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State Capitol Highlights...

Education reform bogged down in committee

SB1-1, the 1,210-page measure that would overhaul Texas' public education system - is mired in a House-Senate conference committee over the sticky subject of a private school voucher program.

The committee of 10 remained deadlocked after voting on a motion to approve the voucher program. Sen. Greg Luna, D-San Antonio, joined five committee members in voting to strip the program from the bill.

Opponents say school vouchers would drain money from public schools, while supporters contend that vouchers would help low-income parents enroll their children in private schools.

Gov. George W. Bush favors a school voucher program "as part of a

Lyndell Williams and Ed Sterling, Texas Press Association

to encourage innovation and change in the schools," said his spokeswoman, Karen Hughes.

Sen. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, author of the bill and joint committee co-chairman, said he feels optimistic that the measure will pass.

However, Rep. Paul Sadler, D-Henderson, the other co-chairman, said House members on the joint committee should continue to support the 83-63 floor vote against the voucher plan.

Term Limits Near Death?

The chairman of the powerful House Calendars Committee said last week it is doubtful he will let the term limit bill out of his committee.

"I'm not very optimistic," Rep. Mark Stiles, D-Beaumont said, calling the measure nothing more than "dumbing down democracy."

A week earlier, the House State Affairs Committee approved a proposal to impose 12-year limits retroactively, meaning 31 of the 181 current legislators couldn't seek re-election.

A spokesman for Texans Term Limitations also expressed doubt that the proposed constitutional amendment has a chance to pass the House.

"We haven't picked out a coffin yet, but this bill is certainly on a list of support that the games played by certain members of the House," said Mark Sanders.

Sanders said the term-limits group never advocated making the restrictions retroactive and called the House plan a gimmick designed to draw opposition.

Bush, he dropped his life-time membership in the organization over references in the letter to federal agents as "jack-booted government thugs."

In a letter dated May 3 to NRA President Thomas Washington, Bush said, "Your broadside against federal agents deeply offends my own sense of decency and honor, and it offends my concept of service to country," the *Houston Chronicle* reported.

Bush made specific references to two former Secret Service agents who served on his presidential security detail who were serving as agents for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms when they died in the April bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City.

Bush characterized agents Steve Willis and Al Whicher as decent, honorable men, and not "Nazis," as the NRA letter alluded in its blanket portrayal of federal agents.

NRA officials did not apologize about language in the fund-raising letter. In fact, NRA second vice president Neal Knox said, "a lot of NRA members would be delighted that Bush has resigned from the group," the *Chronicle* reported.

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

Sept. 10, 1970

Russell Thomas of Eagle Lake was elected as president of Rice High School student council. Carl Kallina of Garwood will be vice-president; Glenda Sunderman of Eagle Lake, recording secretary; Rosalie Janish of Garwood, corresponding secretary; Ray Obenhaus of Eagle Lake, treasurer; and Craig Lundquist of Sheridan will be historian and reporter.

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Scott of New Town and their children lost their home to a fire Saturday afternoon. Mrs. Scott was injured in the fire; she received severe burns to her arms and legs... Staff personnel from "Better Homes and Gardens" magazine will be present to photograph the Christmas decorations that Mrs. William Farris, owner of Helyn's Flower Basket, designs for the annual San Lorenzo of Texas Design, to be conducted in Houston over the weekend of Sept. 12-13.

Miss Candy Farris, a delegate to the Girl's State held in Austin this summer, was the guest speaker at the noon meeting of the Eagle Lake Rotary Club last Wednesday.

Ring Services, Jewelry Repair Services, Ring Sizing, Ring Repair, Chain Repair, Bracelet Repair, Diamond & Colored Stone Replacing, Reproving, Retipping, Latch & Loop Buildup, Watch Batteries Changed

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Coastal Plan Gets Nod

The Texas House has tentatively approved an overhauled coastal management plan that supporters believe will satisfy concerns about the authority of the plan's administrative council.

The bill, by Rep. Hugo Berlanga, D-Corpus Christi, requires a final vote before going to the Senate.

The plan, designed to preserve natural resources on the Texas Gulf Coast was sent to the federal government for approval, but in March Gov. Bush ordered it pulled from the approval process, calling the plan an

CCLEA helps area law officers

The Colorado County Law Enforcement Association (CCLEA) is meeting its goals.

