

**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**

Division of Beal Publications, LLC • (USPS 163-760)  
 P.O. Box 67 - 220 East Main  
 CITY OF EAGLE LAKE, TEXAS 77434-0067  
 979-234-5521 • Fax: 979-234-5522  
 email: eaglelakeheadlight@sbeiglobal.net  
 Published Weekly-Every Thursday



The Eagle Lake Headlight reserves the right to reject, edit or omit editorial content and/or advertisement for any reason in order to conform to the paper's policy.

**Produced and Distributed By:**

James Sweet  
 Carol Cardenas • Doug Beal  
 Donna Samora

**Advertising and News Deadline: 5 P.M. Monday**  
**Subscription Rates**

Colorado County (including Lissie & Egypt) .....	\$15.50
Fayette, Lavaca, Wharton & Austin Counties .....	\$17.00
Other Texas Residents .....	\$18.50
Outside of Texas; Inside U.S. ....	\$20.00

**Single Copy Price : 50¢**  
 Second class postage paid at Eagle Lake, Texas

**Address Corrections**  
 should be sent to P.O. Box 67  
 Eagle Lake, Texas 77434-0067

**Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri-8-5 Wed-10-3**

**Voters Approve Tax Relief Amendment For Seniors, Disabled**

AUSTIN — Texas voters approved Senate Joint Reso-lution 13 in the May 12 election.

Unofficial results available May 13 revealed the statewide turnout was only 7 percent, with 88 percent of the voters casting ballots in favor of the resolution.

SJR 13 amends the state constitution to authorize the Legislature to adjust the public school ad valorem tax or tax rates for taxpayers who are aged 65 or older, or are disabled, and who are owners of an exempted homestead.

The change benefits older or disabled taxpayers who did not receive tax relief as a result of the school tax rate reduction passed a year ago in the 79th Legislature, 3rd called session.

**Gov threatens special session**

The bill the Texas House and Senate passed enacting a two-year moratorium on private toll road projects landed on Gov. Rick Perry's desk May 7.

The legislation, HB 1892 authored by Rep. Wayne Smith,

R-Baytown, and sponsored by Sen. Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, puts Perry's Trans Texas Corridor on ice but grants powers to certain county and regional tollway authorities. Those entities would have first option in building projects within their jurisdictions.

Perry said the moratorium is not what bothers him the most about the bill.

The big issues, he said, are potential loss of federal funding and the wording of the bill, which he said would adversely affect the Texas Department of Transportation's contracting and oversight responsibilities. A letter from the Federal Highway Administration raises those questions.

Perry suggested lawmakers reconsider and rework the bill before the end of the current session. He hinted that the alternative to that would be a veto and then a special session.

**House passes TYC reform bill**

The House on May 7 tentatively approved legislation to

overhaul the Texas Youth Commission, which earlier this year was put in conservatorship after reports surfaced of sexual abuse of inmates and fiscal mismanagement at the agency.

SB 103 by Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, D-McAllen, is crafted to enhance transparency of its operations, prosecute offenses committed within the agency, and improve the hiring practices of guards.

The bill's House sponsor, Rep. Jerry Madden, R-Richardson, said, "The abuse and poor performance identified at the TYC cannot be allowed to continue. This bill reforms the structure, management and oversight of the commission to provide true rehabilitation, not just the punitive warehousing that characterizes the system today."

In related news, Will Harrell, executive director of the Texas chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, was named ombudsman for the TYC, contingent on passage of SB 103. His job will be to evaluate and secure youths' rights.

**Agency would send border funds**

The House on May 7 passed its version of the border security bill.

HB 13 by Rep. David Swinford, R-Dumas, creates a border security council to oversee distribution of more than \$100 million to border law enforcement agencies.

Swinford's bill encourages cities and counties to cooperate with federal agencies in immigration matters.

The bill also provides for a study to evaluate expedited deportation of illegal immigrants held in state jails and prisons for criminal offenses.

Speaker Tom Craddick said, "This is one of the most important pieces of legislation that we will pass this session as it affects the safety of every citizen of this state and country."

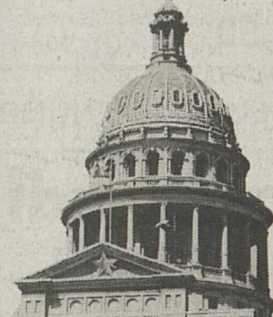
The bill moves to the Senate for further consideration.

**Bill ties teacher raise to tax relief**

Also moving to the Senate for further consideration is HB 2785,

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

State Capital



**HIGHLIGHTS**  
 By Ed Sterling

legislation reducing the school property tax rate to 91 cents per \$100 valuation in the 2008-2009 biennium.

