



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

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The Eagle Lake Headlight reserves the right to reject, edit, or omit any ad for any reason to conform to the paper policy.

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,
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067

To The Editor & You

'A life is not replaceable'

Saturday seemed to be just another day until 7:30 p.m. when we received a phone call that Rock Island and Altair were on the television with a possible tornado heading toward Eagle Lake.

By 11:30 p.m. our town was flooded and many panicky people found themselves in deep water. I would never have believed that our town flooded so bad and so fast if I hadn't seen it myself.

Most of the neighborhoods frantically worked together trying to rescue people in high water, then save what could be saved.

Then, there's one spot in town that stands out in my mind. Anyone who traveled Main Street might possibly know what I'm referring to.

On our way to help someone in high water we were flagged down by a hysterical person waving a towel at us. Thinking they were in trouble we stopped, ready to help, only to get yelled at because our tires pushed waves onto their property. I'm sorry your stuff was being washed away, but to me I would rather save a person's life than my personal belongings I've had for years. A person's life is NOT REPLACEABLE!!

Personal items are. It can be expensive, but they ARE replaceable.

With water rushing across the streets and people trying to see what

was going on, anybody's life could have easily been put in danger at any time. So the next time anyone decides to yell at someone because they're thinking of themselves, just remember there's someone who could be in great danger and worse off than you!!!

Sincerely,
Tiffany Jones
Eagle Lake

ABOUT TOWN...

•Chad Miller, a seven year firefighter with the Houston Fire Department, was among 121 firefighters presented awards Thursday, Oct. 8, during the department's annual Valor Awards Ceremony at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Miller was presented with a Unit Valor Award which is an award for valor displayed by a unit, company/station who worked as a team under extreme and adverse conditions in achieving a common goal.

He is a member of the Hazardous Materials Team who fought a ship fire at the Houston Ship Channel May 9.

Miller is a former member of the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department and the grandson of Margie Miller of Eagle Lake.

•Congratulations to the following

Industrial emissions released into the skies of Texas, including so-called "grandfathered emissions, have decreased, according to a new study by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.

TNRCC's 1997 inventory of air emissions from more than 1,600 sources shows 2.5 million tons of pollutants were released. Nine-hundred thousand of those tons were grandfathered. In 1986, about 3 million tons of emissions were released, with 1.6 million of those tons grandfathered.

students from Sam Houston State University who received degrees in Aug.: Cari Lyn Cranek of Garwood, Bachelor of Business Administration degree in General Business; and Craig Allen Faltysek, East Bernard, Bachelor of Business Administration degree in General Business.

•Lake Forest, IL-A select group of America's teachers are being honored by their toughest critics... their former students, in the fifth edition of Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 1998.

Local educators honored include: Sandra Benge of Eagle Lake, retired Fine Arts Chair and Teacher; and Donna Grahmann, East Bernard Jr. High. Both have been honored in more than one edition.

Congratulations to you both!

State Capitol Highlights

By Ed Sterling
Texas Press Association

Grandfathered emissions are those from factories and power plants that were in operation or under construction before 1971, the year Texas launched its air quality permitting program. Those facilities are not required to have an air quality permit.

"The reductions in emissions are even more significant when you consider the growth of the Texas economy during this period (from 1986 to 1997)," TNRCC Commissioner Ralph Marquez said.

Inventory results will be provided to the Texas Legislature along with a plan by the TNRCC to move more sources of grandfathered emissions into its air quality permitting program, Clean Air Responsibility Enterprise, or "CARE."

TU Electric, a power company that released grandfathered emissions from its facilities in Freestone, McLennan, Ward and Titus counties, announced earlier this month it would voluntarily reduce emissions by about one-third.

State Fines Hole-In-One Firm
A Reno, corporation agreed Oct. 9 to pay a \$25,000 fine for selling coverage for hole-in-one golf contests without a Texas insurance license.

In a consent order signed by Insurance Commissioner Elton Bomer, Hole-In-One International Inc. voluntarily ceased operating in Texas.

The order said that since 1992, the company or its representatives solicited and accepted at least 949 applications from sponsoring groups for insurance that would pay the prize money to winners of such competi-

tions. In this type of arrangement, a group - often a charity - holds a contest offering big prizes to people who pay to attempt feats of skill, such as hole-in-one golf or a basket made at a great distance on a basketball court, the Department of Insurance said.

Long-Distance Learning Spreads
More and more Texas colleges and universities are offering college- and graduate-level studies through the Internet and other electronic means.

At last count, 31 Texas colleges and universities offer 149 degree programs through distance learning.

The long-distance learning trend is detailed in the Oct. issue of Fiscal Notes, a publication of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

"Some students never show up on campus," said Comptroller John Sharp. "Some never see their fellow students or instructors. And some never visit a library, but they're still getting an education, thanks to the online accessibility of library materials."

