



**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**  
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## To THE EDITOR & YOU

### Thank you...

#### Dear Editor:

The physicians of Colorado-Fayette County Medical Society would like to thank all of those voters who supported Proposition 12 in the recent election. The passage of Proposition 12 will help ensure that physicians and hospitals throughout our state will be able to continue to provide medical care to

our communities, and even re-establish access to medical care in areas of the state in which it had been lost. Your support is very much appreciated by all of us.

Thank you.  
Tom B. Hancher, M.D., F.A.C.P.  
Colorado-Fayette  
County Medical Society

### Keep it up, Raider fans!

#### Fans of Rice High School football:

I am writing this letter to commend the support shown at the Bellville-Rice game last Friday.

The fans were stomping in their seats and the players NOTICED! It kept them going throughout the game.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask the fans to continue this type of support through the rest of the season... instead of sitting quietly during a down time or error... pump the team

back up!

The kids love the crowds to be loud with support and they feel that when it's quiet, they aren't doing the job they hoped to... they feel like they are letting you down as well as themselves.

They provide excellent entertainment for this community.

Great Job, Mighty Raiders. Great Job, Raider Fans!!!

Sarah Perry  
Eagle Lake

## Revolving secretary of state office turns again

The Senate continues to struggle with congressional redistricting, but it has agreed on one thing - the confirmation of Geoffrey S. Connor as Texas' latest Secretary of State.

Appointed by Gov. Rick Perry on Aug. 26, Connor replaced Gwyn Shea, who notified the governor in July she intended to resign in Aug. to spend more time with family.

Connor had been assistant secretary since 2001. After graduating from Texas State University (the recently renamed Southwest Texas State University) and the University of Texas law school and after a period of private practice, Connor served as counsel for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Department of Agriculture and former Gov. Bill Clements.

In the federal government, the secretary of state handles American foreign policy, traveling the globe to deal with ministers and heads of state.

In Texas, the secretary of state is essentially a secretary in the more traditional sense. He or she oversees the state's election system, is legal custo-



### State Capitol Highlights

By Mike Cox

Texas Press Association

dian of corporate charters and other business records, publishes state government rules and even is the official keeper of the state seal.

The Texas office also has been a political revolving door, with 104 men and women (including Connor) having served as secretary of state since the days of the republic. (By comparison, Texas has had only 47 governors.)

Though the list of Texans who have served as secretary of state contains many names most people have never heard of, the office has produced four governors (Mark White the most recent); three lieutenant governors (including Bob Bullock); eight attorneys general (White again the most recent); one comptroller (Bullock); one treasurer; and three Railroad Commission members.

Despite the fact that Texas has had six secretaries of state in the last seven years, the honor of having served the shortest term goes to a Confederate veteran named George Clark. He held office all of 10 days in 1874.

Jane Y. McCallum had the longest tenure in office, serving six years under two governors from 1927 to 1933.

#### Speaking of elections...

One of Connor's last official acts before his confirmation was posting the results of the Sept. 13 state constitutional amendment election.

All 22 propositions passed, including the only one that generated any controversy, Proposition 12, which dealt with caps in judgments against doctors and health care providers.

For the record, of Texas' 12,041,793 registered voters, turnout by proposition ranged from 10.72% to 12.2%.

#### Beaches cleaner...

Another state agency, the Texas General Land Office, spent the weekend of Sept. 20-21 coordinating the office's 17th Annual Adopt A Beach Fall Cleanup.

More than 195 tons of trash were removed from Texas beaches by 6,940 volunteers despite the notably un-beach like weather, heavy rain and cool temperatures.

In addition to the regular litter suspects - cans, bottles, cigarette butts and tires - volunteers found and removed a top hat, a rubber chicken, a Christmas sleigh with lights, a shopping cart, an automobile transmission and a swimming pool lining.

The most unusual find was a watertight bag containing a note from an 11-year-old thrown into the ocean off the Grand Cayman Islands on July 16.