The organization recently presented each of the four law enforcement agencies in the county with an item from "wish lists" prepared by each department.

The CCLEA board of directors organized a bake sale with the assistance from officers, other department employees and family members on April 29. Held in front of Brookshire Brothers in Columbus, the sale netted \$383 in less than four hours.

The proceeds from that sale were used to purchase pieces of equipment from "wish lists" submitted earlier in the year to the organization by each department. The lists included items needed by the department that are not in present city or county budgets.

Both the Eagle Lake and Weimar Police Departments were presented Streamline SI 20X rechargeable flashlight.



Shirley Kearbey, president of CCLEA, recently presented an ACDC rechargeable flashlight to Sgt. Steve Haasin of the Eagle Lake Police Department. CCLEA held a bake sale on April 29 to raise the funds. *Headlight Photo by Carol Cardenas*

EMS Appreciation Day
Saturday, May 20
Mini-Health Fair & Blood Drive
 Didner Hall, 310 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake

To acknowledge National EMS Week. This day is dedicated to our loyal, hard-working EMS Volunteers.

- Topic on Child Safety
- Guest Speakers: 9 - 3
- Blood Drive: 9 - 1
- Blood Pressure Checks
- Hospital Booths
- CPR Demonstrations

Appreciation Speeches by Dr. Russell Thomas and Mayor Robby Cook for the Volunteers

Refreshments Available

Please Come Out to Show Your Support & Donate Blood... Give the Gift of Life!

Sponsored by Eagle Lake Volunteer Ambulance Corps

Wants prayer back in school... Poole elected VFW president, Temple

Lorraine Poole, mother of Monica Taray Poole, was recently elected as president of the Ladies Auxiliary of Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9191.

Auxiliary and post members sponsored and Easter egg hunt and provided games and refreshments for 25 veterans at the Olin E. Teague Veterans Center in Temple.

Poole is a resident of Killen, is also spearheading a campaign to get prayer back in schools. Her goal is to get statewide support. She wants to do something positive to make a difference in the way many children are thinking and acting today.

Poole says, "God is always ready and waiting to be a role model. We're losing our kids to drugs, drive-by shootings, and everything else. It's



VFW Post #8783 recently made a donation to the Knights of Columbus Council #4843 for their graciously allowing the VFW use of the KC Hall at no cost for meetings, suppers and fundraisers. Shown above, from left, are V.J. "Jiggs" Kana, financial secretary for the KC's, and Len Matula, commander of VFW Post #8783. *Headlight Photo by Carol Cardenas*

Brast family celebrate 17th reunion

Descendants of the late Adolph and Theodore Brast held their 17th Annual Reunion at Gus' Camphouse on Sunday, May 7, in Bellville.

After getting acquainted, the group enjoyed a covered dish luncheon at noon.

Present for the reunion from Sealy were Victor and Shirley Brast, Wel-



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Decorating contest

The first grade class recently was awarded first place in the door decorating contest. The class members were treated to an ice cream sundae party by the Garwood Student Council.

Class members include, front row: Jaylon Pettus, Layne Perry; second row: Kayla Wishert, Dane Krenke; third row: Cassidy Popp, Audrey Dyrlik, Jessica Engstrom, Kristen Danklefs; fourth row: Hunter Smith, Curtis Williams, Dakota Pratt and Cynthia Boensch, teacher.

Everyone had a good time at the party.

Wilcox Foods assisting Texas Special Olympics

Texas Special Olympics and Wilcox Foods IGA store will be hosting a coin-drop canister drive during the month of May. All proceeds will help support your community's Special Olympics program.

Thousands of athletes compete year-round sports and training program through Texas Special Olympics in East Texas. Texas Special Olympics is the largest sports organization for mentally retarded citizens in the world.

Ninety-eight percent of programs offered are accomplished through volunteers and sponsors.

Texas Special Olympics believes that people and communities are enriched by their participation and support of Special Athletics in an environment of equality, respect and acceptance.

Help support this effort and stop by Wilcox Foods IGA during the month of May.



