

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Perry Signs Children's Health Insurance Bill

AUSTIN — Gov. Perry on July 17 signed legislation eliminating a 90-day waiting period for needy parents to enroll their kids in the state's Children's Health Insurance Program.

The legislation, HB 109, makes room for 127,000 more children on the CHIP roll and makes it easier for parents to qualify based on

income and other factors. CHIP provides primary and preventative care including immunizations, wellness exams, eye exams and dental check-ups to children who do not have private health insurance or who do not qualify for Medicaid.

In May 2002, at its peak enrollment, CHIP served 529,211

children. By January 2007, the number of children had dropped to 321,815, although there were an estimated 700,000 eligible but unenrolled children.

Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-Houston, was HB 109's primary author. In his statement of intent about the bill, he pointed to reports that children without health insurance are 25 percent more likely to miss school because of illnesses, and school districts in Texas lost \$4 million per day in funding because of absenteeism.

Noriega considers Senate run

State Rep. Rick Noriega, D-Houston, is exploring a 2008 run for the U.S. Senate.

Noriega is an officer in the Texas Army National Guard. He has served in Afghanistan and has been deployed in the Hurricane Katrina relief mission. While he was serving abroad, his wife Melissa Noriega served in his place in the Texas House.

Also looking to run is Democrat Mikal Watts, a San Antonio lawyer. Watts filed papers to form an exploratory committee in June.

U.S. Sen. John Cornyn is up for

re-election in 2008. U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison was re-elected to a six-year term in 2006.

Williams chairs RRC second time

Michael L. Williams is the new chair of the Railroad Commission of Texas, succeeding Elizabeth Ames Jones as chair. Williams previously served as chair, from September 1999 to September 2001.

The Railroad Commission regulates the state's oil and gas industry, gas utilities, pipeline safety, safety in the liquefied petroleum gas industry and the surface mining of coal and uranium.

Williams, a Republican and the highest-ranking African-American in Texas state government, also chairs the Governor's Clean Coal Technology Council, the Texas FutureGen advisory board, and serves on other state and federal energy-related boards and councils.

Williams to lead GOP fundraising

Weatherford car dealer Roger Williams, who resigned July 1 as secretary of state, has been named chair of the Texas Republican party's "Victory '08" fundrais-

ing program. Gov. Perry named his own deputy chief of staff Phil Wilson to replace Williams as secretary of state. Wilson, a Brownwood native, took the oath of office on July 18.

McLeroy to head education board

In other appointments, Perry named Bryan dentist Don McLeroy as chair of the State Board of Education.

McLeroy first was elected to the SBOE in 1998. His term as chair will expire in February 2009.

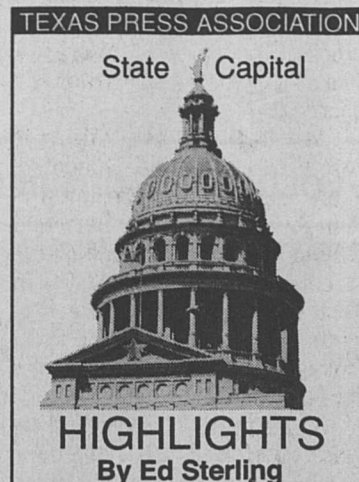
McLeroy has worked to include creationism in new biology textbooks and has voted in support of health textbooks that promote abstinence while cutting back on information on methods of birth control and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases.

Fred Thompson to visit Texas

Television actor and former U.S. Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tennessee, is scheduled for campaign stops in Houston and Dallas this week.

The visit was announced by Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson.

Thompson supporters plan to



rally volunteers and raise funds for a likely presidential bid in 2008.

Unusually rainy season continues

Heavy rains hit south and central Texas July 20-21, the National Weather Service reported.

The San Marcos, Guadalupe Medina, San Antonio, Nueces and Frio rivers were reported at or above flood stage, and many strandings and rescues were reported.

A Dripping Springs woman reportedly was cited for endangering her children after she ignored a warning sign and crossed a flooded road in her vehicle.

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

July 28, 1983
Victor Berger, 67, of Weimar passed away July 16 in Youens Memorial Hospital following a long illness. Funeral services were conducted at 10 a.m. July 19 at St. Rose Catholic Church with Rev. Eugene Jensen officiating. Burial was in the St. Rose Catholic Cemetery in Schulenburg...

Jerri L. Clipson and Robert F. Klekar, both of Eagle Lake, were among the 1,259 students whose 1983 spring semester grades earned them places on the Dean's List at Southwest Texas State University...

Thomas H. Hatchett and Mrs. Lou Ellen Hatchett of Friend-

swood are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Susan Dianne**, to **David Myron Tomchesson** of La Porte, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Tomchesson of Eagle Lake...

Mrs. Louise Janik was honored on the occasion of her 92nd birthday Sunday, July 24 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Louis Kopecky...

In a lovely candlelight ceremony performed on Saturday, May 28 Miss **Robbie Gail Stauffer** of Rockdale became the bride of **Billy Breithaupt** of Rockdale. The four o'clock afternoon wedding vows were repeated in the First Baptist Church in Rockdale with the Rev. **Father Tom Hanus** of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, in Rockdale former pastor at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Eagle Lake, and Pastor **Richard Leggett** officiating the double-ring ceremony...

