

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT



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Candidates Lay Down Their Stance On TAKS Testing

Now that the kids are back in school, gubernatorial candidates are talking about what they would do to improve education.

Candidates focused on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, or TAKS.

Incumbent Republican Gov. Rick Perry seems to be saying TAKS matches the curriculum, things are fine the way they are, and stick with the program.

Democrat Chris Bell said TAKS should be a diagnostic tool to help schools get an idea of students' academic strengths and weaknesses, but not to be the keystone to public education in Texas.

Independent candidate Kinky Friedman has one of the bolder ideas, which would be to kill TAKS, the test students must pass to advance at intervals in the elementary and secondary grades, and finally, to graduate.

State Comptroller Carole

Keeton Strayhorn, also running as an independent, wants kids to take TAKS at the beginning of the school year rather than at the end, so teachers can get an early assessment and make needed adjustments.

She also wants to give teachers a \$4,000 a year raise, bring back a \$1,000 health care stipend taken away by the Legislature and offer high school graduates tuition-free junior college.

Plans Made for Nuclear Plants

Dallas-based TXU Corp. on Aug. 31 announced plans to build one to three new nuclear power plants in Texas.

TXU will file applications for the plants with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for licenses that would allow the company to produce two to six gigawatts of power generation capacity at the sites.

The applications will be filed

by 2008, and if approved, the power plants would be up and running between 2015 and 2020, according to a company news release.

Part of the plan is to increase capacity at the Comanche Peak nuclear power plant near Glen Rose.

Students' Math Scores Improve

Students improved their math scores but received lower reading scores this year on the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the Texas Education Agency announced in an Aug. 29 news release.

"The average math score of the 129,784 Texas students enrolled in public and private schools who took the SAT was 506 out of a possible 800. That compares to a score for Texans of 502 in 2005.

"While the Texas score showed improvement, it fell short of the national average math score

of 518. Nationally, math scores dropped two points in 2006," the TEA said.

New Biodiesel Plant to Open

This month, Hawaii-based Pacific Biodiesel Inc. is bringing online Willie Nelson's vision: a biodiesel fuel plant in Carl's Corner, the truckstop about 60 miles south of Dallas.

The plant will process locally produced cottonseed oil and used cooking oil to make the fuel, B20. The plant is designed to make three million gallons of B20 a year.

Nelson has long promoted biodiesel as a way to reduce the nation's dependency on fossil fuels and to create a new revenue stream for family farms.

Drought Relief Loans To Come

Texas will get a share of a \$780

million pot the U.S. Department of Agriculture will divide up to give farmers drought relief.

But Texas' share won't be much compared with the \$4 billion in crop and livestock losses this year in the Lone Star State.

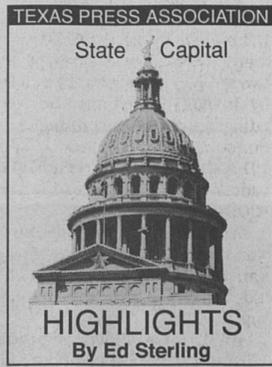
Relief will come to qualified farmers and ranches in the form of low-interest loans capped at \$500,000.

Best Behavior Urged For Drivers

The Texas Department of Public Safety planned to have officers out in force over the long Labor Day weekend.

No one can afford a ticket for drunken driving: the penalty is a fine of up to \$10,000 and up to 20 years in jail.

Last year, DPS troopers arrested 751 people for driving while intoxicated during the Labor Day weekend.



AG Launches Anti-Violence Effort

Attorney General Greg Abbott and the Texas Council on Family Violence launched the public awareness program "Red Flags: Know When to Raise Them."

The program is offered to "help young Texans form healthy relationships by learning to detect and deter date-related violence."

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

September 9, 1982

Lenhart Matula of Eagle Lake, a member of the Nada Catholic Life branch, received special recognition at an awards luncheon during Catholic Life Insurance Union's 78th Statewide Convention...

This year the Mighty Raider Band has included in its halftime activities a spectacular new attraction the Raider Flag Corps. Members are Debbie Kretschmer, Valerie Bengel, Rhonda Young, Vicky Hernandez, Sharri Webb, Leslie Heard, Ana Ugarte and Sonia Hernandez...

Steve B. Epps, son of Retired Col. and Mrs. Lewis B. Epps of Eagle Lake, received an undergraduate degree in Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University...

Miss Florine Oltman, a former librarian at Eagle Lake High School, passed away in an Austin Hospital on Sept. 2...

Michael Gregory Lanier of Garwood was among the students awarded degrees from Sam Houston State University...

