

Sales tax

received \$6,198.16, giving the District a \$42,634.00 year-to-date total.

The City of Houston's economy continues its expansion with a sales tax rebate of \$22.8 million in June, 15.3% above last June's \$19.8 million. Payments to Houston year-to-date are up by 11.9%.

The \$14.8 million local sales tax allocation to the City of Dallas for June reflects a 15.4% increase from the \$12.8 million rebate for the same month last year. The year-to-date increase in payments to Dallas is 10%.

The San Antonio sales tax allocation for June was \$8.7 million, up

3.8% over the June 1997 payment of \$8.4 million. Year-to-date, San Antonio has received a 10.1% increase in local sales tax payments.

The Austin sales tax allocation for June was \$7.3 million, reflecting an increase of 14.3% from the June 1997 payment of \$6.4 million. For the first six months of 1998, Austin's sales tax rebates are 12.1% more than those for last year.

Ft. Worth's \$4.7 million June sales tax allocation was 9.1% more than the City's rebate of \$4.3 million for June of last year, putting year-to-date rebates 9.1% ahead of 1997.

Arlington received \$4.2 million in sales tax allocation, up 10.1% from the \$3.8 million payment for the same month last year. Arlington's rebates are running 3.5% ahead of those for the first six months of last year.

El Paso's sales tax rebate of \$3.3 million was up 12.7% over the \$2.9 million payment delivered in June 1997. El Paso's local sales tax payments year-to-date are 5.4% ahead of those for the first six months of 1997.

June sales tax rebates to other selected Texas cities, along with their increases year-to-date were:

Abilene, \$1.7 million payment, up 7%;

Tyler, \$1.7 million, up 11.5%;

Mesquite, \$1.6 million, +6.1%;

Amarillo, \$3 million, +5.4%; and, Beaumont, \$1.8 million, up 4.3%.

Other cities in our area, the amount of their sales tax rebate this month along with the change from the same month last year are:

Columbus, \$57,413.12, up 10.67%;

Weimar, \$11,615.83, up 16.38%;

Sealy, \$90,322.51, up 80.60%*;

Bellville, \$20,782.24,

+28.92%; El Campo, \$140,732.75, up 15.43%; and Wharton, \$79,108.20, +17.46%.

Year-to-date for the above cities and the change from last year are: Columbus, \$359,323.86, +12.38%;

Weimar, \$64,897.48, +12.10%;

Sealy, \$570,682.45, +68.49%*;

Bellville, \$125,116.49, +14.00%;

El Campo, \$845,972.46, +5.78%; and Wharton, \$515,342.42, +3.34%.

On the county level, Colorado County received \$50,103.85, up 20.87% from last year's payment of \$41,452.26. Austin County received \$73,541.27, up 29.66%. Wharton County received \$96,064.53, up 9.36%.

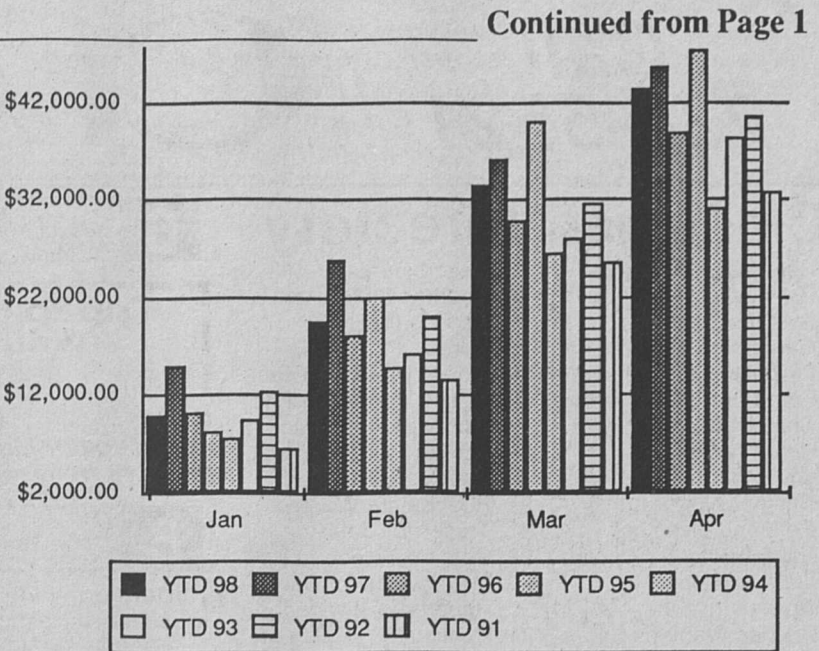
Year-to-date figures for these counties are, Colorado, \$291,823.11, down 5.60%;

Austin, \$447,556.09, +20.77%;

Wharton, \$595,986.26, +8.52%.

The Comptroller's next sales tax allocation is scheduled for Friday, July 10.

*Sealy increased their portions from 1% to 1.5% in Oct. 1997, therefore, this is not an accurate comparison.



The year-to-date totals of the City of Eagle Lake's sales tax rebates are charted against the month the tax was collected, not when the City received the rebate.

Newsbriefs

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Sponsor; or \$1,000 for a Gold Sponsor. The price includes dinner, dancing and cocktails at the Stafford Opera House July 18 beginning at 7 p.m. There will also be a silent auction. If you have any questions, call Tess Balas at 409-234-5705. Please make all checks payable to "Gala for Renee".

Head Start still recruiting

Twenty-four children will enter Head Start's comprehensive child care program at the Eagle Lake center this fall, but 30 can be accommodated. Because of this shortage of applicants, Stony Point Head Start would like to encourage the parents of children under five years of age to contact Andreana Ledesma to talk about eligibility.

Head Start is free to parents whose incomes fall below federal poverty guidelines. In addition to its educational benefits, Head Start provides meals and health and dental screenings to those children who are accepted.

Ledesma can be reached during regular business hours at Cen-Tex Family Services, 1-800-484-6634, code 7737.

Food safety training scheduled

A Food Safety Training Seminar will be conducted June 30 and July 1 at Oakridge Restaurant in Schulenburg and will cost \$99. The 15-hour course is an in-depth training in all areas of food safety for food managers and handlers and includes food safety, personal hygiene, storing food safely, methods of cleaning and sanitizing.

Establishments under TDH's jurisdiction can receive a 10% reduction in license fees annually. This course will be offered through the joint efforts of the Colorado and DeWitt Extension offices. For further information or to register, call Sally Garrett, Fayette County Extension Program Assistant-FCS, at 409-968-5831.

VBS at Methodist Church starts June 22

The Methodist Church of Eagle Lake would like to invite all children ages four through completed 5th grade to join them for a week of fun. The church will have Vacation Bible School (VBS) the week of June 22-26 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. All children of the community are welcome to attend and help celebrate our theme "Come to the Storytelling Tree." You may contact Carla Dopslauf at 234-2319 or Tanya Wiese at 234-7469 for more information.

Safe sitter workshop scheduled for July

Rice Medical Center will hold a Safe Sitter Workshop July 22 and 23 for boys and girls ages 11 to 13. Safe sitter is a medically accurate program that teaches youth how to handle emergencies when caring for young children. The workshop includes baby-sitting safety, basic first aid, rescue breathing, rescue choking and more. The cost is \$25, which pays for the Safe Sitter manual and materials. Anyone interested in more information or wishing to enroll in the workshop, please call Vicky Pavlu or Stephanie Guthman before June 22.

Attention all school-age golfers!

The Eagle Lake Ladies Golf Association is having its 5th Annual Jr. Golf Tournament (grades 1-12) Wednesday, June 24. Tee off time is 9 a.m. The entry fee is \$15. For information, contact Ernie Sommerlatte or Barbara Pidgeon.

Commissioners

Continued from Page 5

"We want to ask the citizens to be patient. It will take us some time to get the road signs up, especially since we are in our summer road construction program," said Precinct 1 Commissioner Richard Seifert.

The Court also voted to continue the countywide outdoor burning ban for an indefinite period.

In other business, the Court:

- Approved a bid for two batwing shredders, one each for Precincts 1 and 4, at a cost of \$7,780 from Potter Ford Tractor of Columbus;
- Approved an oil lease agreement

with Swift Energy Inc. for 9.57 acres at Osage Park in Precinct 2;

- Tabled the support of a resolution on the six-county merger of mental health and mental retardation centers until a snag can be worked out with Ft. Bend County;

- Agreed to allow Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Wied to purchase two used program cars, a 1995 and 1996 valued at \$20,500, from a Port Neches dealership;

- Moved the June 22 meeting to June 29;

- Authorized Slominski to submit a request to the state comptroller of public accounts for any unclaimed money from electric cooperatives to be used for economic development;

- Received notice that the Texas Department of Transportation did not warrant a caution light at the intersection of FM 949 and Bernardo Road;

- Adopted a resolution of respect for former Precinct 2 Justice of the Peace Olga M. Hefner; and

- Awarded fuel bids to Hoelscher Oil Co. and Colorado County Oil Co., both of Columbus, and Thomas Enterprises of Victoria.

Council

Continued from Page 1

"It's the City's policy that any time the water is turned on it's for both water and sewer. This is to insure that the vacant house doesn't suddenly become occupied and sewer used without the City being notified," said Holland. "The City must protect itself from unscrupulous rental property proprietors."

The minimum rate charge for sewer and water is \$10.60 and that's the amount in dispute.

Since Fajkus presented his complaint during the public comment portion, it was not an agenda item and no action could be taken.

Two more cable networks will be added to the present channel lineup in the rebuilt portions of the City's service areas, beginning June 22. The sought-after WGN baseball, children's programs and film library and Turner Classic Movies (TCM) will comprise the additions.

Police Chief Keith Webb discussed the issue of security for the Colorado County Fair. The Colorado County Fair Association has plans to approach the City for financial help for its security for the 1998 fair to be held Sept. 10-13.

It was noted that this is not a budgeted item and the City cannot legally donate funds to a non-profit organization. It only can only donate personnel and pay overtime.

In other business, Council:

- Learned that City Secretary Lucille Perry had received a plaque for Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This is the seventh consecutive award received by Perry and the City of Eagle Lake.

- Received word from Webb that two new police cars have arrived;

- Learned that the Park Committee is working on its final design;

- Approved a building permit for the Prairie Edge Museum to construct a steel shed across its back parking lot; and

- Heard a report from Mayor Michael Cooper that a form for suggestions and comments in regard to City services and departments will soon be available at the City offices.

Highlights

Continued from Page 2

schools. But he hasn't calculated amounts for the proposed stipends.

Ignacio Salinas, president of the Texas State Teachers Association, countered Bivins proposal, saying the Legislature should instead raise the pay for all teachers.

Salinas said Texas teachers' average salaries ranked 36th in the nation this year, and correcting that is more important than implementing a stipend program.

Other Capital Highlights

- Black and Hispanic civil rights groups filed a motion last week with the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to intervene in the Hopwood case when it goes up for appeal. The motion argues that the interests of minorities won't be represented well enough by lawyers for the University of Texas. UT System regents voted last month to appeal the 1996 ruling that ended race as a factor in higher education admissions.

- Democratic gubernatorial candidate Garry Mauro last week accepted an offer from KRLL-AM radio in Arlington to debate Republican Gov. Bush, but Bush said he hadn't decided whether to accept the offer.

- At its state convention this month, the League of United Latin American Citizens adopted a resolution denouncing the use of taxpayer funds for private school vouchers. Officials from the Texas Federation of Teachers and the Coalition for Public Schools applauded the resolution.

Linda Matura
is now at a new location...
She will be running
Rita's Beauty Salon
beginning Wednesday, June 24
Call her for your appointments...
409-234-2558

Happy 3rd Birthday Joland
Mom, Dad & Little Oliver

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Foot Facts

By Dr. Eric R. Tepper, Podiatrist
HELP FOR DIABETIC FOOT PAIN

One of the most common problems among people with diabetes is foot pain. In both insulin-dependent and non-insulin-dependent forms of diabetes, the pain is often described as a burning, shooting, stabbing, aching, or tearing sensation. Unfortunately, a person's risk of developing this neuropathy, or nerve degeneration, doubles within just five years of being diagnosed with diabetes. The good news, though, is that there is a wide range of drug treatment options. For mild cases, non-prescription topical products may bring relief. For more severe discomfort, choices include antidepressants (it isn't known exactly how they work, but they do in some cases), local anesthetics, anticonvulsants, and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

No one, and especially diabetics, should ignore any kind of foot pain. Quick, professional attention is the best assurance of a speedy recovery and prevention of future consequences. At Rice Medical Center, where we have office hours on Tuesdays, we want you back into your normal routine as comfortably and as quickly as possible - just like you do! We offer a complete range of nonsurgical and surgical treatments for your foot problems, and we are committed to helping you make the best treatment decision for your needs. Phone 234-5571.

P.S. There are still other promising treatments for neuropathy, from therapeutic massage to muscle relaxants. Ask your podiatrist!

Views On Dental Health

THE "T'WEEN ATTACK"

Brushing is good for cleaning the surfaces of teeth, but watch out for those areas between the teeth. A lot of dental problems occur BETWEEN the teeth. The best weapon for this "tween attack" (as well as the region under the gumline) is dental floss.

In earlier years, unwaxed floss was recommended. Since then, comparison studies have found no definite difference. As long as the floss is strong and thin, either should be okay for you. Don't be alarmed if you notice bleeding from the gum lining when you first start flossing. It means that the gum lining is ulcerated. The bleeding should stop after a few days of flossing. The bleeding is harmless. Each time you floss in the beginning, as you bleed, you are reducing the inflammation. It's like letting excess air out of an overfilled tire. When enough excess air is out, the tire rides better. Same with your gum. You'll see in a few days that it's pinker and firmer, and that the bleeding has stopped.

Presented as a public service to promote better dental health. From the office of JOHN B. MYRES, D.D.S., 700 S. McCarty Avenue, Eagle Lake, 234-3525.

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ELMS Cheerleaders' BBQ/Bake Sale
Sun., June 28
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
\$5.00 per ticket

Pick up at Austin's BBQ, 505 E. Main, Eagle Lake

Tickets may be purchased from any ELMS Cheerleader or on

Friday, June 19 and 26, from 9 to 12 at B&B Food, Eagle Lake Drugstore, Dollar General or The First National Bank

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