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Florida chapter honored

Beverly Rucka named vice president for southern region of Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa executive director Rod A. Risley and representatives of St. Petersburg (Florida) Junior College met with President Ronald Reagan June 23 at a special reception in the Oval Office.

The presidential visit was arranged by Florida Congressman C.V. "Bill" Young, to recognize the accomplishments of Eta Nu chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at St. Petersburg Junior College. Eta Nu was named the fraternity's "most distinguished chapter" for the second consecutive year at the Phi Theta Kappa's annual national convention in April.

Meeting the President with Risley were Dr. Carl Kutler, president of St. Petersburg Junior College, Eta Nu advisor Steve Meier and Eta Nu officers.

Risley presented a Phi Theta Kappa gold medal to the President, and Eta Nu gave Reagan a fraternity stole, both symbolic of the excellence and academic achievement at the two-year college. The emblems are to be worn during formal academic occasions. Reagan has been invited to speak at the college's 1988 commencement exercises.

Reagan congratulated Eta Nu on their achievements, and placed special emphasis on the service activities performed by the chapter.

During their visit to the capitol the Eta Nu delegation also presented certificates of honorary membership to Young and Florida congressmen Bob Graham and Lawton Chiles.

The Phi Theta Kappa group also met with American Association of Community and Junior Colleges president Dr. Dale Parnell, a national honorary member of the fraternity and a member of the board of directors. Dr. Parnell spoke with the group at the study of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, where he was serving on a panel during the National Teleconference on Literacy. Commentator Hugh Downs was panel moderator.

Beverly Rucka, a member of the Beta Alpha chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Blinn College, was recently elected as the Southern Region vice president of Phi Theta Kappa during the fraternity's National Convention. The Southern Region includes the states of Texas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, the Carolinas, Tennessee and Virginia.

During the Phi Theta Kappa 20th Honors Institute which was held at the University of Virginia, Beverly had the opportunity to oversee the announcements and she was privileged to introduce Sarah Weddington, Mrs. Weddington is the attorney who won the landmark Roe vs. Wade case that gave women the right to choose the outcome of their unwanted pregnancies. Mrs. Rucka also had the distinct privilege of meeting many distinguished personalities including the retired Mayor General Richard V. Secord. While serving as the Southern Region vice president for the 1987-88 semester, Beverly plans to continue her studies in pharmacy at Blinn College. She is the daughter of Barbara Rucka of Eagle Lake and the late Ervin "Shorty" Rucka.

Phi Theta Kappa is the official honor fraternity for American two-year colleges, with national headquarters in Canton, Miss.



...About town...
The Frank Pigeons recently returned home from a week's cruise aboard the Song of America. They visited Labadee, on Haiti, San Juan, Puerto Rico and St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. Everything on board the ship was great - the service, food, entertainment, dancing and planned activities such as a masquerade party, golf, skeet shooting, plus many others. What a relaxing vacation!

The children of Ralph and JoAnn Gertson honored their parents with a barbecue on the occasion of their 36th wedding anniversary Sunday. Friends, neighbors and family enjoyed the afternoon.

Renee Balas was among other contestants vying for the title of queen elected as the Southern Region vice president of Phi Theta Kappa during the fraternity's National Convention.

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LETTER TO EDITOR

Resigning from water board

To the voters of the Garwood Water District:

The Garwood Water Board met in special session on Monday, July 13 in response to numerous complaints and allegations made by E.H. Stienke and Jerry Zbrank regarding the board and the manager. The complaints made concerned the operation of the Garwood water system and were critical of the present board's management of the district.

Although the board felt that nothing improper had been done by any member of the board or any employee of the district, it was determined that I, Larry Smidovic, president of the water board, be disqualified from continuing on the board under section 51.0721 of the Texas Water Code.

Section 51.0721 states that no relatives, to the third degree, can serve on the water board at the same time. As such, I offered my resignation to the board at that meeting since my brother, Jerry, is manager of the water district and it was accepted. The board also determined that no member of the board had willfully violated the terms of this section.

I would also like to acknowledge that when Jerry was selected as manager, I abstained from voting because he was my brother. I also had left the room while the vote was being cast. Thank you for the confidence that you have shown to me and to all of the members of the board.

Sincerely,
Larry Smidovic

Lets Look Back... 24 Years Ago

(July 11, 1963)

A large transport truck hauling 8,025 gallons of jet fuel turned over on the curve on East Main, also Highway 90A, at Monday night. Robert Ganz, 22, driver of the truck, miraculously escaped without so much as a scratch. Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department brought the blaze under control in about 1 1/2 hours. Fred Isenhour was elected president of the Eagle Lake division of the American Rice Growers Association with Vernon Gertson, vice president; C.B. Stephens, treasurer, and George Saladay, secretary.

Steven Halvorsen, son of Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Halvorsen of Houston, spent a week with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Causey, Eagle Lake Babe Ruth team won the championship of the Colorado County division of the Tri-County Babe Ruth League last Saturday night when they

whipped the Weimar 2 team 4 to 1 on the local lighted field.

Maternal grandmother is Mrs. Ora Jones Sykes of Eagle Lake and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Lorenzo Williams of Longview. Great grandmother is Mrs. Ora L. Jones of Eagle Lake.

