



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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To The Editor & You

It's more than just pies!!!

This weekend, several activities will take place which hopefully reflect a spiritual and attitudinal change that has developed in our little town over the past year or so.

For a long time, the youth of our community have been at a loss for spiritual and recreational outlet in the community. A few years ago, several churches consolidated their Sunday school classes in an effort to improve involvement in this very important activity.

For a while, the attendance was "fair" but there was not the renewed interest that had been hoped for. Then, last year several things occurred that resulted in a big jump. First, the high school kids planned and raised the

funds to go on a winter ski trip. This was more than just recreational, but also an opportunity for fellowship and spiritual sharing. This year, the group has increased from a dozen or so to over 30!!! And the class includes high school youth from the Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches.

Imagine that! Kids with such a diverse spiritual background actually getting together to share a spiritual activity every week. Some may argue that it's the trip that inspires the turnout and that maybe part of it, but nonetheless it is happening and hopefully the lessons taught and the fellowship will be worth the effort.

This Sunday those kids are having

a "pie" auction and hamburger sale at the Christ Episcopal Church (the pink one) to raise money for the trip. Please consider the benefits of this project in the spiritual lives of these kids and support this project.

On Saturday, Nov. 7, Paula Richardson, another of our local young people, will be showcasing her spiritual gift with a promotional concert for her recently recorded CD of contemporary Christian music at the First Baptist Church.

Hopefully, this is just the beginning of many such efforts for her! Again, I would urge everyone to come out and support the wonderful efforts of this young lady as well.

It seems that things are starting to happen today for our youth as never before. The ICE house, the Sunday school effort, and Mrs. Richardson's efforts all suggest a more youth oriented, wholesome (forgive the word) attitude in town and that speaks well for our kids as well as our community! Russell Thomas

'Ignorance of the law is no excuse'

Ignorance of the Texas Open Meetings Act is no excuse for violating it, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals ruled last week.

"The act places a duty upon members of governmental bodies to hold open meetings and a ... duty to find an exception to the general rule if they desire to have a closed meeting," Judge Morris Overstreet wrote in an opinion joined by the entire nine-member court.

"Neglect of this duty will subject a member of a governmental body to criminal sanction," Overstreet said in the case involving the former president of a South Texas school board.

The appeal was brought to the state's highest criminal court by Joseph Louis Tovar, former president of the Somerset Independent School District board, *The Associated Press* reported.

Tovar was found guilty by a jury of knowingly participating in and knowingly calling a special, closed-door school board meeting in 1994 that violated the Open Meetings Act.

According to court records, subjects discussed at the meeting in-



State Capitol Highlights

By Ed Sterling
Texas Press Association

cluded whether and where a new high school should be built and a policy for observing a moment of silence during the school day.

Tovar's punishment originally was assessed at six months jail and a \$500 fine on each of the two indictments. That sentence was suspended in the district court. He was instead ordered on community supervision for six months.

The Court of Criminal Appeals agreed to consider whether a lower appeals court was wrong to uphold the convictions based on a conclusion that a public official can be guilty of violating the law even when the official is unaware the meeting isn't permitted.

Tovar argued that jurors should have been instructed that he could be found guilty only if they found he called or participated in the meeting knowing it wasn't permitted.

Tovar's appeal was supported by groups including the Texas Municipal League, Texas City Attorneys' Association and the Texas Association of School Board Legal Assistance Fund, the *AP* reported.

Suzi Woodford, executive director of the government watchdog group Common Cause, applauded the ruling. "We hope this will send a message to people that they need to follow... not only the letter but the spirit of the law and realize that the public's business must be done in public."

"The law is available. Public officials need to know what the law is that covers them, and not having read the act and not having a clue is no excuse," she told the *AP*.

UT Chief Seeks to Reopen Tower
University of Texas President
Larry Faulkner last week asked the

UT board of regents to allow tours of the observation deck at the top of the 28-floor UT Tower.

The board of regents will decide on Faulkner's request at a Nov. 11-12 meeting in Houston.

The observation deck served as a sniper's nest for rifleman Charles Whitman, who shot and killed 14 people and wounded 32 others on Aug. 1, 1996. The deck was closed in 1975 after several students jumped from it to their deaths.

Faulkner said he believes that reopening the deck to the public will help Texans to heal bad memories associated with the 307-foot-tall landmark.

The Tower "is the strongest image uniting members of the university community," Faulkner said in a report published by the *Austin American-Statesman*.

Faulkner wants the observation deck open by the May 1999 graduation. "We should actively use this icon of higher education in positive ways," he said.

Other Capital Highlights

*Texas Health Commissioner William R. Archer II last week lifted a requirement that Galveston Bay oysters be removed from their shells and packed in containers labeled "For Cooked Consumption Only." Harvesting in the bay was halted from June 26 to Oct. 3, after a diarrheal illness was linked to oysters from the bay. The shucking and labeling requirements were imposed Oct. 3.

