



## THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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# Texas DPS revokes 71 handgun licenses

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) revoked concealed handgun licenses from only 71 people after learning that the permit holders had arrest records that disqualified them.

The DPS began fielding a stream

of calls last week after a national story broke that reported as many as 400 handgun permit holders had been convicted felons.

DPS spokesman Tom Vinger said when the state law allowing concealed

handguns went into effect in 1997 the agency was flooded with applications. Thousands of applications were approved pending a background check because the FBI's fingerprint processing lab was backlogged.

When DPS finally received the background checks, Vinger said 400 licenses were flagged but only 71 permits were revoked. People who have been convicted of a felony or Class B misdemeanor or higher or who have received disorderly conduct or family violence convictions cannot obtain a concealed handgun permit.

"There was no crime committed by any of those 71 when they had those permits," Vinger said.

DPS data compiled last May shows that of the 889 felony charges against all permit holders only 178 resulted in convictions and 56 were reduced to a lesser charge.

During that same time, 2,790 qualifying misdemeanor offenses were reported by permit holders and 907 resulted in convictions.

In Texas, 215,000 people are licensed to carry a concealed handgun. "The permit is difficult to get. It's difficult to keep," Vinger said. "We feel like the program has worked well."

## State parks offer free weekend

For the first time in the 77-year history of the state park system, every state park and participating state fish hatcheries and wildlife management areas will let the public in free of charge for one weekend Oct. 21-22.

The state's Lone Star Legacy Weekend is designed to raise public awareness and financial support for all facilities operated by Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPW).

It is part of the Lone Star Legacy campaign run by the non-profit Parks and Wildlife Foundation of Texas, which has set an initial fund-raising goal of \$25 million to upgrade and repair existing TPW facilities.

"Our main desire for the Lone Star Legacy Weekend is for people to be able to come out at no cost to celebrate



## State Capitol Highlights

By Pauline Word  
Texas Press Association

the marvelously diverse array of parks and other facilities we have in Texas," said Andrew Sansom, TPW executive director. "We also hope that through this experience people will find places that are worth supporting and will make donations in any amount that seems appropriate to them."

The Lone Star Legacy Weekend is made possible through financial support from Chevrolet Suburban through an 18-month sponsorship with the foundation.

## PUC guarantees electric service

The Public Utility Commission (PUC) approved a measure last week that sets a fixed rate for basic retail electric service when retail competition begins in Jan. 1, 2002.

The rules apply to "providers of last resort" who provide a basic standard service package to any customer who is no longer served by a provider of choice or to any customer requesting that service.

The rules assure continued service if a customer's retail electric provider eliminates service or goes out of business. By June 2001, the PUC will designate providers of last resort in areas where retail competition will exist.

## Other Highlights

Gov. George W. Bush, Lt. Gov. Rick Perry and the Texas Electronic Government Task Force last week launched [www.TexasOnline.com](http://www.TexasOnline.com), a web site where users can conduct state business such as renewing real estate broker's licenses and filing state sales taxes. By the end of the year, users should be able to review driver's licenses and vehicle registrations on the web site.

DPS Special Crimes investigators and the Coryell County District (See Highlights, Page 3)

## Let's Look Back...

## 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Oct. 14, 1976

David R. Wintermann accepted the first J.R. (Jimmy) Reel Sportsman of the Year Award from the Rice Belt Ducks Unlimited Chapter...

Miss Brenda Kallina of Garwood was invited to represent Garwood in the Miss Junior Gulf Coast Pageant in December in Beeville...

This Sunday morning, Oct. 17, the cornerstone for the United Methodist Church will be laid...

Miss Karen Euers, bride-elect of Russell Konescheck, was honored Sept. 28 with a Miscellaneous Shower at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Braden. She was also honored with a surprise shower by her college friends and classmates at the apartment of Mary Bell Glaze in College Station...

Miss Gail New, bride elect of Darrell Gertson, was the honoree at a Coffee Tuesday, Oct. 12, at the lovely Lakeside Drive home of the Vernon Gertsons...

