



**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**

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**To THE EDITOR & YOU**

**Family & Friends gearing up for the season**

Season's greetings!  
 Our benefit date of Dec. 7 is approaching very quickly and many of you have asked, "What do you need? Is there anything I can do?" I thank you so very much for your generos-

ity. That is what Eagle Lake is known so well for.  
 I have talked with many of you already, but if I haven't yet and you would like to donate an item(s) to the live or silent auction PLEASE call me

as soon as possible!  
 We have also been told that many of you would like to buy or donate your turkeys or hams while they are on sale during the Thanksgiving holiday, so we have placed a freezer at B&S Taxidermy for those of you who may want to purchase them but have no room for them.

Please call me at 234-7582 if you are going to donate a turkey or ham, but want to bring it directly to the First Baptist Church Friday, Dec. 20, we will be distributing to our families from the church between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. "Family and Friends-God's Helping Hands" have chosen 58 families to assist for the holiday season. With the help of several churches,

hospital employees, school student councils and others like you, we will provide a turkey or ham, canned foods, fresh fruits and vegetables, and a gift to each family member. There are many individuals that we hope to touch with your kindness and compassion.

With all of us pulling together, I have no doubt that our benefit will be a total success!

We hope to see you after the parade.  
 Thank you again for your offerings and may God bless your family and health.

Lynn Ellis  
 President of Family and Friends

**Texans concerned with military closing bases**

While the U.S. moves toward disarming Iraq one way or the other, community leaders across Texas are getting ready for another sort of war.

In addition to whatever may happen with Iraq, concerns are growing over the potential for collateral damage in the Lone Star State when the military starts shutting down bases across the country.

Coming in two years is what will be a fight for economic well being for some Texas cities and counties. In 2005, the Department of Defense plans to abandon about 25% of its military installations to free money for more modern weapons.

Texas has high vulnerability: Eighteen installations currently employ nearly a quarter million people.

With that risk in mind, the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and Military Installations has recommended a new state agency called the Texas Military Preparedness Commission.

The new agency would be created from a merger of the current Office of Defense Affairs, the Texas Strategic Military Planning Commission and the Texas Aerospace Commission.

That, of course, will take legislative action.

Other states worried about base closures are ahead of Texas in their preparation, the Senate report said.

"If the legislature does not assist communities in securing their local bases during this next session," the report said, "Texas must be prepared to lose installations, infrastructure and missions to competitor states, such as California, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi."

Those states, the report continued, are already up and running in their efforts to keep their bases, forts and naval facilities.

**Another coming fight**

The most recent Scripps Howard Texas Poll shows that insurance-specific availability and cost is the top issue on the minds of Texans.

"Insurance is something that affects virtually every family in the state," Republican Rep. John Smither of Amarillo, chairman of the House Committee on Insurance, said recently.

Statewide concern with the issue is reflected in the number of bills dealing with insurance issues that already have been filed. The count already exceeds two dozen.

Among those proposed measures is

**State Capitol Highlights**  
 By Mike Cox  
 Texas Press Association

a package of eight bills that Sen. Troy Fraser will sponsor. Fraser, a Republican from Horseshoe Bay, is head of the Senate Business and Commerce Committee.

The set piece of the package is Senate Bill 14, that would compel all insurance companies to submit their rates to the state for approval.

The bill's intent is to repair a figurative break in the regulatory fence line that enabled insurance companies to shift customers to unregulated firms.

Those subsidiaries ended up with 95% of the homeowners insurance market and nearly a third of the auto insurance market.

The senator said in a press conference last week that he also would sponsor a bill that would keep insurance companies from abandoning one segment of their business (costly homeowners insurance is the biggie), while keeping more financially-attractive lines, particularly auto insurance.

Other bills in Fraser's repair kit deal with water damage and mold coverage issues.

**Testing third graders**

For the first time, this spring Texas third-graders will take the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test.

If they pass it, they get to go to the fourth grade. If not, they get to spend another year in the third grade while their friends move on.

The State Board of Education voted 12-3 last week that third-graders would have to get 56% of their answers correct to make the cut.

The recommendation had been that the passing point be 67%.

Those percentages are more than numbers: At the 56% level, an estimated 42,000 third-graders across the state could be held back if they don't pass the test after three tries. At the 67% standard, the estimated failure level would be 64,400 students.

To put those numbers in perspective, Baby Boomers in the Legislature and in education had to make a grade of 70 or above to pass, long before skills tests were invented. Of course, that's if they weren't good football players.

