



## THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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CITY OF EAGLE LAKE,  
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## An editorial opinion...

## I would appreciate it, too

By Jeannine Fearing, Publisher

Last week we received a note from one of our subscribers in El Campo concerning the delivery of her paper. She wrote, "I would appreciate getting my paper at least on Friday instead of Tuesday of the next week. If this keeps up I will cancel my subscription." Unfortunately, I'm afraid that is the consensus of opinion among our subscribers who depend on the Houston Sectional Centers of the U.S. Postal Service to handle their mail. We really do mail the papers on Wednesday afternoon. The truck from Houston picks them up at 5 p.m. So, tell me why is it this lady does not receive her paper for six days? A turtle would be faster.

I'm told, by other publishers, that there are complaint forms at the post office which can be filled out by mail recipients. I and my staff have complained numerous times to the local postmaster as well as Houston. We have changed the way we group the papers together for mailing; we have changed the way we tag the bags; we have tried everything in our power to get the mail moving. Our local postmaster has wracked his brain trying to help. We've tried it all.

Now, we need the help of our subscribers.

If your paper doesn't reach you in

what you believe to be a "reasonable length of time," don't just call us, fill out one of those complaint forms at your local post office. Keep on doing it until, if ever, things get straightened out.

We in the newspaper business have been hit with multiple rate increases since the last time the cost of *The Headlight* was raised. But, because of the problems in delivery among other things, the yearly subscription cost has remained the same for several years.

Believe me when I say, I know how frustrating it is for you to have to wait so long to receive each issue we produce. Just try to imagine how we would feel if you were the one writing the check every week to the postal service to deliver those papers.

Yes, newspapers have a special rate; we do not pay for first class, but we do pay weekly. Second class permits require weekly payments and detailed reports, but it would be worth it if the papers were handled as they are supposed to be. Papers with the permits are supposedly rated just below first class mail and ahead of all other types of mail.

With the hope of alleviating congestion at the original Houston Sectional Center, the postal service opened a new one called "North Houston." This addition was made in order to speed up mail delivery which passed through the city, but it has done nothing but slow it down. We in this area had better delivery times when there was only one center. Seems computerizing and expanding did nothing but create more of a bottle neck.

So, now that you know all this, do any of you have the answer?

The County of Colorado shall conduct a Public Hearing to advise the public about the Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) and to obtain comments for a proposed application. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the proposed project, the amount of funds to be requested, and the estimated amount of funds to benefit low/moderate income persons. There is no displacement of persons anticipated under this project.

The Public Hearing shall be held on August 26, 1991, at 5:00 P.M., at the New Hope Baptist Church in Garwood. The application shall be available for review at the County Judge's office during regular business hours. Access assistance for handicapped persons shall be available at the hearings.

## New taxes... good politics?

One of the biggest myths in the state may be the idea that Texans hate new taxes, because, in fact, new taxes may be good politics.

After all, the Legislature has raised taxes and fees almost every year since 1984 with very little change in the membership.

But it's also good politics to claim to hate new taxes, and the current legislative leadership is no exception. They all said they hated new taxes; they swore it just before they jacked up state spending by 21 percent and hit the taxpayers for almost \$3 billion in new money.

There is one exception: Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock is unapologetic and unabashed about his goal to create a state income tax in Texas.

Last week, the smoke had hardly cleared from his ramrodding of the budget and tax bill when he disowned both as "no real progress."

Doing The Impossible

After the House admitted defeat on the issue and handed an unbalanced budget to the Senate, Bullock did the impossible: he got the Senate version adopted in the House within a scant two days, just beating the deadline.

He did it by corraling Capitol lobbyists in a meeting that left them with no doubt how important it was to pass the new tax bill.

Having neutralized them, he sailed his tax bill through the Senate and then crossed the rounds to sit in the House chamber.

Inspiring, Intimidating

The House would need 100 votes to pass the bill on third reading, thought impossible since the House had earlier shredded Rep. James Hury's tax bill beyond recognition.

## Voters Unpredictable

Republicans will argue, and correctly so, that the only way to stop a state income tax in '93 is to elect 51 GOP House members or 12 GOP state senators.

Conservatives in both houses hope that the income tax issue will kick-start the clean house movement they need to topple Democrat dominance.

In '92, with a popular Texan in the White House in a presidential election year, Republicans have an edge they lacked with Clayton Williams leading their ticket.

But Bullock didn't dust off the state income tax issue for the benefit of Republicans, and after 25 years of service in state government, he knows as well as anyone how much unpredictable voters can or will tolerate.

