

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT (USPS 163-760) P.O. Box 67 - 220 East Main (409) 234-5551 CITY OF EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS 77434-0067 Published Weekly Every Thursday

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To the Editor & You

Thank you! A thousand times thank you!

I am writing this letter to everyone who was involved in giving my son, Rudy Noel Belman, a second chance at life.

My son and everyone who loves him were celebrating his second birthday, Aug. 11, at the Eagle Lake Community Pool when a stroke of bad luck fell upon us.

No one really knows how he fell in because it took only seconds. At the time, he had food in his mouth, causing him to choke at the same time he was drowning.

Everyone had their attention on something else at the time. If it weren't for the quick action of others, specifically Jennifer Owens

who jumped in after him, Bobbie Joe Contreras lifting him out and trying to get the food out of his mouth, he would have been lost. Jennifer was holding her 3-month-old baby in her arms when she jumped in.

But, most of all, to Gracie Lewis for getting mad enough to take hold of the situation and actually forcing her fingers into his mouth to pull out the food so he could start to revive.

The lifeguards didn't do a good job of taking charge of the situation. I hope I don't have to see an article next week from someone trying to defend them because I have a half dozen witnesses who will tell you the same thing. I'm telling you now. You had to be there to know the truth... my son could have died.

The lifeguards didn't do a good job of taking charge of the situation. I hope I don't have to see an article next week from someone trying to defend them because I have a half dozen witnesses who will tell you the same thing. I'm telling you now. You had to be there to know the truth... my son could have died.

I'm sorry to say that the lifeguards weren't doing their job. Instead, one was busy with her boyfriend and the other yawned half the time he was on duty. If they didn't feel like being there, they should have let their superior know. It wasn't so much the supervising (there should have been one lifeguard on each side of the pool), it was after the incident that the lifeguards didn't take quick action.

I don't know who panicked more, me or them. The lifeguards did not do the Heimlich Maneuver which I assume would be done in a choking situation.

Rudy was slumped over like a rag doll with no activity in his body. I would especially like to thank Gracie Lewis (who is a very dear friend to me and my children) for her quick action in bringing my son back to life.

How do you ever repay someone for that? May God bless her and everyone else involved in saving my two year old son.

I'm sure if he could talk, he would thank you also. I think all of you for letting my son see his next birthday.

A very thankful mother, Hilda Belman and son, Rudy



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State continues probe into Alcohol, Drug Abuse Commission

More allegations of wrongdoing surfaced last week against the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

Gov. George W. Bush placed the commission in conservatorship under a recommendation in April by the Legislative Audit Committee. The Committee alleged "gross mismanagement, waste and possible theft" of state money.

Texas Rangers, state auditors and private accountants have been rooting out and disclosing financial records of drugs and alcohol treatment providers that operated under contracts with the commission.

Michael Weiss, one of a board of three conservators overseeing the commission, and Col. James Wilson, director of the Department of Public Safety, testified before a joint meeting of the House and Senate General Investigating Committees.

Weiss said that some treatment providers showed false records or tried to hide their books. "In many instances, there was reluctance to provide records, the documentation."

Wilson, answering a question asked by Sen. John Montford, said most of the allegations against the commission are on the felony level.

Wilson mentioned new evidence of "abuse of travel, abuse of cellular telephones, buying personal vehicles with state funds, buying homes and renovating them at state cost, then selling them to relatives or close friends for less than the original purchase price."

He said, "We have identified over \$20 million that we have some real concerns about," and at least 20 cases of alleged abuse may be turned over to district attorneys for possible prosecution.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman John Montford, D-Lubbock, lamented the situation, telling the Associated Press that both parties dealt in good faith under existing law at the time, and said, "I don't know that we should pay them all of it."

The commission, which funds hundreds of local drug and alcohol treatment providers serving more than 61,000 Texans, employs 271 people with an annual budget of \$186 million. The panel's final report on the investigation is to be completed this month.

State Capitol Highlights By Lyndell Williams and Ed Sterling Texas Press Association

Firm Seeks Compensation Tejas Testing Technology, a firm chosen to run a seven-year auto emissions testing program in Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston, has billed the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission for \$187.5 million, seeking compensation for the canceled project.

The emissions testing program, which took effect in January, was intended to meet federal clean air guidelines in the metropolitan areas. But when drivers complained of the cost and inconvenience, the Legislature suspended the program and reverted to the old testing system, in which drivers have their vehicles tested at state safety inspection stations.

"It's a lot of money, and we'd like to be repaid for what we did here based on a contract," said Austin consultant Bill Miller, spokesman for Tejas Testing Technology.