**Cotton stalk destruction deadline is Nov. 28**

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has extended the cotton stalk destruction deadline in 18 counties because wet field conditions have prevented growers from completing harvest and destruction of cotton plants. A failure to extend the deadline could have created significant loss to producers in those counties.

**The new deadline is Nov. 28.**

The deadline applies to fields in Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fayette, Fort Bend, Galveston, Gonzales, Harris, Jackson, Jefferson, Lav-

aca, Liberty, Matagorda, Orange, Walter, Washington and Wharton Counties.

Deadlines for cotton stalk destruction are mandated by regulations adopted under the Cotton Pest control law to help control boll weevils. After the deadline, cotton stalks must not be allowed to develop squares, blooms or bolls and must remain without fruiting structure until planting next spring.

For additional information, contact the TDA Gulf Coast office at 713-666-8491 or the TDA South Central Texas office at 210-820-0288.

**FSA election to be held**

An election will be held Dec. 4 in Local Administrative Area (LAA-3) to elect a committee person to serve on the Colorado County Farm Service Agency (FSA) Committee for a three-year term.

LAA-3 community "C" boundaries are: Southern Colorado County line preceding north along the east side of

the Colorado River to I-10, then west to business 71 South, then north of FM 109 to east Colorado County line.

County committee elections will be held in only LAA-3 because the term of county committee chairman, Chris Glueck, will expire on Dec. 31, 2002.

**Ballots were to be mailed no later**  
 (See FSA, Page 3)

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**Views On Dental Health**  
 IF YOU'RE BLEEDING  
 Extensive, uncontrolled bleeding from the gums or other mouth tissue is a serious dental emergency. If you can't get in touch with a dentist, call your physician, or go to a hospital emergency room.  
 If you have had bleeding problems previously, or if you have diabetes or high blood pressure, or if you are taking medication, be sure to tell your dentist BEFORE any surgery. Then he or she can decide what precautions to take, and whether to go ahead with the surgery.  
 If you have none of these problems, some slight bleeding after dental surgery is neither serious nor abnormal. Until you can get in touch with your dentist, apply a small square of gauze to the area and bite or press down on it for about half an hour. If this doesn't work, try biting on a wet teabag for a while. The tannic acid usually stops bleeding. Also, you can rinse with a 2% solution of hydrogen peroxide for three minutes. Still bleeding? See your dentist.  
*Presented as a public service to promote better dental health. From the office of JOHN B. MYRES, D.D.S., 700 S. McCarty Avenue, Eagle Lake, 234-3525.*  
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**El Campo's 15th Annual CHRISTMAS MALL**  
 Sponsored by the El Campo Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture  
 201 E. Jackson St., 979-543-2713  
**Saturday, Dec. 7**  
 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., El Campo Civic Center  
**Sunday, Dec. 8**  
 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., El Campo Civic Center  
 \*100 Booths with Arts & Crafts  
 \*Food Available in Food Court in Duson Room  
 Admission: Adults, \$2; Children 12-5; \$1; Under school age, FREE  
 \*Entertainment  
 \*Door Prize Drawings Every Hour!  
 \*Kids Karaoke Sunday, 1-3 p.m.  
 Pictures with Santa Available at Mall Saturday & Sunday 1:30 to 3 p.m.  
 Lighted Christmas Parade Theme "Tinselown Christmas" Dec. 5, 7 p.m. Downtown El Campo

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

**Oct. 19, 1978**  
 Louis Schorlemmer was the recipient of the Third Annual J.R. (Jimmy) Reel Sportsmanship Award at the Rice Belt Ducks Unlimited Dinner at the Provident City Hotel...

Twenty-two pretty young ladies from the area will be competing for the honor of being named the "Fairest of the Fair" at the Garwood Lions Club Fair and Carnival. They are Joretta Boyce, Dianne Van Nort, Lori Mahalits, Linda Labay, Michaelanne Hefner, Rose Till, Kim Jungmann, Cathy Fore, Linda Morrison, Patty Birkner, Sondra Dittmar, Sherry Krenke, Mary Ann Miller, Janice Bittner, Debbie Jones, Stephanie Schneider, Paula Rohwer, Judy Bunge, Debbie Thompson, Pam Kallina, Janice Waligura and Theresa Becak...

Friends in the community learned with regret of the death of Otis Coffey, a former Eagle Lake High School Coach from 1929 to 1935...

