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1990 Geo Metro ~~was \$6,995~~ Now \$6,500 **\$131⁰⁰** month
1990 Geo Prizm ~~was \$8,995~~ Now \$8,200 **\$175⁰⁰** month
1990 Olds Calais SL ~~was \$12,495~~ Now \$11,700 **\$262⁰⁰** month
1987 Chevy Celebrity Clean Car! ~~was \$4,495~~ Now \$4,495 **\$132⁶⁷** month
1986 S-10 Ext. Cab Pickup Immaculate! ~~was \$4,895~~ Now \$4,895 **\$149⁷¹** month

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WE'RE SLASHING PRICES!
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*Add TITL, then \$1500 down, 15% APR for 60 months **\$1500 down, 15% APR for 30 months

Eagle Lake's down, but...

State sales tax collections up dramatically

"Because of steady if not spectacular economic growth, combined with the overwhelming success of Project Fair Pay, we're sending more than \$90 million in local sales tax rebates back to Texas cities, counties, hospital districts and transit systems, a 24 percent increase from last April's rebates," State Comptroller John Sharp said last Friday.

Statewide, monthly checks to city and county governments, hospital districts and the El Paso City Transit Department totaled \$92.9 million. Transit systems in Austin, Dallas, Houston, Ft. Worth and San Antonio receive payments quarterly.

"There are several reasons for this year's increases," Sharp said. "In addition to steady economic growth throughout the state over the past year, some cities raised their sales tax rate since last February, and more counties now collect sales tax."

"Providing another welcome boost to local revenues has been the amnesty program associated with Project Fair Pay, a highly successful effort conducted by the Comptroller's Office during February and March to collect unpaid taxes," Sharp said. Based upon information from the Federation of Tax Administrators in Washington, D.C., Project Fair Pay's amnesty program was the most successful of its kind in the nation.

"The program has brought \$75

million in uncollected taxes into the State Treasury. Some of this money represents previously unpaid local sales taxes and is being allocated to city, county and other local taxing jurisdictions," Sharp said.

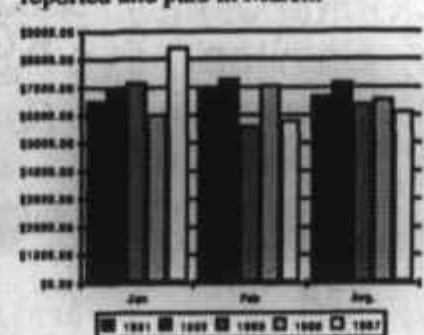
Sharp sent local sales tax rebate checks totaling \$82.1 million to 958 Texas towns and cities, an increase of 23% over last April's payments of \$66.9 million. City sales tax rates range from one to two percent.

The city of Houston received \$13.51 million, the largest payment in the state. Dallas was second with \$8.8 million followed by San Antonio with \$4.8 million and Austin with \$3.56 million.

Unfortunately Eagle Lake was not

included in this trend. The check received this month was \$5.14% (\$6,873.08) less than last year (\$7,245.19) which drops the year-to-date to -2.60%.

Checks sent out in April reflect sales tax collected in February and reported and paid in March.



Police Report

Continued from Page 1

Officer Clemon Johnson was dispatched to a disturbance at Lakeside Lots and Officer Staudt was dispatched to a disturbance at a residence at Lakeside Lots on Saturday, April 13. Staudt was also dispatched to a disturbance on Murphy St. on Sunday evening, while on patrol.

Officer Argo noticed the smell of smoke while driving down Lakeside Drive. Upon checking, he located smoke coming out of the windows of an abandoned house on Johnson Street. After entering the house, he found a chair smoldering. The Fire Department was dispatched and the fire was put out.

Also, Sunday night the Eagle Lake Police assisted the Colorado County Task Force with serving warrants and

impounding vehicles that were used in the selling of controlled substances. Vehicles picked up were a 1979 Ford Pickup owned by George Black, a Toyota Pickup owned by Calvin Hill and an 1982 Cadillac 4 door owned by Peris Foster.