An amendment to HB 2785 by Rep. Jim Dunnam, D-Waco, prevents the state from reducing property taxes further without giving school districts and open-enrollment charter schools an amount equivalent to \$6,000 for every full-time teacher, librarian and counselor.

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who presides over the Senate, said Dunnam's amendment "tacks on \$4.4 billion in other costs which would likely gut tax relief that we promised Texans last year."

**INSULATED GLASS REPLACEMENT WINDOWS**

*We replace any window in any type of house with no mess!*

**BRICK, WOOD, STUCCO, CONCRETE BLOCK**

Custom made to fit your openings

*Reduce high utility bills, high levels of noise, dust, pollen, all painting and high maintenance*

**CALL 1-800-342-7306 NOW!**

**NEEDVILLE CONSTRUCTION**

9105 Main St. • Needville, Texas

Free Estimates • 100% Financing • Senior Discounts

*Let's Look Back...*

**24 & 48 YEARS AGO**

**May 19, 1983**

Mrs. Roy Shoop attended the first birthday party of her great grandson, Justin Roy Lopez, at his grandparents home, Norma and Buck Jackson in Port Lavaca, April 23...

Funeral services for Alabell Warren were held Saturday at 2 p.m. from the Dulany Funeral Home with Rev. Bill Couvillion of Lissie of United Methodist Church officiating...

Anna Catherine Holman, 65, passed away in Honolulu, Hawaii on May 3...

Mrs. Robert Wilcox, Mrs. Micheal Henry and Miss Melissa Wilcox were hostesses for a delightful Bridemaids luncheon on April 16, at 11:30 a.m. honoring Miss Susan Spalinger and bridesmaids Miss Janelle Bauer, Miss Deborah Phillips, Ms. Cynthia Hall and Mrs. Allan Needles, II...

Miss Cynthia Gail Stapleton and Eric Charles Broussard were united in marriage on April 30 at the First Baptist Church at Katy...

Mrs. Eric Charles Broussard, formerly Cindy Stapleton, was honored with a miscellaneous bridal shower at the home of Mrs. Aulton Kingsley the morning of May 14...

The lovely country home of Mrs. Hilda Brandt near Weimar

was the setting for a miscellaneous bridal shower honoring Miss Robbie Gail Stauffer of Rockdale, bride to be of Billy Breithaupt of Rockdale, on Saturday, May 14.

**May 21, 1959**

Al Marx, Jr. son of Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Marx of this city, was named "Soldier of the Month" for his company at the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama...

Gerald Birdwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Birdwell, and a junior at Eagle Lake High School, has received notice of his appointment to attend a five-week J&N Memorial Mathematics Seminar at the Southern Methodist University from June 7-10...

Miss Sandra Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thomas, an Eagle Lake High School senior was honored at a buffet supper at Marvin's May 11...

Miss Wanda Davis, daughter of Mrs. Irene Davis and a popular member of the senior class, was honored with a wiener roast and sock hop Monday evening given by Mrs. E.M Sparks, Mrs. Bert Larmer, Jr. and Mrs. Fred R. Frnka at the Frnka home.

Little Miss Dana Wiese, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Wiese, has been chosen as the mascot for the Eagle Lake High School Pep Squad for 1959-60...

Mrs. A.L. Baring and Miss Lora Baring returned home last

weekend from a pleasant vacation visit with relatives in Stony Creek, Virginia. They also visited in Williamsburg, Va., and enjoyed a trip to Washington D.C....

Mrs. Maurice Harris is now the manager of the Bob-In Grocery, located on East Main Street. She succeeds Jack Ray manager of the firm by Mrs. C. Ray of Katy...

Billy Meitzen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Meitzen, celebrated his fourth birthday with a party given by his mother Saturday, May 16 at his home...

Final rites were held for J.B. Barker, long time resident of Eagle Lake, May 14 from the Mill-Bauer Funeral Home with interment in Lakeside Cemetery.

**Colorado County Sheriff's Report**

The Colorado County Sheriff's Department reported the following call and cases for the period ending April 26.

**Friday, April 13**

At 8:10 am, Deputy Pflughaupt responded to CR 213 in reference to fence damage. A vehicle description was obtained and the case is pending further information on the possible suspect(s).

**Saturday, April 14**

At 5:24 pm, Deputy Pflughaupt initiated a traffic stop on Hwy 71 and CR 102. After further investigation, Jeronimo Zavala-Juarez, 22 of Columbus, was arrested for No Driver's License.

At 11:02 pm, Deputy Hoffer responded to Hwy 90 and CR 210 in reference to a vehicle shot with paint ball guns. After further investigation, one suspect was identified and issued a citation for Criminal Mischief. Case closed.

