

# Letters

## Things to consider before you vote

The election season is drawing to a close. Early voting is currently going on and the Nov. 7 General Election is only days away.

I recently watched a program on PBS that covered all the alternative third party candidates and was truly sorry that their views were excluded from the mainstream media converge. I believe all views should be heard. If one believes in certain issues and principles, he should not be afraid to defend those views with anyone. I believe the decision to not cover these third party candidates has caused many people to be cynical about our political process. I have heard many people say that there is no difference in the two major parties.

Now I too can certainly criticize the two major parties for many things, but I would challenge anyone to compare the platforms of these two parties and still maintain that there is no difference.

One of the major issues that I think people should consider in choosing a candidate (whether at the local, state or national level) is, does that candidate believe our Constitution is an "absolute" document, so that everyone should be held to the same standard, or do they believe that our Con-

stitution is a "living" document that can be changed according to the winds of political popularity?

Another issue to be considered is does the candidate asking for your vote believe we are a Republic, as guaranteed by Article 4 Sect. 4 of our Constitution, or does that candidate believe we are a democracy?

History shows that democracies are not stable forms of government. Our Founding Fathers warned against America ever becoming a democracy. A democracy is not a government based on the rule of law and equal justice for all, instead its rulings are "mobocracy". This form of government has NO protection for the view of the minority.

James Madison, the "chief architect of the Constitution" and the 4th President of the US warned, "democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security of the rights of property; and have in general, been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths."

Fisher Ames, another Founding Father and US Congressman 1789-1797, said a democracy "pollutes the morals of the citizens before it swallows up their liberties." He also

warned, "Liberty has never lasted long in a democracy, nor has it ever ended in anything better than despotism."

Many have stated they believe this is the most important election of the last 100 years. As we begin a new millennium, will we ignore our proven historical record that has made us the most powerful and prosperous nation and the envy of those around the world, or will we return to the fundamental truths and values that have made us great?

These are questions that each of us need to consider before we pull the lever in the election booth.

Margie Raborn  
Columbus

## Clarification on GCD temporary board

By Al Jamison  
Colorado County Judge

The temporary directors for the proposed Post Oak Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) were announced in last week's Colorado County Commissioners' Court meeting.

Naming of the directors is part of

Dear Eagle Lake:

My heart is still full from the incredible ELHS reunion.

Thank you to Grace Dell Cooper and Ernie Sommerlatte who had the vision, determination, energy and expertise to make it happen. Sidney Struss did an outstanding job with the website - building enthusiasm and setting the stage. I know there were many volunteers and I'm grateful to all of you for making the reunion possible.

It was well organized and seemed to come off without a hitch.

I was really impressed that someone even managed the weather on Saturday so we could have our wonderful, simple, small town parade.

My sons have been "going home" with me for over 30 years. They attended the parade and were amazed at the level of activity in downtown Eagle Lake. They wondered if this was what the town used to be like. I was so proud for them to see my hometown so alive.

After college, I moved to Ohio and I visit in Eagle Lake infrequently and for short visits with my parents, Lynne and Orville Powers. As a result, I have seen few classmates and acquaintances since 1962 when I graduated from Eagle Lake High School.

It was a sweet, satisfying experience to renew so many acquaintances. It was like a treasure hunt but I wasn't sure whom I had found, but I knew we

were sharing the joy of remembering an earlier time that seemed nearly perfect.

Thanks also to my classmates Jim Wiese and Jack Dromgoole and their spouses. They planned and hosted our Friday night party and provided our float. They made the arrangements and all the rest of us had to do was show up and enjoy being together.

On Sunday morning, the joy continued when the First Baptist Church celebrated its 125th anniversary and I was able to see more old friends and visit with pastors and youth leaders who had led the church as I was growing up. Thank you to Pastor Brent Beasley and other church members for their meaningful contributions during the weekend.

I'm still amazed by the impact of the weekend.

It has given me fresh perspective on and appreciation for my childhood—the place I grew up and the way I grew up.

Feeling connected to so many people was a deeply satisfying experience. Thank you to all of you who worked so hard - your creation was memorable!

With appreciation,  
Suzanne Powers Seals

## Eagle Lake native graces magazine cover

Don Spalinger, a native of Eagle Lake and a 1965 graduate of Eagle Lake High School (ELHS), was featured on the Sept. 2000 cover of *Real Business*, published in the United Kingdom.

After graduating from ELHS, Spalinger received his BS in physics in 1969. He later earned his MBA in Technical Management from the University of Texas.

He worked at Texas Instruments and Stanford Research Institute and held general management positions at Granger Associates, the Santa Cruz Operation, and Exxon Enterprises. He was a former managing vice president for The Gartner Group.

The cover story of *Real Business* is in connection with his position as senior vice president and interim president of Southampton Photonics, a company founded this year and labeled by *Real Business* as one of the top 21 companies for the 21st Century of "Britain's Hottest Science-Based Companies."

