

Colorado County Courthouse Report

Eighteen Sentenced In County Court

Eighteen individuals were sentenced in Colorado County Court on Wednesday, April 26.

They included:

- Miguel Angel Cepeda, Justice of the Peace court appeal, \$149 fine.
- Kenneth R. Ellis, driving while license invalid with previous conviction, 10 days jail to be served on weekends.
- Jose Rosario Huerta, escape from custody, one year deferred adjudication, \$350 fine.
- Nelson Jones, driving while license invalid with previous conviction, 15 days jail to be served on the weekends, \$100 fine.
- Jeffrey D. Solomon, driving while license invalid, six months deferred adjudication, \$200 fine.
- Henry Servantes, driving while intoxicated, 10 days jail, \$500 fine, six months driver's license suspended.
- David H. Araiza, driving while intoxicated, 18 months probation, \$750 fine, interlock device.
- Charlene Marie Brown, driving while license invalid, 3 days jail, \$350 fine.

fine.

- Jason J. Christie, driving while license invalid with previous conviction, 40 days jail.
- Amberly Janel Coxwell, hindering apprehension, one year deferred adjudication, \$500 fine.
- Cynthia M. Day, driving while intoxicated, one year probation, \$500 fine.
- Rodney DeShannon Eaton, assault causing bodily injury to a family member, 90 days jail.
- Isabel Flores, driving while license invalid, three days jail, \$350 fine.
- Juan-Carlos R. Guzman, possession of marijuana, three days jail, \$350 fine.
- Rosenie Supervil, driving while license invalid, three days jail, \$350 fine.
- Broderick Tolliver, interference with public duties, three days jail, \$1,000 fine.
- Celsa O. Valenzuela, assault causing bodily injury, one year probation with deferred adjudication, \$350 fine, \$100 restitution.
- Jeffrey Clifton, driving while license invalid, three days jail, \$350 fine.

Three Lawsuits Filed In County

Three lawsuits were filed in Colorado County District Court in the past week.

They included:

- On April 27, a suit was filed by three couples: Alvinder and Herbie Helmcamp, Daria and Alvin Emmel and Virginia and Bruce Hromadka in an attempt to have a road easement designated by a judge.
- The defendants are Oscar Amos, William Braden and Barbara Braden, Jerome K. Emmel, and Marilyn D. Emmel.
- The suit states that Joe Emmel, who died in 1944, had owned property, located east of Weimar and south of Interstate 10, and used a roadway for an easement.
- After his death, the easement continued to be used, the suit states.

The plaintiffs are seeking to have the easement judicially declared.

On May 1, a suit was filed by Main Street Acquisition Corp. against Ricardo Torres, in a dispute over a retail installment sales contract. The suit claims that \$4,361 is owed.

In a separate suit on May 1, a suit was filed by People Choice Home Loan Inc. naming Darius, Doris and Judith Brisco as defendants. The dispute involves payment on a promissory note, according to the suit.

Marriage Licenses Issued

Lane Raulston Hajovsky and Stephanie Jean Carpenter, April 25.

Robert Franklin Sampson and Phyllis Carole Hurosky, April 28.

Divorces Filed

Christina Marie Hedding and Timothy Jude Hedding, April 26.

Valerie Ann Smith and Jimmy Charles Smith, April 27.

Texas House Will Ask For Gas Tax Holiday

Representative Robby Cook and other Members of the Texas House proposed a "Gas Tax Holiday" to provide relief for Texas drivers struggling with skyrocketing gasoline prices.

"It is hard to ignore the recent increase in gas prices, which are predicted to stay high all summer. This issue affects all of us. We see it at the gas pump, in the increase in the cost of goods and services due to transportation costs and in our rising utility bills due to increased fuel costs," said Rep. Cook.

"We all need to get to work and get to school. Record-breaking gas prices are causing ordinary Texans to lose a lot more of their paychecks. That's money needed for food, housing, clothes and other everyday necessities," said Cook.

The State of Texas collects 20¢ per gallon of gasoline and diesel fuel. Last year, the state collected \$2.26 billion in gas taxes and \$673 million in diesel taxes.

