



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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To The Editor & You

Decorate your business for Christmas

To all Eagle Lake merchants:

Main Street is sponsoring a Christmas Decoration Contest for the merchants and building owners in Eagle Lake.

Awards will be given in two categories: most noticeable and most original.

One of each of the awards will be given to merchants or buildings in the Downtown Main Street District.

In addition, one of each of the awards will be given to merchants or buildings in the city's major business centers, but outside the Main Street District.

To be eligible for the award, you must register to participate in the contest. This will assure no one is overlooked in the judging. Entry forms are available at City Hall, or you may call the Main Street Office at 234-6933. Leave a message and an entry form will be mailed to you. You may also request an entry form by e-mail at mainst1etx@yahoo.com.

Judging is to be done by a panel of three judges, a Main Street Advisory Board member and two chosen from outside Eagle Lake. Judging will be Dec. 10.

The award presentation will be

made by the Chamber of Commerce at the Christmas Parade Dec. 13 along with the parade awards.

The prizes will be \$25 gift certificates to be used at participating Eagle Lake merchants. Individuals may use

the certificate at any business except his own.

The Friends of Main Street Eagle Lake will reimburse the accepting merchant the full amount of the gift certificate.

Let thy neighbor live in peace

This past week, there was a meeting at City Hall with the board of adjustment. Some residents in the city were requesting a variance to either add on to an existing building that may go over the property line or other reasons.

City Manager Ron Holland opened the floor for questions or comments. Immediately a man stood and said he would not stand for a garage to be built to work on cars close to him. Mr. Holland then again stated that it would be a garage to park personal cars in with a work area. The gentleman again exclaimed there you said it again - he would have a work area. Mr. Holland again explained a workshop for himself.

The small group of people that were there were very defensive at the opening of the meeting.

Some of the people that were there do not know the first thing about the family who was making the request to the City. They were influenced by a "couple of snakes". These people have not built their house yet - how do they know that their neighbors will like or approve of what they build. The man did have some good questions and statements about this variance. I do agree with him somewhat.

Then the true reason for this group came out. They brought up the deed restrictions of the addition we live in.

Every person in this group attacked the family's means of living. Some were complaining of the noise (that most all other residents on the street are not bothered by). Some stating that this used to be a quiet neighborhood. This resident has probably lived on the

street five to six years. The business was already there for 22 years; nothing has changed and it is still quiet.

The gentleman went on to further state he has gone up and down the street and counted 14 kids who reside on the street. Another stated if they new there were kids on the street they would not have chosen this area for their home.

Those who are complaining, look at your own house. One way or another we have all broken deed restrictions... from putting cattle in the yard to metal buildings. No one complained to you and no one approached you about it. So stop pointing fingers.

However when you start messing with a person's living, you're getting out of hand and out of line.

To those who don't want children in the area, buy an island, move to it and please be happy.

To those who take care of everyone's business (except their own), get a life. It is very evident that you have very unhappy lives.

Last, to the small group of people swayed by snakes, I advise you to think twice about turning your back to them for they may bite you right on the butt.

If you're going to cast stones at your neighbor who has absolutely done nothing to you then cast them at yourself because you are wrong for attacking a persons living. Let your neighbor live in peace! Let me remind you, you were a child at one time.

A Concerned Neighbor

P.S. Yes, I expect to get a nasty reply to this letter because some of you will be offended by the TRUTH!

'He had his hands full'

While I realize everyone is entitled to their opinion, people have quickly forgotten what life was like at RCISD before Coach Roark. We had three kids at the high school when he came here and witnessed the start of some great changes.

Believe me, he had his hands full - participation in sports was minimal, grades were down - those who did play sports could barely make it past the first six weeks. There was very little school pride and our athletic program was a big joke!

Personally, I don't feel life revolves around football, but let's face it, having a great athletic program benefits everyone. Our kids have healthy minds and bodies and are less likely to get in trouble. They also have the incentive to work harder in class, which benefits the students, teachers, parents and the entire school district.

What would be accomplished if Coach Roark were to lose his job? Not only would it punish his entire family, but the whole RCISD.

