



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
 email: headlight@elc.net
 Published Weekly-Every Thursday

Produced and Distributed By:
 Carol Cadenas • 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 Subscriptions 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

'The issue is water, not votes'

While candidates from both parties have figuratively slugging away at each other in the most mean-spirited political campaigns in years, if not ever, a story of huge consequence too much of the state has been unfolding largely unnoticed.



State Capitol Highlights
 By Mike Cox
 Texas Press Association

The issue is water, not votes. The short version of the problem is that the Rio Grande Valley and other areas upstream are not getting much water out of the river that separates Texas and Mexico. The reason, compounded by drought, is that Mexico is taking out most of the water before it can get to Texas. Mexico's water debt amounts to some 1.5 million-acre feet, much more water than it looks like.

nate the trophy without performance or insist on reparation-in both kinds of liquidity, water and money.

This argument involves only South Texas, but if foreshadows a huge future problem for Texans: water supply.

More worries...

As if water supply was not enough to worry about, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is cautioning the state's several hundred deer hunters to be extra cautious in handling their kill this season. The reason is Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD).

While CWD has not been found yet in Texas, it could be a serious threat to the state's herd, one of its most important wildlife assets. Though not dangerous to humans, the disease could have a terrible economic impact on Texas.

Even though there is no known danger to humans, the Parks and Wildlife officials say that if a deer looks ill, don't shoot it or if you do, don't eat it. Hunters are advised to wear rubber gloves when dressing game, to

remove the bones from the meat and to not consume any neural issue.

For more information on the issue, check the agency's web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us.

Watch your truck...

Nationally, the most stolen vehicle is the Toyota Camry. But that's nationally.

In the Lone Star state, 20 of the 25 most-stolen vehicles in 2002 were pickup trucks. The favorite with vehicle rustlers that year was the Chevrolet C1500 4x2, according to data compiled by CCC Information Services Inc. and released by the Comptroller's Office.

Tea from Taiwan...

The results are in from Sept. 21's annual Adopt-A-Beach Cleanup. According to the General Land Office, nearly 10,000 volunteers collected 150 tons of trash from 208 miles of Texas' shoreline.

Among the more interesting items found this year: a Russian shaving cream can, a package of jelly from Japan, bottle caps from Argentina to Nigeria and tea packets from Taiwan.

Other debris that somehow ended up washing ashore in Texas included a water fountain, an artificial leg, a car door, a refrigerator and a piano top.

You probably remembered...

With the helpful slogan, "Fall back, spring forward," what to do when Daylight Savings Time changes is pretty easy to remember.

But the Department of Insurance reminds Texans they also should change the batteries in their smoke detectors. This simple procedure can help detect a potential fire in the home.

According to the International Game Fish Association, the heaviest fish ever caught was a 2,664-pound great white shark, caught by Alfred Dean in 1959.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Sept. 28, 1978
Fred R. Frnka, publisher of the *Eagle Lake Headlight*, is recuperating nicely following surgery in St. Luke's Hospital on Sept. 21...

These young ladies will be leading the Rice High School Raider Band during 1978-79: **Judy Bauger, Carolyn Pavlu, Luann Brown, Deslyn Valenta and Drum Major Lori Mahalitec...**

Jimmy Knight, a member of the Eagle Lake Community Hospital Candy Strippers, received his 250-hour service pin from Candy Stripper President Denise Fudge...

Airman Estella J. Hewitt, daughter of **Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Hewitt Sr.** of Eagle Lake, has been assigned to Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., after completing Air Force basic training...

Woodrow W. Clark passed away at his home Sept. 20, bringing sadness to his family and friends. Funeral services were held Sept. 21...

Jerrol Higgins, a 1974 graduate of Rice High School, received his BS degree from Texas Lutheran College.

He is the son of **Mr. & Mrs. Frank Higgins** of Eagle Lake...

Mr. & Mrs. David Pavlicek of Eagle Lake announced the birth of their third child, **Sharon Elizabeth**. She was born at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital on Sept. 14...

The sudden death of **Ms. Guadalupe C. Salinas** was learned with sadness by her relatives and friends on Sept. 20. Funeral services were held Sept. 22.

Sept. 30, 1954

Carey Selph is to be guest speaker at the Baptist Revival...

Rotarians are to host a big crowd at their Chuck Wagon Supper to be kicked off with a big western parade...

Texas Patna rice bids topped \$9.66 per barrel, offered by Rakestraw Mill...

Rice Theatre owners, the **H.C. Johnsons**, announced first CinemaScope showing this week...