Chairman of the company is Dr. David Payne of the Optoelectronics Research Centre (ORC) at the University of Southampton. (See Spalinger, Page 12)

# TO THE VOTERS!!!

Who wants to send all dealers and users a message that Colorado County will not tolerate drugs?

**KEITH RIEHS**

Who wants to teach our children starting at a young age that drugs are wrong?

**KEITH RIEHS**

Who wants to get out in the community and help our citizens whenever they are in need?

**KEITH RIEHS**

Who wants to restore rural patrol in Colorado County?

**KEITH RIEHS**

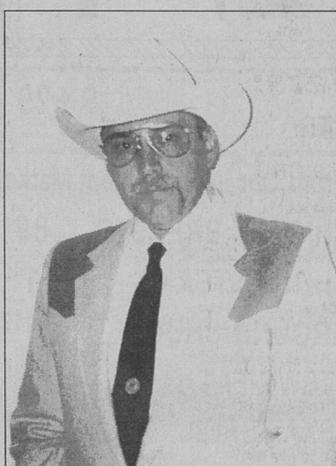
Who wants to make sure that Colorado County is the safest and most family oriented place to raise our family?

**KEITH RIEHS**

Who should you vote for on November 7th for your Sheriff?

**KEITH RIEHS**

Political advertisement paid for by Keith Riehs Campaign, Ida Tyler, Treasurer, 103 Mesquite, Columbus, Texas 78934.



# OBITUARY

## Earl Wayne Smith Jr.

April 23, 1904 - October 28, 2000

Earl Wayne Smith Jr., 96, of Corpus Christi passed away Saturday, October 28, 2000.

He was born April 23, 1904 in Norman, Oklahoma, to Earl Wayne and Carolyn Sue Bass Smith.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and wife, Dorothy Korthauer Smith.

Survivors include his daughter, Barbara Newman of Portland; grandchildren, Bill Broadus of Corpus Christi and Patt Sadlack of Kerrville; and great-grandchildren, Christy and Jennifer of Austin.

Graveside services and interment were held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, October 31, at Lakeside Cemetery with Rev. Stephen R. Whitfield, rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Eagle Lake, officiating.

A memorial service was to be held Wednesday, November 1, at The Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Corpus Christi.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

## Bible Verse of the Week

"Don't worry about anything, instead pray about everything, tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers."

— *Philippians 4:6*  
Submitted by Nedly Phillips

## Pharmacy & Your Health

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### Caffeine for Premature Newborns with Apnea

Temporary cessation of breathing occurring in a premature infant is called *apnea* or *apnea of prematurity* (AOP). An estimated 150,000 premature infants in the US are affected each year. Often the pauses in breathing are long enough to cause oxygen levels to become dangerously low. The baby may turn dusky or blue and his/her heart will slow down significantly. This can result in nervous system damage or death. There are several causes for AOP. Researchers think that the respiratory center of the infant's brain may not have developed enough to maintain spontaneous breathing. A physical cause of AOP is airway obstruction, such as may occur in infants with gastroesophageal reflux disease.

*Caffeine citrate* has been used since the 1970s to stimulate the respiratory center in the premature brain, but until recently individual doses had to be prepared by pharmacists. A new product called *Cafcit* is the first available commercially manufactured formulation of *caffeine citrate*. It comes as an oral solution and injection. *Cafcit* effectively reduced the number of apneic episodes in one-half and eliminated AOP in a quarter of infants studied.

## Attend the Church of Your Choice...

GREATER RISING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH: 580 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Truman Scott Sr., Pastor; 979-234-2423 or 979-758-3745.  
GREATER UNION BAPTIST CHURCH: Matthews Community, Co. Rd. 141; 409-234-2581; Rev. Lawrence C. Robertson, Pastor.  
MT. CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwy. 90-A (Pecan Valley), Eagle Lake; Rev. P.L. Barrow Sr.; 234-5813.  
LIVING HOPE CHURCH: Revs. Joe and Mercy Fling; 234-5536.  
TEMPLE BEREAS: 621 Maple Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Manuel Matamoros.  
ROCK ISLAND FULL GOSPEL: P.O. Box 232, Rock Island; 234-5840; Nick Williams, Pastor.  
LATIN-AMERICAN ASSEMBLY OF GOD (Bethlehem of Judea Church): 1000 East E, Eagle Lake; Ruth Olvera, Pastor.  
SEALY ASSEMBLY OF GOD: 1140 Meyer, Sealy; Warren Richardson, Pastor.  
THE DAY OF PENTECOST APOSTOLIC REVIVAL: FM 102 S, Matthews, 4 p.m. (at Mt. Zion). Rev. R.L. Carter.  
GREATER NEW FAITH CHURCH: 6406 Guylar, Wallis; Rev. Clay Spears. 979-478-2169.  
EAST BERNARD FIRST BAPTIST: Rev. Clifford Roser.  
FIRST BAPTIST: N. Lake at E. Prairie, Eagle Lake.  
FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; Rev. Perry Riley, Pastor, 234-5795.  
IGLESIA BAUTISTA GETSEMANI: 901 B Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Mario Vasquez.  
GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. R. Kiser, Pastor. 705 Lake, Eagle Lake, 234-3545.  
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST: 1207 Stockhill, Eagle Lake. Rev. Coby Shorter; 234-3735.  
CHRIST EPISCOPAL: 306 E. Seabrookbridge.  
ROCK ISLAND BAPTIST: Bob Allison, Pastor.  
SHERIDAN FIRST BAPTIST

