



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Produced By:
Carol Nelson • Lynda Appelt
Jeannine Fearing
Shirley Luedecke • Katherine Smith

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State budget includes raises for several agency chiefs

Wayne Scott, executive director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice since 1996, has been approved to receive a \$23,000 increase to his \$127,000 annual salary.

The new state budget, which takes effect Sept. 1, allows Scott and other agency chiefs to be paid as much as \$150,000 a year.

Allan Polunsky, chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice which oversees the criminal justice agency, said he will recommend the raise for Scott.

As head of the agency, Scott is



responsible for a \$2 billion a year budget, 40,000 employees and 145,000 inmates.

Also approved by the state Legislature were raises for other agency chiefs, the *Austin American-Statesman* reported last week, including:

•The commissioner of the Texas Department of Human Services, from \$105,000 to \$150,000;

•The commissioner of Texas Health and Human Services Commission, from \$125,106 to \$150,000;

•The commissioner of Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, from \$135,000 to \$140,000;

•The director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, from \$90,000 to \$102,000;

•The executive director of the Texas Department of Protective and

Regulatory Services, from \$90,000 to \$115,000.

This year, the Legislature also approved a \$100 a month pay raise for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's 23,755 guards.

The starting salary for a prison guard is \$17,000 and low pay is one reason the agency has more than 1,000 job openings in its system of 112 prisons and jails.

Education Chief Applies at Tech
Texas Education Commissioner Dr. Mike Moses has applied for the

position of deputy chancellor for external affairs at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

Moses, who has served as commissioner of education since 1995, submitted his application at the urging of Tech Chancellor John Montford, according to Debbie Graves Ratcliffe, senior director of the Texas Education Agency's division of communications and public information.

Moses and Montford's friendship goes back to Moses' term as superintendent of Lubbock Independent School District. Then, Montford was a state senator representing Texas Senate District 28, which includes Lubbock.

school students, I'm encouraged by what I've heard today," Cornyn said. "The practical advice of the experts will give our schools the programs and strategies to make our schools safe."

Future meetings of the task force have been set for Sept. 7 in Lubbock, Nov. 8 in Houston and Feb. 3, 2000 in Dallas.

According to Texas Education Agency statistics, there were 200,000 assaults against students and 18,000 assaults against teachers reported in the last four academic years.

In the same period, more than 31,000 weapons were confiscated in schools and 85,000 acts of vandalism or criminal mischief against schools or student property were reported.

Other Highlights

•Nearly 90,000 items from abandoned safe deposit boxes will be sold to the highest bidder on Oct. 2, at the state's next unclaimed property auction in Austin. Jewelry, coins and currency, stamps, historical documents and other collectibles and curiosities will go on the auction block, state Comptroller Carole Keeton Rylander announced last week.

•Retailers and shoppers can get details about the Aug. 6-8 sales tax holiday from the Texas comptroller's easily accessible web site, www.window.state.tx.us. Items listed primarily school attire and supplies will be exempt from state, city and county sales taxes.

School Violence Topic of Meeting

Texas Attorney General John Cornyn and Texas Education Commissioner Moses were in San Antonio July 15 for the first meeting of the Attorney General's School Violence Task Force.

One of the goals of the task force is to ensure that every school district has a crisis management plan.

Moses, co-chairman of the task force, said the effort brings parents, community leaders, teachers and principals together in a forum in which they can share ideas for solutions to campus violence.

"It also gives them the resources available to prepare for the possibility that students today may act in a violent manner," Moses added.

"As the father of two public high

To THE EDITOR & YOU

Another thank you received

To the citizens and community organizations of Eagle Lake:

I would like to thank you for your warm and friendly hospitality that was shown to my daughter and myself on July 8 after the Amtrak accident just east of your city.

Every thing possible was done to

make us comfortable until alternative transportation arrangements were made.

Thanks again and God Bless.