Eleven occupants of three cars were injured when a truck crossed into heavy traffic from the Columbus-Sealy football game...

Coach Homer Dancer's junior high Eagles are to host Columbus...

A daughter was born for **Aulton Kingsleys**. She was named **Janet Leigh...**

Wayne Blasher was named president of the ELHS senior class...

Patsy Scott was nominated for Rose of Delta Sigma Pi at Baylor...

Mr. & Mrs. Ruben Miller and daughters visited with **Mrs. Will Walker...**

W.L. Bauers welcomed a daughter, **Jacklyn...**

Rev. & Mrs. A.J. Pate were honored with a farewell dinner...

Jack Dowdy is to be on the WCJC radio series...

A party honored **Donnie McGeehee** on his fifth birthday...

The WHC studied "grooming" in a meeting at the home of **Mrs. Glen Sunderman...**

Ms. W.K. Lehrner and **Mrs. W.R. Frnk** went to San Antonio to meet **Mrs. Lehrner's** daughter, **Mrs. H.I. Lewis** of El Paso.

The Custom Shoppe
 Since 1981
 Picture Framing
 Wallpaper
 Window Coverings
 Coleen Zimmerhanel
 Interior Designer
 & Consultant
 808 Front Street • Columbus, TX 78934
 979-732-5254 • 800-730-5254
 Store hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Come To Your Local

GOOD NEIGHBOR PHARMACY

EAGLE LAKE DRUGSTORE
 702 S. McCarty • 234-2502

For Your FREE

Child ID Kit

We care about your health and the concerns of your family!

RICE SCHOOL NEWS

SHERIDAN SMART AWARDS

Sheridan School students earned 248 Smart Awards the first six weeks. They were:

Kindergarten: Mykaela Gudelach, Justin Frederick, Mykaela Gudelach, Virginia Hardcastle, Charles Hubenak, Sirlia Hernandez, Amber Llanos, Damian Lockett, Bobby Maldonado, Kayla Manciaz, Marie Sosa, Hannah Tillman, Miranda Alvarado, Glenn Bozant Jr., Audrey Carter, Ethan Escamilla, Martin Marquez, Eylandria Parker, Destiny Schmidt, Mariah Sosa, Jasia Cantu, Areail Deville, Mariah Fuentes, Jimario Grouns, Daegen Guerra, Hector Herrera, Gerardo Martinez, Mallory Miller, Sara Reed, Ke' Anna Sims, Brandon Teague, Raelynn Yanez, Ryan Almanza, Joshua Beard, Anessa Blair, Jonathan Castaneda, Carla Diaz, Jose Guzman, Derrick Holloway, Freddy Houston, Marisol Mendoza, Celeste Morales, Samantha Navarro, Christopher Pennington, Allan Ruvalcaba, Vicky Serina, Chad Davis, Courtney Solomon,

First grade: Melissa Beck, Kristian Botard, Shaniah Hardcastle, Joseph Kazmir, Jorge Labrador, Erin McConnell, Austin Miller, Brittany Moore, Kayleigh Pausewang, Lori Puerton, Rachael Sheridan, Laura Taylor, Katelyn Tesch, Bobbie VanHowten, Brennan Williamson.

Second grade: Kelsey Andrejczak, Ashley Beck, Haley Benton, Mikayla Gabler, David Jones, Brittany Machart, Kayla Machart, Angel Mason, Shawn McDonald, Hugo Morales, Leighton Pilat, Cory Sims, Hunter Wild.

Third grade: Douglas Beck, Samantha Bryant, Kaleb Denison, Brooklyn Ellis, Zachary Frederick, Andie Hubenak, Hannah Jones, Katrina Kazmir, Anna McConnell, David Michalak, Javier Morales, Kirsten Neubauer, Jordyn Pausewang, Shyanne Schlauch, Brandon Sheridan.

Fourth grade: Michael Beyette, Brandy Brewer, Myles Dumont, Erica McConnell, Cody Moore, Ryan Moore, Mitchell Mowery, Hank Peterson, DeAndre Pratt, Cynthia Quinney, Jesse Ross, Gustavo Silveira, Spence Spencer, Tara Tesch.

Fifth grade: Thomas Benton, Jessica Hill, Alan Huggins, Haley Jones, Lea Lozano, Jennifer McDonald, Rachael Moore, Cody Munoz, Garrett Neubauer, Trentin Pilat, Brittnee Raybon.

