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New Satellite Services Now Available On Eagle Lake Cable TV

What's new under the sun? Well for one thing, communications "satellites" floating 22,300 miles above us in orbit of the earth. While the television networks have been the biggest users of satellite video services to date, now Eagle Lake Cable T.V., with their recently constructed earth station receiver, will be providing a continuous direct link to the satellite. Cable T.V. systems are fast becoming the major means of this space age technology.

What does all this mean to Eagle Lake? According to J. D. Starks, Regional Manager of Communications Services, Inc., the parent company of Eagle Lake Cable T.V., "An agreement has been concluded which will make available an additional independent television station for distribution by Eagle Lake Cable T.V. The new station to be added to Eagle Lake's offering is WTBS, Channel 17 from Atlanta, Georgia."

WTBS, Atlanta, was the first independent television station to utilize a domestic communications satellite to distribute their signal to cable television systems across the country. On the air 24 hours a day, WTBS programming is oriented toward family viewing and features up to 40 movie showings and a heavy schedule of children's programs and sports contests.

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The project calls for a four-lane, divided highway from S.H. 71 to 110 about three miles west of Columbus. Estimated cost of the project is \$20 million, according to Bayless, up from \$8.7 million when the project was first considered publicly in 1972.

Bayless said construction of the bypass will take about three years to complete. The bypass is part of the highway department's plan to upgrade S.H. 71 between Columbus and Austin into a four-lane, super highway to handle the increasing traffic volume on S.H. 71.

Bayless said the traffic count on S.H. 71 in Columbus in 1978 totaled 9,900 vehicles daily, up 65 per cent over the highway department's traffic count in 1972 and up 30 per cent over 1977.

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24 YEARS AGO LET'S LOOK BACK

(Sept. 1, 1955)

Eagle Lake Garden Club will hold its first meeting at the Community Center, with the President's Tea, honoring Mrs. G. M. Cason as president.

W. A. Stallman was re-elected chairman of the ASC committee. Jesse H. Dye, founder of Memphis Concrete Silo Company, dies after a long illness.

Services were held for Mrs. J. A. Barnett of Lisse at the First Baptist Church in Markham. Carole Crim and Arline Gerson, both of Eagle Lake, will be twisters for the Starlettes at the Wharton County Junior College.

Funeral services were held for Sgt. Tony Garcia, 24, son of Pearl and Joe Garcia of Rock Island. Miss Diane Morgan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morgan, was elected the band's mascot.

Miss Jeanette Causey left for San Antonio to begin teaching as the Home Economics instructor of the Longfellow Junior High School there.

John Robert Lawson, brother of Mrs. Margaret Goodness died at Nightingale Hospital in El Campo. Miss Judith Anderson and J. P. White were married August 23rd.

Buck Flournoy scores in Air Force Golf Tourney. Master Raymond Russell Thomas was honored on his second birthday with a party given by his parents, Dr. and Mrs. R. R. Thomas.

Carol Jo Mendell celebrates her seventh birthday given by her mother, Mrs. Joe Mendell and Mrs. M. G. Lanier.

Kathleen Rees celebrated her third birthday with a party given by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Rees.

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Light Vote Expected On 3 Amendments Tues.

Voters in Texas will go to the polls Tuesday, Nov. 6th to cast ballots on three proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution and light vote is expected throughout most of the state.

Abstention voting in the election will end this Friday, Nov. 2nd, and the lack of interest is indicated in the fact that only 2 persons had applied for absentee ballots at the county clerk's office in Columbus through Tuesday afternoon.

Polls will be open at all eighteen voting precincts in this county from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Locally the voting will be done in the Eagle Lake Community Center with Harold Thomas presiding judge. In Garwood you may vote in the Lions Hall; in Nads at the Nads Gin Office; at Rock Island in the Community Center; in Sheridan at the School Gym.

The amendments are: No. 1, H.R. 108 to require the Secretary of State to appoint Notaries Public and to increase term from 2 to 4 years.

No. 2, H.R. 133, To provide for legislative review of the process of rulemaking by agencies in the executive department.

No. 3, S.J.R. 13 to provide to the guarantee of loans for the purchase of farm and ranch real estate for qualified borrowers.

In the 1979 regular session, the Texas Legislature also proposed nine other changes which will be voted on in the election Nov. 6, 1980.

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Mayor Urges Cooperation Of Santa Fe RR.

Mayor Elmer Struss has urged the cooperation of Santa Fe Railroad Company in helping to improve the city's transportation in the eastern part of the state.

In a letter to J. R. Fitzgerald, General Manager of The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company, Amarillo, Mayor Struss pointed out areas where the company "is falling short of its responsibilities."

The mayor's letter said, in part: "Following our conference (recently in Eagle Lake) work was done south of Hwy 69A on your ditch, and a new bridge replaced the inadequate culvert as promised. Crossings were boarded and roadbeds mowed."

"But nothing happened north of Hwy 69A to improve drainage. The culvert near Prairie Street under your track was never replaced. Ditches were not cleaned and grades checked. No regular mowing of the ditches and right-of-ways was done. There are small trees in your ditches yet! At our conference, all this was promised for the future."

"The City has mowed your Beaks Street ditch several times and only recently contracted a gradall to clean your ditch along Donovan Street to help drainage."

"Southern Pacific has recently done their share in a major ditch job."

"Furthermore, for your own safety, your roadbed at the State Street crossing is in a dangerous condition. Some of your track crew were alerted some time ago, but nothing has been done yet."

The mayor concluded by extending thanks for the work done and expressed hope the work and maintenance promised will be forthcoming soon.

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