



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Bush wants mandatory supervision abolished

A program established in the 1970s to relieve crowding in Texas prisons should be abolished, Republican gubernatorial candidate George W. Bush proposed last week.

"Mandatory Supervision" the program under which 3,000 prisoners inmates were released in 1993, allows convicts to go free without a release date being set by the parole board, after time served and good conduct equal their sentence.

Those released under the program are supervised by parole officers until their actual sentences have expired.

Bush's proposal, if passed by the state legislature, would block the release of nonviolent offenders. The



State Capitol Highlights

By Lyndell Williams
and Ed Sterling
Texas Press Association

legislature in 1987 stopped mandatory supervision of violent offenders except those convicted before the change in the law.

"Every prisoner who is let out on mandatory supervision has previously been denied for a very good reason, so it makes no sense to let them get out of jail without first passing muster with the parole board," Bush said.

But Gov. Ann Richards' campaign spokeswoman Cindy Rudeley said Bush's proposal would have little effect on the criminal justice system and would "lengthen sentences, toughen parole and build more prison cells."

System Bidder Protests

An out of state bidder that failed to get the contract to operate an electronic welfare system in Texas has filed a protest accusing the state of

violating procedures in awarding the contract.

Deluxe Data Systems Inc. of Milwaukee asked the state last week to disqualify a \$200 million contract awarded to another non-Texas firm, GTECH Administrative Services Corp. of West Greenwich, R.I.

In its protest Deluxe Data alleged that GTECH changed its bid after the deadline and received assistance from a former state employee whose staff helped develop bidding criteria.

Andy Welch, spokesman for Texas Comptroller John Sharp, said the Deluxe bid would have cost \$15.6 million more than GTECH's bid over the seven year contract.

AG Files Headhunter Suits

Attorney General Dan Morales filed two lawsuits last week against companies he accused of "headhunting" or soliciting patients for treatment at psychiatric hospitals.

One Houston company and two Stephenville firms were named in the lawsuit which seeks to prohibit them from continuing the practice.

An official of Texas Hotline Inc. of Stephenville, named in one of the suits, declined wrongdoing. Officials of Summer Sky Inc. of Stephenville, named in the same suit, and a Place for Us in Houston, named in the other suit, declined to comment when contacted by the Associated Press.

The suits, filed in state District Court in Travis county, seek civil penalties, court costs, attorneys' fees and damages.

"This practice is not only detrimental to patients who are misdiagnosed but also to taxpayers who bear the burden of insurance fraud and health care fraud," Morales said.

Resigns After Inquiry

The resignation of state Transportation Commissioner Henry R. Munoz III last month came after inquiries by *The Dallas Morning News* into his travel practices and the use of state vouchers.

Munoz, of San Antonio, cited family and business obligations as reasons for resigning and said his leaving had nothing to do with a request by the *Morning News* for his travel records.

Munoz, 34, said he had been considering resigning since last year, after a promotion at his San Antonio architectural firm.

However, according to the *Morning News*, officials said the Richards appointee was forced out by top aides

of the governor "after more than two years of questionable spending practices and conflicts with other state officials."

Study of Two Trade Pacts

House Speaker Pete Laney, D-Hale Center, has appointed a special House committee to study aspects of two international trade agreements.

The committee, named last week, will assess the impacts on Texas of the North American Free Trade Agreement and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

A second special committee will examine problems of small businesses in attracting capital in today's lending climate. Laney said it will give special attention to agricultural and minority-owned businesses.

Charter Bus Rules Eased

The Texas Railroad Commission has reversed an old rule allowing charter buses to operate statewide without having to offer regular route service, Commissioner Mary Scott Nabors announced.

"With this change, travel service should improve for Texas," Nabors commented.

Other Highlights

Secretary of State John Hannah has predicted that 16.5% of Texas' record nine million registered voters will cast ballots in the March 8 primary elections.

Texas Supreme Court candidate Charles Ben-Hewell sued the Texas Trial Lawyers Association and three prominent lawyers last week, alleging they promised to raise funds for and support him then reneged.

Full military rites were given for Sp-4 Johnnie Mack Plisner, 22, son of Mr. & Mrs. August Plisner of Menz. He was reported missing and later reported killed in action in Vietnam May 31.

