



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT
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TO THE EDITOR & YOU

“Misinterpretation of City Ordinance leads to unnecessary hoopla”

On Tuesday night, Dec. 14, the City Council was presented with a petition with 140 signatures requesting a special election to change our present municipal government. My advice to those who signed the petition is know what you're signing before you put your name on it.

The petition is not only illegal, but information on the petition is misleading and untrue. One more time.

On May 13, 1952 the elected governing body adopted a city manager ordinance. The elected mayor at the time was Mrs. Thomas councilmen were: Seaholm, Walker, Durbin Jones, and Coffey. All of which voted aye to the motion and noes were none.

Section 1 of that ordinance reads as follows: “The governing body of the City shall be the administrated head of the municipal government reader the directions and supervision of the Governing body. It goes on into the job description and ties of the City Manager.

On Sept. 25, 1990 with presiding Mayor Van Nort ordinance #9014 was adopted and passed. Ordinance creat-

ing the office by city manager for the City of Eagle Lake and prescribing powers and duties of said position repealing city of Eagle Lake, Texas City Manager ordinance passed and approved in May 1952 repealing all other ordinance and parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict herewith: and providing for severability.

Section 1 appointment the governing body of the City of Eagle Lake share appoint a City Manager for the City of Eagle lake who shall be the administrative head of the municipal government under the direction and supervision of the governing body.

Section 4 addresses the powers and duties of the city manager.

Ordinance in question #9617 setting mayor was David Mann. “City Manager Ordinance” an ordinance creating the office of city manager for the City of Eagle Lake, Texas and prescribing powers and duties of said position repealing city manager ordinance passed and approved Sept. 25, 1990 repealing all other ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict here-

with and providing for severability. Section 1 appointment

The City Council of the City of Eagle Lake shall appoint a city manager who shall be the administrative head of the municipal government under the direction and supervision of the City Council.

Section II Powers and duties. As you can see the city manager ordinance has not changed in its appointment section. The City of Eagle Lake is not and never has been in violation of the law. I hope we can put this issue to rest and get on with the task at hand, “improving our city”. The City has been in turmoil for some eight months now, let's move forward, and continue to conduct the city business in a professional and business-like manner. I trust you all will put your personal feelings aside, and continue to do the right thing for all the citizens of Eagle Lake (there is no I in we).

Respectfully submitted,
 Rene Cooper-Scott

P.S. Thank You Councilman Young for balancing the table.

Remodelers must register with commission

Remodelers are required by state law to register themselves and their remodeling projects with the Texas Residential Construction Commission. As of March 1, 2004, any individual or entity that fits the commission's definition of a builder, which encompasses some remodelers, is required to register with the commission.

A builder is defined by state law as “any business entity or individual who, for a fixed price, commission, fee, wage, or other compensation, constructs or supervises or manages the construction of: a new home; a material improvement to a home, other than an improvement solely to replace or repair a roof of an existing home; or an improvement to the interior of an existing home when the cost of the work exceeds \$20,000.”

Based on the definition, remodelers are subject to registration requirements if involved in any remodeling projects

involving interior renovations exceeding \$20,000; and, material improvements meaning, a modification to a home that either increases or decreases the home's total square footage of living space. Material improvements do not include modifications to an existing home if the modifications are designed primarily to repair or replace the home's component parts.

If you do not currently fit the definition of a builder, then you are not required to register with the commission. However, if you do any work in the future that fits this description, you are required to be registered with the commission prior to commencing the work.

You may learn more about the commission and your responsibilities as a remodeler by going to www.tree.state.tx.us or by calling toll free 877-651-TRCC.

Sincerely,
 Stephen D. Thomas

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

The Cub Scout Wolf Den #7 would like to thank the following people for their help and donations with our Christmas Parade Float for without them our scouts would not have been able to participate; Carlos Hernandez for the loan of the trailer; Clark Powers for the bails of hay; and Mike Morales for the loan of the generator.

I would also like to give a special thanks to John Young and Sam Castro who not only helped us find a generator to borrow when our sent out two hours before the parade was to start, but, were kind enough to deliver it as well.

Last but not least, I would like to thank by husband, Norman Pennington, who spent many hours preparing the float, for the loan of the speakers and for never fussing about everything else that you are somehow always volunteered for by your “den mother” wife.

Thanks again,
 Reka Pennington, Den Leader

Dear participants and contributors to the Deputy Santa Program

This letter goes out to everyone who contributed in helping make the 2004 Deputy Santa program a great success.