*Senate Finance Committee Chairman Bill Ratliff, R. Mount Pleasant, last week said a \$2.6 billion surplus — not the \$6.3 billion projected for the biennial state budget — is more realistic when the demands of Texas' growing population are taken into account.

ABOUT TOWN...

*Sunday, Oct. 25, at the First Baptist Church, J.K. Davidson was given a plaque for 75 years of perfect attendance. He joined the church in 1923.

*Guess who's made it big? Donald Hollas! He is now a quarterback for the Oakland Raiders. He threw two touchdown passes this past weekend.

After only a few minutes Janet Schorlemmer was able to tell us all we needed to know about the Hollas family.

Donald is one of three children of Carol and Winn Hollas, both teachers here at one time. Carol taught second grade and Winn was a history teacher and coach. They both transferred from here to Lamar in Rosenberg.

They had three sons: William, Donald and Kenneth. William graduated from and played football for Rice University; Donald also attended Rice Univ. where he played quarterback.

Congratulations to Donald on his accomplishment.



Foot Facts

By Dr. Eric R. Tepper, Podiatrist

BUNIONS: A BOTHER IN OLD AGE

With all the other aches and pains that can go along with aging, why is it that our feet seem to turn on us as well? In the case of bunions, "turning" is precisely the problem. Bunions are caused by a disorder called hallux (or "great toe") abducto ("outward") valgus ("rotation"). The big toe turns toward the other toes, which causes its joint to jut outward from the foot. The result is a deformity that can be quite painful. While bunions are frequently hereditary, they can become particularly pesky in old age because inflammatory conditions such as gout and rheumatoid arthritis break down joints, making it easier for the big toe to swivel out of position.

Experience shows that about one person in four has a foot problem. It can be as simple as a corn as a complex as a bunion or other bone deformity (hereditary or otherwise). Regardless, the problem is a big one to the individual who suffers pain because of it. There is no reason to suffer, however, when quality foot care is available. Patients feel comfortable here in our offices because they know they are receiving the most up to date foot care available and the foot pain can be a thing of the past. Call for a Tuesday appointment at 234-5571, at Rice Medical Center.

P.S. Ill-fitting footwear doesn't cause bunions, but it can aggravate them and make them more painful.



Writer responds to Etheridge

This letter is in response to the "Letter to the Editor" printed last week, sent in by Ike Etheridge.

First of all, if you (Etheridge) received a ticket for doing 40 mph in a 30 mph zone, you were in a residential area. I don't know about anybody else, but I don't want my children playing in the yard with speeding cars running up and down the street.

If you felt that you were innocent, then you should not have elected to go to jail for it. That was your choice.

The other incident you spoke of is very similar to yours. You stated that you were not speeding. You said the officer was lying about your speed.

There were yards that were damaged by someone. It has yet to be proven as to whom actually did the damage.

You didn't like being accused of something that you didn't do. How do you think the officer feels?

Just for your information, that officer was not fired or asked to resign. He decided to quit instead of being questioned about something else he was accused of.

The difference is when a person is charged with a crime, that person is innocent until proven guilty.

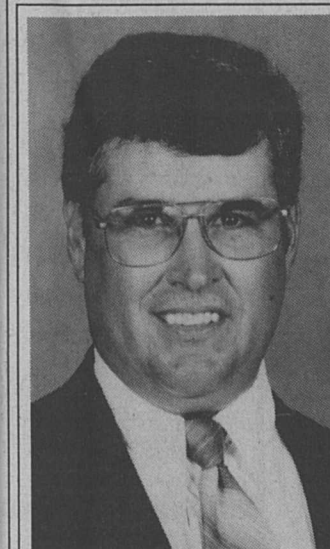
When you are a police officer with the City of Eagle Lake, you are guilty until proven innocent. At least that's the way Chief Webb seems to run his department.

Name withheld by request

Bible Verse of the Week

"O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good; because His mercy endureth forever." — Psalms 118:1

Submitted by Neddy Phillips



I would like to thank all of you for your support and confidence in Tuesday's General Election. I look forward to serving all the people of Colorado County as Commissioner of Pct. 4.

Darrell D. Gertson
Colorado County
Commissioner-Elect

Political advertisement paid for by D.D. Gertson, Sandra Rodgers, Treasurer, 3201 Honeydew Lane, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434.

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REWARD

for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who shot and killed a **NATIONAL CHAMPION** Miniature Show Horse Monday night, October 26, 1998, off County Road 149 that connects Ramsey Road cutoff.

Person or persons were on a County Road and shot onto and killed the horse on private property belonging to C&M Miniatures.

Call: 409-234-7550 Billie Jean Case

409-234-2430 Chester McGehee

409-732-2388 Colorado County Sheriff's Department

Real Kid-Pleasers!



Our famous kids' menu features all of their tasty favorites. Mom and dad get what they want and the kids get what they want, too, so everybody's happy.

SPORTSMAN'S RESTAURANT
201 Boothe, Eagle Lake
234-3071

Call Crime Stoppers • 234-5555 • It Pays Rewards