



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

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

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

States request Supreme Court hear prayer case

Gov. George W. Bush and Texas Attorney General John Cornyn last week filed a friend of the court brief in the U.S. Supreme Court supporting Santa Fe Independent School District's policy of allowing students to have voluntary prayers at graduation ceremonies and sports events.

Alabama, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, South Carolina and Tennessee also joined in the *amici curie* brief filed by Bush and Cornyn for the state of Texas. The nine

states want the U.S. Supreme Court to hear the school district's case, in hopes of resolving a split over the issue in two U.S. circuit courts of appeals.

Currently, a decision by the Fifth Circuit in New Orleans requires school officials to censor student-initiated and student-given prayer at graduation ceremonies and prohibits voluntary prayer at school-sponsored sporting events.

The Fifth Circuit's decision con-

flicts with a recent 11th Circuit ruling holding that student-initiated religious speech is fully protected by the free-exercise and free-speech clauses of the U.S. Constitution.

Funds Target Illegal Gambling

Bush and Cornyn also pulled at the same yoke last week on another hot-button issue; gambling.

Bush announced a \$1.5 million grant to Cornyn to prosecute illegal gambling in Texas over the next three years.

With this grant, Cornyn will form a task force to prosecute all forms of illegal gambling, including Internet gambling, "eight-liner" slot machines and casinos.

"If it looks like a slot machine and pays like a slot machine, then it is illegal in Texas," Bush said.

Most eight-liner slot machine businesses operate as casinos with at least 10 slot machines and are organized solely for the purpose of facilitating illegal gambling, the attorney general's office said.

Illegal gambling via the Internet is gaining in popularity, Cornyn's office also reported. States including Missouri, Minnesota and New York have obtained injunctions against the operation of gambling web sites within their state lines.

Online Database Aids Employees

HIRE TEXAS, a free, online database maintained by the Texas Workforce Commission, allows employers to post jobs, run matches, review resumes and contact job seekers.

More than 600 Texas businesses, including some of the state's top employers, are using the Internet-based job-matching system to find skilled employees.

There are 400,000 employers and more than 8 million people in Texas' workforce, the work-force commission estimated.

Employers who have a Texas tax

State Capitol Highlights

By Ed Sterling  
Texas Press Association

identification number can use the system, on which more than 30,000 jobs and 1.4 million applications already are posted.

To use HIRE TEXAS, go to <http://www.twc.state.tx.us>.

Agency Faces Budget Shortfall

The Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation is facing a \$60 million budget shortfall in 2000-2001, twice the projected deficit.

Cuts in funding to community mental health centers and medication programs could result.

Coupled with a \$28 million decrease in federal funding, including Medicare payments, to the agency, MHMR revealed to its board of directors that it had made an error in coding its budget request that added \$15 million to its revenue projections.

MHMR director Karen Hale said the agency would cooperate with state lawmakers, who will look at ways to resolve the shortfall after reviewing reports from the state auditor.

Other Highlights

•Anyone who has a computer and Internet service can look up information on registered sex offenders by typing in this address: [http://openrecords.org/records/sexual\\_offenders/texas/](http://openrecords.org/records/sexual_offenders/texas/). The web site allows searchers to type in their ZIP Code and obtain an offender's name, street, description and data about offenses.

•A new study by the Texas Turnpike Authority says toll roads would do much to relieve traffic congestion in the northern part of Austin. The study proposes two tollroads, "Mopac turnpike" hooking up with Interstate 35 and "Texas 45 turnpike" forking west from Mopac to U.S. 79. Required public hearings are expected to be scheduled and conducted later this year and in 2000.

•Pascal "Pat" Forgione Jr., 54, former chief of the National Center for Education Statistics in Washington, D.C. has been named superintendent of troubled Austin Independent School District. AISD is under investigation for falsification of test results.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Jan. 31, 1974

Two occupants of a vehicle struck by a train at the intersection of Beaks Avenue miraculously escaped without injury. The passengers were Light Williams Jr. and Gene Smith...

Last Wednesday, Jan. 23, at a meeting of the Colorado County Women's Republican Club held at the home of Mrs. Jay Anderson, Joe N. Frazier Jr. announced that he will seek the nomination for County Commissioner Pct. 4 of Colorado County in the May Republican Primary...

Dr. Raymond Thomas of Eagle Lake was one of four Scouters who received awards at the David Crockett Scouters Appreciation Banquet in Sealy Jan. 17...

Roger and Dennis DeLaughter will be singing at Colly Memorial United Methodist Church on Tuesday night, Feb. 19, during the "Celebration", a series of four services to be held Feb. 17-20...

Miss Deborah Kaye Sherrer became the bride of Clyde O. Black in a pretty ceremony on Saturday, Jan. 12th, at three o'clock in the afternoon in Colly Memorial United Methodist Church. The bride is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Frank F. Sherrer of Eagle Lake. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Robert Merrifield of Wharton and Charles O. Black of Houston...

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Dostal and Bubba entertained Miss Donna Black and Chuck Stephens at the Holiday Inn in Columbus Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 8 p.m....