The Eagle Lake Middle School eighth grade football team has been compiling a good record in 1976. Members are Michael Black, Bruno Leal, Bret Ellis, Danny Ishee, Victor Reyes, Johnny Cooper, Scott Holden, Ruben leal, Troy Grounds, Billy Tillman, Victor Brewer, Michael Cordova, Victor Davis, Keith Matchski, Benny Lujan, Jeff Pennell, Johnny Gonzales, Fred Young, Michael Schorlemmer, Roger Fry, Albert Delgado, Steven Navarro, Wayne Bowen, Sam Betancourt, Rickey Toliver, Robert Barrios, David Grammer, Justino Moreno, Jaime Carrasco, Earnest Fields, Robert Frazier, Ralph Cordova, John Stephens, Paul Ruiz and Karl Powell...

Members of the ELMS seventh grade football team are Jimmy Epps, David Rucka, Danny Morales, Mark Ruether, Greg Leopold, Ronnie Fry, Carl Wegenhoft, Mark Salazar, Arthur Lopez, James Moss, David Sosa, Virgil Crysel, John Young, Terry Cotton, John Dawson, Calvin Foster, Michael

Faichtinger, Bruce Montgomery, John Wegenhoft, James Rhodes, Kenneth Hemphill, Ronald Dawson, Robert Klekar and Carl Ramirez.

Sept. 18, 1952

Five thousand gallons of gasoline burned after a truck jack-knifed on 90A. Driver of the truck, Dick Obenhaus, escaped injury in the accident which occurred as he tried to stop the tank truck to avoid collision with a pickup attempting to pass a stopped school bus...

The Eagle Lake P-TA, under the leadership of Mrs. V.T. Matthews, has been awarded an A+ for the work accomplished during the 1951-52 school year...

The Chamber of Commerce announced its selection of Judith Anderson as Eagle Lake's representative at the International Rice Festival in Louisiana...

The Spade and Trowel Club opened its new year with tea honoring the new president, Mrs. W.L. Bauer...

Congratulations are being extended to Miss Nellie DeShazo and Walter Frnka who were united in marriage Sept. 6th...

Cpl. Floyd Hodde is playing a vital role on a half-track in Korea battles...

Lt. Cdr. Robert J. Ney, USN, is a member of Efficient Patrol Squadron...

Little Kenny Roberts is a patient in the Cullen Children's Hospital in Houston where he was admitted for skin grafting operations...

The Eagles bowed to Cypress-Fairbanks 7 to 0 in the last three minutes. Leading in defense were Leon Simank, Jack Dowdy and Dan Duncan. Centers John Adkins and Lewis Epps played a hustling game and guards Weldon Knox and John DeShazo played their positions to good advantage. It was their first game under the tutelage of Coach W.B. Hinton...

Congratulations to Charles Ray Altman who celebrated his birthday Sept. 12th...

Connie Lin is a new arrival for Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Hayden.

## ABOUT TOWN...

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome a new member: Michele Donnelly, realtor for Re/Max Country Properties.

The Colorado County Clerk's Office asked that a correction be made to the article they submitted on early voting which was published last week. Number 3a should have said, "Early voting by personal appearance begins Oct. 23, 2000".



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## You Are Invited!

We are hosting an event for local Democratic candidates. Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Wied and Tax Assessor-Collector Mary Jane Poenitzsch will be on hand, as well as candidates for other local offices. Our State Senator Ken Armbrister, State Representative Robby Cook, and District Judge Gus Strauss will also be there.

Saturday, Oct. 14

4 to 6 p.m.

Casual, come-and-go atmosphere

Brett's Steakhouse

(Weimar Mercantile; 1 mile East of Weimar on the South side of I-10)

Good food, drinks, fun, and special guests.

For more information, call 979-234-2713

You Are Invited!

Pd. for by Robby Cook Campaign, P.O. Box 716, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434.

## Vote for R.H. "Curly" Wied Colorado County Sheriff



Since taking office January 1, 1997, I feel I have proven I am competent and capable to serve as your Sheriff. I have made dramatic improvements and changes in law enforcement throughout Colorado County.

Some of those improvements and changes include providing the County with a previously untapped source of income by housing out-of-county inmates (which has helped offset the cost of the new jail); increased the number of deputies on patrol in the County (providing a deterrent against crime); implemented a field training officer program; and employed an Auto Theft Agent (at no expense to the taxpayers). Since taking office in 1997, our rate of solving crime has increased substantially.

During my administration, numerous undercover operations, drug raids, and arrests have been made. I have a zero tolerance for drugs. The Sheriff's Department and local police departments working in conjunction with the 24th and 25th Narcotics Task Force have continuously made every effort to curtail drug activity in Colorado County. As long as there is a supply and demand for drugs, you will have drug dealers. Unfortunately, there is no quick fix. I will continue to work hard to enforce drug laws here in Colorado County to the best of my ability.

