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ONLY 9 Days Left Until Christmas

Broussard's Transcript
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Christmas Shoppers' Guide

Eagle Lake Headlight

December 17, 1987
 (USPS 163-760)
 Vol. 84, No. 38
 Eagle Publishing, Inc.
 P.O. Box 67
 Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067
 (409) 234-5521
35-CENTS PER COPY

Broussard case closes as shuffling for office begins

One chapter in Colorado County and another one opened — when Sheriff Jim Broussard resigned from a close on Thursday of last week — office after he entered a no-contest plea to one of six indictments handed down against him earlier this year by a county grand jury.

newsbriefs

Holiday garbage schedule

Eagle Lake city offices will be closed at noon Thursday, Dec. 24 and all day Friday, Dec. 25 and there will be no garbage pickup on Christmas Day. Also, they will close at noon Thursday, Dec. 31 and all day New Year's Day with no garbage pickup on Christmas and New Year's will be serviced early. The entire city's refuse will be picked up Thursday morning. Be sure to have your garbage out early as the workers plan to finish by noon.

First National Bank open house

First National Bank of Eagle Lake will hold an open house Monday, December 21 through Thursday, December 24 during working hours. Also on Tuesday, December 22 an appreciation reception honoring Earl Rodgers, who is retiring after 17 years of dedication service, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Special services this Sunday

Area churches have announced special services this Sunday, December 20. They are as follows:
 Friendship Missionary Baptist Church will have a pastor's aide annual day program this Sunday beginning at 3 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. J. Goff of Bethany Missionary Baptist Church in Houston. Dinner will be served.
 Lissie United Methodist Church in Lissie will hold a Candlelight Service at 6 p.m. Sunday. Rev. Earl Lock invites the public to attend.
 Rev. A.E. Plathmann announces a children's Christmas program will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday at Zion Lutheran Church in Sabine.
 The First Baptist Church will present a Service of Candles and Carols this Sunday, December 20 at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Melburn Sibley invites the community to join in the spirit of Christmas by attending this service.

Free food distribution Thursday

Combined Community Action, Inc. (CCA) will distribute USDA surplus food in Eagle Lake at Providence Baptist Church, 1207 E. State Street from 1:30-3:30 p.m. this Thursday, December 17. They also will be at the CCA Community Center, 903 Preston in Columbus on December 17 from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Information on eligibility requirements for the Emergency Food Assistance Program may be obtained from local CCA Community Service Center, or the office in Smithville (512) 237-2434.

Santa Claus to visit Dec. 19-21

Santa Claus will be at the corner of Walnut and Prairie Streets, across from the United Methodist Church, for any children who wish to tell him what they want for Christmas. Come by anytime between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, December 19 through Monday, December 21 to visit with Santa.

Chamber to meet December 21

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce will hold its regular monthly meeting Monday, December 21. The noon meeting will be held at The Farris 1912.
 A full meal will be \$6. Soup, salad and a dessert will be \$5. For other prices contact the Farris 1912.

Christmas films set at library

Children of the community, ages four and up, are invited to enjoy Christmas films that will be shown at the Wintermann Library on Tuesday, December 22 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Christmas films scheduled to be shown include "Christmas Carols" and "Snowman."

Christmas play tonight at ELMS

This Thursday, December 17 the Eagle Lake Middle School fifth grade students will present the Christmas play "Levi and the Christmas Starship." It's a musical "close encounter" of the Christmas Eve kind and all sorts of magical, unexpected things can happen on a night like this one. Even an alien visitor with an important message is not too surprising on Christmas.
 The program will be held at 7 p.m. in the Eagle Lake Middle School gym. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Santa to visit on Melody Lane

Residents in Meadowbrook Addition on Willow Lane and Melody Lane in Eagle Lake invite one and all to come by to view the Christmas decorations now in full lighted color. Among the attractions in the Meadowbrook Addition will be the appearance of Santa Claus in his sleigh at 618 Melody Lane from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, December 19 only.

Appreciation service Sunday

The Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church will present an appreciation service honoring Sister Nannie Jo Castle for 43 years of service. The special service will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday, December 20 at Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 709 N. Lake in Eagle Lake.
 Rev. Rudolph Kiser Sr., pastor of the church, will present a special sermon for the occasion. Guest churches and their pastors include Providence Baptist Church, Rev. C. Shorter Jr.; Rising Star Baptist Church, Rev. O. Scott; White Cloud Baptist Church, Rev. O. Rhodes; Friendship Baptist Church, Rev. R.J. Williams; Booker Memorial Temple, Rev. Carl Evans; Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Rev. A.J. Jones.
 The public is cordially invited to attend.

plea bargain arrangement. Because the public did not have the opportunity to witness the hearing, The Headlight is publishing a complete transcript of the event on Page Two of this issue.

In that hearing, the judge reduced the charge from a felony to a misdemeanor and found Broussard guilty of "official misconduct (misapplication)." The result is that Broussard was required to pay \$103 court costs. Because Colorado County Commissioners told special prosecutor Jim Vollers in their closed-door meeting that they did not want to seek restitution, Judge Blackwell did not order any be paid.

Broussard had been charged with misapplying about \$16,000 of the sheriff's department had received from the sale of items confiscated in connection with a drug arrest. He also was charged with destroying government records, and for lying to the grand jury.

As part of the plea bargain, the state agreed to drop the other five indictments. Broussard resigned as sheriff, effective Dec. 28, agreed not to seek re-election and will be on probation for one year. Successful completion of the probation means he will not have to serve the one year county jail sentence, nor pay the \$500 fine, meted out by Blackwell.

Commissioners, during their Monday meeting this week, discussed that situation. They agreed to interview applicants for sheriff on Dec. 22, and make an appointment at their meeting on Dec. 28.