I have known the Roarks for six years - they are a good, close-knit family and I have spoken to them since this happened. He is willing to take his lumps for making a stupid mistake -

so let him.

There are lessons to be learned here for everyone. While I don't condone what he did, he's human like the rest of us - and for those already sitting on the throne - please allow the rest of us a chance to get there!

Susan Gertson
Eagle Lake

Rice CISD receives recognition

To the Administrator of Rice CISD:

This is to inform you that the school districts and regional education service centers of Texas are being recognized by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) for their outstanding efforts with the implementation of GASB Statement 34, Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments.

The enclosed Certificate of Recognition from GASB is being distributed by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to over 980 early implementers of the new financial reporting standard.

This achievement was the result of the uniform implementation of GASB 34 in these entities for fiscal year 2002 (the 2001-02 school year and the fiscal period ended June 30, 2002 or Aug. 31, 2002 according to the school

district's option to select a fiscal year end date). It is to be noted that most sectors of government began implementation of GASB 34 in fiscal year 2002 and all governmental entities in the nation will be required to complete their implementation efforts no later than fiscal year 2004.

The TEA also wishes to especially thank the Mansfield and the Eanes Independent School Districts that piloted the implementation of GASB 34, in addition to the Texas Association of School Business Officials and the many school district and regional education service center officials who assisted with training activities.

The outstanding efforts in financial reporting by the 1,040 Texas school districts and the 20 regional education service centers were especially noteworthy to the GASB in comparison to

the ongoing implementation efforts by all sectors of government throughout the U.S.

This achievement by the Texas school districts and regional education service centers was also significant in terms of scale, representing 1,060 entities that reported over \$36 billion in revenues and other financial sources for fiscal year 2002.

The primary goal of GASB 34 is to improve financial reporting activities of governmental entities to facilitate better decisions by the governing boards and administration, and to better communicate the results of financial activities to taxpayers.

Please be assured that the TEA and other state-level offices are benefiting from the improvements in financial reporting as well as the individual schools and education service centers involved.

Virgil (Ed) Flathouse,
Associate Commissioner for
Finance and Compliance

Crime

Continued from Page 1

arrest and charges being filed on the criminal, you could earn up to a \$1,000 reward.

Colorado County Crime Stoppers, citizens, law enforcement and the media, are working together to make our community a safer place to live. Together, we can make a difference.

State senator, former lieutenant governor to retire

The man who served as lieutenant governor after Rick Perry moved up to replace George W. Bush in the Governor's Mansion is retiring.

Sen. Bill Ratliff (R-Mount Pleasant) announced last week that he would be leaving the upper chamber of the Legislature effective Jan. 10. That date will mark the passage of 15 years since he was sworn in for his first term.

Ratliff's term is not complete so Gov. Rick Perry will set a special election to determine the senator's successor.

Ratliff was polite in announcing his leave, stressing that he would not be leaving "on a negative note." He did say his parting wish for the Senate was a return of civility, which said a lot.

The senator said he felt his greatest accomplishment had been his role in rewriting Texas' education code and in shepherding other education-related legislation.

His retirement, however, will keep him out of an expected special session sometime next year to deal with the huge school finance issue.

Supreme Court judge named...

Scott A. Brister, who had been serving as chief justice on the 14th Court of Appeals, has been appointed by Perry to the state Supreme Court.

He fills the unexpired term of Craig Enoch, who had resigned earlier this year.

Brister's term runs through 2004. After that, he will have to campaign for election to the seat.

The new judge grew up in Waco

State Capitol Highlights

By Mike Cox
Texas Press Association

and attended Harvard Law School.

Trooper's movie watching gets bad reviews from Perry...

The day after an Austin television crew caught a Department of Public Safety trooper watching a movie on a portable DVD player in her patrol car at the west entrance to the Capitol grounds, Gov. Perry said he didn't like it and didn't expect it to happen again.

Though the trooper's sergeant told the TV reporters that he didn't see anything wrong with the trooper watching movies as long as she paid attention to her duties, that did not seem to impress the governor.

