



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Texas Independence Day actually March 3

In 2002, taking a political stand can cost a career. In 1836, it could cost someone his life.

When 59 Texans (no matter that only two of them actually had been born in Texas) signed a declaration of

independence from Mexico, they knew they were putting their lives on the line.

Despite the lofty language of the document to which they affixed their signature, as far as the government of Mexico was concerned, they were admitting to piracy.

The signers were Mexican citizens. What they were saying with their signature was that they were willing to resort to violence to take up self-government.

Interestingly enough, the declaration drafted at Washington-on-the-Brazos was not officially signed until March 3, but its contents had been approved the day before.

March 2 just happened to be the birthday of one of the signatories—one Samuel Houston, better known as Sam.

Not too surprisingly, March 2 evolved as the day on the calendar when Texans celebrate the bold step those 59 politicians took 166 years ago.

March 2 is a state holiday, as least for state employees. But since it falls on a Saturday this year, none of the 200,000-plus state workers will be getting a day off from work.

Even so, the anniversary is not going to go unnoticed.

One reason is Roger T. Moore. Moore, who runs an Austin-based advertising agency, is a board member of Celebration of Texas Independence Day, Inc., a non-profit organization created a few years back to raise Texas consciousness of its colorful heritage.

Entex

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to once again pass along these savings to our customers," Zapalac said.

"A milder-than-normal summer and winter, increased production and gains in storage levels are among the factors that contributed to a lower wholesale natural gas prices," he added.



State Capitol Highlights

By Mike Cox
Texas Press Association

"Until a few years ago, folks who paid attention to the significance of Texas Independence Day were about as scarce as horned toads on 1-45," Moore said.

That was particularly bothersome to the late Jay Johnson, a businessman and former Austin city council member who was a friend of Moore's.

The two of them, and several other co-conspirators, cooked up the idea of doing all they could to make a big deal of March 2 once again.

This year's observance begins at 8:30 a.m. March 2 with a memorial service at the State Cemetery in Austin.

At 9:15 a.m., a 5K run starts at the Bob Bullock State History Museum.

A parade will move up Congress Avenue beginning at 10:30 a.m. This year's grand marshal is University of Texas football quarterback Major Applewhite.

Speechifying and music follow at the Capitol grounds at 11:30 a.m.

"We want everyone to have fun, and we want to educate the public about Texas," Moore said.

With that in mind, here's one more piece of background about Texas Independence Day: Another reason the signers didn't get around to putting their name on the document until March 3 was because Houston had had a bit too much to drink on his birthday the day before.

Play

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out on false papers to work as a Polish servant girl for a wealthy German family.

A mainstay of the Holocaust Museum Houston, Mrs. Fein has been a vocal advocate of education programs for young people, and she is delighted to see a renewed interest in Holocaust studies and issues.

Her son, Martin, was the first Chairman of the Museum.

Then, the One Act Play competition takes place March 23 at Wharton High School. Rice will perform at approximately 2 p.m.

And, probably the most exciting development of all is that the group has been invited to present the play at the Holocaust Museum in Houston. There will be two performances Tuesday, March 26, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Entry to the museum and the performances are both free.

So, an exciting year is in store for the drama students at Rice High School.

Please be sure to mark your calendars and support your One Act team.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Feb. 9, 1978

J.F. Miller Ford Inc. is the name of the Ford and Mercury dealership since Jim F. Miller took over ownership and operation of the business on Feb. 1...

Students from this area on the Sam Houston State University Dean's List are: Larry Bowen, Joseph Frybert, Denise Hagendorf, Melba Horelica, Carol Wick, Timothy Zboril and Wesley Zboril...

Eagle Lake Mayor Elmer Struss signed a proclamation designating the week of Feb. 13 as Texas Classroom Teacher Week. Witnessing the signing were Lynda Appelt and Winn Hollas, both members of the Classroom Teacher Association...

Many relatives and friends from far and near gathered to pay final tribute to Calvin Riggins on Feb. 1...

Mary Jo Spanihel of Eagle Lake established a new individual high scoring mark for one game by dumping in 43 points in the recent Wharton County Junior College Pioneerwomen's record-setting 94 to 69 rout of Pan American...

Kurt Payne, a senior at Rice High School, has been accepted by Lincoln Technical Institute in Dallas to begin 1,500 hours in training in Automotive and Diesel Truck Technology on Sept. 18...

Jane Dostal, a member of the girl's basketball team and senior at Rice High School, is moving closer to the 1,000 point mark for a single season...

The Sheridan Volunteer Fire Department elected officers for the 1978 year and they are: W.C. Benner, chairman; E.R. Taylor, president; W.C. Gohlke, secretary and treasurer; Oscar Tesch, assistant chief; Earl Cousins, chief; and George Kazmir, assistant chief...

Burnis & Lillian Williams of this city announced the engagement of their daughter, Jewel, to James Revis of Houston. The joyous occasion will take place March 4 at South Point Baptist Church in Garwood...

