

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

Division of Beal Publications, LLC • (USPS 163-760)
P.O. Box 67 - 220 East Main
CITY OF EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS 77434-0067
979-234-5521 • Fax: 979-234-5522
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Published Weekly-Every Thursday



The Eagle Lake Headlight reserves the right to reject, edit or omit editorial content and/or advertisement for any reason in order to conform to the paper's policy.

Produced and Distributed By:

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Advertising and News Deadline: 5 P.M. Monday
Subscription Rates

Colorado County (including Lissie & Egypt)	\$19.50
Fayette, Lavaca, Wharton & Austin Counties	\$22.00
Other Texas Residents	\$22.50
Outside of Texas; Inside U.S.	\$24.00

Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri-8-5 Wed-8:30-3

Single Copy Price : 75¢
Second class postage paid
at Eagle Lake, Texas

Address Corrections
should be sent to P.O. Box 67
Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067

Texas Could See As Much As \$700 Million

AUSTIN — Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott, in an Austin American-Statesman interview Dec. 2, suggested the White House is moving toward a federal takeover of public schools.

Scott said the Obama administration's "Race to the Top" initiative to develop common math and English standards for the nation's public schools is evidence of a takeover effort.

He expressed fear that some day federal education funding for Texas could rely on the state's participation in common stan-

dards.

The Race to the Top program, authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, is a competitive grant program to encourage and reward states that implement education reforms in four areas:

- Enhancing standards and assessments;
- Improving the collection and use of data;
- Increasing teacher effectiveness and achieving equity in teacher distribution; and
- Turning around struggling

schools.

The U.S. Department of Education will award \$4.35 billion in Race to the Top funding in two phases, with Phase 1 funding awarded in spring 2010 and Phase 2 funding awarded by Sept. 30, 2010. Texas' share could be as much as \$700 million.

White joins race for governor

Houston Mayor Bill White, a Democrat, announced his candidacy for governor on Dec. 4.

White's last day as mayor will be Jan. 2. He has served six years at the post and cannot run for a third term because of term limits.

The San Antonio native is a graduate of Harvard University and the University of Texas School of Law. President Bill Clinton appointed White Deputy Secretary of Energy in 1993 and he served in that capacity until 1995.

Upon White's announcement, rancher Democrat Hank Gilbert of Tyler ended his candidacy for governor and instead will run for agriculture commissioner.

Financial openness is recognized

The Texas Comptroller's office has launched a new "Leadership Circle" program to spotlight local governmental bodies that have opened their financial records to the public.

The state agency set gold, silver and bronze achievement standards to rate governmental bodies on their level of transparency.

A score sheet checks for financial transparency features including budgets posted online for the current fiscal year; details within the check register; ease of access to the documents; creative use of charts or visual images to make data more understandable; instructions on how to submit a public information request; and the availability of contact information for current locally elected officials.

And, Combs' agency is collaborating with graduate students from the University of Texas' LBJ School of Public Affairs, the Texas Municipal League and Texas Association of Counties

to develop a template that will allow local governments to more easily add financial documents to a Web site.

TxDOT toll violation program ends

Nov. 30 marked the end of an opportunity for toll road users to reduce violation fees for unpaid tolls. TxDOT offered to waive 90 percent of administrative and collection fees accrued in return for payment of all outstanding tolls.

Late-payers also were required to open a "TxTag" account and keep it in good standing to receive the fee reduction.

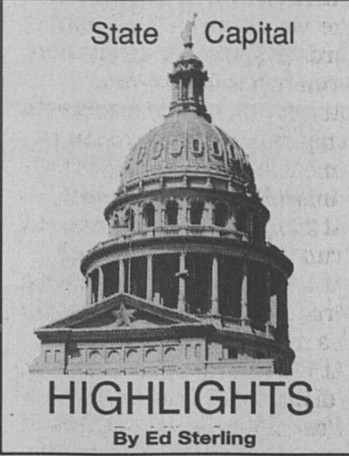
About \$3 million in late tolls remain owed by roughly 140,000 toll road users, TxDOT said.

Abbott defends Texas pledge words

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott on Dec. 1 filed a brief with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit defending the constitutionality of the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

A pending case claims the use of the words "under God" in the pledge violate the separation clause in the First Amendment.

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



Lottery discourages tickets for kids

The Texas Lottery on Dec. 3 announced it has joined with the National Council on Problem Gambling and McGill University in discouraging adults from purchasing lottery tickets for children.

"Holiday tickets with festive artwork and winter themes are always popular as stocking stuffers, but the games are designed with adults in mind. You must be at least 18 years old to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket," said Texas Lottery Commission Deputy Executive Director Gary Grief.

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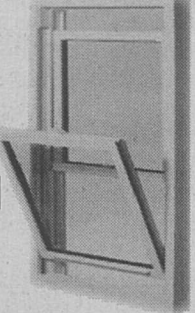
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Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Dec. 31, 1985

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Ray Greak of Altair announced the arrival of their second child, a son, born December 14 at Eagle Lake Community Hospital. Allen Ray Greak, II weighed eight pounds, 11 ounces. He was welcomed home by his sister, Shelley Ann Greak, who is one year and nine months old...

Ella Mae Banks passed away December 17. Funeral services were held December 23 in Altair...

Richard and Maxine Obenhaus will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married in 1936.

June 9, 1960

City Manager and Mrs. Kenneth W. Smith, moved into their beautiful new home in the Meadowbrook Addition last weekend...

Also moving in to their new

home over the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Jack S. Dannels. The home is across from the Methodist Church...

Miss Bernice Semora has taken over the duties of the bookkeeping of J.B. Smith Company following the resignation of Mrs. Margaret Curry to accept another position...

