



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Legal Matters...

Answers to frequently asked questions

By Texas Attorney General Dan Morales

As your attorney general, I receive thousands of phone calls and letters each month. The most commonly asked questions by Texans are how they can get legal advice from the Office of the AG.

Unfortunately, the Texas Constitution and state law prohibit our office from giving legal advice or written opinions to anyone who is not a state official or entity. The governor, heads of state agencies, boards and commissions, district attorneys and other similar officials are the only ones to whom I can give legal advice.

That does not mean you cannot get help from our office. It just means that we will act on behalf of all Texans when a problem arises.

Here are some of the questions asked most frequently, along with their answers:

"I just had my car repaired and the mechanic didn't do the job right. What can I do about it? Can you help?"

Our Consumer Protection Division provides a mediation service to help resolve your problem. But first, you should try to resolve the dispute with the shop. Get everything in writing, ask for your old parts back and pay your bill. Otherwise the mechanic has the legal right to keep your car until you pay.

"Does Texas recognize common law marriages?"

Yes, the state does recognize common law or informal marriages. Contrary to popular belief, there is no minimum number of years a couple must live together. In order to prove that a marriage exists, the parties involved must have a certificate of informal marriage from their county clerk.

Under the common law, if two people agree that they are married, live together in Texas as husband and wife, and represent themselves to be husband and wife, they are considered married.

"Why can't I attend the executive session of the local school board meeting?"

You can't attend the board executive session because the law allows a governmental body to hold an executive session that is closed to the public. Under the Texas Open Meetings Act, every meeting or session of every governmental body shall be open to the public except as provided by the act and the Texas Constitution.

Those exceptions include consultations with an organization's attorney, discussions concerning property purchases and personnel matters.

"Where do I complain about my attorney?"

If you want to complain about the

improper actions of an attorney, your best course of action is to file a grievance with the State Bar of Texas. Your attorney may be investigated by a grievance committee of attorneys and lay persons. To lodge a complaint call 1-800-932-1900.

"Can I take a defensive driving course instead of paying a traffic fine?"

Yes, but you may have to pay a fee to the court in addition to the cost of the class. The court can, at its option, delay proceedings and allow you 90 days to take the course. The charges can then be dismissed.

"How can I establish residency to qualify for in-state tuition to a state-supported college or university?"

You must be 18 years of age or older, live and work in Texas for the 12 months immediately preceding your registering for college. However, if you are a dependent of someone else, such as your parents, their residency status will determine your status. In other words, dependent students from out of state cannot work a part-time job while in school to qualify for in-state tuition.

The Office of the Attorney General is here to help. If you have questions, please contact the office.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

October 30, 1969

Eagle Lake High School Principal Victor Scott and the student council invite all the exes to Homecoming on Nov. 7... Mayor Allen Cassidy proclaims Nov. 3-7 as Homecoming Week in Eagle Lake.

Janis Froelich, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Froelich of Weimar, and Bruce Potter, son of Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Potter of Columbus, were named 4-H Gold Star winners... The City Square and McCarty St. from Main to the SP Railroad tracks are to get new paving by the Texas Highway Dept.

First National Bank reports deposits for Oct. 21, 1969, at \$10,865,415.99... The City is seeking bids for a new police car. They will trade in the 1967 Ford Custom now in use... John Adkins of Eagle Lake was re-elected president of the county Farm Bureau.

The Chamber of Commerce has scheduled Santa's visit to town by helicopter for Dec. 13 this year... City Council has decided to restrict the hours for trick-or-treating to dusk to 9 p.m. Oct. 31... The 270-acre Girl Scout Camp near Nada has revealed plans designed by architect Joy Horn.

Mrs. Cindy Cheatham is the new Alpha Delta Phi sorority sweetheart... Mr. & Mrs. Hoe Schilhab of Sheridan celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 22... Delores Schmidt and Kenneth Vasina exchanged their vows Oct. 17... Pamela Szymanski, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. K.R. Szymanski of Eagle Lake, is engaged to wed Stephen Ray Bertsch of Victoria on Jan. 24...

Mr. & Mrs. F.B. Duncan have returned home to Egypt (Texas) after a stay in London, England... Elvis Presley is to headline the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. He will have six performances, Feb. 27-Mar. 1. Also slated are Bobby Goldsboro, Buck Owens and Roy Clark...

Guides Gardner Seaborn and Jeff Franks led a group on a very successful goose hunt over the weekend, one of many since the season opened Oct. 17...

March 1, 1946

Cpl. Charlie Braden, son of Mr. & Mrs. Ed Braden, received his discharge at Fort Sam Houston last week after more than three years in the service... Rev. A.W. Widner, Catholic pastor of Eagle Lake and Mentz, was among 136 candidates for fourth degree in the Knights of Columbus exemplification ceremony last Sunday in La Grange...

Mrs. O.L. Mill, who has served as agent for Houston floral companies here for some time, announced her intention to open a modern floral shop at her home... L.V. Morgan, local negro, was found dead early Tuesday morning along the Southern Pacific right-of-way near the Eagle Lake Rice Mill...

