

'Sesqui'
Treasure
Hunt is on
Story below
Clues inside

Spanihel
files financial
report
See Page 11

Eagle Lake Headlight

June 19, 1986
(USPS 163-760)
Vol. 83, No. 12
Eagle Publishing, Inc.
P.O. Box 67
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067
(409) 234-5521
35-CENTS PER COPY
(33-CENTS PLUS TAX)

Bus service loss may not be hardship

The first thoughts that losing commercial bus service in Eagle Lake may bring another economic hardship were softened this week after discussion of the alternatives.

Becky Anderson, president of the Eagle Lake chamber of commerce, talked with the Kerrville Bus Lines, the company that took over the route through here when Greyhound abandoned it last year. She learned that Kerrville sold the route to Texas Bus Lines.

When she contacted the TBL president, he said that there was nothing that could be done to get his company to resume the route. In fact, he indicated that his entire company was suffering serious economic decline, and that eliminating the money-losing route through Eagle Lake might not be enough to keep him from closing the doors.

Mrs. Anderson pointed out that businesses in Eagle Lake who need freight service now can use United Parcel Service, which received permission this year from the Texas Railroad Commission to pick up and deliver packages inside the state.

She said she is looking into the commercial bus schedule through Columbus, in order to help coordinate transportation for those from Eagle Lake, and from Weimar (which also lost bus service), who need the ride.

At the moment, the van runs during business hours, because of its limited funding and limited staffing. Mrs. Olier is working on securing two more transportation vans, starting with the new government year that begins October 1.

In an advertisement elsewhere in this issue, the public is asked to provide comment on other uses for a transportation van. Mrs. Olier said they are looking into the need for transportation from this area to Wharton County Junior College and to Blinn College, thinking that the lack of transportation may be keeping some from attending college. Also, they are looking to see if there is a need for transportation to Houston and Galveston for medical services.



New business receives boost

Just as a report on Eagle Lake's newest business, Dough-To-Go, was being prepared by the Headlight, owners Bob Griffith (left) and Doug Schwemm reported they received good news Tuesday. Their frozen gourmet cookie dough will be stocked in HEB stores across the state. The report will be in next week's newspaper, but in the meantime, you can taste-test the five cookie flavors by purchasing the dough in one pound cartons at Wilcox Minimix and Schwemm's Sportsman's Restaurant.

Refuge expansion proposed

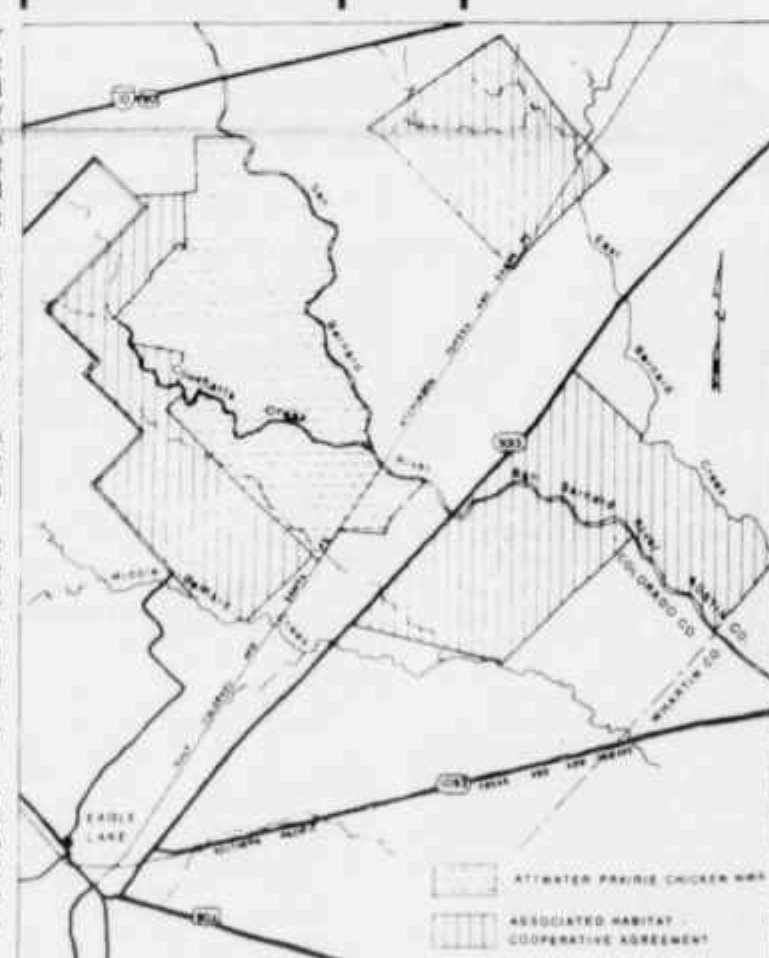
Expansion of the Atwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge near Eagle Lake, and acquisition of land just north of Victoria for a satellite refuge, has been proposed in a draft environmental assessment and decision document issued last week.

