



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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CITY OF EAGLE LAKE,
TEXAS 77434-0067
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR & You

Let's all work to solve problems

Eagle Lake mother defends schools

To the Editor:
I had decided to write this before I even read the paper this week. Seeing the letter to the editor made me more determined to say something on behalf of Eagle Lake.

Keep in mind that my family and I moved here a little less than two years ago. We have a six year-old and a three year-old. The eldest has just been promoted to second grade. I give you this background to let anyone who does not know me know that I have no special relationship with any employees of the school system.

I have one close friend who's children attend Eagle Lake Middle School and the family has lived here all their lives. I was asked to attend the graduation of the eighth grade class at ELMMS to see this friend's child graduate.

I was pleasantly amazed at the turnout of families and friends and the effort taken to make this a very special event. The eighth graders were well rehearsed and well behaved.

I understand that there were only two students who were not allowed to participate because of poor grades. I was surprised at this because of all the rumors and gossip I had heard concerning this school. I am there thinking that if the school and these students were so horrible, you could not prove it to me.

There were a good number of these students who were called forward to accept achievement awards signed by the President. This proved to me that

this school and these students were worthy of praise and not the criticism that has been so ready on the lips of most people you talk to in the area. I believe that there are problems in the school system. I also believe like most problems, they can be solved. The first step is for each and every individual to be responsible for what comes out of their own lives. This is something that a few people have still not learned.

The next step will be for all the people of this community to stop judging and blaming everyone else or running from the problems. We must pull together as a community and be concerned about our children. And do something besides criticize or run. This must start at home. Parents and guardians and grandparents must be

more concerned and involved in their children's education.

The last comment I have is that we must not let those few whom you hear bad things about be held up as the standard. We have so very many wonderful children in this entire Rice CISD. We should not let a few "bad apples" spoil the whole district's reputation.

My husband and I recently had the opportunity to leave this area by company transfer. We decided to stay because we believe that Eagle Lake and the Rice CISD are worth the effort and our children can benefit from this school system and the community.

Thank you,
Arlene R. Brown
Concerned parent

Show proof before damaging reputation

To the Editor:
In regard to the letter printed in last week's Eagle Lake Headlight (May 27, 1993), first I am a Christian; second I am a parent; and third I am an employee at the Eagle Lake Middle School.

I am not a madam nor do I work under a madam or a pimp, the remarks that the (writer of the letter) made concerning prostitution and gangs on the campus of Eagle Lake Middle School have been very damaging to our school, community and to our kids. So if you have any information

regarding prostitution and gangs, please come forward with proof.

And as for the problem with the school socially, I am guilty because I love all kids. The color of their skin is no problem. The reason people are pulling their kids out of ELMMS is because maybe they all think like you. I realize that there is a discipline problem on every campus, but I would not dare say that there is prostitution and gangs on campus unless I had proof to back it.

But I can tell you are not a parent because if you were, you would not say damaging remarks like the ones that you made (in the letter) and remember social problems began back in the 1800s. Think about it.

But we shall overcome. Proverbs 4:7 "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom; and with all thy getting, get understanding."

Olivia Maxie
Eagle Lake Middle
School Employee

Why was there a secret meeting?

Dear Editor:
Last Wednesday, on May 26, there was a community meeting held in Garwood at Mr. Lehrer's office. This was in regard to a secret meeting by the school board and superintendent, along with some principals.

This meeting on April 3 was held in Eagle Lake and those present were asked not to tell anyone about what this meeting was about.

This group discussed the possibility of bussing our children all over the district. Why do we have to have secret meetings by our board or superintendent? The school district belongs to the people of the district, not the school board and superintendent.

During the meeting, I asked the superintendent to explain again what she had just told us. Then a school board member from Eagle Lake told me that, if I had been listening, I would have known what she said.

I'm not as smart as some of you board members, but I think I should

needs to have some facts before writing.

My child has been at the middle school since third grade and will be in sixth grade next year. He is unaware of any gangs, much less prostitution, at his school. He is as aware as most 11 year-old kids these days, and believe me, he would know if this were fact. He is also in the GT class (gifted and talented), and an honor roll student every six weeks for the past three years. That must account for some good in our school. There are others like him, as you can see in the paper when they publish the honor roll list.

As to lack of respect, I believe a little bit of that is shown in this letter. Let's get serious for a minute. The letter, written by a person in Sheridan that I do not even know, was pretty harsh for middle school students to read in the local paper. I think she

As to feeling sorry for the well behaved children, don't. They will have more of a perspective on life than you can imagine. What better way to learn than in a situation where you still have control. Can you imagine what it would be like to open their eyes at 18 upon their high school graduation from private or sheltered schools?