Part of the discussion about the appointment concerned whether they should appoint someone who will not be a candidate for the office in the March primary. Some feel that appointing a candidate gives that person an unfair advantage in the election.

Ed Woolery-Price seeking re-election

Ed Woolery-Price announced on Monday, December 14 that he intends to seek re-election as county attorney for Colorado County in the 1988 Democratic Primary.

The 1988 Democratic Primary will be held Tuesday, March 8.

Matthews suffers heart attack Friday

John Matthews, of Eagle Lake, suffered a heart attack Friday evening, December 11 while attending a dance at Stafford Opera House in Columbus.

He was hospitalized at the Columbus Community Hospital Friday evening and transferred to St. Luke's Hospital in Houston on Monday for further tests. Tuesday morning it was reported that John underwent quadruple bypass heart surgery at noon and is doing fine. Tentative discharge is next Wednesday.
 A speedy and complete recovery is wished for him.

Tommy Pilkington buried Monday

By FRED R. FRNKA

The illustrious and joyful life of a man of many talents and a friend to all, John Thomas Pilkington, 68, known to relatives and friends as Tommy, ended when he succumbed to serious illness at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital on December 12. Tommy had been fighting cancer for the past six months. His untimely death has created great sadness for his loved ones and friends throughout the area.

Funeral services for Tommy were held at 2 p.m. Monday, December 14 from the Dulany Funeral Home Chapel in Eagle Lake. A very large gathering paid final respects and tribute to a very special person who touched so many lives with his special personality. Tommy's selfless service to his country, community, friends and family shall be remembered for years to come. Rev. Melburn Sibley, pastor of First Baptist Church, and Rev. George Welch, rector of Christ Episcopal Church, officiated at the service. Taped favorite organ hymns were rendered during the service.
 Tommy was laid into his eternal place of rest at Lakeside Cemetery in Eagle Lake. Eagle Lake area Memorial Post 8783 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars conducted military rites during the graveside services.
 Serving as pallbearers were Dan A. Thomson, J.R. Thomas, L.J. Spaniel, Willie B. Christal, Joe N. Fratar, Manuel Altamir, Clyde P. Brown and Tommy Smith. The family named as honorary pallbearers David R. Wintermann, Jack Johnson, Walter L. Bauer, Fulton M. Dromppole Sr., Larry Dulany, Bob Ashby, Joe D. Lana, Gus Seasholtz, Steve Balas, Dr. Jose Ugarte, Dr. Raymond R. Thomas, Fred R. Frnka, Johnny Meitzen, Michael Henry, employees of the Lower Colorado River Authority and Winko Inc., members of Eagle Lake area Memorial Post 8783 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and of the Eagle Lake Masonic Lodge, A.F.A.M. No. 366.
 Tommy was born June 5, 1919 in Compton, California, the son of George and Martha Furr Pilkington. Tommy and Miss Helen Horn were united in marriage in a ceremony May 29, 1949 at Colly Memorial Methodist Church in Eagle Lake.
 Surviving to mourn the loss of this loved one are his widow, Mrs. Helen Horn Pilkington, who was his faithful companion and was at his side throughout his long illness; a son, John T. Pilkington Jr. and wife, Diane, of Wharton; a daughter, Mrs. Glenn (Kay) Harbers and husband, Glenn, of East Bernard; four grandchildren, Christopher and Ross Pilkington of Wharton and Sharon and Rebecca Harbers of East Bernard, and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and a half sister, Mrs. Thelma Christensen.
 Tommy had served his country in the United States Army in the Corps of Engineers with considerable service in the Pacific Theatre during World War II. He attained the rank of Captain while on active duty and in the U.S. Army Reserve. He received an honorable discharge on October 11, 1955.
 Following his release from active duty at the end of World War II, Tommy, a man of many talents, worked as a shipper and stunt man in the movie industry in California. A short time later he came to Eagle Lake and joined the staff of Excel Smith Oilfield Contracting. A few years later he joined the staff of Eagle Lake Rice Dryer and later Wintermann and Company and Lakeside Irrigation Co. of Eagle Lake as construction superintendent. He worked with the Wintermann enterprises for almost 40 years up to the time serious illness curtailed his activity. When Lakeside Irrigation was sold to the Lower Colorado River Authority, Tommy was called upon to bring his expertise to that entity. He took a two-year leave of absence from Wintermann companies to assist in the transition of the irrigation company. During that time he served

On Friday Vollers told the Headlight that the Dec. 28 date for the effective resignation was Broussard's idea because Broussard "wanted to do an inventory and help commissioners make an easy transition."

Actually, Vollers questioned the date, saying "quite frankly there is a question in my mind that legally the office is (now) vacant, but that is their problem to wrestle with. My understanding (of the law) is that (the guilty verdict and sentencing means) an automatic removal (from office) but that is not a matter I was hired to determine."

If Vollers is correct, Broussard can no longer claim he is the county sheriff, and Esterling automatically becomes acting sheriff until commissioners make an appointment.

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Jim Broussard

City to begin flouridation

The city of Eagle Lake is to begin flouridation treatment of the city drinking water this week. Planning for the project has been underway since 1984 when the city applied for a grant from the Texas Department of Health.
 The Headlight is preparing a complete article to further explain the benefits of the program.



Santa visits Eagle Lake

Santa Claus was in town last Saturday and was on the Chamber float in the annual Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade. From 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Santa visited with more than 600 children, listening

to what they wanted for Christmas. The children received a bag of goodies, which consisted of an orange, apple, candy and a free ticket to enjoy one of the rides provided by the Chamber.

Continued on Page Fourteen