The DPS is conducting an internal investigation of the incident.

Unemployment rate drops...

Texas' unemployment rate dropped to 6.5% in Oct., the Texas Workforce Commission reported. Those figures mean that from Sept. to Oct., 15,000 Texans found jobs or otherwise fell off the unemployment radar.

And so far this year, 32,600 new jobs have been created in Texas, the commission reported.

"Our state is on the right track and Texas employers are proving resilient

(See Highlights, Page 5)

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Nov. 8, 1979

The following young ladies will lead cheers for the Garwood and Sheridan Raiders. They are **Lucy Garcia, Cathy Lanyon, Monica Pieprzyc, Becky Kutzer, Michele Genz, Janice Hyek and Bertie Garcia...**

Bandsmen of the Month for Eagle Lake Middle School and Garwood School are **Julia Rosprim, Melissa Wilcox and Rachelle Hunt...**

Mr. & Mrs. Ray Obenhaus of Eagle Lake announced the arrival of a baby girl Nov. 2 at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton. Her name is **Amy Nicole**. Welcoming her home is

a brother, **Donny**, 2-1/2 years old...

Gaye Lynn Thomas, a senior FTA member, was selected as the Oct. Future Teacher of the Month. She serves as the FTA president...

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald H. Price became the happy parents of a baby boy Oct. 25. He has been named **Shawn Michael...**

Miss Susan Kell, bride elect of **Kirk Engstrom**, was the honoree at a lingerie shower in the home of **Mrs. Frank Waligura** on Nov. 2...

Last rites were held in Marlin on Nov. 3 for **Mrs. Jewell Patterson**, (See 24 & 48, Page 5)

Views On Dental Health

IT'S NOT HOW MUCH CANDY

If you take candy away from the kids, you face the wrath of the kids. If you give it to them, you face the wrath of the dentist.

It's not so much the amount of sugar in candy we put in our mouths that concerns the dentist - it's the consistency of it. The stickier things are, the less likely they'll be washed out from between the teeth by saliva. Also, the LONGER it's held between the teeth, the more time bacteria has to produce cavity-causing acids. A piece of candy munched on for an hour will cause more cavities than if the whole chunk is eaten at one time.

If the tooth is bombarded by sugar/

acid attacks before it can naturally remove the acid, the tooth loses ground and can eventually only be "healed" by the dentist's expertise and a filling. One more tip: after eating a sugary dessert, have your child finish up by eating some cheddar cheese or by chewing sugarless gum. The cheese will help the tooth replace the lost calcium. The gum will stimulate saliva to wash away food particles.

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.

JOHN B. MYRES, D.D.S.

234-3525

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4th Annual Shop The Block

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

EAST BERNARD, TEXAS

RELAX • SHOP • VISIT
• FUN • FOOD • DOOR PRIZES

Refreshments:

Wassail & Eggnog to Cowboy Chili

Participating This Year Will Be...

Savon Drugs, Sheila's, Sandy's Specialties, Flowers & More, Bernard Station, Radio Shack, B & K Furniture, Old Trails West Outfitters, Donna's Antiques & Stuff, Head to Toe, Vacek's Hardware, Shoppa's Farm Supply, Vincek's Smokehouse and Hlavinka Equipment Company

Keller's Academy of Performing Arts will be performing.
First Baptist Church of East Bernard will have a Nativity on Main Street next to Donna's Antiques.



Happy Birthday Len Carson Jr.

November 26th

From Your Family, Far and Near:
Clara, Xavier, Katina, Michael, Viva, Chum, The Carr Family, Tyson, Suede, Star, Genie, Ms. Kitty and Buddy!!!

In Loving Memory - Albert, Lois and Brandy



For Your...

*DRY CLEANING *LAUNDRY

*ALTERATIONS *BOOT & SHOE REPAIR *LEATHER JACKETS
*WEDDING GOWN & HEIRLOOM *HEAVY STARCH JEANS
*COMFORTER *WASH & FOLD

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(Next to Dairy Queen)
Eagle Lake

Cleaning Professionally Done at:
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914 Atchison, Sealy

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