But Ron Dusek, spokesman for state Attorney General Dan Morales, said, "More than likely, the state is going to dispute most, if not all, of their claims, and that we will have to play it out in court."

Meanwhile, Tejas is saddled with paying off an \$8.8 million state loan it took out to keep its operation afloat during the program's suspension. Miller told the Associated Press that Tejas can't be expected to repay the loan when the program is relied on for income has been scrapped.

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BUSINESS NEWSPAPER SERVICES COMPANY In select areas available for sales, content and collection of the Review Section

HERITAGE LEATHER & WOODSHOP

For beauty and durability, nothing beats leather! And for the finest leather working, conditioning and repair - no one beats HERITAGE LEATHER & WOODSHOP! Located at 1013 Walnut in Columbus, phone 732-9399 this unique shop can design or repair your leather shoes, boots or accessories to your exact specifications. They also specialize in leather conditioning and can special order saddles, chaps or holsters. Their hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. HERITAGE LEATHER & WOODSHOP also features custom woodworking such as cabinets, doors, and remodeling projects. They offer a total design service from initial planning to installation.

FLEETWOOD ROSENBERG FACTORY OUTLET - Since 1973 - "Mobile Home Prices Are Lower in Rosenberg"

A beautiful retirement community featuring independent apartment living, two assisted living units and a skilled nursing home. The newest one called "College Place" is a small home-like residence with individual attention and care from a loving staff of health care professionals. Assistance with bathing, dressing and medication is provided. Three home cooked meals daily. A well rounded activities/social program is also featured. Come by and investigate this affordable way to receive the help you need without giving up your independence.

SCHULENBURG REGENCY RETIREMENT COMMUNITY III College Street Schulenburg, TX (409) 743-6537 CUPID'S CORNER BRIDAL SHOP LARGEST PROM AND WEDDING SHOP IN SOUTH TEXAS

An exclusive line of dresses and accessories for that very important day in every woman's life is available at the CUPID'S CORNER BRIDAL SHOP at 703 South Mechanic in El Campo, phone (409) 543-1966. The most complete selection in this area of gowns for brides, bridesmaids, and mothers of the bride are available at this shop. You will also find a large selection of bridal veils to fit any budget. Everything for the bride and her bridal party as well as that special prom dress and Sunday occasion dresses are available at this establishment including expert fitting. CUPID'S CORNER BRIDAL SHOP is the largest prom and wedding shop in South Texas - handling many lines of gowns formerly found only in Dallas or Houston. There's no need any longer to make that long trip. Shop at CUPID'S CORNER for prom gowns by A/Cline, Mike Benet, Jessie McClinton, Alfred Angelo, Steppin Out, Nadine and Roberta and exquisite hand beaded gowns by Shomax and Landi. Jeanette Dornak, the owner, has built a fine reputation in this area by serving the public courteously and providing quality goods at reasonable prices. Register before October 1st and win one of three great honeymoon get-aways! Group orders are a specialty of this shop. When that special day comes in your life, you can relax if you have made arrangements with this leading shop! Wedding dresses start at \$128 with over 300 wedding gowns to choose from, plus table rentals, tuxedos, a champagne fountain, limousine service, plus much more. This is truly your One Stop Bridal Shop! Jeanette's daughter is the former Miss Nevada and Jeanette is a pageant specialist for the Miss America and Miss U.S.A. pageants. So stop in today for her assistance! The writers of this 1995 Summer Business Review know you will find high quality merchandise and friendly service at this shop!

NOVA SATELLITE SYSTEMS Pat Bryan - Manager SALES - SERVICE - INSTALLATION ALL MAKES & MODELS ANTENNAS & TOSHIBA TELEVISION SALES NEW ULM, TEXAS (409) 992-3599

Highlights

Continued from Page 2 State Suit Thrown Out A U.S. District Court judge has thrown out the state's lawsuit seeking reimbursement of \$1.3 billion from the federal government for the costs of illegal immigration. In a ruling released last week, U.S. District Judge Filemon Vela said Congress, not the courts, has the authority to order payment to the state. Attorney General Dan Morales said he would appeal the ruling. "We have always anticipated that this issue would be ultimately resolved by the U.S. Supreme Court," Morales said.

Other Highlights "Gov. Bush has named 21 people to an advisory council he created in July to help coordinate assistance to cities affected by base closures or reductions in defense contracts. The Defense Economic Adjustment Advisory Council also will serve as a think tank in assessing the effect additional defense reductions will have on the Texas economy.

