

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT
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Governor takes spotlight as lawmakers travel home

The days following adjournment of the Legislature belong to the governor, who signs bills alone in the spotlight because weary lawmakers have

gone home after 140 days of lawmaking. Last week, Gov. George W. Bush took the microphone in a news conference to declare the 1995 legislative session a success.

The first-term governor, who focused on four goals (education reform, welfare reform, juvenile-justice reform, and tort reform) said he is ready to tackle another tough issue.

"We must look carefully at property tax relief, at relieving property owners of high burden," Bush said. But he emphasized that property tax relief does not have to mean the onset of a state personal income tax.

"I am personally against an income tax," Bush said. "I believe - and hopefully we'll find a way to have property tax relief without an income tax."

Under a constitutional amendment adopted by voters in 1993, Texas cannot have a personal income tax

State Capitol Highlights

By Lyndell Williams and Ed Sterling
 Texas Press Association

without it first being approved in a statewide referendum.

Four Bush Goals Succeed
 In addition to a \$79 billion two-year budget without a tax increase, the four goals Bush stressed during his gubernatorial campaign were at least partially achieved. Here's a rundown of those goals:

• **Education.** The centerpiece of Bush's education reform plan curbs the regulatory authority of the Texas Education Agency and gives local school boards more control (home-rule concept) over their curricula and programs.

• **Welfare.** The governor was unable to persuade the Senate to give Texans but one chance to be on the welfare rolls. The final bill permits people to reapply after one to four years, depending on the recipient's education and work experience.

• **Tort Reform.** Bush declared an emergency on tort reform, and lawmakers promptly passed several measures aimed at lowering litigation and placed caps on punitive damage awards. The measure also limits the liability of police officers and other public employees when sued for negligence.

• **Juvenile Justice.** The governor said it was time to get tough with juveniles, and lawmakers did. They lowered the age at which young criminals can be tried as adults from 15 to 14 in capital murder cases; created a habitual offender provision that could put three-felony juveniles in prison for 40 years; and increased the number of juvenile detention beds from 2,500 to 6,300.

Democratic Chair to Quit
 While Texas' GOP governor was inking bills, Texas Democratic Party Chairman Bob Slagle announced he would not seek another term.

Slagle, 60, who held the post longer than anyone else in modern history (16 years), said his "zeal for fighting Republicans to achieve the real American dream of equal opportunity for all Americans was unabated."

The Sherman lawyer said a desire to spend more time with his family was the reason he would not seek a ninth two-year term. His successor will be selected by delegates to the Democratic Party Convention in June 1996.

In the past two years, some part faithfuls have complained that Slagle should step down and allow the party to have fresh leadership.

And the complaints increased following the Republican victories in the 1994 election.

Abolish State Treasury?
 One of the 14 proposed constitutional amendments on the Nov. 7 ballot will allow voters to decide whether to abolish the State Treasury. If they do, the comptroller's office would take over the agency's functions.

Other bills signed by Gov. Bush would:

• Allow licensed individuals to carry concealed handguns beginning Jan. 1, 1996, which Bush labeled another "weapon to keep law-abiding citizens safe."

• Begin deregulation of the telephone business and open local service to competition and provide \$1.5 billion over 10 years for high-tech equipment for schools, libraries and hospitals.

• Limit campaign contributions to \$50,000 for a statewide judicial office, less for lower courts. The time period for judicial candidates to raise funds would be 20 months.

• Expand a clearinghouse for background checks on sex offenders, give some non-profit groups greater access to criminal history information, and require that crime victims be notified if an offender is placed on community supervision.

• Create an automatic life sentence of 35 years without possibility of parole for anyone convicted of a first-degree felony sex offense against a child if that person has two prior felony convictions.

• Allow crime victims to personally present their views to the Board of Pardon and Paroles before a decision on an offender is made.

• Allow law enforcement agencies to share information among themselves on paroled sex offenders.

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

Oct. 1, 1970
 Miss Cheryl Lundquist, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Lundquist of Garwood, was named Miss Eagle Lake area at the beauty pageant sponsored last Saturday in the Community Center by the Eagle Lake Jaycees...

Raymond Hoffman retired after 46 years of service with the Lone Star Cement Company...

Mr. & Mrs. (Mac) Jones, former owner of Mac's Food Market, are opening up a new service for the community in his Mac's Marine Service which opens up this week in the former Eggs Lumber Co. located at 717 E. Main in Eagle Lake...

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Clipson Sr. of Eagle Lake announce the engagement of their daughter, Virginia Ann, to William Paul Johnson, son of Mr. & Mrs. Allen E. Johnson of Sitsbee...

Eagle Lake Jaycees President Harold Raabe presented the awards to Rhonda Hutz and Jeffery Woodruff after they were named Little Miss and Mister Eagle Lake at last Saturday's pageant...

Mr. & Mrs. Jessie Navarro are the proud parents of a son born at 9:45 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23, at Eagle Lake Community Hospital. He weighed 7 pounds and 11 ounces at birth and has been named Russell Wayne...

The announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Bonnie Githero, daughter of Mrs. Charles Githero and the late Mr. Charles Eugene Githero of Columbus, to Edwin Charles Hartensteiner Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Charles Hartensteiner Sr., of Weimar. They will be married at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Columbus on Dec. 12...

Chester Glaiser received a gift from Charles D. Stephens, manager of Eagle Lake Implement Company, on the completion of 25 years of faithful service. A dinner was held at Dieder Hall on Tuesday evening of last week...

