

**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**

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979-234-5521 • Fax: 979-234-5522  
email: eaglelakeheadlight@sbcglobal.net  
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**Produced and Distributed By:**

James Sweet  
Carol Cardenas • Doug Beal  
Donna Samora

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# Perry Vetoes House Version Of Toll Road Legislation

AUSTIN - On May 18 Gov. Rick Perry vetoed HB 1892, legislation that would have preserved local control over toll road projects in the North Texas and Houston regions and placed a two-year

moratorium on the governor's massive new toll road plan.

Perry wants a bill that will centralize control through the Texas Department of Transportation. TxDOT would execute his Trans

Corridor plan, a statewide matrix of toll road projects to be built and run by Zachry, a San Antonio-based firm, and Cintra, a Spanish company.

In his explanation of the veto, Perry said HB 1892 "jeopardizes billions of dollars of infrastructure investment and invites a potentially significant reduction in federal transportation funding."

"Projects important to fast-growth communities would be placed on hold without alternative financing mechanisms to get them constructed. Even more egregiously, the bill serves to break up the state highway system by permitting local control over state assets," Perry said.

Perry's hopes are now pinned to SB 792, a bill similar to HB 1892 but amended to address highway infrastructure issues in a manner more acceptable to him. The House passed SB 792 with amendments. The Senate did not concur with the House amendments, so the bill will be considered by a conference committee.

The governor has threatened to call a special session if the final version of the bill doesn't suit him.

## Little time left to deal with bills

Countdown to the May 28 end of the 80th regular session of the Texas Legislature is in single digits.

Various deadlines governing the fate of bills come almost daily. There is competition to get bills placed on House and Senate floor calendars before it's too late.

## Keffer files to run for speaker

Beyond the bubbling vat of bills is a race for speakership of the House. Rep. Jim Keffer, R-Eastland, on May 15 announced his intention to challenge standing Speaker Tom Craddick, R-Midland, for that high office. Keffer suggested three terms are enough for anyone to be speaker. Craddick is completing his third term.

But Craddick, 63, made it plain he wants a fourth term, putting to rest any speculation that he feels like he has had enough time on the rollercoaster. His wife approves. "I have talked to Nadine and I fully intend to run for speaker. The paperwork was already filed last February," Craddick said.

The announcement by Keffer means a long campaign to wage

until the 2009 session. And, it is likely Keffer won't be the only House member challenging

Craddick. Names that come easily to mind are Reps. Jim Pitts, R-Waxahachie, and Brian McCall, R-Plano.

Pitts and McCall already attempted to unseat Craddick at the beginning of the present session. They could try again.

## Jessica's Law heads to governor

The House and Senate agreed to compromise language on HB 8, "Jessica's Law" legislation enacting new charges and tougher penalties for sexually violent acts against children younger than 14.

The bill, by Rep. Debbie Riddle, R-Houston, will make sexually violent offenders subject to penalties ranging from a 25-year minimum sentence on a first offense to the death penalty for repeat offenses.

Certain offenders also would be denied parole and subjected to GPS monitoring should they ever be released from prison, the author said.

And, HB 8 directs the Texas attorney general's office to support



local prosecutors in pedophile cases.

Gov. Perry is expected to sign the bill, which is written to take effect Sept. 1.

In a related matter, Perry already has signed another piece of legislation that requires the Department of Public Safety to collect detailed information on sexual assaults that occur in Texas.

HB 76 by Rep. Elliott Naishtat, D-Austin, and Sen. Judith Zafirini, D-Laredo, addresses a lack in statewide statistics on sexual assault. Under their bill, what will be collected is information about the offender, the offender's relationship to the victim, any weapons used and any injuries sustained by the victim.

## Thanks to all for your support as a write-in candidate for City Council.

Congratulations to the returning and newly elected City Officials. It is my hope that the Council Members will have a great wisdom as they lead us successfully through the challenges that will come before them.

**-Shirley Compton**

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY SHIRLEY COMPTON, TREASURER.

The Eagle Lake Civic Garden Club presents

## The 3rd Annual Blossom Bunco Party

Admission \$10 per person Ladies Only!

Tickets available at the door. Contact Sandy at 234-5179 for info.

Tuesday, May 29, 2007  
Registration & Refreshments - 6:00 pm  
Games - 7:00 - 9:00 pm  
Didner Hall - 201 Crain, Eagle Lake

All proceeds go toward the beautification of Eagle Lake.

## Stafford Opera House

425 Spring Street in Columbus  
Last Performance of the Season

# Arsenic & Old Lace

Saturday, June 9  
5:30-6:30 Social Time  
6:30-Dinner • 7:30-Performance

For Tickets or Information  
Call 979-732-5135

## Let's Look Back...

# 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

May 26, 1983

Miss Wendy Herman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alton Herman of Eagle Lake was complimented with an eighth grade graduation dinner Sunday at the home of her sister...

Saturday, May 14 Jonna Webb bride-elect of Wayne Bowen was honored with a bridal shower at the home of Mrs. Janet Schorlemmer...

Miss Janice Prihoda, bride-elect of Gale Thompson, was honored with a lingerie shower at the home of Mrs. Ed Lee Schneider on May 16...