A federal judge who played a key role in forcing a huge state prison expansion to ease county jail crowding in Harris County says it is ready to end the case. But U.S. District Judge Norman Black first must decide what to do with \$18.5 million in contempt fines that the state paid for failing to take felons out of the jail to prison.

"The Texas Department of Human Services has placed a Brenham nursing home under the supervision of a court-appointed trustee after an investigation uncovered health and safety violations. The DHS also suspended the license of Sweetbrier Nursing Home, which is owned by Texas Health Enterprises of Denton.

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

Dec. 10, 1970 Earl H. Rodgers Jr., who has been associated with A.B. Grocery Store in Eagle Lake, has been elected the new vice president of the First National Bank of Eagle Lake, commencing his first term of office Jan. 1, 1971.

Miss Jeanie Lynn Marsalis was united in marriage with William James Mahon at the Sunroom of Brooke General Hospital (Beach Pavilion) at Fort Sam Houston San Antonio by Chaplain (CPT) Jeldo J. Schiavone on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 2 p.m.

Jeff Frnka was one of five cagers named to the All-Tournament team in the Columbus Basketball Tournament last weekend.

Miss Diane Baker, bride-elect of William Brunner, was complimented with a coffee in the home of Mrs. Bruce Waddell on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Miss Susan Gebert, bride-to-be of John Muzny, was honored with a Coffee Shuzzy given Friday morning Dec. 4, in the home of Mrs. Herbert H. Loessin.

Friday, May 16, 1947 Mrs. Clyde Gold is in Dallas where she has enrolled in a special class of instruction in Modern Cosmetology. Mrs. Gold has undertaken this special study to make available to the women of Eagle Lake a figure grooming service...

Another exciting rodeo program will be presented at the arena here at 8 o'clock this Friday by Jim Clippson and Ralph Thomas in which many leading stars will participate...

At the regular meeting of the City Council on Tuesday evening, the appointment of Excel Smith as city fire marshal was confirmed...

The E.H. Henry High School will hold their graduation exercises on Friday, May 23rd. Graduating are Willie Mae Haynes, Erlene Delores Ester, Lula Bertha Robinson, Ester Lee Robinson, Jettie Mae Span, Leha Leola Sutton, Lena Beatrice Sutton and George Burnett Watson...

Mr. & Mrs. J.H. McCreary expect to leave next week for a two month visit with relatives and friends in Kent, Washington...

Mrs. Walter Dick of Columbus was a visitor with Mr. & Mrs. F.A. Hoeninghaus last Friday...

Lyon Jewelry Co. awarded watches to two lucky seniors of the Class of 1947 Monday afternoon. The two happy winners were Mike Canaris, son of Mr. & Mrs. Dan Canaris, and Miss Ethel Mae Reese, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Cleo Reese.

Mr. & Mrs. Louis Tyler of Altair

Clara Patzett of Ft. Worth... Mrs. Raymond Waddell joined a party of her Wharton friends last week to attend the opera in Houston...

Mr. & Mrs. R.P. Wilcox and son Tommy and Mrs. Gift Thomas Jr. were San Antonio visitors on last Friday when they joined Bobby Wilcox of Southern University at Georgetown for a weekend visit with his parents here...

Mr. & Mrs. A.W. Caylor of Notawere dinner guests of the family of their daughter, Mrs. Grace McElmurry and children on Mother's Day... Mrs. Mary Glaiser had as Mother's Day guests the families of her children, Mr. & Mrs. J.N. Sims and sons of Houston, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Glaiser and son of La Grange and Mr. & Mrs. Chester Glaiser and daughter...

The graduating class of the Eagle (See 24 & 48, Page 5)

A Reminder We can take care of all your... Ring sizing & repairs Chain & bracelet repairs Diamond & gemstone replacements, reproming & retipping Watch batteries, hands & repairs

K-D JEWELRY 704-B S. McCarty 234-5717 Eagle Lake

SOUTH TEXAS MEDICAL CLINICS, P.A.

South Texas Medical Clinics, P.A. Dan Madsen, M.D. Patricia Kemberling, M.D.

OTOLARYNGOLOGY Allergy Treatment (Ear, Nose and Throat Department) Is providing physician services on Saturday.

For appointments call: 409-532-1700 1-800-635-4021

1. Never fly your kite where power lines go.

2. Never climb trees near power lines.

3. Don't hang around when power lines are down.

4. When the sign says danger, the sign means stay away.

CPL Central Power and Light Company A Central and South West Company Louie is the official spokesman for CPL

Play it safe around electricity

Table with 3 columns: General Fund, Farm to Market/Flood Control Fund, Special Road/Bridge Fund. Rows show 1995 Property Tax Rates in Colorado County.

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