The Atwater's Prairie Chicken population on the refuge near Eagle Lake has increased from 25 birds found there when it was established in 1972, to the 204 birds identified in 1985. However, the population in Texas as a whole has dropped 40 percent from an average of about 1,500 in 1980 to 874 last year.

The expansion of the Eagle Lake refuge is proposed to be through cooperative, no-cost agreements with land owners for protection of the prairie chicken and their habitat. The draft also discusses the possibility of low-cost lease agreements and other arrangements.

Overall, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service hopes to expand the protection area for the bird to 15,000 acres, from its current 8,000 acres. The satellite refuge in Victoria eventually could also become 15,000 acres.

Although no time table was mentioned in the draft statement, the prairie chicken recovery team said that land values are accelerating because of urbanization and that the FWS "needs to move quickly before the competing land uses of the native



coastal prairie eliminates the ability to protect the prairie chicken from extinction. The brush invasion is considered one of the major factors limiting the prairie chicken populations. (Continued on Page 8)

Prisoner OK after suicide attempt

High-speed chase through Weimar, county ends safely

An attempted suicide by a Colorado County jail prisoner, unrelated to the arrest of two New Orleans men captured near Weimar following a 26-mile, 100-MPH chase, kept law enforcement officers in the county busy last Saturday night.

The chase started shortly after 7 p.m. June 14 when Trooper Jake Sanchez clocked a west-bound Oldsmobile Toronado going 97 miles per hour on Interstate 10 just east of Columbus. Sanchez radioed ahead to another trooper in the Schulenberg area and told him that "I'm not making any ground on them," see if you can get them going by. Before additional advice from Sanchez that "you better get a running start on them," could be implemented, the speeding car attempted to take the Weimar exit, nearly hitting another car also heading for the exit.

Before the evening was over, Sanchez reported the car went through ten fences, numerous fields, took a shotgun blast to a rear tire, and finally turned onto its side. Shortly thereafter, a deputy on duty at the jail radioed that the passenger in the vehicle "was reaching into the back seat" for something. It was clear that had that something been a weapon, the danger level would have increased.

Arrested were Keith Eugene Howard, 24, and Mark Harris, 21, both of New Orleans. Howard was charged with evading arrest, and Harris was charged with driving without a license, fleeing a police officer, (operating) a stolen vehicle, and also was being held for investigation of a warrant issued in Travis County charging robbery involving bodily injury, and bond forfeiture in 176th district court. They appeared before Judge Mary Ordner, and were ordered held without bond in the Colorado County Jail. The car was stolen June 10 in Louisiana, and the plates on the car belonged on another vehicle.

To recap the chase, after exiting the interstate, police records indicate the vehicle stalled. Trooper Sanchez started to get out of his patrol car to ask the men to surrender. They restarted the engine and sped north on FM 155, ran through the stop sign at the intersection of U.S. 90, and continued on N. Eagle St. at a high rate of speed.

Sanchez resumed close chase, following them onto E. North St., then onto N. East St. before the subjects skidded their vehicle through the intersection at E. Hugar, and into a ditch. The trooper pulled his car up behind them in an attempt to block it,

Local transit service

Also, Colorado Valley Transit, started last month with government grants, can fill the void for those in Eagle Lake who need transportation to Columbus to catch a bus. All they need to do is call 732-MOVE (collect) 24 hours in advance, to see if arrangements can be made.

During its first month with the van operating a total of 19 days, the rural transportation service carried 226 passengers, according to Vastene Olier, manager. The first rider from Eagle Lake was Susan Ramirez. The transit service carried 17 handicapped passengers, 124 that were over 60 years old, and 85 that were under 60. Records show 110 trips were for medical and health care, 55 were for shopping, 10 were for recreational trips, four were to senior centers, four were to social service agencies and 43 were in the "other" category.

