

OBITUARIES

Doris Rateliff Gros

January 25, 1937 – November 29, 2002

Doris Rateliff Gros, 65, of El Campo, passed away Friday, November 29, 2002.

Born January 25, 1937 in Ennis, she was the daughter of Hiram Alfred and Ruby Lucille Taylor Rateliff.

Doris was employed by the El Campo Independent School District as food service head cashier at Northside and Hutchins Schools. She also sold Stanley Home Products for 40 years. She was a member of St. Philip Catholic Church, CDA Court Queen of Peace and the DAV Ladies Auxiliary.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Harold Gros (Nov. 1993) and a granddaughter, Ruby Marie Gros.

Survivors include her fiancé, Robert Parten of Sweeny; daughter, Donna Gertson of Eagle Lake; sons and daughters-in-law, Randall and Susan Gros of Brazoria, Gerald and Tracy Gros of Bay City and Timothy and Melinda Gros of Jarrell; sister, Delona Mc Clain of Carrollton; brothers, James and Maurice Rateliff of Ennis; grandchildren, Tiffany Jones and husband, Scot, Breahn Scheppeler and husband, Troy, Joshua Gertson, Cody, Roland, Garrett, Collin, Amanda, Meagan and Allyse Gros; step-grandchildren, James Isaacs and Leticia Perez and husband, Clifton; great-granddaughters, Chelyn Marie Jones and Eliza-

beth Claire Scheppeler.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, December 2, from St. Philip Catholic Church in El Campo with Rev. Eddie Winkler concelebrating.

Entombment followed at Holy Cross Memorial Park.

Arrangements were under the direction of Triska Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were grandsons, Joshua Gertson; Cody, Roland and Jarrett Gros; James Isaacs and Scot Jones.

Honorary pallbearers were granddaughters, Tiffany Jones, Breahn Scheppeler, Amanda, Meagan and Allyse Gros; and Collin Gros, Ken Loosier and Troy Scheppeler.

The family asks that memorials be made to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 2680, North Canton, OH 44720.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

Gussie Eugene Oakes

November 29, 1914 – November 28, 2002

Gussie Eugene Oakes, 87, of Columbus, passed away Thursday, November 28, 2002 at her residence.

A native and lifelong resident of Colorado County, she was born November 29, 1914 at home on Crasco

Board

grade took a field trip to the Stephen F. Austin Park in San Felipe. The classes had a wonderful day. Pre-k took a field trip to the Eagle Lake Post Office. They were very excited and well behaved.

The PTO just finished their fundraiser and it appears to have been very successful. It's estimated they raised over \$9,000. Ms. Weller expressed her appreciation to the faculty for their tireless work to see that all the students at the ELPS campus are making progress and being successful.

Raymond Beall, Eagle Lake Middle School (ELMS) principal, reported 222 students on his campus. Beall provided the Board with a report of events which will be taking place in the upcoming weeks. They had a great Veteran's Day assembly and Mr. and Mrs. Losach from East Bernard spoke to the students on being veterans for our country. Maintenance has installed the security lights under the canopy and Johnson Control is updating the fire alarm system.

Eric Grogan, Garwood principal, provided a copy of the Garwood Gazette, his campus' newsletter, to the Board. He said his enrollment is at 181 students. He thanked the Board for the heaters that were installed in the gym.

He also informed the members that the Garwood Association of Parents were to sponsor a chicken fried steak dinner Thursday, Nov. 21. Vincek's of East Bernard was to cater the event.

Don Wild, principal of Sheridan School, reported the Sheridan PTS Fall Carnival was held Saturday, Oct. 26. He thanked Jan Jamail, PTS president, for all her hard work and the Rock Island Volunteer Fire Department for creating and manning the fifth grade Haunted House. He also thanked many others who helped make the carnival a success. Their Veteran's Day Program was also a success and he commended Mrs. Botard, Mr. Hill, Ms. Dumont and Ms. McMillian for all their work. He said the PTS would have the annual Christmas Program on Dec. 9 at 6 p.m.