I have developed a close working relationship with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies. By working in cooperation with these agencies, both the citizens and law enforcement benefit from the large pool of investigative resources which are used to help solve crimes in our community.

In addition, I have improved the working relationship with the schools by maintaining the school resource officer program. This program has helped reduce truancy, ensuring our youth stay in school; safeguard our students against violence, and discourage the use of drugs. My department works closely with School Administrators to ensure the safety of all students.

I would like to ask for your support in the November 7th General Election. I am honest, fair and dedicated and will remain committed to improving law enforcement in Colorado County.

I, R.H. "Curly" Wied, Sheriff of Colorado County, am a native of Nada and a life-long resident of Colorado County. A 1970 graduate of Garwood High School, I also attended St. Mary's School in Nada. From 1970-71, I attended Wharton County Jr. College, then served my country in the United States Air Force from 1972-76.

In 1981, I graduated from the Wharton County Jr. College Law Enforcement Academy, where I achieved my law enforcement certification. In acquiring my Advanced Peace Officers License, I have earned numerous hours of training, attending various schools and seminars.

I am a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Nada Knights of Columbus, National Sheriff's Association, Sheriff's Association of Texas, Board of Governors for the Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force serving 15 counties, and Board of Governors for the 24th and 25th Judicial Narcotics Task Force serving 5 counties.

My entire career, beginning in 1981, has been with the Colorado County Sheriff's Department. During those 19 years, I have worked my way up through the ranks, serving as a Correctional Officer, Patrol Deputy, Lieutenant Investigator, Chief Deputy, and Sheriff for the past four years.

Be sure and vote Wied  
for Colorado County Sheriff  
Thank you in advance for your support.

Political advertisement paid for by R.H. Wied, Al Mahalite, Treasurer, Rt. 1, Box 61M, Eagle Lake, TX 77434.

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## The Colorado County Fair Association wishes to thank the following individuals, businesses and buyers groups for their generous support of the youth of Colorado County at the 2000 Junior Livestock Sale.

Weimar 8  
M Ranch, Jane Booker  
Brookshire Bros.  
Legacy Building Systems  
Ransom Reed Ranch  
H.E.B.  
Orange Construction  
Mike & Gloria Weathers  
Mike Arnold Trucking  
Franklin Fried Chicken  
Travis Maertz  
All Good Construction  
Tri-County Contractors  
Triangle Electronics  
Ron & Estelle Mostyn  
B&D Backhoe & Dozer  
Eagle Lake General Store  
Franklin Walker Contractors  
Robbie Cook  
Garwood/Nada Buyers  
Columbus Buyers  
Columbus Agri-Center  
Frelsburg Buyers  
Pesak Bros. Construction  
Henry & Beth Beken  
Eagle Lake Buyers  
Jean & Zelda Walker  
Lawrence Marshall Dealership

Leroy & Tina Stavino  
Wegenhoft Ranch  
Hlavinka Construction  
Hoelscher Car Care  
Colorado County Buyers  
Larry & Diane Smidovec  
Bernardo/Mentz Buyers  
Glazier Foods  
Boettcher Electric  
Faldyn Electric  
Larry Hilmer  
Lehrer Interests  
M-G, Inc.  
Hill Bank & Trust  
Perkins Ranch  
Industry Telephone  
Prime Industries  
Don Lewis, DVM  
Kuhn Optical  
Texas Irrigation  
B&B Fence  
Texana Seed  
Bumper Dozer  
Ewald Friedrich, Jr.  
Riverside Buyers  
New Ulm Chamber of Commerce  
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84 Domino Group

Jim Meinke  
Donna Krumrey  
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Colorado Feed Company  
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Leopold Grain  
John Kirkpatrick  
Dupré Lease Service  
Sheridan Lions Club  
Simon Borak  
Garwood Farmers Co-op.  
Sand Supply  
Todd Krenken  
Bill Hiddemen  
Caushatta Ranch  
Sinvee Enterprises  
Columbus Plumbing  
Sheridan Buyers  
IV Duncan Ranch  
Abell Farms  
Weishuhn Engineering  
Barry Mosley Trucking  
Jimmy Simmons  
Al Jamison  
Hoelscher Oil Company  
Bob Tait  
Peoples State Bank, Hallettsville

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