

Garden Club Christmas Lighting Winners Announced

By Patty Holloway
First of all let me remind everyone that although it is fun choosing the first, second, and third place winners in the lighted Christmas display contest it is not easy it's a real challenge.

There are so many lovely displays to choose from and sometimes we may drive by a display three or four times before we make a decision.

And just remember if you didn't win this year, there is next

year or the year after etc. another thing to remember is if you drive by some displays during the daytime and wonder what we saw, go back at night and see it with the lights on.

First place goes to Bill and Judy Walker at 614 Walnut. This home is simply done and looks like an old fashioned Christmas card.

Second place goes to Manuel and Aurora Gutierrez. This is a neatly done display with Santa and a Christmas tree along with

a sweet little angel. This display is at 1011 E. A. Street.

Third place goes to Arturo and Ilena Torig at 511 N. Lake. They have three large light displays on the roof and interesting lighted displays in the yard.

I will mention some other areas where you will want to drive because there are really a lot of lights in Eagle Lake this year. The six and seven hundred block of Church Street and Norris Street is well lit, Westmoreland is very

pretty and there is a lovely light display at 706 N. Lake. There is a pretty light display on a unique tree at 107 W. State.

There is a beautiful nativity display on the corner of Burns and Peyton and Melody Lane is a drive through fairy land.

Thanks to everyone for your gift to Eagle Lake and all of our Christmas spirit you are sharing. Merry Christmas and peace on earth and good will to all mankind.



Second place in the Garden Club Lighting Contest goes to the home of Manuel and Aurora Gutierrez at 1011 E. A. Street.



Third place in the Garden Club Lighting Contest goes to the home Arturo and Ilena Torig at 511 N. Lake.

Trans-Texas Corridor Committee Seeks Input

Advisory committees are being developed to provide public input on where the Trans-Texas Corridor should be located and what it should look like.

The committees will enhance public involvement during ongoing Trans-Texas Corridor environmental studies and provide guidance on how the corridor can be developed to best serve local communities.

"Through the advisory committees, local officials and citizens can be more involved in the planning process than ever before," said Ted Houghton, member of the Texas Transportation Commission.

"They will have a huge say in shaping the Trans-Texas Corridor."

The Texas Transportation Commission today approved rules establishing the committees, which will not only make recommendations regarding overall corridors stretching across the state, but also for individual corridor segments.

Committee members are expected to be named early next year.

Separate committees will be established for both TTC-35 and I-69/TTC and will each have up to 24 members, which may include property owners, business owners, representatives of local governments, technical experts and other interested citizens.

The proposed TTC-35 would run from Laredo to Oklahoma and include or parallel I-35.

I-69/TTC is being considered in a 650-mile long study area stretching from far south Texas to extreme northeast Texas.

Additional committees will also consider specific segments of the larger corridors.

Each committee may also have up to 24 members that will be appointed by local entities or groups within the corridor segment.

All advisory committees will report their recommendations to TxDOT's executive director, Amadeo Saenz.

In other action at its December meeting, the Commission continued a discussion on TxDOT's cash flow situation.


For the last several years, commissioners have warned that the cash flow for traditional infrastructure development is running out.

The cash flow situation, coupled with the need to increase funding for maintenance, became a formal discussion item at Commission meetings beginning last May.

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Kiddie Tax Expanded. Historically, children under 14 at the end of the tax year were taxed on their unearned income (e.g. interest, dividends, and capital gains) at their parents marginal tax rate of the unearned income exceeded a threshold amount. In 2005, Congress increased the age at which children would be subject to the kiddie tax to those under age 18. Generally, after 2007, the new law expands the application of the kiddie tax again, and increases its complexity. Many college students will no longer be able to sell off appreciated investment accounts set up by their parents to cover tuition and pay tax at the student's lower rate. If you have this situation, consider having the student sell these assets in 2007 if he or she is at least age 18.....Merry Christmas to All

Until Next Week...

Raymond L. Viktorin, Jr.
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