Long-distance students typically are adults who work full time and are too busy paying bills to drive to a campus, find a place to park and attend night classes, Sharp said.

Annual Texas Rankings Released

Texas continues to rank No. 1 in cattle, crude oil and natural gas production, according to "Texas, Where We Stand", an annual ranking compiled since 1994 by the Texas Comptroller's Research Division.

The ranking covers state economic, demographic and fiscal measures to show where Texas stands among the 50 states.

Texas is second after California in population, No. 3 in gross state product and No. 4 in Fortune 500 companies.

Since the release of the 1997 rankings, Texas has dropped from fifth place to 11th place in the number of food-stamp recipients.

"We've also reduced our business-failure rate, going from seventh-highest nationally in our last report to 11th place in 1998," said Comptroller Sharp.

Other Capital Highlights

•Enrollment at the University of Texas is the highest in the nation, with 48,917 full-time students. Second highest is Ohio State University, with 48,169, followed by Arizona State-Tempe (47,732), Texas A&M University (43,389) and Michigan State University-East Lansing (43,200).

Corrections on history listed

Please let me offer the following corrections to the history of the Masonic Lodge Building in last week's article regarding the Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Several of the errors were mine, others were the typist's:

First, the cost of the land was \$4,500 not \$45 as reported.

Second, the contractor was Geo. W. Keith, not Keeton.

Third, the cost of the building was \$8,700, not \$5,000.

Fourth, when the building was completed, Mr. Max Landa was the first tenant in the lower floor opening a grocery store; later the Central Power and Light Co. took over the occupancy.

Fifth, the Lodge sold half of their lot to J. Nathan, not J. David.

Wm. H. Harrison Sr.

Ken Armbrister On The Issues

Water

"We passed Senate Bill 1, the first comprehensive water plan in sixteen years. This plan ensures that local people, not some big bureaucracy in Austin, have control over their water. These same people who live in the area and have a real stake in the water supply will develop the plans for water projects and drought response for the next 50 years."

State Budget

"We have come a long way in the State Budget toward making government leaner, less wasteful, and more efficient. This does not mean that there are not still areas where we can find savings, and eliminate fraud, waste, and abuse. We currently have a budget surplus, which we have not enjoyed in a long time, and we must use it wisely."

Transportation

"This issue presents serious challenges for us. A good transportation infrastructure is vital to economic growth and developing trade. We need to work hard to find better, more innovative ways to manage our transportation system."

Education

"In 1995 we re-wrote the Texas Education Code for the first time in 45 years. This new code broke the grasp that a central bureaucracy in Austin held on our public schools system. As a former local School Board Vice-President, I know how important local control is to ensuring a quality education."

Crime/Public Safety

"As a patrol officer and later a Captain with the Victoria Police Department, I dealt with crime and public safety issues first-hand. I know how important it is for Texas to have a strong, effective criminal justice system that protects the innocent and justly punishes criminals. I have always worked hard in the Texas Senate to make our streets and communities safer."

Ken is Supported By:



Texas Farm Bureau(AgFund)
Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association
National Federation of Independent Business
Texas Association of Business & Chambers of Commerce(BACPAC)
Texas State Rifle Association and the NRA
Texas Hospital Association(HOSPAC)
Texas Healthcare Professional Groups
Many Law Enforcement and Public Safety Groups
Active and Retired Teachers Groups
The Austin American-Statesman
The Fort Bend Herald-Coaster

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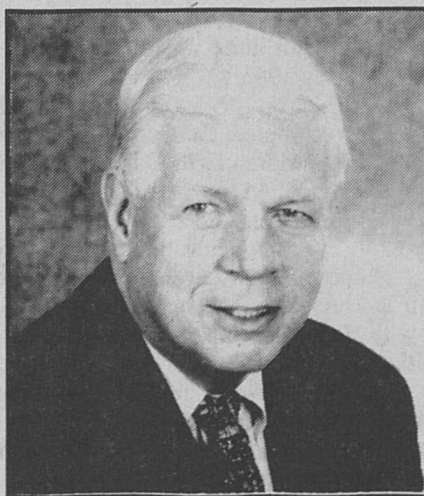
• COMMON SENSE

• LEADERSHIP

• EXPERIENCE

Al Jamison will analyze the spending side of the budget to determine if tax dollars are being wisely used.

Where problems are found, he will work with the commissioners to agree on a plan of action.



"I respectfully ask for your vote in November."

AL JAMISON, the conservative choice...A Proven Winner

Pol. adv. paid for by Alana Jamison, Treasurer, Rt. 2 Box 48A, New Ulm, TX 78950 (Frederburg)

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