Legal Matters

Wage withholding boosts child support collections

It is important that parents who do not live with their children help support them financially with regular child support payments. The law requires it.

In Texas, the courts establish the amount an absent parent must contribute for child support. While the person's ability to pay is taken into account, the obligation to pay child support supercedes all other debts except income tax and social security.

In 1984, the Attorney General's office became the child support enforcement agency for the state. As such, we are responsible for collecting money from absent parents who fail to pay court-ordered child support. It's a big job and we currently handle over 750,000 cases.

In the past three years we have collected more than \$1 billion.

Deducting child support from paychecks

When you receive your paycheck, your children's needs should come first. That is why parents who are delinquent on their payments may be subject to wage withholding. It means that court-ordered child support can be automatically deducted from an absent parent's paycheck every month.

Since 1986, wage withholding

provisions have been written into all child support court orders. However, orders established before 1986 still can be modified by the court to include withholding. If a child support payment is delinquent after 30 days, withholding is automatically instituted.

Unfortunately, the paycheck withholding does not work as easily with parents who are self-employed or whose income is irregular. Overall, however, it is a highly effective way to collect. In fact, wage withholding is our most effective collection tool. It accounted for about 60% of all child support collections last year.

Intercepting tax refunds

If a parent is behind on child support payments, we also can ask the IRS to deduct the money owed from any income tax refund that parent may have coming. The tax refund "intercept" is not automatic. We must notify the IRS whenever we need to deduct child support payments. Obviously, if the IRS does not owe the parent a refund, we will not be able to collect any money.

Still, Texas is one of the nation's leading states in collecting child support from income tax refunds. In 1993, we collected \$35 million through this enforcement tool.

For information on wage withholding or tax refund interception, please call our child support enforcement division, 1-800-252-3515. Deaf Outreach Program number is 1-800-572-2686.

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Let's Look Back... 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

June 19, 1969

Gene Payne of Houston, formerly of Eagle Lake, will travel to London, France and Iraq for Hart Center International to assist in designing six rice dryers for the governments of those countries.

Clyde W. Nispe, retired manager of the Central Power and Light Co. here, died June 17 in Caney Valley Hospital. Miss Cheryl Lundquist, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Lee Roy Lundquist of Garwood, won the Ideal Miss pageant in Wharton and will compete in the world pageant June 23-25 in Baton Rouge, La.

Lawrence Berger assumed operation of the Mobil Service Station on E. Mains St. this week. He purchased Don Bradshaw's interest in the station. A tragic accident claimed the life of James E. Hines, Jr. June 11, when he fell from the silo in El Campo where he was working for Texas Concrete Silo Co. of Eagle Lake.

Tommy Holt Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Holt of Sheridan, was wounded in both legs June 6 in Vietnam, when his Marine platoon was ambushed.

New president of the Eagle Lake Jaycees, Jon Terrell, was installed Friday. Thurston Webb is the outgoing president. Rev. W.C. Hall Jr. is the new pastor for the Lissie United Methodist Church.

The Frnka family held its 31st annual reunion June 3 in Frelsburg with 170 members and friends attending. A ceremony at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church united Miss Darnell Blanchard and

Miss Marilyn Sue Williams, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Williams, and Robert Lee Jones, son of Mr. & Mrs. W.E. Jones of Rock Island, were united in marriage at First Baptist Church in Rock Island June 14. Miss Ann Logan and Fred Anderson were married Saturday, June 14 in Texas City.

Full military rites were given for Sp-4 Johnnie Mack Plisner, 22, son of Mr. & Mrs. August Plisner of Menz. He was reported missing and later reported killed in action in Vietnam May 31.

October 19, 1945

Charles E. Walker, radioman 1-C, writes his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Will Walker, that he is to leave Guam for Hawaii and hopes to get to San Francisco and home soon.

T-5 Lewis J. Murny, who lived in Eagle Lake before entering the armed services is stationed at Clark Field on Luzon in the Philippines. Neal Britton, fireman-water tender in the Merchant Marines spent 30 days leave with his mother, Mrs. Joe Semora and family at Chesterville.

S.L. Frey, mechanic's mate 3-C of Alleyton, helped in the Japan occupation aboard the rocket craft LCI (R) 10699, taking part in pre-invasion bombardments and subsequent operations.