Five selectees received orders from Local Draft Board at La Grange to report for induction into the Armed Services. Among those forwarded for pre-induction physical examinations were John Wayne Adkins of Eagle Lake, Donald Kloesel and Henry Mozisek both of Weimar, and Alfred Youens of Columbus...

Miss Judi Gibson and Carl Pessnell will be united in marriage on June 17...

Mrs. R.R. Thomas was hostess at a luncheon in her home on June 3 complimenting Miss Beverly Campbell, bride-elect of

Lynn Hoffman of Columbus...

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rhoades were host and hostess at a rehearsal dinner complimenting the wedding party for the marriage of their son, Bill, and Miss Barbara Rees...

Colly Memorial Methodist Church will hold a reception June 12 honoring the new pastor, the Rev. W. Boyd Harris, Mrs. Harris and three children...

Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Marx announced that their Café and Humble Service Station will be closed June 12-June 27 while they take a vacation trip to Huntsville, Alabama to visit the family of their son...

The Colorado and Fayette County Medical Association met May 31 for the association's monthly meeting with Dr. and Mrs. R.R. Thomas as host and hostess...

The Eagle Lake Rotary Club

will install new officers on July 5. Harold Thomas will take over as president succeeding William L. Farris. Other officers include Futon M. Dromgoole, vice president; L.J. Spanihel, secretary; and Sam H. Broyles, was re-elected treasurer...

The Garwood Lions Club has elected Troy Krenek president of the club for 1960-61. He will succeed B. F. Turner at the head of the county's largest Lions' club...

Paul A. Marx, owner of the Gulf Service Station on Post Office Street, announced that he has resumed active management of the station...

Two employees of Colorado County office of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation services were presented 10-year pins and certificates in a ceremony. Those awards were given to Charles Winkelmann and Mrs. Bernice G. Zeiner.

The Eagle Lake Headlight's
Kris Kringle Cash Giveaway
Count the number of ❄ symbols in advertisements in this edition and submit your guess in writing to the Headlight by Monday, Dec. 14
(including symbol on this entry form)

A drawing of all the correct entries will be held to determine the winner

Two winners will receive a
\$25 gift certificate
to any one of the businesses
advertising in this edition.

Kris Kringle Cash Entry Form

(Return to The Headlight by 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 14)
PO Box 67, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434

My Guess Is _____ (including symbol on this entry form)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

I'd like to use my certificate at _____
(Must be business advertising in this week's Headlight)

One Entry Per Person

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

Fifteen Sentenced In County Court

Fifteen individuals were sentenced in Colorado County Court on December 2. They included:

Roy Almdarez, driving while intoxicated. Sentenced to one-year probation, fined \$500 plus court costs.

Cesar Barajas, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$250 plus court costs.

Chase L. Hoelscher, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to 10 days in jail, plus extended probation six months.

Ulab Johnson, II, driving while intoxicated. Sentenced to 30 days in jail, fined \$500 plus court costs, six months driver's license suspension.

Jorge Luis Obregon, assault causes bodily injury family member. Sentenced to three days jail, fined \$1,000 plus court costs.

Juanita E. Adame, theft stolen property. Fined \$150 plus court costs.

Charles Ray Boze possession of marijuana. Extend probation six months and drug rehab.

Charles Ray Boze, possession of marijuana in a drug free zone. Extend probation six months and drug rehab

Charles Ray Boze, possession of marijuana and driving while intoxicated. Abandon count one, second count, 30 days jail, fined \$500 plus court costs, 90 days driver's license suspension.

Carolyn Elaine Brooks, driving while intoxicated-2nd. Sentenced to 10 months in jail, 24 months driver's license suspension.

Noville Paul Butler, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to three days jail, fined \$250 plus court costs.

Kristin Nicole Cacy, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to three days jail, fined \$250 plus court costs.

Wayne Gordon Cassell, driving while intoxicated-2nd. Sentenced to two years probation, fined \$1,000, 10 days in jail as COP, one-year driver's license suspension, interlock.

Julio Cesar Hernandez-Ruiz, driving while intoxicated. Sentenced to one-year probation, fined \$500 plus court costs, interlock device.

Jessie Irvin, bail jumping and fail to appear. Sentenced to 30 days in jail.

Jessie Irvin, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to 30 days in jail

Anthony Ray Mason, fleeing police officer. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$250 plus court costs.

Zachary Ulloa, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to three days in jail, fined \$350 plus court costs.

Colorado County Crimestoppers

Colorado County Crimestoppers will pay quick cash if you give information that leads to the arrest of any of the following persons.

You can make a quick \$50.00 on subject(s) that area rested on Misdemeanor warrants, or a quick \$100.00 on subject(s) that are arrested on Felony warrants.

You do not have to give your name.

Ramiro Alaniz, misdemeanor.

John Johnson, misdemeanor.

Alzina Jones, misdemeanor.

Paulo Juarez, Jr., misdemeanor.

Johnathan McElhanon, misdemeanor.

Sidney Morton, felony.

Enrique S. Navarro, felony.

Diallo Oliver, felony.

Gerald L. Williams, Jr., felony.

Marcus Williams, felony.

Call toll free 24 hours a day: 1-866-522-8477 or now you can text your tip, just text "tip4cash plus your message" to CRIMES (274637).

Letters to Santa

Hey Kids, Write Santa a Letter!

The Eagle Lake Headlight wants to print your letter to Santa in its Christmas issue.

All letters received by December 11 will be printed. Include your FULL NAME, your AGE and ADDRESS.



Mail or bring your letter to the Eagle Lake Headlight Office no later than December 11.

There is a mail slot if you would like to use it.