



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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To The Editor & You

ELMS says thanks

The administration, faculty and staff of Eagle Lake Middle School (ELMS) would like to thank the Alpha Delta Phi Sorority for the wonderful bags of treats delivered to our campus.

As is so often the case, teachers arrived at the lounge ready for lunch and a little relaxation. You cannot imagine how thrilled we were to find bags of goodies waiting for us!

This is the time of year where administration, teachers and students be-

gin the push to complete units in curriculum before the holidays, and the times often find us rushed and somewhat preoccupied with timelines and schedules.

The treats you gave us brought smiles, laughter and good fellowship. For that, and for your support of our campus and the things we are trying to accomplish here, we send our most sincere thanks.

May all your holidays be joyous ones and your kindness returned to you many times over.

Sincerely, ELMS

JOE C. FLING

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Child abuse-neglect cases increase 15%

The holidays are shaping up to be a not-so-happy time for some Texas children.

Child Protective Services, a division of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, has estimated that the number of child abuse and neglect cases reported to it will increase by 15% over the number reported in 2002.

In numbers entirely lacking in any holiday glitter, the division has estimated it will receive 181,423 reports of child abuse-neglect, a 15 percent increase over the 157,544 cases that came to light in fiscal 2002. By way of comparison, in 1999, 131,920 child abuse-neglect cases were reported.

Though many state health and hu-

man services programs underwent some severe budget cutting during the last session, CPS actually will gain 356 employees during the 2004-2005 biennium in anticipation of an increased caseload.

Clearly, dealing with victimized children is emotionally draining work. In fiscal 2002, CPS' turnover rate was 25.3%.

School finance follow-up...

In preparation for next year's special session on school finance, the Legislature's Select Committee on School Finance began taking testimony last Thursday.

Upshot of the first day's hearing: There's no such thing as a "good" tax



State Capitol Highlights

By Mike Cox

Texas Press Association

and, as Rep. Kent Grusendorf, R-Arlington, put it: "Everybody dislikes some aspects of every day."

Upshot of the second day: Committee members are interested in Nevada's first-in-the-nation payroll tax as a state government income source.

In the new Nevada tax, the state levies employers less than 1 percent of their payrolls. (Nevada state law, like Texas, prohibits personal income tax

so employers pay the tax, not workers. Wages of government employees, people who work for nonprofit groups or sole proprietorships are not taxed under the new law.)

A Far Cry from Amarillo...

Amarillo gets plenty of snow each winter, but it's a far cry from another location where an Amarilloan will get an opportunity to see snow.

Republican state Sen. Teel Bivins will resign from the upper chamber in January in anticipation of U.S. Senate confirmation of his appointment by President Bush as ambassador to Sweden.

Bivins is the second member of the 31-person Senate to announce his departure. Sen. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, being the first.

Another senator, Gonzalo Barrientos of Austin, is considering a run for U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett's seat if the current redistricting plan makes it through the court system intact.

Federal judge dies...

John H. Hannah Jr., chief judge for the U.S. Eastern District of Texas, died of a heart attack last Thursday while attending a judicial conference in West Palm Beach, Fla. The 64-year-old judge, who grew up in Diboll, had been appointed to the federal bench by President Clinton in 1994.

Fake fir...

Not the most pressing matter in state government, but the people should know. It was revealed last week that the Christmas tree placed in the House of Representatives not only is a plastic fir, it was made in China.

A real Texas cedar, however, stands on the south side of the Capitol, just off Congress Avenue. Twenty-eight feet tall and 16 feet in diameter, the tree was harvested in Bastrop.

An artificial tree certainly lasts longer than a snowman. Just north of the Capitol at the Texas State History Museum, "Santa Vs. The Snowman" will be playing in 3-D through Jan. 16 at the museum's IMAX theater. For show times, call 512-936-4629 or visit the museum's Internet site, www.TheStoryOfTexas.com.

Weimar man arrested for criminal solicitation

A Weimar man has been arrested and charged with criminal solicitation of a minor following an investigation originating in Parker County. He faces up to 20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

On Nov. 20, Gary Wayne Boeer, 48, was arrested by the Colorado County Sheriff's Department (CCSD) and charged with criminal solicitation of a minor, based on a warrant issued by a Parker County Justice of the Peace. Bond was set at \$35,000. He gave a video-taped confession after being advised of his legal rights.

The same day, the CCSD, Parker County District Attorney's Office Major Case Unit and the Texas Rangers executed a search warrant near County Road 230, southeast of Weimar.

