

**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**

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**State Budget Bill Goes To Conference Committee**

AUSTIN - The Texas House of Representatives on April 17 refused to accept Senate amendments to House Bill 1, the proposed state budget for 2008-2009. Differences in the House and

Senate versions of the \$150 billion budget will have to be worked out in a 10-member conference committee.

Speaker Tom Craddick, R-Midland, named the five House appointees to the conference com-

mittee: Reps. Warren Chisum R-Pampa; Ryan Guillen, D-San Diego; Sylvester Turner, D-Houston; Dan Gattis, R-Georgetown; and Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham.

Four floor motions to instruct conferees to go into the negotiations with certain non-negotiable points were voted down by the full House. Chisum thanked members for voting down the motions, saying he thought it better to proceed "without tipping your hand."

Senate members had not been named to the conference panel as of press time for this column.

The Legislative Budget Board's pie chart of the Senate version shows education getting 36.6 percent of the budget, health and human services getting 31.6 percent, and the remaining one-third of the budget going to all other functions, including, for example, business and economic development, property tax relief and public safety and criminal justice.

**House approves handgun bill**

The House passed HB 991 by Patrick Rose, D-Dripping Springs, legislation that would make the names of concealed handgun license holders confidential.

Current law allows a requestor to give the Department of Public Safety another person's name and find out if that person holds a Texas concealed handgun license.

Advocates of the legislation say it's nobody's business who has a license. Opponents say it's a matter of personal safety to be able to find out who might be carrying a concealed handgun.

The measure now moves to the Senate for consideration.

If HB 991 becomes law, concealed handgun licenses will be the only confidential state-issued licenses.

**Senate amends loan program**

The Senate on April 18 passed legislation amending the forgiveness part of the Texas B-On-Time Loan Program.

SB 1496 by Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, would allow students who graduate within five years from an eligible four-year institution with at least a 2.5 grade point average to have 50 percent of their education loan forgiven.

In 2003, Zaffirini's SB 4 created the B-On-Time Loan Program, providing Texas students with a zero-interest higher education

loan. Under the program, students are required to graduate with a 3.0 GPA within four years for a four-year degree or within five years for a five-year degree to have 100 percent of their loans forgiven.

**Senate passes redistricting bill**

Legislation by Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, would require congressional redistricting to be determined by a bipartisan panel appointed by the House, Senate and governor's office.

The Senate passed SB 1068 by Wentworth on April 16, and it has moved to the House for further consideration.

Until the recent, mid-decade redistricting, lines were redrawn every 10 years.

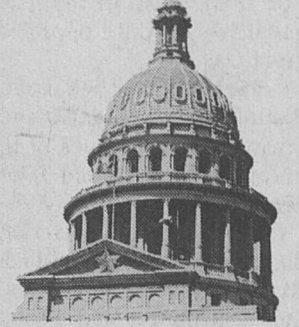
Supporters of the bill say if the redistricting task is in the hands of a special commission, it would free up the Legislature to work on other important law-making. Opponents say moving district boundaries is a job the full House and full Senate should keep.

**House passes record votes bill**

The House approved House Joint Resolution 19, authored

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State Capital



**HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Ed Sterling

by Rep. Dan Branch, R-Dallas, requiring each legislator's final votes on legislation to be recorded and available for public view on the Internet.

The measure has moved to the Senate for consideration. If it passes, Texans will have the opportunity on Nov. 7 to cast a yes or no vote on HJR 19, along with other proposed amendments to the state constitution.

**Flags fly at half staff for V-Tech**

Gov. Rick Perry directed that flags be flown at half-staff to honor the lives of the victims of the April 16 shootings at Virginia Tech. The governor's directive was effective April 17 through sunset on April 22.

On May 12 Vote For  
**SHIRLEY COMPTON**  
 Write-In Candidate For  
 Eagle Lake City Council  
 Political ad paid for by Shirley Compton, Treasurer.

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

**April 28, 1983**  
 Catholic life insurance union is proud to announce that Lenhart Matula of Eagle Lake has been named a "Twelve Apostle" an outstanding sales representative for 1982...

**Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stauffer** of Rockdale announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter **Robbie Gail**, to **Billy Carl Breithaupt** of Rockdale, son of Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Breithaupt...

**Becky Bengel**, ex Rice High School cheerleader has been chosen to pioneer cheerleading squad 83-84 at WCJC in Wharton announced Etta Mayfield sponsor...

Three year old **Christie Cranek** celebrated her third birthday Friday April 12 with a party at her home in Garwood from 3-5 p.m. Her parents **Gary and Marla Cranek**, hosted the event...

**Mrs. E.H. Breithaupt** was in Rockdale on Monday evening, April 18, to attend a miscellaneous bridal shower honoring **Miss Robbie Stauffer**, bride-elect to **Billy Breithaupt**...

**Bill Taylor**, medical technician for the Eagle Lake Hospital, passed away in a boating accident near Palacios last Friday. Funeral services were held Tuesday at 2 p.m. in the Miller-Bauer Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. **Charles Runk** officiating...

