

Commissioners approve \$8,000 expenditure for the courthouse's 100th celebration in May

At its regular meeting Monday, Commissioners Court received word the American Indemnity Group denied a claim submitted by the county for the money that was stolen from the tax assessor-collector's office on March 31, 1989.

An anonymous caller advised a bomb would be going off in the courthouse within 90 seconds which turned out to be an apparent diversion after \$6,000 was taken from the tax assessor-collector's office which is located in the basement of the courthouse.

The insurance group stated they concluded it was a theft not a robbery. Commissioners agreed to meet in executive session with County Attorney Stephen Sebesta since it deals with pending litigation.

Commissioners also agreed to meet with Chris Stein, of the Columbus Hospital District, to discuss the indigent health care contract which was refused by University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. The county had offered \$40,000 knowing

the hospital district was offering \$10,000 for a total of \$50,000, but UTMB is now asking for \$80,000.

Commissioners approved an expenditure of \$8,276.70 for banners, white lighting, advertising, invitations, etc. for the Centennial of the Courthouse on May 20, 1990. Buddy Rau suggested the county buy 16 banners with hangers at \$126 each. Four of the banners will be purchased for the Eagle Lake and Weimar properties with the cities being responsible for purchasing at least the same quantity as the county did. The remaining banners would be placed around the courthouse and in Columbus.

One banner each also was purchased for Frelsburg, Garwood, Sheridan, Rock Island, Nada, Oakland, Glidden, Altair, Alleyton, Mentz and Bernardo to place on their flag pole at their post office or historic site marker location. The cost of all the banners will total \$3,402.

Rau also said to finish the white lighting on the courthouse because it

will be mentioned in several upcoming magazines about the county using white lights and "it also is of utmost importance for May in order to bring in industrial and tourism dollars." The cost of the white lighting will be \$2,006.25.

Rau said the "Season's Greetings" sign for the West wall of the courthouse is 18 years old and the cost of refurbishing it will be \$720. The "Wreath" on the East wall is in the same situation and will cost \$180 to repair it.

Other costs for the celebration will include 1/4 page advertisements in each of the county newspapers — Eagle Lake Headlight, Colorado County Citizen, Banner Press, Weimar Mercury, New Ulm Enterprise; invitations and programs; chair rentals for the three school bands — Rice, Weimar and Columbus; name tags; registration book; janitorial service for restroom use in the courthouse; cake for reception for the dignitaries in the Grand Floor of the Stafford Opera House,

and cups, plates, napkins. It was discussed at the last Commissioners' Court meeting to renovate the fountain, but due to the shortness of time, Rau said he felt it could not be done correctly by May 20 and suggests filling the existing fountain with dirt and have the beautification committee plant it with red, white and blue flowers. Commissioners approved the fountain be filled with dirt and flowers placed in it. Rau also suggested to plant red, white and blue flowers around the marker on the north east corner, and the round bed on the north... until the time a statue is placed at the north location in 1992, at no cost to the county, by the Colorado County Historical Commission. A planter box of red, white and blue flowers for the northeast corner of the courthouse under the corner stone and at the gazebo will be presented by several organizations.

Commissioners appointed the staggered terms of the Colorado County Water Council as follows: one-year term — Charles T. Treiny, Frank Parks, Stephen Sebesta, Lester

Dixon receives contract from Huntsville School District



The Huntsville Independent School District Board of Trustees awarded former Eagle Lake resident Dale Dixon a 3 year contract as Superintendent last month.

The contract came after a "very good" evaluation of Dixon by board members. The evaluation was divided into the areas of planning, district management, staffing and personnel development, educational programs, communication and public relations, budget use, auxiliary services and personal characteristics, said board president Charles Wagamon.

Dixon, formerly HISD's deputy superintendent for administration, was named interim superintendent last summer upon the resignation of Barry Tacker.

"The evaluation process was a very positive and fair experience that allowed for interchange and exchange between myself and the board," Dixon said. "And through the evaluation process, we started looking at some goals that need to be met. I'm looking forward to spending the next three years fulfilling those goals."

The board was to establish goals and objectives for the 1990-91 school year during an all-day planning meeting February 10.

Dixon began his teaching career in 1965 at Eagle Lake High School as a math and physics teacher. He remained in the Eagle Lake/Rice District for 8 years. When he left Eagle Lake in 1972, he was chairman of the math department at Rice High School. He moved to Huntsville to accept the position of math and science coordinator for HISD.