Mr. & Mrs. Frederickson Sr. of Garwood have announced the marriage of their daughter, Madelyn Carol, to Roland Rosenthal of Baltimore, Md... Little Miss Lynn Felt entertained friends with a party last Thursday for the occasion of her fifth birthday...

Howard H. Fitzgerald left Wednesday resume studies at the University of Texas after a weekend with his parents, Mr. & Mrs. H.C. Fitzgerald and sister Miss Lue Minette... Mr. & Mrs. E.M. Smith Sr. were in Houston last Thursday for the wedding of Miss Ruth Jean Bengtson to their son, Edward M. Smith Jr., at the Unitarian Church...

Mrs. Lee Barnett, the former Miss Billie Ruth Woods of Columbus, has joined her husband in Jacksonville, Fla., where he is serving as radarman on the USS Cronin... Pfc. Lester Graves, son of Mr. & Mrs. Roy Graves, has arrived home with his discharge from Camp Fannin, Tyler, Monday...

Sgt. Edmund Schindler, son of Mr. & Mrs. Emil Schindler, has arrived home after his discharge from Camp Chafee, Ark... 1st Lt. E.J. Parma arrived Wednesday from San Antonio and is on terminal leave. He gets his discharge April 10.

About Town...

•Dave Curry was happy to have his family from Bossier City, La., in Eagle Lake over the July 4th weekend. Carrie Curry, Diane, Sylvia, Marilyn, Sherman, Kim, Lisa, Calvin Kyrion, Aldrick, Dove Lee, Shae, Mosa, Destiny and Terrick were all visitors.

They barbecued Saturday and had crawfish on Sunday. The whole family worshipped at Greater Union Baptist Church in Matthews.

•Rev. Coby Shorter III, pastor of Providence Baptist Church in Eagle Lake, will be the guest speaker for the appreciation service honoring his son, Rev. Coby Shorter III, for his first year at Rosewood Baptist Church, Austin. The service will be Sunday, July 10, at 3 p.m.

•Coby III is a 1986 graduate of Rice High School and was a guest speaker for the recent 26th anniversary program honoring his father.

•Family and friends of Judy and Charlie Sheridan gathered their past Sunday at their place in the country, Sheridan Oaks, south of Glidden. In addition to having a wide variety of meat skillfully barbecued by Charlie and cousin-in-law, by marriage, Bob Auschensch (not sure of the spelling on that one), there were lots of trimmings and homemade ice cream and apple cobbler.

Eating, dominoes and catching up were the order of the day.

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Some Medicines Can Cause Fever

According to a recent report in *Postgraduate Medicine*, one in ten institutionalized patients has a reaction to one or more medicines that causes fever. Drug-related fever can be very expensive, adding to the total cost of care by increasing the length of hospital stays and resulting in the use of additional laboratory tests, x-rays, and medications.

According to a recent article in *American Pharmacy*, there are five types of reactions to medicines that can result in fever:

1. Hypersensitivity reactions occur when an antigen-antibody complex forms in the body. Prescription drugs that may cause such reactions and fever include quinidine, methylidopa, and phenytoin.

2. Idiosyncratic reactions develop from inherited genetic defects. An example is fever caused by a reaction to sulfonamide.

3. Administration-related fever can occur when impurities (which occur in some antibiotics and cancer medicines) are injected.

4. Pharmacologic fever occurs when antibiotics such as penicillin kill organisms which, in turn, release fever-producing toxins.

5. An increased metabolic rate such as from the use of thyroid medicines may increase the body temperature.

Colorado County Courthouse

OIL, GAS AND
MINERAL LEASES
James Rarick, et al to Enron
Oil & Gas Company, \$1.50 acres
of the I.G. & N. R.R. Company
Survey, Section No. 19, Abstract
No. 268; filed 4-29-94.

Ring Services, Jewelry Repair Services, Ring Sizing, Ring Repair, Chain Repair, Bracelet Repair, Diamond & Colored Stone Replacing, Reproving, Retipping, Watch & Loop Buildup, Watch Batteries Changed

K-D JEWELRY

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Prairie Edge Museum Notes

By Elizabeth Boothe, Reporter

Recently I received two large boxes containing collections of railroad artifacts. This wonderful store of treasures was from the collection of my late brother George M. Allen of Elgin.

George had told me years ago that he wanted me to be a recipient of these articles and thus add them to our museum displays. George worked for both the S.A.&P. and Southern Pacific railroads for over 40 years.

I will include a list of these wonderful additions to Prairie Edge in one of my reports. One very valuable category of collectible items is that of timepieces. I believe one in this group is dated 1902.

We already have a start on an interesting railroad display. A section of rail from the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado Railway recently was

pictured in the *Headlight*. This railway reached Eagle Lake in 1859 and tracks were laid on to Alletton about that time.

The pictured rail section was recovered in the area north of Alletton by Crockett Leyendecker and presented to the museum. Thanks to Bill Harrison for his interesting article about rails in our area.

