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## THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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## To The Editor & You

### Impressive undertaking

I took my family to the "unofficial" opening of the Splashway Waterpark in Sheridan last weekend, and we were there again this 4th of July weekend.

The whole project is perhaps the most impressive undertaking I have seen in Colorado County.

Fifty people, most of them volunteers, were working around the clock to have the park opened on time.

Volunteer "sweatequity" and generous financial contributions from individuals and businesses have made this possible from day one.

I don't think I have ever seen such an amazing civic effort, with everyone pitching in for the common good, as this one.

The park has already hired nearly 70 of our Colorado County youth,

ages 16 to 18.

And it is providing something to do: clean, wholesome fun for other teenage youth - as well as for grandparents, parents, pre-teens and infants. There is literally something for everyone at this park.

With little more than word-of-mouth advertising in its first five days of operation, more than 400 people per day descended on Splashway.

The economic impact of this project will be tremendous for all of Colorado County.

My congratulations, praise and thanks go to Jim and Carolyn Brisco and the many members of S.P.A.R.C. who had the vision, and the grit, perseverance and determination to bring that vision to a reality.

I will be there again on July 11

with my family for the Grand Opening.

I hope all your readers will join me there to applaud and say thank you for such a great asset for Colorado County.

Sincerely,  
Tom Reed  
Eagle Lake

### Let's Look Back...

## 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

June 12, 1973

Four men were injured in a free-for-all type fight at the Midnight Bar Sunday morning, reported Chief Roy Chisum. Injured were brothers, Joe Juarez Jr. and Jesus Juarez and father and son, Tony and Anthony Cardenas. Tony Cardenas was said to have broken a chair over the head of Jesus Juarez and the fight erupted. Cardenas received several stab wounds; all the others had some type of injury. All four were charged with disorderly conduct and fined \$52.50. All were then released Sunday morning after paying their fine...

Nathan Noska, son of Mr. & Mrs. Ruben Noska of this community, is confined to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital with injuries received in an accident at 2 a.m. Sunday morning on Hwy. 71, north of Garwood...

Mrs. Vera Means of Rock Island and Robert Woodrow Means of Houston are proud to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Arleta Melinda, to Dr. John R. Hurr, son of Mr. & Mrs. Glen P. Hurr of Baytown. An Aug. 25th wedding is planned at the First Baptist Church of Columbus...

The St. Mary's Catholic Church was the setting for the formal wedding uniting in marriage Miss Rita Skuca and John Wemhaner at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 19.

June 30, 1950

Eagle Lake's newest, the Gingham Girl Cafe, opened yesterday serving coffee and iced tea free of charge to all who visited the new eating place. The cafe is owned and operated by Jack Grieves and R.B. Powell and located next to the First Na-

## Out-of-state businesses profit from Texas minority program

Texas lawmakers learned at a public hearing last week that state agencies have been awarding contracts to out-of-state woman-and minority-owned businesses.

Some lawmakers, members of a committee examining state affirmative action programs in education, employment and contracting, expressed surprise.



By Lyndell Williams  
and Ed Sterling  
Texas Press Association

"We decided if we were going to have a program, Texas companies would be the beneficiaries," said Sen. David Sibley, R-Waco.

Sibley and others had tried to soften anti-affirmative action decisions by federal courts and the state attorney general.

A year ago, they directed state agencies to limit contracting programs that assist women-and minority-owned businesses to Texas companies.

Authority to contract was enabled through a budget rider for the "historically under-utilized business program" attached to the 1998-99 budget bill.

The practice of attaching riders to budget bills is a controversial way to pass legislation that may not be able to muster enough votes in the House and Senate.

### SBOE Member Scolds Moses

A stinging letter from one of the 15 members of the State Board of Education accused Education Commissioner Mike Moses of dodging issues and skipping an important meeting scheduled for this week.

The Associated Press obtained a copy of a June 18 letter written by socially conservative board member David Bradley of Beaumont and addressed to Moses.

"For the upcoming meeting," wrote Bradley, "I guess you've decided just to skip town altogether."

Moses was to be in Portland, Ore., for the Education Commission of the States' national conference on the same date as the SBOE meeting.

In his letter, Bradley also blasted Moses over the recent rewrite of the state's school curriculum, a school-to-work initiative, investments in the Texas Permanent University Fund, and the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills, a test all students must pass to graduate.

In a written reply to Bradley, Moses said, "I do regret your harsh and demeaning tone. It is obvious you

wish to portray me as a villain in what clearly needs to be a working partnership. For my part, I will continue to respect your role as an elected official.

Board Chairman Jack Christie of Houston and four other board members contacted the Associated Press to defend Moses and support his decision to attend the national conference.

But Robert Offutt of San Antonio, one of a five-member conservative bloc on the board, said Bradley's statements, "while emotionally charged, are basically accurate."