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Chamber of Commerce members discuss upcoming activities

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce held its monthly meeting at Anna Lee's Kitchen, Monday, July 20. There were 23 members in attendance with two guests. Tom Reed, president of the Chamber of Commerce, called the meeting to order. After establishing a quorum, Reed announced that the minutes from the previous meeting be read. Gen Paschall, secretary, read the minutes and they were approved as corrected.

Reed announced that the Christmas Parade was set for Saturday, December 12. Santa Claus has been contacted and has confirmed that he will be here for the parade.

Nancy Lang, chairperson for the banquet committee, reported that the banquet was set for the third Monday of January. This year a social hour will be held from six to seven, with the banquet immediately following. Lang is getting bids for the banquet as well as for the hors d'oeuvres during the social. Speaker for the evening will be Jeff Miller. Price for the tickets is yet undecided until the cost of the evening can be determined.

Bill Harrison Sr. reported on the historical committee with an update on the history of Eagle Lake. The first eight chapters have been returned from the publisher for proofing. Helen Craig and Kate Spangler are each

reading the chapters. The remaining seven chapters are scheduled to go to the printer within the next few days. Following their return and proofing, it will require an additional 30 to 35 days to receive the galley proofs. After the committee approves the galley proofs, publication on the book may begin. The distribution date is still scheduled for Thanksgiving, according to Harrison. He pointed out that the Chamber, Prairie Edge Museum and Eagle Lake Study Club will benefit equally from the sale of the books. They can be purchased from the Eula and David Winterman Library for \$31.88 each. This includes the sales tax, but if they are to be sent to another location there is a postage and handling charge.

Dr. Russell Thomas, reporting for the health committee, announced that plans are being made for a new doctor. Dr. R. J. Thomas, to take up his medical practice in Laughlin Clinic, Thomas also said that doctors and patients in Sealy are being encouraged to use the facilities of the Eagle Lake Community Hospital.

The annual Sidewalk Sale, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled for Friday, August 21. Each participating member merchant will have a booth and white balloons and streamers displayed in front of their

stores. The sidewalk sale will be held from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and the theme this year is "Raiders Back To School Sale". A drawing for a \$100 gift certificate will take place at 4:30 p.m. in front of the Municipal Building. This gift certificate will be valid at any member store for all or any part of the \$100. All members are encouraged to participate in this event. If participating, contact: Kay Clipson at the Headlight or call 234-5521.

Reed introduced Debra Dahlke of LCRA's Corporate Development Division. Dahlke explained some of the division's responsibilities. They develop public policy, supervise the public information department and handle economic and industrial development. She pointed out that in the past 15 years LCRA has not taken an active role in economic development, mainly because with the economy booming, there was no need for marketing and market analysis would be used in the area to provide information for industries that might show some interest in establishing companies in this area; and they would be providing better services through videos, fo-

receding the surrounding area, printed brochures and workshops. She compared the workshops to the conference on Economic and Business Development being planned for Eagle Lake. In other business, Reed reported on the conference on Economic and Business Development. It will be held August 28. The conference is being sponsored by the Industrial Development Foundation and Reed asked if the chamber would co-sponsor this event. It will encompass an eight county area. Keynote speakers have been confirmed and the cost of the conference will be \$15 per person. This fee will include a continental breakfast, lunch and materials for the

meetings. The directors voted to co-sponsor the conference. Steve Balas, owner of the Eagle Lake Drug Store, addressed the meeting with concern for the S.E.L.F. (Shop Eagle Lake First) program. He pointed out that in order to compete with stores like Wal-Mart, the merchants are going to have to consider using some of their marketing techniques. At least, during the Christmas shopping season, he suggested, the merchants stay open longer in the evenings, pointing out that many customers can only shop after 5 p.m.

The Retail Trade Development committee and S.E.L.F. committee will meet with Balas in the near future to discuss some possibilities.

Before the closing of the meeting, Monica presented Geraldine Barrett, outgoing president, with a gift of appreciation from the group for her year of leadership and dedication. The Bluebonnet Group is comprised of executive bank women from eleven surrounding communities. They are Eagle Lake, East Bernard, Rosenberg, Sealy, Wallis, Weimar, Brookshire, Moulton, Shiner, Bellville and La Grange.

Attending from the First National Bank of Eagle Lake were Monica Stock, data processing officer; Barbara Harborth, vice president; Carol Mitchell, assistant cashier and Pat Matola, assistant cashier.

Rosary was recited at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 16 at St. Joseph Catholic Church led by Father Jerry Caponi. Funeral services were held at 3 p.m. on Friday, July 17 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Yoakum. Burial followed in St. Joseph Cemetery under the direction of Buffington Funeral Home of Yoakum.

Survivors include her widower, Gus Strauss; a son, Matthew of Yoakum, and her mother, Frances Netzer of Groves.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

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8X10	6.13	12X36	33.55	12X40	36.67	12X44	39.79	12X48	42.91	12X52	46.03	12X56
10X10	7.67	12X60	51.65	12X64	54.77	12X68	57.89	12X72	61.01	12X76	64.13	12X80
10X12	9.24	12X84	69.15	12X88	72.27	12X92	75.39	12X96	78.51	12X100	81.63	12X104
10X14	10.75	12X108	89.65	12X112	92.77	12X116	95.89	12X120	99.01	12X124	102.13	12X128
10X16	12.29	12X132	107.15	12X136	110.27	12X140	113.39	12X144	116.51	12X148	119.63	12X152
10X18	14.37	12X156	127.15	12X160	130.27	12X164	133.39	12X168	136.51	12X172	139.63	12X176