July 30, 1959
 Six youngsters on the Eagle Lake Little League teams were honored as the leading hitters at

a banquet Wednesday. The leading hitters were **Bill Torres** of the Braves, **Tony Contreras** of the Sox, **Antonio Cordova** of the Cards, **John David Konvicka** of the Cubs, **Leo Cordova** of the Yanks and **Bill Blair** of the "A" Squad...

Hurricane Debra had little effect on this area, which passed southeast of Houston in a northerly direction. Eagle Lake was expected to receive heavy rains but instead only received a tenth of an inch of rain...

R.J. Balusek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Balusek, was chosen as the winner in the "Little Texan" Color Photo Contest held recently at the A.B. Store...

Jacquelyn Beard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Beard of Garwood, plans to wed **Joe Gilbreath** on September 5...

Melody Leigh Farris and **Candyce Dawn Farris**, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Farris, were honored on their birthday anniversaries. **Melody** celebrated her third birthday on July 22 with

a backyard party and **Candy** was honored with a party on her sixth birthday July 20...

Patricia Loessin spent the weekend here with her parents Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Loessin. She is a secretary for Diamond Alkali Co. in Pasadena...

Mrs. Rosanna Howard and **Mrs. Ervin Terrell** were hostesses at a luncheon and card party for their daughter and sister, Mrs. **John Dusthimer** of Columbus, Ohio who is here for a visit.

Little Miss Elizabeth Burke was complimented on the occasion of her seventh birthday with a party last Saturday...

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Cooper are announcing the arrival of a daughter, **Debra Lynn**, born at 1:59 p.m., Sunday, July 26 at Laughlin Hospital...

Young Vance Cameron Duncan, seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Duncan, is recovering nicely from a slight concussion after being thrown from a horse while working cattle.

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Colorado County Sheriff's Report

The Colorado County Sheriff's Department reported the following calls and cases for the period ending July 5.

Friday, June 22

At 1:32 pm, Deputy Savino responded to CR 111 near CR 1693 in reference to an abandoned vehicle. The vehicle was determined to be a road hazard and was removed from the location by Delgado's Wrecker Service. Case closed.

At 5:15 pm, Deputy Mieth responded to 10th St. in Glidden in reference to a reported assault. After further investigation, the incident was determined to be a verbal argument. Case closed.

Saturday, June 23

At 2:40 am, Deputy Slubar responded to a residence on McElroy Lane near Frelsburg in reference to an assault. After further investigation, a warrant was issued and the suspect, Pres-

ton Jules Willis, 17 of Columbus, was arrested for Assault. Case closed.

At 12:26 pm, Deputy Pflughaupt spoke with a complainant on Smith Rau Road in reference to Theft of a private road sign. A report was filed and the case is pending further information.

At 8:30 pm, Sgt. Girndt spoke with a complainant about a foul odor on FM 155 south of Weimar. The source of the odor could not be located and the odor was not present during further investigation. Case will be closed unless future problems occur.

Sunday, June 24

At 11:40 pm, Deputy Staff and Sgt. Girndt responded to a 911 call from a residence on CR 152 in reference to a disturbance. After further investigation, the incident was determined to be a verbal argument. Case closed.

Monday, June 25

At 7:20 pm, Deputy Gonzalez responded to IH-10 near the 696 mile marker in reference to a suspicious subject in a white Ford Crown Victoria trying to pull over a motorist using public safety equipment. The suspicious vehicle was located on IH-10 near the 720 mile marker by an Austin County Trooper. After further investigation, Brian Lee Jones, 32 of Lavernia, was arrested for Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon in Austin County. In addition to the weapons charge, Jones was arrested on a warrant for Impersonating a Public Servant, in connection with the incident that occurred in Colorado County at the 696 mile marker. Case closed.

Tuesday, June 26

At 9:53 am, Lt. Neisner met with a complainant at the Sheriff's Office in reference to Illegal

Dumping of septic sewage. A report was filed and the case was turned over to the LCRA Rangers for further investigation.

At 2:02 pm, Deputy Hudson responded to CR 16 near Altair in reference to a death investigation. Justice of the Peace Pct. 4 George Cason arrived on scene to conduct the Inquest. After further investigation, the death was determined to be from natural causes. Case closed.

At 3 pm, Deputy Pflughaupt responded to FM 102 in reference to Criminal Mischief. The complainant reported that someone destroyed her cattle guard. Case is pending further investigation.

At 4:30 pm, Deputy Pflughaupt responded to a residence on FM 109 in reference to a subject making unauthorized purchases on a stolen credit card. After further investigation a warrant was issued and the suspect, Chelsea Michelle Hollywood, 17 of Columbus, was arrested for Credit Card Abuse. Case closed.

Wednesday, June 27

At 10:30 am, Agents Pardo and Hines with the Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force seized a trailer from Budget Inn on Hwy 90 east of Columbus. The trailer had the VIN plate removed. The trailer was later awarded to the Sheriff's Office after a property hearing. Case closed.

At 11:03 am, Deputy Mieth responded to a reckless driver on IH-10. A license plate number was obtained by a witness and the vehicle was determined to be stolen out of Harris County. Deputy Mieth attempted to conduct a traffic stop and the suspect vehicle ran through the ditch and struck a telephone pole in a pasture near the IH-10 698 mile marker. After

Continued on page 7

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