Maybe some of you don't agree with what I am saying, but public school was intended to educate all, not some. Everyone should have an opportunity to have that education.

As for the children going to private schools, that's fine. We still get to collect their tax dollar.

Just remember, children tend to believe what their parents teach them. As adults, we are supposed to show the way. Don't you think it is time?

Debbie Shanks
Eagle Lake

Let's Look Back...
24 & 48
YEARS AGO

October 24, 1968

The Rice School District voters okayed proposals for \$2,500,000 in bonds by a 4-1 margin with about one third of the registered voters turning out for the election this past week...

Dr. H.H. Potter, DVM, from Columbus will open an office here one day a week beginning Nov. 5.

Miss Patricia Hengst, head cheerleader for Eagle Lake High School, was crowned homecoming queen during halftime last Friday night.

Miss Shirley Heulebusch of Columbus was chosen "Fairest of the Fair" at the Garwood Lions Club fair last Saturday. Miss Helen Poinitzsch was runner-up.

Sp-6 Walter L. Henderson has returned from Germany and is now in school at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.

The Martha Class of First Baptist Church met in the home of Mrs. Judy Austin, Oct. 8 and installed new officers. Mrs. Ruby Braden is incoming president. Mrs. Catherine York vice-president, Mrs. Georgia Adams secretary-treasurer, and group captains are Mrs. Bessie Birdwell and Mrs. Ruby Lindemier.

Postmaster H.C. Johnson reminded patrons that parcel post increased effective Saturday, Oct. 19. The new minimum charge went from 40 to 50¢ for local delivery and from 50 to 60¢ for outside the area.

Duck and goose hunting clubs listed with the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce for this season are Bill (See 24 & 48, Page 4)

Sportsman's Restaurant

All You Can Eat Buffets

Every THURSDAY 5:30 to 8 p.m. MEXICAN FOOD
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Sunday Buffet

Served 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Legislature passes school funding, toughens penal code

State Capitol Highlights

By Lyndell Williams
Texas Press Association

The Texas Senate, trying again to end the school's finance crisis, last week approved a compromise funding plan that would give high wealth school districts several options to share their property taxes.

Senators approved the legislation 25-6. A House vote was expected at least two days before the session ended May 31 and Gov. Ann Richards has indicated that she will sign the measure when it reaches her desk.

(Editor's note: The House also passed the compromise plan and the governor had signed it as of June 1.)

The Senate action came five days before the court ordered June 1 deadline set by the Texas Supreme Court for revamping the \$15 billion-a-year school finance system.

The state wealth proposal would shift \$400 million to \$600 million a year in property tax revenues from 109 high wealth districts.

Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock predicted the plan, which originated in the House, would meet with the court's approval. "We have adopted the House plan, which I believe will meet the court's order that threatened to close our schools," Bullock said.

Sen. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, chairman of the Senate education committee, also was optimistic. "I absolutely believe this comes as close as humanly possible to meet the test (of the court)," he said.

These are the five choices that high wealth districts have under the equalization plan:

• Send property tax revenues to the state to pay for educating students in low wealth districts;

• Contract with specific low wealth districts to help fund their educational programs;

• Set up a new taxing district that includes the property of the high wealth and one or more low wealth districts;

• Consolidate voluntarily with one or more districts with less property wealth;

• Transfer some business and commercial property to the tax rolls of low wealth districts.

The first three options require approval of voters in the districts. If by Oct. 1993, a district did not select one of the options, the district would be forced to take the last choice, giving up some business and commercial property.

Tough Penal Code
Anti-crime legislation designed to keep violent offenders in prison longer and curb stealing and drug use was approved last week by the Senate.

The two-bill package will streamline and toughen punishments in Texas criminal laws. The legislation also calls for construction of 20,000 cells in a new system of state jails for nonviolent convicts. Under the bill, the penal code will mandate that the most violent lawbreakers—people convicted of murder, rapes, kidnapping and assaults with weapons—must serve at least half of their sentence. They now must serve only a fourth of their sentence.

"Hard work and perseverance have paid off," Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock said after the package passed. "This legislation will do more than anything that has been done at anytime in the last 20 years to make Texas a safer place to live."

Texas Lottery Success
The Texas Lottery marked its first anniversary May 29 and state officials say it's been a year in which sales topped all projections.

State Comptroller John Sharp, whose office oversees the game, initially opposed the state-sanctioned gambling. "If we're going to have one,

Eagle Lake Community Hospital patients

Week ending May 30
ADMISSIONS:
Eagle Lake: Mary McClanahan, Rosemary Waddell, Oscar Ballew, Macario Cordova; Weimar: Theodore Hewitt; Sealy: Andrea Torres & Baby Boy; El Campo: Heather Hastings & Baby Boy; Nader: Evelyn-Domak; Columbus: Mary Grieve.