He explains that Texas will realize that the only relief for high sales and property taxes.

Other Highlights

"The director of the National Indian Gaming Association said he will urge Texas tribes to run unregulated, untaxed lottery games if voters approve the lottery on the November ballot."

"Gov. Richards is expected to set a special election in late September or early November to replace the late state Rep. Larry Evans of Houston, who died during the session from an adverse reaction to cocaine."

"Interests for video poker and blackjack machines say they will push for a market in Texas if voters approve the lottery."

Meanwhile, Sharp praised the Legislature for adopting many of his

Lottery Next July

Comptroller John Sharp said Texans could be playing the state lottery by July 1 if voters approve the game Nov. 5.

Sharp said scratch-off lottery tickets initially would be sold, and more complex games would follow about six months later.

The lottery is projected to bring about \$460 million into state coffers during 1992-93.

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State Capitol Highlights

By Lyndell Williams

Texas Press Association

count.

When asked how he thought this tumultuous session would be remembered, House Speaker Gib Lewis said he hoped no one would remember it.

Calts for Income Tax

Indeed, they may not remember it, for the next day Bullock called again for the Legislature to end high sales and property taxes by adopting a personal income tax.

Whether that is good or bad politics by Bullock, it certainly trumps the battle theme for the '92 state elections and makes last week's tax hike seem like small potatoes.

Republicans in the Legislature, ineffectively the minority party in both chambers, plan to use Bullock's state income tax plan against all Democrats.

## Guest editorial by Senator Jim Turner

Sometimes in the Legislature, we get so involved with a problem that we forget about what it really means to Texans. In weeks of working on a crisis in our prisons and county jails, we have concerned ourselves with allocation formulas and timetables and court orders, but we have often failed to see the real significance of what we are doing. The people of Texas, on the other hand, know very well how important this problem is. They know it is quite literally, a matter of life and death.

Texans no longer feel safe in their homes and communities, because Texas' criminal justice system has broken down. Fixing it is not just a matter of building more prisons and settling a lawsuit. We owe it to the people of Texas to overhaul the system, to design a policy that will keep violent criminals behind the bars and give law enforcement the tools to prevent and deter future crime. If we cannot protect our people, then all of us in government have failed.

During the special session we will introduce a comprehensive criminal justice reform. In short term, it will help relieve the crowding in our county jails. State-ready inmates account for 40 percent of the total county jail population, and that is not acceptable. The backlog has made state and county leaders adversaries at a time when they should be allies in dealing with crime. Our legislation clears the way for a true partnership between state and county government by implementing these long-term strategies for controlling crime:

1. Regain control of our prison system. Since a federal judge ruled against the state in the Ruiz case, the state prison system has been overseen

by courts rather than by those elected to do the job. We are working with the Attorney General to get Texas out from under that court decision and give the state control of its own prison system.

Reclaiming responsibility for the prison system will allow the state to pursue more options for dealing with criminals, such as boot camps, military barracks and temporary housing. Those housing options would help us relieve the backlog while providing a deterrent against future crime.

2. Involve communities in law enforcement. Citizens and local law enforcement officers know more about crime in their own communities than we could ever learn in Austin, and they have direct stake in maintaining law and order. We should give them the tools and the flexibility to deal with problems at the local level, by establishing community justice councils, lifting some regulations on county jails, improving law enforcement technology and providing grants to communities with successful criminal justice programs.

Preventing crime cannot bring in prisons. It must begin in our neighborhoods, with a cooperative, organized effort in the community, with support from the state. Communities have a vested interest in ensuring prompt apprehension and punishment for those who threaten public safety.

3. Use prison resources wisely. For years, politicians have talked about being tough on crime, while crime has kept getting worse and

worse. We have to be tough, but we also have to be smart. It makes no sense to talk tough and give a criminal a 10-year sentence when you know he will get out in 10 months. Nor does it make sense to release murderers and rapists early so you can lock up more minor offenders.

We must take a long look at how we use the scarce resources in our prison system. Our sentencing laws should be designed to put violent criminals behind bars for as long as possible, while developing appropriate punishments for less dangerous offenders. Restitution, work details and boot camps would punish these criminals without wasting prison space, and a little work and discipline wouldn't hurt them at all.

Texans didn't send us to the Legislature to talk about crime. They sent us here to do something about it, and we're long overdue. All of our well-intentioned programs in state government will mean nothing if we don't deal with crime, because a society that doesn't feel safe will not survive.

History shows that civilizations can be destroyed from within by violence and lawlessness, and we cannot afford to ignore to confront this challenge with a unified effort. In the end, we will either come together to solve this problem or watch our society come apart.