When Foster was located, Officer Argo observed Foster drop a matchbox with 9 rocks of crack cocaine and a cigarette pack with 19 joints of Marijuana.

Foster was arrested, bond was set by Judge Szymanski at \$20,000 for possession of a controlled substance and he was transported to the Colorado County Jail for confinement.

Officer Johnson was dispatched to a disturbance on Murphy Street Monday afternoon.

Proclamation

Continued from Page 1

radio County see that abused children all too often grow up to become abusive youths and adults, perpetuating the tragic cycle of violence; and

WHEREAS, the children's Trust Fund of Texas was established by the 1985 Texas Legislature to help prevent child abuse and neglect through funding assistance to community level prevention programs in all areas of the state and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service has made such programs available to our county; and

WHEREAS, Every citizen of Colorado County can make a difference in this campaign against child abuse through community programs on prevention, abuse and neglect prevention, and awareness; and

RESOLVED, that I, County Judge H.O. Strunk, do hereby proclaim April, 1991 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Colorado County.

WHEREAS, A variety of programs are joining this effort such as the Boy Scouts who are helping to train leaders to recognize and deal with abusive and neglectful situations, programs dealing with effective parenting, adolescent parenting, grandparents outreach, working parents, latchkey children, parenting in the homeless population and others; and

WHEREAS, Organizations in Colorado County are joining in this effort; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that I, County Judge H.O. Strunk, do hereby proclaim April, 1991 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Colorado County.

DAVID W. EUERS, D.D.S.
234-3525
Located Next to Eagle Lake Drugs

Views On Dental Health

VINCENT'S INFECTION (TRENCH MOUTH)

Vincent's Infection is a disease of the gums, and is contagious. It acquired its more common name, Trench Mouth, from the high incidence occurring in the trenches during World War I. As with most communicable diseases, a healthy, resistant host will not be susceptible. Vincent's Infection is a common occurrence in our colleges. It should be promptly treated by your dentist.

The symptoms are:
1) An especially foul mouth odor.
2) Chipping off of the tips of the gums between the teeth.

3) A layer of gray, infected tissue covering raw under surface in one or all four quadrants of the mouth.
4) Possible pain, mild to severe.
5) Possible general malaise.
6) Fever in more serious cases.

7) Progressive destruction of gum tissue which can never be regained. Presented as a public service to promote better dental health. From the office of DAVID W. EUERS, D.D.S., 704 S. McCarty Avenue, Eagle Lake, 234-3525.

Affordable Dental Care for the Whole Family
•Gentle Family Dentistry •Nitrous Oxide Sedation Available •All Phases of General Dentistry Including Cosmetic •Extractions •Wisdom Teeth, Root Canals, Crowns, Bridges, Dentures & Partial
•Insurance & Welfare Welcome •Orthodontist On Staff
Open 8-5, Monday through Friday
MasterCard and Visa Accepted After Hours Call: 409-234-2836

The Eagle Lake Middle School will present a talent show tonight (Thursday) at 7 p.m. Admission is \$1 for adults and 50¢ for students.

Dance Recital to be held Saturday
Linda Balas' School of Dance will present a Spring Recital, "Dancing is My Love," this Saturday, April 27. It will be held at the Eagle Lake Middle School cafeteria and will begin at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited and admission is free.

St. Mary's Field Day April 28
The PTC of St. Mary's in Nada will hold their annual Field Day on April 28. Masses will be said at 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. There will be 32 teams playing and hamburgers and homemade sweets will be served.

Political Forum at ELMS May 2
The Rice Classroom Teacher's Association will be sponsoring a political forum for the Rice Consolidated District School Board candidates Tuesday, May 2 at the Eagle Lake Middle School Cafeteria. The public is invited and urged to attend especially with the competition for position #1, Eagle Lake.