Alan Zahradnick, son of Mr. & Mrs. Ray Zahradnick, was on the Dean's List at Sam Houston State University for the past fall semester. Alan compiled a 3.7 G.P.A. on a 4.0 scale...

Mr. & Mrs. Joe Gunn II are the parents of a son born in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital Sunday, Jan. 27, at 6:13 in the morning. His name is Matthew Leon. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Robert Finney of Eagle Lake and Mr. & Mrs. Joe M. Gunn of Houston...

The Junior High Region Honor Band tryouts were held at Dulles High School on Jan. 12th. Linda Mathis from Eagle Lake was chosen for the cornet section. She placed 13th out of 81 cornets. Clayton Smith from Garwood placed third out of 21 bass clarinetists.

nets. This was his second year to make the band...

Arthur Flores of Eagle Lake was among 700 employees of W-K-M Valve Division of ACF Industries to give blood in an appeal from Blood Services of Houston...

St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada was the setting for the marriage of Miss Kathleen Skuca and Stephen Clyde Anderson Saturday, Jan. 12, at two o'clock in the afternoon...

Mr. & Mrs. H.E. Tate of Eagle Lake announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Patricia Kay, to Jim R. Harris, son of Mr. & Mrs. Elmer H. Harris of Fort Worth. The couple plans a Saturday, April 6, wedding date at the Colly Memorial United Methodist Church in Eagle Lake...

St. Anthony Catholic Church in Columbus was the setting for the wedding Jan. 4 at 7 p.m. of Miss Monica Lyn Tait, daughter of Mrs. Robert E. Tait and the late Mr. Tait, and Matthew James Hagendorf, son of Mr. & Mrs. Willard Edmund Hagendorf, of Sheridan...

Friends will be happy to know that Mrs. Albert Pustejovsky is doing very well following surgery in St. Luke's Hospital in Houston. She is now at home continuing her convalescence...

David Michael Harvey, 33, a pilot for R.A. Shoop of Garwood, is recuperating from serious injuries received in a car accident in front of the Frank Wesselski home in Garwood...

Mr. & Mrs. E.H. Shirley and Mr. & Mrs. Orville Powers visited last week in Hempstead with their son and brother, Ed Shirley, who was confined to the hospital with a serious heart condition...

Friends will be glad to know that Richard Terrell has been promoted to the rank of Major in the U.S. Army. He is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Ervin Terrell. Mrs. Richard Terrell is the former Doris McCreary, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joe L. McCreary...

Mrs. Inez Matura has rejoined the staff at The Kurllette Beauty Shop in Eagle Lake...

Feb. 7, 1974

Robert Samuel Martin, an employee of the U.S. Postal service for 37 years, was appointed Officer-in-Charge at the Eagle Lake Post Office upon the retirement of H.C. Johnson as postmaster last Friday, Feb. 1st...

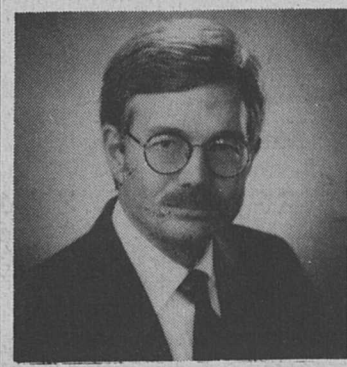
Joe Wendel, a member of the Rice High School faculty, has been elected President of District III Texas Business Education Association which is comprised of 13 counties...

Colorado County lost another of its prominent citizens and a dedicated public official when District Clerk Charlie Allen passed away in Methodist Hospital in Houston at 6:20 p.m. last Friday, Feb. 1, after an illness of some four weeks...

Funeral services were held in Weimar Sunday afternoon for August J. Foijt, a resident of the Heritage House Nursing Home in Eagle Lake who died last Thursday, Feb. 1st. Mr. Foijt was the father of Mrs. Charles Glueck of the Cat Spring community...

About 30 people gathered at the newly decorated golf club house at the Eagle Lake Recreation Center on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 3, to greet the golfers after a rough day on the green - and to surprise Mrs. Earl (Rosemary) Walsh on her birthday...

(See 24 & 48, Page 8)



KEN SPARKS  
Attorney at Law

Former Asst. District Attorney  
Former Harris Co. Chief Prosecutor  
Board Certified in Criminal Law  
Texas Board of Legal Specialization

