

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT



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Attorney General Supports Effort To Replace DeLay On Ballot

AUSTIN — Attorney General Greg Abbott on July 21 filed a brief supporting the Republican Party's efforts to replace former U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay's name on the Nov. 7 ballot.

"Because the district court issued an injunction against the secretary of state and declared a portion of the Texas Election Code unconstitutional, Secretary of State Roger Williams will be filing an amicus brief in Fifth Circuit (court) defending the constitutionality of Texas law," Angela Hale, communications director for the attorney general, said.

U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks earlier this month issued an injunction preventing Williams from removing DeLay's name on the ballot. Democrats sued to keep DeLay on the ballot after Republicans sought to name a replacement for the Houston area Congressional District 22.

DeLay won the March primary but resigned June 9 and moved out of Texas to Virginia. The former House majority leader still is under indictment in Travis County on charges of money-laundering and campaign finance fraud in connection with the November 2002 election.

The indictment alleges DeLay funneled about \$190,000 in campaign donations from Texas entities to his national committee, Americans for a Republican Majority (ARMPAC), and then returned the money to his Austin-based Texans for a Republican Majority.

On July 20 the Federal Election Commission fined ARMPAC in Washington, D.C., \$115,000 over misstatements of financial activity, failure to report debts and obligations, and failure to properly allocate expenses between federal and non-federal

accounts. The fine was based on an FEC audit last year covering the committee's financial activity from Jan. 1, 2001, through Dec. 31, 2002.

AG submits redistricting map

On July 21 the attorney general's office submitted a revised redistricting plan in response to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that Congressional District 23 needed to be redrawn.

Solicitor General Ted Cruz said the proposed plan only alters District 23 and three adjoining districts, avoids pairing any incumbent members of Congress and leaves the existing partisan balance of the four altered districts undisturbed.

The League of United Latin American Citizens sued over the current redistricting plan, which

was spearheaded by DeLay and approved by state lawmakers in 2003.

TAKS scores up slightly

Student scores on the third- and fifth-grade reading and math Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test continued to show improvement over last year, the Texas Education Agency reported.

Students taking the fifth-grade reading test in Spanish increased their passing rate by 3 percent over 2005, with 86 percent passing. For the fifth-grade math test in Spanish, 74 percent passed this year compared to 73 percent in 2005.

On the fifth-grade tests in English, 91 percent passed the reading test and 93 percent passed the math exam. These scores reflect a 1 percent increase on both tests

over 2005.

At the third-grade level, students taking the reading test in Spanish saw a 2 point gain over 2005 with 91 percent passing. Third-graders taking the test in English held steady with 95 percent passing, the same percentage as 2005.

155,000 lose home coverage

More than 155,000 Texas homeowners are losing their homeowner insurance coverage after Texas Select Lloyds companies began issuing notices to agents to cease writing new and renewal insurance business.

Unless parent firm Vesta Fire Insurance Co. and its rehabilitators work out a last minute solution, all policies with the companies will be cancelled on Aug. 23.

Texas Select, the only Vesta

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS
 By Ed Sterling

company with Texas policyholders, had 155,779 homeowners' policies in force in June, the bulk of which are in Harris and Bexar counties with 28,233 and 18,213 respectively.

The Texas Department of Insurance is assisting policyholders to obtain new insurance, by calling 1-800-252-3439.

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

July 22, 1982

After battling a blaze for five hours in the New Town area one fireman was injured and two others were overcome by heat and smoke. Injured was **Jim Allen**; and overcome by the heat and smoke were **Pete Canaris** and **Chuck Stephens**...

Congratulations to **Ron Miksch** for making a once-in-a-lifetime shot at the Eagle Lake Recreation Center golf tournament. He is the son-in-law of **Mr. and Mrs. Bob Ashby**...

Friends in the community of **Miss Allison Keeter**, a former resident here, who resides in Fort Worth with her mother, **Martha Locklier**, regretted to hear that she suffered a broken right arm (in four places) in a wreck last week...

Congratulations to the Eagle Lake Community Hospital mixed softball team, coached by **Dr. Curtis Laughlin**, who took second place in the six team tournament in El Campo...

Chosen Outstanding High School Line at the Fain-Schubert "Best of Texas Camp" at Blinn College in Brenham were **Laura Appelt**, **Julia Rosprim**, **Lisa Corman** and **Kristine Carpenter**...

Funeral services were held for **Joseph Wied** of El Campo a former resident of Garwood on July 8...

Dr. Jose Ugarte of Eagle Lake and **Mrs. Mary Henderson** of Frelsburg, Colorado County co-chairmen for Strake for Lt. Governor, announced that **George Strake** would visit Colorado County...

Pamela Sue Cranek took part in the Imperial Miss Texas State Pageant held at Kilgore College. She won a trophy for third runner up in the pageant, a crown and trophies for being named Miss Photogenic, for presenting the best modeling portfolio and for her best miscellaneous modeling in the promodel competition. She is the daughter of **County Judge and Mrs. Lester J. Cranek** of Garwood...

Last rites were held for **Bishop Charles Henry Turner**, 47, formerly of Eagle Lake...

La Verne Obenhaus visited with her son, **Gerald**, and his wife, **Ardine**, and their children, **Nickie**, **Stacey** and **Holly** in Or-

ange, Texas...

Gilbert Corella of Eagle Lake was among the students on the College of Fine Arts of The University of Texas 1982 spring semester honor roll...

