



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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CITY OF EAGLE LAKE,
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Eagle Lake native touches base

My name is Michael Lednicki. I was born in Eagle Lake in 1960; delivered into this world by Dr. Raymond Thomas.

I left Eagle Lake in 1969, by no choice of my own, leaving behind

much family and many friends.

When I was younger, I visited often but, as I got older and more involved, the visits were more and more infrequent.

My last visit "home" was July 4, 1998. During that time, I spent the few days I had available with my grandmother, Mrs. Albert Lednicki, and my uncle, aunt and cousins: Bob, Pat, Robby, Ronnie and Billy Cook.

We had a great 4th of July out at Broyles Lake. I had the opportunity to see friends I haven't seen in a while.

My grandmother is always sending clippings of articles and pictures from your newspaper, keeping me informed on happenings in the area, especially when they cover anyone in the family.

I have received many concerning the family of Robby and Mary Kay Cook, or should I say Representative Cook. My grandmother is very proud of him as she is all of her grandchildren. I too am proud of all my family and their accomplishments.

I thought I would send some photos and brief explanation of what I do and if you chose to use them I know she would get a big kick out of seeing them in her hometown paper. I guess I was feeling nostalgic and kind of wanted to let old friends know what a native son was up to.

I am a commercial diver, specializing in working in the harsh environment of the Mississippi River. Although most of my work is demanding and at times unnerving, there are breaks when I actually get to play a little.

On a recent job working in the Mississippi at a depth of approximately 52 feet, I kept accidentally grabbing, touching, or bumping into fish. I was working on an underwater pumping structure and although I had zero visibility, I was fairly certain the fish were big catfish hanging around this underwater structure.

We were put on standby for a few

hours by the company we are performing the work for so I decided to "catch" a few of these fish.

As you can see from the photograph, I caught eight total. The largest one was 40 pounds. I had hold of two others that were probably 20-30 pounds larger. One almost broke my arm. He didn't want me to wrestle him to the surface. I can tell you that because he put up one heck of a fight; rolling like an alligator for me, making it really impossible for me to subdue him.

(See Fish, Page 8)



Michael Lednicki displays his hand-caught catfish.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Dec. 7, 1973

A 51-year-old man who lives in the Vox Populi community north of Garwood was killed in an accident on FM 950 between Matthews and Garwood early Tuesday morning of this week. Nathaniel Brown was found dead in his 1967 pickup at around 5:15 a.m. Tuesday. He had fallen asleep at the wheel and flipped the truck...

Skylab astronauts took a look at the Eagle Lake area to determine depth variation and help with future development...

The Rice High School Future Homemakers of America Club selected two beaus for the 1973-74 school year. Mark Boenisch was elected senior beau and Samuel Flowers was elected freshman beau...

Mr. & Mrs. John W. Birdwell are proud to announce the arrival of a son, John William Jr., Dec. 4 at 12:22 a.m. at the Matagorda General Hospital in Bay City. Grandparents from this city are Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Birdwell...

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, for Mrs. Odeal Dawson Pettus, a native of the Eagle Lake community, who passed away in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital, Dec. 3rd...

Miss Theresa Theuman and Joe Laughlin, whose wedding is scheduled for late Dec., were honored Saturday, Dec. 1, at a buffet dinner in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Reed...

Participants on the program for the meeting of the local unit of the Classroom Teachers Association that met Dec. 3 at Eagle Lake Middle School included Aleene Wynn, Lamar Consolidated C.T.A., past president; Lynda Appelt, vice president of Rice C.T.A.; and Bertha York, vice president Lamar C.T.A., guest speaker. Also on hand were Tom Rohwer, president of Rice C.T.A., and Helen Craig, secretary-treasurer...

We've had several phone calls from readers informing us that the comet that is drawing so much attention has been visible in late evening low on the horizon in the northwest skies. Tereza Rodriguez was the first to call and point out this fact...

Dan Thornton dropped in this week to report that he killed a nice eight-point buck in the Mason area. He told us about the excitement in that area when some escaped convicts holed up on the Schmidt Ranch where he was hunting...

Mrs. W.H. (Bill) Albrecht of this city had the misfortune to break a bone in her left arm near the shoulder in a fall during a fishing trip last week...