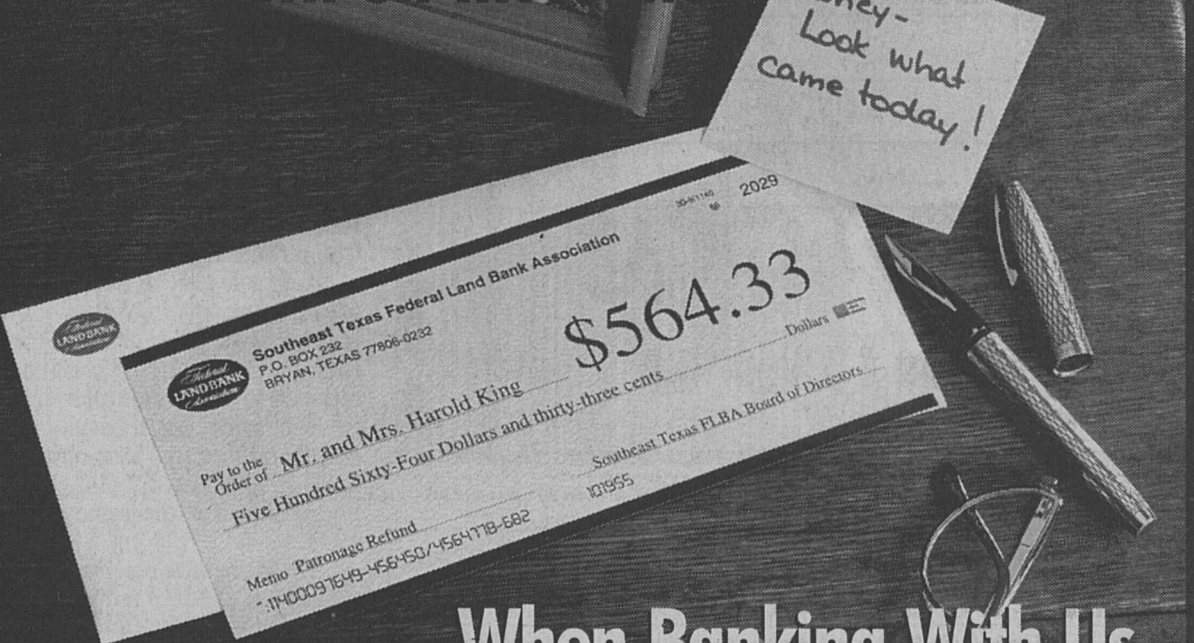
211 N. Center in Weimar  
409-725-6024

Open House

Eagle Lake has been a great place to grow our business (and our family). But now we must relocate the company to a larger city. Our home, the Colly House, is therefore looking for a new family. The 2500-square-foot brick house, on 1.6 acres, will be open for viewing Sunday, August 22, from 11:30 until 3:00 pm. The original servants quarters have been renovated to an additional 400 square feet of office/studio space, ideal for a home-based business. Please come by to roam through the house, or just to visit for a while.

Sam, Mary & Cody Mims  
500 W. Prairie  
234-5003

Your Return on Investment



When Banking With Us

The Southeast Texas Federal Land Bank Association has returned nearly \$2,000,000 in patronage refunds to our borrowers this year. Patronage refunds are but one of the many benefits of doing business with our cooperative lending institution.

For over 80 years, we have provided financing solutions in Southeast Texas. We are your local loan experts, specializing in home, farm, ranch, timber and recreational property lending.

We can meet your financing needs ... call today!



Southeast Texas  
Federal Land Bank Association

Bryan 1714 East 29th St. (409) 775-0404	Bellville 8 East Palm (409) 865-2219	Crockett 605 East Goliad (409) 544-7582
Dayton 907 West Clayton, FM 1960 (409) 258-2687	Edna 808 North Wells St. (512) 782-3539	La Grange 252 North Main St. (409) 968-5750
	Madisonville 335 North May (409) 348-2661	

Colorado County Fair  
parade set for Sept. 11

Entries are being sought for the 21st Annual Colorado County Fair Parade to be held Saturday, Sept. 11, beginning at 11 a.m. in downtown Columbus.

First, second and third place ribbons will be given in each category.

A special rosette will be awarded the most outstanding entry.

Anyone not having received an entry form in the mail may pick one up at Gibson's Muffler Shop, 318 Walnut (Hwy. 90) in Columbus.

Entry forms and additional information are also available by calling

parade chairman Wade Gibson at 409-732-6345 or 732-8718.

The deadline to enter the parade is Tuesday, Sept. 7, no exceptions.

Did You Know...

The words to the *Battle Hymn of the Republic* were written by Julia Ward Howe in 1861 after visiting army camps around Washington.

Attention:  
College Students & Parents



Sprint PCS Now Offers  
The "Allnighter"  
570 Minutes / \$24.99  
a month

\$99<sup>99</sup>  
Sprint PCS  
Phone

(70 anytime & 500 evenings  
and weekend minutes)  
Includes Texas Long Distance.  
Offer ends 9-30-99.

Samsung® Model SCH-1500  
Restrictions apply. See printed materials in store for details.



The clear alternative to cellular.

Sprint PCS

Located Inside the  
EAGLE LAKE DRUGSTORE

702 S. McCarty  
Eagle Lake



409-234-2502

VonDerAu FORD  
LINCOLN  
MERCURY

•VonDerAu MARINE  
•VonDerAu Kawasaki

STEVE  
TAYLOR

1912 N. Mechanic  
El Campo, Texas 77437

Phone: 409-543-2753  
Fax: 409-543-4302  
800-441-5554

KAWASAKI - ATV -  
MULES - GENERATORS  
HONDA - EVINRUDE -  
JOHNSON - MARINER  
OUTBOARDS / BOATS

Call Crime Stoppers • 234-5555 • It Pays Rewards