Dixon is married to the former Candy Farris, a native of Eagle Lake. He is the son-in-law of William and Helen Farris.

Pidgeon in charge of memorial fund

The Eagle Lake Community Hospital Auxiliary would like to announce that Mrs. Frank (Barbara) Pidgeon is now in charge of the memorial fund. She accepted the position when Mrs. Lloyd (Louise) Spalinger asked to be relieved of this duty. Mrs. Spalinger should be highly commended for doing a superb job for the past four

years. Please send memorials to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital Auxiliary in care of Mrs. Pidgeon, 620 Willow Lane or 600 Austin Road, Eagle Lake, Tx. 77434, or leave them at the hospital gift shop. Do not Auxiliary on the checks — the Auxiliary handles all hospital memorials.



"They say the third time's the charm, so we are going to try it again! Todd Mascheck, who will be participating in the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo February 27, is the son of Clinton and Janelle Mascheck of Eagle Lake. We apologize once again and hope we have it correct."

Sue Farris nominated for Teaching Award

Sue Farris, home economics teacher at Columbus High School, has been nominated to be a recipient of the 1990 Outstanding High School Teacher Award. This award, funded and sponsored by the University of Texas "Ex-Students' Association's Foundation for Texas Excellence," will be presented to ten highly deserving teachers from throughout the state of Texas in March. The winning teachers receive a \$1,000 cash award and a commemorative sculpture, presented at a special awards conference to be held at the University of Texas in April.

Sue Farris is one of 300 high school teachers nominated statewide. She received a certificate of appreciation from her principal, Robert Simmons and congratulations from Colorado County Texas Ex-Students' Association President Tom Reed, faculty, friends, and many of her students Tuesday night during the monthly Vocational Advisory Council meeting at Columbus High School.

"Sue's nomination by her principal certainly speaks of excellence, and is a message that her community can be proud of," said Reed. The Foundation for Texas Excellence was established in 1986 to promote education excellence, both from the teaching and student perspective. In addition to the teaching awards, the Foundation also grants four year scholarships for high school students hoping to attend the University of Texas at Austin.



Terrific Kids for January

Students at Eagle Lake Primary School chosen as Terrific Kids for the month of January by their teachers are as follows: top photo (l-r), front row, Christopher Rodriguez, Jordan Koneshech, Conrad Diggs, Amanda Henry; middle row, Claudia Olmeda, Blanca Guerra, Andrew Powers, Anastasia Connor; back row, Amy Fearing, Jennifer Navarro, Eric Wesemann, Quentin Roy. Right photo (l-r), Angelica Molina and Aida Cortez. Top Left photo, Charnele Huffmann; bottom left, Josephine Franco; left, Sandra Shorter.



Shropshire-Upton UDC celebrates birthday

Shropshire-Upton chapter United Daughters of the Confederacy celebrated its 90th birthday at the monthly

February meeting in the Nesbitt Memorial Library meeting room. Mrs. Millycent Ann Crane, president, opened the meeting with the ritual. Mrs. Lora Thomas led the pledges and salute to the flags.

An invitation was read by the secretary, Mrs. Doris Cobb, to a workshop to be in Hempstead on March 17. The FFA chapter from Columbus High School asked the UDC to make an entry in the annual FFA parade. Mrs. Crane announced she had attended the Texas Confederate Heroes Day celebration at the Senate office in Austin. She was accompanied by President General UDC Mrs. Dan Bragg Cook of Alabama, who was one of the honored guests.

Mrs. Sara Uzzi, historian, gave some highlights of the Confederate Ball held in Houston at the River Oaks Country Club. Mrs. Myrah Jane Draper gave a picture donated by George Harper has been hung in the museum. Pictured are Generals Stonewall Jackson, Joseph Johnston and Robert E. Lee, who were called "The Military Brains of the Confederacy."

