



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Statewide initiative to keep guns off our streets

Texas Attorney General John Cornyn last week introduced Texas Exile, a statewide initiative to get guns out of the hands of felons and keep gun law violators in jail longer. It is illegal under state and federal

law for a felon to possess or use a firearm. Mayors, district attorneys and U.S. attorneys will join Cornyn in introducing Texas Exile in Austin, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Brownsville, Tyler, Beaumont and El Paso. Announcements already have been made in Dallas and Houston.

Cornyn appointed William Sessions as state chairman of Texas Exile. Sessions, a former federal judge who also served as FBI director from 1987 to 1993, will oversee eight attorneys who will prosecute felons caught possessing firearms. Violators will be prosecuted under a federal gun statute and the longest possible sentences will be sought.

"Today we are sending a clear message to criminals: Gun crime means hard time. If you carry a firearm illegally in Texas, you will go to

State Capitol Highlights

By Ed Sterling Texas Press Association

prison," Cornyn said Dec. 6.

The attorney general's new public awareness campaign slogan, "Gun Crime Means Hard Time," will appear on billboards and in broadcast advertising across the state.

Modeled after Project Exile, a successful initiative launched in Virginia in 1997, Texas Exile is funded by a \$1.6 million grant from the Governor's Criminal Justice Division.

Insurers to Run Y2K Checks

Insurance Commissioner Jose Montemayor has directed all insurance companies and groups operating in Texas to evaluate their computer systems right after New Year's Day and report whether the year 2000 computer programming problem affected their operations and customer service.

The so-called "Y2K glitch," if uncorrected, may cause certain computers to read the date "00" as the year 1900 instead of 2000.

Montemayor also told insurers to back up their financial, claims, policy administration, sales and all other mission-critical data files if they have not done so already and to continue archiving this information through the first quarter of 2000.

Y2K problems such as improperly canceled policies and billing system failures could result if company computers and software fail to handle dates properly in 2000.

According to the Department of Insurance, of 534 Texas-based "domestic" insurance companies, only eight are considered at risk of not being ready for Y2K. The rest are either considered Y2K-ready now or are on schedule to be ready before Jan. 1.

Drinking Water To Be Tested

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission has received (See Highlights, Page 3)

To THE EDITOR & YOU

'Raider Review' expresses regrets

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Raider Review, I would like to express regrets to Adrian Middleton and his family if they were offended by the photograph of him in the issue of Dec. 9.

The photo that we took was a good, clear likeness of Adrian, in our opinion. The print that the Headlight staff made from our photo was also good. Unfortunately, when the paper returned from the presses, the picture was too dark to be recognizable. This was due to circumstances beyond our control.

In "Meet the Raider", we recognize a student each week who, by their efforts and accomplishments in extracurricular activities, personifies what we believe a Raider should be. Adrian is a perfect example. Although he is only a sophomore, his contributions to RHS are already numerous. If, in our efforts to honor him, we instead brought embarrassment to him or his family, we humbly apologize.

Sincerely, Melody Grigar Sponsor, Raider Review

We're a 'Main Street' City

Dear Editor:

As many of you probably know, Eagle Lake has been accepted as a Texas Historical Commission (THC) Main Street City for the year 2000!

This is a wonderful opportunity for our city and it would not have been possible without extensive community support.

Our businesses and citizens provided over 150 letters of support to include in the application. These, along with a compact disc presenta-

tion on the history and special features of our city and a slide show tour of our downtown area, helped secure our designation.

The THC has given us their support toward the revitalization of our city, now we must take advantage of our unique historical past and move forward in a new millennium.

Congratulations, Eagle Lake!

Lesley Matthews Revitalize Eagle Lake Inc.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Oct. 3, 1974

You'll find the Rice High School Raiders cheering section to be one of the most active in this area and working hard to keep the spirit in full bloom are these pretty young ladies, D'Ann Davison, Peggy Stallman, Shirley Fajkus, Julia Thomas and Debra Parker...

Ed Wine, who has served for the past 15 years as the Resident Deputy Sheriff in the Garwood and Nada communities, has tendered his resignation with Sheriff George (Doc) Mueller, effective on Tuesday, Oct. 1...

The Eagle Lake Middle School National Junior Honor Society is sponsoring a program to recognize junior high students who display good citizenship. Chosen as the first Citizen of the Week was Kathy Hodde...

Dr. Sandra Carol Thomas, an educator for the state of N. Carolina in the U.S., was the recipient of the first Research Award sponsored by the Inter-American Commission of Women. A former Eagle Lake resident and graduate of Eagle Lake High School, she is the daughter of Ralph Thomas of this city and Mary Thomas of California...

The College of Natural Sciences at The University of Texas named 739 students to the spring semester honor roll. The list included Raymond Russell Thomas Jr., son of Dr. & Mrs. R.R. Thomas, of this city...

Miss Linda Krenke, bride-elect of Wayne Leshomb, was honored with a miscellaneous bridal shower at the home of Mrs. Joe Krenke of Garwood...

Mrs. Charles Schneider Sr. was surprised with a birthday dinner by her children at the home of Mr. & Mrs. N.J. Schneider...

Miss Sheryl Howard, daughter of Dr. & Mrs. Lloyd Chaney of San Diego, Calif., and John W. Hooper of the U.S. Navy, son of Mrs. Norman Hooper of Rock Island, were united in marriage Sept. 21 in the chapel on the (See 24 & 48, Page 5)

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.

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IN THE SPIRIT OF GIVING. Merry Christmas! Join Us Tuesday through Thursday December 21 through 23 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. as we share these holidays with you by offering hot cider and Christmas confections. The First National Bank 234-5591 • Eagle Lake Member F.D.I.C. Illustration of a family decorating a Christmas tree.

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