Newly installed OEA officers include Sharon Sims, Julie Epps, Veronica Parker, Stephanie Schneider, Norma Lira, Kim Woolard, Annette Axel and Janet Wied...  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Kincheloe of Sheridan announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Ann, to Earl L. Braden Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. Earl L. Braden Sr. of Eagle Lake. The couple will be united in marriage on Dec. 2, 1978 at the First Baptist Church in Eagle Lake.

**Oct. 21, 1954**  
 7th Garwood will open with a big parade Thursday. John C. White, Democratic candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture is to speak...  
 Coach Ben Cobb's Eagles played brilliantly last Friday night to scuttle the top-ranked Hallettsville Brahmas 14 to 7. The victory so startled Hallettsville fans that the Hallettsville paper had a full blank column with the only description of the game being "No Comment"...

Services were held for Elo Schilling in Garwood...  
 L. S. Tate moved up to head the Retail Merchants' Association...  
 1.4-million cwt. 1954 rice was put in storage...  
 Five-year-old Deryl Wayne Audirsch is in the hospital with injuries after being hit by an auto...  
 Nelda Guidry is to represent Eagle Lake C. of C. at the Garwood Fair...

A new route to Houston, through Wallis, is a step nearer...  
 Precinct 4 County Commissioner Glenn Kveton was the victim of heart attack on a fishing trip near Mill's Wharf. The 47-year-old commissioner had been fishing with Mr. & Mrs. W.A. Barnett...  
 Charles P. Boggess is heading the Boy Scout Fund drive here...  
 Twilight nuptials united Sue Guthman and John Walker...  
 Mr. & Mrs. A.L. Marx and son, Al, and Miss Rose Marie Brumbe-low and Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Hollas attended the State Fair of Texas...  
 Mrs. Lester Hudson honored her sons, Terry and Jimmy, and daughter, Lee, with a joint birthday party in Rock Island...  
 Rock Island seniors sponsor Curley Fox, Texas Ruby show...  
 Mrs. F.G. Newman entertained at a party for birthday of son, John O...  
 The August Schmidts are parents of a daughter, Linda Faye...  
 Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Jochetz celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary with dinner for family members...  
 James Schilling scored once and Bobby Hunt once but the Garwood Gars lost the six-man football game to Friendswood, 20 to 19...  
 Introductory tea in Charles Causey home honored Mrs. Gordon Causey...  
 Arnold Konvicka underwent surgery in Houston...  
 The D.R. Campbells visited here with his mother, Mrs. Belle Singley, before returning to home in Anchorage, Alaska...  
 James Gertsons announced the arrival of a son, James Dennis, Jr...  
 Mrs. M.L. Herman is the new president of the Garwood H.D. Club.

**Bible Verse of the Week**  
 "O' give thanks to the Lord, for He is good."  
 — Psalm 106:1  
 Submitted by Neddy Phillips

**Foot Facts**  
 By Dr. Eric Tepper, Podiatrist  
**ARTHRITIC FEET**  
 The feet are susceptible to arthritic pain due to weight-bearing activities and the high number of joints in each foot. Arthritis limits patients' activity levels and causes many occupational disability cases. The condition is on the rise in the United States, with experts predicting 59.6 million arthritis patients by 2020. About 9 million adults currently live with arthritis. Some types of arthritis are more likely than others to affect the feet. For example, osteoarthritis, the most common kind of arthritis, is a degenerative condition that strikes joint cartilage. Gout, triggered by an accumulation of uric acid, causes inflammation and primarily affects the first metatarsophalangeal joint. Psoriatic arthritis occurs in some psoriasis patients and causes joint swelling, often in the toes.  
 As foot specialists, whenever our patients are dealing with arthritic feet or other medically related problems, we will gladly work with all their health care providers to ensure maximum treatment and comfort. Although we don't treat the entire body, our experience shows that foot problems can affect, and be affected by, the health of the rest of the body. We do treat all kinds of foot diseases, conditions, disorders, injuries, and bone deformities. Please call 234-5571 for an appointment at Rice Medical Center. Office hours are on Tuesdays.  
 P. S. Early diagnosis and treatment of arthritis can help patients maintain normal activity levels.

**THANK YOU!**  
 I would like to thank all of the voters of Colorado County Precinct #4 for your write in votes in the General Election on November 5, 2002.  
 I appreciate your votes and the support you have shown me by electing me as your Constable.  
 I will strive to serve you in this office to the best of my ability.  
**Thank You!**  
**Darrell Stancik**  
 Political advertisement paid for by Darrell Stancik, 206 W. State Street, Eagle Lake, TX 77434.