On the occasion of its 90th birthday, the registrar, Miss Ernest Mae Seasholtz gave names and numbers of years members have been in continuous membership. Those belonging 20-30 years are 19 members; from 30-40 years are Gertrude Isgrig and May Jane Lewis McKinzie; from 40-50 years are Marie Kohl Frnka, Felice Marks Schwartz and Helen Wooten Sanders; over 50 years membership are Kitty Bridge Gunn, Gladys Lawless Holt, Mary Eleanor Jones McClanahan, Isobel Fehrencamp Moeller

and Bettie Lee Castles Walker. The following officers were elected to serve 1990-92: Mrs. Betty Jo Rutta, president; Mrs. Mayne Schade, vice president; Mrs. Randa Simmons, second vice president; Mrs. Virgie Neisner, third vice president; Mrs. Lela Weber, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Edgar Litzmann, treasurer; Mrs. Sara Uzzi, historian; Miss Ernest Mae Seasholtz, registrar; Mrs. Millycent Ann Crane, Recorder of Crosses; Mrs. James McNabb, custodian; Mrs. Myrah Jane Draper, curator; Mrs. David Krosnick, librarian; Mrs. Margaret Mainer, chaplain, and Mrs. Eldera Mattern, parliamentarian.

Mrs. Uzzi introduced Jim Stein who gave a program on "The Colorado County Confederate Cavalry Mutiny" which tells of an incident that happened in late August of 1863 to the Colonel Alexander W. Terrell's Texas Cavalry Regiment whose camp was established at Kessler's Springs, just north of Columbus.

The troops were ordered to leave their mounts in Colorado County and go to Galveston to help defend that city. A number of the men, suspicious that once they were transformed into infantry they would remain so, refused and rode out of camp.

This was the only incident recorded as happening in Colorado County in the war between the states. The hostesses, Mrs. Joann Moeller, Mrs. Bernice Etheridge and Mrs. Nancy Wooten carried out the UDC colors of red and white with a large heart-shaped decorated Valentine cake. Sandwiches, nuts, punch and coffee also were served.

School Bond Election

School are prohibitive and dictate the need for a new primary school campus which will be less expensive than the renovations on the old facilities.

Extensive renovation to the oldest (30+ years) part of the Middle school to replace windows and flooring which contain asbestos, rotten joists under the building, ceilings and lighting equipment damages caused mostly by a faulty, out-dated roof.

There are certain rooms at the Middle School which leak so badly that the staff frequently runs out of containers in which to catch water when it rains. So urgent is the repair of the roof on this campus that it must immediately be covered by operating funds.

Garwood:

1. Creation of new restrooms where none exist.
2. Construction of two additional classrooms to alleviate over-crowding.
3. Replacement of heating and air conditioning systems which contain asbestos.
4. The replacement of the roof which is over twenty-five years old.

Sheridan:

1. Construction of classroom space to replace old buildings now used by children across the highway and to ease over-crowding in rooms which literally have no existing aisles between desks.
2. Creation of adequate restroom facilities (entire population on this campus must use a single set of restrooms).
3. Construction of a band facility.

(Music is now taught in an end of the cafeteria sectioned off by a fabric curtain).

4. Extensive renovation of academic wing to replace faulty windows, flooring, lighting and roof.

Central Campus/Rice High School:

1. Creation of adequate space for award-winning art program which now operates in one-half of a science classroom, separated by a fabric curtain.
2. Two classrooms for special education classes to eliminate loss of state funds which now go to Columbus, because Rice special ed students must currently be bussed to Columbus for training.
3. Adequate accommodations for physical education program. Currently six separate basketball teams must attempt to practice at the same gym floor; this demand has resulted in busing to Sheridan, Garwood or Eagle Lake causing practices frequently to run until after 9 p.m. on school nights. Year-round, the inadequate space affects the safety and efficiency of the weight-training program, essential for appropriate conditioning to permit competition without injury. The program is now crammed into the entrance lobby of the gym.
4. Construction of a new entrance to the gym which would provide adequate restrooms and concession stand facility. (The gym programs must now rely on the academic wing's commons area for these services, causing vandalism in unsupervisable conditions, heavy wear and tear on the carpet

which is now 22 years old and inconvenient to the spectators.

The needs identified here are only the most urgent needs addressed in the committee's report, although these are the majority. The report was accepted by the full Board of Trustees of the Rice district, and after careful deliberation, the Board voted on January 10, 1990, to call for the approval of \$3,850,000 in bonds by the citizens of this area to finance facilities pursuant to excellence in education.

Matthews also stresses that "the bond money will provide facilities that are safe and comfortable, worthy goals in themselves. Our primary goal, however, is always to provide facilities for programs of excellence. That is why it is important to note that the value for our students is immeasurable."

