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School property tax plan declared illegal but okay

The Texas Supreme Court struck down the Legislature's plan to hike school property taxes, but left the illegal tax structure in place until next year.

By giving lawmakers—including those who will be elected to the next Legislature—a long deadline, justices dodged the task of writing the controversial law themselves.

Somewhat defusing the politics for now, the court did not shut down state funding of public schools but it probably catapulted the issue to the top of voter shopping lists for 1992.

This marks the third time in as many years the High Court has re-

jected the Legislature's remedy, despite Gov. Ann Richards' pointed warning that frustrated lawmakers may just let the justices write the new law themselves.

Reacting last week, the governor accused the GOP-dominated court of "calling for an income tax."

"What's happening in all this Mickey Mouse is that the administrators and the teachers can't plan because they never know how much money they're going to have," she said.

Conservative Victory?
Conservatives hailed the 7-2 decision as a victory over liberals, pointing as evidence to the fact that only liberals reacted angrily to the ruling.

Senate Education Committee Chairman Carl Parker, D-Port Arthur, sponsor of the now-dead measure, accused the court of "posturing politically."

"Republicans, who are on the court who participated in the first double tough opinion, caught a lot of flack from their constituents... and they started looking for a way to backpedal," Parker said.

Attorney General Dan Morales did not criticize the justices and said he didn't think the decision was political. "We believe there is ample opportunity and ample time over the course of 1992 to prepare for a situation where the Legislature can hit the ground running," Morales said of the 1993 regular legislative session.

State Capitol Highlights
By Lyndell Williams
Texas Press Association

Redistricting Aftermath
In the aftermath of the redistricting battle, Federal Judge James Nowlin reopened court records which were sealed amid Democrat cries of foul play.

Meanwhile Morales angered some Democratic senators by firing two attorneys chosen by lawmakers to help the Texas Democratic Party with redistricting. Departing were Austin lawyers Richard Gray and David Richards, former husband of Gov. Ann Richards.

Morales hired Paul Coggins of Dallas to probe whether State Rep. George Pierce, R-San Antonio, helped federal judges draw new districts.

Sen. Ted Lyon, D-Rockwall was critical: "Morales could well be the

Views On Dental Health
SOURCES OF INFECTION

Teeth which are half buried in the gum tissue or which have drifted out of their proper position (usually wisdom teeth) can be a constant source of infection. Although they may later be removed, they can cause a painful problem, their potential for doing damage is so great that they probably should be removed as soon as possible.

There is the ever-present danger that infection in the area of these wisdom teeth will destroy bone, tissue, and/or good teeth. However, if these teeth are in an area where they can cause little damage to surrounding structures, the dentist and patient may well elect to postpone extraction.

ONLY teeth which are not restorable by any prudent method should be extracted. The infection in other teeth can usually be controlled by techniques, such as drainage, disinfection, antibiotics followed by root canal therapy. Only when the threat of spreading infection is eliminated can restoration proceed.

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, 234-5525.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Superintendent disagrees with school board report

Dear Mrs. Fearing:
Reporting of Rice CISD activities in *The Eagle Lake Headlight* provides information to district patrons as well as recognition of students and staff. Your efforts in providing this service are recognized and appreciated.

However, it is also important that reporting be accurate, complete and free of bias, innuendo or misleading information. I am confident every effort is made to accomplish this in the articles you print.

This letter is written in response to the article providing coverage of the Rice CISD Board of Trustees' meeting of January 16, 1992, which contains incorrect information or did not include all the pertinent facts. The article refers to "a new policy in which the superintendent must approve all facility use through written request."

The policy, Community Use of School Facilities, G.S. (Local), was adopted May 9, 1989. The Board of Trustees, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, amended the policy on December 16, 1991. A copy of the original and the amended policy is enclosed for your comparison. The specific recommendation was:

1. Delete the portion permitting a fee to be paid directly to the custodian(s) by the using organization. (This is an illegal practice.)
2. Revise the wording of the *Usage of Facilities* paragraph to read: (exception: when utilities are required i.e., football stadium, lights, fee shall be assessed by the Business Office.) This modification allows for periodic adjustment of fees as appropriate.

It is true Mr. Center and Mr. Brasher had used the facility for a number of years. However, their usage was without proper permission or documentation on file.

The second portion of the article I wish to address is the paragraph stating: "McGaughey told the board this is the first year for the new TAAS which replaced the old TEAMS."

What was actually stated indicated that TAAS replaced TEAMS three years ago. Further, the TAAS administered in the fall of 1991 was the first administration with more rigorous standards. Students must attain a 70% minimum passing standard on each portion of the test in order to pass that portion.

In the future, I will be happy to work with you to provide accurate reporting of Board meetings. Again, thank you for your continued reporting of district activities.

