



**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**

(USPS 163-760)  
 P.O. Box 67 - 220 East Main  
 CITY OF EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS 77434-0067  
 979-234-5521 • Fax: 979-234-5522  
 Published Weekly-Every Thursday

**Produced and Distributed By:**  
 Carol Cardenas • Jeannine Fearing  
 Shirley Luedecke  
 Katherine Smith • Cathy Fearing

**Advertising and News Deadline: 5 P.M. Monday**

**Subscription Rates**

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Colorado County (including Lissie & Egypt) | \$12.00 |
| Fayette, Lavaca, Wharton & Austin Counties | \$13.50 |
| Other Texas Residents                      | \$15.00 |
| Outside of Texas; Inside U.S.              | \$16.50 |

Foreign Rates Available By Request

**Single Copy Price : 35¢**

Second class postage paid at Eagle Lake, Texas

**Address Corrections** should be sent to P.O. Box 67 Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0068

**To THE EDITOR & YOU**  
**Citizens need to be informed**

Dear Editor,

It is important that the citizens of Colorado County be informed of the proposed Post Oak Groundwater Conservation District. One thing is for sure property owners will lose their right of capture. Do we really want that to happen?

That is a question that needs to be known is the salaries and benefits that we the property owners will be paying for the proposed seven board members and employees of the district. As stated in Chapter 36.068 the board may provide for and adminis-

ter retirement, disability, and death compensation funds for the employees of the district. The board may also include hospitalization, medical benefits to its employees and establish sick leave. They will also be entitled to expense reimbursement, also purchase vehicles, machinery, materials, equipment, and supplies needed for the district.

The district shall employ or contract engineers, attorneys, financial advisors, operators, bookkeepers, tax assessors and collectors, auditors, and administrative staff. Can all of this be

supported on the proposed 2.5% tax rate?

Please be aware the district will have the power to acquire land, to erect dams, or drain lakes, draws, and creeks as stated in Chapter 36.103. They can also buy, sell, transport, and distribute surface or ground water for any purpose.

Ask yourselves once again, is this conservation or control?

Sincerely,  
 Dorothy Wostarek

**Farmers Insurance pulling out of Texas homeowner insurance**

Farmers Insurance homeowner policyholders will be looking for a new insurer as the company announced plans to pull out of the Texas market Nov. 11.

Farmers has mailed letters informing 700,000 Texas homeowners that their policies will not be renewed.

State law requires insurance companies to give 30 days notice before declining to renew a policy. Companies cannot terminate a policy mid-term and must wait until the expiration date.

Insurance Commissioner Jose



Montemayor said the Texas Department of Insurance has been talking to a number of companies about writing more homeowners insurance. The agency's new web site www.helplineure.com can take applications and assist with finding new coverage. Homeowners without Internet access can call 1-866-695-6873.

enforcement agencies, the new system includes numerous Texas businesses and associations. When an alert goes out, these private companies will be able to quickly get word to their employees.

**Bet you don't know**

How many dogs and cats are there in Texas? The last U.S. Census showed that Texas has more than 20 million people, but federal enumerators don't count canines and felines. The Texas Department of Health, however, has estimated that the state has some 6 million dogs and 6.6 million cats.

Of those animals, and this is the reason the state was interested in the number, about half the dogs and only a quarter of the cats have been vaccinated against rabies.

In spite of those numbers, the department has proposed a rule change that would lower the requirement that dogs and cats be vaccinated annually instead to every three years.

The reason, the department explains, is that vaccine is effective for up to three years. Thirty-three other states have made the same move. The important thing, the state agency continued, is that the pets get the shots in the first place.

**High-lites**

Just in time for the fall hunting seasons, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has graduated 37 game wardens. Though their primary duty is to enforce the state's game laws, the new wardens are commissioned peace officers who can make arrests for any law violation.

Speaking of peace officers, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education now requires officers to have 16 hours of Spanish language training.

