



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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To The Editor & You

Thanks for a beautiful holiday parade

Another Christmas season has passed, Auld Lang Syne has been sung and the new year has begun. As we reflect over 1996 community events, the 8th Annual Lighted Christmas Parade is sure to be at the top of the list of fondest memories.

As usual, the community and friends from out of town joined together to make it a parade that transcended all others. It was beautiful!

Thanks to all the participants and all of you who lined the streets to view the parade.

Thanks to our beloved T.J. Smith for serving as parade marshal, and to Santa for coming all the way from the North Pole by way of Columbus to spread cheer to all the boys and girls. Thanks Joey!

To my friend, Kathy Hord in Denver, with Southern Pacific Railroad who halts the train every year and with whom I hope to meet, face to face, someday - thanks!

Thanks to the Texas Highway Department for allowing us to use Hwy. 90-A.

Gratitude to the men of Colorado County Pct. #4 and Commissioner Sonny Spanihel for assisting us every year since the idea of a lighted parade was conceived.

To Constable Wilfred Luedecke, DPS and Sheriff's Department, to the city workers and Public Works Direc-

tor Buster Biesel, to the new Eagle Lake Fire Chief Gary Glaizer, to Darrell Gertson and the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department, and to the Eagle Lake Police Department and Chief Keith Webb, sincere thanks.

All the safety factors of the parade rested on the shoulders of the above mentioned persons.

Thanks for the support of the City Council and Mayor David Mann who took time to decorate an entry this year. A special thanks to City Manager Ron Holland who helped in so many ways.

To Dan Canaris, Lake Motors, Laura Appelt, Trey Kell, Brenda Besch, Mike Magnum, Eagle Lake Rice Dryer; to Gary Tise and "Elvis" for sound and entertainment; to Glen Sunderman, Brice Stephens, J.W. Shavers, Buddy Mascheck, Edward Sunderman and all others who helped line up the parade; to the Eagle Lake Headlight, Banner Press and KULM - thanks!

The addition of food to the downtown area by Eagle Lake Middle School students added to the festivities.

To the merchants who decorated and the Chamber of Commerce - for sponsoring the parade - gratitude to you.

To Darrell and Dana Pagel, Fred Ross, Fernando, and Bart and Pagel

Trucking for the reviewing stand - special thanks.

To judges Lee and Dora Brisco and Susan and Ronnie Rogers - you did a great job!

To Chamber Secretary Lana Dulaney, my adjuvant friend, the most gigantic thanks of all.

As long as the community continues to adhere to the parade, we will continue - so mark your calendar for Dec. 6, 1997.

Thanks to all of you and to anyone I may have forgotten.

**Lynda Appelt,
Parade Chairperson**

P.S. Thanks to those who donated the Santa bags.

Texas Legislature has chance to change 'Robin Hood' school financing

Texas Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock said the State Legislature, which convened Jan. 14, may change the law that requires wealthy school districts to share their tax revenue with poor districts.

Bullock said that because Gov. George W. Bush is urging legislators to reform the school property tax system, it would be appropriate to address the 1993 "Robin Hood" school finance law.

"It has always offended me somewhat to take money away from a wealthier district and give it to a poor district because I have always felt it was really the obligation of the state to bring the (education) system up instead of leveling it out," he was quoted by the *Houston Chronicle*.



About 100 of the state's 1,000 school districts have to share their local revenue.

Bullock had said it would be hard to lower school taxes without opening the debate on how education dollars are spent and thus endanger the school finance system's delicate balance.

But last week, in a meeting with reporters, he said the system may be repealed because "a number of sena-

tors and House members have been extremely critical of the school finance system we have today, specifically Robin Hood, and this will be their opportunity."

Bullock, a Democrat who presides over the Senate, said that if the new (16-14) Republican majority in the Senate wants to change the system, "they're going to have the opportunity to do it with no roadblock, certainly, from me."

Senate rules require a two-thirds vote to pass legislation.

Lottery Director Is Fired

The Texas Lottery Commission last week fired Nora Linares, who has been director of the Texas Lottery since its founding in 1991.

The commission voted 3-0 to dismiss Linares, without stating an official reason, after an ethics investigation revealed that her close friend, Mike Moeller, earned \$30,000 in 1992-93 from a contract with GTECH Corp., the company that runs the lottery.

Moeller is serving a federal prison sentence on bribery allegations that accused him of trading state and federal contracts for campaign contributions while he was a deputy commissioner for the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Last spring the lottery commission voted to renew GTECH's contract to run the lottery for five years without taking bids.

After the vote, Linares said, "I've done nothing that justifies the actions taken by this commission today. When the dust settles and the air is cleared and everything comes out in the open I will be cleared."

Linares' lawyer, Buck Wood, said there is no evidence that Linares ever gave GTECH any favorable treatment or benefits because of Moeller's contract.

Wood also accused Texas Lottery Commission Chairwoman Harriet Miers, a Republican, of stirring up the ethics controversy to get rid of Linares, a Democratic activist, the *Chronicle* reported.

(See Highlights, Page 3)

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

March 30, 1972

The happy winners of the literary competition held at the Eagle Lake Middle School last week were Donna Newsom, Roberta Tomchesson, Monica Barela, Jana Woodruff, Mary Young, Mike Virnau, Christine Greak, Vicki Henneke, Mario Yanez, Debbie Balusek, Debbie Newsom and Lisa Matscheski...

Fred G. Frnka received a 50-year membership award from the Knights of Columbus. He became a member in Feb. 1922...

Mr. & Mrs. Arden Nelson of Orange announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Arline, to Gerald W. Obenhaus, son of Mr. & Mrs. Dick W. Obenhaus of Eagle Lake. The couple plan an April 29 wedding in Orange... Elo Otto Linke, a long-time resi-

dent of this community and a retired Texas Construction Material employee, died at his home of a heart attack last Wednesday, March 22...

On March 22, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Rutledge took their son, Roger, to Marvin's for a 5th anniversary birthday dinner. Then on March 23, his mother gave him a party at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Frank Higgins...

Miss Karen Muegge, bride-elect of James Edward Rees, was honored with a tea shower at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Engstrom Saturday, March 25, from 3 to 5 p.m....

Mrs. David Samora was honored with a pink and blue shower on Sunday, March 26, at Andrew Parish Hall...

Friends will regret to learn that Mrs. Louis (Annie) Richter, a life-long resident of the Garwood-Nada community, passed away Saturday, March 25, at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital after an extended illness...

Mr. & Mrs. Billy Joe Williams are the pleased parents of a son, born in the Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton on Friday, March 24, at 2:48 p.m. The young man's name is Scott Allen and at birth he weighed six pounds, 11 ounces. Welcoming the new arrival is his brother, Jerry Dale, 16 years of age...

Four Rice High School juniors were named to attend American Legion Boy's and Girl's State program this summer. They are Lyle Anderson, Tom Janish, Debbie Frenzel and Pam Krenek...

S.J. Williams of Rockport, former resident of Eagle Lake, underwent heart surgery in St. Luke's Hospital in Houston on Tuesday, March 14....

These three names were to be on the ballot for the two council positions in the upcoming election to be held on Saturday. They are incumbent Eugene Baker, Wilfred Luedecke and Roy D. Van Nort.

Nov. 26, 1948

D.X. Bible was scheduled to speak at Rotary football dinner Wed. evening...

Family and friends were shocked and grieved to learn of the death of Mrs. Helen Teezen Miller at her home at 1:10 o'clock Tuesday morning...

Mr. & Mrs. E.B. Powers of Temple arrived to spend Thanksgiving

with her father, G.E. Thomas Sr., and members of his family...

Mr. & Mrs. Miles Theuman were among those attending the Texas A&M game in Austin Thursday...

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Causey Jr. of Austin are spending the Thanksgiving holidays with their parents, Mrs. R.H. Towell and Mr. Towell and Mr. & Mrs. Ed Causey...

