



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Guilty as charged

By Jeannine Fearing, Publisher zillion pictures). We received a letter Monday, apparently slipped under the front door since there's no postage or postmark, pricing the other three newspapers in the County for printing pictures of the junior livestock show winners.

First, if whomever "sent" the letter had included their names, it would have been published. (See "Letter to Editor Policy" below.)

Not only did they complain about no pictures, which this paper hasn't taken in so many years I can't remember the last time, they go off on how everything NEGATIVE is for sure included in our publication.

Second, in the past, the livestock committee has made sure we get a copy of the pictures. I guess someone else is slipping up, too.

Third, if this publication had the staff the other three papers have, we'd be able to cover more and/or produce more pages (like those it takes to do a

Now, I could give you more reasons, but I'm sure whomever wrote the letter would just call them excuses. But, if you'll remember, I'm suppose to be cutting back on my hours at the office as much as possible. That includes weekend hours, too.

What I need is someone who is a combination of Leslie Risk and Lynda Appelt to walk in the door and go to work. Then, maybe, things around here would get back to "normal" and the "Disgruntled Parents of the Colorado County Livestock Exhibitors" wouldn't have this paper to complain about.

P.S. That crack about our making sure everything negative is included in the paper was a cheap shot. Most of the articles and pictures this paper publishes about the young people in the area are about good things they've done.

Texas eighth graders score higher than average

How well would you do if asked to write about the arrival of a spaceship and what you would like to see on public television?

The 2,530 Texas eighth-grade students who took a national writing examination in 1998 wrote about those very things and scored higher on average than eighth-graders nationwide.

Results of the National Assessment of Educational Progress showed the percentage of Texas eighth-graders who scored at or above the "proficient" level—31%—was greater than that of eighth-graders in public schools nationwide, which was 24%.

In a state-by-state comparison, eighth-graders in Texas, Connecticut, Maine and Massachusetts demonstrated the highest average writing performance among the 35 states that participated in the writing exam.

Texas' minority and low-income eighth-graders outperformed minority and economically disadvantaged eighth-graders from the rest of the country.

Gov. George W. Bush said he was particularly pleased "that our minority and low-income students are outperforming others throughout the country."

State Education Commissioner Jim Nelson said Texas' school accountability system has "forced schools to pay special attention to those students and to devote additional time and resources to helping those students succeed in school."

Bush Reluctant to Grant Pardons

Two dozen people rallied at the governor's mansion Sept. 27 to ask Gov. Bush to review cases of Texans jailed for nonviolent drug offenses.

They brought up an earlier statement by Bush in which he said he made "mistakes" as a younger man, although Bush never admitted to having used illegal drugs.

They implored Bush to determine whether sentences could be commuted and to pardon those who have served their sentences.

Linda Edwards, the governor's spokeswoman, said Bush is reluctant to grant pardons "because of his basic belief that those who commit crimes should suffer the consequences for those crimes."

Fair Goers Can Check 'The List'

State fair visitors who stop by the state comptroller's booth at the fairgrounds in Dallas can search for their names on the state's Unclaimed Property List.

The list, in the comptroller's ex-



hibit, includes forgotten bank accounts, uncashed checks, rent and utility deposits, mineral royalties and insurance proceeds. More than \$700 million is waiting to be claimed.

At the 1998 State Fair, more than 28,000 people searched the list and claimed more than \$270,000.

The list will be published in Texas newspapers on Sunday, Oct. 17—the last day of the fair.

The list also is available on the Comptroller's Internet site: www.cpa.state.tx.us.

Other Highlights

•On Sept. 24, a new statue of Martin Luther King Jr. was unveiled on the campus of the University of Texas. It is the first statue of an African-American to be erected on the 116-year-old campus, The Dallas Morning News reported. Martin Luther King III spoke at the dedication attended by more than 2,000 people.

•Texas Attorney General John Cornyn has filed a lawsuit to shut down the Tigua tribe's Speaking Rock casino operation in El Paso. The lawsuit alleges that the casino's slot machines and other games of chance violate Texas gambling laws.

•At the request of Chase Untermeyer, chairman of the State Board of Education, the attorney general's office will review documents by the Texas Education Agency relating to

the selection of nine private money managers under contract to invest part of the state's \$20 billion Permanent School Fund. Untermeyer asked the attorney general's office to investigate allegations of irregularities.

•Texans who have questions about meetings of governmental entities or public information can talk to experts at the Texas attorney general's new toll-free hotline, 1-877-OPEN-TEX. The hotline's original number, 512-478-OPEN, remains in effect.

•At a public hearing of the Texas Lottery Commission, a dozen Texas Lottery players protested a proposal to increase the number of lottery balls from 50 to 54. Chances of winning the jackpot would be reduced from about one in 16 million to one in 26 million. The worse odds, the fewer the players, the protestors agreed.

Let's Look Back... 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

May 9, 1974

The Rotary Foundation Study Group from the 120th District in England received "Goose Hunting Capital of the World" tie tacks from Eagle Lake Club President Frank Sherrer in appreciation of their visit to this community...

Eagle Lake Boy Scout Troop No. 334 attended the David Crockett District's Spring Camporee at Hempstead last weekend and won two first place ribbons and the first place overall award. Leader of the group included scoutmaster, Verlin Argo; and leaders, Mike Duarte and Isidro Ramirez. Attending the Camporee were Mike Walker, Cliff Bradshaw, Michael Argo, Russell Wick, David Romo, Orlando Ramirez, Bryan Jackson, Gerald Hurd, Robert Moss, Russell Johnson and Ben Anderson...

Not one, but two places were awarded to State Title Headline Writing winner Lucy Mascheck at the 64th Annual State Meet held in Austin May 3 on the campus of The University of Texas. She is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Victor Mascheck of

Eagle Lake...

