



LARGE CALIFORNIA
Iceberg Lettuce
45¢
HEAD



LARGE CALIFORNIA
Vine Ripe Tomatoes
48¢
LB.

MINIMAX MEANS MORE... SAVINGS!

GREAT FOR SLAW
Firm Green Cabbage
19¢
LB.

YOUR CHOICE, SLICING
Cucumbers or Bell Peppers
4 99¢
FOR

PLUMP CALIFORNIA THOMPSON
Seedless White Grapes
88¢
LB.

HOME GROWN
Tender Texas Carrots
TENDER SNOW WHITE MONTEREY
Mushrooms 8 OZ. PKG. **\$1.19**
FRESH GREEN
Leafy Spinach 10 OZ. PKG. **.89**

FIRST OF THE SEASON, NEW CROP WASHINGTON EXTRA FANCY
Red Delicious Apples LB. **.99**
JUICY SWEET CALIFORNIA
Valencia Oranges LB. **.49**
SLICING SIZE
White Onions LBS **3/.99**
CRUNCHY TASTY
Alfalfa Sprouts 4 OZ. PKG. **.69**
TASTY SPICY
Alfalfa Sprouts 4 OZ. PKG. **.69**

ASSORTED FLAVORS
Refreshing Pepsi-Cola
DIET PEPSI, MT. DEW, PEPSI FREE, DIET PEPSI FREE
\$1.09
2 LITER NRT. BTL.

FAMILY RECIPE SPLIT TOP
Wheat or White Sandwich Bread
99¢
24 OZ. LOAF

PREMIUM
Bartles & Jaymes Wine Coolers
\$2.99
4 PACK 12 OZ. NRT. BTL.



Eagle Lake Headlight

September 25, 1986

(USPS 163-760)
Vol. 83, No. 26
Eagle Publishing, Inc.
P.O. Box 67
Eagle Lake, Texas 77424-0067
(409) 234-5521
35-CENTS PER COPY
(33-CENTS PLUS TAX)

County tax rate up slightly

The Colorado County Commissioners approved a 1987 budget Monday for fiscal 1987 and set a new tax rate of 28.407 cents per hundred dollars property value.

The new rate, which represents an increase of just over 2.5 percent from the 1985 rate, will cost taxpayers who own property valued at \$100,000 about \$7.11 more per year.

County Judge Lester Cranek said the increase was necessary because taxable property values in the county are down \$170 million from last year's level. As a result, tax revenues for 1987 will be only five-sixths of what they were in 1986.

Another factor, said Cranek, is a new Indigent Health Care Bill that was passed by the Texas Legislature. Under the new law, counties must make ten percent of their annual general budgets available for the medical care of the very poor. This would amount to about \$240,000 for Colorado County.

The eligibility requirements under the law make it impossible for any but the most destitute to take advantage of the funds, Cranek said, for example, that a person making \$78 a month would have an income too great to qualify for indigent health care assistance. Ownership of an automobile or an insurance policy also would count against eligibility.

The net result is that very few people will be able to collect the funds. Of about 18,000 county residents, there it is estimated that 600 will qualify. Cranek said any

money not used for the program in 1987 could be applied to the next year's budget. So budget makers are not likely to be burdened with this problem next year.

Just about every budget area took some cuts for 1987. But Cranek praised the various agencies that depend on Colorado County tax dollars for their cooperation.

"I'm happy to say that almost without exception all these people were agreeable to scaling-down their requests," he said.

The budget was approved pretty much as Cranek proposed it. The one item commissioners took exception to was a ten percent decrease in fire department and library funding. The commissioners voted to return the allocation to last year's level.

Also, the amount the county contributes to the Colorado Valley Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program was reduced by 50 percent, from \$10,000 to \$5,000. This came in spite of a recent appeal from the program's executive director, Betty Bauer, for more funds.

Cranek said he was very concerned about drug and alcohol abuse, and that he was happy to see it get the national attention that it has of late. But lower tax revenues and the indigent health care requirements forced cutbacks, he said.

Another area of concern to the commissioners and to a great many in attendance, was a determination to keep a full time 4-H agent. Cranek included the agent's salary and operating

expenses, which total just over \$25,000, in his proposed budget.

He said an agent was needed to maintain the interest and enthusiasm of the volunteers in the 4-H program.

Presently, more than 325 youths are involved in 4-H. But county extension agent Leroy Hajduk predicted that number could fall to only 70 or 80 kids without full-time guidance.

The allocation was retained by a vote of 3-2.

In other court action, Charles Lehman made a presentation to the commissioners about the dangers of unrestricted herbicide use. Presently, these chemicals can be used in some areas of the county, but not in others. The Court will advertise a public hearing to discuss the possibility of expanding herbicide regulations.

No action was taken on a request by Thorsen Materials to cross Duncan Lane with a pipeline, because the exact size of the pipe was unknown.

Commissioners granted a request that streets in Winslow Estate be named Winslow Drive and Quail Hollow.

A request for a resolution endorsing participation in a statewide housing assistance program died for lack of a motion.

Commissioners listened to a presentation about the "Refuse-To-Energy" plants in Weimar. Texas Gas Corporation was granted permission to cross County Road 148 with a pipeline.



Crime Stoppers ready to strike

T.J. Smith, above, posed Monday as "Vic" in a "Vic" costume for the Eagle Lake Crime Stoppers organization. He is issuing a "warrant" for T. Lang to Crime Stoppers officers Bobby Johnson, left, and Vera Reeves, who serve on the Crime

Stoppers Board. The crimes Lang is accused of are "general overness" and for "encroaching badness." For details on why you might be arrested soon, see the Crime Stoppers Jail-A-Thon story on Page 15.

Adkins honored by ARI

HOUSTON - American Rice, Inc., announced at its annual meeting last week at the Westin Oaks Hotel in Houston where he was given this plaque for serving since 1975 on the board of directors of American Rice, Inc., a rice farmer co-op. He is retiring from the board and will be replaced by Dan Gertson, left, of Lissie.

Also at the meeting, John Adkins of Eagle Lake was honored for serving the ARI board since 1975. Dan Gertson of Lissie was announced as the new board member, replacing Adkins.

ARI, an agricultural marketing co-op owned and controlled by 2,300 southern rice farmers, signed a joint venture agreement with Comet Rice, Inc., in June in an effort to increase its sales in the lucrative name-brand products market.

This new venture formed a new company, Comet American Marketing (CAM), and, according to ARI executive vice president John Howland, "ensures that we have a good home for all of your rice that's quality."

ARI now is in the process of moving to its new waterfront facility in Freeport after being located for many years near downtown Houston. It plans to be fully operational around the first of the year.

Being able to ship export rice



John Adkins, right, was honored last week at the Westin Oaks Hotel in Houston where he was given this plaque for serving since 1975 on the board of directors of American Rice, Inc., a rice farmer co-op. He is retiring from the board and will be replaced by Dan Gertson, left, of Lissie.

Photo & Story by Claudette Powers

\$300,000. Since 1981, ARI has reduced employees from 523 to 420 with subsequent payroll reductions from \$12.1 million to \$9.4 million.

Monetary results of these most recent activities will not be realized, however, until next year. Rice sales, down 10 percent, returned \$118 million to its patrons this year.

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'Project Eagle Lake '86' Task force to survey local conditions

The city of Eagle Lake is organizing a citizens' task force to take an economic and demographic survey of the citizens of Eagle Lake. The project has been dubbed "Project Eagle Lake '86" and is underway.

The city intends to measure employment and economic levels and use the information to apply for economic development grants.

The information will be gathered by surveying residents, and also will

give people a chance to speak up about what they think is needed in town.

"The survey is vital to Eagle Lake in two ways," mayor Larry Powers said last week. "First, it will fulfill application requirements for the \$25,000 capacity building and planning grant from the state to assist in our economic development."

"Second, it will in itself be of great importance in defining Eagle Lake's present economic and social conditions, revealing information about the available labor pool. Knowing the true situation of Eagle Lake's citizens will greatly assist the city in planning for future needs," mayor Powers said.

One outright benefit of the survey, according to Tom Reed who volunteered to coordinate the effort, will be to save the city nearly \$4,000 if the information reveals that a majority of Eagle Lake residents live in moderate to low income households.

Reed was appointed by Mayor Powers to organize the task force that will administer the survey. He

said that "according to the 1980 federal census, 40 percent of Colorado County households earned less than \$10,000 in 1980. That income level, for a family of four, puts them below the federally established poverty level. With the farming, oil and gravel downturn since the census was taken, the prosperity of county residents has no doubt declined even

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Garage Sale at museum Oct. 3, 4

Another miscellaneous item garage sale is scheduled at the Prairie Edge Museum on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 3 & 4. Sale hours will be from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days.

As in past sales, museum volunteers depend on public donations of reusable items. Items may be taken to the museum during daytime hours.

Proceeds from the sale will benefit the museum.



ELMS Eighth grade football team

Members of the eighth grade football team at Eagle Lake Middle School and their jersey numbers are as follows: front row, from left, manager Noble Anderson, 80, Dustin Hengst, 86, Jason Dutzy, 81, Anthony Scott, 18, Kevin Williams, 5, Greg Blair, 6, Darryl Anderson, 3, manager Rodney Sosa, 85, middle row, from left, coach Dennis Jackson, Troy Sosa, 79, Johnnie

Gonzales, 17, Walt Meitzen, 89, John Coldewey, 72, Omar Llanos, 62, Matthew Wilson, 53, Chris Cotton, 15, Michael Stovall, 60, back row, from left, manager Darrell Estlinbaum, 82, Wade Satsky, 54, Manuel Plata, 65, Kelly Stiles, 87, Hector Tapia, 78, Marsha Norris, 1, Jose Gonzalez, 88, Kevin Doggins, 77, Patrick Powers, 9. Not present, Fredrick Wiks, 14.



ELMS Seventh grade football team

Members of the seventh grade football team at Eagle Lake Middle School and their jersey numbers are as follows: front row, from left, Brian Semora, 63, Richie Torres, 64, Adrian Farrow, 9, Larry Plattmann, 21, Alfred Torres, 62, Kerry Sims, 42, Robert Lujan, 18, Lonny Hutchinson, 68, middle row, from left, Jaime Marquart, 6, Kevin Jackson, 31, Patrick Weeks, 45, Lupe Rodriguez, 66, Felix Salinas, 65, Joe Rodriguez, 61.

Raymond Leal, 78, Steven Polach, 54, Shane Glaiser, 53, Roney Carroll, 80, back row, from left, Michael Dancy, 52, O'Neil Tillman, 35, Eddie Fields, 83, Patrick Middleton, 86, Merrill Tillman, 76, Cory Gordon, 82, Gonzalo de la Garza, 85, Jessie Scott, 33, Reginald Donner, 16, Sarnny Chavis, 84, coach Leo Poltsch, Not present, Nivory Stovall, 43, Steve Torrez, 71.