"Every time a Texan fills up his or her 20-gallon tank, he or she is going to save \$4 dollars—that's almost two free gallons every time Texans fill up. It's the least we can do," said Rep. Cook.

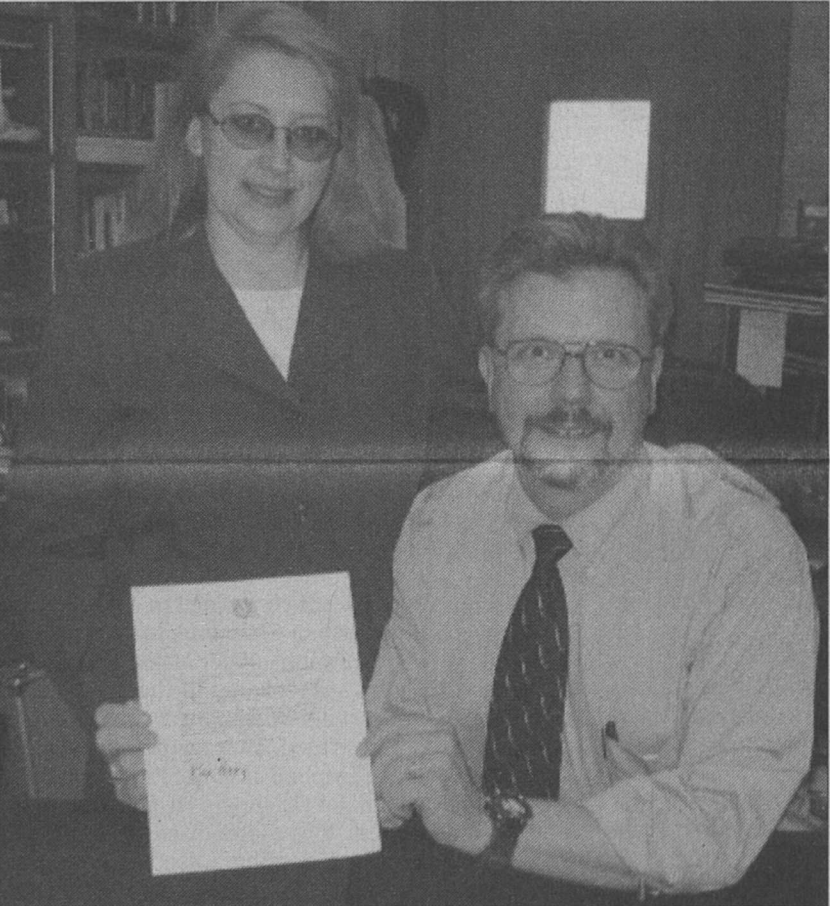
According to the Suits Index, the gas tax is the most regressive tax, actually hurting Texas families more than sales tax. The Suits Index is often used in tax policy analysis to measure the degree of progressivity of a tax.

The cost of the "Gas Tax Holiday" can be paid for by increased federal funding from the transportation bill passed last August by the Federal Government. The Federal Highway Administration projects the average annual increase of federal transportation funds to Texas at \$788.1 million dollars.

"No matter how much money you make, we all drive. We need to provide Texans with tax relief at the gas pump," said Jim Dunnam, House Democratic Leader. "We are calling on Governor Perry to add the 'Gas Tax Holiday' to the agenda for this special session."

Rep. Cook added, "I have heard from numerous constituents about the high cost of gasoline. It is especially hard on the elderly and people on fixed incomes. This is a small but important step that the legislature should take to provide Texas citizens with much needed relief."

EAGLE LAKE WEATHER REPORT			
Information Courtesy of Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Experiment Station, Eagle Lake			
Date	Temp (H/L)	Rainfall(in.)	
Mon. 4-24-06	85/70	0.00	
Tue. 4-25-06	90/55	0.00	
Wed. 4-26-06	74/55	0.00	
Thu. 4-27-06	79/56	0.00	
Fri. 4-28-06	86/64	0.20	
Sat. 4-29-06	83/57	0.01	
Sun. 4-30-06	87/59	0.00	



Pictured are J. Paul Bruhn and wife Marion of the First United Methodist Church of Columbus reading a letter from Rick Perry, governor of Texas in which he congratulates the Bruhns and the Community Choir on their "Reaching Out Through Music Tour" of Germany and wishing them all success as they extend good will based on the "deep ties of heritage and history" within Texas which contribute to the "tapestry of cultures and the best of the Lone Star State", quoting from the letter.