WHITE CLOUD BAPTIST CHURCH: 202 Old Altair Rd., Eagle Lake; Rev. Obie Rhodes; 234-3800.  
CHURCH OF CHRIST: Sheridan, Texas.  
NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP: Hwy. 90A, Sheridan; Del Sanford, Pastor; 234-3276.  
CHRIST OUR REDEEMER - Charismatic: 478-7534, 478-6512, Jerry C. McKinney, Pastor.  
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH: East Bernard.  
CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE NATIVITY: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sanctuary: 308 N. Stevenson St., Eagle Lake; 7 a.m. (Español), 9 a.m., 11 a.m., Rev. Eddie Winkler, P.O. Box 307; 979-234-2842.  
ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Box 97, Nada, 758-3218. Rev. Joseph Koebel, Pastor.  
GOSPEL MISSION CHURCH: Pastors Erik & Crystal Cameron; 510 E. Prairie, Eagle Lake, 979-234-3225 or 234-2824.  
GRACE LUTHERAN: 408 N. Stevenson, 234-3381; Services begin at 10 a.m.; Rev. Clements Richards.  
LEHRER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST: Garwood; 9 a.m. Worship. Rev. Paul A. Lynn, Pastor.  
LISSIE UNITED METHODIST: Bill Ramsey, Pastor; 234-2112; Lissie, Tx.  
ROCK ISLAND METHODIST: Ken Sellers Jr., Lay-Pastor.  
UNITED METHODIST: Paul A. Lynn, Pastor. 200 W. Prairie; Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Worship 10:45 a.m.  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: 106 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; 234-3368  
VINE OF THE LORD: Rev. Paul Aguilar, 1300 E. State, Eagle Lake; 234-7543  
FRIENDSHIP A-G: 501 Wallace, East Bernard. Fred Chambers, Pastor.  
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS: 600 West St., Sealy; Marshall Crosby, Branch Pres.  
CHURCH OF CHRIST: 815 Milam, Columbus. Lynn Wilson, Minister.  
THE SHEPHERD'S WAY: Non-denominational Christian Fellowship; 217 Main, Sealy. Frank Lucas, Pastor. 885-7873.

## Bush vs. Gore; Fabulous Records

- Texas under Governor Bush**
- 1st in student improvement on test scores, especially for African-American and Hispanic students despite opposition from Texas Speaker of the House Democrat Pete Laney and other Democratic State Representatives
  - 1st in reducing the amount of releases and disposal of toxins more than all 49 other states combined
  - 1st in the nation to allow a patient to appeal on HMO's decision to deny care
  - First to create a prison ministry to help offenders reintegrate into society
  - 1 of only 3 states to require reductions of harmful pollution from older, non-permitted utility plants
  - 1 of only 10 "highly successful" states in reducing welfare rolls between 1995 and 1998
  - 4th in growth in total personal income
  - 9th in teacher pay, when adjusted for cost of living and teacher experience
  - 1.8 billion investment in healthcare initiatives
  - 1.2 million jobs created representing more than 10% of new jobs created nationwide and 48,000 new businesses
  - Lowest unemployment rate in twenty years - 4.7%
  - Doubled the number of adoptions of abused and neglected children in Texas
- American Under Clinton/Gore**
- The number of uninsured Americans increased by more than 8 million
  - Almost 70% of fourth graders in the highest poverty schools cannot read at basic levels
  - Teachers were victims of 1.8 million crimes at schools including 657,000 violent crimes
  - Illegal drug use among high school seniors increased 78%
  - More than 12,000 U.S. soldiers are on food stamps
  - Enacted a \$115 billion tax increase on Social Security benefits
  - Federal government is the nation's largest polluter, costing taxpayers nearly \$400 billion for cleanup.
  - 45 convictions, 72 indictments/misdemeanor charges, and 8 imprisonments related to the 1996 campaign finance scandal, improper conduct by Clinton/Gore cabinet officials, and Whitewater.
- Give BUSH a Republican Congress (vote for Ron Paul) and nationally a majority in every State House (vote for Phil Stephenson).**
- VOTE REPUBLICAN, Tuesday, NOVEMBER 7**  
Pol. ad. paid for by the Wharton County Republican Party, P.O. Box 831, Wharton, Texas 77488; Mark Vacek, Treasurer.

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## Attend the Church of Your Choice

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