Leo Martin Korenek, 82, lifelong resident of the Nada area, passed away Sept. 2...

Jeremiah Henry, 7-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Greg Henry was bitten by a snake while playing with some other youngsters in the yard at their home in Lissie. Jeremiah had a short stay in the Eagle Lake Community

Hospital...

Funeral services for Robert Lee Finney Jr., 31, of Eagle Lake, were held Sept. 1 from Mill-Bauer Funeral Home...

Being entertained by several families in Eagle Lake are Paul and Dottie Barnes of Torreguardario, Spain, who are the guests of Ron and Betty Janow...

Alma Lenore Sanders, 91, former long-time resident of Eagle Lake, passed away Aug. 28 in Taft, Texas...

Labor Day weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. Meitzen, Jr. were his uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Jordan and their daughter, Rose Mary Jordan of Laredo...

Get well wishes were extended to Mrs. Dorothy Breithaupt who

has been in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital since Thursday for back and neck treatments...

Weekend visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stacy Mueller and Stacie Marie were his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Larry A.B. Mueller and Jim of Austin...

Michaelanne Hefner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hefner of Garwood, was chosen to perform with the celebrated Wharton County Junior College dance troupe in Wharton...

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lesak announced the birth of a son, Kyle Matthew, born July 16 in Webster.

September 18, 1958

Floyd Trammell received a check for \$47.14 from W.E. Lenhart, president of the First Na-

tional Bank in Eagle Lake, for having won the money guessing contest. He missed the amount by only two cents...

Eagle Lake Eagles travel to Weimar Friday after a good scrap with Louise. Eagles lost 30-12...

Mr. and Mrs. K.R. Szymanski, announced the arrival of a baby girl, Penny Lynn, born September 11 in Laughlin Hospital...

Garwood Gars whipped the Lexington Eagles 30 to 14, hosts Bay City B team Thursday...

Sheridan Broncos fell to Van Vleck 12 to 6, hosts Wallis Friday...

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Ashby proudly announced the arrival of a baby girl, Judy Kay, born September 15 in Laughlin Hospital.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO SNORES?

Studies show that approximately 65 million Americans snore. If you know someone who snores, you're not alone.

Most people snore because during sleep, the lower jaw relaxes, falls back and blocks the airway. The TheraSnore oral appliance is the painless way to keep your lower jaw from falling back, therefore keeping the airway open.

With the airway open, you get more air, thus eliminating or greatly reducing the snoring noise. Your dentist can tell you if you're a good candidate for the Adjustable TheraSnore.

If you are, you can look forward to sleeping in silent comfort. Perhaps, you have a loved one who snores and keeps you awake. Again, with the Adjustable TheraSnore you can look forward to a quiet night of sleep.

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CALL CRIME STOPPERS IT PAYS REWARDS

Crimestoppers Offers Reward For Trailer Theft

Between Sunday, August 13 at approximately 6 p.m. and Thursday, August 17 at approximately 8 p.m. suspect(s) unknown, stole a travel trailer from a parking lot in the 400 block of Gen Flora Road. The trailer is described as a 30-foot Gulfstream Cavalier bearing Texas Plate 222L5h. The trailer is white with blue and gold trim and

is equipped with a ball hitch.

If you have any information about this crime, or any other felony crime, call Colorado County Crime Stoppers, toll free at 1-866-522-TIPS (1-866-522-8477). Or, in an immediate emergency situation, you can notify your local law enforcement agency.

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.

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.

4-H Shooting Club Getting Started

The Columbus Area 4-H Shooting Sports Club will sponsor a rifle, pistol, and shotgun shooting project sign up beginning at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, at the Columbus High School Cafeteria.

The shooting project is open to boys and girls, ages eight-nine years old, and in the third grade, through 18 years old, throughout Colorado County.

Attendance at the first meeting is recommended, as this

is a sign up meeting. Both the participants and parents should attend. A shooting schedule will be determined as well. A \$1 fee will be charged for insurance that all participants are required to take.

There will be a second meeting, at the Columbus High School Cafeteria, Monday, Sept. 18 to cover basic firearm safety for all three disciplines. Here the safety equipment needed will be discussed.

Live rifle instruction and participant shooting will begin on Sunday, Sept. 24. Participants will shoot once each week for 6 weeks, under the supervision and instruction of certified rifle coaches serving as volunteer 4-H leaders.

For more information, contact the county extension office at 979-732-2530, 732-9498 or 979-733-4374.

TERRORISTS BEWARE!

THERE'S NO ESCAPING THE WEIGHT OF THIS DATE ...

Grand Opening

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September 11, 2006

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