**Mary J. Berna** passed away last Tuesday in the Eagle Lake

Community Hospital after a lengthy illness. She had been residing at the Heritage House Nursing Home. Services were held last Thursday at 2 p.m. in Aransas Pass in the Marshall Funeral Home with **Dr. Clifford Taylor** officiating. Interment followed at Prairie View Cemetery...

**April 30, 1959**  
**Miss Barbara Reese**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R.H. Reese, Jr. of Eagle Lake, was named winner of a Bathing Beauty Review held in conjunction with Splash Day activities at Matagorda last weekend. She also won the right to compete in the Splash Day Bathing Beauty Review in Galveston on May 3...

**Miss Ruby Matthews**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Matthews of Eagle Lake, won the high honor of becoming Eagle Lake's first Future Homemaking student to win the highly coveted State Homemaking Degree. Ruby won the degree at the state meeting of Future Homemakers in Dallas on April 24...

**J.W. Dobson**, city manager, will end his tour of duty with the city today to accept a position in West Columbia. Still no replacement has been found, but applications are being screened...

Last rites were held for **Mrs. Paul Tulane Gordon** at 2 p.m. Monday at the Colly Memorial Methodist Church with **Rev. Leslie A. McDaniel** officiating and interment in Masonic Cemetery.

**Mrs. Gordon** passed away at the age of 83 on April 26 in Laughlin Hospital...

**Curtis Laughlin**, the boy's defending champion, successfully defended his title by defeating his title by defeating **Gerald Clipson 3-2** in the finals and **E.J. Parma**

defeated **F.E. Niblett** to win the second flight championship and will meet with the winner of the first flight. **John Carroll** and **Clyde Brown** will play this week for the first flight championship and the chance to play against **E.J. Parma**...

**Rice Med Celebrating Lab Professionals Week**

Rice Medical Center's Laboratory is celebrating National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week, April 22-28.

This year's theme is "The People Behind the Results-Quality Care from Quality Professionals"

"The testing performed by our lab techs is instrumental in diagnosis of diseases, assisting patients to help prevent progression of disease and monitoring treatments," states **Janice Harbich**, RMC Laboratory Director.

Much of the laboratory work is performed behind the scenes with most people knowing little about the work celebration in America with the celebration now spreading around the world.

American laboratory professionals are now involved in performing laboratory training in Africa and South American countries severely affected by HIV/AIDS.

Currently, there are shortages in the field with difficulties in recruitment and hiring of medical

laboratory personnel. What we also are promoting in our recognition of our laboratory professionals is that everyone's health depends on laboratories being staffed with quality professionals providing quality care," states **Janice Harbich**, Lab Director.

RMC laboratory staff consists of **Janice Harbich, MA, MT, (ASCP)**, Laboratory Director, **Barbara Pidgeon, MT (HEW)**, **Leah Thompson, MT (ASCP)**, **Brenda Downing, MLT (ASCP)**, **Heather Groce, MLT (ASCP)**, **Dara Epley, MLT**, and **Karen Hargrove, Phlebotomist**.

The American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) received a congratulatory letter from President Bush for the fifth consecutive year regarding "Lab Week" thanking medical laboratory professionals for their skill and dedication stating, "Your efforts reflect the compassionate spirit of America and help improve the health of people throughout the country."

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**Antibiotics: Main Treatment for Lyme Disease**

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection transmitted by deer ticks. In the US, the Northeast, upper Midwest, and northern California are the areas most heavily affected by this condition. Asia and Europe also are affected by Lyme disease. The condition may cause flu-like symptoms, neurological problems, joint pain, and rash. The rash typically appears within several days to a month at the site of the bite. The redness associated with the bite expands over the next few days, eventually resembling a bull's eye type pattern, with a red center surrounded by a clear area with a red ring around the area. The affected area may vary in size from a dime to up to twelve inches across.

The specific bacteria carried by deer ticks which causes Lyme disease is *Borrelia burgdorferi*. Oral antibiotics are the standard treatment for early-stage Lyme disease in children and adults. For those older than eight years of age, *doxycycline* is usually the antibiotic prescribed. *Cefuroxime axetil* is another antibiotic that may be prescribed for younger children, as well as adults. Typically, an antibiotic treatment course ranges from 10 to 21 days, which is usually sufficient for treatment as well as prevention of complications. For more advanced forms of Lyme disease, intravenous antibiotics may be necessary for 2 to 4 weeks.

**Sheriff's Softball Game Raises Over \$500**

This thank you is extended to everyone that attended the "Guns and Hoses" Softball tournament that was hosted by **Curly's Crazy Striped Outlaws** on April 15.

Over five hundred dollars was raised between admission charges, drawing and concession stand, which will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

The Colorado County Sheriff's Office wants to extend a heartfelt

thank you to all organizations, businesses and individuals that helped by participating, donating or contributing in one way or another. We would also like to thank all the law enforcement officers and firefighters that participated by playing in the tournament.

Thanks from Sheriff **Curly Wied** and the Staff at the Colorado County Sheriff's Office

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