RHS Principal Michael Lanier congratulated Coach Russell Roark and the Raider football team for claiming the District Championship. He reported they would probably not have early release for report card pickup next year due to the lack of parental participation. He introduced Houston Cummings, the band director, who reported his band received a rating of II at competition. Cummings said the band students were not satisfied and will work harder. He added that he currently has 49 band students. The Christmas concerts will be: Sheridan, Dec. 9; RHS, Dec. 16; ELMS, Dec. 17; and Garwood, Dec. 20. Cummings also thanked the Board for the new instruments and music stands. Cummings is in the process of doing a complete inventory of all band equipment.

Dr. Cynthia Saha of the Colorado County Juvenile Detention Facility reported she has 87 students on her campus. All of the CSC facilities enrollments were down throughout Texas. Saha informed the Board that their Benchmark Testing scores in math and reading were low and they're working to get them higher.

In order of new business, Barbara Silva of Silva and Reed, P.C., presented the Annual Audit Report to the Board. The members reviewed the report and asked questions. Once all clarifications were made, the report was approved.

The Board then approved two student transfers into the district. Two students were also denied transfers from another district.

Lanier then began some discussion on the naming of the high school basketball court to "Jack Grammer Court". This would be in honor of the past bas-

ketball coach who was recently inducted into the High School Coaches Hall of Fame. The Board approved the naming of the court.

A special presentation will be made in the future.

Board members reviewed and approved several budget amendments presented by Hefner.

The RHS semester exam schedule was discussed and approved. It's similar to the schedule in years past and involves two early release days in Dec.

Continued from Page 2

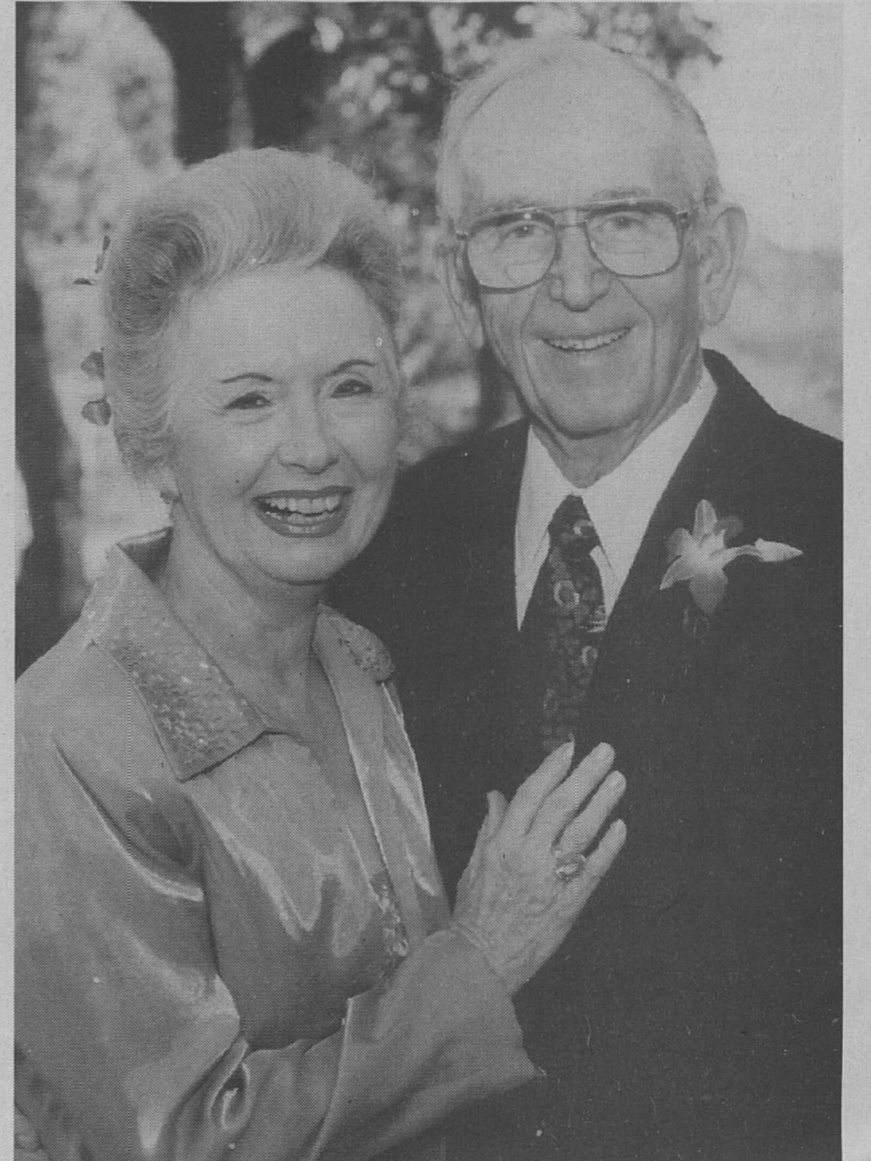
Dr. Gott presented the Correction Services Corporation Transportation Agreement with changes. The Board approved the changed agreement.

