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## EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

### Holidays Mean More Drunk Drivers

Holidays are supposed to be happy days. But every year about this time, an increasing number of drivers spend at least a night in jail because they were arrested for driving while intoxicated (DWI).

The number of DWI arrests starts climbing about Thanksgiving and usually peaks just after New Year's Day. The weeks between Christmas and New Year's and just before Christmas are especially hazardous.

Statistics show that a motorist is most likely to meet a drunk driver between midnight and 3 a.m.: 40 percent of the DWI arrests occur during those hours. In second place is the period between 9 p.m. and midnight, when 27 percent of the DWI arrests occur. Another 18 percent are arrested between 3 and 6 a.m., and 14 percent of the DWI offenders are picked up between 6 and 9 p.m.

If you're a drinking driver, you may be interested in knowing that averaging more than a beer an hour can make you a potential DWI case. Texas law sets 0.10 percent blood alcohol content (BAC) as presumptive proof of intoxication. Police figures show that nearly half the drivers arrested for DWI tested between 0.15 and 0.24 percent BAC. Another 28 percent tested between 0.10 and 0.14 percent BAC, with two percent — one of every 50 DWI drivers — showing above 0.24 percent BAC.

Because of the expected increase in drinking drivers during the holiday season, police officers will be keeping a particularly watchful eye on the streets and highways. Care and a little forethought in drinking and driving could mean you'll spend the holidays at home instead of in jail...or instead of in the hospital or even in the morgue.

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## 24 YEARS AGO
## LET'S LOOK BACK

[Oct. 6, 1955]

Les Zwernemann, owner of Shell Service Station, suffered two gunshot wounds in his leg. He was sweeping the floor when the broom accidently hit the trigger of the gun laying on the floor. . . Young Jeff Frnka, 20-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred R. Frnka, escaped serious injury when he was struck by a car in front of his parents' home. . . Billy Briscoe celebrated his fourth birthday with a party given by his mother, Mrs. Monroe Briscoe, and his aunt, Miss Mary Frybert. . . T. W. Scott returned recently from a hunting trip to Alpine where he bagged his limit of one antelope. . . Cattle were a menace on the highways of Colorado County being the cause of one wreck and almost causing another one. . . Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McNiel have finished moving in their new home located on Prairie Street. . . Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Causey of Karachi, Pakistan are the proud parents of a son and they named him Gordon Temple Causey. Mrs. Chas. W. Causey of Eagle Lake is the grandmother of Gordon Temple. . . The Eagle Lake Eagles are plucked by the Cardinals with a 46-6 lose. The Eagles will open the 1955 District 24-A football schedule with the Smithville Tigers in Eagle Lake. . . Mrs. E. W. Estlinbaum, Mrs. Joe Lee McCreary and Mrs. L. C. Zwernemann completed their training for Den Mothers. . . Rella Faye Smith of Oklahoma and Vernon Alvin Peterson, Jr., son of V. A. Peterson, Tulsa and Mrs. E. E. Hansen, Eagle Lake, announce their engagement and approaching marriage.

### Free Fiesta Dinner

Mrs. Sam Meitzen this is a ticket for a free Fiesta Dinner at the La Fiesta in Eagle Lake where you get the finest in authentic Mexican foods in a pleasant atmosphere. Clip this out and present at La Fiesta not later than Dec. 11, 1979

## Provide This Info When Reporting Fires

[Clip this information provided by the city's Volunteer Fire Dept. and place near your phone for reference in event of an emergency.]

The following information is printed to help those persons who may have to call to report a fire or other emergency.

You should write all emergency numbers on a note or post near your phone. They are usually inside the front cover of your telephone directory. The number to call for help from the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department is 234-2533. Persons living in other surrounding communities should check with their own fire department for the best and fastest call number. The Eagle Lake Department will support and back up any rural department on major alarms.

When calling in a fire or any other emergency one should give the dispatcher the exact location of the fire with the fullest description of the location, nature of the emergency and any other information that can be used to dispatch the department to the exact scene in the shortest possible time, route and with equipment that would be best suited to handle the situation.

You should give your name and telephone number if you are reporting a fire for someone else. This gives the dispatcher a contact number if any need arises.

You should go over these instructions with your baby sitter and children. After reporting a fire one should get out in the open as soon as you can safely do so. Material things may be replaced but a life lost in a fire is forever.