June 7, 1951

An outstanding program last Friday closed the 1950-51 School year here. Among the many students receiving recognition were the following: Outstanding students in each grade: first, Lawayne Stewart, Suzanne Powers; second, Carol Ann Beseda, Gerald Clipson; third, Richard Richter, Margaret Dannelly; fourth, Sandra Carol Thomas, Durwood Fletcher; fifth, Jo Ann Konvicka, Walter Jones; sixth, Jimmie Frnka, Ruth Ann Tate; seventh, John Beseda, Evangeline Loessin; eighth, Kenneth Mahalit, Mary Metzger; ninth, Alfred Marx, Grace Sinclair; tenth, Jack Dowdy, Grace Campbell; eleventh, Ernest Larmer, Lula Gene Snelling; twelfth, Albert Dutcher, Betty Ruth Beane Mooney. Merit Medal charm awards were present to Judith Anderson for citizenship; Jack Dowdy, mathematics; Jeanette Causey, home economics; Carey Hanly, English; Bill Hanly, journalism; Roy Addicks, social science; Melba Jean Walker, principal's award; Nellie DeShazo, business; Frank Lee Graves, science; Sam Alvarado, music; Alfred Marx, vocational agriculture; Eleanor Jones, annual; and Bill Reading, activities...

Four graduates of Eagle Lake High School who received degrees from the University of Houston recently were Mrs. Frances Hanly Anselin and Miss Alma Dale Pinchback, Master of Education; and Harold Eugene Grasshoff and William C. Reed Jr., Bachelor of Business Administration...

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Walter Sommer on the arrival of an infant son, Calvin James...

Simon S. White Jr. received his degree in industrial education at the spring commencement exercises held at Texas A&M University...

Mr. & Mrs. Harrison Walker and sons have moved into their new home, recently completed in the Pecan Valley section...

Three Scouts from Eagle Lake, Dick Laughlin, David Cook and Stanley Carroll will be going on the big "Phil-Trek" trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico in late Aug. ...

Raymond Jochetz Jr. was among the graduates at Texas A&M University last Friday.

To THE EDITOR & You

Thank you, Sgt.

To Whom it May Concern:

This is a note to thank Sgt. Bill Lattimore, who helped me with a family matter that required patience and understanding.

He was helpful, considerate and

very concerned. He also offered words of prayer which I appreciated the most.

Lots of thanks to Sgt. Lattimore and may God bless you.

Muriel Fuller & Family

Thanks, Mystery Man!!

Colorado County Habitat for Humanity would like to thank the *Mystery Man* who has been mowing our lot on the corner of Hubbard Ferry and S. Austin!

We apologize for leaving the lot unmowed for that extended length of time, and sincerely appreciate your hard work!

Please let us know who you are so that we may thank you in person!

Sincerely,
Lois Quenneville
Habitat for Humanity

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON COLORADO COUNTY CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BUDGET

The Colorado County CAD will hold a public hearing on a proposed budget for the 2000 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held on July 13, 1999, at 1:30 P.M. in the Colorado County Central Appraisal District Board Room at 106 CARDINAL LANE, COLUMBUS, TEXAS.

A summary of the appraisal district budget follows:

The total amount of the proposed budget is \$546,430.

The amount of increase over the current year's budget is \$44,680.

The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget will be 9 employees.

The appraisal district is supported solely by payments from the local units served by the appraisal district.

If approved by the appraisal district board of directors at the public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities, and towns served by the appraisal district.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of those governing bodies. A copy is also available for public inspection at the appraisal district office.

Colorado County Central Appraisal District
P.O. Box 10
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Hepatitis A Vaccine Recommended for Children in Some States

Hepatitis A is highly contagious. According to recent estimates, 125,000 to 200,000 Americans are affected each year. The segment of the population most commonly infected is children between the ages of 5 and 14 years. This is probably due to the close contact that young children have with each other. The virus that causes hepatitis A is spread by the oral/fecal route from person-to-person contact.

Earlier this year a committee of The Centers for Disease Control recommended that children living in states with a high incidence of hepatitis A receive vaccination against the virus. States with high hepatitis A infection rates include Arizona, Alaska, California, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, and Washington. The vaccine is already recommended for children entering school or daycare in Oklahoma and parts of Texas and Arizona.

Hepatitis A vaccines (*Havrix* and *Vaqta*) can be administered to children as young as 2 years. Two injections should be administered at least 6 months apart. Vaccination for hepatitis B does not protect against hepatitis A.

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