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Rally

Spaniel at the microphone while the Columbus Cardinal Band provided the accompaniment.

Judge Strunk requested all in attendance to sign a "card" which would be placed in the archives for the returning servicemen to see. There will also be a video tape of the rally they will be able to view upon their return. The "card" (a large section of newspaper) was donated by the Banner Press Newspaper.

Following the rally, families of the service personnel tied ribbons around the trees on the Courthouse Square and Commissioners Court reconvened.

In other business, Commissioners:

- Issued a resolution supporting the American Legion and VFW Blood Drive to be held March 1 and 2.
- Accepted the bid from Columbus State Bank to act as the county's depository.
- Accepted County Engineer Robert Zajicek's suggestions concerning driveway width specifications.

- Appointed Charles Trefney, Frank Parks, Lester Foster and James Kearney to the Water Council. This leaves one position open (previously held by now County Attorney Stephen Sebesta) which Judge Strunk would like to fill with a person from one of the school systems or soil and water conservation office.

- Issued a resolution supporting Calhoun County in their disagreement with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department concerning the proposed comprehensive management plan for Matagorda Island.

- Approved the appointments of William Mark Wied of Garwood, Lisa Hoffmann of Nada and Michael Rucka of Eagle Lake to the county's grievance committee.
- Approved a contract with Guadalupe Juvenile Detention Center for services as a backup for emergencies.



Flag raising

Members of the Columbus Unit of the Texas National Guard performed the raising of the flag at Monday's rally. (More pictures on Page 11.)

Headlight Photo by Jeannine Fearing

Support for John

The family of 1st Lt. John Wegenhoft tied a red, white and blue ribbon bearing his name around a tree on the Courthouse Square Monday following the support rally. From left are Jim Simmons, his step-father; Randa Simmons, mother; Anna Gertson, sister; Stephanie Simmons, half-sister; John Gertson, brother-in-law and Travis Wegenhoft, John's father. They were one of many family members in attendance.

Banner Press Photo by Charlotte Gundelach

School Board

unit price, availability and quality. Board member Thomas recommended future bids for athletic equipment tighten the specifications to reflect equal quality. Board member Jim Wiese expressed the same concern.

Ruth Fair, Billy Hefner, Rhonda Jarvis, Michael Axel, Cynthia Lawrence Sue High and Jana Birmingham were approved as substitute teachers for the district.

Bids for district food services were awarded to all bidders. Food purchases will be made according to best price, accessibility, packaging and product quality. Harris told the board he and Food Service Director Irene Hagedorn were very pleased with the bids and that prices were better than what has been charged. Harris feels the district will save money with this action.

During discussion of budget amendments, Wiese expressed concern as to whether the \$1,865.25 raised through the sale of mugs by

high school athletes would be dispensed for the purposes for which these athletes were told it would be used. McGaughey reported that the money has been divided among coaches of several sports to be used for their needs at their discretion.

McGaughey reported construction of the physical activity center (PAC) at Rice High School is moving rapidly, but her statement concerning construction at Sheridan and Eagle Lake was simply "everything is wet." She did report that color selections for the primary school had been made by the selection committee.

In other business the board:

- Ratified textbooks recommended for adoption effective in the Fall of 1991 and recognized the members of the textbook committee who worked diligently to make the selections.
- Approved seeking proposals for audit services.
- Approved bid advertisements for

Police Report

have no suspects at this time.

Monday a citizen brought some personal papers to the PD that he had found that were apparently taken from one of the vehicles. The investigation continues.

Sunday night the officer on duty was dispatched by the Sheriff's Office to a disturbance at the Blue Night Bar. Upon arrival, complainant advised the officer that several persons had been fighting, but had fled the scene. He located the vehicle they had left in.

IRS offers assistance

Do you need help filling out your tax return but can't afford to pay for it? The Internal Revenue Service offers free tax return preparation aimed at low income and elderly people with basic tax forms. IRS will have over 300 sites throughout central and south Texas. A list of Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites is available by calling toll-free 1-800-829-1040.

Other services IRS offers:

- About 100 free tax publications and forms can be picked up at IRS offices or ordered over toll-free 1-800-829-FORM.
- Answers to tax questions are available over toll-free 1-800-829-1040 or at local IRS offices.
- Commonly used tax forms can be picked up at many banks, post offices and libraries.

- Many libraries have a master copy of all IRS forms suitable for photocopying.
- Recorded tax information on a variety of subjects can be reached at toll-free 1-800-829-4477.
- Deaf and hearing-impaired with access to TV/hearing or TTY equipment can ask questions and order forms and publications over toll-free 1-800-829-4732.