Mr. & Mrs. David R. Wintermann entertained with a delightful dinner party at The Farris 1912 honoring their guest Mrs. Fred J. Parsons of England. Mrs. Wintermann and Mrs. Parsons are former classmates...

Friends will be pleased to know that Resident Sheriff's Department

Deputy Bryan Toucheck will return to work next Monday after recuperating since Jan. 4 from injuries received in an accident while answering a police call.

Feb. 11, 1954

The Quarterback Club re-elected Oscar Miller as president and Clifford Wiese as vice-president for the 1954-55 year...

Funeral services were held for Rueben Burtschel in Mentz Monday morning...

The Boy Scouts will take over the law enforcement of the city Saturday in observance of their 44th birthday...

Cubmaster L.S. Tate announced the annual Blue and Gold Banquet to be held Monday. Mrs. Lizzie Westmoreland will be the guest speaker...

The Garwood-Nada area netted \$460 for the March of Dimes campaign...

A Founder's Day Skit is planned for the PTA on Feb. 18th. The cast of characters includes: Mesdames Ione Dowdy, Bertha Johnson, Mary Sinclair and Agnes Jones...

Eagle Lake and Garwood Superintendents Deane Fletcher and Paul Lewis will leave for Houston this morning for Atlantic City, N.J., for an annual administrators meeting...

WCJC students listed for the honor roll include: Mrs. Ida Causey, Albert Arnold, Jimmie Joyce Bures and Jack Dowdy...

Leon Meisner announced the opening of a new electronics store in Garwood...

Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Frnka and daughter, Shirley, were Sunday visitors in College Station at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Frnka...

Teta Kveton celebrated sixth birthday with a party at the community center Friday afternoon...

Eagle Lake H.S. took a one-game lead over Columbus in the District 24-A basketball playoffs with a 49-35 win Tuesday night...

EL Imps lost to Wharton, 65-40. James Gertson was high scorer with 12; Walter Bremmer and Kenneth Brune each had 8 in the "Hug the Coast" basketball league game...

Funeral services for C.W. Thumann were held here Sunday. Rev. A.J. Pate officiated the service...

Gov. Shivers broke ground for a home for the Aged Sunday in Hillje.

Health care of Texas teachers

A bill enacted by Texas lawmakers will bring affordable health insurance to thousands of teachers this year. The TRS-ActiveCare Plan, passed by lawmakers last year, is Texas' first statewide health insurance plan for teachers and school employees.

More than 142,000 teachers and school employees have already en-

listed in the program, which will take effect when school starts in Sept. 2002. The health plan will cover 909 eligible school districts in Texas.

Rep. Robby Cook expressed hope that every school district in Texas will have the option of joining the statewide health plan by 2005. "This new health insurance plan will help to re-

(See Insurance, Page 5)

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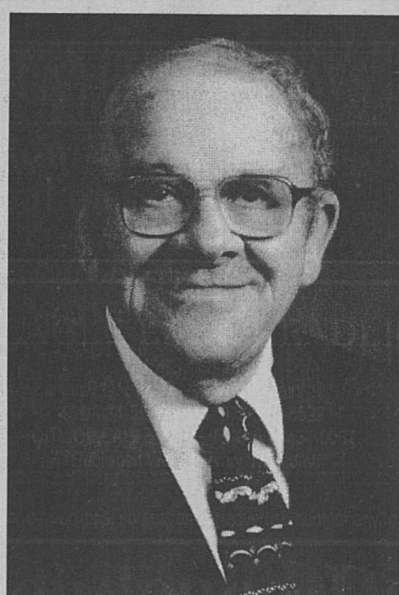
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at Rice Medical Center



for the dedication of the Raymond R. Thomas, Sr.
Memorial Chapel and the Tree of Life donated by the
RMC Employee Volunteers in honor of Dr. Raymond
Thomas and his many years of service to Rice District and
Rice Medical Center.

Saturday, March 9, 2002
2:00 p.m.

Rice Medical Center - Lobby

For more information you may contact the Administrative office
of Rice Medical Center at (979)234-5571



Chamber volunteers plant flowers

This group of volunteers planted wildflower seeds (donated by Wildseed Farms of Eagle Lake) along the nature trail at the City Park Saturday, Feb. 23.

The group included Robert Lujan; Tanya, Cullen and Caden Wiese; Tanner McQueen; Chris Dorsey; Lucille Trahan; Jesse Rodriguez; Candy McCreary; Pat and Len Matula; Mary Ann Kaluza; and, in front, the Tom Kelley family, Tom, Sophie, Emma and Vickie.

Chairman of the project for the Chamber was Denise Janow. Lujan assisted with the construction of the small signs which say, "Wildflowers - Do Not Mow". The sign stakes were donated by Lake Lumber.

With a little rain and some warm weather, look for the wildflowers to make their appearance this spring.

Headlight Photo

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