

### District attorney's race raises questions

By JOHN F. FEARING  
Staff Writer  
With the May 5 primary  
little more than two weeks

away, one local race and one area race are drawing the most attention. Locally, the race for county tax assessor-collector remains a three-way contest with Evelyn Thomas, Mary Ann Janocka and A. L. Behrens campaigning heavily.

For the 25th Judicial District though, the race between Bud Kirkendall of Seguin and 13-year incumbent Houston Munson of Gonzales has raised some questions in the minds of the legal profession here.

The most often heard comment concerns the position by Kirkendall that there should be no plea bargaining.

Also, the statistics used by Kirkendall showing very few cases are tried and many are dismissed are being questioned by some. "Statistics can be used however you want," was one comment heard in the courthouse last week in Columbus.

Munson, visiting Colorado County on Monday, was questioned about the number of cases dismissed and the number settled by plea bargaining, which is the practice in which the state and the defendant come to terms on the punishment and the offense (in some cases the offense may be changed to allow a somewhat lesser sentence).

Munson explained that for the first several years he served as district attorney, most of the cases he represented for the state were brought to trial, because attorneys for the defense were testing him. During his tenure, he has lost very few cases, so in more recent years, he said, most of the cases were settled through plea bargaining.

Munson pointed out two areas associated with trials and plea bargaining that appear to be important. The first is that a court appointed attorney, a practice used quite often in the district because of the economy, costs \$250 a day. When a case goes to trial,



Trees donated

The Dilue Rose Harris Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas have donated two crepe myrtle trees to the city of Eagle Lake. They have been planted on the town square by the Beautification Committee. The donation represents the completion of a chapter Sesquicentennial project by the Daughters of the Republic, in conjunction with the 150th birthday of the state. At left is Jeanie Marcella Mahon from the Daughters of the Republic chapter, and at right is beautification committee representative Carey Shuart.

### Many new businesses open

By CAROL REHAK  
Staff Writer  
If someone says something negative about the area's economy, these facts may make you think: At least eleven new businesses have emerged in the City of Eagle Lake and one business had changed ownership over the past six months.

They include Lone Star Pizza & Sandwich Shop, The Monogrammed Mallard, Jay's Beverage, Ed's Package Store, Airport Grocery, Kids Korner, Longhorn Cafe, General Hardware, A Touch of Class, J. H. McCreary Auction Co., and Riceland Ford.

Lone Star Pizza & Sandwich Shop is the most recent addition in town located at 222 E. Main. Manager of the shop is Connie Herman. Her parents Mr. and Mrs. Alton (Butch) Herman are owners.

According to Miss Herman, she has been extremely busy since she opened on April 9. She started the business because there was not anything else like it in town.

She offers pizza, a salad bar, sandwiches, soup, and a variety of desserts. Delta Savings of Texas officially opened a branch in Eagle Lake with a ribbon cutting ceremony held March 23.

Eagle Lake is the newest of the Delta Savings branches, according to Cindy Gohler, branch manager and loan officer.

The Longhorn Cafe opened for breakfast, lunch and dinner March 12. It is located at 1203 E. Main. Owners are Sally Stevens, and Richard and Sandy Smith.

They opened the restaurant and salon in hopes of supplying the residents of Eagle Lake with a good place to eat and drink. The cafe specializes in plate lunches and short-order dinners.

General Hardware, located at 312 E. Main, changed ownership on March 16. The business was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Barry Henry.

They bought the store for an opportunity to invest in a private business. Available at the hardware store are such items as Purina feeds, plumbing and electrical supplies, picture frames, and aluminum window screen repair and sales.

Airport Grocery is owned by Nydia Cantu which opened for business February 10. The store is located at 1002 North Lake and there is no other facility of its nature in the area. To the side of the building are gas pumps and inside, plenty of Mexican food.

## Our old air conditioner broke down permanently. I'm glad.

"I didn't see it that way at first of course. For one thing, it was July with the weather getting hotter every day. And naturally, we were concerned about money and how much we were going to have to pay for new air conditioning.

"As it turned out, the breakdown showed us how to SAVE money.

"Our dealer explained EER and SEER—efficiency ratings for air conditioners. The higher the number, the more efficiently the unit operates. He said we'd get the most economical service from one rated 8 or above.

"The people at CPL said the dealer was absolutely right: we should choose a model with an EER of at least 8. And they helped us figure the BTU slating right for our house. That's important, too.

"We hadn't been using the new air conditioner very long before we realized how much the old one had cost



us by using more electricity than necessary to do the job.