There is no fare charge for those 60 and older, or for those in wheelchairs. Fares for other handicapped persons are 25-cents round trip; and for all others, the charge is 50-cents inner city round trip, and \$1 for in-county round trip.

Half from Eagle Lake

I would estimate that nearly 50 percent of our passengers come from Eagle Lake," Mrs. Olier said Monday. The transit service projected that it would start by serving Eagle Lake, Columbus and Weimar one day a week each. But, the van has been in Eagle Lake at least three days a week, she said.



Honored at Henry School reunion

Mrs. E. H. Henry, right, was honored Saturday by the more than 200 former students and teachers who attended the reunion here. With Mrs. Henry are her daughter, Mrs. Elaine Henry Harrison, and her son, Eugene Harrison Jr. Stories and additional photos inside on Page 8.

Treasure hunt to celebrate sesquicentennial in Eagle Lake

Over the next few weeks, the Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club will sponsor a treasure hunt as its part in celebrating the Texas Sesquicentennial.

The hunt begins this week with publication of three clues spread out through this edition of the newspaper. Each week the first person that calls the Headlight with the right answer will be awarded a special Sesquicentennial Collector's coin, worth \$12.50.

The event will give people a chance to learn more about Eagle Lake, visit some historical localities, and compete for prizes, according to Henry Webb, treasure hunt chairman, and past president of the Lion's club.

The first three weeks, the hunt will become progressively harder to solve, and each winner will be awarded a coin.

The weekly winner also will be given an additional clue to help him or her solve the fourth week's puzzle. That week, two coins will be awarded. The hunt will conclude after the fourth week's prizes are awarded, following publication of the final week's clues on July 10.

If orders are placed now, discount prices are available on a variety of spring bulbs. Tulips, hyacinths, amaryllis and daffodils are among the selections.

To order, call Vicki Powers, 234-3238, or Deanne Purdie, 234-2057.

"Our Garden Club needs your support," according to a statement from previous bulb sales helped beautify the square and Harrison Park, and proceeds from this sale will help with future projects.

Along the route, it nearly turned over before continuing on. One deputy, trying to catch up and help, radioed that he must be going in the right direction, because of all the fencing and posts scattered about. Finally the men crashed their car onto the Lola Franklin property, where it turned onto its side, then flopped back onto its wheels. The men fled the car.

As Sanchez was catching up to the driver on foot, Allen Onheuser and his son Ricky cut off the passenger as he headed towards a fence. They held him in position with a shotgun and pistol until other officers arrived.

Deputy Carly Weid was the first on the scene, took the men into custody and then to jail in Columbus. Officers from the Fayette (Continued on Page 8)

TASTY

Yellow Sweet Corn

10¢

EAR EACH

SWEET JUICY

Red Ripe Watermelons

\$1.99

EACH AND UP

FLAVORFUL PLUMP

Luscious Blueberries

\$1.29

PINT BASKET

U.S. NO. 1

All Purpose Russet Potatoes

99¢

5 LB. BAG

SLICING SIZE

Sweet Yellow Onions

4.99¢

LBS. FOR

FOR SUMMER SALADS, CELLO PACK

Plump Red Ripe Tomatoes 4 PACK .99

GREAT FOR BREAKFAST

Juicy California Valencia Oranges LB. .49

GREAT FOR HOMEMADE LEMONADE

Juicy Tart California Lemons 4/.99

GREAT FOR SNACKS

Tender California Carrots 1 LB. PKG. .49

SUMMERTIME FAVORITE

Nutritious Zucchini Squash LB. .79

CASHP SNAP

Fresh Kentucky Wonder Beans LB. .89

SUMMERTIME FRESH

Tasty Tender Green Onions BUNCHES 3/.99

AT PARTICIPATING STORES, YOUR CHOICE ALDO VERA OR

Red Tip Jade Plant 6 IN. POT. \$4.49

PREMIUM

Miller High Life Beer

12 PK. 12 OZ. CANS

\$4.99

ASSORTED VARIETIES

Ruffle's Potato Chips

6.5 OZ. BAG

89¢

PREMIUM

Bartles & Jaymes Wine Coolers

4 PACK 12 OZ. NRT. BTLS.

\$2.99