**Sunday, April 15**

At 12:18 am, Deputy Staff responded to Hwy 71 west of Columbus in reference to a reckless driver. The suspect vehicle was located on Hwy 71 near FM 1890. After further investigation, Andre Levarr Driver, 23 of Houston, was arrested for Driving While License Invalid and No Insurance. Case closed.

At 2:27 am, Deputy Staff located guardrail damage on FM 102 at the IH-10 north service road. The Texas Department of Transportation was notified about the damage and a report was filed.

Case is pending further information on possible suspect(s).

At 4 am, Deputy Staff and Deputy Hoffer responded to Hwy 71 south in Nada in reference to a disturbance. On arrival, the incident was determined to be a motor vehicle accident and the Highway Patrol was notified. The occupants of the vehicle were treated for injuries by EMS and the case was turned over to DPS for further investigation.

At 6 pm, Sgt. Girndt responded to a residence on Weido Loop in reference to a dog bite. The victim was bitten by a family dog that was current on all vaccinations. A report was filed and the case is closed.

At 9:40 pm, Sgt. Girndt responded to the Rice Medical Center in reference to a stabbing, which occurred on Calhoun Road near Hwy 90A west of Eagle Lake. On arrival, the victim was undergoing treatment for a stab wound and was later transferred to Houston for possible internal injuries. There is one suspect. Case is pending further investigation.

At 11:47 pm, Deputy Staff responded to Bernardo Road in reference to an Assault. On arrival, the suspect was gone and the victim declined to pursue charges. The victim only knew the suspect by first name. The victim was treated on scene by EMS. A report was filed and the case is closed.

**Monday, April 16**

At 5:28 am, Deputy Savino responded to a residence on Schulenburg Lane in reference to a small structure fire. The Columbus Volunteer Fire Department responded and extinguished the fire. There was no damage to the residence. Case closed.

At 9:11 am, Deputy Savino responded to a business in Sheridan in reference to trash piled behind the building. After further investigation, one subject was issued a Public Nuisance Warning. Case is pending compliance within 30 days.

At 9:12 am, Deputy Savino responded to Tait Ranch Road in reference to a Burglary. On arrival, evidence was collected and a description of stolen property was obtained. After further investigation, the majority of stolen property was recovered at several residences in Columbus and the suspect was identified. A warrant was obtained and the case is pending apprehension.

At 11:24 am, Deputy Mieth responded to Daley Lane north of Columbus in reference to a possible civil matter and Criminal Mischief. A report was filed and the case is pending further information.

At 1:50 pm, Deputy Mieth responded to a residence on Center Street in Alleyton in reference to a suspected person. On arrival, the suspect was located, at which

*Continued on next page*

**ATTENTION**

**Parents of Graduates**  
 We invite you to show everyone how far your baby has come!

For just \$12.75 we will run the baby picture of your graduate

or

For just \$21 we will run the baby picture and graduation picture of your child.

All photos will appear in the Graduation Issue, May 31. Other sizes also available.

*You've Come a Long Way Baby!*

Jane Doe - 2007 - Rice High School



Congratulations! Love, Mom & Dad

*You've Come a Long Way Baby!*



Jane Doe  
 2007 Graduate  
 Rice High School  
 Congratulations!  
 Love, Mom & Dad

Deadline is May 25

Call or Come By  
 Eagle Lake Headlight  
 979-234-5521

**Lighthouse Reader Awards Given**

By Judith Jarvis  
 The Lighthouse Reading Enrichment Program ended its first year with an awards event to reward readers who met or exceeded participation and performance goals. Each participant who missed no more than three practices per semester and achieved mastery of current grade level vocabulary words plus one grade above were awarded summer fun cash incentives, Season Swimming Passes to the Eagle Lake Municipal Swimming Pool and \$50 in their name to be

deposited in the Lighthouse Youth College Fund.

Winner of the outstanding achievement trophy for 2006-2007 is Top Star third grader Jesus Vargas. Jesus started the year practicing his mandatory "previous grade review" at second grade level and ended the term the first reader to meet or exceed mastery of grade level plus one. Young Master Vargas now reads and correctly pronounces words at a fifth grade level with 100% accuracy at a speed well below the target time of 40 seconds per page.

Top Reader awards for mastery of all expected performance and participation goals were also presented to: 3<sup>rd</sup> grader Jeffery Samaniego; 6<sup>th</sup> grader Jason Samaniego; 6<sup>th</sup> grader Demarcus Tillman; and 7<sup>th</sup> grader Paige Zarate.

All told, The Lighthouse Reading Enrichment Program touched the lives of over 50 Eagle Lake youth this first year. All who joined the group demonstrated improved reading skills, even those who chose to drop out. At

*Continued on page 11*