Pvt. Harold Grasshoff writes that he enjoyed the *Headlight* that he received at Fort Omaha, Neb. Cpl. Alfred Reuther, son of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Reuther, received his discharge at Ellington Field last week.

Cpl. George Stafford, son of Mr. & Mrs. W.F. Stafford of Altair, arrived in San Francisco after 41 months in the Pacific. Ralph E. Williams, aviation mechanic 1-C, of Rock Island is on a list of Texans honorably discharged under the Navy's point system.

Sgt. Paul A. Marx received his discharge at Kelly Field Friday after over three years in the Army Air Corps. Lt. Robert S. Simmons arrived in Eagle Lake to visit his wife and other relatives after recent duty in the Pacific on the USS Paul G. Baker DE 642.

Miss Ethel Moore, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Moore of Newfoundland, became the bride of Roland Balusek, son of Mrs. Fannie Balusek of Eagle Lake, on Wednesday, Sept. 25 in Victoria.

(See 24 & 48, Page 6)

Larry Varley in marriage. They are the children of Mr. & Mrs. Alfred T. Blanchard and Mr. & Mrs. Tom Varley, all of Sheridan.

Mr. & Mrs. Hubert Girndt of Columbus announce the engagement of their daughter, Carol, to Earl Joe J. Frnka Jr., son of Mrs. Earl Frnka Sr. and late Mr. Frnka.

Robbin Griffith and Jerry Powers are on an 11-day concert tour as part of a 48-voice choir from Baylor University. Mrs. Charlie Amos passed away June 12 at Eagle Lake Community Hospital after a short illness. Last rites were held at Rising Star Baptist Church with Revs. T.J. Cunningham and C.A. Williams officiating.

Funeral services were held Tuesday for August Daniels who passed away May 29. The Eagles took their ninth Little League victory, beating El Campo where he was working for Texas Concrete Silo Co. of Eagle Lake.

Engaged to wed are Sandy Lynn Crisswell, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Howard Crisswell, and Ronny Gene Jones, son of Mr. & Mrs. Grady Jones of Honey Grove.

Miss Marilyn Sue Williams, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Williams, and Robert Lee Jones, son of Mr. & Mrs. W.E. Jones of Rock Island, were united in marriage at First Baptist Church in Rock Island June 14. Miss Ann Logan and Fred Anderson were married Saturday, June 14 in Texas City.

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(See 24 & 48, Page 6)

Library salutes S.T.E.P. during Older Workers Week

Laura Mathys is one of 871 older Texans who benefit from and help others through a special employment program. Mathys is employed with the Wintemann Library in Eagle Lake as a library aide said Librarian Wanda Center.

Her job is funded through the Senior Texans Employment Program (STEP).

In 1973, the Texas Legislature enacted the first state funded senior employment program in the nation. STEP began operation in 1974 with funds provided through the Texas Department on Aging.

In 1977, STEP enrollment opportunities were expanded with funds granted by the Older Americans Act through the U.S. Dept. of Labor. With both state and federal funds, STEP provides enrollment opportunities for 871 older Texans in 131 counties.

During Older Workers Week, March 13-19, people all over the state

are reminded of the great resource older citizens can be in each community.

In Eagle Lake, Mathys has been working with the library since Jan. 1991. She works 20 hours a week there through the STEP program.

She was born in Schulerburg and came to Eagle Lake in 1954 with her husband, George C. Mathys. He came to work for the Altair Rice Dryer. He died in Jan. 1967. They had three sons, John, George and James, who grew up in Eagle Lake.

In addition to her work with the library, Mathys said she enjoys reading and playing dominoes. One of her special talents is making bead necklaces from church bulletins. She has donated some of the necklaces to the Study Club annual auction.

"I enjoy working at the library. I especially like working with Wanda," said Mathys. "I really hate to see her leave."



Laura Mathys, one of 871 older Texans who benefit from and help others through a special employment program (S.T.E.P.), is employed with the Wintemann Library in Eagle Lake as a library aide.

Headlight Photo by Susie Jackson

Texas businesses face April 14 tax deadline

State Comptroller John Sharp has reminded Texas businesses that they must render their property with county appraisal districts by the new deadline of April 14, 1994.

Beginning this year, the state law changed the rendition deadline from April 1 to April 14. Businesses must list the taxable property that they own or manage as of Jan. 1, 1994.