IRS will provide speakers for civic groups and professional associations. For a speaker call the IRS in Austin at 512-499-5314 (not toll-free).

Administrator

Continued from Page 1

Jim Buckner, as well as his wife, Rebecca, are both natives of Alta Loma, Texas. They have four daughters who will transfer into Rice Consolidated Schools later this month. The daughters are Elizabeth, age 14, eighth grade; Sarah, age 12, sixth grade; Melissa, age 9, third grade and Jessica, age 7, first grade.

At this time, the Buckners are completing purchase of the former residence of the Walter Meitzen Jr. and the late Mr. Meitzen on Stockbridge Street. They plan to be in their new residence within a week or so.

The Board is confident that Jim Buckner's education and background qualifies him very well for administrator of this hospital. "It's a pleasure for us, as a board, to bring this new family to our community," said W.W. Stuart, chairman. Other members of the Board of Directors are Wm. H. Harrison Sr., Wayne Corman, Helyn Farris, Steve Balas, Betty Wegenhoft, Alan Kloss and Dr. Russell Thomas.

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Middle Ear Infections In Children

Infections of the middle ear (called otitis media) affect approximately seven out of ten children at least once before their third birthday. By age eight, almost all children have had at least one infection in the middle ear. Children often become irritable and may complain of fullness and pain in the ear. There may be some hearing loss. Some children experience fever as high as 104 degrees with earache. Many of these symptoms result from the presence of bacteria that build up within fluids in the ear. Infection causes tissue swelling which prevents fluid drainage from the ear into the throat by way of the eustachian tube.

The primary treatment of middle ear infections in children involves the use of antibiotics to kill bacteria. Antibiotics commonly prescribed for ear infection include penicillin derivatives and the cephalosporins, a category of powerful and often well-tolerated antibiotics. Steroids (prescription only) may be needed on a short term basis when there is fluid discharge from the ears.

Nonprescription medicines often are useful in dealing with the symptoms of the infection. Fever and pain reducers such as acetaminophen help reduce general discomfort associated with the infection. Decongestants and antihistamines help relieve associated congestion.

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Pictures, addresses of local servicemen...

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Eagle Lake Headlight

February 21, 1991

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NEWSBRIEFS

1991 Wildflower Publication begins production

The Banner Press Newspaper and Eagle Lake Headlight will again produce the annual publication of Eagle Lake's annual Wildflower Celebration to be held March 23 through the month of April.

A total of 30,000 official wildflower publications will be printed. Advertising deadline for the publication is Wednesday, March 13 at 5 p.m.

Various sizes and rates include: one-eighth page, \$50; one-quarter page, \$85; one-half page, \$155; and full page, \$275. The publication also will accept seven corporate sponsors which will receive a prime position on 50-pound offset paper, along with two spot colors of the publishers' choice and a story and photograph of their business for a cost of \$500.

Joan Griffin, a sales representative of The Banner Press Newspaper at its Sealy office, will be advertising salesperson for the publication. She can be reached by leaving her message at the Eagle Lake Headlight at 409-234-5521 or The Banner Press Newspaper Sealy office, 409-885-4108.

Interested advertisers also may contact The Banner Press Newspaper offices in Columbus at 409-732-6243 or La Grange at 409-968-8389.

Crimestoppers asking your help

Officer Jeff Argo was advised by Wilfred Lueddecke early Saturday morning, Feb. 2nd, that a door to the Rice Package Store appeared to be open. Upon investigation, Officer Argo discovered the north side door had been pried open and entry gained into the building. Once inside, the suspect(s) took several cartons of cigarettes, a quantity of liquor and some cash. This case remains under investigation.

If anyone has any information concerning a suspicious vehicle or suspect(s) in the area between that Friday evening and early Saturday morning, or any information concerning any other crime, please contact the Eagle Lake Police Department at 234-2727 or Crimestoppers at 234-5555. Remember, you can remain anonymous.

Hajdik to be honored with dinner March 3

There will be a "Roast and Toast" Dinner for retiring Colorado County Extension agent, Leroy J. Hajdik on Sunday, March 3. A social will begin at 4 p.m. at the Knight of Columbus Hall, Columbus. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m.

Tickets are available for \$10 a person from Eagle Lake: Al Mahalic, Albert Tomchess, John Atkins, Eagle Barber Shop, W.A. Virnau & Son, Inc., T.J. Smith and Lynda Appel; Columbus: Don Lewis, DVM, Farm Bureau office, County Agriculture Building and Potter's Western Store; Garwood: Nada: Randy Waligra, Dick Seifert, Fritz Leopold, Leonard Staff, Madison Smith and Billy Ray Krenke.

Congressional assistant to be at Courthouse

Congressman Greg Laughlin will have a Congressional assistant at the Colorado Courthouse from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon on Thursday, February 21. The caseworker will be able to handle Social Security, Veterans benefits, and other topics involving the federal government.

No appointment is needed and residents are urged to drop by with problems or questions that they may have with the federal government. For more information please call 512-576-1231 in Victoria.

Democratic Club meeting scheduled

Colorado County Democratic Club to meet Thursday, February 28 at the Mansfield Building, 930 Travis St. in Columbus at 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be State Rep. Robert Saunders. The public is invited to come and share your concerns with him.

TAEC to sponsor 'Organic Gardening'

A program titled "Organic Gardening as an Alternate Crop" will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 9 a.m. in the County Agriculture Building. The program will focus on organic gardening, food safety, commercial production and marketing.

Dr. Frank Dainello, extension horticulturist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, and Mr. Dan Peavy, commercial organic vegetable producer will be the speakers.

The program is sponsored by the Executive Board of the Colorado County Extension Service Program Council. This is the first of a series of programs which will focus on various aspects of economic development. For more information contact Peggy Braden, county extension agent-home economics at 732-2530.

Brazos Little League benefit dance March 9

The Brazos Youth Baseball Association is trying to raise money for their Little League. This year they are holding a dance to benefit the Little League on March 9. It will begin at 9 p.m. and end at 1:30 a.m. The dance will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Wallis. The association is honored to have Brian Black and his band playing for the benefit again this year. For more information call Jesse Garcia, 409-478-6168, or Mark Goodell, 409-478-7485.

Fort Bend Singles sponsoring dance

The Fort Bend Singles are sponsoring a dance Friday, February 22, at 8 p.m. in the KC Hall in Needville, Texas. Music will be provided by Donnie Wray and Hi Liers. The public is invited to attend. Door prizes will be awarded. For more information, call 713-232-4782 or 409-793-6176.

'World Day of Prayer' to be held March 1

The "World Day of Prayer", sponsored by the World Council of Churches, will be held Friday, March 1st at the First Presbyterian Church, 106 E. State St. in Eagle Lake. Fellowship and coffee will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and the program will begin at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

CCA offers funds for energy assistance

Combined Community Action, Inc. (CCA) has funds available to assist individuals in paying their utility bills. In order to be qualified a household must have a bona fide emergency energy crisis existing that is keeping them from paying their utilities. Such crisis include payment of high medical bills; loss of unemployment or workmen's compensation wages; death/funeral expenses; loss of employment and unusually high bills due to extreme weather conditions. Income guidelines for the program depend on family size and income. For a family size of one (1), the household must have an income below \$6,908; two (2), \$9,262; three (3), \$11,616; four (4), \$13,970; five (5), \$16,324; six (6), \$18,678; seven (7), \$21,032 and eight (8), \$23,386. For more than 8 add \$2,334 for each additional family member.

If you know of anyone that could use this assistance, please have them contact their local CCA Center Coordinator, Cynthia Bell at 903 Preston, Columbus, Texas or call 409-732-6390. If you need more information you may contact your local center or call Shirley Coleman or Helen Snow at the CCA Central Office at 512-237-2435, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tapia receives Eagle Award of Merit

Hector Tapia received his Eagle Award of Merit Monday, Feb. 11, from the Boy Scouts of America Council of Honor by Troop 334 of Eagle Lake.

Mr. Tapia, athletic director of Rice Consolidated, was the Court of Honor speaker and also presented the Eagle Award. Tapia spoke on the direction of life and the many challenges that could bring success. He talked about a Boy Scout in a troop who made the usual mistakes and succeeded in life to become a leader and challenged Hector to the goals of the Boy Scouts of America.

Following the remarks, Mr. Tapia presented the Eagle Scout badge to the candidate's mother, Yolanda Tapia, and asked her to pin it on her son's uniform. Mr. Tapia gave two miniature Eagle Scout badges to Hector which he pinned on his parents signifying his love and thanks for their support.

Mr. Tapia read a letter to Hector from the Chief Scout Executive and former Astronaut Ben Love complimenting Hector for his achievement in scouting and challenged him to do great things with his life.

Hector joined Boy Scout Troop 334 on September 19, 1983. After many years of scouting he has com-

(See Eagle Scout, Page 10)



Eagle Lake's newest Eagle Scout

Hector Tapia proudly poses with his parents, Hector Sr. and Yolanda Tapia, and Scoutmaster Verlin Argo.

Three council positions up...

City election set for May 4th

Saturday, May 4th, was designated election day by the Eagle Lake City Council in their meeting last week. The election will fill positions of three aldermen (city councilmen) each to serve a two-year term on the council. The positions expiring are those of Mike Duarte, Joe Duncan and Larry Dulany. The first day to file for a position was Monday, Feb. 18th.

Filing deadline has been set for 5 p.m., Wednesday, March 20th. Absentee voting will begin Monday, April 15th, and end Tuesday, April 30th. As of press time there were no filings.

There were 28 applications received for the position of city manager of Eagle Lake according to Acting City Manager Lucille Perry. As directed at the January 28th meeting, the personnel committee has now begun sifting through the applicants and will submit a list of preferred candidates to the council. No deadline has been given for completion of the final list.

Rebates break state records...

City sales tax comes in above 1989

Even though the sales tax collected in Eagle Lake during December was down 1.22%, the city closed out 1990 with a 5.73% increase over collections in 1989. This month's rebate check from the state was in the amount of \$16,038.23 (down from \$16,235.95 last year). February's check (which reflects December sales tax for quarterly filers) brought the total for 1990 to \$118,899.07 compared to \$112,457.86 collected during 1989.

"Texas cities and counties will enjoy a tidy post-Christmas bonus, because this month's total local sales tax rebates are the largest in the state's history," State Comptroller John Sharp said last week. His office mailed checks totaling \$177.4 million to cities and counties across Texas that collect local sales tax.

February's total rebates are always large because they include sales taxes collected by annual, quarterly and monthly taxpayers, but these broke by \$19.5 million the old record set in 1989," Sharp said. "That's an increase of 12.4 percent."

Christmas retail sales may not have been as bright as some folks had hoped, but the state's economy still looks good when compared to the nation as a whole," Sharp said.

Local sales tax rebate checks to cities increased 11.5% over last February's payments of almost \$144 million for a total of \$160.5 million. "A good portion of that increase is due to Texas' stronger economy last year, but part of the rise is because 65 cities in Texas increased their local sales tax rates last year. There are also more

In other business council:

- Learned from Mayor Roy Van Nort of a meeting with the director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. This meeting is being set up by newly elected State Senator Jim Turner.

Sunderman awarded scholarship

Sheralyn Rae Sunderman of Eagle Lake will be the recipient of a one-year, \$2,000 scholarship presented by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo as part of the Go Texan activities on Colorado County night, Friday, February 22.

Guest performers at the rodeo will be the Judds. Sheralyn Rae along with Colorado County Go Texan Queen Jennifer Wied will ride in the grand entry and county residents in attendance at the rodeo will be saluted.

The \$2,000 scholarship is part of the Show's 59-county Go Texan scholarship program. These scholarships are just a part of the annual funds the show gives to education and research, including 100, four-year, \$8,000 4-H and FFA scholarships, 26 (See Sunderman, Page 10)

Special reminders from the City

Dog registration

Residents of Eagle Lake are again reminded on the dog ordinance in our city which requires annual registration. The deadline was December 31, 1990, but a grace period was added through January, 1991.

City officials have, in an attempt to get more dog owners to register their pets, extended the grace period through the end of this month. During the remainder of February, no late fee will be charged those registering their dogs. Fees are \$7 for "regular" dog; \$3 for owners 62 and over who have one living with them under the age of 62, and \$4 if the dog has been sterilized.

When registering your pet you must bring the rabies vaccination certificate with you and also verification

of sterilization if you wish to pay the \$4 fee.

Rabies vaccination is the main concern of city officials who wish to stress that the fees charged are used to maintain the city pound and offset the expense of a dog catcher and disposing of stray animals.

Air conditioning and heating ordinance

Contractors who fall under the air conditioning and heating ordinance are reminded they must register annually with the city. Those who work with air conditioning units of 3 tons or larger fall under this ordinance.

For more information concerning either of these ordinances and/or registrations, contact City Hall, 234-2640, during regular business hours.



Crossroads Antique Mall ribbon cutting ceremony

The Crossroads Antique and Craft Mall, located at 1503 East Main (Hwy 90-A and FM 3013), held their grand opening last weekend and on Saturday, they had their ribbon cutting ceremonies.

Pictured from left are: Russell Petak, Fred Walger, John Hammond, Ida Causy, Katie Walger, Caroline Meltzer, Mayor Roy Dean Van Nort, Charlotte Hartung,

Dexter Anderson, Patrick Milentz, Carl Milentz, Dustin Mills, Heather Mills, Chamber of Commerce Secretary Enola Gertson, and Chamber Treasurer Heidi Mills.

The mall will be open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. Headlight Photo by Linda Weddel