Miss Edna Mae Willis accompanied Mr. & Mrs. Billy English to Eagle Lake for a Thanksgiving visit with her parents, Mr. & Mrs. J.C. Willis Sr. She is a student at A&I College. Mr. & Mrs. English are guests of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Waddell...

Mrs. R.T. Westmoreland entertained Monday afternoon with a tea at her home honoring her aunt, Mrs. Fannie B. Morey, and cousin, Mrs. Carl Mason of Shattuck, Okla.

Mr. & Mrs. Sam Norris Davidson and children who recently moved to Huntsville from Beeville arrived Wednesday to spend Thanksgiving with his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Davidson and family.

Fiscal Notes

Sharp's monthly publication wins international competition

Fiscal Notes, a monthly publication of the Comptroller's office that reports on wide-ranging topics related to the state economy and fiscal policy, has been honored with two awards from the National Association of Government Communicators, according to State Comptroller John Sharp.

"*Fiscal Notes* won a first-place award for graphics and visual design and tied for third place as the best all-around government newsletter published for an external audience," Sharp said.

The honors, known as Blue Pencil Awards, were presented recently in Austin at the annual conference of the National Association of Government Communicators. The contest was open to local, state and federal government publications. Entries were also received from foreign governments.

To win the first-place honor for graphics and visual design, *Fiscal Notes* outscored two publications

submitted by the National Endowment for the Humanities. In the best all-round category, *Fiscal Notes* ranked third behind publications from the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Smithsonian Institution.

"*Fiscal Notes* had tough competition from some outstanding publications. We're feeling really good right now," said Jorjanna Price, who, along with Greg Martin, serves as co-editor. Dwayne Osborne is graphics director.

The Comptroller's Research Division has published *Fiscal Notes* since 1975. The magazine has won several Blue Pencil Awards from the NAGC over the years, most recently in 1994. The *Fiscal Notes* staff includes two editors, three writers and three graphic artists.

The most recent issue of *Fiscal Notes* includes articles on Texas as a retirement destination and workforce development reforms.

Upcoming issues will feature topics such as the Comptroller's biennial state revenue estimate and help for small businesses.

About Town...

•Congratulations to Jill R. Satsky of Eagle Lake for being recognized by Wharton County Junior College as a distinguished scholar for the fall semester of 1996 and making the Dean's List. To make the Dean's List, a student must earn at least a 3.5 GPA out of a possible 4.0.

•There is one good thing about the weather we've had recently. When you want a drink of cold water, you don't have to mess with getting ice out of the freezer!

•Why, in Heaven's name, were so many people out on the roads (I-10 in particular) last night? Seems anyone with any sense would stay at home or at least find a warm place to spend the night! Guess that's the catch... sense!



Foot Facts

By Dr. Eric R. Tepper, Podiatrist
A PAIN IN THE FOOT

If walking has become painful and you can't figure out the reason why, you just may have an intermetatarsal neuroma (IMN). This is a condition that can affect anyone, although women tend to suffer from it more often than men. It may be caused by ill-fitting shoes, a trauma, inflammatory conditions such as arthritis, or repetitive stress from work or exercise activities. Symptoms may include numbness, burning, or pain that seems to shoot, stab, or radiate. These feelings are usually relieved by removing the shoe and resting and massaging the foot. The cause of IMN is the irritation of a nerve that serves the bottom of the toes. (The nerve between the third and fourth toes is the most common culprit.) The nerve enlarges, forming a tender, painful mass. Treatment may include a change in footwear, orthotics (shoe inserts), or, in severe cases, surgery.

Whatever has caused this condition to plague you every step, don't just accept it as the norm. Relief is close at hand at Rice District Community Hospital. There's no need to suffer with nerve compression or other painful foot conditions, not when there are caring professionals with the same goals as yours - to alleviate pain, accomplish optimum function, prevent recurrence, and help you again walk in comfort. A simple call to 234-5571 can change your life. I am available there every Tuesday.

P.S. IMN is just one cause of foot pain. If your feet hurt, a podiatrist can help determine the cause and relieve it.



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