug Store which had filed bankruptcy earlier this year. Euen sold the business and stock of Eagle Lake Drugs, but retained the building.

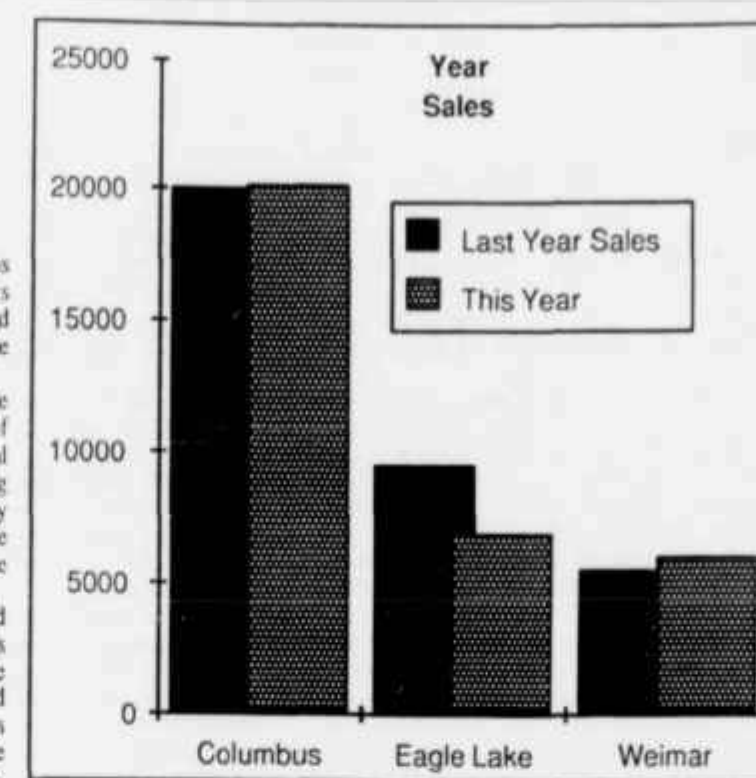
Balas is a registered pharmacist, having received his pharmacy degree from the University of Texas in 1969, and practiced pharmacy for six years before devoting most of his time to farming rice the past 13 years. He has continued his interest in pharmacy by serving as the pharmacist for the Eagle Lake Community Hospital for a number of years before a full-time pharmacist was needed, and serving as a relief pharmacist for Eagle Lake Drugs and other area drug stores.

His farming operation will continue, but he will be devoting full-time to the operation of Eagle Lake Drugs and being pharmacist for the store.

Steve is married to the former Linda Thomas, and they have two children, Brian, 17, and Renee, 15.

The Balas family said they look forward to serving the community with top-quality pharmacy service, as well as having a full time of cosmetics, fragrances, jewelry and gifts. All prescriptions previously filled in Eagle Lake can be filled at Eagle Lake Drugs by bringing or calling the the prescription number.

The emergency number for after-hour prescription needs is 234-3834.



The decline of retail sales this year has not abated, according to information released this week by the state. This chart shows figures representing sales made in May. For Eagle Lake, the decline was 27.6 percent, compared to sales made in May of last year. For the first five months of this year, sales here have decreased 24.9 percent. In Columbus, sales showed a 1.1 percent increase for the month, but still show a 5.4 percent decrease for the year. In Weimar, monthly sales for May were up 9.6 percent, and for the year are down only 2.6 percent.

'Legend of Lake' correct final answer

The winner of the final week in the Lions Club 3. "You know your duty, but I Sequiquennial Treasure Hunt was Eunice Frink. She what Light Foot was suppose to have said to Prairie Flower when he asked her to marry him. The past weekly winners were given an extra clue: "made of bark, feathers and straw."

Mrs. Frink will receive two special silver sequiquennial coins for guessing the correct answer. This ends the treasure hunt sponsored by the Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club.

Waggoner asks Gov. White to exempt some from TECAT

The one teacher in the Rice school district to refuse to take the state-mandated "teacher competency" test and still plan on teaching next year asked Gov. Mark White last week to exempt advanced graduate degree holders from taking the test.

However, Monday night the Rice school board voted to begin taking steps that could lead to the dismissal of the teacher.

The teacher, William L. Waggoner, holds a doctorate of education degree, and ignored two calls by the state to take the "Texas Examination of Certified Administrators and Teachers."

While he plans to teach this fall, it has been said that others in the Rice district chose to retire rather than take the test. Waggoner is the music teacher at Rice High School.

In a letter addressed to "The Hon. Mark White," dated July 11, Waggoner wrote that "After undergoing the rigors of an academic doctoral program that is easily equivalent to the education of a physician or even an attorney, it seems ridiculous to demean myself by writing such an exam just to validate a life certificate. Personally, I have too much pride in my academic accomplishments!" he said.

The school board, at its regular monthly meeting, approved a motion to "propose to terminate (Waggoner) at a later date." That does not mean they have fired him. Although the board discussed its motion in a closed, private session from which the public was excluded, it did not publicly acknowledge that Waggoner had asked for an exemption, or whether he was even aware of the impending action. Waggoner was not at Monday's meeting.

The full content of Waggoner's letter is printed on page two of this issue.

Dr. Griffin elected chief of hospital medical staff

Officials at Eagle Lake Community Hospital announced the hospital's officers for the 1986-87 medical staff year.

Elected to lead the medical staff's activities as chief of the medical staff is Harold L. Griffin, M.D. Dr. Griffin, of Columbus, specializes in diseases of the ear, nose and throat, along with head, neck and facial plastic surgery. Dr. Griffin is a graduate of Rice University and Southwestern Medical School. He did his internship with Parkland Hospital in Dallas and his residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston.