The search warrant was issued subsequent to a criminal investigation which was initiated Sept. 9 on an Internet Relay chat program. The investigation revealed Boeer engaged in an Internet chat room session with a 13-year-old female from Weatherford and displayed harmful material in the form of sexually obscene digital photographs and video to the child.

Investigation also revealed the suspect did request and attempted to induce the 13-year-old child to meet him in Weatherford to engage in deviate sexual intercourse that would have constituted aggravated sexual assault of a child.

Evidence seized from the residence during the search warrant included several computer systems and components, along with some material displaying pornographic titles. The computer systems seized will be taken to the Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratory for analysis.

If any child pornography is uncovered, additional criminal charges could be filed by the CCSD in Colorado County or in federal court.

CCSD Sheriff R.H. "Curly" Wied, Lt. Investigator Troy Neisner, Detective Cody Toppel and Detective Ryan Rachunek assisted in serving the search warrant and arresting Boeer.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Nov. 22, 1979

A new highway patrolman in the county is **Sammy Trammell**. Trammell the son of **Mrs. Herman Trammell** and the late **Mr. Trammell** is a

native of the Garwood area...

Jeff Darden was crowned the 1979 Powder Puff King and named 1979 Outrider "Beau"...

Bob Hudson announced the opening of the Side Door Game Room at the location of his Hudson Hardware at 312 E. Main St....

Mrs. Willis (Lucy) Cutler closed her eyes to a peaceful rest Nov. 18 at Eagle Lake Community Hospital...

Winners in the KC Free Throw contest were **Sandy Gonzales**, **Gloria Foster**, **Elaine Riggins**, **Elisia Powell**, **Richard Williams**, **David Morgan**, **Delbert Jarvis** and **Rodney Witte**...

Mr. & Mrs. James H. McClain of Eagle Lake announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, **Dana Marie**, to **Johnny Edward Baros**, son of **Dennis Baros** of El Campo and **Mrs. Donna Wilbeck** of Eagle Lake. The wedding is set for Dec. 15 at the Church of Christ in Columbus...

Luann Brown will participate in the Texas Junior Miss Pageant to be

held in New Braunfels...

Mr. & Mrs. J.D. Ashley Sr. were complimented Nov. 11 on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary at the Sheridan Community Center. **Mr. & Mrs. J.D. Ashley Jr.** and children, **Vickie & John**, hosted the event...

Robert Moss, son of **Mr. & Mrs. Bennie Moss** and baritone player for the Rice Raider band, was in Austin to perform at the halftime of the UT and TCU football game...

Robert Fred Henske, six-month-old son of **Mr. & Mrs. Mark Henske**, was baptized Nov. 11 at Grace Lutheran Church...

Mrs. Jesusa S. Jimenez, longtime resident of this community, passed away Nov. 15 at Eagle Lake Community Hospital...

Mr. & Mrs. H.W. Buerger of Brenham, parents of **Mrs. Fred Henske** of this city, were honored with a reception and dinner for their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 10 at Sons of Herman Hall in Brenham...

Patti Mathis, daughter of **Mr. & Mrs. James Mathis** of Eagle Lake, was awarded a scholarship from the University of Texas...

Mr. & Mrs. Walter F. Sommer Sr. announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, **Linda Ruth**, to **Bob Cook**, son of **Elvin Cook** of Wharton and **Mrs. Ruby Thompson** of Seadrift. The couple plans to wed Dec. 29 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Eagle Lake...

Thomas Alfred (Tom) Varley of Sheridan passed away Nov. 19 at the Lavaca Medical Center.

Nov. 24, 1955

Big "jarring" **John Beseda**, a guard

for the Eagle Lake Eagles football team, was the only Eagle to land a berth on the District 24A all-district team. **Joe Barela**, **John Adkins** and **Leonardo Luna** won second place berths...

L.H. Dye, **Charles P. Boggess**, **R.P. Wilcox** and **Clyde Nispel** were named to three-year directors terms for the Chamber of Commerce...

Misses Jinny Pendergrass and **Judith Johnson**, First Class Scouts in the Girl Scout Senior Troop, are eligible to attend National Senior Girl Scout Roundup in Michigan...

Estlinbaum Lumber Co. to begin \$30,000 expansion to Colly Memorial Methodist Church. Plans started during pastorate of **Rev. D. Rhea Allison**. Present pastor is **Rev. Harold Good-enough**...

E.H. Stienke, owner of Garwood Telephone Co., announced that dial system to be installed by 1957...