Voted the most outstanding male athlete at Rice High School for the 1973-74 school year was Andy Kuba. Outstanding female athlete was Janice Popp...

Miss Connie Breithaupt, bride-to-be of Ralph Gertson Jr., on Saturday, June 8th, was the honoree at a Kitchen Shower and Rice Bag Party on Saturday, May 4, at 9:30 in the morning. The lovely Eagle Lake Recreation Club House was the setting for the pretty occasion...

Mr. & Mrs. Randolph Buffington Jr. of Granbury are announcing the arrival of a son, Monday, April 15, at 3:29 p.m. in the Cleburne hospital. His name is Randolph Rhodes Buffington III. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Richard English of Eagle Lake and Mr. & Mrs. Randolph R. Buffington of Van Horn...

The works of 13 students enrolled in an advertising design sequence in The University of Texas Art Department have brought UT Austin the "Best School Award." UT Austin students whose accepted entries contributed to the University's over-all honor

of Mr. & Mrs. Elizabeth Burke, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. George R. Burke Jr. of Eagle Lake...

Mrs. W.A. Barnett received the sad news of the sudden death of her sister, Mrs. Roy Shelton of North Hollywood, California. Mrs. Shelton passes away Monday, April 29, due to a heart attack...

Miss Phyllis Hoffman, bride-elect of Michael Meitzen, was honored with a casual tea shower Saturday, April 27 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Nada Parish Hall...

Mrs. George F. Causey and Mrs. Robert Wilcox honored Miss Deborah Wiese Saturday, May 4, with a Recipe Shower in the Wilcox home. Miss Wiese, the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Wiese, is engaged to marry Rick Christ on July 6, 1974...

Kurt Thomas, son of Dr. & Mrs. Raymond Thomas of Eagle Lake, captured the Men's Singles Title of the Gulf Coast Junior College Intercollegiate Conference April 26 in Freeport...

May 16, 1974

Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Laake of Garwood are proud to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Patricia Ann, to Donald Lynn Talbert, son of Mr. & Mrs. Frank T. Talbert of Bay City. The wedding will be held June 22...

Terry Dostal, a member of the Rice High School senior class, was honored with a party given by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schoebel at their country home on the Colorado River near Columbus...

Tommy Balusek, son of Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Balusek of Garwood, attended the Bexar County T.Y.R.A. Rodeo in San Antonio, May 3-5...

Participating in the Final Review of the Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M University last Saturday was Vernon E. Watkins of Eagle Lake. He is the son of Vernon E. Watkins Sr. of Houston and Mrs. Rowena Str. (See 24 & 48, Page 4)

Happy 39th Anniversary Mom & Dad (Helen & Jimmy Hotz) Love, "The Gang"

St. Anthony Church - Columbus Sunday Mass at St. Anthony, 1602 Bowie, 8 & 10 a.m. BBQ Beef & Sausage FALL FESTIVAL Sunday, Oct. 10 KC Hall, Columbus (IH 10 at Glidden Exit) Meat To Go at Pit-Drive Thru Line for You Serving Starts at 11 a.m. Adult Take-Home Plates to Go... Drive Thru Adults \$6 per plate Children under 12, \$3 per plate Kofache Breakfast • Homemade Mexican Food • Hamburgers (in afternoon) BIG COUNTRY AUCTION: 1 P.M. SILENT AUCTION: 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M. Old Time Music by... Donnie Wavra & the Hi-Liters perform 10:30 to 1 Outdoor Entertainment - Darren Kunz with Special Performances by Kaylyn Summers Bingo • Cake Walk • Country Store • Grocery Walk • Penny Raffle • Fish Pond Cookie Monster • Ring Toss • and Lots More Throughout the Day! SWEEPSTAKES \$5,000 Grand Prize-More 5 Winners This Year! Tickets on Sale Now Call 732-2562 DRAWING 36" Big Screen TV

Jim Walter Homes Introduces 4 New Home Designs at Introductory Prices! Windsor II • 3 bedroom, 2 bath • 1745 sq. ft • 9 ft. ceilings throughout • Great room with French doors and built-in entertainment center • Kitchen with built-in desk Chadwick • 3 bedroom, 2 bath • 1161 sq. ft. • Living room with 10 ft. coffered ceiling • \$0 Down\* • Built On Your Property • No Points • No Closing Costs • No Application Fees • Fixed-Rate Financing Stop by today to find out how you can build one of these comfortable new models on your property with \$0 down! Open 7 days a week. Weekend hours: Sat. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. ROSENBERG, TEXAS 26611 Hwy. 59 (S.W. Freeway) Phone 713-342-8607 Or, call 1-800-4-WALTER ext 60 for your nearest sales center or log onto our web site: www.jimwalterhomes.com Southport • 3 bedroom, 2 bath • 1273 sq. ft. • Expansive covered front porch • Large great room Jim Walter HOMES We believe in your dreams SM

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Letter to Editor Policy

The Eagle Lake Headlight will accept reasonable length letters for publication in the "Letter to the Editor" column under the following guidelines:

- 1. Letter should not be more than 1,500 characters. 2. All letters must include the writer's name printed as well as the writer's signature, and include the writer's address and home and work telephone numbers. The Headlight must be able to reach the writer in person before the letter can be published. 3. The writer may request that their name be withheld from publication, but the information mentioned in No. 2 must be included for our files. 4. Letters about political activity will be published but those which mention candidates will be considered advertising and charged at the regular advertising rate. 5. Letters from political candidates espousing a political view, will be considered for publication but the writer's name will not be printed unless the writer pays the retail advertising rate. 6. The newspaper reserves the right to apply fairness standards in withholding any letter from publication, and to edit letters for libel protection.