Also elected as vice-chief was R. Russell Thomas Jr., D.D., a resident of Eagle Lake. Dr. Thomas graduated from Rice Consolidated High School in 1971, received his bachelor of arts in biology from University of Texas at Austin in 1975, his master's degree in public health at the University of Texas School of



Dr. Harold Griffin



Dr. Russell Thomas

Public Health in Houston in 1976, graduated from Texas College of Osteopathy in 1980, and did his family practice residency at Southwest Memorial Hospital in Houston from 1980 to 1983; where he was chief resident from 1982 through 1983. Dr. Thomas is a diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice, a member of the Houston-Galveston Council Health Planning Advisory Committee and is secretary of the Colorado-Fayette Medical Society.

The board of directors of the Eagle Lake Community Hospital unanimously agreed that the chief of the medical staff each year will serve as a voting member of the hospital's board of directors.



The Balas and Euen families posed for this picture Monday, the last day that Eagle Lake Drugs will be operated by the Euen family. Mr. and Mrs. Balas purchased the store as of Tuesday morning, and although they did not purchase Rice Drug Store, which closed last week, they can fill prescriptions from that store.

Airport board recommends improvements be made; few funds available for jobs

By LINDA FERGUSON
Banner-Press

Monday, July 14 was the first meeting of the Airport Advisory Board of Eagle Lake.

The recently appointed board, chaired by Bob Ashby, was named by Mayor Lanny Powers to study the airport in Eagle Lake and present a plan of action to city council.

Board members are Ralph Truly, Belvin Mann, Bill Appelt, T. Lang, Johnny Garza, Fred Cantu and Ashby.

The board agreed that airport improvement was of prime importance in bringing new business to Eagle Lake. At this writing, the city has received at least three inquiries from interested parties who would like to hangar large planes in Eagle Lake. Because of the poor

condition of the airport and lack of runway length and hangar space, these inquiries must be discouraged.

That means the loss of tax revenue equal to approximately 5 houses for each plane.

Within the limits of available funds, the airport advisory board has listed priorities to repair the existing airport. These repairs will be the airport in line with Texas Aeronautics Commission guidelines. The priority list is:

1. Move the beacon to allow for immediate hangar development;
2. Widen and resurface short northwest-southeast runway;
3. Resurface short northwest-southeast runway;
4. Improve tie-down area;
5. Fencing and security to meet TAC requirements.

Other recommendations such as mowing and fence-line cleanup will be implemented by the city immediately. It should be noted that even with this long range planning there is only \$16,153 in the special revenue (airport) fund to begin the work.

This priority list will be presented to city council on July 22 at its next regular meeting.

Hopkins brings in first rice for the season

Garwood Rice Dryer has reported the first rice crop for the 1986 season.

Jack Hopkins brought in the first load of rice the afternoon of Thursday, July 10. He started cutting Thursday on 140 acres of LaBelle rice with a moisture content at 21.7 percent.

Funds from navigation bonds distributed

By Fausta Kaiser
Banner-Press

The Colorado County Commissioners Court was faced with the pleasant task of distributing unexpected funds to county government and school districts during its regular monthly session Monday.

In round figures, the county received approximately \$85,000. The county's Port of Houston Navigation Bonds, numbered 6579 through 6631, matured recently, providing the county with about \$53,000 to divide. Bonds, numbered 6952 through 7000, have yet to reach maturity.

These monies are designated for the three school districts located in Colorado County with each district getting a split,

according to per capita basis. The distribution gave the Weimar school district 15.37 percent of the funds. Rice received 44.15 percent and Columbus got 40.48 percent.

Another \$32,007 was received from Prairie Chicken Refugia funds. The U.S. Department of the Interior provided the 1986 split revenue based on the 1985 tax rates. School districts and county governments suffering a tax loss are eligible for the funds.

The Rice and Columbus school districts and Colorado County all lost taxes totaling \$16,490.97, making them eligible to receive the funding.

Columbus ISD came away with the highest amount of \$14,905.65 with Colorado

County receiving \$8,878.65 and Rice totaling \$8,222.60.

The county's allotment was distributed to the road and bridge funds of each precinct. Precinct 1 was awarded \$2,636.99; Precinct 2 received \$2,072.30; Precinct 3 totaled \$2,520.68; and Precinct 4 got \$1,648.78.

The second reported violation came in July and concerned tracking mud onto a highway.

According to William J. Philbin Jr., attorney for Houston Industrial Materials Inc., the problem arose when the area became saturated with rain and the landfills the company had as backup were inaccessible due to a closing by the health department and a washed out road.

Philbin said they were forced to make application to the dried land available.

The first alleged violation

came to Cranek's attention in June. It concerned hauling wastewater sludge during rainy weather and dumping on water saturated soils with an additional violation of tracking mud onto the highway.

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Commissioner Bill Stiles

moved that the county acquire a copy of the regulations concerning the application of wastewater sludge and recommend to Sheriff Jim Broussard that a selected deputy familiarize himself with the regulations and monitor the applications to see that all laws are being followed.

The court gave audience to Vantine Olier, director of Colorado Valley Transit Inc., who asked the court to support the program's efforts.

She requested a monetary contribution of \$2,000, plus use of the county's dispatch tower, as the system grows to serve more people in the rural areas.

The court took under consideration the request for the gazebo on the courthouse lawn presented by the Pkott Club and

the Retail Merchants Association of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce.

Approval was given to Larry Solansky's computerized method of selecting a jury. The court also approved the quit claim deed for the property in Garwood to the New Home Baptist Church.

Fayette Electric Cooperative's request for a 13.82 percent increase was opposed.

Marie Hayek was appointed election presiding judge for Precinct 1 and the pay scale for election judges and clerks was set at \$3.35 per hour.

The court also decided to locate several benches on the northwest corner of the courthouse square for the convenience of the public.