## Cook announces High School Aerospace Scholars

Rep. Robby Cook is pleased to announce the launch of this year's High School Aerospace Scholars (HAS). This educational program offers Texas high school juniors the opportunity to participate in a science-, math- and engineering-based distance-learning program, and features an all-expense paid, week-long summer residential experience at the Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston.

Selected juniors will engage in a variety of activities including interactive web-based assignments, online mentoring, briefings and tours at JSC and a summer group project.

Eligible students are required to meet the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen,
- At least 16 years of age,
- Texas resident,
- Currently a high school junior,
- Interest in science, math or engineering.

neering.  
• Able to commit to a relationship with JSC, including a one-week residential experience during the summer, and,

• Access to the Internet and e-mail (home, school or public library).

The State of Texas, in partnership with JSC and the Texas educational community, developed the HAS to motivate students to pursue degrees and careers in science and engineering. More than 1,000 students from across Texas have participated in the program since its inception in 1999.

Interested high school juniors should contact their science or math coordinator for more information. Schools will submit completed student applications to Texas legislators, who will make the final selections. For more information, please visit the Web site at: <http://aerospacescholars.jsc.nasa.gov/>.

### Let's Look Back...

## 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Sept. 13, 1979

Charles D. Stephens board member of the Eagle Lake Community Hospital received a check from Mrs. Eunice Frnka of the Eagle Lake Community Hospital Ladies Auxiliary as a donation to the Hospital's Library Fund...

James Salinas of Eagle Lake, son of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Salinas, graduated from Texas State Technical Institute in Waco...

Grady Spradley was honored upon his retirement from Mobil Oil Corporation...

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Wiese of Altair announced the birth of their third son, born Sept. 2 at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton. He has been named Daniel Kyle...

Issacson-Carrico Manufacturing Co. Inc. presented Miss Ethelyn Marie Popp of Nada with a gold watch for her achievement...

Joseph Grigar of Lockhart spent the weekend with this grandparent's, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Frnka...

Fred Grahmann, principal of Rice High School, received the Honorary Lone Star Farmer Degree at the Area

III Association Banquet...

Sheriff George (Doc) Mueller announced the resignation of Deputy Filmon and Spec. Deputy Harry Townsend of Sheridan...

Colorado County Deputy Sheriff & Mrs. Jerry O'Connor of Eagle Lake became the proud parents of a set of twins, a boy and girl, Aug. 28. They have been named Patrick Michael and Adrienne Marie...

Mrs. H.L. (Ethel R.) Reading, a prominent resident of this community for the past 60 years, passed away in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital

Sept. 6...

Mr. & Mrs. Birt Shaw are the happy parents of a baby boy who has been named Travis Wayne. He was born Sept. 1.

Sept. 8, 1955

Mr. & Mrs. L.C. "Les" Zwerne-

man are new owners of Shell Station... Eddie Hansen was elected as president of the La Grange Bowling Association in La Grange...

Consolidated Fund for Eagle Lake and Community was formed and Rev. Warren W. Beale was elected president of the fund...

Eddie Hahn, son of Mr. & Mrs. C.E. Hahn, was honored on his eighth birthday...

Last rites were held for W.C. Smith Jr., 11-year-old son of Mr. & Mrs. William Carl Smith of Garwood...

C.O. Heinsohn produces 102.4 bushels per acre on a 10-acre field of Texas No. 28...

George Reuther Sr. was honored with a picnic dinner at the Eagle Lake Recreation Center on his 90th birthday...

Services were held for Mr. Bell, brother-in-law of Mrs. Henry Ruethe, at the St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Galveston...

Ann Girard of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, granddaughter of Mrs. C.E. Everitt Sr., was honored on her sixth birthday...

Vina E. McNeil Barnett passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jewel Dutcher of Lissie, of an apparent heart attack. Services were held at First Baptist Church of Markham...

The Eagle Lake High School band is preparing for halftime as the Eagles and Louise Hornets tangle in Louise.

## CANDY'S CITY HALL SPOTLIGHT

By Candy McCreary, Contributing Writer

I hear comments all the time about city Councilmen, city workers, our mayor, our city manager, and all the rest. It amazes me that so many people know so much when I have never seen them at a Council or town meeting. I tried to find out where these people get their information and most of them told me they got it from "the horse's mouth" which, when I pressed onward, meant from a neighbor, a friend or at a social gathering. After several similar attempts, I had to begin to wonder if the information was coming from the "horse's mouth" or from the other end!

Needless to say, most of you are not going to start coming to City Council, but I think you're still interested participants in the goings-on in our community.

Therefore, I am writing a new article, CITY HALL SPOTLIGHT, which will appear periodically. I hope to interview Eagle Lake's elected officials and City employees to hear their ideas and where they stand on issues important to the City.

For my first, I recently talked to City Councilman Eric Nethery and asked his opinions on some of the issues facing the City.

I hope you enjoy these articles. Since it takes quite a bit of time to write them, I would like some feedback. I would like to know if you enjoy reading them and find them informing or are they just taking up space in the paper. Send or tell your comments to the Headlight or to me. YOU will be the one to decide if these articles will continue or not!

**Candy:** Everyone is talking about the bond issue. What is the council trying to achieve by issuing a \$ 2 million bond.

**Eric:** Like I said in the meeting the other night, this bond issue is a prime example of responsiveness from your local government. Since I've been in Eagle Lake I have heard people say that the Council never does anything and not to bother going to council or to city hall because they don't listen. Well, we are listening. We know that there are streets in town that are in terrible condition. We know that there are ditches that need mowing and need cleaning out. We live here too and we drive on the same streets that everybody else drives on. People point the finger at this person and that person but the truth is that it is hard to hold people accountable for the job they do when it is obvious that they don't have the equipment to effectively perform their jobs. We hope to make lack of equipment a non-issue and this bond will give us some of the funds that we need to begin addressing these problems. The bottom line is that we hear what the people are saying and we are working to correct these situations.

**Candy:** Many people want to know exactly what the money will be spent on and how much will be spent each item. Why is this such a secret?

**Eric:** There is no secret about how the money is to be spent. Sec. 271.049 of the Texas Local Government Code provides that municipalities must publish notice of the amount of the bond and how the funds are designated for use. We placed a public notice in the Headlight pursuant to that law. The law does not stipulate that a city must specify an exact dollar amount for each item. What it does provide is that if a city says it is going to spend money on, say streets, for example, then by law it has to spend money on streets. In other words, we can't claim we'll spend money on something and then not do it. On the other hand, in our notice, we specify we will spend money on equipment for the Department of Public Works including dump trucks. If we designate a dollar amount, like \$50,000 for a dump truck, but, by shopping around, we find one for \$35,000 and buy the less expensive one, the remaining \$15,000 can't be spent on something else.

That money is encumbered, meaning it's stuck and cannot be re-allocated to streets, for example. Our goal was (See Nethery, Page 6)

**Celebrate**  
**CJ's**  
**6-Month**  
**Anniversary**  
**&**  
**Lisa's**  
**Birthday!**  
**Friday, Oct. 3**

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

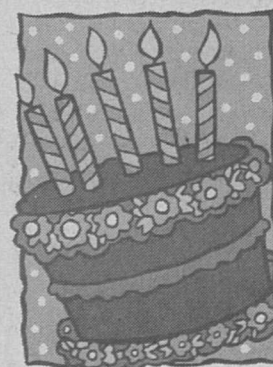
**Cake & Ice Cream**  
**Will Be Served**

706 S. McCarty • 234-7274 • Eagle Lake

## Happy Birthday Clara B. Carson

Oct. 1st

**Love Always,**  
**Len, Albert, Xavier,**  
**Katina, Michael, Viva,**  
**Bessie, Genie, Tyson,**  
**Suede & Star**  
**Loving Memory,**  
**Mama Lois & Brandy**



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