## Let's Look Back
## 48 YEARS AGO

[Dec. 12, 1931]

Big new irrigation project for Eagle Lake. Work gives employment to 100 people throughout the winter. System to water many thousand acres new land. New canals covering wide area will mean greatest forward move in Eagle Lake section's progress since advent of rice industry here thirty years ago. . Body of Lula Matthews, local colored girl, clad only in thin dress and without shoes and stockings, found in rice field Thursday morning. . . New Chevrolet attracts much attention here since debut Saturday. Many people are visiting Baring Chevrolet Agency to view new models which went on display throughout nation Saturday. . Recording artists will hold stage at Avalon Theatre next week. Opportunity to hear your own voice, and that of friends, recorded and played back to you during theatre program. . House occupied by Terrells at Ellinger destroyed by fire. Former Calhoun family suffers damage to household goods when fire destroys home during rain last Sunday. . . Noted writers spend two days at Lakeside Club. Irvin S. Cobb, humorist, and Robert H. Davis, world-traveled New York Sun correspondent, hunt ducks here. . . Five inches of rain here within week. . . College quartet will sing at Baptist Church Sunday. . . Mexican Eagle is killed in Berward. . . Little Theatre talent to give show tonight for fund for local charity. It is hoped a large audience will greet home players this evening when "The Patsy" is given at school auditorium. . . School will have 11 days Christmas holiday. . . Meeting of Mexican farmers to be held. . . Boy Scouts to collect old toys for Christmas. . . Claude Bodle makes good catch at Corpus.

## Attend WCJC Parents Day

Colorado Counties were welcomed to Parents' Day at Wharton County Junior College in Wharton by Dr. Jack Lassiter, middle, dean of WCJC college and student services; l. to r., Janie and Bernard Kristynik of Garwood, Dr. Lassiter, Gayle Thomas of Eagle Lake, and Lonnie Sommerlatte of Eagle Lake. Their sons are, respectively, Ricky Kristynik who is an electronics major, Michael Thomas who is majoring in allied health occupations, and Keith Sommerlatte who is a business major at WCJC.

## Christmas Cantata In East B. Sun.

The annual East Bernard Community Christmas Cantata will be performed this Sunday, December 9, 1979, at 6:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 609 Fitzgerald Street, East Bernard.

This year the combined choirs from the Assembly of God, Methodist, Catholic and Baptist churches, will be singing the work by Joe E. Parks, entitled "The Joyous News of Christmas," and will be directed by John T. White, Music Director at First Baptist. In addition to the adult choirs, there will be a performance by the combined childrens choirs. Mr. White will be accompanied by Mrs. Philippa Russek, and Mrs. Betty White, on the organ and piano respectively.

Everyone is invited to be in attendance for the presentation of this brightly inspirational cantata.

## Register For WCJC Spring Semester By Friday

Friday, December 7 is the final day to register early for the 1980 spring semester which begins January 14 at Wharton County Junior College in Wharton.

Prospective students should visit or call the registrar's office to pick up a registration packet and a time permit for registering. Registration hours are weekday from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the Administration Building located at 911 Boling Highway.

A three-day regular registration period is also scheduled January 8-10 but early registration has several advantages including more time for individuals to obtain counseling and career information from WCJC counselors.

The 1979 fall semester will come to a close after classes on December 20.

The entire college will be closed to observe the Christmas holidays from December 21 until January 7 when the administrative offices, dormitories and cafeteria- reopen for the new year.

The first in a series of faculty meetings is scheduled January 7 at 9 a.m.

A national ACT Test will be administered at the college December 8 and a test for anyone who wishes to enter the Dental Hygiene Program is December 21.

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## Public Hearing On Wallis Sewer Plant Project

The City of Wallis will conduct a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tues., Dec. 18, 1979, at the City Hall in Wallis. Purpose of the meeting is to afford interested persons an opportunity for written and/or oral comments on the proposed wastewater treatment facility plan as part of Step 1 Construction Grant.

Included are modifications, additions, and new facilities for treatment and disposal of wastewater in the City of Wallis.

## Open House At Colo. Co. Savings, Loan Dec. 14

Colorado County Federal Savings and Loan Association will hold a Christmas Open House at its offices in Columbus on Friday, Dec. 14th from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and-one and all are invited to attend.

Refreshments will be served.

"This is our way of wishing all of our good friends a very Merry Christmas," said Sam K. Seymour, Jr., president of the association.

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## Live Pet Coon Stolen At Fajkus Home

The theft of a pet coon from the Jerry Fajkus home at 219 West Waverly was investigated last week by the Eagle Lake Police Department. Mrs. Fajkus called Deputy Sheriff J. M. O'Connor, who was assisting here last week in the absence of Chief Bufford Ashley, at 1:30 p.m. Fri., Nov. 30th that the pet coon was missing. She told the officer that the coon disappeared the night of Nov. 28th but the incident was not reported until Friday because it was thought the coon might show up in the area.

Officers believe that the pet coon may have been grabbed off by someone interested in collecting the nice sum that the hide of a coon (estimated at around $25 or more) will bring this day and time.

Investigation of the theft continues.