RHS Athletic Banquet to be held May 6
The Rice High School Athletic Banquet will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 6 in the commons of Rice High School. Tickets may be purchased for \$5 from Mrs. Williams at the high school. Tickets will be available until May 2 at Laker Printing in Eagle Lake and the school offices in Garwood, Sheridan and at the Eagle Lake Middle School. For more information, call 234-3535 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The speaker for the evening will be announced in next week's issue.

Fire Department make-up meeting Monday
The Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department will hold a make-up practice meeting this Monday night, April 29. There will be no meeting on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27.

Sheridan Lions medical screenings May 7
The Sheridan Lions Club will hold their annual diabetes, blood pressure and cholesterol screening on Tuesday, May 7. It will be held at the Sheridan Community Center from 1 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. There is no charge for the tests. The entire public is encouraged to come out and take advantage of these savings.

Addresses needed for 1970-71 Class reunion
Addresses are urgently needed for the 20 year reunion to be held on June 22. If you attended or taught at Rice High School during 1970-71, contact anyone of the following as soon as possible: Kathy (Miller) Ware, 713-437-1788, Theresa (Sharman) Laughlin 409-297-2398, Susan (Bradley) Hadley 409-234-5337, Debbie (Duncan) Vawter 409-234-5457 or 234-3523, Traylor Walker 409-234-3937 or 234-3921, Connie (Breithaupt) Gertson 409-234-3931 or Enola (Pavly) Gertson 409-234-5070 or 234-2780.

May 4th For GLEN SUNDERMAN
Position #1, Rice Consolidated Independent School District Board of Trustees

"No Nonsense... Just Common Sense"
•Bachelor of Science Degree in Math - SWTSU
•Independent Rice Producer for 15 years
•Volunteer Work with Little League, Cub Scouts, Jr. High Sports, Lions Club

Political advertisement paid for by Supporters of Glen Sunderman, Enola Sunderman, Treasurer, P.O. Box 824, Eagle Lake, Texas 77424.

Eagle Lake Headlight

April 25, 1991

(USPS 763-760)
Volume 88, No. 3
Eagle Publishing, Inc.
P.O. Box 67 — 220 E. Main St.
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067
409-234-5521

35¢ PER COPY

Wegenhoft named '1991 Conservation Education Teacher of the Year'

Tracey Wegenhoft, science teacher at St. Anthony's School in Columbus, has been named the '1991 Conservation Education Teacher of the Year for the State of Texas' in the conservation education awards program sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD).

Tracey was selected for this award from those nominations submitted from the more than 200 Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Texas. Judging was done by a panel selected by the information and education committee of the Association of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The announcement was made during the annual breakfast for local ministers given by the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District in preparation for the national observance of Soil and Water Stewardship Week.

The NACD Conservation Education Awards program is open to every full-time teacher (grades K-12) in all of the more than 3,000 Soil and Water

Conservation Districts in the 50 states, District of Columbia, Guam/Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands who has initiated and continued an effective conservation education program.

The objectives of the program are to create an awareness and appreciation of the value of conservation education and stimulate efforts by teachers to advance the wise use of, protection and enhancement of our nation's soil, water and related resources. Each of these Districts accepts nominations from teachers within their boundaries, from which a District Winner is selected.

Any teacher in a public or private school in the Conservation District who puts emphasis on natural resource conservation as a regular part of the instruction is eligible for nomination. Tracey Wegenhoft was this year's winner in the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District competition. Her entry was submitted to the state contest, where she was again selected as the best. Wegenhoft will be honored for her accomplishments



during the statewide meeting of Texas Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Corpus Christi during October.

Tracey is also the Texas nominee in the NACD regional contest. Should her work prevail at that level, Wegenhoft will receive a plaque and a \$200 check for being the South Central United States Regional winner. That presentation will be made during a meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas this summer. The seven regional winners in the country then compete for the national awards. The national first place winning teacher will receive a \$1,000 cash award and an expense

sponsored essay contest for students in grades 3-5. Students were asked to write a paper on the topic, "What the 'Just Say No' Club Means to me".

