



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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To THE EDITOR & YOU

To the Eagle Lake Community

For those civic organizations who are seeking to apply for grant funds, please be advised the City will partner with you if you so request. We are here to keep Eagle Lake moving forward.

Below are the committee appointments for the City of Eagle Lake. As you can see, a member of the Council serves on each committee with the exception of the library board. Our appointed to that committee is City Secretary Sylvia Rucka.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call. As always, we are open to any concerns/suggestions that you might have individually and collectively. There are no "I's" in WE.

René Cooper Scott, Mayor
Nominations and Appointments
May 13, 2003

Mayor Pro-Tem: Larry Contreras (04).

H-GAC: Dave Curry, representative (04); Contreras, alternate (04); **Library Board:** Rucka (04); **Fireman's Board:** Contreras (04); **Electric Board:** City Council Representative, John Young (04); Power Company Representative, Denis Hentzell (04); Master Electricians Representative, Earl Braden Jr. (04); Citizen Representative, Manuel Gutierrez (04); Fire Marshal, Todd Mascheck (04); **Municipal Judge:** Larry Dulany (04); **Eagle Lake Housing Finance Corp.:** Ronnie Sedgewick (05); Contreras (05); Michael Donnelly (05); Sonny Spanihel (05); Len Matula (05); **Airport Zoning Board:** Eric Nethery (04); Contreras (05); **Airport Marketing Committee:** Michael Cooper, (04); Joe H. McCreary (04); Robert Stowers, (04); Matula (04); **Main Street Board of Directors:** Leslie Carey, (04); Sandy

Bendy, (04); Becky Anderson, (04); Denise Janow, (04); John Gertson, (04); Mary Ann Kaulza, (05); Tony Tyler, (05); Louis Schorlemmer, (05); Jean Wiese, (05); **Zoning & Planning:** Dan Canaris, (05); Noble Anderson, (05); Helen Craig, (06); Ralph Truly, (06); Linda Ferguson, (06); **Board of Adjustment:** Cooper-Scott, appointed; Nethery, appointed; Young, appointed; Contreras, appointed; Curry, appointed; Morales, appointed; Patricia Fields, (04); Isidoro Ramirez, (04); Bruce Johnson Jr. (04); Eve Lucas (05); Bea Kuykendall (05); Paul Supak (05); **Budget Committee:** Nethery (04); Young (04); Curry (04); **Personnel Committee:** Contreras (04); Morales (04); **Colorado County Central Appraisal District:** Steve Henderson.

'Walk' was successful

The City of Eagle Lake and Rice Medical Center (RMC) would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the overwhelming response and participation in the Walk For the Cure this past Saturday.

It was a big success. You should be proud! This was first for Eagle Lake and we did it!

Thank you all,
Mayor René Cooper-Scott, RN
RMC DoN Susan Hernandez, RN

State to eliminate seven health, human service agencies

Those involved are using the term "re-org" to describe something that is bringing profound change to them and the people they serve.

By the first of the year, because of legislative mandate, a dozen state health and human service agencies will be consolidated into only five.

Ranging from working for an agency with a new name to the ultimate impact of having no job, this "re-org" affects more than 50,000 state workers - nearly a fourth of the total number of employees.

Though the Legislature required the restructuring, a plan outlining the nuts and bolts of how it will be done is due at the governor's office by Dec. 1. Some of the details may change, but the big picture is already in the frame:

•The Health and Human Services Commission will be the umbrella agency.

•The Department of State Health Services will assume the staff and functions of the Department of Health, the Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse and the Health Care Information Council. The new agency also will provide care for mental health clients previously served by the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

•The Department of Aging and Disability Services will assume mental retardation care from what is now MHMR as well as functions from the



State Capitol Highlights

By Mike Cox
Texas Press Association

Department of Human Services and Department of Aging.

•The Department of Family and Protective Services will replace the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services.

•The Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services will handle the duties of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, Commission for the Blind, Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and the Interagency Council of Early Childhood Intervention.

Bus safety week more than talk...

It's nothing to get alarmed about unless you are a traffic law violator, but some school buses this week will be carrying passengers with guns.

This is School Bus Safety Week, and to underscore the point, the Department of Public Safety is putting troopers on school buses to make sure drivers obey the law requiring them to stop when a school bus is stopped to load or unload children.

The fine for passing a stopped school bus when its red lights are flashing can reach \$1,000.

On the money list...

This is one state government list you might want to be on — the state's annual Unclaimed Property List.

The list, published by Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn, includes more than 142,000 unclaimed property owners who have lost track of \$71 million in cash and other valuable assets.

Houston has the most names on the list with 22,644 people missing \$14.24 million in unclaimed property from 2003 alone.

The list was published Oct. 19 and is available on the comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/up.

More Troopers needed...

Looking for a new career? The DPS is looking for a few good men - and women - to attend the next DPS recruit school.

With retirements and new positions authorized by the Legislature, the DPS will start its next training class for new troopers on Feb. 2. If you're interested in a law enforcement career, the DPS will be accepting applications until Nov. 7.

To meet minimum qualifications, applicants must be at least 20, a U.S. citizen and have completed at least 90 hours of college.

For more information, check the department's Web site at www.txdps.state.tx.us or call the toll-free recruiting line, 1-866-TXTROOP (898-7667).

2003 Tax Relief Act Seminar

Farris Hotel

Wednesday, Oct. 29; 7 p.m.

Raymond L. Viktorin, Jr., CPA, will explain how the Tax Relief Act of 2003, signed into law by President Bush on May 28, 2003, will impact your tax liability for 2003 and future years, while exploring possible benefits to you and your family.

To reserve a seat for you and a family member or friend, please call...

979-234-5420 or 979-543-1685

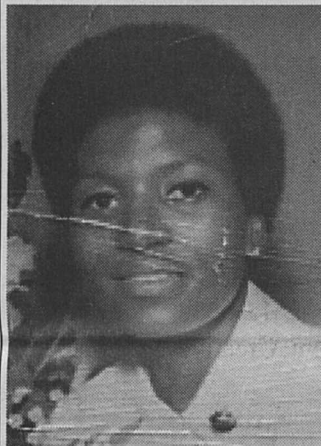
Happy Birthday

René
Cooper-
Scott

"Grandma"

October 30, 2003

With Love,
Your Family



Watch for identity theft

I am writing this to inform people of small communities ways to protect themselves from identity theft. Just because we live in a small town doesn't mean we're less likely to have it happen to us. Just recently, I found out I was a victim of identity theft. It wasn't for a very large amount, but someone invaded my privacy and stole private information for criminal use.

I went to the Eagle Lake Police Department and, after an investigation, they discovered it was identity theft. The check was written in Dallas. As if that wasn't enough, on Monday I found out it happened again. This time it was for a much larger amount. I went back to the police department and a new investigation is now open.

The same person who did it the first time did it again. The sad part is, it's practically impossible to find this person.

I've read many things relating to identity theft and have learned a few things I would like to pass on to you.

Use caution when you give your driver's license or Social Security numbers.

On checks, put your first initial and last name (by the address), then sign your check with your whole first and last name. (Thieves don't know what your first name is by your check alone, and they don't know how you sign it; but your bank does.)

If you have a P.O. Box, use that on your check instead of a physical address. (They can't track you.)

Don't list driver's license numbers or telephone numbers on your check. (Make the clerk ask to see your license. That way, your photo I.D. matches the person standing there. If possible, write a work number instead of home.)

When paying bills, do not write the

whole account number of your credit cards on your check. Just write the last four or five numbers.

Shred financial documents when you throw them away.

Keep bank account numbers, PIN numbers and Social Security numbers out of your wallet.

If your checkbook or wallet is stolen, act quickly to reduce the potential for damage. Immediately call:

•Your bank and credit card companies to freeze your accounts.

•The three credit reporting companies-Experian (888-397-3742), Equifax (800-525-6285) and Trans Union (800-680-7289). If your identity is stolen, you need to call these to put a fraud alert on your credit.

•Your local police department to file a report.

•The Federal Trade Commission (202-326-2222), which provides information to victims and refers complaints to the appropriate reporting agencies.

If you don't ever need this information, that's wonderful. But, this little bit of information could help save you from a lot of aggravation.

If you have any questions about this article, please feel free to contact Lt. Wendy Thompson at the Eagle Lake Police Department at 234-2727.

Sincerely,
Tiffany Jones

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Oct. 4, 1979

Buddy Jacobs, new Director of Public Works, was welcomed by Eagle Lake City Manager T.J. Smith...

Five-year-old Scotty Navarro Jr. of Wallis was killed in a car accident...

Eagle Lake Middle School Band officers for 1979-80 are Roxanne Ripper, president; Renae Dierschke, vice-president; Lisa Corman, reporter; and Ann Scholton, secretary...

Alois J. Kremling, a Garwood resident, passed away Oct. 1...

Funeral services were held Oct. 1 for Alma Torres, 19, the wife of Eloyd Torres, formerly of Eagle Lake, and daughter of Pete Munoz and Stella Munoz...

Rick Weaver and Dale Norris are the new 8th grade football coaches at Eagle Lake Middle School...

Sept. 30, family and friends gathered together to help Wilfred Luedecke celebrate his birthday...

Named as Bandsmen of the Month by band director Floyd Spenrath were Steven Simick and Temple Thomas...

Mr. & Mrs. William A. Kell Jr. of

Eagle Lake happily announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Lydia Susan, to Charles Kirk Engstrom, son of Mr. & Mrs. Truman O. Engstrom Sr. of Garwood. The wedding is set for Nov. 10 at the First United Methodist Church in Eagle Lake...

Leading the Garwood Jr. High band are Kristine Carpenter and Rachelle Hunt...

Trey Kell, son of Mr. & Mrs. William Kell of this city and a freshman at Wharton County Jr. College, was admitted to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital with a bite from a small rattlesnake. The incident took place near the Senior Bridge on FM 3013.

Sept. 29, 1955

The new 1956 Mercury to be on display soon at the Universal Motors...

Mrs. Josephine Machac of Schulenburg and her infant daughter are in the Columbus hospital, where the baby was born a few hours after her mother was seriously injured in a head-on collision...

Miss Norma Shoop and Grayson Keith Jackson, son of Mr. & Mrs. R.K. Jackson of Columbus, announced their engagement and approaching marriage...

Sammy Tise won a blue ribbon with an unusual collection of firearms and documents at the Wharton County Fair...

Mr. & Mrs. H.A. Todd are the proud parents of a nine pound, six ounce son. They named him Victor Allen...

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Eva N. Jones at the Hubbard Funeral Home in Weimar...

Rose Marie Brumelow, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Brumelow, and Alfred Marx Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Marx of this city, announced their engagement and approaching marriage...

Karen Hodde was honored with a party given by her mother, Mrs. Dallas Hodde, on her 12th birthday.

THIS IS D.Q. COUNTRY SPECIAL

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Happy
Birthday
Granny
& Lissy

Love,
The Struss Family

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