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## Ralph McCormick To Publish Book On Local Recollections

Ralph D. McCormick of Bryan, Texas, and a former resident of Eagle Lake, Lissie and Chesterville communities for many years, has authored a new book, "A Prairie Kid Grows Up" which promises to be of great interest to residents of this area.

McCormick's new book has gone to press but it will not be available in book stores until March of next year. Until then, however, he is taking pre-publication orders for $6.00 for a paper back edition and $11.00 for a hardback book. After March the books will cost $7.50 for paperback and $12.50 for hardback.

The new book is dedicated to his "Mom and Pop" and combines thirty years of historical and reflective experiences.

"I call it a collection of recollections," said McCormick during a visit here this week.

He was assisted in compiling the collection of Texans by Ray Leighman, professor of English at Texas A&M University; however the style is all McCormick's.

Ralph grew up in this area and his book describes many of his experiences involving local citizens. He graduated from Eagle Lake High School in the Class of 1932.

"I will be happy to autograph any copies purchased, either pre-publication or after the publication," added the author.

The preface of the new book notes that "the contents are not to be construed as an attempted autobiography, but are to be viewed only as items about people and happenings that I have related as factually as I have been able to recall and record them. The stories relate to personalities, events and things as I saw them, heard them and sensed them through the eyes, ears, mind and emotions of a small country boy."

The preface continued: "During my life, there have been greater transitions affecting mankind's mode of living than had occurred during all preceding history. I feel fortunate to have lived during the era that has experienced the transition; therefore, I can more fully appreciate the impact this revolution to man's way of life."

If you would like to order one of the pre-publication copies, write to Ralph D. McCormick, 417 West Brookside, Bryan, Texas 77801 or you may call him at 713 846-8254.

## TFB President Speaks On 'Hidden Hurts' of Inflation

Texas Farm Bureau President Carrol Chaloupka told the TFB convention, in session this week in McAllen, that federal deficit spending must be stopped and the nation must adopt a constructive energy policy if agriculture and the nation are to prosper.

The state farm leader said two classes of people are being hurt most by the "hidden tax" of inflation-agricultural producers and those on fixed incomes.

"Agricultural producers must pay higher and higher prices for things they buy, but cannot automatically pass along those increases," Chaloupka said.

As for energy, the TFB president said agriculture uses a lot of fuel, and unlike other industries, cannot convert from petroleum and natural gas to coal.

Other points made by the TFB leader:

--Export markets have become vital to farmers; access to these markets must be protected, and sales efforts expanded.

--Farmers and ranchers must control agriculture; they should not allow government or other groups to speak for the industry.

--A viable rail and trucking industry are essential to agriculture. The Interstate Commerce Commission should encourage merger of railroads (where some are failing) to assure good rail transport.

--Since water is a valuable, renewable resource, the public should be willing to spend money to use it wisely.

On the subject of inflation, Chaloupka said that its worst effect is not economic, but in the "moral decay" of people.

Chaloupka questioned the need for Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland's series of hearings--one of them Dec. 6 in Wichita Falls--to examine and shape the structure of agriculture.

He said that labor organizations wouldn't permit the Department of Labor to hold similar hearings on labor.

## 2 Workman's Compensation Suits Filed

Two suits involving workman's compensation awards made by the Texas Industrial Accident Board were filed in this county last week.

On Nov. 27th, Texas Employers Insurance Association filed a suit against Woody U. Williams of New Ulm asking that an award made by the industrial accident board be set aside. Williams was injured April 3, 1979 while employed with Agrow Swine Corp. of the New Ulm area.

In a suit filed Nov. 29th, David Lee Carter filed suit against New York Underwriters Insurance Co. asking the court to set aside an award alled made by the Texas Industrial Accident Board. He allegedly was injured July 28, 1978 while employed by Superior Sand and Gravel Co.

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## GARWOOD AND NADA COMMUNITY NEWS

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### Christian Mothers Have Meeting

The Christian Mothers of St. Mary's Catholic Church met Monday, Nov. 26th at 3 p.m. in the parish hall. The meeting opened with a prayer led by the president, Mrs. Ted Schoellmann.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by the president in the absence of the secretary. A financial report was given by Mrs. Albert Leopold; correspondence read by Mrs. Freida Kubesch; and the recording secretary's report given by Mrs. Franklin Pavlicek.

It was decided to compliment Jessie Schultz on his 79th birthday with a coffee after the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday. Mr. Schultz has been blind for many years and is a faithful member of the Catholic Church. It was also voted to remember the teachers and the two faithful ladies who work to keep the church altars clean at Christmas time.

The meeting adjourned with a prayer for vocations led by Monsigner Victor Schmidtzinsky.