The final summons for Mrs. Ella E. Lane came at 11:45 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, when she was called to eternal rest at the age of 94 years, 11 months and three days. She passed away in the Shiner Hospital after an illness of approximately six months. From July 1940 to April 1945, she served as editor of the Eagle Lake Headlight. Later she returned to Shiner to work for the Gazette as editor.

Friday, March 7, 1947
 Albert A. Kulhanek, 67, of near Ellinger, passed away at his home early last Friday morning, having died in his sleep. He was the father of Mrs. Henry Dostal... Darrell Vandiver.

Congratulations are in order for Sher Sunderman, daughter of Rita and Melvin Sunderman, who is on the Distinguished Students List at Texas A&M and majoring in interdisciplinary studies.

Making the Dean's Honor Roll was Jennifer Lynn Wied of Garwood. She is majoring in health and is also a student at Texas A&M.

And last, but not least, congratulations to Anessa Ann Williams, also of Garwood, who received her Bachelor of Science degree in interdisciplinary studies at Texas A&M and to Noble Anderson who graduated from Trinity University with his B.A. in business administration.

Eric Wood and Jenna Cook teamed up to bring in one of the two albino catfish included in the stocking. For doing so, they won a \$50 gift certificate to Lake Motors. Pictured with them is Tom Reed, president of Lake Motors and local sponsor.

Brian Kitchen, wearing baseball cap in back, and Tom Reed, local sponsor, pose with Saturday's winners of Eagle Lake's first "Kidfish".

Brian Hadley of Eagle Lake, third from left, pulled in the longest fish of the day. He is pictured with Kitchen, Game Warden David Perry and his dad, Dwight Hadley.

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'Kidfish' draws crowd at Thornton's

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"Kidfish" is an event sponsored by Lake Motors, a Chevy First Term dealer, and Texas Parks and Wildlife (TP&W). It is designed to introduce children to the outdoors and fishing.

For the event, TP&W stocked the pond with more than 300 channel catfish. Because the event was held on private property, the children did not

have to purchase fishing licenses and were able to keep all the fish they caught.

Dane Krenk came in at the top of the fundraising list with \$247.56. He selected a completely outfitted tackle box as his prize. He will participate in the "Kidfish Classic" this coming Saturday in Houston.

Jonathan Hruzek raised \$82 to take second place and selected a pair of roller blades.

Eric Wood and Matt Sosa tied for

Sponsorships gathered by participants and their donations will go to keeping "Kidfish" an on-going program.

A special prize of a \$50 gift certificate to Lake Motors was given to Jenna Cook and Eric Wood who teamed up to bring in one of the two albino catfish which were among those stocked for the afternoon's event.

Many individuals and businesses contributed to the great success of this event. Special thanks to Dan and Jean Thornton for the use of their pond.

Thanks are also extended to Jeff Argo, Johnny's Sport Shop; Larry Dulany, Dulany Funeral Home; Jerry Ratzlaff, Wilcox Foods IGA; Sue and Dan Canaris, Dan's Minute Stop; Brown-Ferris Industries of Houston; Game Wardens David Perry; LCRA staff members and family Mike Shoppe, Butch Herman, Shirley Seaholm, Charlynn Thomas, Karen Epps, Candy McCreary; Chief of Police Keith Webb; Constable Wilfred Ludecke; Joe Lee Perez and Dorothy Flores, EMS Unit #803; TP&W staff members Brian Kitchen (organizer of the event), Dawn Dorset, LCRA Ranger Leo Moravich, Alice Morton, Mike Morton, Delmar Krenk; and Lake Motors' staff members Deborah Reed, Pat Mascheck, Lawrence Rutherford, Jose Lopez and Joe Hernandez.

"It was a wonderful event and loads of fun for both the kids and their parents. We are looking forward to having twice as many participants next year. We'll keep you posted," said Tom Reed of Lake Motors, local "Kidfish" sponsor.

Living Hope Church will host a week long vacation bible school for children ages 2-12 from June 19-23. The program will be held from 9-11:30 each day.

"Sontown Family Celebration" is the theme of the program. Students will study families in the bible with the objective of celebrating each child's family, to teach skills for family living and to invite children to become members of God's family.

Living Hope is located at the corner of Church and North McCarty Street in Eagle Lake. The program is open to the public at no charge. Children will do crafts, study the Bible, play games, sing songs, and make new friends.

Come be a part of the Sontown Family Celebration! Call Mercy Fling at 234-5536 for more information.

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WHAT TO DO WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT.

All too often, severe weather causes power outages. Wind, fallen tree limbs, and lightning can damage lines or equipment causing these outages.

Whenever an outage occurs, CPL works nonstop to restore your service as quickly as possible. We know the inconvenience outages cause — and we appreciate your patience and cooperation.

Here are some steps you can take to weather an outage safely — and with as little inconvenience — as possible.

1. CHECK IT OUT. When your power goes out, check all fuses and breakers. If they're O.K., check with your neighbors. If power is out around you, call CPL. 1-800-274-2611. You'll find our number in your local phone book, or on your CPL bill!

2. KEEP CPL PHONE LINES OPEN. From the moment you call CPL, help is on the way — so a second call isn't necessary. Please leave our lines open for other callers.

3. REPORT FALLEN UTILITY LINES. If you see a fallen power line, don't even go near it! And, keep others away, too! Call CPL, the police, or the fire department immediately.

4. UNPLUG APPLIANCES. It's a good idea to turn off your air conditioner and unplug televisions, major appliances, and computers during storms. If you experience an outage, you may want to leave them unplugged until power is restored. Don't open your refrigerator or freezer unless absolutely necessary.