With your generous contributions and support we were able to provide over 700 gifts this year, to those children throughout the Colorado County area, who might have otherwise had a less fortunate Christmas. The Deputy Santa Program requires a lot of hard work, but without your support in donations of cash and toys, the program would not be successful in enlightening the children in our County that need the help. The program has been a huge success over the years and is well worth seeing the expressed joy that the children portray when receiving a gift from Deputy Santa.

A drop box was placed, with permission, at the Wal-Mart Store in Columbus, Dollar General in Columbus and Dollar General in Weimar, for convenience to the citizens that wanted to contribute.

On Dec. 11 Deputy Santa Wrap Day was under way with approximately 26 volunteers, devoting their time and effort in wrapping each gift individually with tender love and care. Numerous hours and hard work was given by each of the volunteers and a heart-felt thank you goes out to each of you also.

Sheriff R.H. Wied wants to also extend a great thanks to those, businesses and organizations in the community that also helped in contributing to the Deputy Santa Program.

This program has grown to be what it is because of all of you, and because of you we have been successful again in enlightening hundreds of youngster's hearts and homes this holiday season.

Again, thanks for your help in making this year's Deputy Santa Program a huge success.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
 Sheriff R.H. Wied and Staff

Thank You Eagle Lake and Lissie!

The members of the Eagle Lake Ministerial Alliance would like to thank all of the people who contributed to the sending of over 700 pounds of clothing the people in need in Iraq. The volunteers at the clothing and food center, the individuals who gave the over \$1,200 needed for the shipping, and those who packed the clothes with love for others whom they will never meet, in the best spirit of Christmas. May it be so all year long.

Pastor Ken Jones
 Eagle Lake Ministerial Alliance

PS. All are invited to celebrate Epiphany, on Sunday, Jan. 2 at 6 p.m., starting out at the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sanctuary with the singing of the carols, and proceeding out to the Nativity Pavilion on South Austin, where there will be refreshments, and fireworks.



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Lets Look Back... 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Nov. 13, 1980
 State Game Warden Sam Center of Eagle Lake was promoted effective Nov. 1, 1980 to the position of District Law Enforcement Supervisor for Region 9 of district 2...

Candy McCreary of Eagle Lake, a teacher at East Bernard School was selected to accompany a group of students to Hawaii by the American Institute for Foreign Study...

Friends in the community learned with sadness of the death of Mrs. J.L. Pidgeon, mother of Frank C. Pidgeon of this city. She passed away Nov. 10 in Austin...

Dennis & Cynthia DeLaughter took pleasure in announcing the arrival of their daughter, Rachel Lynn, born Nov. 3...

Three nephews of **Ernest H. Moore** of Columbus passed away from asphyxiation Oct. 26 while on a hunting trip...

Julia Thomas, daughter of Dr. & Mrs. Raymond Thomas of Eagle Lake was named runner-up in the SWT Homecoming Queen contest...

Friends in the community were happy to hear that **Tom T. Waddell** of

Eagle Lake, a former game warden with the Texas Parks and Wildlife for many years, is able to be at home and recuperating from a recent stroke...

A seismograph worker died last week as the result of injuries received when he was struck by a pickup truck on FM 109 a mile and one-half south of Frelsburg Nov. 7...

The Eagle Lake Chapter No. 1035 of the AARP met meeting Nov. 5 at the Baptist recreation hall.

Mrs. Tommie Neiswender, president of the chapter opened the meeting with a prayer by Mrs. Esther Sunderman.

Nov. 22, 1956
Miss Judy Simmons, head cheerleader for the Eagle Lake High School, was named the football sweetheart. First runner up was **Ruth Ann Tate**, drum major; and second runner up was **Janice Selph**, band member...

Miss Annie Mae Rabel of the Weimar 4-H club has been awarded the top honor of 4-H Girls in the County for this year...

(See 24 & 48, Page 4)



Happy Belated Birthday

Dec. 19
 “Gina”

Love Your Family

The street project was the next item on the agenda. A priority list was handed out to council members and work is already underway. Completion date is at 90 days or the middle of March. That is if the weather cooperates. Hey ya'll we do live in Texas where the weather can luck on the blink of an eye, so good luck on the completion process.

As far as administrative reports go, Rhonda Bridges commented that the seminar held at The Farris was well attended.

Lattimore stated that his dispatcher had left the police department to seek a job with the sheriff's office. He has hired another young lady but was wait-

(See City Council, Page 4)