Matthews, John Thomas and Tim Teykl gave a very informative slide presentation on the bond election to the Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club last Thursday, February 8. This is just one of many presentations that are planned throughout the school district area.

Thomas, narrator of the presentation, said he is excited about what is about to happen in the Rice school district. "One resource stands above all of us, our young people, and this is what the bond issue is all about," commented Thomas.

The Board selected 20 acres of land between the golf course and hospital as the proposed new site for the Primary School. The Board chose this location because of its price per acre which was the best price received on

any of the land they looked at and it also meets all the requirements by the Texas Education Agency. One of the TEA site requirements is a minimum of 10 acres plus 1 acre for every 100 students on a school campus. Another asset to the location is the closeness to the hospital for any emergencies that may arise.

Originally, the Board had considered repairing the Primary school, but due to the TEA's visit which pointed out what needed to be fixed, the school district would spend more in fixing up the school in the next five years as to what it would cost to build a new one.

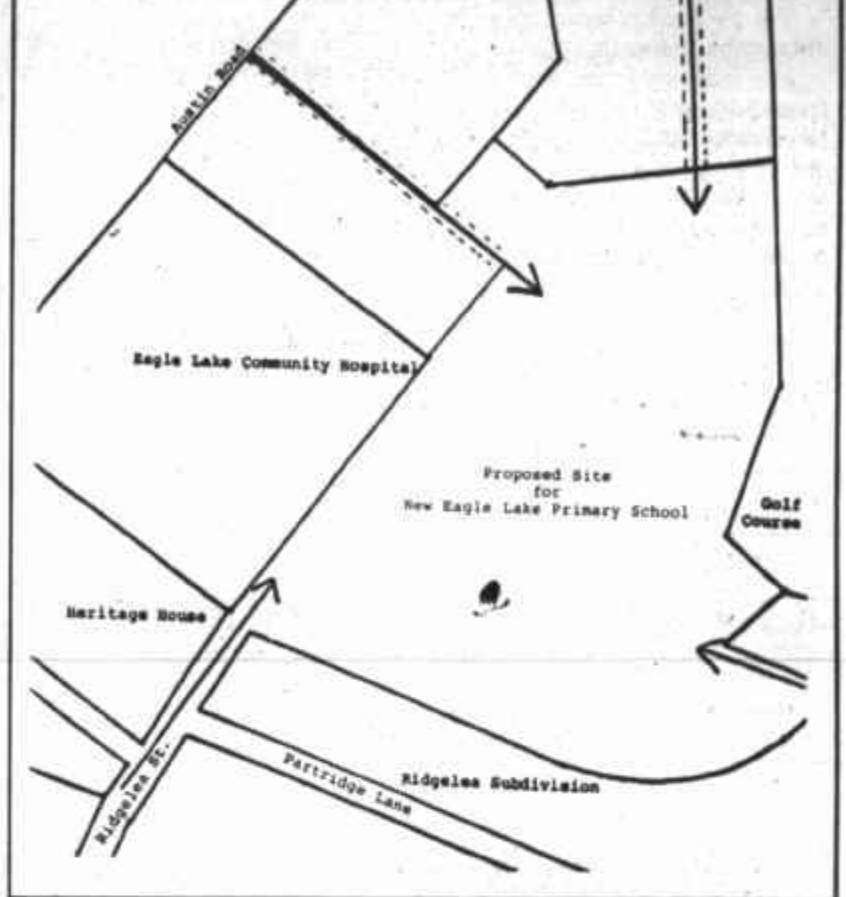
The bonds will be secured by a pledge of ad valorem taxes. The taxes needed to pay for the bonds would equal approximately 9.5 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. For example: the cost for a homeowner with an appraised home value of \$30,000 will be less than \$19 per year after exemptions. Please note that the homestead of persons over 65 will not be affected.

Absentee voting in person or by mail will be conducted at the Rice District Administration Building in Altair from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on each weekday from Tuesday, February 20 through Tuesday, March 6. Please call Mrs. Elizabeth King at 234-3531 during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, for answers to any questions you may have about absentee voting.

The election will be held Saturday, March 10 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Polling places: Eagle Lake Community Cen-

ter for Eagle Lake and Altair residents (Precincts 17 and 3); Garwood Elementary School for Garwood and Nada residents (Precincts 4 and 5); Sheridan Elementary School for Sheridan, Oakland and Rock Island residents (Precincts 7, 8 and 6).