For the item of personnel, the only line of business was the approval of Gloria Bubela, Sandra Dawson and Theresa Losoya as substitutes.

The meeting was then adjourned.

The next Board meeting will be Monday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m. at the administration building in Altair. The public is invited.

Farris celebrate 50th wedding anniversary



Bill and Helyn now.

A large crowd of friends and family joined Mr. and Mrs. William L. (Bill) and Helyn Farris in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary at a cocktail reception Saturday evening, November 23, 2002. Their lakeside home, "Wild Wings", was the setting for the reception.

William Leon Farris and Helyn Lorena Hobbs were united in marriage at Riverside Methodist Church in Houston on November 24, 1952; six weeks after his return from army service during the Korean War.

They lived in Columbus for three years, where he was employed by Southwestern Bell Telephone, before being transferred to Eagle Lake where they have remained the last 47 years.

During the reception, the three Farris children introduced their spouses and children, as well as commenting briefly on their parents' marriage. This was followed by Helyn's toast to Bill coupled with remarks about their courtship. He responded by requesting granddaughter Alyssa Dixon sing "Because You Loved Me".

The Farris' first born is Candyce Dawn, a CPA in Huntsville, who is married to Dale Dixon.

Their second daughter, Melody Leigh, is a faculty member of Rice High School. Her husband is Michael Grigar of Eagle Lake.

Their son, Rich Farris of Houston, is an architect with FKP Architects. His wife is the former Carolina Botero from Calli, Columbia.

Bill and Helyn's grandchildren are Alyssa, Will and Luke Dixon; Lance Grigar and wife, Carrie, Lori Leigh Grigar and Nicole Farris.

Melody Grigar added to the festivities by modeling Helyn's complete "going away suit", accessories and jewelry while introducing her family

in making her remarks. Noting that the suit might not last another 25 years but to "mark your calendar now for at the rate they're going we expect to celebrate their 75th anniversary in 2027".

Perfect autumn weather allowed full use of the terrace surrounding the Farris home as well as indoor areas.

Outdoor tables were centered with Murano glass pumpkins on a swirl of gold lamé.

Indoors, guests were drawn to a display on a Victorian sideboard and a wall of photographs. The crown of the sideboard was completely encircled in a heavy garland of gold leaves, Mikasa hearts and over a thousand love letters written by Helyn and Bill during their courtship. The letters were tied in bundles by gold cord into the garland. Centering the sideboard was their wedding portrait with a surrounding display of their wedding photos, invitation, marriage certificate and Helyn's satin and pearl trimmed wedding slippers filled with purple static and Dendrobium orchids.

A 16-foot section of wall was filled with enlarged snapshots suspended on gold ribbons from ceiling to floor. These photos reflected the entire history of their life from the time they met in 1951 to the present.

The dining room was festive with gold lamé caught with gold roping swaged over sideboards and extending to the floor. The long buffet table, as well as a serving table at the end of the room, was skirted in floor length silver lamé cloth with a swirl of gold lamé and purple tulle down the center of each table.