Winners include 3rd grade: Shari Wauls, Brandi Banks, Francisco Montoya, Shaniqua Moody; 4th grade: Maria Orsorio, Ginger Case, Xavier Smith, Natalie Tillman, Amanda Meehan; 5th grade: Abel Cardenas, Adella Rodriguez, Nina Salazar, John Rodriguez, Dee Ann Meehan.

The following stories were chosen as the three overall winners.

Shaniqua Moody: "I like the Just Say No Club because it helps you to say no and how to talk about your problems that you keep inside. The movies and people that come to talk

are nice because they take time out to talk to us about drugs. The movies had people doing drugs and no one wanted to be their friend. They help you to help other people say no. I like them because they care for me. And I care for them. If you do drugs you can die or get sick. Some people do drugs to stop drug abuse. Drug abuse is killing a lot of kids. So help me and the other people stop drug abuse."

Amanda Meehan: "The 'Just Say No' Club means a lot to me. It means that people care about me and other kids. It means that some people care if I do drugs. And they want to help people who are having problems with drugs. The 'Just Say No' Club also

means to me that if we start saying no to drugs now it won't be so hard to say no later. So just say no to drugs. It also helps us to be able to tell what drugs and what is not drugs. The club helps us not to be afraid to tell anybody to say no to drugs. The 'Just Say No' Club also means that they are trying to stop drug abuse. Drug abuse is killing a lot of kids. So help me and the other people stop drug abuse."

Dee Ann Meehan: "The 'Just Say No' Club means a lot to me. One thing it means to me is it is a drug free club. It also helps to persuade kids all over the world not to use drugs or to even start them. The Just Say No Club teaches us about the right kind of drugs and the wrong kind of drugs. One kind of drug is ice. It looks like

(See Drug Essays, Page 16)

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(See City Council passes utility rate ordinance)

(See Fire Department make-up meeting Monday)

(See Sheridan Lions medical screenings May 7)

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Three chosen to compete as 'Most Photogenic' During the Starlight Production Competition last weekend in Arlington, where the Eagle Lake Gymnastics Jazz Group won two first places, five girls were chosen out of 1,500 to enter the 'Most Photogenic' contest in San Antonio on May 4. Out of these five, three of them were from Eagle Lake. Congratulations are extended to Heather Henske, Dee Ann Meehan and Ginger Case.

Commissioners table request by Columbus to upgrade ambulance service

By Rhonda Lattimore
Banner Press Staff
Although five Colorado County Volunteer Ambulance Corps members recently completed Advanced Life Service (ALS) training and have been named Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediates (EMT-I), the Colorado County Commissioners' Court moved to table a request to allow the members to upgrade current ambulance services at this time.

Several members of the Corps, Drs. Tom Hancher and Kirk Anderson, Columbus Community Hospital Administrator Sharon Andrews and others were present at the Monday morning meeting to show their support in upgrading the services by allowing the trained personnel to perform duties such as inserting airway tubes, starting IV therapy and applying MAST for shock patients during emergency calls.

"With the potential ability to use ALS measures at the scene, it would save the hospital staff time and energy to perform more definitive care when the patient arrives at the hospital emergency room," said Patty Nelson, EMT-I.

"I feel that with this ability to intervene in that 'golden hour' prior to arrival at the hospital's emergency room would be a great advantage in caring for the sick and injured citizens of Colorado County."

Nelson, Sharon and Joe Nichols, Valerie Smith and Judy Wick are the five trained corps members and would be on call some 6 1/2 days a week. Other volunteers would be able to assist any of the five and ALS services would only be offered when one of the five were on call. At other times, current basic services would be offered.

"Offering these services 6 1/2 days a week is a great asset to this community. Our corps has been used as an example to build other corps and this is just another asset," said Sharon Nichols.

The court discussed the costs of needed equipment and insurance as well as the possibility of increasing the charge for ALS emergency calls. Currently, the county charges patients \$80 for a regular call and would consider upping that price to \$100 or \$125 for ALS calls only to cover additional expenses involved.