**Senior Citizens' Party**

The monthly senior citizens' party, sponsored by the Catholic Daughters, was held Wed., Nov. 28th from 1 to 5 p.m. Three tables of 42 and dominoes were enjoyed by the 19 present.

Birthday prizes and door prizes were given. Refreshments of cheeses, sandwich meats, assorted crackers and fruit salad and drinks were served.

The party adjourned at 5 p.m.

**Has Surgery**

A speedy recovery to Mrs. Lula Schoellmann who had surgery in the M. D. Anderson Hospital in Houston. She is at home now and doing much better.

Also, John Hoelscher remains in the El Campo Memorial Hospital, still a very sick man.

For all of these we wish for them a speedy recovery.

**Holiday Luncheon**

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Bunge entertained on Thanksgiving Day with a luncheon. Those who came were: Mr. and Mrs. Carl Halla, Loueva and Bunge Halla of Houston; Les Bunge, Alexis and Loris Bunge of El Campo; Loueva and Geneva Bunge of Garwood; Oscar Bunge of Garwood; and Mr. and Mrs. Buster Bunge of Eagle Lake.

Mrs. W. A. Stallman spent Thanksgiving with her son's family, Mr. and Mrs. Ned Stallman, in Columbus.

**Attend S.A. Bible Conference**

A few of the members of the True Holiness No. 3 Pentecostal Church, Sis. Ester Fitzgerald, Sis. Fitzgerald's children, Sis. Maggie Long, Sis. Willie Newton, Sis. Ella M. Dabney, Bro. David Long and Sis. Arilla Washington, attended their church's annual Bible Conference in San Antonio, held under the direction and teaching of the Bishop, R. A. Wauls. The subject for the week was "It's Time To Set Your House In Order."

The Bishop stressed that each person should check their lives according to the word of God and see what needs to be done, because the coming of the Lord is drawing near.

A delicious meal was served each day after the evening's Bible Study, reported those attending.

Mrs. Alex Orsak of El Campo and Mrs. Lucy Busek of Nada visited relatives and friends in Garwood one day last week.

**Seriously Ill**

Alfred Berger is still in St. Joseph's Hospital in Houston in serious condition. Best wishes for his quick and complete recovery.

Miss Barbara Tipton of Wharton is spending some time here with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Tipton.

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## County FB Wins Public Relations and Safety Awards

Annual county Farm Bureau awards in public relations, safety and membership were presented at the Texas Farm Bureau convention in McAllen this week.

Membership in the Texas Farm Bureau now stands at 249,210 member families, an all-time high. The TFB gained 21,131 members in the fiscal year ending Oct. 31. A total of 205 of the 213 organized county Farm Bureaus in Texas showed an increase.

Plaques were awarded to ten counties for outstanding achievements in public relations activities. Winners were Austin, Bexar, Colorado, Ellis, Fayette, Gillespie, Lampasas, Liberty, Tom Green and Van Zandt counties.

**Colorado County Farm Bureau received the 1979 TFB Safety Award for doing the most this past year to promote safety awareness.**

The ten counties with the largest number of members included: Fort Bend, Fayette and Wharton.

**Dist. 11 "Honor Dist."**

The "Honor District" award was presented once again to District 11, comprised of the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Brazos, Chambers, Fayette, Fort Bend, Grimes, Harris, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, Washington, and Wharton, for having the largest district gain of 3,972 members. The total district membership is 35,249 members.

## Rotary Ladies Night Xmas Party Tues.

The Eagle Lake Rotary Club will hold its ladies night Christmas Party in the Community Center at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday, Dec. 11th and a large gathering is expected for the banquet and program.

Frank Cullen is program chairman for the event.

Rotarians are reminded that this Thursday, Dec. 6th is the deadline for purchase of tickets for the social event, said George Welsch, president of the club.

**In Hospital With Pneumonia**

Family and friends of Clint Gertson, ten month old son of Mr. and Mrs. Gayle Gertson, join in wishing him a speedy recovery from pneumonia. He was admitted to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital Monday afternoon of this week.

## Auto Parked On IH-10 Near Columbus Stolen

A Boerne, Texas man who had trouble with his car while travelling on IH-10 near Columbus, and hitchhiked a ride to Houston last Friday, returned to the scene to find that his car, a 1972 Triumph TR6 Roadster, had been stolen.

At approximately 5:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30th, Frank Solis of Boerne reported to the Sheriff's Office that his car had been stolen.

Investigation revealed that Solis had radiator trouble and parked the vehicle near the Shell station east of Columbus. While at that location a colored man driving a black pickup truck offered Solis a ride to Houston, which he accepted.

Solis returned with a wrecker from Houston and found that his vehicle was gone. The car was last seen being towed by a black pickup truck being driven by a colored subject, according to the sheriff's department report. The investigation continues.

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