DISMISSALS:
Eagle Lake: Sylvester Castle, James Lewis, Fred Henke, Dee Soppchak, Rosa Breimann; Gar: Spring; Mary Wendel; Lissie: A.J. Vasina; Altheim: Elizabeth Eglitia & Baby Boy; Weimar: Maria Gomez & Baby Boy; Columbus: Rosa Hinson & Baby Girl; LaTanna Mangum & Baby Girl; Richmond: Robert Norris.

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COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

DEEDS

Deed: Ann W. Duncan to Dianne Duncan Tucker, interest, represented to be 60% interest in oil, gas and other minerals in two tracts out of the William G. Hunt Survey, Abstract No. 342 and John Carlson Survey, Abstract No. 822. Filed 3-29-93.

Deed: Raymond Heide, Ind. Exec. of the Estate of Leo Frank Heide, to Larry Breska, et al., part of Lot 3, Block 45, City of Weimar; 4-5-93.

Deed: Paul A. Hattermann to Mario S. Torres, et al., 2.707 acres out of the Allred Kelo League, Abstract No. 368; 4-5-93.

Deed: Ernest W. Pribos to Craig Allen Huska, et al., 3.00 acres out of the A.C. Hunt Survey, Abstract No. 336; 4-5-93.

Deed: Henry J. Seiler and Ruth D. Seiler to Robert G. Payne Sr. and Lana L. Payne, 11.858 acres, a part of the William Allen Survey, Abstract No. 58; 4-6-93.

OIL & GAS LEASES
Henry Charles Mueller Jr. individually and as attorney-in-fact for Isabel Mueller to PG & E Resources Company, 160 acres out of the L.G.N. RR Survey, No. 3 & 6, Abstract No. 292 & 314; 4-5-93.

Gift Deed: Virginia L. Baggett to Harold Wayne Baggett, Lots 7 and 8 in Block 58 of Sheridan Addition; 4-1-93.

Deed: Adkins International Inc. to Donald R. Adkins, et al., Lot 26, block 1, Section II, in the Falls Subdivision; 4-1-93.

Deed: Estate of Arthur J. Coyle to John A. Coyle, interest in acreage out of the I. & G.N. Ry Co., Survey No. 44 et al.; 4-2-93.

Deed: Estate of Arthur J. Coyle to George B. Coyle, interest in acreage out of the I. & G.N. Ry Co., Survey No. 44 et al.; 4-2-93.

Deed: Estate of Arthur J. Coyle to Elizabeth A. Coyle, interest in 3 tracts of land out of the I. & G.N. Ry Co., Survey No. 44 et al.; 4-2-93.

Deed: Robert Gene Adkins et al. to Robert Gene Adkins and Catherine Calihan Adkins, trustee of the Robert Gene Adkins Trust, an undivided one-half interest in two tracts of land out of the G.H. & H. RR Company Survey, Abstract No. 251, et al.; 4-2-93.

Deed: Mark Edward Schol to Lee R. Deas, Jr., et al., 10.00 acres out of the James Cornett Survey, Abstract No. 141; 4-5-93.

Deed: Margaret B. Mainer to Frederick L. Burger, et al., 28.722 acres out of the Benj. Beason Survey, Abstract No. 5; 4-5-93.

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COUNTY COURT DISPOSITIONS

Bo Herman Richter Jr., New Ulm, DWI, defendant pled guilty, court found guilty. Fined \$500 plus court cost, community service of 50 hours, jail time 30 days and one year probation. Amends to reckless conduct.

Debra Lehman, Weimar, assault. Case dismissed.

James Chamberlain, Columbus, DWI and possession. Set for jury trial.

Michael Martinez Alvarado, Flatonia, DWI. Defendant pled guilty, court found guilty. Fined \$700 plus court cost, jail time 30 days and one year probation.

Delores Ann Wright, Columbus, resisting arrest. Defendant pled guilty, court found guilty. Fined \$100 plus court cost.

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DISTRICT COURT CASES FILED

State of Texas vs. Darrell Williams, Judgment Nisi; filed 5-12-93.

State of Texas vs. Daris Dennis, Judgment Nisi; filed 5-14-93.

State of Texas vs. Hector Flores, Judgment Nisi; filed 5-14-93.

DIVORCES FILED
Derrick Lloyd Rollins and Robin Michelle Rollins, filed 5-18-93.

Other Chandler Branstetter and Carole Margaret Branstetter; 5-19-93.

Robert Parker and Abernethy Parker; 5-19-93.

Carol Weeks and Stephen Lloyd Howard; 5-20-93.

Summer Youth Fest & Concert

Saturday, June 19, 1993
United Methodist Church grounds, Eagle Lake