Senator Jim Turner, who represents District 5 in the Texas Senate, was asked by Governor Ann Richards to lead effort to resolve the prison crisis.

The daily papers of Wednesday carried the announcement that Brig. Gen. Harry H. Johnson, son of H.S. Johnson of Eagle Lake, was in line of promotion as Major General.

The graduation and promotion to Staff Sergeant of William N. Foster, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Foster of Garwood has been announced at AAF Flexible Gunners School, Fort Myers, Florida.

Lon Muzny, Jr. passed his physical in Houston last Friday and following a few days' furlough will leave tonight for San Antonio to join the colors.

A kindly note from Mrs. C. L. Rasmussen of Crosby, a former resident of Eagle Lake, states that Mr. Rasmussen is now in the service, having been drafted Jan. 7.

December 29, 1966

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Bill Blair of this city fortunately escaped serious injury when his car struck a large electrical pole head-on on Main Street at 1:50 a.m. Sunday, reported Patrolman Miller. Blair was traveling west, apparently went to sleep and struck the pole with the front center of his car.

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Thomas announce the engagement of their daughter, Linda, to Stephen Kent Balas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Balas.

WHEREAS, The independent community banks of Texas have made many significant contributions to the economic well-being of this state for the past 100 years by providing vital support to enhance the growth and prosperity of the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, There are more than 1,200 locally owned and operated independent banks in Texas, with more than 2,000 banking offices located in small towns, rural areas, suburbs, and cities throughout the state; collectively, these banks represent more than \$79 billion in assets, 105,000 shareholders, and \$25 million account holders statewide; and

WHEREAS, As active participants in their communities, these

(See Banking Week, Page 11)

## MAMMOGRAMS

\$60

- ☆ State-of-the-Art, In-House Dedicated Unit
- ☆ Includes Interpretation Fee
- ☆ Physician Referral Not Required
- ☆ Call for Appointment

Colorado-Fayette  
Medical Center

Radiology Department 409-725-9531

## Colorado-Fayette receives new surgical equipment

Colorado-Fayette Medical Center has announced the acquisition of a new, high technology surgical system that will enable patients requiring gallbladder surgery to recover much faster. The system, custom designed for use in Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy procedures, enables a surgeon to perform gallbladder surgery without having to create a large incision and open the abdominal cavity. This improved method of surgery is less traumatic to the patient and, in most cases, recovers time normally taken in traditional gallbladder surgery.

This new type of surgery, said to be the way most surgery will be performed in the coming years, uses a combination of modern TV technology and precision surgical instruments. In a typical case, four small incisions are made in the patients' abdomen and a microscopic camera is inserted in one of the incisions. The patient's gallbladder is then identified on a large, high definition TV monitor. Using the TV image as a guide, the surgeon then removes the infected area of the gallbladder with the use of tiny surgical instruments inserted through the three remaining hole inci-

sions. The four small incisions are usually much quicker than the larger incision that accompanies most traditional gallbladder surgery.

Not every patient is a candidate for this type of surgery. Some patients still require the traditional gallbladder surgery.

Both Dr. Herman Patino, a Board-Certified General Surgeon who is on the staff at Colorado-Fayette Medical Center, and the hospital's operating room nurses have received training in this new procedure. The first case was to be performed the week of August 2, 1991.

## Prairie Edge Museum Report

By Elizabeth Boothe, Reporter

Mac and Eleanor Kennedy of Austin were welcome and interested visitors to our museum Monday morning of this week. A principal reason for their coming to Eagle Lake from Houston was to see the recently prepared display honoring Medal of Honor World War II hero Johnnie David Hutchins. Joe Lee McCrory took them to Johnnie's gravesite at Lakeside Cemetery. Eleanor once served as a volunteer at the L.B.J. Library in Austin. I well remember visiting that enormous storehouse of artifacts and seeing many, many items that help preserve the heritage of our state and country. The Kennedy family forward to future visits to Eagle Lake and Prairie Edge, especially during the Wildflower Tour next spring.

Our Thrift Shop experienced a terrific sales day this past Saturday. There are still many wonderful bargains, among them being a ceiling fan and Singer sewing machine. The shop's next day to be open is September 7, 1991, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call the following workers if you need further information: Louise Brunner (234-2395), Catherine Clipson (234-2916) and Ethel Cone (234-3064).