Perry Congratulates Brune In Letter

By Ruth Terry

"Nineteen years ago is when it all began," was J. Paul's response as I inquired how the pastor of the Columbus First United Methodist Church and his lovely wife Marion first met. "We both attended the lay speaker training event for the United Methodist Church in Germany, traditionally held the week after Easter.

"When we were married four years later, we had no idea we would end up in Texas," added Marion.

Pastor J. Paul and Marion Bruhn are natives of Germany. They moved to Dallas in 1993 where J. Paul received his Master's of Divinity degree from Southern Methodist University (SMU). "We crossed the Atlantic with four suitcases and six moving boxes, moving into an "efficiency apartment" on Campus of SMU."

A lot has changed since then. The Reverend J. Paul Bruhn lives with his wife Marion and their two children Joshua and Johanna in Columbus. "Both are Germans by bloodline, Americans by law, and Texans by the grace of GOD," explains J. Paul with a smile.

What has not changed is their great love for Christian music. "Marion and I grew up as teenagers in the German United Methodist Church. We both were trained in youth choirs, and love singing and making music. Our children have inherited this love for music and you can see Joshua keeping the beat on his bongos in the early worship service."

"We were both impressed with the

quality of music in this community when we first moved here in November of 2004," explains Marion. "Merrill Luman, the Minister of Music, has done an outstanding job in fostering the Community Choir with challenging cantatas.

"Music is a great means of reaching the hearts of people of all kinds of background and cultures. I was eighteen when I came to the United States for the first time with our youth choir," tells J. Paul. "We met many host families and learned to respect different ideas and upbringing. It is such a wonderful way to meet people and share good-will."

"Some time last year I challenged Merrill to consider leading the choir on a trip to Germany. The United Methodist of Europe are a small denomination — may be 1 in a thousand is a United Methodist or Baptist — and they need to be encouraged in their faith, because Europe can be a difficult place to live when you follow Christ."

"Marion's family and some friends of mine spoke with their congregations after hearing us rave about the quality of the music the Community Choir produces, and through grace we will also be able to sing in four German congregations in Frankfurt, Friedricksdorf, Dresden, and Berlin as well as in a U.S. Military hospital while we are in Germany.

"Let me take the opportunity to thank the Columbus community for all their help and support as we reach out to the hearts of men and women overseas. THANK YOU!"

Rice Consolidated Bond Election

Early Voting

Through May 9
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
@ Rice CISD Admin. Bldg
Early Voting Available only Mon.–Friday

Election Day

May 13
7:00 A.M.–7:00 P.M.
Eagle Lake Junior High
Garwood Elementary
Sheridan Elementary

If the bond passes, how will the money be spent?

- Remodel current high school to create a 6th, 7th and 8th grade Junior High for all 3 communities.
- Remodel the Career and Technology Center for those students pursuing a vocational/trade college or career.
- Build a new band hall for students in grades 6-12.
- Build a stage and auditorium that will seat 350 people and can be utilized by both Junior High and High School students. The auditorium will be used for band performances, UIL One Act Play, Theatre Arts, Senior Serve, and other school and community activities.
- Purchase new technology for all campuses (new computers, software, and teaching instruments).
- Construct 4 new High School science labs, complete with up to date equipment.
- Build a new gymnasium for Junior High athletics and physical education classes.
- Upgrade utilities for the Altair complex, to include a sewage treatment system and a second water well that will meet all local, state and EPA requirements.

-Build a new high school with the latest academic facilities to improve how students learn and better prepare them for college or careers.

For more information email "ricebondelection@hotmail.com or visit elc.net and click on the "Rice Bond Election" link. 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

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Hours:
Mon.–Thur., 8 a.m.–1:45 p.m.
& 5 p.m. –8:45 p.m.
Fri.–Sat.: 8 a.m.–9:15 p.m.
Sunday
7:30 a.m.– 1:45 p.m.