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Tax increase almost assured; question is which one

Texas House members will likely approve a hike in the gasoline or sales tax to fund a budget that Senate leaders call too skimpy to serve state needs.

The end-game, or brinkmanship, for the special session now appears to be between pro-tax factions arguing not whether but how high to raise new taxes.

In fact, state Sen. Carl Parker, D-Port Arthur, labeled the House budget "irresponsible" and reflecting no leadership.

House Speaker Gib Lewis defended it as "well thought out". It slashes five percent from most agencies, and cuts $500 million from higher education, $200 million from welfare and $100 million from the prison system.

Parker contends that House members could raise money easily by taxing "people who are not now paying any taxes, with very little effect on the average Texan".

Another Lottery Skirmish

But the tax picture was clouded when House Ways and Means Chairman James Hury, D-Galveston, raised the prospect of an eight-cent-per-gallon levy on gasoline.

The anti-tax forces, predominantly Republicans, have been effectively cut out of the process by the Democratic leadership in both chambers, to the point that Rep. Randy Pennington, R-Clear Lake, expressed doubts that anything meaningful is being accomplished.

Hury disagrees, calling the franchise tax overhaul the cornerstone of tax reform, and cautioned lawmakers not to fail to revise it, particularly since anti-lottery forces seemed to have the upper hand on that issue.

State Capitol Highlights
By Lyndell Williams
Texas Press Association

Ironically, the horse and dog racing lobbies are also working to defeat the state lottery, drawing a rebuke from Gov. Richards and a threat from the House lottery author.

Rep. Ron Wilson, D-Houston, warned he might start working to undo the new tax cut for pari-mutuel horse-racing.

Hury and Parker

Hury seemed to agree with Parker when he singled out lawyers, doctors and other professionals who make millions and pay no franchise taxes.

"The top 25 law firms in Texas earned $1.7 billion last year and yet paid no franchise taxes," he said.

He said the revised plan will spare "Mom and Pop" businesses which "pulled the state out of the economic doldrums".

On the Senate Side

Meanwhile, senators avoided one scrap by adopting the House version of a bill creating a new Texas environmental agency, sending it to Gov. Ann Richards, who is unhappy because it does not give her hire and fire authority.

The Senate also voted to merge several agencies into one new Texas Department of Transportation, likewise limiting her influence there.

Redistricting Battle

The Texas House and Senate redistricting plans may be placed directly before a federal court in Washington, D.C., bypassing the normal pre-clearance procedure of the U.S. Department of Justice, Speaker Lewis said.

Lewis said Rep. Tom Uher, the Bay City Democrat who chairs the House Redistricting Committee, suggested the idea to save time and trouble. "I agree with him," Lewis said.

He said he had discussed with Secretary of State John Hannah various approaches to getting plans approved.

7-Eleven, Lottery

Rep. Hugo Berlanga, D-Corpus Christi, wants to bar the sale of Texas lottery tickets at 7-Eleven stores, because parent company Southland Corporation pleaded guilty to a felony charge of rigging school milk bids by its Florida dairy subsidiary.

Speaker Lewis disagreed with Berlanga, his former speaker pro tem, but added he didn't think advocates had the two-thirds House membership, or 100 votes, to pass the lottery amendment.

Lewis speculated the split was 84-43 for the lottery, but many lawmakers were non-committal.

Other Highlights

•While lawmakers bite the budget bullet this week, 50 mental health agency employees were scheduled to attend a four-day management seminar in California costing taxpayers more than $43,000 in travel expenses.

•A recent Texas Poll indicates 56 percent of Texans are against raising state college tuition.

•Attorney General Dan Morales said "the insidious spread of gang-related violence" is a major challenge facing Hispanics, and suggested the 13,000 gang members in Texas needed "windows of opportunity," not more prisons.

•Former state Rep. Dick Waterfield resigned from the Texas Department of Agriculture last week, but denied he used a racial slur in a meeting with a loan applicant, as the unsuccessful applicant alleged.

•Dallas Republican Barry Williamson, who served in the administrations of Presidents Reagan and Bush, is indicating he plans to run for a seat on the Texas Railroad Commission. Williamson named former GOP State Chairman Chet Upham as his campaign treasurer.

•Eight Miami residents, including two school board members, have filed a lawsuit against County Education District 14, charging the state's new education finance law is unconstitutional.

Notice of Effective Tax Rate
1991 Property Tax Rates in Colorado County

This notice concerns 1991 property tax rates for Colorado County. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. Compare it to the tax rate the taxing unit proposes for this year. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per $100 of property value.

	General Fund	Farm to Market/Flood Control Fund
Last year's tax rate:		
Last year's operating taxes	$719,069	$971,994
+ Last year's debt taxes	$0	$0
= Last year's total taxes	$719,069	$971,994
÷ Last year's tax base	$699,135,507	$690,634,877
= Last year's total tax rate	$0.10285/$100	$0.14074/$100
This year's effective tax rate:		
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	$716,943	$969,188
÷ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting taxes on new property)	$697,283,147	$688,865,617
= This year's effective tax rate for each fund	$0.10281/$100	$0.14069/$100
Total effective tax rate	$0.24350/$100	
x 1.03 = this year's maximum operating rate	$0.25080/$100	
This year's rollback tax rate:		
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	$1,137,947	$969,188
÷ This year's adjusted tax base	$697,283,147	$688,865,617
= This year's effective operating rate	$0.16319/$100	$0.14069/$100
x 1.08		
= This year's maximum operating rate	$0.17624/$100	$0.15194/$100
+ This year's debt rate	$0.0/$100	$0.0/$100
= This year's rollback rate for each fund	$0.17624/$100	$0.15194/$100
This year's rollback rate	$0.32818/$100	
- Sales tax adjustment rate	$0.05994/$100	
- Rollback tax rate	$0.26824/$100	

SCHEDULE A: Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following balances will probably be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
General Maintenance & Operation	$375,000
Farm to Market Maintenance & Operation	$300,000
Total	$675,000

SCHEDULE B: 1991 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid	Interest to be Paid	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payments
		0		

Total required for 1991 debt service	$0
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	$0
- Excess collections last year	$0
= Total to be paid from taxes in 1990	$0
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 98.72% of its taxes in 1991	$0
= Total Debt Service Levy	$0

SCHEDULE C: Expected Revenue from Additional Sales Tax
(For counties and cities with additional 1/2 cent sales tax)

In calculating its effective and rollback tax rates, the unit estimated that it will receive $421,004 in additional sales and use tax revenues.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rate calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at Colorado County CAD Office, 1st Floor, County Courthouse.

Name of person preparing this notice: Bill Youens
Title: Chief Appraiser
Date prepared: August 2, 1991

From Washington and Austin...
LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Lt. Governor Bob Bullock applauds...
Senate bill to increase funds for rural, urban hospitals

Lt. Governor Bob Bullock applauded Senate passage of a bill designed to bring almost 40 million dollars in federal money to rural hospitals across the state in the next two years.

The legislation, which is a result of a three year study preformed under Bullock's direction as State Comptroller, will overhaul funding procedures to tap the federal government's Medicaid Disproportionate Share Program for an estimated total of $996 million in 1992-93 budget period for rural and urban hospitals who treat Medicaid patients.

"I've seen what the cynics and detractors called 'pie-in-the-sky' become reality in the Texas Senate and I couldn't be more pleased," Bullock said. "Texas taxpayers have been shortchanged at the federal level for far too long. Now in one fell swoop we've lassoed almost a billion dollars in federal funds for hospitals participating in the Medicaid program and it won't cost the state another dime."

The Disproportionate Share Program rewards qualifying hospitals who carry more than their share of Medicaid patients with additional federal funding to encourage other hospitals to excel with the goal of improving access to medicaid for insured and uninsured patients alike.

The bill moves to the House for consideration.

U.S. Senator Phil Gramm reports...
Gulf of Mexico deserves protection

The Gulf of Mexico is one of Texas' and America's greatest resources, and it deserves more protection than it is getting, says U.S. Senator Phil Gramm.

"It is time that we recognize that the Gulf is at least as important as the Great Lakes or Chesapeake Bay, both of which receive a much higher priority from the federal government," Gramm said.

In a letter and meeting with William Reilly, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Gramm pressed for new, broader initiatives to preserve and protect the Gulf. "Inevitably, the Gulf's capacity to provide freely from its resources has been strained," Gramm told Reilly. "Long-term additional funding can enhance and expand research on key issues such as marine debris, habitat degradation, public health, toxics and pesticide contamination..."

The senator pointed out that "other bodies of water receive a much higher priority within EPA," adding that "I believe it is time that we give the Gulf equal attention."

The Gulf of Mexico touches the United States over 1,600 miles of coastline that stretches from Florida's Everglades to Brownsville, Texas. It accounts for thousands of jobs, 72% of the oil produced offshore, a third of all recreational fishing in the continental U.S. and 40% of America's commercial fishing. Natural habitats associated with the Gulf include 5.7 million acres of tidal marshes.

Congressman Greg Laughlin from Washington...
Rice initiative approved by House

Legislation introduced by Congressman Greg Laughlin was passed by the House of Representatives as part of H.R. 3029, the 1990 Farm Bill Technical Corrections Act. Laughlin's legislation, which was included by the House Agriculture Committee in their technical corrections bill last Thursday, requires a preliminary announcement of the rice program each year. "For years Texas rice producers have been disadvantaged by late program announcements. I am pleased that the House of Representatives has now recognized this problem and moved to provide needed relief to rice producers," said Laughlin.

Texas rice producers traditionally are the first planters in the nation, some planting as early as the first week in March. Current law only provides for a final announcement of the rice program on January 31, barely a month before planting starts.

"With the current Jan. 31 announcement, little time is left for rice producers to make their planting decisions, purchase necessary inputs, and secure financing for the crop year," said Laughlin. "This preliminary announcement will now give rice producers the time they need to make the best possible management decisions."

"I would like to thank the House Agriculture Committee for their strong support of a preliminary announcement for the rice program," said Laughlin "The committee leadership clearly understood the importance of this legislation to rice producers in the 14th Congressional District."

H.R. 3029 Farm Bill Technical Corrections Act, will now move to the Senate for consideration.

Gulf Environmental funding increased

Recognizing the importance of the Gulf of Mexico to the entire nation, funding for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Gulf of Mexico Program will be increased more than 350 percent in the next year, announced U.S. Representative Greg Laughlin, co-chairman of the Congressional Sunbelt Caucus' Gulf of Mexico Task Force. After learning that the EPA was spending nine times more on programs for the Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay than the Gulf of Mexico, the Gulf of Mexico Task force initiated

(See Legislative Reports, Page 10)

Notice of Effective Tax Rate
1991 Property Tax Rates in Colorado County Water Control & Improvement Dist. #2

This notice concerns 1991 property tax rates for Colorado County Water Control & Improvement Dist. #2. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. Compare it to the tax rate the taxing unit proposes for this year. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per $100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:	
Last year's operating taxes	$3,407
+ Last year's debt taxes	$19,588
= Last year's total taxes	$22,995
÷ Last year's tax base	$8,516,800
= Last year's total tax rate	$0.27000/$100
This year's effective tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	$22,989
÷ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting taxes on new property)	$8,488,380
= This year's effective tax rate	$0.27082/$100
x 1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearing	$0.27894/$100
This year's rollback tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	$3,406
÷ This year's adjusted tax base	$8,488,380
= This year's effective operating rate	$0.04012/$100
— .72 for school districts (or zero)	$0
x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	$0.04332/$100
+ This year's debt rate	$0.32698/$100
= This year's rollback rate	$0.37030/$100

SCHEDULE A: Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following balances will probably be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation	0
Interest & Sinking	0

SCHEDULE B: 1991 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid	Interest to be Paid	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payments
Bond	$15,000	$12,575	$0	27,575

Total required for 1991 debt service	$27,575
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	$0
- Excess collections last year	$0
= Total to be paid from taxes in 1991	$25,575
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 99.15% of its taxes in 1991	$236
= Total Debt Service Levy	$27,811

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rate calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at Colorado County CAD, 1st Floor County Courthouse, Columbus, Texas.

Name of person preparing this notice: Bill Youens
Title: Chief Appraiser
Date prepared: August 2, 1991

Let's Look Back...
24 & 48 Years Ago

December 15, 1966

Miss Ophelia Johnson, assistant vice-president at the First National Bank of Eagle Lake, was honored on Monday night of last week at a surprise reception in the bank building upon the occasion of her retirement...

The hearts of Eagle Lake citizens were filled with sadness again last week with the tragic death of **Jack Bethel Mann**, 31, sales manager for the Universal Motor Company and a member of the city council...

Bennie Brasher, of this city, was seriously wounded when he was shot through both legs with a 270 deer rifle by Alton Ray Matura in an incident in Lissie at about 6 p.m. Sunday evening...

Thirty-three Baylor University coeds have been chosen Baylor Beauty semifinalists in an all campus election. Sophomore beauty hopefuls include **Robbin Griffith** of Eagle Lake, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Robert Griffith**...

Miss Gladys Marie Chudel and **Edmund S. Krenek** were united in marriage in a beautiful and impressive Nuptial Mass in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church of Eagle Lake at 2 p.m on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1966.

January 29, 1943

Grim tragedy again imposed its unwelcome presence into the hearts of this community Tuesday afternoon late when **Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Westmoreland** received the shocking message of the death of their son, **Lt. John B. Westmoreland**, who perished in an airplane crash adjacent to Patterson Field, Fairfield, Ohio...

A government release received from Fort Monmouth, New Jersey states that **2nd Lieut. Thomas Hubbard Taylor** as just completed a special course of instruction in the officer's school of the Easter Signal Corps School at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey...

Miss Lois Goode volunteered in the WAVES last week and passed all examinations in Houston. She received instructions to return home and await further orders. Lois enlisted for the Yeoman's course and when called will report to Oklahoma A&M College at Stillwater, Okla....

Pfc. Robert L. Adams, who has been in the armed services of his country since mid-November, is now stationed in Tacoma, Washington...

Announcement is made that **Bruner Lee Jr.** has been promoted to First Lieut. He is now in Fort Sill for another special course in Motors...

U.S. Marine Frank Duty after a very brief furlough returned to his official station over the weekend at Camp Elliot, San Diego, California.

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

DEEDS

Corrected Gift Deed: Mae Belle Berger to Odilia Schuette, reservations reserved, 86.5 acres, Peter Piper League, et al; filed 7-19-91.

Deed: Dorothy Grace Johnson and Gerald Staffel to Earnest Ray Corcoran, 17.96 acres, J. Thompson League; 7-22-91.

Deed: Arthur R. & Ella B. Theuerkauf to Dan & Joann O'Malley, 109.113 acres, Alfred Kelso League; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Marily Dwayne & Judity D. Milner, lot no. 40, blk. no. 3, section 1, The Falls Subdivision; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Jerry & Irene Robisnon, lot no. 40, blk. no. 3, section II, The Falls Subdivision; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to David J. & Diane Lynne Berg, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Willie J. Diehl Jr., und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to David Mancle and Penny Jo Freeman, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Frank E. Guidry, Jr. & Francis E. Guidry, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Weldon D. & Betty E. Knox, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Paul E. & Vera E. Lesak, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Kenneth & Veronica Mackey, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Kenneth D. & Brenda Faye McSwain, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Jasper T. & Donna Mercer, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to T.L. & Mable A. Potchernick, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Curtis R. & Helen R. Reeves, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to John W. Shelly, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to William C. & Anne Elliott Smith, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Jose M. & Roxanne L. Zavala, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, resort section one; 7-22-91.

Deed: Robert F. Kalous and Eloise M. Walla to Lauralyn Fulkerson, part of lot no. 3, blk. no. 26, Weimar; 7-23-91.

Deed: Albert Bittner et al to Raymond & Ruby Korenek, 0.183 acres, P. O'Daugherty Survey; 7-24-91.

Deed. R. Dwayne & Melinda R. Durham to Siegfried & Ursula Keierleber, 58.344 acres, H. Austin Five League Grant; 7-24-91.

Deed: Gloria Kautz & George William Krause to Anthony B. & Jane W. Causey, 39.067 acres and easement, B.F. McMillen Survey et al, Colorado and Austin counties; 7-24-91.

Deed: David M. & Patricia A. Kautz to Anthony B. & Jane W. Causey, 39.064 acres and easement, B.F. McMillen Survey et al, Colorado and Austin counties; 7-24-91.

Deed: Gloria Kautz & George William Krause to Anthony B. & Jane W. Causey, und. int. in 39.067 acres and easement, B.F. McMillen Survey et al, Colorado and Austin counties; 7-24-91.

Deed: David M. & Patricia A. Kautz to Anthony B. & Jane W. Causey, und. int. in 39.064 acres and easement, B.F. McMillen Survey et al, Colorado and Austin counties; 7-24-91.

Deed: Anthony & Jane W. Causey to David M. Kautz, 9.285 acres, Heunrich Krey Survey; 7-24-91.

Deed: Wilbur Hans & Wanda L. Cooper to Anthony B. & Jane W. Causey, 9.285 acres, Heinrich Krey Survey; 7-24-91.

Deed: Urben W. Sander Estate and Dorothy M. Sanders Trust to Robert C. Jennings, Jr. and Rosemary Jennings, 22.927 acres, J. Cassady Survey; 7-24-91.

Deed: Southwest Bank of Texas, N.A. to Sidney W. & Kathy Greek, 42.258 acres, Rossom Alley League; 7-25-91.

Deed: Paul P. & Abigail Z. Woolman to Shane & Dawn Smith, lots #12C and 13B, part of lot #13C, Marek Subdivision, J. Tumlinson League; 7-25-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to M. Edwin & Jo Ann M. Fulle, lot #18, blk. no. 10, section 1, The Falls Subdivision; 7-25-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Richard A. & Millie B. Muscato, lot #19, blk. no. 3, section 2, The Falls Subdivision; 7-25-91.

Deed: L.D. & Mary Euerd to Tim Luedecke, tract in P. Reel Survey; 7-25-91.

Deed: Will L. Nelson to Will L. Nelson Revocable Living Trust, 540 acres, W.K. Paulding Surveys #9 and 10; 7-26-91.

Deed: Erna J. Doolan to Charles A. Gremillion, Jr., 95.63 acres, Phillip Bugler Survey; 7-26-91.

Deed: Ed Hoffman to Eugene & Bonita Kremling, part of lot 2, blk. 48, Weimar; 7-26-91.

Gift Deed: Milton Joe & Margaret Hoffman to Clara Mae Hoffman Genzer and Molly Ann Hoffman Jalufka, 101 acres, W.W. Thompson League; 7-26-91.

OIL & GAS LEASES

William H. & Leona Abell et al to American Trading & Production Co., 151.18 acres, Thomas Cartwright League; 7-22-91.

James H. & Joan Whitcomb to Murphy H. Baxter, 501 acres, John Gillespie One-Third League; 7-22-91.

Norvaleen H. Hardison to Murphy H. Baxter, 31.75 acres, James Cummins Survey; 7-23-91.

Alice P. Flynn to Murphy H. Baxter, 70 acres, Leander Beason One-Third League; 7-23-91.

Alford & Jackie Glover to Arkla Exploration Company, 75 acres, Samuel Kennelly Survey; 7-23-91.

Leonard Richter to Quintana Exploration Corp., 1.75 acres, P.R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Connie Richter to Quintana Exploration Corp., 37.61 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Ernest & Agnes Richter to Quintana Exploration Corp., 39.314 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Lester W. & Nola Richter to Quintana Exploration Corp., 37.07 acres, P.R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Louis F. & Viley A. Richter to Quintana Exploration Corp., 31.31 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

N.L. Goodwin, Jr., et al to Quintana Exploration Corp., 9.5 acres William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Cynthia Ann Schindler Ford, et al to Quintana Exploration Corp., 904.86 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

St. Joseph Hospital Foundation of Houston to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Betty Janes Deankin to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Martha Louise Rees to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Etocto Incorporated to Quintana Exploration Corp., 202 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Mollie Craven Brewster to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

William B. Rees Jr. Trust to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Ann Irvine Amicat to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Stephen Oberhoff to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Ray Bernard Longserre to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Lynn H. Clardy to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Jewell Craven Kirk to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Marguerite Craven Torres to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Singer Bros., a partnership, and George A. Singer to Quintana Exploration Corp., 202 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Margaret Pauline & Don Tipton to Quintana Exploration Corp., 65.93 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Leona A. New to Quintana Exploration Corp., 55.43 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Raymond G. & Mary Alice Schindler to Quintana Exploration Corp., 37.84 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Jessie Lee Klanke to Quintana Exploration Corp., 202 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

J.M. Craven to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Mary Jo Galle to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Lawrence C. Poenitzsch to Quintana Exploration Corp., 31.28 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Leonard Ray and Allen Poenitzsch to Quintana Exploration Corp., 79.75 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Leonard Ray & Margaret Poenitzsch to Quintana Exploration Corp., 15.32 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Douglas H. McLelland to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

John M. McLelland to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Robert H. Parsley to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Mae Moonyeen Craven Bane and M.L. Bane to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Marvin Craven, Jr. to Quintana Exploration Corp., 147 acres, Peyton R. Splane Survey; 7-23-91.

Leona Schobel to Quintana Exploration Corp., 35.57 acres, William R. Hunt Survey; 7-23-91.

Mary Leah Hammond Gandy to Arkla Exploration Corp., 59.66 acres, Samuel Kennelly Survey; 7-23-91.

Alford & Jackie Glover to Arkla Exploration Corp., 75 acres, Samuel Kennelly Survey; 7-23-91.

COUNTY COURT CASES FILED

Anthony Ray Labay, driving while intoxicated; filed 7-17-91.

Texas Farm Bureau against fuel tax increase

Texas farmers and ranchers were alarmed by what they understand are alternatives being considered in the Texas House of Representatives regarding taxes, according to S.M. True, president of the Texas Farm Bureau.

"Proposals to increase the state fuel tax by 13 cents to a total of 28 cents a gallon is bad enough for all Texans," True said. "But, changing the off-road exemption for tractors and other production equipment to a once-a-year refund — as proposed — substantially increases producers' up-front production costs."

The president of the state's largest general farm organization said the damage becomes even more severe with the concept of allowing the refund to equate to only 75% of the charge.

"That would result in a new 7-cents-per-gallon tax on fuel used for food and fiber production," True said. "That is unacceptable and intolerable. We strongly urge that this entire concept be dropped."

The farm leader said another proposal floating in the Texas House of extending the state franchise tax to farm and ranch enterprises is no more than an "income tax in disguise".

The Texas Farm Bureau has expressed support for streamlining government, increasing the state sales tax by one percent, and a voter-approved state lottery, True said. All of these actions would affect farmers and ranchers the same way as all citizens of the state, he explained.

"The fuel tax proposal and the franchise tax extension are grossly unfair, as agriculture is the only industry that cannot pass along taxes to consumers," True said. "The proposals are not the proper means to address the budget dilemma."

Foot Facts

By Dr. Eric R. Tepper, Podiatrist

BEE CAREFUL!

One of the joys of summertime is walking barefoot on soft grass or a sandy beach. One of the miseries is stepping on something unexpected and injuring a foot. Aside from the obvious risks of treading on a splinter, sharp piece of glass, or other dangerous object, there is a real danger of stepping on a bee, wasp or hornet, and finding oneself with a painful sting. What should you do if this happens? In most cases, insect stings are annoying but not especially serious. To those with allergies, however, a sting is a life-threatening emergency. If chills, fever, nausea, wheezing, vomiting, or cramps occur within minutes of the sting, see a doctor as quickly as possible. Otherwise, ice the area, wash it, and attempt to remove the stinger, if it remains.

Special, lightweight beach shoes are now available, even in children's sizes, perfect for those potentially dangerous areas. Please call my office for further information or for an appointment, at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital at 409-234-5571. I am there the first and third Tuesdays of the month. I can provide for your entire family's podiatric needs, with quality medical care, gained from years of experience and attention to my patient's particular needs.

P.S. A paste of baking soda or meat tenderizer can help relieve itching, once the stinger is removed.

Prairie Edge Museum News
By Elizabeth Boothe, Reporter

Next week, look for an article in the museum write-up concerning the contents of one of our display cases which honor the memory of Johnnie David Hutchins, who was awarded posthumously the Medal of Honor for heroism and conspicuous valor during World War II.

The Thrift Shop will be open for business again from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. August 17. Here is a list of good buys: two recliners, cook books, appliances, table cloths, dishes, curtains, glassware, window shades, jeans, neckties, men's suits, Singer sewing machine, women's clothes, toys, and fishing apparatus. Call Louise Brunner at 234-2395, Catherine Clipson at 234-2916 or Ethel Cone at 234-3064 if you need additional information. What wonderful workers we do have!

Several recent visitors signing the register lately have been from Georgia, Wyoming, and Alaska. The ones from the last state named were members of the Gingras family and are the daughter, son-in-law and grandsons of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Wills. I took them on a tour Monday morning. Prairie Edge received lots of compliments. Going "aboard" the caboose was the finale. Remember, you can visit our museum in air-conditioned comfort, so make arrangements for tours by calling Bill Harrison at 234-2662 or Elizabeth Boothe at 234-3361.

There was an article recently in The Houston Post about old comics. "Blondie and Dagwood" was one of the well-remembered ones and evidently continues to be popular. Prairie Edge has on loan from the Robert Griffiths two comic books featuring "Bringing Up Father" (Maggie and Jiggs) and "The Gumps".

Do any of you in the "over-55" group remember reading "The Katzenjammer Kids" when you were quite young? When I visited the World Fair in Chicago in 1933, I, of course, brought back souvenirs and among these were small china figurines of the comic strip characters Andy Gump and Periwinkle.

Wildflower seed planting time seems to be getting here in a hurry. I was quite surprised to see several pink primroses blooming in a yard near my home. Many thanks to the members of the Civic Garden Club who tend the beautiful flowers on our city square! The impatiens flowers are especially beautiful.

I received an invitation this past week from Dorothy Neuhaus Wolters, president of the Lavaca Historical Museum in Hallettsville, inviting all of us to the grand opening August 31, 1991, at 10 a.m. I hope many of us will have the pleasure of attending.

Prairie Edge is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m.

"When love and skill work together expect a masterpiece." —Ruskin

About 55 percent of adult Iraq's cannot read or write.

Governor announces funding for nursing education

Governor Ann Richards announced last week that 41 Texas higher education institutions will receive more than $2.5 million to hire new faculty. This appropriation will allow the enrollment of 534 additional nursing students.

The funding is the result of an emergency appropriation made by the governor last session under HB2110 and the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program. "It is clear by the response we received for the program that we have just scraped the surface of the pressing health care needs in our state. I hope this funding will alleviate some of the nursing shortage in Texas and we can continue to produce qualified nurses who want to work in Texas," Richards said.

Wharton County Junior College was on the list to receive $70,000 of the grant. A few of the others on the list were Victoria College, $78,000; Blinn College, $67,000; three campus locations of Lamar University, a total of $194,910 and several campuses of the University of Texas.

Notice of Effective Tax Rate
1991 Property Tax Rates in City of Eagle Lake

This notice concerns 1991 property tax rates for City of Eagle Lake. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. Compare it to the tax rate the taxing unit proposes for this year. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per $100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:	
Last year's operating taxes	$151,236
+ Last year's debt taxes	$118,479
= Last year's total taxes	$269,715
÷ Last year's tax base	$59,330,136
= Last year's total tax rate	$0.45460/$100
This year's effective tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	$269,113
÷ This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting taxes on new property)	$59,486,444
= This year's effective tax rate	$0.45239/$100
x 1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearing	$0.46596/$100
This year's rollback tax rate:	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	$150,898
÷ This year's adjusted tax base	$59,486,444
= This year's effective operating rate	$0.25366/$100
— .72 for school district (or zero)	$0
x 1.08 (or add $.08 for schools) = this year's maximun operating rate	$0.27395/$100
+ This year's debt rate	$0.12463/$100
= This year's rollback rate	$0.39858/$100

SCHEDULE A: Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following balances will probably be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation	$258,598
Interest & Sinking	0
	$258,598

SCHEDULE B: 1991 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid	Interest to be Paid	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payments
G.O. Bonds, Series 1986	50,000	23,250	222	$73,472

Total required for 1991 debt service	$73,472
- Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	$0
- Excess collections last year	$700
= Total to be paid from taxes in 1991	$72,772
+ Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 97.31% of its taxes in 1991	$2,012
= Total Debt Service Levy	$74,784

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rate calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at Colorado County CAD, 1st Floor County Courthouse, Columbus, Texas.

Name of person preparing this notice: Bill Youens
Title: Chief Appraiser
Date prepared: August 2, 1991