The Texas Historical Commission has a new brochure on one of the state's best known old-time transportation corridors, the Chisholm Trail. Copies of the publication detailing the history of the famous cattle trail can be obtained by calling 512-463-6355 or logging onto the web site at www.the.state.tx.us/forms/pubs.html.

**148th ANNUAL MENTZ PICNIC**  
 ST. ROCH'S CHURCH - MENTZ, TEXAS  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH**  
 HOLY MASS 10:00 A.M. - Father Wayne Flagg, Pastor  
 .....SERVED BUFFET STYLE BEGINNING AT 11:00 A.M. ....  
 DINE IN - AIR CONDITIONED HALL AVAILABLE - DINE OUT  
**BAR B Q BEEF, PORK & SAUSAGE**  
 ADULTS: \$6.50 • CHILDREN UNDER 12: \$3.50 (TEA INCLUDED)  
**DRIVE - THRU LINE** HAMBURGERS  
**BBQ & SAUSAGE SOLD** GET A HAMBURGER  
**AT PIT BY THE POUND** BEGINNING AT 3:00 P.M.  
**AUCTION** **MUSIC** **DANCE**  
 Special Offering **THROUGHOUT THE DAY** **3:00 - 7:00 P.M.**  
 Old Time Antique **BY:** **FEATURING MUSIC BY:**  
 John Deere Tractor **BOBBY JONES** **FAMILY**  
**1:00 P.M.** **TRADITION**  
**RAFFLE**  
**KIDDIE RIDES • COUNTRY STORE • CAKE WALK**  
**GROCERY WALK**

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

**Aug. 31, 1978**  
 Mrs. Joyce Davison, Rice High School homemaking teacher, and Roy T. Marshall, Rice Consolidated Independent School District business manager, received 25 year service pins from Rice School District Supt. E.A. Krivacka...

**Mr. & Mrs. Jack Vawter** are the happy parents of a son born Aug. 29 in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Joe Duncan of Eagle Lake and Mr. & Mrs. A.S. Awer of Sheridan...

Four area residents were among the 755 students who filed for diplomas at Southwest Texas State University. Receiving diplomas were Reuben Salinas, Darnell Varley, David Truly and Mack Botard...

**Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Gold** of Garwood were happy to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Gretchen Joan, to Howard Franklin Wilkerson, son of Mr. & Mrs. Bill Wilkerson of Eagle Lake. The couple's wedding date is calendared for the seventh of Oct. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada...

One of the community's most beloved citizens, Mrs. S.L. Kucherka Sr., closed her eyes to a peaceful rest in the John Sealy Hospital in Galveston on Aug. 22...

**Mr. & Mrs. John Engstrom** of Garwood happily announced the arrival of their third daughter, born Aug. 23 at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton. She will be known as Andrea Marlo...

Effective Aug. 1, Roy Dean Van Nort completed the sale of the Rice Courts and also his interest in Taco Tony's to Tony Garcia who had been a partner in the dining place...

Congratulations are in store this week to Joe S. Reed, owner of Lake

**Sept. 3, 1954**  
 C.C. Bradfords proclaims the city's first curb service grocery store...  
 W.A. Stallman of Garwood is elected chairman of the county ACS Committee...  
 Heavy rains hit top to five inches and strong winds hit this area, causing considerable damage to rice crop...  
 Cub Scouts collect \$387.20 for MOD Saturday...  
 Service stations in the city to donate part of cash receipts Saturday to Boy Scout program...  
 Record number of pink bollworms are found in cotton crops in this county...  
 Bandmaster O.N. Campbell to issue band uniforms...  
 Rev. Warren Beale of Georgia accepts Presbyterian Pastorship here...  
 Allan Shivers nominated for third term by big majority in voting over state. County votes 2 to 1 for him...  
 Quarterback Club, Oscar Miller president, will purchase new parkas for Eagle Lake Eagles football team with \$1.00 membership fee...  
 Big rattler killed at his house by Douglas Obenhaus...  
 ELHS musicians now practice in re-finished band hall...  
 Services in Rock Island for Mrs. Katherine Benoist, 80...  
 Norma Eaton honored on third birthday in Rock Island...  
 O.L. Mill and W.L. Bauer begin anniversary sale at Home Appliances (See 24 & 48, Page 4)