I wonder how many of you read the article in *The Houston Post* August 15, 1991, entitled "Flourish Feed Bags of 1930s Now in Demand?" Following are excerpts from this interesting article: "After all these (cotton feed bags) were good enough for grandmas, who scissored bright floral patterns from 100-pound sacks... to make everything from aprons and underwear to window curtains and jelly strainers... feed bags have won the Smithsonian Institution's stamp of approval... a tribute to the thrift and ingenuity of American housewives of the 1930s and 1940s who were struggling to make ends meet. They were the pioneers of recycling... A 100-pound sack (of the cotton sheeting) would yield about a yard of material." I am delighted to have colorful pieces of this cloth and am especially happy to

have a pretty jacket made by my mother in the 1950s. I plan to donate this to Prairie Edge after I "model" it at the next board meeting. I was able to acquire much of this colorful material at the Universal Supply Co., Inc., a farm and ranch supply store co-owned by my late husband Herman W. Boothe and his brother, the late Sam Boothe.

The latest display case to be completed is that giving much information, along with pictures, about two former industrialists of this community. These two businessmen were William Dunavant and W.T. Eldridge. The former was responsible for the beginning of Lakeside located a few miles from Eagle Lake toward Matthews. Both of these men were connected with the Cane Belt Railroad when the growing of sugar cane was done on a large scale around here. (There's a marker on 102 toward Matthews indicating the site of the sugar mill once located near by). Rice growing became a big industry in this area during the lifetime of these two industrialists.

The museum is open from 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Call Bill Harrison at 234-2662 or Elizabeth Boothe at 234-3361 if you would like to arrange for a special tour.

"We usually do what we want to do." — Anon.

## Add tax when you rent

By John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Rentals are subject to the sales tax. That means that you'll pay tax when you rent golf carts, canoes, roller blades and scuba gear.

For more information about state taxes, write to the Comptroller of Public Accounts, Austin, Texas 78774. Or call us toll-free at 1-800-252-5555.

## U.S. Senator Phil Gramm...

## VA cuts home loan costs to veterans

American veterans will have an easier time buying homes for their families, thanks to a decision by the Department of Veterans Affairs to cut mortgage rates to 9%.

"The VA made it possible for nearly 200,000 veterans to buy homes last year," noted U.S. Senator Phil Gramm. "With lower interest rates,

even more may find a home—often their first home—affordable for the first time."

The senator also pointed out that the 0.5 percent reduction marks a specific reversal of VA rate trend. As recent as June, the department had been raising the mortgage rate.

"Every dip in the VA mortgage rate makes it possible for thousands of people to buy homes, creating a wave of prosperity that boosts the entire economy," the senator added.

The current rates for other VA loans also were reduced, moving graduated payment mortgages to 9.25%, home improvement loans to 10.5% and loans on manufactured homes to 11.5%.

## Objectives of the ELMS 'Advisory Program'

The following are objectives for the Advisory Program at the Eagle Lake Middle School:

"The student will be provided a designated advisor/advisee time period free from interruptions which will be from 8-8:30 each morning.

"Students will participate in activities designed to foster a feeling of belonging and student self-worth.

"The student will participate in learning activities to enable him/her to recognize and strengthen his/her unique intellectual capabilities.

"The student will participate in activities that enhance communication.

"The student will participate in activities that provide for an understanding of self in relation to career options.

"The student will participate in

activities concerning world issues and analyze various options.

The Public Is Cordially Invited

To A Special Service

at 7:00 P.M.

Sunday, August 25, 1991

as

Joe C. Fling

Presents Readings from His Book

"Lord of the Threshing Floor"

Corner of Church Street and North McCarty

Followed by Book Signing and Refreshments

The first practical phonograph was invented in 1877 by Thomas Edison.

February 12, 1943

Friends tuning in to KPRC Tuesday afternoon were thrilled when the announcer called the name of R. J. "Coogie" Ney as among the list of those cited for bravery in action in the Midway battle and was in line for the distinguished medal award.

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(See Banking Week, Page 11)

## COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

Deeds: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Ite M. and Doris M. Mack, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 8-1-91.

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Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Richard L. Johnson Company, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 8-1-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Neundorff, Thomas L. and Kimberly Wagner Neundorff, 81,5941 acres, Alex Thompson League, Colorado and Fayette Counties; 8-8-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Valeria J. Mitchell, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 8-1-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Daryl W. and Charlotte W. Mousar, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 8-1-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to George F. Patchin Jr. and Susan Freitas, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 8-1-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Darwin G. and Charlotte Sanders, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 8-1-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Gary W. and Monique S. Newsum, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 8-1-91.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties, Inc. to Avia A. and Melba G. Polan, und. int. in The Falls Resort and Club, Resort Section One; 8-1-91.

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