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THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

(USPS 163-760)
P.O. Box 67 — 220 East Main
(409) 234-5521
CITY OF EAGLE LAKE,
TEXAS 77434-0067
Published Weekly
Every Thursday

Produced By:
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Jeannine Fearing
Shirley Luedecke • Betty Drymalla

ADVERTISING AND NEWS DEADLINE: 5 P.M. MONDAY

Subscription Rates

Colorado County (including Lissie and Egypt)\$12.00
Fayette, Lavaca, Wharton, Austin counties\$13.50
Other Texas Residents\$15.00
Outside of Texas\$16.50

Single Copy Price: 35-Cents
Second class postage paid
at Eagle Lake, Texas

Address Corrections
should be sent to P.O. Box 67,
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To THE EDITOR & YOU

From the City of Eagle Lake

Citizens of Eagle Lake:

Thanks to you, my citizens, who rose to the occasion and attended the public hearing Friday night in order to express your support of my quest for a 1,000 bed medium security prison unit to be built by MTC.

I was told a decision will be made in four to six weeks.

It was a great turnout and, by your attendance, it was obvious you want to keep me alive and progressing.

I could tell you don't want to come in second either.

I think we will all be winners, even if all we get out of this was the opportunity to unite as a community with a common cause.

There was no apathy in the Council Chamber Friday night.

I really think Warden J.C. Conner was impressed with me because of you.

Respectfully,
Your City

P.S. Don't forget to sign the petition of support! Go by City Hall.

PTO extends thank you

To The Community:

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) would like to express their gratitude to the people of Eagle Lake.

You have assisted us in raising \$755 to help the Eagle Lake Primary School achieve its goal.

This money will go towards the purchase of a sign to put in front of the building.

The PTO would like to thank the teachers and teacher assistants for their help in getting the donations.

One teacher, Mrs. Moody, has been extremely helpful all the way. Without her, we would not have been able to raise as much as we have.

Thank you very much,
Deborah Politsch,
PTO President

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Aug. 24, 1972

The life of Harry Eugene Johnson, 49-year-old resident of the Sheridan community for most of his life, was snuffed out last Sunday, Aug. 20, when he was the victim of a drowning while on a fishing trip to Lake Sheridan.

Miss Robin Engstrom of Garwood won the coveted title of District II Farm Bureau Queen in competition in Columbus Friday night of last week. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Truman Engstrom and the second Garwood girl in as many years to win the title.

Mr. & Mrs. James L. Adkins announced that they have closed the Dairy Delite in Altair, effective this past Sunday.

Foundation has been poured for the construction of a building to house the Dick's Minute Stop on E. Main Street.

Citizens in the community were deeply saddened last week to learn of the death of Mrs. Lizzie Payne, a resident of this community since 1901.

The Fifth Fajkus Family Reunion was held Sunday, Aug. 6, in the American Legion Hall in Sweet Home, Texas.

Miss Kay Pilkington, bride-elect of Glen Harbers, was the honoree of a bridal shower at the Charles Stephens home Friday, Aug. 18, at 8 p.m.

Miss Cynthia Gay Anderson, bride-elect of Dennis DeLaughter, was the honoree with a tea shower in the home of Mrs. Frank Higgins on Aug. 4.

Mary Jane Adkins, now Mrs. Bob Thornton, was among the 659 graduates who received degrees during summer commencement exercises Aug. 19 at SW Texas State University. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J.L. Adkins of Eagle Lake and Lissie.

The Wharton County Junior College of Vocational Nursing graduated their students last Monday, Aug. 14. Among them were Beatrice Botard, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Lee Botard of Sheridan; and Judith Brisco, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. L.L. Brisco of Eagle Lake. After graduating, the ladies are employed at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital.

Some 1,400 degrees, or diplomas,

State 'pays off' consultants

The state paid lottery consultants Ben Barnes and Ricky Knox more than \$23 million to stop working for Texas operator GTECH.

Barnes and Knox had argued that the agreement was private business and not subject to disclosure.

On June 18, the day after Attorney General Dan Morales said the agreement should be made public, the information was released.

Barnes, a former lieutenant gover-

State Capitol Highlights

By Lyndell Williams
and Ed Sterling
Texas Press Association

nor, is getting \$168,328 a month for the next three years. Knox, a former member of the Texas Racing Commission and long-time lobbyist, is getting \$58,752 a month for three years. Also, GTECH said Barnes and Knox would be paid \$15 million.

The state decided to buy out Barnes' and Knox's lobbying and consulting contract in Feb., a month after federal prosecutors implicated the two men in a kick-back scheme.

Lottery Commissioner John Hill of Houston said he was "stunned" at the amount of the settlement and that it was a factor in the commission's decision in March to call for new bids on the lottery operator contract.

Though neither man has been charged with wrong-doing, the agreement says the payments will stop if Barnes or Knox are convicted of any crimes related to their work for GTECH in Texas.

Sex Offender Bills Signed

Gov. George W. Bush has signed bills which give Texas some of the toughest sex offender laws in the nation.

Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, joined the governor at the bill signing. She authored "Ashley's Laws" after the 1993 killing of Ashley Estell, a 7-year-old girl abducted from a Plano park by a paroled sex offender.

The Legislature passed Ashley's laws in the 1995 legislative session. The measures required stronger penalties and set up a system for police and residents to track offenders after they are released from prison.

The new bills will fine-tune those statutes, Sen. Shapiro told the *Dallas Morning News*.

The bills provide:

• A "two strikes" rule that a sex offender convicted of a second offense against a child receives an automatic 35-year prison term without parole.

• Inmates charged with any crime lose any "good conduct" credit in jail if they try to contact victims under age 17 or members of the victim's family.

• Deferred adjudication, a form of probation that allows conviction to be dismissed after a period of time set by a judge, will be available only once to sex offenders.

• A judge must consider a victim's wishes about placing the offender on deferred adjudication and the public must be notified when a sex offender is placed on it.

• Sex offenders who commit certain offenses, including promotion of child pornography, must report their addresses for the rest of their lives so the public may be notified where they live.

• Juvenile sex offenders on probation must receive psychological counseling and submit to polygraph tests to monitor their progress.

The new sex offender laws take effect Sept. 1.

Travel Rules to Be Discussed

House officials last week said they will set guidelines for thrifter travel for state lawmakers and hold a June 25 public hearing on the issue.

On June 2, the last day of the legislative session, Senate members tentatively agreed to set restrictions on (See Highlights, Page 7)

TEXAS RICE POOL

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HARD WATER PROBLEMS?

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Bob and Juanita Crossely
would like to help you!

Can't escape the heavy calcium buildup or "lime"? Do your dishes, pots and pans, sinks, faucets, showers, tubs, shower heads, toilet bowls, fixtures require constant cleaning.

Lime buildup also shortens the life expectancy of household appliances such as ice machines, coffee makers and especially water heaters.

Many people have resorted to salt based water softeners to try to deal with the problem. While such systems do "soften" water, they don't remove existing lime buildup.

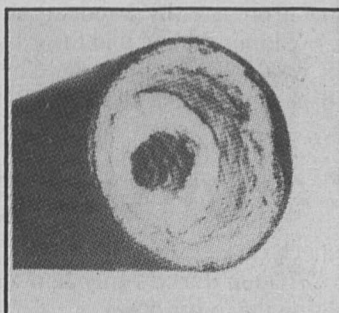
These systems are also expensive to purchase, install, costly to operate and maintain, and there is also a health risk of introducing sodium into the water.

Magnetic systems are not only less expensive, they offer more benefits, condition water, and also remove lime buildup from your water heater and pipes, enabling them to last longer and function more efficiently.

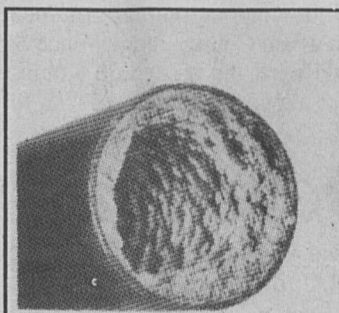
In 1973 a U.S. Government study for NASA program concluded that magnetized water will not form scale. As the water passes through the magnetic field the molecules are aligned into a uniform directional field allowing the water to regain its solvency and prevent minerals from forming crystals of scale, actually redissolving any existing scale back into the water.

In addition to energy savings, magnetized water requires only about 1/3 as much soap for washing dishes, clothes and shampooing.

Magnetic systems are easy to install, use no energy, require no maintenance and are environmentally safe. A similar magnet is available for spas and swimming pools, reducing the amount of chemicals used.



Typical scale and calcium buildup caused by untreated water has almost closed this pipe.



This photo shows the effect of magnetically treated water on the same section of pipe a short time after installation.



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