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Opinions differ on in-home care facilities inspections

State inspectors pop in so infrequently at registered in-home day-care facilities that bad situations can slip through the cracks. Inspectors are required to visit each of the 12,769 registered family homes in Texas only once every three years, according to a report by the Associated Press. An internal audit of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services shows infrequent monitoring of registered family homes that care for four or more unrelated children "has a questionable impact on the protection of children" and might as well be cut to save money. Child-care advocates oppose cutting the monitoring. Ronnie Earle, Travis County District Attorney, opposes curtailing the unannounced inspections, but said that if the monitoring is cut, there would be an alternative program. "We have to provide for the safety of our chil-

dren, and that means these homes have to be monitored," he said. Meanwhile, last week, the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission released a study recommending the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services be given the power to fine deficient or dangerous day-care facilities, the Austin American-Statesman reported. "I think it would put some teeth in the laws out there," said Fred Seale, deputy director of programs for the agency. "It becomes more of an issue ... if there's a penalty associated with a non-compliance finding," he told the American-Statesman. The agency has authority to revoke licenses or file lawsuits, but the authority to fine would expand enforcement power to deter commission of state law, the sunset commission report said. Last year, state regulators found about 92,000 violations of child-care standards, but imposed only 122 sanctions and of those revoked only 48 permits to operate. Sharp Recommends Drought Aid Texas Comptroller John Sharp last week released a list of ways the state could help drought-stricken farmers across Texas. These hard-working folks who put food on our tables deserve the full range of available assistance to see them through these trying times, he said, and made four recommendations: "That the U.S. Department of Agriculture extend its emergency livestock feed program, which is set to expire Aug. 31, and readmit 24 counties that had been dropped. "Expand the state agricultural water conservation loan program, which helps water districts, farmers and ranchers pay for water conservation efforts and irrigation systems. "Redirect loans that go to farmers who diversifying their crops and expand their processing. "Put more money into the small community emergency loan program so towns can deal better with the

dump to be built near the small West Texas town of Sierra Blanca. Sierra Blanca, population about 700, is 16 miles from the Mexican border and about 80 miles southeast of El Paso. The children came from Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, a town 300 miles from Sierra Blanca that relies on the Rio Grande for its water. The children came by buses to the state Capital and joined about 150 Austin-area children to march by the Governor's Mansion in hopes of persuading Gov. George W. Bush to abandon his support for the dump. Critics of the dump-building proposal said the proposed dump site is in an earthquake-prone area that has many faults in its subterranean.

State Capitol Highlights
By Lyndell Williams and Ed Sterling
Texas Press Association

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

Sept. 16, 1971
Roland Jones, administrator of the Eagle Lake Community Hospital since the first of the year, tendered his resignation to the Board of Directors of the hospital effective Oct. 1. He has accepted a position to become administrator of the San Augustine Memorial Hospital which is a city-county hospital district. Hurricane Fern dilly-dallied off the coast of Texas during much of the past weekend and brought winds gusting up to 45 mph and heavy rains to the Eagle Lake area. Friends learned with great regret of the death of Mrs. Frank (Emilia) Wesselski Sr., a native of Colorado County, who passed away at her home in Garwood on Sept. 10, 1971. It was learned here that Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Berger are completing a real estate deal whereby they will purchase the home of Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Lindsay, located between the E.C. Terrell and James Ray Thomas homes. Last Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Fred Fojtik of East Bernard honored her husband with a birthday party. A delicious lunch was served and the afternoon was enjoyed by all. About 25 friends, members of the Colly Memorial Methodist Church Sunshine Class, called at the home of Miss Salle F. Jones for a coffee on last Saturday morning. Gordon Birdwell has been a patient in Laughlin Hospital this week and his many friends join in wishing him a speedy recovery. It was learned here that Mr. & Mrs. D.S. Taylor, son of Mr. & Mrs. D.S. Taylor, was five years old Monday and invited a group of his friends to a picnic to help him celebrate.