### Left Lane for Passing Only

Drivers take notice: if you're caught cruising along in the left-hand lane, you can be fined \$200. A 1997 Texas law - similar to a Georgia law - makes it a misdemeanor to drive in the left-hand lane on any major thoroughfare in Texas for longer than it takes to pass a slower car and return to the right, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported last week.

"Left lane for passing only" signs are popping up around the state, as the new law is being phased in.

"It's not going to be like the fastest cars get to ride in [the left lane]," said John Hurt, spokesman for the Texas Department of Transportation. "Nobody's going to get to ride in it."

### Anti-Tobacco Billboard Goes Up

Hundreds of billboards across Texas have been removed to meet a July 3 deadline set in Texas' settlement with cigarette makers.

To mark the reduction of tobacco marketing aimed at children, the Texas Department of Health unveiled in Austin the first anti-tobacco billboard in its "Tobacco Is a Dead End" campaign to reduce tobacco use by youth.

The billboard, donated by Outdoor Network, has the state Capitol as a backdrop. It is in the neighborhood of Travis High School students who helped shape the message of TDH's anti-tobacco campaign.

### Other Capital Highlights

The Federal Election Commission has fined the campaign of Republican Steve Stockman \$40,000 for violating disclosure laws in his 1994 congressional race. The FEC said Stockman and his campaign failed to report contributions and expenditures. (See Highlights, Page 5)

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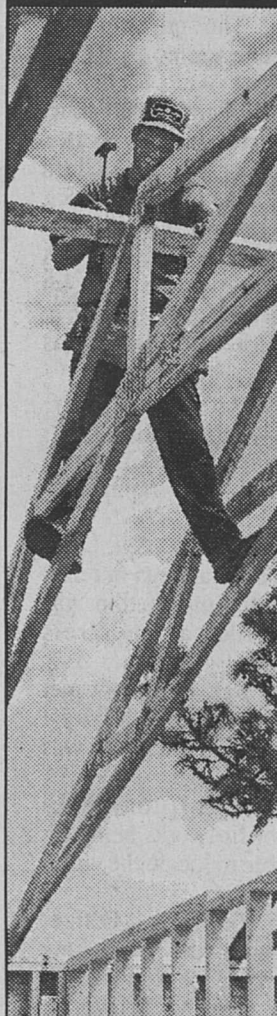
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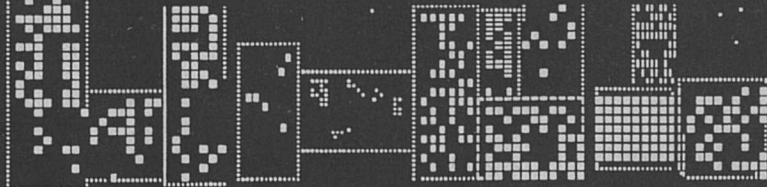
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## ABOUT TOWN...



•On Channel 26 Sunday night, July 5, Old Time Cowboys were talking about the rankest bulls they had ever tried to ride. An Old Timer from Madisonville said the worst one he ever tried to ride was Hitler.

Hitler belonged to Rusty Thomas and Jim Clipson who, back in the 1950s, had a rodeo in Eagle Lake.

•Delano Joseph Frnka of Eagle Lake earned a place on the President's

Honor Roll for the Spring Quarter in Texas State Technical College classes at the Texas Marine Education Center (TMEC) in Palacios.

Frnka is a student in the diesel mechanics program.

The President's Honor Roll recognizes the scholastic achievement of those students with a perfect 4.0 grade point average for the quarter.

•Eagle Lake has another resident

in Southwest Memorial Hospital. Elmer Struss stopped by the office Monday morning to give us a "thank you" from Frances. He reported she had been sent to Southwest from Rice Medical Center's Emergency Room.

They now know she is battling cancer, but, at last report, were unsure of its origin. (This fact effects the treatment administered.)

Our prayers and love go out to Frances and Elmer during this trying time.

We're sure she would love to hear from her friends and neighbors. Frances is in Room #615. The address is 7600 Beechnut, Houston, Texas 77074.

And, don't forget about Walter Lee Bauer. According to a report we received this week, he's still in Room #446 even though he's had another setback.

We wish them both God speed. •Katherine and Pat Mascheck bravely took their daughter, Jennifer Biaselli, and two of Jenny's friends to Lake Charles for a couple of days at Player's Island.

Joining the trip were Jenny's soon-to-be-Rice High School freshmen classmates, Cathy Fearing and Salina Sykowski.

We hope Katherine and Pat return with at least their nerves intact!

## Bible Verse of the Week

"Be not sorry for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

— Nehemiah 8:10

Submitted by Neddy Phillips



1948 § July 8 § 1998

Butch & Mary Lou  
Szymanski

Happy 50<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary

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