Justino Moreno, son of **Mr. and Mrs. John Moreno** of Eagle Lake, was among those graduating from Wyoming Technical Institute at the 122nd Consecutive commencement exercises held in Laramie Wyoming, June 26...

Bridget Baird, daughter of **David and Carolyn Baird** was honored at a party on the occasion of her third birthday. The theme for the party was "Tom and Jerry".

Aug. 7, 1958

Jim Clipson harvested the first 1958 rice crop Tuesday bringing in 900 barrels of rice...

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Payne are the proud parents of a son, **David Lee**, born July 31 in Laughlin Hospital...

Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Beane, Jr. announced the birth of a daughter, **Lisa Gail**, born July 28...

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Malina and daughter were surprised with a housewarming party July 29 at their new home, the former Percy Middlebrook on State Street...

Eagle Lake Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary Clubs, Little League baseball players, managers and fathers brought the little league baseball season to a close with a banquet at the Eagle Lake Community Center. **Bruce Waddell** was elected chairman for the

1959 summer baseball program and **Dick Obenhaus**, co-chairman...

Judy Meitzen, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Bob Meitzen**, was honored by her mother with a swimming party on the occasion of her seventh birthday July 30...

Vollie Burris, 65, of Rock Island passed away at her home, July 22...

Marine Sgt. Jose A. Salazar, son of **Mr. and Mrs. Eusebio Salazar** of Eagle Lake is serving with the 12th Regiment, Third Marine Division Camp Hauge, Okinawa...

Billie Rees and **John Engstrom**, both of Garwood, attended the Young People's Camp at Ker-ville...

Mr. and Mrs. H.L. Parker of Eagle Lake announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, **July Lee**, to **Oscar Jackson Duncan** of Sweeny. They plan an August 23 wedding...

Russell Davis, son of **Mrs. E.E. Davis**, celebrated his fourth birthday with a party at his home July 16...

The Rev. and Mrs. Wayne Barnes proudly announced the arrival of a baby girl, **Eberly Gail**, born July 17 in Wharton...

Miss Lucien Harrison, Mrs. Jessie Graham and **Mrs. Ruth May**, members of the Eagle Lake Elementary faculty, spent three days at Fairbanks, Texas attending a Phonics Reading Course.

Goodman Fighting For Alternative Fuel

National Rail Consultants, LLC of Granbury, Texas and CTI Biofuels of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania have signed an agreement to build twenty biodiesel plants in rural Texas over the next three years. CTI Biofuels has partnered with the Carnegie Mellon Institute to introduce cutting-edge microwave technology for the production of biodiesel from agricultural products.

These high-tech, modular plants can be installed and operational in six months and can produce anywhere from five million to one hundred million gallons per year depending on the available feedstock.

National Rail Consultants, LLC and BioCatters, LLC, of Aledo, Texas have formed a joint-venture, **AgroFire, LLC**, of Aledo, Texas, to bring AgroFire plants into operation using CTI Biofuels technology. The Texas Alliance of Rail Districts is providing its vast expertise in rail and rail districts to aid AgroFire in the selection of sites throughout Texas.

In addition, this same team of companies has been working with **Integrated Mills Solutions, LLC**, of Aledo, Texas, and **BBI International** of Colorado to compile feasibility studies for building ethanol plants throughout Texas.

These firms have all the experience and resources to assure the long-term success of these plants.

They are currently scouting rural Texas for locations having long-term supplies of quality feedstocks and adequate distribution systems, assisted by Agricultural Commissioner, **Susan Combs**.

State Representative **Toby Goodman** was actively involved in helping to bring CTI biofuels

to the State of Texas. Additionally, Representative Goodman supports the Rural Rail Districts, and is spearheading legislation that will help rural counties obtain financing to form rural rail districts.

These funds are crucial for the counties to remain competitive in the alternative fuels race.

Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, **Tom Craddick** is supportive of the developments. "Texas is quickly becoming the home of alternative energy production and experimentation. Representative Goodman's leadership in assembling this consortium is a positive development

for the environment and for the energy industry in Texas," stated Speaker Craddick.

Robby Cook, State Representative of District 17 and Chair of the Rural Caucus, also supports these developments. "This is a win-win for Rural Texas," said Representative Cook. "The project energizes the rural economy and job market while promoting a cleaner environment. Rural farmers will certainly benefit from the opportunity to sell abundant crops that might otherwise go to waste. As Chair of the Rural Caucus, I applaud Representative Goodman for his efforts."

CALL CRIME STOPPERS IT PAYS REWARDS

Crimestoppers Offers Reward For Threat

Shortly before 6:30 p.m., Saturday, June 17, 2006, an employee at UTex was confronted, in the foyer of the UTex building by an unknown white male. The white male was inquisitive about UTex and then told an employee that UTex would blow up in about four (4) hours. The white male was described as being approximately 30 to 33 years old, tall, clean shaven with sandy blonde medium length hair. He was last seen getting into a newer model white Ford Expedition type vehicle.

If you have any information about these crimes, or any other

felony crime, call Colorado County Crime Stoppers, toll free at 1-866-522-TIPS (1-866-522-8477). You never have to give your name and if your information leads to an arrest and charges being filed on the criminal, you could earn up to a \$1,000 reward.

In addition, if your tip leads to a Conviction, UTex will give an additional \$2,000 reward.

Colorado County Crime Stoppers, citizens, law enforcement and the media, are working together to make our community a safer place to live. Together, we can make a difference.

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