Sixth grade: Wesly Arrison, Anna Delgado, Monica Garcia, Dillan Gertson, Brianna Hubenak.

Seventh grade: Courtney Andrejczak, Brittany Burnett, Nayeli Diaz, Chelsea Hill, Austin Moore, Drew Quinney.

Eighth grade: Brent Botard, Victor Brewer, Mallory Dumont, Morgan Dumont, Scott Gundelach, Billy Hearn, Megan Hinze, Tawana King, Johnathan McElwee, Courtney Moc-

abee, Nicholas Moore, Claudia Morales, Megan Mowery, Kristi Sepulveda, Courtney Sklar, Colt Valenta, Kimberly Varley.

ELPS E CONDUCT

Kindergarten: Jazmin Castillo, Sirlia Hernandez, Amber Llanos, Damian Lockett, Bobby Maldonado, Kayla Manciaz, Marie Sosa, Hannah Tillman, Miranda Alvarado, Glenn Bozant Jr., Audrey Carter, Ethan Escamilla, Martin Marquez, Eylandria Parker, Destiny Schmidt, Mariah Sosa, Jasia Cantu, Areail Deville, Mariah Fuentes, Jimario Grouns, Daegen Guerra, Hector Herrera, Gerardo Martinez, Mallory Miller, Sara Reed, Ke' Anna Sims, Brandon Teague, Raelynn Yanez, Ryan Almanza, Joshua Beard, Anessa Blair, Jonathan Castaneda, Carla Diaz, Jose Guzman, Derrick Holloway, Freddy Houston, Marisol Mendoza, Celeste Morales, Samantha Navarro, Christopher Pennington, Allan Ruvalcaba, Vicky Serina, Chad Davis, Courtney Solomon,

Number three is a series of remembrance of our World War II dead

Remembering William L. Stapleton

By Joe C. Fling
 Oct. 16, marked the 60th anniversary of the death of William Lee Stapleton. Stapleton was, at the time of his death and is still, in the hearts of many local people, acknowledged as Eagle Lake's first casualty of World War II.

This confusion stems from the secrecy that shrouded the loss of the carrier *Wasp* for about six weeks. During this time, the death of Billy Cook (number 2 in our series) was still unreported, so that when the news of the death of William Lee Stapleton on Oct. 15, 1942 was received, the *Eagle Lake Headlight* reported his loss as "Eagle Lake's First casualty".

Billy Stapleton was born Aug. 29,

Luther Cole.

GARWOOD SCHOOL

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

Kindergarten: Jacob Drlik
First grade: Veronica Vega
Second grade: Katie Pagel
Third grade: Kelly Vasut
Fourth grade: Elyse Labay
Fifth grade: Kaydi Gold
Sixth grade: Chelsea Korenek
Seventh grade: Marisol Tapia
Eighth grade: Jacob Engstrom

ACCELERATED AWARDS

Accelerated Math Winner: Aubrey Pavlu

AR Top Point Earners: **first grade:** Kelsey Janow, 4.6; **second grade:** Briana Faas, 7.4; **third grade:** Allysa Krpec, 8.2; **fourth grade:** Gregory Wesselski, 12.5; **fifth grade:** Lauren Shimek, 60.2; **sixth grade:** Fernando Cano, 39.9; **seventh grade:** Megan Bartlett, 74.8; and **eighth grade:** Chloe Sedley, 39.8.

1922 in Eagle Lake, the only child of Ben Lee and Eunice Hoover Stapleton. He enlisted in the Navy as a volunteer before the war, leaving Eagle Lake July 16, 1941 at the age of 18.

Billy took basic training with six other Eagle Lake boys at San Diego, and was stationed aboard the U.S.S. *McFarland*, which left the port of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii in Nov. 1941 for duty in the Pacific. Stapleton held the rank of Seaman First Class.

On this trip, Billy wrote to his parents, describing his voyage into the southwest Pacific, including a stop at Palmyra, in the Line Islands. Billy told of climbing trees for coconuts, fishing and swimming in the pre-war para-

(See Stapleton, Page 4)

Last Chance! SPECIAL! Oil Change

at **Ellison Chevrolet-Cadillac** in Eagle Lake

\$19.95*

includes six (6) quarts of oil, A/C Delco filter and a "FREE" Diagnostic Check on all Cadillac, Chevrolet and GMC vehicles.
 *Synthetic Oil and Diesel Engines excluded.

For Appointments, Call 979-234-5556 or 1-800-525-3001
 Offer good through Nov. 8, 2002.