Sincerely,
M. Carolyn McGaughey
Superintendent

Creation of art cooperative, 'Watershed', announced

Dear Editor,
I am proud to announce the creation of The Watershed, an art cooperative for the perpetuation of rural arts. The nonprofit organization was formed in 1986. I prepared a display and exhibited before the Texas Commission on the Arts review board in 1988. The denial of foundation funding was refused based on the limits for a newly founded small organization.

A program to tour Texas and the USA was initiated in association with the Hobby Industry of America and the Mid America Arts Alliance.

I will continue to pursue and develop a better place for the youth of Eagle Lake. The beginnings of the Craft Workers Alliance for Youth (CWAY) is now underway. The development of the foundation status will best support nonprofit organization of The Watershed.

As we await formal application and receipt of identification and acknowledgment from the federal government and the state of Texas, we are forming our schedule of arts and crafts shows to exhibit and market rural craft creations.

The Texas directors are three in number and responsible for the operation of the Texas representation. The national director is responsible for the operation of The Watershed and the media for the Mid America Arts Alliance. The organization was founded for support of Drug Free America. We support the Texas Arts Commission and proudly announce the acknowledgement of the Watershed at Eagle Lake.

(See Watershed, Page 11)

Bible Verse of the Week

The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again, but the righteous sheweth mercy and giveth. — Psalms 37:21

Submitted by
Neddy Phillips

THANK YOU, UNITED BUYERS!

Thanks to your generous donations, the United Buyers were able to purchase 6 hogs and 1 steer. Additionally, we raised several exhibitors' prices bringing those exhibitors' proceeds into line with the rest of the sale. We also awarded \$25.00 prize money to each of the Showmanship First Place winners.

The following persons have donated to the United Buyers for the 1992 FFA Show & Sale:

Madison H. Smith	Tommie Holden	Brisco Brothers	Mark Wied
Farm	Lake Motors, Inc.	Glen Sundermans	Dupré Lease Service, Inc.
Todd Krenke	Walker Lumber Yard	First State Bank of	Joe Wendel
Leopold Brothers	M&T Hoffman Farm	Columbus	Kenneth Baumgartens
Bill Krenkes	KULM Radio	Brunner Farms	W.C. Gohlkes
Sunderman Equipment	Clipson Ranch	John Thomas Family	MTM Ranch
Service	Wiese Brothers	Ronnie Sedgwicks	Rice Industries, Inc.
Patricia Weishuhn	Gary Glaisher Family	Fred F. Grahmanns	El Campo Leader-News
Billy Hefners	Monroe Ripers	George Williams	E.H. Stuenkel
Tom Davidsons	Eagle Lake Implement	Ana Rice Marketing Co.	Frank Popp, Jr.
Edward Korenicks	Co., Inc.	American Rice Growers	of Garwood
N.J. Schneiders	Truman Engstrom	D.L. Water Systems	Red Gate Farm Inc.
Brad Engstroms	M. Carolyn McGaughey	Guy Beane, Jr.	Steve Taylors
Eddie L. Wied	Guy Beane, Jr.	William Pustejovskys	Harold Baggett
Jack Axels	William Pustejovskys	Bluebonnet Ins. Agency	Josh & Andy Mangum
Kallina Dryer, Inc.	Bluebonnet Ins. Agency		

We believe in our Youth: our most valuable asset.
Working together has enabled us to encourage them to excel.
Let us continue to work together.

If we failed to list your name as a 1992 United Buyer, the omission was unintentional. Please contact one of the following so your name can be added to this listing:

Carol J. Ripper
Fred F. Grahmann



The Leadership Colorado County participants from Eagle Lake area are Ljz Waddell, Roy Van Nert and Fritz Leopold in front; Becky Anderson, Helen Craig and Melvin Gordon on the back row.

Leadership Colorado County off to great start

A two-day retreat marked the successful start of the Leadership Colorado County project at Camp Lone Star in La Grange Jan. 17 and 18. The members learned about the program of effective communication in bringing about effective community change. This session was presented by Garland Midgett, Camp Lone Star Director.

Due to rain, the group was unable to participate in the Challenge course. This event will be rescheduled for a later date.

The second class was held on Jan. 30. Dr. Garland Novasod, mayor of Wharton and a graduate of the John Ben Sheppard Leadership Program, was the speaker. The participants learned how to use basic leadership skills to produce good meetings, goodwill and good results.

The next class will be held Feb. 13, with Duane Smith, Colorado County Economic Development Coordinator, speaking on data gathering and strategic planning.

Let's Look Back... 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

April 6, 1967
Final papers are due to be signed this week to convert the Laughlin Hospital in Eagle Lake to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital to be operated as a non-profit foundation...

Eagle Lake school patrons turned out in great numbers Saturday with 556 casting their ballots in the election to name three members to the Board of Trustees. The total vote was one of the highest ever recorded in a school trustee election in Eagle Lake. Three incumbents were returned to office for three year terms including Paul Powers with 472, William L. Farris with 436, and Raymond H. Waddell with 475. The fourth candidate, Jewell Hemphill, polled 144 votes...

Sidney Struss of Eagle Lake High School was chosen by the judges of the El Campo Regional Science Fair to represent the fair as its Navy Science Cruiser on a five-day cruise which he will take during the summer vacation period to observe science in the Navy...

Funeral services were held from the Untermyer Funeral Home in Columbus last Friday, March 31, for Mrs. Mary Frances Drymalla, 82, mother of Rublee Drymalla...

Mrs. John Waligura was pleasantly surprised when her children and grandchildren gathered to celebrate her 85th birthday... Little Patrick Michael Isenhower, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Isenhower of Houston, was christened on Sunday morning at St. Paul's Lutheran in Wallis...

City Manager T.J. Smith spoke to the three sections of English II students at Eagle Lake High School this past Thursday on the subject of fire prevention. The next day, the students wrote themes in which they especially stressed the importance of using fire-resistant building material...

Little Andrew Dindner Stiles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Stiles, was one year old on Sunday, April 28, and was honored with a family party...

Funeral services were held for Dan Hooper Sr. at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 30th, from the First Baptist Church of Rock Island. Mr. Hooper passed away March 27th...

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Henske and children, Jerry, Mike and Mark attended Governor's Day in Austin honoring Sen. Wm. Patman, March 28th. Mrs. Henske assisted in serving at the dinner following the ceremony... Mrs. Joe Salinas, owner and operator, and Miss Rose Yanez, operator of Marcy's Beauty Shoppe were accompanied to Houston by Mr. Salinas and his brother, Phillip, Sunday. The group attended the Texas Hairdressers and Cosmetologists Association District Five Member's "Membership Day Promotion" in the Brazos and Colorado Rooms of the Rice Hotel...

The Fred R. Frnkas were pleasantly surprised Wednesday evening when a host of friends dropped in for a housewarming party at 8 o'clock.

Friday, May 7, 1943
Promotion of Norman D. Davidson, post engineer of the Clovis Army Air Base, to the rank of Captain has been announced by commanding officer, Major Edward R. Fuller... John Monroe Eaton of Rock Island writes the Headlight from Camp McCoy, Wis. He says he does not like Wisconsin as well as Texas...

Staff Sgt. Donal Nathan Winnett of Boling, Texas, has been chosen to attend Aviation Cadet School in the states, it was announced at headquarters of the Antilles Air Task Force. The release came from far away San Juan, Puerto Rico... Pvt. Virgil Most of Ellington Field returned to his duties after a fourteen day furlough in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R.K. Mott...

Pvt. Charlie P. Marx wrote an appreciated letter to the Headlight from Alaska, dated March 29. He was enjoying his Christmas box of candy... The following named selectees were accepted into the U.S. Army and Navy on April 28. From Eagle Lake were David Zahradnick and Paul Hernandez... Wednesday of this week, Lee Barnett received word from the Navy Department that he had passed the Navy V-12 Test recently and is to report to Houston at the recruiting station for further tests and instructions on Monday, May 10...

A wedding coming as a distinct surprise to relatives and friends was that of Lt. Thomas "Hub" Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Taylor of Eagle Lake and Miss Shirley Key Savidge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis Savidge of Linden, N.J.... David Zahradnick, of Lissie, until recently employed as a mechanic for Spalinger Implement Co., volunteered and was accepted Wednesday of last week in the Navy. Zahradnick has a wife and four children...

Staff Sgt. Leon P. Wood, in a Victory letter received by his mother, Mrs. Jake Wood, announces his safe arrival in Australia after a long sea voyage... Elmer A. Struss notified his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Struss, of his arrival in Chicago. He has been assigned to the U.S.N.R. Midshipman's School at NW University... Pvt. Robt. W. McMillan is now stationed at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, where he is receiving training with the Air Crew Detachment...

Dr. & Mrs. J.R. Laughlin announce the arrival of a little son at the Laughlin Hospital Saturday, May 1. The little man weighed six pounds and five ounces and a name good enough for him has not been found at the time of this report.

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

DEEDS
Deed: Gary D. Walsh (Estate of Earl F. Walsh) to Ronnie M. Sedgwick and Donna L. Sedgwick, 0.376 acre, Patrick Reels Survey, Eagle Lake; filed 1-22-92.
Deed: Baker Motel to Sumant S. Patel, Trustee, part of subdivision lots No. 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13, block 28, and part of original lot 4, block 112, Columbus; 1-17-92.
Deed: Baker Motel to Sumant S. Patel, Trustee, part of subdivision lot 4, block 82, and part of subdivision lot 15, block 82, Columbus; 1-17-92.
Deed: Beverly Nunn, et al, to Eleanor A. Freis, Real and Personal Property; 1-17-92.
Deed: E.W. Hansen to McElroy Smith, tract of land, part of H. Austin Five Leagues, Weimar; 1-21-92.
Deed: Leon Krushall, et al, to Carol L. Ellis, parcels of land, P. Reels Survey, Eagle Lake; 1-21-92.
Deed: Harry C. Henkhaus and Marion L. Henkhaus to Charles Russell and Tracy Ann Theist, part of lot no. 2, block 27, Taylor Addition, Columbus; 1-21-92.
Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Richard W. and Marianne T. Muehr, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 1-21-92.
Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to William F. and Karen A. Seefelt, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 1-21-92.
Deed: Elizabeth Miller to Oscar and Evelyn Miller, und. int. in 0.672 acre, P. Reels Survey, Eagle Lake; 1-21-92.
Deed: Michael A. and Shirley A. Streckfus to Evelyn Kiesel, lots 11 and 12, block 82, Hvar Addition, Weimar; 1-22-92.
Deed: Lela Jane Koenig, et al, to Alwayne Smith, et ux, 12418 acres, Preston Gilbert League; 1-22-92.
Deed: Lela Jane Koenig, et al, to Madison H. Smith, 6.769 acres, Preston Gilbert League; 1-22-92.
Deed: Lela Jane Koenig, et al, to Kenneth M. Danilakis, et ux, 6.215 acres, Preston Gilbert League; 1-22-92.
Deed: Lela Jane Koenig, et al, to Dale

Hunt, 0.036 acre, Preston Gilbert League; 1-22-92.
Deed: Leroy Kocurek to Leon Kocurek, surface only of a 1.00 acre tract, Samuel Kennelly Survey; 1-22-92.
Deed: Alwayne Shimek and Martha Gayle Shimek to Edwin L. Wied, 1.730 acres, Preston Gilbert League; 1-22-92.
Gift Deed: Ena Lynn Buescher to Lynette Buescher and Donald W. Buescher, an undivided one-half (1/2) interest in 12.134 acres, James Cummins Survey; 1-23-92.
Deed: Steven F. Ritz to Robert G. McCandless, 69.994 acres, S.P. Birt Survey, R.M. Daugherty Survey and Wm. Phillips Survey; 1-24-92.

OIL AND GAS LEASES
Rudolf Dritz Sr. and Evelyn A. Dritz to American Trading and Production Company, 90 acres, Samuel Kennelly Survey; 1-21-92.
Ralph Lewis Prapart, et al, to Arka Exploration Company, 160 acres, James Hays Survey; 1-21-92.
Charles Kaechle, et al, to Enron Oil and Gas Co., 6 tracts, Wells Thompson Survey, et al, Colorado and Austin Counties; 1-23-92.
Charles Kaechle Trust and Clara Kaechle Trust for Royce Marie Kaechle to Enron Oil and Gas Co., 280 acres, G.H.H.R.R. Co., Section II; 1-23-92.

COUNTY COURT CASES FILED
Al William Carlin, driving while intoxicated; filed 1-27-92.
Robert Kutach, assault; 1-28-92.

COUNTY COURT DISPOSITIONS
William A. Coleman Jr., Columbus; theft by check; defendant failed to appear; state moved for capias for arrest; so ordered.
Cynthia Ruiz, Eagle Lake; theft by check (2 counts); continued.
Ike Pillsbury, Seely; hindering a secured creditor; continued to 2-12-92.
Shirley Peacock, Columbus; hindering a secured creditor; dismissed.
Anthony Ray Labay, Nada; driving while intoxicated; defendant plead guilty; court found guilty; fined \$500 + court cost.
Ramin Frank Garcia, Houston; possession of marijuana; continued to 2-26.
Samuel Crippen, El Campo; driving while intoxicated; defendant plead guilty; court found guilty; fined \$500 + court cost.
Gilbert Ruiz, Eagle Lake; assault; continued.
Ann Pavlicek, La Grange; theft by check; continued.
Clifford Kocian, Muldoon, Texas; theft by check; continued.

DIVORCES FILED
Wanda Marie Argo and Verlin Eugene Argo; filed 1-22-92.
Dennis Beatrice Hoffman and Jorge Isaac Hoffman; 1-22-92.

DISTRICT COURT CIVIL SUITS FILED
George Hagan vs. Dean Adamcik; note; filed 1-22-92.
Sher-Tex vs. Lawrence Wagner, Felix F. Kahar and Debbie Horvath, ind. and d/b/a PEC; suit on account; 1-24-92.
George Barnstone vs. City of Columbus and Laura Diane Ellis, individually; injuries; 1-28-92.

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