**EAGLE LAKE DENTAL ASSOCIATES**  
 John B. Myres, D.D.S. & Vilma Fernandez, D.D.S.  
**Are Now Authorized C.H.I.P (Children's Health Insurance Program) Providers**  
*C.H.I.P. provides benefits for preventative care, fillings, x-rays, crowns and extractions.*  
 Contact our office at **979-234-3525** to schedule an appointment  
 To see if you qualify for C.H.I.P. Benefits, contact TexCare at 1-800-647-6558.

**In Recognition of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month**  
**Rice Medical Center** Is Offering **Mammograms for \$55<sup>00</sup>**  
**In October 2002**  
 Price includes interpretation by a licensed Radiologist  
 ACR Accredited and FDA Certified  
 Performed by a trained and licensed Technologist  
 Must be 35 years of age or have a physician referral  
**Call 979-234-5571**  
 To schedule your appointment  
 Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 A cash voucher must be purchased from Rice Medical Center during the month of October and expires December 31, 2002.  
*The Best Protection Is Early Detection*

**State test grades show increase**

These days, parents of Texas schoolchildren need to know their own version of the ABCs.

TAAS, and its successor TAKS, are the academic achievement tests that get the most news media attention, but there also is the EOC (end-of-course exams). These tests measure how well Texas students have done in algebra I, biology, English II and U.S. history.

Results released by the Texas Education Agency from last spring's testing show the passing rate for algebra I was 60% up from 51% last year.

Eighty percent (the same as last year) of the nearly quarter million students who took the Biology test passed it, while 70% passed the history test (down one point from the year before) and 69% passed the English test, a decline of six points.

A more detailed discussion of the testing and results can be studied (no testing required) at www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/.

**Amber Alert up and running**

The last step in making Texas' Amber Alert Network fully operational has been completed with the issuance of passwords for 1,364 city, county and state law enforcement entities to use the Internet-based portion that is a major component of the system.

In addition to fast distribution of missing child information among law

**11 File for Groundwater Conservation Board spots**

Filings for the Board of Directors of the proposed Post Oak Groundwater Conservation District has closed with 11 people filing for seven places on the board.

Places 1, 2, 3 and 4 are the same area as the County Commissioner Pre-

cincts and will be voted on by the residents of each Precinct.

Places 5, 6 and 7 are at-large seats and will be on the ballot county-wide.

However, the candidate for Place 5 must be a registered voter of the City of Eagle Lake; Place 6, a registered voter of the City of Columbus; and Place 7, a registered voter of the City of Weimar.

Every voter will be asked to vote for 4 of the 7 places for the Board of Directors.

The candidates as they will appear on the ballot are:

- Place 1:** Robert Connor, Columbus; Patrick Bubela, Nada; Edward Gold, Garwood
- Place 2:** Thomas Hudec, Weimar
- Place 3:** Barbara Weishuhn, Columbus; Lonny Daley, Columbus
- Place 4:** Charles Glueck, Cat Spring

- At-Large**
- Place 5:** Ronald Holland, Eagle Lake
- Place 6:** Ryan Beane, Columbus; Chris Stein, Columbus
- Place 7:** David Kahlich, Weimar

**Bible Verse of the Week**

*"Depart from evil, and do good, seek peace, and pursue it."*  
 - Psalm 34:14

Submitted by Neddy Phillips

**JOE C. FLING**  
 LAWYER  
 Criminal Defense Family Law  
 Real Estate Wills & Probate  
 Corporations Contracts  
 305 Burns Avenue, Eagle Lake  
**Phone 979-234-5536**  
 Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization