

Call Crime Stoppers • 234-5555 • It Pays Rewards

MEMBER
Texas Press
Association

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

(USPS 143-740)
P.O. Box 67—220 East Main—(409) 234-5521
CITY OF EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS 77434-0067
Published Weekly—Every Thursday
ADVERTISING AND NEWS DEADLINE:
5 P.M. MONDAY

Produced By:
John & Jeannine Fearing
Marilyn Mueller
Shirley Lueddecke
Kay Clipson

Subscription Rates

Colorado County (including Lissie and Egypt) \$12.00
Fayette, Lavaca, Wharton, Austin counties \$13.50
Other Texas Residents \$15.00
Outside of Texas \$16.50

Single Copy Price: 35-Cents
Second class postage paid at Eagle Lake, Tx.

Address Corrections should
be sent to P.O. Box 67,
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067

RATE EAGLE LAKE

How Does Eagle Lake rate in your book?
It is a serious question. The results can be revealing.

FIRST:

Use The Following Scale:

A = Excellent; B = Good, but could be improved;
C = Just Average; D = Barely Acceptable;
F = Failing, not acceptable.

THEN:

In the far right column, put an X if you think there are opportunities for improvement.

	Letter Grade	X if can be improved
SCHOOLS		
SHOPPING		
ECONOMY		
EMPLOYMENT		
CITY GOVERNMENT		
COUNTY GOVERNMENT		
CIVIC PRIDE		
VISUAL ENVIRONMENT		
BUSINESS SERVICES		
MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE		
FIRE PROTECTION		

Fill this out, clip, then
mail or deliver to The Headlight

Just to be curious, The Headlight would like to know what you think about Eagle Lake. To go along with our series of editorials about "Eagle Lake At The Crossroads," we would like to know what you think about our community, and whether improvements can be made. It will take us a while to compile results, but those received by November 5 will be included in a tabulation to be printed in a November issue.

Let's Look Back... 24 Years Ago

(September 26, 1963)

Hugh R. Wilson of Alveston was re-elected chairman of the Colorado County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee. Also re-elected to the committee, which sets policies for the ASC program in this county, were George H. Salladay of Eagle Lake, vice chairman; Fred H. Froelich of New Bickel, regular member; Ted Schultz of Frelsburg, first alternate; and Milton F. Beken of Weimar, second alternate. The Columbus Quarter Horse Association will hold more exciting races at the track east of Columbus, off Hwy. 90, this Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Green of Garwood contributed a calf to the Garwood FFA chapter. Lloyd Krenzel will feed the calf for the chapter and the calf will be sold at the FFA sale in February. David Hengst took over operation of the Gulf Service Station off East Main Street Monday. The

station formerly was under the management of Herbert Lenard. Lenard plans to devote full time to his Lenard's Butane Co. Mrs. Ruth Baird, owner of Ruth's Hair Fashion in Eagle Lake, was guest speaker Monday in homemaking classes at Rock Island and Sheridan schools. Mrs. Dolly Lednicki and Miss Clara Nash, both of Eagle Lake, received numerous cuts and bruises early Saturday morning when the car in which they were riding went out of control and flipped over on Hwy. 90A just east of the Altair river bridge.

Mrs. Henry J. Labay of Garwood announces the engagement of her daughter, Joan Virginia, to David Earl Mahalic, son of Mrs. Louis Mahalic of Eagle Lake. The wedding is scheduled for November 23 at St. Mary's Church in Nada. Mr. and Mrs. H.J. Campbell returned home last week from Rye, Colorado where they had spent the summer at the western home.

control and flipped over on Hwy. 90A just east of the Altair river bridge.

Supr. E.G. Marshall of the Garwood public schools has tendered his resignation to the board of trustees of the Garwood Independent School District and left for his duties for a new field of labor. The corner stone of the Celly Memorial Methodist Church will be laid Sunday morning, during the 11 o'clock services. Funeral services will be held from the family home at 3 p.m. this Friday for Mrs. Ada Buffington who passed away Wednesday. J. Nathan, one of Eagle Lake's old and most highly respected citizens, passed away at the family home Thursday at the age of 87.

Congratulations are extended Mr. and Mrs. Cordell Austin on the birth of Marian Jacquelin, a beautiful eighth and one-half pound baby girl, born yesterday.

In the opening game of football in District 30A, the Eagle Lake High School Eagles lost to Sugar Land Friday night, 21-0. H.T. Neiswender, assistant postmaster, and Miss Tommie Woodbridge, both of Eagle Lake, were married at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Johnnie Havens, in Elizabeth, Louisiana on September 6.

Albert McMillan, who has been touring the southwestern part of the United States this summer in the interest of Holland's Magazine, came in Wednesday for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.A. McMillan. Saturday afternoon Mrs. Griff Thomas Jr. and Mrs. J.M. Chumney entertained the children of their Sunday School classes at the educational building of the Methodist Church with a party.

here proposed amendments 4 and 6 only, each of which I support. Our community is tightly tied to three economically depressed industries: agriculture, building materials and energy. Principally and traditionally we are dependent on agriculture. If we want to maintain that tradition then, I submit, we must determine the path to

Can anything be done to help Eagle Lake?

By JOHN FEARING

You bet it can. Be positive. To say otherwise is to admit defeat.

The question has been asked though: Will Eagle Lake become another Wallis? It could be worse. At least Wallis has a busier state highway running through it. Eagle Lake could fade further into the prairie.

Can we as individuals and business owners improve our community? Certainly we can. As I have said before though, it takes a coordinator.

That's why I suggest we use one of the best assets and community resources available to us to coordinate development activity. Hire a city manager, and pay him or her what it costs to attract a quality person, and re-write the person's job description.

The idea is that as a central clearing house, the city manager is the one logical person in the community that can be invited in to all other development activities we have created. Progress in the private sector has slowed way down. One reason, of course is

the economy. We all are busy keeping our own companies going. The second reason is that because our businesses are home-owned and home-operated, our first task is to coordinate our first task is to coordinate our business. Time available to give to volunteer service is limited.

I envision one person as the coordinator of community activity, with all other groups in town joining forces into a single force.

For instance, I've heard talk about establishing a Lions Club park next to the faltering swimming pool. Maybe the Lions and Rotarians could join forces to see that it gets done faster. Better yet, why can't we form a civic club made up of representatives of all civic clubs, male and female, and fund it jointly?

Then, too, think on a civic club but who are part of the chamber or industrial foundation could get together and decide what needs to be done and when it might be possible. Then, meet regularly to make sure progress is being made. It is more fun to do things together than trying to walk alone.

In other words, all of us could pull together in one direction, establishing goals together, and enjoy the satisfaction of seeing more goals reached. The final question remains. Which comes first, community improvement or economic growth? The latter is somewhat a matter of luck. But, if we can accomplish the community development, we will have improved our area for those who live here now. Show enough improvement, and economic development will come much easier.

Benefits, problems of living in Eagle Lake cited

For the second time in three years, the public has participated in a program to identify Eagle Lake's benefits and its problems.

Among the benefits, or good points, the most recent group said that because Eagle Lake was a small town, it was a good place to live. They also said they liked the quality of life here, the city's location and its friendly people.

Problems identified were a depressed economy in the oil and gravel sectors, lack of jobs, an economy dependent on agriculture and a poor fire impression.

There were changes in the rankings in the three years between the surveys. For instance, in 1984, people said "apathy" was the fifth-ranking problem. In the 1987 results the word used was "complacency," ranking 13th.

Also, in 1987, another problem cited was the lack of public transportation, yet in the past three years a non-profit organization headquartered in Columbus has used federal, state and local grants to organize a public van

transportation service. Another interesting note was that "Crime Rate High" was listed as the 16th worst problem this year, while on the benefits side of the ledger, "Security/Police" ranked 12th.

In another area, in the 1984 results, those at the meeting said the city's proximity to Houston was the tenth ranking benefit, but in the 1987 results, it is said it was the 19th worst problem, noting that retail sales are lost to Houston. The information was gathered on September 23 at the Community Center by a firm called Community Land Resources, Inc., which has been hired by the city to put together an economic development plan. It is being paid for with a state grant.

The information on what people like here, and where they think problems are, was gathered in a session called "Nominal Group Process Citizen Input Workshop."

Here are the top 20 items in both lists, side-by-side with the results from the same type of session conducted in November 1984.