Due to a new ruling by the U.S. Justice Department, Rock Island and Altair residents no longer have a choice as to where to vote. Rock Island residents must vote at Sheridan and Altair residents must vote at Eagle Lake.



Proposed site location for the new Eagle Lake Primary school.

Korenec, Zbranek receive degrees from Texas A&M

Diplomas were awarded to 3,154 Texas A&M University graduates during commencement ceremonies in December.

Among those receiving degrees were: Janet Kristine Zbranek, of Nada, Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology; and Martin Gerard Korenek, of Garwood, Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science.

The degrees were presented at three separate ceremonies featuring commencement speakers.

Garwood/Nada Community News

By GEORGIA MICHALKA/

Festival

One of our community's biggest events in recent history was last year's Rice Festival. Many people are looking forward to the second edition of what was a really fun weekend. The Garwood Community Association met last week and has begun making preparations for this year's event, which has been set for June 16. Committees are being organized and chairmen enlisted. A letter will be sent to Garwood and Nada patrons this month

reminding them of the Festival's importance and proximity. If this year's Festival is to be another success, we must all pitch in and work together. Already volunteers are stepping forward, promising to help out. Many remember that wonderful feeling of accomplishment and togetherness from last year. Don't get left out. Make a commitment to serve our community. Be there at the Association's next meeting in March and get in on the action.

GAP

The Garwood Association of Parents met last week. The main topic of discussion was Public School Week. The GAP plans to have a spaghetti supper Wednesday evening, March 7 at the Garwood School cafeteria. Students

Garwood School's students-of-the-month for January are Sam Mader and Dyanne Rees. Sam is in the eighth grade and the son of John and Irene Mader. Dyanne is in the third grade and the daughter of Jim and Karen Rees.

The Garwood Lions Club congratulates these two students for their hard work and accomplishments. Loss

Sue Engstrom passed away last week. In the few years we have lived here we came to admire her quiet courage and Christian example. Along with her family and many friends we mourn her passing, and pray to a just God that the love and blessings she shared with us will be returned to her. Birthdays

February 22 - Clara Lobprides.
February 23 - Melissa Till.
February 25 - Mariel Adkins, Bill Swoboda, Mary Ann Miller.
February 26 - Bruce Wied, Mandy Staff, Mandy Priemeyer.
February 27 - Clement Korenek.
February 28 - Arthur Mahalic.

Anniversaries

February 23 - Mr. and Mrs. Clement Korenek.



G/T class builds dinosaur

The Second Grade Gifted/Talented class constructed this dinosaur skeleton. The dinosaur is a Tyrannosaurus Rex which the class named T.R. Mrs. Kucherka is the G/T teacher for second grade. Pictured (l-r) are, front row, Glenn Dromgoolle, Brandon Shanks, Shawn Lujan, D.J. Sosa, Tiffany Fields; back row, Amy Fearing, Shaniqua Moody, Tabitha Connor, Kimberly Lott, Rose Sosa.

East Bernard ISD menu

All meals served with milk

Monday, February 19: Breakfast, biscuit, sausage, jelly or cereal; juice; Snackbar, steak burger, french fries, burger salad; Lunch, taco boat, ranch style beans or corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, apple turnover.
Tuesday, February 20: Breakfast, tequila or cereal; juice; Snackbar, Salisbury steak, gravy, french fries, fruit, hot roll; Lunch, steak finger, rice and gravy, broccoli or peas, hot roll, fruit.
Wednesday, February 21: Pancakes, syrup or cereal; juice; Snackbar, pizza, french fries, fruit; Lunch, nacho chips, w/chili and cheese, corn fruit.
Thursday, February 22: Breakfast, doughnut or cereal; juice; Snackbar, sausage, french fries, pickle, fruit, hot roll; Lunch, hamburger, french fries, lettuce, tomato, pickle, onion, pinto beans.
Friday, February 23: Breakfast, oatmeal, toast or cereal; juice; Snackbar, BBQ ribs, french fries, fruit; Lunch, chicken nuggets, whipped potatoes and gravy, green beans, fruit hot roll.

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While teaching at the Corpus Christi Family Practice Residency Program, Dr. Crandall was recognized for the following achievements: Outstanding Teaching Award, Year II, House Staff certificate of Appreciation for excellence in teaching, Year III.

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