



**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**  
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# Groups Take Sides On Sharp-Perry Tax Plans Before Session

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry produced a list of 23 state trade associations and other groups signaling support for the tax law rewrite he produced with the help of former comptroller John Sharp over the last few months.

The Texas Legislature will consider the rewrite in the special session convening April 17. Perry and the Legislature are under a state Supreme Court order to put a fair taxing system into law by June 1.

Perry's list of tax-plan supporters: American Forest and Paper Association, Automotive Parts and Service Association, Association of Chemical Industry of Texas, Greater Houston Partnership, Hispanics for Opportunity, and Progress and Education.

Also, Non Profits for Tax Fairness — Texas, Texas Airline Association, Texas Apartment Association, Texas Association of Builders, Texas As-

sociation of Manufacturers, Texas Association of Realtors, Texas Credit Union League, Texas Chemical Council, Texas Forest Industries Council, Texas Industrial Areas Foundation Network and Texas Motor Transportation Association.

And, Texas Oil & Gas Association, Texas Restaurant Association, Texas School Alliance, Texas State Association of Firefighters, Texas Taxpayers and Research Association, Texas Trial Lawyers Association, and Wholesale Beer Distributors of Texas.

Perry said their support shows "a clear consensus is emerging, momentum for our plan is growing, and victory for taxpayers and schoolchildren is on the near horizon." He said the entities represent 3 million Texans.

House Speaker Tom Craddick and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst have not come out in support of the plan.

Rep. Bill Keffer, R-Dallas, ex-

pressed concern that the proposed bill language for the tax plan leaves room for tax rates to creep higher.

Keffer and other House members have said they would like to see the state's \$4.3 billion budget surplus used to offset a like amount of property taxes until the 2007 regular session of the Legislature convenes.

**DeLay pulls out of House race**  
Tom DeLay, R-Sugar Land, on April 4 ended his re-election bid for the District 22 congressional seat and said he would resign from public office in June.

DeLay's decision came with a pending U.S. Supreme Court ruling regarding the Texas redistricting plan he spearheaded in 2003, and as federal ethics investigators continued to scrutinize DeLay's activities and those of certain of his associates.

Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle said DeLay's deci-

sion to withdraw from the race and resign from office would not affect the state's prosecution of the former U.S. House majority leader on state felony charges of money laundering and conspiracy in connection with the redistricting.

Gov. Perry said he would not call a special election to replace DeLay on the November ballot. The Republican district executive committee will field a replacement candidate.

The Houston Chronicle reported DeLay will be eligible to receive a federal pension of nearly \$67,000 per year in retirement.

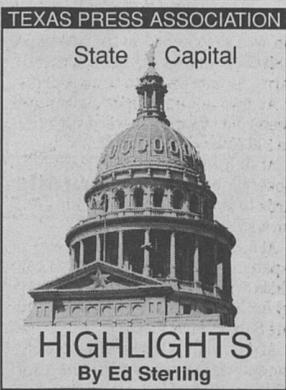
DeLay said he planned to take up

residence in Virginia.

**Salaries to count toward 65%**  
The work of Texas public school librarians is considered classroom instruction.

Education Commissioner Shirley Neeley said librarians' salaries will count toward the total funds school districts must devote to classroom instruction under the "65 percent rule" imposed by Gov. Perry last year.

School districts have three years to comply with the rule, which phases in increasingly higher portions of the budget that must be spent on classroom instruction.



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

**April 8, 1982**  
**Dr. Harold Griffin** was elected by Eagle Lake Community Hospital as the new Chief of Staff for the 1982-83 year...

**Reggie Brisco** was elected to a new 3-year term on the board of trustees for Rice Consolidated Independent School District and two incumbents; **Bill Appelt** and **Billy Hefner** were returned to office for new 3-year terms...

**Mr. and Mrs. Mike Meitzen** welcomed a baby daughter, **Brooke Lauren** on April 3...

Friends in the community learned with regret of the death of **Mrs. Joe (Mary) Anders** of Schulenberg, the mother of **Mrs. V.J. (Elizabeth) Kana** of Eagle Lake and a sister of **Mrs. Ada Ward**, also of Eagle Lake.

**Mr. and Mrs. Jerome L. Waligura** of Garwood announced the arrival of their first child, a daughter, **Shanna Kay** born March 30 in Wharton...

**Nita Kay Dye** and **Michael Everett Crow** joined with their parent's in announcing their engagement and approaching marriage on July 17, 1982 in Bear Creek Baptist Church in Houston...

Final rites were held at Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church on March 29 for **Mrs. Leona Walker Powell**, affectionately known to friends as "Nina"...

School students placed at District UIL contest at Blinn College on March 26. **Joel Medina**, **Kevin Bendy**, **Dominique Isenhower**, **Jennifer Matthews**, **Renee Balas**, **Valerie Benge**, **Darlene Stancik**, **Laura Appelt**, **Sally Strube** and **Naylia McTear**...

The College of Natural Sciences at The University of Texas named 439 students to the 1981 fall semester honor roll. Among them from this area: **Cum Laude Ampla Et Magna**, **Judy Beth Bunge**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. James L. Bunge Jr.** of Garwood...