"Now I'm happy the old unit died. Our new system has an EER of 8.7—and it's made a difference! More cool air, more comfort. Lower summer electricity bills than we've had in years.

"Wish we'd looked into this EER business a long time ago..."



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# Houston Munson District Attorney

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For 15 years, Houston Munson has been a vigorous prosecutor, handling over 7000 criminal defendants. He is an accomplished trial lawyer, literally having tried hundreds of jury cases in his 22 years of active trial experience.

Munson believes in the rehabilitation of youngsters and first time offenders but he has been tough on drug traffickers and violent and repeat criminals. For instance, in the first four cases tried in 1984, Munson not only obtained guilty verdicts but asked for and received the maximum punishment allowed by law in each case. The last three were assessed 99 years each — two were murder cases, one was a repeat burglary defendant and the other was a drug distributor.



Re-Elect

# Houston Munson District Attorney

Box 42, Rt. 1 in Houston Munson, P.O. Box 99, Columbus, TX 76828

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## Easter Bunny pays visit

Saturday was the day the Easter Bunny paid an early visit to the children of Eagle Lake, compliments of the Chamber of Commerce retail trade development committee. According to committee chairman Fred Frnka, more than 300 children visited with the bunny, mostly the young set.



Justin Jobe, 3, and Brennan Jobe, 9 months, enjoyed their visit. They are the sons of Tracy and Kelly Jobe of Eagle Lake.



Stephen Krupicka took his turn too, while Karen stayed in her mother's arms. They are the children of Paul and Jo Ann Krupicka. Below, Marissa Mraz of Yoakum, visiting her Aunt Shirley Johnson, took advantage of her stay here for a bunny visit.



Some of the children were unwilling Bunny visitors. Above, mom smiles as her son grimaces. Below, when the bunny visited Duncan and son, the young son of a customer wouldn't have anything to do with the bunny until a candy Easter Egg was offered. At the bottom, photographer Carl Seaholm, Jr.

El Campo KC's Spring Festival  
The annual Spring Festival sponsored by the El Campo Knights of Columbus will be held on Sunday, April 29, 1984. An invitation is extended by Grand Knight John Hrocz and picnic chairman Leonard Goerig to all to come out for a good meal, games and entertainment for the whole family. A barbecue chicken dinner will be served starting at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are only \$3.75.

There will be an auction, and a drawing for \$50 cash, every 20 minutes from 1 till 5:30 p.m.

Brune Family reunion May 6  
The Brune Family annual reunion will be held at the Six, Peter and Paul Dining Hall in Frelsburg on Sunday, May 6th, 1984. A basket lunch will be served at noon (bring eating utensils) followed by a business meeting at 2 p.m. Tea and coffee will be furnished.

Come out and spend the day with all the relatives. Bring your family and spread the word, fun and entertainment for all.

The Public is cordially invited to the opening of

**Mann's Funeral Home**  
(Corner of State Street & 105th)

April 29, 1984  
2 P.M. until  
Refreshments will be served

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Owners

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If you have your car insurance with one agency and your home insurance with another, then chances are you're paying too much for your insurance.

Special recognition  
As part of the Come April Fest, all new businesses are asked to partake in the festivities that abide with the theme "Up, Up and Away," according to Candy McCreary. They are asked to decorate their doors with ribbons and balloons. The new businesses also will be announced over a PA system throughout the day, April 28.

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## W.C. "Bud" Kirkendall

For District Attorney 25th Judicial District

- Colorado, Gonzales, Guadalupe and Lavaca Counties
- Graduate of the University of Texas School of Law.
- Former briefing attorney, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.
- Practicing attorney in this area for over nine years.
- Former president, Guadalupe County Bar Association.
- Former president, South Central Texas Bar Association.
- Experienced in all types of trials.
- Licensed in Western District of Texas, 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, and U.S. Supreme Court.

It's Time For A Change  
Democratic Primary  
Saturday, May 5, 1984  
Your Vote and Support are Appreciated.

## Third Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt

Sponsored By  
**Rice Drug Store**  
Eagle Lake  
For All Children  
8 years or Under  
(3 years and under must be accompanied by parent.)

**Eagle Lake Primary School**  
Near Kindergarten Building, right side of driveway  
6 LIVE BUNNIES  
TO BE GIVEN AWAY!

Bring Your Own Bag to Scoop Up Your Eggs!  
Plastic Eggs will be provided and filled with:  
★ Gift Certificates ★ Money ★ Candy  
Must Be 8 Years Old and Under!!  
Come To Our Easter Egg Hunt  
Saturday, April 21  
3:00 P.M.