I also enjoyed reading a recent article in the *Headlight* by Rollin Baker who gave an nostalgic account of the famous Dinky which served Eagle Lake and other towns so well for many years. It was a popular way of transportation and communication for points west and east of here.

I continue to hear interesting reports about reunions in nearby towns. One of these is located on the square in Fayetteville. Another I've heard of recently is the one in El Campo. I will remember visiting the Shiner museum probably about 30 years ago. I am thankful that so many people have come to realize the importance of the past.

I really enjoyed attending the reunion of members of the class of 1959 on Saturday, June 25 at the farm home of Jerry and Lynda Powers Adams. There were about 30 attending. I was one of three teachers there but the only one who had taught this group of students.

I hope one of them will write a detailed account of the reunion. I made a general assignment for this to be done but I don't know if anyone took me seriously. The farm is located in a beautiful setting north of La Grange. We enjoyed fellowship, reminiscing and delicious food brought by class members and also catered.

Through the years I have attended class reunions in Edna and Eagle Lake. Every year during the Watermelon Thump in Luling, members of all former classes are invited to attend a large assembly and then those who have special years to remember have

reunions of their own classes also.

The museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from 2 until 5 p.m. Special tours can be arranged by calling

Bill Harrison at 234-2662. I hope you will think on the words of the following quotation: "Health is wealth...and it's a free." Glasgow.

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John D. Huff, M.D.
Diane Prather Walters, O.D.

Foot Facts

By Dr. Eric R. Tepper, Podiatrist
STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT INGROWN NAILS

It is amazing how something as small as a toenail can literally stop us in our tracks. When a toenail becomes ingrown, however, that is exactly what can happen, as the pain can grow so intense that the patient cannot even stand to slip on a pair of shoes. Fortunately, ingrown toenails are largely preventable through proper nail trimming and adequate footwear. Toenails should be clipped straight across with nails extending beyond the toes all the way across, using clippers designed specifically for this purpose. Also, tight shoes that cram toes together should be avoided. Ingrown nails should never be ignored. Left untreated, they can cut the skin, allowing infection that may spread to the rest of the body.

We firmly believe in helping you help yourself. We'll make recommendations to you as to how you can help resolve your particular foot concerns. Whether it's about proper care of nails to prevent ingrown toenails or another condition, we'll take the time to answer your questions and explain any procedures. We want you to be as informed about and actively involved in your foot health care as we are. We're easy to find at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital (234-5571). I am there the first and third Tuesdays of the month.
P.S. Toenails that grow into the skin are the single most common foot problem among the elderly.

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FAMILY TRADITION

Summer readers 'go bananas'

Deborah Reed presented the program Wednesday, June 29 at the Winterman Library story hour. She read the book *Bananas in Pajamas* then led the children in games and songs. They colored pictures of a banana in pajamas.

Photo by Charlene Rodgers

SHERIDAN NEWS

Sheridan Memorial Library reports there are now 23 new members of the Friends of the Library. Membership in this support group is \$5 a person.

Charter members are Jean and Zella Walker, Bill and Lillian Gohlke, Ed and Kay Parham, Mary Lou Criswell, Jeanette Jackson, Dolie Bozard, Louise Brandenburg, Larry and Darnell Varley, Alice Hinz, Judy Pustejovsky, Charles and Mary DeShazo, Pam Brisco, Martha Polach, Jenavee Peterson, Wayne and Natalie Dupré and Ed and Gladys Nay.

A new Polaroid camera has been purchased for use in library activities.

This week's library assistants were Trish Chisum and Jonathon Houser.

Memorials have been received in memory of Ialene Gardner from Bill and Lillian Gohlke and in memory of Ralph Arndt from Bill and Lillian Gohlke.

Books have been donated toward the 7500 book goal by Loretta McCloud, Alice Hinz, Nancy Chalbreck, Jenavee Peterson and M.W. Roberts.

"Familiar Faces... Faraway Places" took the youngsters to an

Keeping an eye on Texas

Texas tornadoes lead U.S.

Texas whipped up 117 twisters in 1993, topping Kansas' 113. Florida and South Dakota tied for third place, with 85 tornadoes each. Escaping completely from the ravages of cyclones were Alaska, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Washington.

Numbers of tornadoes in 1993

0 to 9
10 to 24
25 to 99
100 or more

SOURCES: National Weather Service and John Sharp, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

Echándole el ojo a Texas

Los tornados de Texas

Hubieron 117 tornados en Texas durante 1993, sobrepasando a los 113 que ocurrieron en Kansas. Florida y South Dakota empataron en tercer lugar, con 85 tornados cada uno. Los estados de Alaska, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Rhode Island y Washington escaparon totalmente la destrucción de los vientos.

Número de tornados en 1993

0 a 9
10 a 24
25 a 99
100 o más

FUENTES: Servicio Nacional de Clima y John Sharp, Comptroller de Cuentas Públicas

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