ing an operation at Hermann Hospital last week. Mrs. T.W. Scott entertained at her home Monday evening honoring Miss Ruby Mense with a lingerie bridal shower. Mr. & Mrs. Allen Glueck, who have been making their home in Atlanta, spent the weekend here with their parents, Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Glueck and Mr. & Mrs. Lee Goode. Mrs. Elmo Sens was hostess to the Missionary Society of the American Lutheran Church at her home Thursday afternoon. Mrs. A.L. Marx presided at the meeting. Twenty members and the new W.H.D. Agent, Miss Edna Prentice, met at the home of Mrs. N.H. German Thursday afternoon. It was learned here that Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Berger are completing a real estate deal whereby they will purchase the home of Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Lindsay, located between the E.C. Terrell and James Ray Thomas homes. Last Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Fred Fojtik of East Bernard honored her husband with a birthday party. A delicious lunch was served and the afternoon was enjoyed by all. About 25 friends, members of the Colly Memorial Methodist Church Sunshine Class, called at the home of Miss Salle F. Jones for a coffee on last Saturday morning. Gordon Birdwell has been a patient in Laughlin Hospital this week and his many friends join in wishing him a speedy recovery. It was learned here that Mr. & Mrs. D.S. Taylor, son of Mr. & Mrs. D.S. Taylor, was five years old Monday and invited a group of his friends to a picnic to help him celebrate.

April 9, 1948
Seventeen members heard Mrs. C.W. Causey talk on what judges expect from exhibitors in flower shows at the meeting of the Eagle Lake Garden Club held Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. C.E. Everitt Sr. Mrs. J. Pendergrass is reported to be improving satisfactorily at the family's country home after undergoing

About Town...

*Ethel Kovicka of Eagle Lake, will celebrate her 78 birthday on June 15. A little bird told us that Ethel wakes up every morning at 5:30 a.m. and is currently painting her own home on Prairie. She recently finished a painting job on Circle K. Now folks, she does this all herself. We hope we're able to move around that well when we're 78! By the way, Ethel, Alleen said Happy Birthday! We wish you many more. *Congratulations to Shannon Wesselski of Nada, Jodie Cavness and Daphne C. Garza, both of East Bernard. They all made the Dean's List at Sam Houston. Their grade point averages had to be 3.5 or above. *Congratulations to their 60th wedding anniversary to Jemie May and Louis Muzny of Eagle Lake, who were married May 24, 1936, in the Methodist Church in Weimar. And also to Lucille and Henry Kretzmar of Eagle Lake, who were married the same day in Sealy. The couples are friends and through the years have enjoyed many trips, events and dinners together on this special day in their lives. *Oh, how rumors fly. It was said that Shindler Electric had closed down here in Eagle Lake. Well, not so! Shindler Electric has only downsized due to the good ole' economy. Rick Barnett is still in business. Rick Barnett is still in business. *A special Happy Birthday to Joseph Anthony Cardenas Sr., who turned 41 June 12, and to Joseph Anthony Cardenas Jr., who's birthday was June 11, 1996.

Methodist church welcomes new pastor

Rev. Barry Bauerschlag and his wife, Donna, will begin their pastorate this Sunday, June 16, with the regularly scheduled service at 10:45 a.m. All members are urged to make a special effort to come and welcome Barry and Donna to their ministry in Eagle Lake. Due to Sunday being Father's Day and the many other scheduled events in June, a planned welcome fellowship will be held July 14. The community is cordially invited to join in this time of welcome. Farewell luncheon held A farewell luncheon, one of the largest, was held Sunday, June 2, in

the United Methodist Church fellowship hall following worship service honoring the Rev. and Mrs. Larry Bailey. They will be leaving Thursday, June 13, for their new church and home in Sinton. For the past five years, both have been very active in many church and community activities. They will be dearly missed. Bible Verse of the Week "They that sew in tears shall reap joy." — Psalms 126:5 Submitted by Noddy Phillips