Benefits of Living in Eagle Lake

September 1987

1. Small Town
2. Quality of Life
3. Location
4. Friendly people
5. Churches
6. Low Taxes
7. Generosity
8. Good Schools
9. Banking
10. Response of Medical
11. Wildlife
12. Security/Police
13. Slow Growth
14. Library/Museum
15. Fire Department
16. Airport
17. Wholesome Lifestyle
18. Adequate Water/Sewer
19. Recreation
20. Real Neighbors

November 1984

1. Quality of Life
2. Good Medical Facilities
3. Growing interest in improvements
4. Community Generosity
5. Friendly Town
6. Slow Pace - Small Town Atmosphere
7. City Public Services
8. Reasonably Safe and Secure
9. Good Schools
10. Close to Houston
11. Minimum Traffic
12. Desire for Growth
13. Banking/Financial Services
14. Low Tax Rate
15. Churches
16. Convenient Shopping
17. Non-Metro Size
18. Active Community Organizations
19. Mix of Income Levels
20. Problem Solvers

The problems in Eagle Lake

September 1987

1. Depressed Economy oil/Gravel
2. Lack of Jobs
3. Economy dependent on Agriculture
4. Poor Fire Impression
5. No future for Youth
6. No incentive for industry
7. Buildings/conditions
8. Drug Traffic
9. Drainage/Lack of Planning
10. Lack of Planning
11. No Specific Purpose
12. No public Transportation
13. Complacency
14. Resist change/Progress
15. History of negative civic leadership
16. Crime Rate High
17. Limited Housing
18. Lack of Business competition
19. Too Close to Houston/Retail Loss
20. Indifferent

November 1984

1. Slow Economy
2. Too dependent on Farm Economy
3. Not enough industry to keep young people here
4. Lack of Employment opportunity for youth
5. Apathy
6. City council responds rather than plans
7. Fixed attitudes
8. Upkeep of Property
9. Parts of town visually unappealing
10. Shortage of skilled workers
11. Lack of planning
12. Investment funds leaving town
13. Declining tax base
14. People leaving town for shopping
15. Lack of Local Retail competition
16. Inadequate housing
17. City is land locked (land not available)
18. Inadequate airport
19. Stagnant growth rate
20. Aging population

Vote FOR Amendments 4 and 6

LETTERS TO EDITOR

ward property in agriculture. It is my view that this route is in the direction of market opportunities which we have heretofore overlooked or which may not have previously existed. In order to accomplish this we will need to diversify our agricultural produc-

tion, directly market its products and become a processor of our commodities. This will take training or re-training of our labor forces and of our business community plus long term affordable financing. Proposed amendments 4 and 6 will make these opportunities available. They will supply the needed financial and business services which are required for us to work our way out of our economic stagnation. It has been estimated that if these amendments are passed, over 30,000 agriculture-related jobs will be created in our state over the next four years.

I encourage the voters to inform themselves about all of the issues and cast their ballots Tuesday. Among the many choices, I urge them to vote FOR Amendments 4 and 6. I will.

Sincerely yours,
George Casson

Colorado County Courthouse Report

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Pamela Charles Moeiler, 23, and Robin Suzanne Meyer, 22.
Henry Wayne Rabel, 21, and Kelly Camilla Tengler, 21.
James Edward Mensik, 27, and Regina Jo Barusch, 20.
John Kenneth DelDoto Jr., 23, and Carolyn Kelley Jackson, 36.
Clarence Baker, 52, and Leigh Ann Booker, 22.
John D. Gooch Jr., 31, and Jacqueline M. Leyendecker, 34.
David Anthony Easley, 18, and Deborah Sue Gordon, 27.

REAL ESTATE DEEDS

Deed, Henry Wright, revocable trust, to Shana Gertrude Wright, undivided interest in 160 acres, SA&MGR Co. Survey Section 19, 10-13-87.
Gift Deed, Houstona Blum to Carolyn Jean Widner, 28.1 acres, Alfred Kelso League, 10-13-87.

Deed, Elvie Koehn to Earnest Ray and Mary H. Corcoran, 84.774 acres, Joseph Thompson Survey, 10-13-87.

Gift Deed, Alice Tait to Rita Louise Huffmeier, Robert E. Tait Jr., et al, undivided interest in 839.07 acres, Jos. Hyland Survey, 10-13-87.

Gift Deed, Henrietta Buder to Joyce Cade, 31.9 acres, Alfred Kelso League, 10-13-87.

Gift Deed, Thekla Kuhn to Clarence J. Kuhn, Thomas H. Kuhn, et al, 2.064 acres, W.B. Dewees Survey and interest in to S. block 40, Rock Island, 10-13-87.

Deed, Hilda M. Trojan to Gilbert L. and Earlene M. Kiel, two tracts in James Cummins League, 10-13-87.

Deed, Billy W. and Karen Kay Brown to Gilbert L. and Earlene M. Kiel, 66 acres, James Cummins League, 10-13-87.