While state law requires business owners and operators to render, any property owner—including homeowners, farmers and ranchers—may render their property with county appraisal districts.

Homeowners who render are in a better position to exercise their rights as taxpayers according to the Comptroller. He commented that they insure

the appraisal district has their correct address and receive notices of any actions that affect their property or tax bills.

An exception to the state rendering law is a business that receives the ad valorem exemption for managing cotton stored in a warehouse.

Sharp cited the example, "Businesses must report their inventories, furniture and fixtures, machinery and equipment as well as other tangible personal property by filing this annual report. Appraisal districts use the reports to set business property values.

When a business owner doesn't render his or her property, the chief appraiser estimates the value."

Sharp announced that owners who had property damage from storm, flood or fire last year may file a special decreased value report that could lower their final tax bills.

If more than one appraisal district appraises a property, the owner should render in each district office. Taxpayers may contact the county office for rendition forms or they may call the Comptroller's property tax tollfree number 1-800-252-9121.

Did You Know...

An alligator measuring 20 feet, 2 inches, was caught in a trap on Eagle Lake in 1897.

Eagle Lake had at least seven major hotels and boarding houses in the early 1900s.

You can hear about all of this on the Rotary Club City Tours April 8-17

*Among those who were present for the retirement dinner for Harry Supak last week were Municipal Judge and Justice of the Peace Mary Lou Szymanski and her husband, Butch. We apologize for leaving their names out of the list of city officials attending.

*Edward Sunderman let us know the reason Bum Phillips was in town recently. He was picking up the custom horse trailer he had built for his wife at Trailer Enterprises here in Eagle Lake.

*The redbud trees around town are really putting on a show. If you hurry, you can see one of the fullest, as far as flower coverage goes, at the Community Center.

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

DEEDS

Deed: Marjorie Shelton to W.L. Murphy, et ux, Lots No. 210 and 222, Lake Sheridan Estates; filed 1-14-94.

Deed: Resort Recreational Properties Inc. to Ronnie Lee Greenwald and E. Kay Greenwald, und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section 1, Resort Villa 0505; 1-14-94.

Deed: Charles E. Buswell II, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., Lot No. 5, Block No. 11, Section No. 1, The Falls; 1-14-94.

Deed: Dale A. Rose, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., Lot No. 10 (9039), Block No. 4, Section No. 1, The Falls; 1-14-94.

Deed: Jose M. Ugarte, M.D., et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., Lot No. 42, Block No. 3, Section No. 1, The Falls; 1-14-94.

Deed: John R. Allen, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0589; 1-14-94.

Deed: Jessie Chavell, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0425; 1-14-94.

Deed: Tommy Garcia, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0357; 1-14-94.

Deed: Sheldon R. Hitt, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0374; 1-14-94.

Deed: Ricardo J. Magdaleno, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0354; 1-14-94.

Deed: Charles M. Taylor to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0390; 1-14-94.

Deed: William L. Aldridge, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0374; 1-14-94.

Deed: Earl L. Barnes and Betty J. Modlenka to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0625; 1-14-94.

Deed: Willie O. Brown Jr., et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0313; 1-14-94.

Deed: Earl L. Barnes and Betty J. Modlenka to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0625; 1-14-94.

Deed: Enrique A. and Lourdes Gonzales to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0619; 1-14-94.

Deed: Rosario Guerra to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0478; 1-14-94.

Deed: Troy L. Henderson, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0319; 1-14-94.

Deed: Richard G. Hernandez, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0379; 1-14-94.

Deed: Frederick David Hughey, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0405; 1-14-94.

Deed: Barry M. and Cheryl M. Kane to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0405; 1-14-94.

Deed: Wesley D. Knox, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, CO-0425; 1-14-94.

Deed: Wesley H. Krueger, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0399; 1-14-94.

Deed: Mamel G. Magallanes, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0651; 1-14-94.

Deed: Beverly J. Carey to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0319; 1-14-94.

Deed: Roy Charles Jr., et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, CO-0397; 1-14-94.

Deed: Samuel K. Cherian, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, RV-0647; 1-14-94.

Deed: Ronald C. Costa, et ux to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in The Falls Resort & Club, Section No. 1, CO-0441; 1-14-94.

Deed: Pamela F. Coker to Resort Recreational Properties Inc., und. int. in