

## Trans-Texas Corridor Halted For At Least More Two Years

Returning home from 140 days of the Texas Legislative Session, State Representative Robby Cook, D-Eagle Lake, is pleased to announce that the legislature has enacted reforms, which will assist rural volunteer fire departments, protect property owners from eminent domain and stop the Trans-Texas Corridor for two years.

"The people of District 17 sent me here to get some things done, and I'm proud to say we were able to get them done," Cook said.

"The Trans-Texas Corridor and the unfair eminent domain proceedings were main concerns and we were able to address them."

Senate Bill 792, by Sen. Tommy Williams, R-Woodlands, Rep. Wayne Smith, R-Baytown, contains a two-year moratorium that will slow construction of the Trans Texas Corridor, particularly TTC-69.

The intent of the legislation is on record in favor of halting any

TTC construction contract from being signed or executed during the moratorium.

In addition, the bill creates a formal legislative study committee to research and report on public policy implications of private partnership toll projects.

This will provide the public a substantive opportunity to participate in the discussion of future public-private partnerships (PPP), including how they might be used to accomplish the TTC.

In addition, House Bill 2667 by Rep. Thomas Latham, allows the Texas Forestry Service to adopt rules to assist rural Volunteer Fire Departments to provide payments of Workers Compensation, and Accidental Death and Disability insurance in times of high wildfires.

Also, Rep. David Swinford, R-Dumas, was able to attach language to HB 3315 by Jim Keffer, R-Eastland, that increases HB 2604 Grant Program, which is administered by the Texas Forestry

Service by \$15 million allocating \$5 million towards the Wildfire Protection Program.

"It is of the utmost importance that we make sure our volunteer fire fighters are taken care of when they are protecting our homes and forests," Cook said.

"This gives those fire fighters the peace of mind that the State of Texas will be there for them if they are hurt helping their neighbors."

HB 2006 by Rep. Beverly Wooley, restores property owner protections by requiring bona fide offers for the purchase of property, ensuring constitutionally protected adequate and just compensation, and ensures that a person's property is taken by the power of eminent domain only for a truly traditional public use.

"We had situations where they were trying to take people's homes and give them to businesses for profit, and that's not right," Cook said.

"We value a person's home

and property more than anything in this state and the legislature has said you have to have a real good reason to take that away."

HB 12, by Rep. Harvey Hilderbran created \$140 million for state park funding.

However, all of the funds from the sporting goods tax will not be dedicated to state parks.

It establishes a legislative task force to review the items that are included in the definition of "sporting goods" and determine if there is a correlation between each individual item included and activities related to state parks, local parks, coastal erosion, and determine the amount of revenue that must be generated to fund the policy decisions made by the 80th Legislature regarding state parks, local parks, and coastal erosion.

"I have supported the badly needed increase in our state park funding, and I am glad that we have provided a start to restoring excellence to our parks," said Cook.

## NEWSBRIEFS

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### Juneteenth celebration set

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Juneteenth celebration will be held June 16 and 17 in Altair. On June 16 at 7 p.m. there will be a special recognition of senior citizens at Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, Columbus and Bowie St. in Columbus. Music will be rendered by local church choirs. A parade will be held June 17 in honor of the late Malcom Thomas (volunteer fireman for Eagle Lake and LCRA employee). Parade line-up will be at the park on Hwy. 71 at 2:30 p.m. The parade starts at 3. There will be refreshments and games. Come out and enjoy yourselves.

### SPMBC services set for June 17

South Point Missionary Baptist Church (SPMBC) will hold their Church Anniversary, Homecoming, Family and Friends Day on Sunday June 17 at 3 p.m. The message will be by Rev. O. Rhodes accompanied by White Cloud MBC. The public is invited.

### Benefit for Wiese is June 23

Xi Pi Psi Sorority and friends are finalizing plans for a benefit for Donnie Wiese, to help defray hospital costs. The benefit is planned for June 23, at Didner Hall. Plans include a BBQ, silent auction and drawing starting at 5 that afternoon. The drawing items will be displayed at Baumgart Insurance and may be dropped off with member Mary Ann Kaluza. Anyone wishing to donate a silent auction item may take it to Creative Expressions or call 234-3911. For anyone wishing to make a donation, a fund has been established at Wallis State Bank and the First National Bank. Checks may be made out to the Donnie Wiese Benefit Fund. If anyone has any questions or has something to donate call Ernie Sommerlatte at 234-3452.

