

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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 979-234-5521 • Fax: 979-234-5522
 email: eaglelakeheadlight@sbcglobal.net
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James Sweet
 Carol Cardenas • Doug Beal
 Donna Samora

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Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison Siles Anti-Toll Legislation

AUSTIN — Talk of buying back certain stretches of federal interstate highway in Texas and then collecting new tolls to drive on them hit a roadblock earlier this month.

On Sept. 5, U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, filed S. 2019, legislation to prohibit the tolling of existing federal highways across the country.

"My bill will protect drivers

from paying tolls on roads that were already paid for by taxpayers," she said.

The Texas Department of Transportation floated the idea of buybacks in February in its report, "Forward Momentum."

Under current law, states can apply to the U.S. Department of Transportation to place tolls on existing federal highways.

But Hutchison said she would

oppose any such effort by TxDOT to toll existing interstate highways.

"I will work with members of the Texas Congressional delegation and the state Legislature to ensure that Texans are never asked to pay a toll of an existing interstate highway," she said.

Report details high cost of living

"The Family Budget Estimator: What It Really Takes to Get By in Texas" is a new report released Aug. 30 by the Center for Public Policy Priorities, a nonpartisan, nonprofit research organization based in Austin.

The report shows that living expenses in the Lone Star State are rising faster than incomes and that Texans are far less likely to receive employer sponsored health insurance than employees in other states.

The report also reveals Texas has the highest percentage of people without health care coverage in the nation and that Texas' high sales and property tax rates hit lower-paid workers the hardest.

Based on its findings, the CPPP makes a number of sug-

gestions that if accomplished would improve the lot of Texans, such as:

- Texas should ensure that families remain eligible for CHIP and food stamps until they earn enough to meet basic needs.

- Texas should increase its commitment to community colleges and ensure that higher education remains affordable.

- Texas should adopt policies that help low-wage workers move into jobs with wages high enough to support a family.

- State and local tax abatements should be tied to employment and wage policies that require family-supporting wages and benefits.

- Texas should invest in policies and programs that increase homeownership, higher education, and retirement savings.

- Texas should convert its tax system to a low-rate personal income tax that would reduce overall taxes for middle and low-income families while providing enough money for education, job training and work supports to help Texans earn more.

The full report is available online at www.cppp.org.

Perry spares inmate's life

Gov. Perry on Aug. 30 commuted the death sentence of Kenneth Eugene Foster of San Antonio to life imprisonment following the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles' majority recommendation.

Foster was sentenced to death for driving the getaway car in the 1996 capital murder of Michael LaHood. Foster sought to have his death sentence commuted to a life sentence, arguing that he did not shoot LaHood.

Perry said the Legislature, which convenes in January 2009, should examine the state law that allows capital murder defendants to be tried simultaneously.

State purchases Crockett letter

Texas Historical Commission on Sept. 4 announced its purchase of the last known letter of Davy Crockett from a private collection in Houston.

The letter, dated Jan. 9, 1836, and addressed to his children, was written by Crockett in San Augustine, then enroute to the Alamo.

The pricetag was \$490,000, but after the sale questions were



raised as to the authenticity of the document.

Test preparations to be reduced

The Texas Education Agency announced it would cut back on "field testing" practices at many public schools.

The agency says field testing helps educators gauge the fairness of questions on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills and other exams.

The decision to cut back addresses complaints that field testing takes too much time that could be used for instruction.

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 Fri. and Sat.: 8 a.m. to 9:15 p.m.
 Sunday: 7:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

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

September 15, 1983
 Miss Sharron Schneider and Jimmy George, Jr. were honored with a patio and bar party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. N.J. Schneider in Garwood at 7:30 p.m. on September 10. Hostesses for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. N.J. Schneider, John Schneider, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence (Buddy) Korenek, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bubela, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Schneider, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Staff...

Raymond and Vernell Luedecke of Sealy will celebrate their silver wedding anniversary Saturday, September 17 at the American Legion Hall in Sealy with a dinner and dance. Mr. and Mrs. Luedecke were united in marriage September 15, 1958 at St. Roch's Catholic Church in Mentz...

Dennis and Yvonne Mauney of Altair are proud to announce the arrival of their second child, a daughter, born August 30 at 8:05 a.m. in Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton. Given the name Brenda Renea, the little miss weighed seven pounds, eight ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches at birth...

The community learned with sadness of the passing of Mrs. Willie (Lillian) Appelt, mother of Bill Appelt of Eagle Lake, who passed away at 6:25 p.m. September 7 at Lavaca Medical Center in Hallettsville. Funeral services were conducted at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Hallettsville at 3 p.m. September 10 with Pastor James Boyd officiating at the services. Burial was in Hallettsville City Cemetery...