Lake Motors employees Joe Hernandez, Jose Lopez, Edward Laitkep and Richard Lane are shown serving, as well as enjoying, the refreshments at the Open House held this past Saturday.

Lake Motors' Saturday open house proclaimed a success

An open house was held by Lake Motors Inc. of Eagle Lake last Saturday, May 13, to showcase the "new" Lake Motors. The business received a face lift from stem to stern, including painting inside and out, new paint booth landscaping, signs, lighting, and more.

Furthermore, Deborah and Tom Reed wanted to celebrate their purchase of Lake Motors from Virginia Reed. Joe and Virginia Reed had owned the business for 42 years. Deborah and Tom are delighted to keep Lake Motors in the family.

More than 200 people attended the open house, registering to win prizes including a 1995 pick-up, Chevy jacket, lanterns, mugs, t-shirts, caps and lots more.

Ice cream sandwiches, coles, coffee and cinnamon rolls were given out to the well wishers. Lollipops and balloons were presented to the children who came.

Winners of the major prizes were: Kathy Blackburn of Garwood who won the Chevrolet U.S.A. jacket; Harry Anderson and Mr. Rucka of Eagle Lake, along with Alice Schmidt of East Bernard each won a case of golf balls; Betty Wood, Mark Anderson, Mary Lou Szymanski, all of Eagle Lake, and Jack Hopkins of Columbus each won a Chevrolet sports bag; Lefty Vasinof of Lissie, Jane Booker of Eagle Lake, and Abalino Bererra of Garwood each received a safety lantern from Chevrolet; Becky Anderson of Eagle Lake won a set of four Aurora mugs; Abalino Bererra of Garwood took home a set of four Oldsmobile glasses; and Ruth Schraeder of Burton, Jack Hopkins of Columbus and Brian Rother of Hallettsville each have a free Quick Lube coming.

A brand new Aurora grad the showroom and was much admired by everyone. Lake Motors has just recently acquired the Aurora franchise.

Many people took the opportunity to test drive the new and used cars displayed on the lot.

Everyone who attended commented on the fresh, new look of Lake Motors and wished Tom and Deborah every success in their ownership.

Many beautiful plants and flowers were sent to the Reeds in honor of the occasion and Wilcox Foods graciously gave them a delicious cake.

Tom and Deborah would like to remind everyone that it's not too late to register for the new pick up. And, if a customer takes a test drive, he or she is also eligible to win a \$1,000. Stop by and see the "new" Lake Motors.

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EMS: We're there for life

National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week, a celebration to honor approximately 750,000 EMS providers nationwide who deliver lifesaving emergency care, is May 14-20.

The 1995 EMS Week theme, *EMS: We're There For Life*, emphasizes the significant role career and volunteer EMS providers play in saving lives.

"Since the general public is often the first at the scene of a medical emergency, it's essential for individuals to be prepared," said Joe Lee Perez, President of the Eagle Lake Ambulance Corps. "EMS Week is an excellent opportunity to educate the public about emergency preparedness, first aid and injury prevention."

National EMS Week honors the lifesaving care EMS providers offer nationwide, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"The men and women in this field deserve to be recognized and honored for their heroic efforts. EMS Week is an opportunity to say thanks," said Perez.

National Emergency Medical Services Week is sponsored by the American College of Emergency Physicians along with the American Ambulance Association, the Emergency Nurses Association, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, the National Association of State EMS Directors, the National Council of EMS Training Coordinators, the National Association of EMS Physicians, the US Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Federal Emergency Management Agency's United States Fire Administration.

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Trunkline Gas Company's pipelines are identified with line markers like the one pictured. Trunkline will locate and mark our pipelines anytime our facilities are affected by your project at no cost to you. Protecting the pipeline and keeping you safe is our Number One Priority.

If you notice anything unusual near a marked pipeline, such as a hissing or roaring sound, blowing dust, bubbling water, dying plants or a peculiar odor, leave the area immediately and call our 24-hour, toll-free safety telephone number, 1-800-221-1084.

Keep these telephone numbers handy. Help us keep natural gas a safe, dependable source of energy.

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Texas Excavation Safety System:
 1-800-344-8377

Report unusual conditions in the vicinity of our pipeline:
 1-800-221-1084

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