### Validations set for fair

State steer validation for major shows along with State Fair validation for lambs and goats will be held Wednesday, June 27, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and again from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Rice Consolidated Ag facility. Each exhibitor planning to show in one of these major shows and a parent must be present to validate animals.

### WCJC begins summer hours

Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) began its operation of summer hours on May 21 and will end them on August 17, at all campus and extension center locations. The college's summer hours for all administrative offices and libraries will be as follows: Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The summer hours do not apply to any scheduled classes. For more information, please call 979-532-6322.

## Royalty Crowned At Eagle Lake Area Pageant Saturday

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Princess - Mariah Sosa, daughter of Belinda and John Sosa, Duchess - Diamond Cadriel, daughter of Kristi and Paul Cadriel, Jr. Miss - Ashley Carroll, daughter of Georgina and Roney Carroll, Miss - Kourtney Korenek, daughter of Jennifer and Lawrence Korenek.

Special thanks to our Judges, Donna Riley Henderson and Steve Henderson, both from Wharton, and Robin Stelzel, from Lissie.

A big thank you to our Master of Ceremonies, John Gerton.

The Pageant Committee on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce would like to thank all of the businesses for their dollars and support. Sponsors were A.J. Struss, Austin's BBQ, Class Concrete, DiversiTech, Eagle Lake Dental Associates, Eagle Lake Insurance, Eagle Stop, Elizabeth's Garden, First National Bank of Eagle Lake, Furniture Shoppe,

KC's Simple Simon, Sportsman's Restaurant, The Nail Shop, TNT Trophies, and Wiese Crop Insurance. A big thank you to Daylight Donuts and Nannie Janes for the breakfast snacks. A big thanks to Brookshire Brothers for the bottled water and fruit drinks. Special thanks to the following for their contributions: Rice C.I.S.D. and Eagle Lake Elementary School, for the use of the facilities; Canaris Nursery for the use of the

beautiful plants and decorations, Creative Expressions for the gorgeous flower bouquets, Christi Stancik for her professional photography services, 2006 Miss - Victoria Alvarado and Clifton George for providing the special duet song, "When God Made You", and The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce for their continued support and encouragement.

The 2007 Royalty are looking forward to a great year.

## Subscribe To The Headlight!

**EAGLE LAKE WEATHER REPORT**

Information Courtesy of Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Experiment Station, Eagle Lake

Date	Temp (H/L)	Rainfall (in.)
Mon. 5-28-07	78/67	1.40
Tue. 5-29-07	87/70	0.09
Wed. 5-30-07	87/69	0.00
Thu. 5-31-07	87/70	0.01
Fri. 6-01-07	87/69	0.00
Sat. 6-02-07	90/71	0.00
Sun. 6-03-07	90/67	0.13



Pictured above are some of the items that will be available in the silent auction at the 3rd Annual Peace Officers Fundraiser on June 14 at the Community Center.



The Eagle Lake Fire Volunteer Department assisted with extinguishing an engine fire on Saturday around noon near Lissie.

## Water District

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five four-year terms for directors.

-A maximum tax rate of three cents per \$100 valuation.

-A provision that a petition could be circulated to call an election on dissolving the district after Jan. 1, 2016.

The legislation also exempts wells that were completed before the regulations came into effect from spacing requirements.

# Rodeos come and go!

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	<b>CASE III JX 55</b>	<b>Mahindra 5500</b>	<b>John Deere 5103</b>
PTO Hp	45	44	42
Transmission	12 forward/12 reverse	8 forward/2 reverse	9 forward/3 reverse
Synchronized Shuttle	Standard	Not Available	Not Available
Tractor Weight	5,152 lbs.	4,966 lbs.	4,475 lbs.
3 Pt. High Capacity	4,010 lbs	3,968 lbs	3,050 lbs
Operator Station	full iso platform	semi-flat	straddle
Standard Rear Tires	14.9x28	14.9x28	13.6x28
Hydraulic Remotes	1 standard	0 standard	0 standard
Optional Remotes	3 optional	2 optional	1 opt./w/loader
Hydraulic Output	21.7 GPM	11 GPM	18.2 GPM
Loader Lift Capacity*	2,400 lbs	1,700 lbs	1,500 lbs
Loader Breakout Capacity*	4,000 lbs	2,350 lbs	2,944 lbs
<b>Resale value**</b>	<b>\$13,491</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>\$10,352</b>

\*Models LX232, JD512, MI260 At 31.5" From Pivot. Estimate Provided for MI260.  
\*\*Prices For 2003 Model Tractors Only According To Winter 2006 Edition Of The Official Guide Endorsed By The North American Equipment Dealer Association.

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