Mr. and Mrs. Joe B. Rodriguez are proud to announce the birth of a son Jeff born May 21 at 6:24 in Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton. Jeff came into the world weighing eight pounds, 13 ounces...

Gaye Lynn Thomas daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gayle Thomas of Eagle Lake received her Bachelor of Arts-teaching degree from Sam Houston University...

Eagle Lake area Boy Scouts who recently visited with Governor Mark White were Steven Meinecke, Ben Gonzales, Dennis Pavlicek, Gary Sosa, Javier Cano, Gabino Guzman, Kevin

Brown, Bryan Brown, Kevin Bendi, Paul Trcka, Romaldo Cardenas, Arthur Corona, and adult leaders Isidro Ramirez, Ed Sunderman and Verlin Argo...

Two Eagle Lake students are candidates for graduation from Texas State Technical Institute (TSTI) in Waco. They are Michael George Faichtinger and David Neal Staff, diesel and heavy truck mechanics...

Another honor has been won by a Rice High School art student, to add to the many that students have won this year. Joe Mike Young has won an Honorable Mention award from the national Scholastic Art Awards program, sponsored in part in this area by the Houston Post.

John L. Korenek, an Agricultural Engineering student at Texas A&M University has been awarded the P.T. Monfort-fellowship for 1983-84. John is the son of

Mr. and Mrs. John Lee Korenek of Garwood.

May 28, 1959

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Searcy are the proud parents of a son, Stuart Reid, born in Laughlin Hospital on May 20...

The Rev. Leslie A. McDaniel, pastor of Colly Memorial Methodist Church is in San Antonio attending the Southwest Texas Methodist Annual Conference...

Miss Willie MacFarland was pleasantly surprised May 23 by a group of ladies on her birthday anniversary. Miss Willie, as she is fondly known, was 84 years of age Sunday, May 24...

Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Engstrom of Garwood were honored by their children on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a reception at the Methodist Educational Building in Garwood May 17. Mr. and Mrs. Engstrom were married in May of 1909 at the

bride's home near El Campo...

Eagle Lake High School seniors left for a two-day Senior trip to Mayan Ranch at Bandera...

Billy Maness, secretary of the Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Department, was studying minutes of the City of Eagle Lake to determine the exact date or organization of the volunteer fire department. He came up with city records dated August 12, 1888 setting up the fire department for this city...

Valedictorian for the E.H. Henry High School is Linda Lou Ford and John Oliver Glover is salutatorian...

Chief of Police James Adams and Constable Buster Semora report they have killed more than a dozen owls at the house on Prairie Street. The neighbors said the owls made so much noise that they were unable to sleep at night.

# Arsenic & Old Lace At Stafford

Arsenic and Old Lace, the last production of the 2006-2007 dinner theatre season at the Stafford Opera House in Columbus, is a frenzied, hilarious, madcap comedy you are sure to enjoy.

Come and meet Mortimer Brewster, a theatre critic, who is in love but is struggling to maintain his sanity amongst a family of lunatics.

A confirmed bachelor, Mortimer, has written a number of

books describing marriage as old fashioned.

But as fate would have it, he falls in love with and marries the girl who grew up next door to his old family home in Brooklyn.

Immediately after the marriage, he visits the bizarre relatives who still live there... two elderly aunts and his brother Teddy who just happens to believe that he is Teddy Roosevelt.

After finding a corpse hidden in a window seat, Mortimer tells his aunts that Teddy has killed someone and must be sent to an asylum.

Mortimer's aunts, at this point, explain that they, not Teddy, are responsible. They are actually "ending the presumed suffering of lonely old bachelors by serving them elderberry wine spiked with arsenic, strychnine, and just a pinch of cyanide".

The brother that thinks he's Teddy Roosevelt merely buries them in the basement, and then if things aren't complicated enough, there is another brother who kills for somewhat less charitable reasons.

It's anyone's guess whether Mortimer will make it through the night. It's a comedy to die for!

The 1944 film, Arsenic and Old Lace, was directed by Frank

Capra. The lead role of Mortimer Brewster was originally intended for Bob Hope.

Jack Benny and Ronald Reagan were also approached before settling on Cary Grant.

This type of comedy is what Art Park Players do best.

So, sit back and enjoy an evening of dinner theatre with family and friends. Art Park Players, under the artistic directorship of Susan Mele, is recognized throughout Texas as one of the most active theatres in the state.

Since staging their first production in 1979, they have committed themselves to striving for excellence in their productions, while being involved in civic affairs, touring shows to other cities in Texas and nurturing area children who look to the Art Park Players' Theatre School for exposure to the performing arts.

Don't miss this last show of the dinner theatre season at the Stafford Opera House, 425 Spring Street in Columbus, on Saturday, June 9.

Enjoy a glass of wine, a beer or a soft drink from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. with family or friends. Dinner will be served at 6:30 and the curtain opens at 7:30 for an evening of laughs and intrigue. Call 979-732-5135 for tickets or information.

# 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

**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

Congratulations! Love, Mom & Dad

## Summer Savings Sale!

Best Selection & Price on all Kids Frames 2 For \$99

On Site Optical Shop

Offer expires 6/30/07  
Must present coupon.  
Some restrictions apply.

979-627-7400  
Sealy, TX  
(Next to Tony's Restaurant)  
★Austin County Eye Associates

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