Mrs. Joe D. (Janie) Luna, 78, closed her eyes at 1:25 a.m. September 13 at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital. Funeral services were conducted from United Methodist Church in Eagle Lake at 2 p.m. Thursday, September 15 with Rev. Charles Runk officiating. Interment will be in Masonic Cemetery...

Mrs. Marie Kopecky spent Labor Day weekend at Bryan with her daughter and son-in-law, Lois and Jerry Gibson. While there she attended the wedding of her grandson, Jerry Wayne.

September 17, 1959
 Cheering the Eagles on to victory this year are: Mary Agnes Dromgoole, Lynda Powers, Clarissa Sheppard, Margaret Meitzen and Mary Ann Uzzell. Little Miss Dana Wiese, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Wiese, is the pep squad's mascot...

The Rev. and Mrs. Leslie A. McDaniel were rejoicing over the arrival of their first grandchild, Dana Leslie Simons. She was born September 4 in Atlanta, Georgia to Mr. and Mrs. W.O. Simmons...

Last rites were held September 7 for Joseph Vasina of East Bernard...

Susan Davidson, Glenda Altman and Judith Johnson, all of Eagle Lake, are among 77 members representing WCJC's Starlettes...

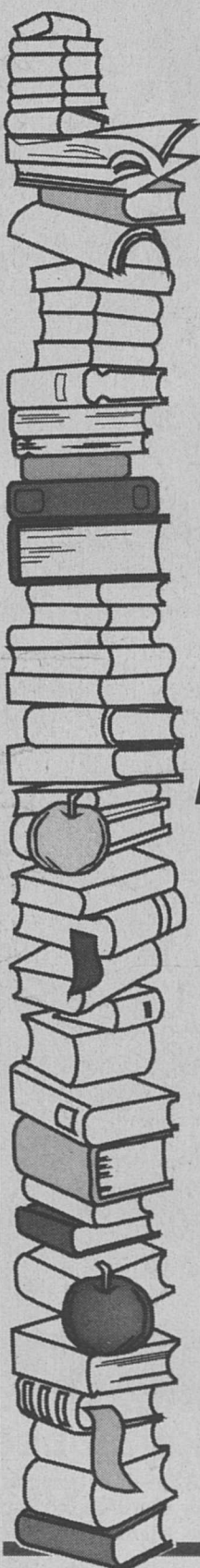
Mrs. Weldon Leyendecker, owner of Leyendecker Dance Studio of Columbus, will be teaching dancing in the Garwood area...

The Eagle Lake Eagles opened their 1959 football schedule in Louise with a disappointing 16 to 6 loss to the Hornets. The Eagles will host the Weimar Wildcats in a game beginning at 8 p.m....

Tommy Lewis, fishing with his father, M.H. Lewis, on the river Monday night near the Altair river bridge, weighed in one of the largest catfish caught in this area for sometime with a 29 pound, eight ounce yellow catfish...

Connie Marie Karlsen, six month old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B.R. Karlsen, was christened in the Colly Memorial Methodist Church September 13 with Rev. Leslie A. McDaniel officiating.

28th Annual Study Club Auction Benefiting The Wintermann Library
Saturday, September 22nd at the Eagle Lake Community Center



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FRIED CHICKEN DINNER 5:00-7:00

SILENT AUCTION 5:00-6:45

LIVE AUCTION 7:00-9:00

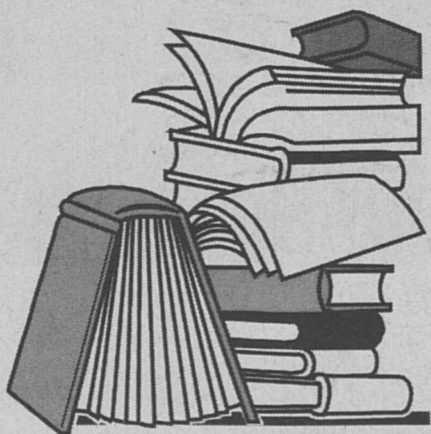
Joe H. McCreary - Auctioneer

DRAWINGS THROUGHOUT THE EVENING

Bakery Booth 5:00

There is something for everyone!
Bid on Rodeo tickets, Antiques, Dinners, Collectibles, Handmade items, Astro tickets, plus many more items!

Come and support your local library and enjoy an evening of fun!



COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

District Court Dispositions September 6

Following are district court dispositions from Dwight Pechel's court on September 6, 2007.

Richard C. Alcalar, burglary of habitation. Sentenced to five years deferred adjudication, fined \$1,000.

Vincent Estrada, III, evading arrest/detention using vehicle. Probation conditions modified to ISF.

Leroy Lee Ezeb, possession of a controlled substance. Sentenced to 90 days in jail.

Jason B. Garrett, possession of a controlled substance. Probation

conditions modified to Central Texas Treatment Center.

Robert C. Garza, possession of a controlled substance. Sentenced to 12 months state jail.

Juan Carlos Ovalle, evading arrest/detention using vehicle. