**Water Rates Finalized**

For Carthage Industrial Users

Carthage City Commission met in a special session Wednesday to consider increasing the water rate for industrial users. A vote was taken and approved by a 4-2 majority, with Commissioner Joe Davis and Commissioner Mike Brown voting against the increase. The new rate will go into effect immediately.

The current water rate for industrial users is $2.50 per thousand gallons. Under the new rate, the cost will increase to $3.00 per thousand gallons.

**Local Construction Boom**

Continued in February

Building on the momentum gained in January, the local construction industry is expected to see continued growth in February. Several projects are under way, including the expansion of the Carthage High School and the construction of a new office complex in downtown Carthage.

**Elections Draw Little Interest**

Except In Beckville And For Lake Board

Pakula County will hold its elections in the coming weeks with little interest expected. Only a small number of voters are expected to cast their ballots for the various offices on the ballot.

**Beckville School Board**

The Beckville School Board has announced the appointment of new members to fill vacancies on the board. The new members will be sworn in at a special meeting on February 1st.

**Eldery Will Petition For More Exemption**

In response to a petition from a local resident, the Carthage City Commission has approved an additional exemption for seniors. The exemption will allow seniors to receive a discount on their water bills.

**EAP: Starting College In High School**

In this issue, we discuss the benefits of starting college coursework in high school. We explore the various options available to high school students who wish to pursue higher education.

**Billiard Center Will Ask For Longer Hours**

The local billiard center is planning to ask for an extension of its operating hours. The center has been experiencing a surge in popularity and is looking to expand its hours.

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EDITORIALS

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FEATURES

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