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

Deed: Sylvia B. Goodman and Dorothy Kallina Schuring to Jerry Smidow Jr. et al, Lots 13 through 18, out of Block 26, in the Town of Garwood, filed 3-1-96. Deed: Clarence Zbrank and Edmund Zbrank to Alan Abrank, 2 tracts out of the Preston Gilbert Survey et al; 3-1-96. Deed: James Hayes Schell to Suzanne Marie Melvin, 10,510 acres, out of the S.M. Williams Survey, A-609; 3-1-96. Deed: John P. McClanahan et ux to Kenneth Sestak et ux, Lot No. 2 in Block 131 of the Lester Subdivision, Unit One to the Town of Weimar; 3-1-96. Deed: H.C. Moeller Jr. et ux to Thomas J. Etheridge and Bernice Etheridge, und. int. in 49,715 acres out of the B. Beason Survey, A-5, et al; 3-1-96. Deed: Frank L. Somer to Robert F. Walker, a part of the Henry Austin Five League Grant, A-4, apart of Block 31, City of Weimar; 3-1-96. Deed: Georgia Ruth Hoggett to Margie Persons Page und. int. in 1.00 acre tract out of the Timothy McKean Survey, A-416; 3-4-96. Deed: Thomas J. Etheridge et ux to H.C. Moeller Jr. et ux, 2 tracts out of the B. Beason Survey, A-5 et al; 3-1-96. Deed: H.C. Moeller Jr. et ux to Bernice Etheridge et ux, und. 17,257 acres in surface estate out of the B. Beason Survey, A-5, et al; 3-1-96. Deed: Robert W. Hervey et ux to Laura Ann Ray et al, part of Original Lot 4, Block 9, City of Columbus; 3-1-96. Deed: Perry R. Kloesel et ux to Mark Alan Harmon et ux, 30,766 acres out of the Micah Andrews Survey, A-68; 3-1-96. Deed: Frank L. Somer to Robert F. Walker, a part of the Henry Austin Five League Grant, A-4, apart of Block 31, City of Weimar; 3-1-96. Deed: Georgia Ruth Hoggett to Margie Persons Page und. int. in 1.00 acre tract out of the Timothy McKean Survey, A-416; 3-4-96. Deed: Donald Schoenfeld to Agustino O. Zapico et ux, 17,023 acres on the R.R. Ratchiff Survey, A-686; 3-4-96.

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United Way expands funds... Makes plans for 1996 drive

The United Way Drive will once again kick off in Oct. with a United Way Walk. In its board meeting recently, the Board voted to enter a bridge tournament in the afternoon on the same date as the walk. Tom Reed, United Way Coordinator, announced the following disbursements: Boy Scouts of America, \$300; Youth Development, \$637.50; Colorado County Children Service Board, \$637.50; Colorado Valley Council on Alcoholism and Drugs, \$750; Eagle Lake Little League, \$693.75; Ministerial Alliance, local, \$1,406.25; Colorado County Mental Health and Mental Retardation, \$562.50; Red Cross, \$281.25; Salvation Army, \$843.75; Special Olympics, \$750; Girl Scouts, \$300. These add up to \$7,162.50. The Board thanks all those who supported last year's program and are looking forward to even greater participation and support during the 1996 campaign!

Get your dad a 'Golf Pass'

Okay, so you're in the store, looking at row upon row of neckties, trying to figure out which one Dad might wear more than once. If it's too loud, he'll just let it hang in the closet. If it's too conservative, he might think that you think he's getting old. Why worry about rejection? Just give Dad a Texas Golf Pass. For just \$25, you can give him access to more than 230 of the state's finest courses. He can hit the links from El Paso to Kingwood for free or reduced greens fees. And the card is good until Dec 31, 1996. "With the Texas Golf Pass, everyone wins," said Barbara Shisler, president of the Colorado County Unit of the American Cancer Society. "Not only do Texas golfers get to enjoy golf at a great value, they also are helping a great cause that makes a difference for those affected by cancer." Proceeds from the Texas Golf Pass fund American Cancer Society projects. (See Pass, Page 7)



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