Dr. Lewis Kopecky sues for \$38,400 damages following injuries in an auto collision...

Mrs. T.P. Dowdy, chairman of the PTA bazaar, announced plans for gala event in high school gym Dec. 2nd...

Two file applications to date for Postmaster here, **Hargrove Smith** and **Robert S. Martin**...

Rev. F. Parke Smith, rector of Christ Episcopal Church, delivered the Thanksgiving Union Service sermon...

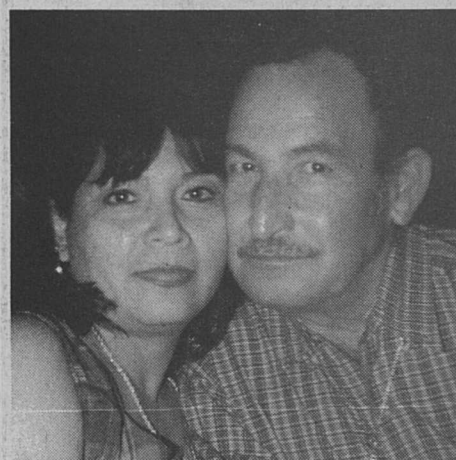
Beverly Jo Mathis was honored on her seventh birthday...

Sister of **Mrs. Arthur F. Behrens** dies...

Army Specialist **Lester Herman** is in the Sage Brush exercise in Louisiana...

Despite **Larry Shaver** hitting for (See 24 & 48, Page 9)

Feliz Cumpleaños



Gonzalo

diciembre 10

Cecy, Lupita y
Tu Esposa
Irma
Te queremos.

FARRIS HOTEL

The Farris Hotel will be serving
Sunday Brunch
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Every Sunday

starting December 14th

**The Brunch Buffet Will Include
For Only \$13.95 per person**

Carving Station with Roast Beef & Ham

Made-to-Order Omelet & Egg Station

Waffle Station

Breakfast Meats

Biscuits & Gravy

Fresh Vegetables

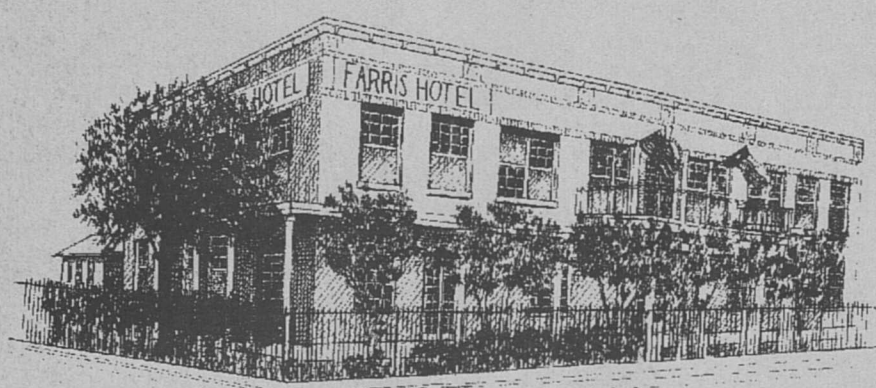
Fish & Chicken Dishes

Salad Bar

Gourmet Dessert Selection

Fresh Fruit

Coffee Included



201 N. McCarty Avenue • Eagle Lake • 979-234-6500



Christmas Coloring Contest

Pick up picture to be colored at your nearest Shoppa's Farm Supply.

Deadline to enter is Wednesday, Dec. 17th.
Ages: 2 - 5 years old & 6 - 10 years old

PRIZES

2 - 5 years old

- 1st Place - Battery operated Tractor w/Cart
- 2nd Place - \$100.00 Gift Certificate
- 3rd Place - \$75.00 Gift Certificate

6 - 10 years old

- 1st Place - \$150.00 Gift Certificate
- 2nd Place - \$100.00 Gift Certificate
- 3rd Place - \$75.00 Gift Certificate

**Winners to be announced
Monday, December 22, 2003.**

For everyone on your Christmas List... We Carry...

- John Deere Tools • Jackets & T-Shirts • Boots • Generators
- Pressure Washers • Space Heaters • Line Trimmers
- Chain Saws • Pedal Tractors • Tricycles • Train Sets
- Children's Books • Ornaments



JOHN DEERE

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BAY CITY - 979-245-2711

EDNA - 361-782-3301

EAGLE LAKE - 979-234-5527

EAST BERNARD - 979-335-4887

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