Yours truly,
Frank and Tyia Brookins
La Mirada, Calif.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Dec. 28, 1973

Dr. William Lufburrow, director of Goodwill Industry of Houston, was the speaker at the banquet held by the Eagle Lake Noon and Evening Lions Club last Thursday in the Community Center. Roy Dean Van Nort, president of Noon Lions, and David Pavlick, president of the Evening Lions, presented a Lion's Club banner promoting this community as the Goose Hunting Capital of the World to the speaker...

Eagle Lake Police were called to investigate the theft of two guns taken from pickup trucks at two homes in the area the night of Dec. 21. Bob Cook Jr. reported that a 20 gauge shot gun was taken from his pickup on Clipson Road; and Melvin Sunderman reported that a .22 caliber automatic was taken from his pickup on Willow Lane...

Effective Jan. 9, 1974 the *Eagle Lake Headlight* will return to a once a week publication, announced Publisher Fred R. Frnka...

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Skuca of Nada announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Kathleen Ann, to Stephen Clyde Anderson, son of Mr. & Mrs. Olan Anderson of Sweeny. The ceremony will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church at Nada at 2 p.m. on Jan. 12, 1974...

At the Sheridan Lions Ladies' Night Lavo Brisco and Eddie Ray Taylor presented potted plants for special recognition to Mr. & Mrs. Joe Lee Brocker, Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Haines and Mr. & Mrs. J.B. Ross. A special gift was awarded to Isam Briscoe Sr. Each was commended for their outstanding work in the community and for donations to the Community Center...

Sophomore Darrell Dancy, recently pulled up from the junior varsity to the varsity by Coach Jack Grammer, has been named the Rice High School cager of the week...

Mr. & Mrs. Major Bengel welcomed the arrival of a baby daughter into their family at 9:05 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 20, at Eagle Lake Community Hospital. The little lady weighed six pounds and has been named

Bonnie Kristina. She was welcomed home by two sisters, Becky, 8; and Valerie, 5...

Mr. & Mrs. Gerion Nelson of Bernardo announced the arrival of a son, Todd William, born Dec. 18 in Columbus Hospital. He weighed nine pounds, six ounces and was 21 inches long.

July 12, 1951

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Willis are welcoming the arrival of their second son, Walter Maurice Jr....

New arrivals in the Laughlin Hospital are Jeffrey Lee, son born to Mr. & Mrs. Leon Steinback of this city, and Dallas Ray, son born to Mr. & Mrs. J.D. Ratliff of Lissie...

Among those being honored recently at birthday parties have been: Beth Sinclair, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. S.S. Sinclair; Dick Richter & Karen Richter, son and daughter of Mr. & Mrs. C.L. Richter; Don Spalinger, son of Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Spalinger; and Linda Thomas, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J.R. Thomas...

Miss Jo Ann Meitzen was honored with a miscellaneous bridal shower last Thursday. Hostess for the social was Mrs. Betty Ruth Mooney...

Local cowboys and cowgirl entered in the Wharton County Annual Youth Rodeo are Joe Mahalite, Jim Bush, Jerry Gibson, Jimmy Svatek, Frank Tate and Sandy Thomas...

The engagement of Bobbie Fay Dodd, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Semora Jr., and Jay Anderson, son of Mr. & Mrs. B.D. Anderson, was announced...

John Konvicka Jr. of Konvicka Jewelry Company has been called to active duty with the Air Force...

Miss Gay Estelle Dodd, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Semora Jr., and Benjamin Dexter Anderson, son of Mr. & Mrs. B.D. Anderson, were married in the Lissie church last Friday...

Another newlywed couple is Miss Wanda Lee High, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Pete Schoelman of Lolita, and Harold Grasshoff, son of Mr. & Mrs. Nolan Grasshoff, who exchanged vows last Saturday.

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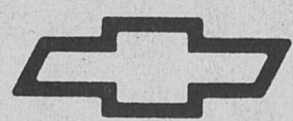
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