Deed, Mildred Johnson, Walter Taylor, et al, to Columbus Bible Fellowship, 3 acres, James Tummison League, 10-13-87.

Deed, Elvie Koehn to Earnest Ray and Mary H. Corcoran, 84.774 acres, Joseph Thompson Survey, 10-13-87.

Gift Deed, Alice Tait to Rita Louise Huffmeier, Robert E. Tait Jr., et al, undivided interest in 839.07 acres, Jos. Hyland Survey, 10-13-87.

Gift Deed, Alice Tait to Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait, 5 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Monica Lynn and Matthew Hagendorf to Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait, 5 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Deed, Robert E. Tait Jr. and Virginia Tait to Monica Lynn Hagendorf, 3.39 acres, J. Cook and W.B. Dewees Survey, 10-13-87.

Used farm equipment parts available through network

Eagle Tractor in Eagle Lake has expanded its business — and added another employee — to help farmers reduce the cost of maintaining their equipment.

"It's a small but growing salvage operation," said owner T. Lang. The company is dealing in used tractor parts, not only with what it can salvage in its own yard, but also through a network of about 260 other salvage dealers across the country.

If a farmer in this area needs a crankshaft, for instance, he might be able to locate it at Eagle Tractor. If it's not available locally, then Lang's parts man, Mike Marland, sends an electronic message through a computer system connected via satellite to the other dealers in the country. When those dealers check messages coming in to their machines, and have a used part Lang is searching for, then a dealership can contact Eagle Tractor through the same network.

Once he receives the customer's approval, the dis-

tant dealer ships the part to Eagle Lake and the sale is made. However, the customer is protected in that if the part is not acceptable or can't be used for some reason, it can be returned.

Eagle Tractor has had the system in operation for nearly a year, and business is beginning to pick up. Marland said they send 30 to 40 messages a day on the system.

In the last year or two Eagle Tractor has been searching for ways to increase its business, and also has added a line of non-O.E.M. parts that also help save customers money. The used, salvage parts, Lang said, are priced 40 to 60 percent or more below a dealer's new part price. New non-O.E.M. parts, Lang said, save a customer at least 40 percent.

The salvage operation's growth caused Lang to hire Marland as a new employee in the operation. He has moved to Eagle Lake with his wife and three children, from Needville.

History book of Eagle Lake nears completion

The final galley proofs and photographs for the *History of Eagle Lake* have been verified and returned to the printing firm, Fakin Press, Inc., of Austin.

Committee coordinator Wm. H. Harrison hand-delivered the corrected proof copies of the fifteen chapters making up the 609-page history book this past week and was promised delivery of the bound copies by December 1 (in plenty of time for Christmas gift purchases).

A blue hard cover binding with gold imprint will make the book a very attractive present. Over 250 old and current photographs taken by a selected group of photographers enhance the interest of the many items of history recounted by Eagle Lake citizens who contributed generously of their recollections of our past. Over 50,000 pages of back issues of *The Eagle Lake Headlight* were combed by the editorial staff for interesting items and news stories.

Reservations for the limited number of copies (there will be only one printing) are now being taken at the Eagle and David Winterman Library for \$30 each plus 2.10 sales tax. The out-of-town response to previous notices about the history has been most gratifying. The committee urges all who want one or more copies to place your order now with Becky Mills or Paula Johnson at the library.

Here are the top 20 items in both lists, side-by-side with the results from the same type of session conducted in November 1984.

Books will be available December 1 for all those making reservations now.

This old photo of the Dave Thomas farm operations, courtesy of Mrs. Ada Cook, is similar to photos in the book.

Books will be available December 1 for all those making reservations now.

This old photo of the Dave Thomas farm operations, courtesy of Mrs. Ada Cook, is similar to photos in the book.

Books will be available December 1 for all those making reservations now.

This old photo of the Dave Thomas farm operations, courtesy of Mrs. Ada Cook, is similar to photos in the book.

Books will be available December 1 for all those making reservations now.

This old photo of the Dave Thomas farm operations, courtesy of Mrs. Ada Cook, is similar to photos in the book.

Books will be available December 1 for all those making reservations now.

This old photo of the Dave Thomas farm operations, courtesy of Mrs. Ada Cook, is similar to photos in the book.

Books will be available December 1 for all those making reservations now.

This old photo of the Dave Thomas farm operations, courtesy of Mrs. Ada Cook, is similar to photos in the book.

Books will be available December 1 for all those making reservations now.

This old photo of the Dave Thomas farm operations, courtesy of Mrs. Ada