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A message from this newspaper and the Texas Department of Public Safety

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CPL Central Power and Light Company
People on the line for you.

Chase

Continued from Page One

According to police, the youth drove away from a truck stop after filling up with gas. An attendant called Sealy Police who contacted the Austin County Sheriff's Office. That dispatcher notified the dispatcher in Colorado County who alerted local officers.

Sam Trammel, a DPS officer, first saw the vehicle heading west on the interstate and gave chase but radioed ahead when the youth refused to pull over. As the boy neared Columbus, other officers got involved, including Columbus officer Jim Parcell.

The youth headed up U.S. 71 toward La Grange. Near that city, DPS and other officials set up a road block. When the boy saw the lights, he cut across the median and headed back toward Columbus.

With officers still in pursuit, the youth avoided another road block by turning off of U.S. 71 and turning left onto U.S. 90 heading through Columbus. Parcell said the youth kept his speed up through town and Columbus police chief Bill Smith said it was a miracle that no one in town got in the way. No one was hurt, Smith said.

The youth continued east of Co-

lumbus on the service road and when he came to the curve turning into FM 102 toward Eagle Lake, he dodged disaster by cutting down onto the interstate.

Officers from Austin County then set up another roadblock but the boy saw the lights again and headed south on Beckendorf Road. He cut into a rice field, with officers still in pursuit. At least his car and the Columbus car became mired in the mud. The boy fled from his vehicle and could not be immediately located.

The various police officers involved then stretched their units out along the road to be able to see from unit to unit in case someone tried to run across the road. Texas Ranger Ray Nutt asked for the DPS dog tracking units to be brought in. Several hours later the youth was found by the dogs about 75 yards from the stolen vehicle.

The Railroad Commission has published for public comment rules amendments that would exempt cer-

tain farm and ranch vehicles from RRC registration and liability insurance requirements.

Under the proposed rule change, a motor vehicle controlled and operated by a farmer or rancher and transporting the farmer's or rancher's agricultural or horticultural commodities would not have to be registered with the Commission or be insured with \$500,000 single limit liability insurance coverage. Vehicles used to transport supplies to the farm and ranch of the farmer or rancher would receive the same exemption.

The rule change has been published in the Texas Register for a 30-day public comment period, after which the Commission will consider permanently adopting the change.

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TEC has new toll free number

Mary Scott Nabers, commissioner representing employers at the Texas Employment Commission, announced today that a statewide toll free line has been installed in her office. The number, 1-800-TEC-MARY, is the first free access to be made available for people wanting to directly contact her state office. Commissioner Nabers represents 336,000 Texas employers.

"With these tough economic times business men and women need and

want assistance more than ever," commissioner Nabers said. "I believe this will be a much appreciated service."

Nabers receives over 100 calls a day from employers and/or employees. Many are responding to her weekly column, "Texas Business Today," which appears weekly in 207 Texas newspapers. Most are seeking answers to employment law issues and tax questions or want information on statewide services that are available.

Jeffery S. Lipperdt graduates

Coast Guard Fireman Apprentice Jeffery S. Lipperdt, son of H. Wayne and Linda S. Lipperdt of Eagle Lake, was graduated from Coast Guard recruit training.

Lipperdt attended the eight-week training at the Coast Guard Training Center in Cape May, New Jersey. Among the subjects he studied were

first aid, Coast Guard history and seamanship, communications, damage control, firefighting and physical conditioning.

A 1984 graduate of Rice High School, he joined the Coast Guard in August, 1987. His wife, Sondra, is the daughter of Wendall and Virginia Ward, also of Eagle Lake.

RRC proposes rule change to exempt farm, ranch vehicles from registration, insurance requirements

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Earlier this year, the Commission adopted rules requiring any individual or company which uses any motor

vehicle weighing 10,000 pounds or more to "transport property in furtherance of any commercial enterprise" to register the vehicle with the Commission and show proof of at least \$500,000 in single limit liability insurance. The Commission charges a \$1 registration fee per vehicle and a \$25 insurance filing fee when insurance companies register commercial vehicle coverage for their clients.

The registration and insurance requirements apply to commercial vehicles weighing 10,000 pounds or more by themselves, as well as to vehicles weighing 10,000 pounds or more when loaded or when pulling a trailer or towed vehicle.

The Commission drafted the registration and insurance requirements to implement Senate Bill 595 and House Bill 908 passed by the legislature this year.

are now classified as endangered in Texas," said Brooks. "That means anyone keeping one must possess a State Endangered Species Propagation Permit. The permit cost \$300 the first year and \$550 for each subsequent three-year period."

To keep a game animal, a person is required to have a Game Breeder's License issued by the department and may purchase a game animal only from another licensed game breeder. Licenses and permits are required for other species, including white-tailed deer and fur-bearing animals.

"The department's position is that wild animals are unsuitable and most often dangerous to keep as pets," Brooks said.

problem appears to be growing," said Capt. Stanley Brooks of the TPWD's Law Enforcement Division. "It seems that wild animals, both native and exotic, are becoming more popular as pets."

Brooks believes more regulations on the keeping of wild animals should be passed. "If an animal is not a game animal, or on the endangered species list, the department has few if any regulations concerning it," said Brooks. "In most cases, the only regulation for such animals is through city or county ordinances."

Brooks said progress has been made in the regulation of some species such as black bears, jaguars, ocelots and jaguarundis. "These animals

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Merry Christmas!



Joyeux Noel!



Froehliche Weihnachten!



Feliz Navidad!

Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce

CHRISTMAS SHOPPER'S GUIDE

Make Eagle Lake Your Christmas Shopping Headquarters

We hope the **SPECIAL VALUES** inside will indeed help you to...
Shop Eagle Lake First

Attend Mall Mania 1987 December 3, 6-9 p.m.

Eagle Lake history books are available

The best-selling book in Eagle Lake this past week was the 608-page, blue hard-cover volume of *A History of Eagle Lake*. Embellished on the front cover with a gold-stamped goose-hunting sketch by Eagle Lake artist Troy Cornman, the books arrived from the Custom Book Bindery in Austin on Friday, November 20 as promised earlier by the publisher. Distribution was begun from the office of the Wintermann Library, Eagle Lake Drugstore, Gifts of Distinction and Prairie Edge Museum. Seventy-two copies were mailed to out-of-town persons, most of whom are former residents of Eagle Lake.

Comments so far are generally along the line of "the committee has done a great job in compiling much interesting information." One reader reported, "my housework did not get done today; I picked up my book and did not stop reading for four hours."



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Ernest Mae Seaholm is supervising the loading of Eagle Lake History Books at Custom Book Bindery in Austin.



"Ricky Schroeder, of *The Champ* and *Silver Spoons* fame, was enjoying a weekend of goose and duck hunting at Blue Goose Hunting Club in Altair over the Thanksgiving weekend. He said he is looking forward to a return trip sometime in December.

"Friends of Jean Abel were glad to hear that her wreck last week caused no serious injuries to her or her grandchildren. Kenneth said she was pretty bruised up and stiff, but is getting better daily. Hope you're back to

100% soon."

"In last week's story on the middle school's release of balloons, the name of the "idea person" was not noted. We are told she is Mrs. Gwen Knight, an Altair native who recently returned to our area from Florida.

"Two local residents returned Monday from a four-day hunt in Sonora and both brought in nice size bucks. Kim Miller bagged an 8-point and Stacy Mueller brought home a 9-point.