Navy Interior Communications Electrician Fireman **Andrew L. Hewitt**, son of **Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Hewitt** of Eagle Lake participated in exercise "Team Spirit 82" in the Republic of Korea...

**Kim Wunderlich** won second place in the shot put at the league event and advanced along with all first and second place district winners to the Region III Track meet to be held in Brenham...

**Kenneth Bluntson** a 6'6" senior at Rice High School was named to the All-State Basketball Second Team...

**Kenneth Sims**, all-American football player for the University of Texas Longhorns, will be the featured speaker at the annual all-sports banquet at Rice High School on May 3...

**Jerri Clipson** and **Cindy Rodriguez** proudly displayed the medals they won while participating in the doubles championships in the District 22-3A girls tennis tournament held in Sealy...

**Thomas Hall (Tommy) Pate**,

39, of Eagle Lake passed away of injuries received in an auto accident in Houston on April 1 bringing great sadness to relatives and friends in the community.

**April 10, 1958**  
**Miss Rose Ann Miller**, Chapter Sweetheart of the Garwood Future Farmers of American Chapter, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Louis Miller** of Garwood, is a contestant in the District IV FFA Sweetheart contest to be held in Brenham on April 15...

A successful drill on the Mosbacher No. 1 Lehrer well five miles west of Garwood has produced pure oil at a depth of around 6600 feet...

**James Wylie Dodson**, 36, formerly of Bellville, is assuming duties as city manager for Eagle Lake. He is filling the position left vacant since the resignation of **J.M. Johnson** last October...

Voters of Eagle Lake re-elected **Louis Muzny Jr.** to his second 3-year term to the school board and the citizens voted in two new trustees, **Raymond H. Waddell** and **Paul Powers** for their first terms on the board...

**Miss Elizabeth Seaholm**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Seaholm**, was complimented with a Be-Bop party on her ninth birthday Thursday, April 3...

**K-Lu Carroll** and **Doris McCreary** placed third in senior girls doubles, **Walter Jones** and **Johnny Nash** won third in the boys' doubles and **John Behrens** won third in the boys' singles in the tennis matches in Katy last Wednesday.

## STAR OF THE WEEK

# Lighthouse

*This certifies that*  
**Dwight Dawson, Grade: 11th**  
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# Rice Consolidated Bond Election

Early Voting	Election Day
<p>May 1 – May 9 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM @ Rice CISD Admin. Bldg Early Voting Available only Mon.–Friday</p>	<p>May 13 7:00 A.M.–7:00 P.M. Eagle Lake Junior High Garwood Elementary Sheridan Elementary</p>

## What You Need To Know!

*Equitable teacher to student ratios, classroom space and facilities for students who live in Sheridan, Garwood and Eagle Lake.*

- Students in advanced classes can be grouped together to produce a more competitive environment.
- Combined campus prepares students for High School by providing consistent teaching techniques and lesson plans.
- Consolidated Junior High campus can offer more elective courses.

**How does my child benefit from this bond election?**

The estimated tax rate increase is 15¢ for every \$100 of taxable property. If you are 65 or older, your home property taxes **will not** increase.

Property Value	Per Year Increase	Per Month Increase
\$30,000	\$30.00	\$2.50
\$50,000	\$52.50	\$4.38
\$100,000	\$127.00	\$10.63
\$150,000	\$202.50	\$16.88

**Can I afford the property tax increase?**

For more information email "ricebondselection@hotmail.com" or visit the website "wintermannlibrary.com". You may also call Clark Powers @ (979) 234-3238 or Laura Myres @ (979) 733-9949, Preston Little (979) 758-3778, Clark Peterson (979) 234-3171

## County Commissioners

*Continued from front page*

- Approved a resolution designating May 4 as a National Day of Prayer and allowing the Ministerial Alliance to use the courthouse square at noon on that day.
- Approved a proclamation recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.
- Recognized April 9-15 at National Telecommunicator Week.
- Granted permission to use the courthouse square for the Live Oak Festival from May 19 to May 21.
- Set a date for a public hearing

to establish a 45 mph speed limit on Kainsteiner Road in Precinct 3 for 9:10 a.m. on April 24.

-Were advised of a \$12,000 donation by Fred and Linda Westergren to defray part of the cost of paving County Road 214 in Precinct 2. Commissioner Herbie Helmcamp, said the road, located southeast of Weimar, is about a mile long. He said total cost to pave the road would be about \$30,000.

## Abatement

*Continued from front page*

denying the abatement.

Jamison later said he would support granting an abatement for the company if it requested one following the county's guidelines.

The company made news in 2002 when it announced plans to build a pipeline to supply 350 million gallons of water a day to Houston from wells in Austin, Colorado and Wharton counties.

At that time the company was listed as based in Sealy.

In January 2005, it announced plans for what it called the world's largest bottled water plant.

In its application for a tax abatement in Colorado County, filed on April 4, the company listed its address as Lincoln, Illinois.

The company said it had also filed for a tax abatement in Wharton County.

County commissioner Darrell Gertson said he was told the company said it had option to purchase 390 acres in the Chesterville area, northeast of Eagle Lake.

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