Massive arrangements of curly willow, protea, astromeria, Fujijs, lilies, static, carnations and Dendrobium orchids in all tones of lavender and purple accented with hot pink and peach roses centered on the dining room tables and vantage points in the living room and entrance area.

A menu of bacon wrapped shrimp empanadas with Creole sauce, Swedish meatballs, smoked turkey, ham, pastrami, chicken crostini, assorted cheese, fruit and mini cheesecakes were enjoyed.

A highlight was the double ring wedding cake centered with fresh Catleya orchids.

Chef Wade Schindler of Poody's duplicated the Farris' original wedding (See Farris, Page 5)

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Bill and Helyn Farris on their wedding day.

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GREATER RISING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH: 580 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Truman Scott Sr., Pastor; 234-2423 or 758-3745.
GREATER UNION BAPTIST CHURCH: Matthews Community; Co. Rd. 141; Rev. Lawrence C. Robertson, Pastor; 234-2581.
MT. CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwy. 90-A (Pecan Valley), Eagle Lake; Rev. Paul Barrow Sr., Pastor; 234-5813.
LIVING HOPE CHURCH: Eagle Lake; Revs. Joe and Mercy Fling; 234-5536.
BEREA CLADIC: 623 Maple Avenue, Eagle Lake; 234-2130.
ROCK ISLAND FULL GOSPEL: P.O. Box 232, Rock Island; 234-5840.
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 APOSTOLISTIC REVIVAL RISING STAR: FM 102 South, Matthews; 4 p.m. (at Mt. Zion), Rev. R.L. Carter Sr.
GREATER NEW FAITH CHURCH: 6406 Guylar, Wallis; Rev. Clay Spears, Pastor; 979-478-2169.
EAST BERNARD FIRST BAPTIST FIRST BAPTIST: 527 N. Lake, Eagle Lake; Rev. Brent Beasley, Pastor; 234-2571.
FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; Rev. H.O. Williams, Pastor; 234-5795.
IGLESIA BAUTISTIA GETSEMANI: 901 B Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Mario Vasquez.
GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. Thomas Kuykendall; 705 Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-3545.
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST: 1207 Seaholm, Eagle Lake; Rev. Coby Shorter Jr., 234-3735.
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 306 E. Stockbridge, Eagle Lake, 234-3437.
ROCK ISLAND BAPTIST: Bob Allison, Pastor.
SHERIDAN FIRST BAPTIST WHITE CLOUD BAPTIST CHURCH: 202 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Obie Rhodes, Pastor; 234-3800.
CHURCH OF CHRIST: Sheridan.
NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP: Hwy. 90A, Sheridan; Del Sanford, Pastor; 234-3276.
CHRIST OUR REDEEMER-Charismatic: Jerry C. McKinney, Pastor; 979-478-7534 or 478-6512.
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH: East Bernard.
CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE NATIVITY: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sanctuary; 308 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; 7 a.m. (Español), 9 a.m., 11 a.m., Rev. Eddie Winkler; P.O. Box 307; 234-2842.
ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Box 97, Nada; Rev. Joseph Koebel, Pastor; 758-3218.
GRACE LUTHERAN: 408 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; Services begin at 10 a.m.; Rev. Clements Richard, Pastor; 234-3381.
LEHRER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST: Garwood; 9 a.m. worship.
LISSIE UNITED METHODIST: Bill Ramsey, Pastor; 234-2112, Lissie.
ROCK ISLAND METHODIST: Ken Sellar Jr. Lay-Pastor.
UNITED METHODIST: 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: 1300 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Paul Aguilar, Pastor; 234-7543.
FRIENDSHIP A-G: 501 Wallace, East Bernard; Fred Chambers, Pastor.
THE CHURCH OF CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS: 600 W. St., Sealy; Marshall Crosby, Branch Pres.
CHURCH OF CHRIST: 815 Milam, Columbus; Lynn Wilson, Minister.
THE SHEPHERD'S WAY: Interdenomination Christian Fellowship; 1225 Eagle Lake Road, Sealy, Frank Lucas, Pastor; 979-885-1225.

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