The court agreed the services would be beneficial to all residents of the county, but felt that more time needed to be spent looking into the actual costs of the upgrade. They tabled the discussion and agreed to look into it more detail at a future meeting.

A resolution opposing Tricil Environmental Services' request for in-

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City Council

a protective soil layer which creates a sealed vault.

"There are a lot of positive things that go along with this," Poirch informed Council. Besides approximately 100 full time jobs from janitors to security to engineers with a \$4 million annual payroll, Tricil will be purchasing as much as possible locally (as in the past) and will be providing a long-term industrial waste facility for the county. Poirch also pointed out that Texas is an exporter of hazardous waste (175,000 tons shipped out in 1977 before regulation changes) and will probably reach the 700,000-800,000 ton range soon. "It's got to go somewhere," he stated.

In order to start the project, Tricil was required to put up a letter of credit for \$8.5 million which will be used by the State to close the facility and monitor it for 30 years in case the company defaults. They are also required to have third-party engineers on-site during the construction of hazardous waste cells which drives the cost even higher.

When asked by Councilman Vic Corman if he foresaw Tricil taking nuclear waste or such in the future to increase revenues, Poirch responded, "We don't take that stuff in any of our cells. To take that, we would have a full-fledged public hearing; probably take years. We'd probably never do it. We're not going to do it. We don't want to do it. We have no plans to do it. We've never done it. It's just like permitting a new site to do that. It's prohibitive."

Mayor Roy Van Nort asked Poirch to tell about the soil which was removed from around the City's underground storage tanks when they were taken out of the ground. Poirch said that soil was taken to the Altair Landfill, but with the new regulations, similar soil will now have to be put in one of the hazardous waste cells. "We use to take it in and mix it with the garbage. All it is is just sand or dirt that has a little gasoline or diesel fuel spilled on it."

When told of the county-wide curbside recycling program which is in its infant stages, Poirch told Council of the company's "Household Hazardous Waste Day" they have held at their other sites. This gives everyone the opportunity to bring in all paint, cleaners, etc. they receive major of in the regular garbage. Tricil will be setting up an educational display showing substitutes for and proper handling of hazardous household agents at the Nesbitt Library in Columbus. Councilman Lonnie Sommerlatte requested one be prepared for the Wintersman Library. Tony Shelton said he would be glad to do so.

Another in-depth discussion was held between Council, Mrs. Dorothy Flores and Carolyn Baird with input

from Police Chief Lupé Villarreal and Juvenile Officer Bobby Johnson concerning the loss of the full time juvenile officer effective September 30th. Mrs. Flores pointed out to Council that besides the programs this office has given to the schools and service organizations in the county, she has handled a total of 481 juvenile cases since November, 1988; of which 269 or 55.9% were in Eagle Lake. Mrs. Flores urged Council, "Let's focus our attention on our juveniles and help them to survive. Our juvenile officer has been a friend to most of these kids and, sometimes sadly to say, the only disciplinarian he could have one of his deputies trained to fill the spot."

Mayor Van Nort said he would discuss the problem with County Judge Butch Strunk and Sheriff Bill Esterling at an upcoming meeting and added, "I don't see how we can operate without some kind of juvenile officer. I don't know how it's going to be funded; if we have to go with some other town or how we're going to do it. That's going to have to be worked out."

Councilman Larry Dulany pointed out approximately 10% of the calls handled by the Eagle Lake Police Department in March of 1991 involved juveniles. Due to the lengthy and time-consuming process, as described by Officer Johnson, required in handling this 10%, it was decided that having Eagle Lake handle their own juvenile cases would increase the workload at the Police Department

workload at the Police Department more than 20% with no increase in staffing which Dulany considers to be short-handed now. Johnson, in her detailed description of a criminal arrest involving a juvenile, pointed out the procedure could take up to 6 hours of time (depending on the location of the detention center used) from an officer's shift (virtually wiping out his/her ability to patrol the city). As described, the process involves more than "only doing paper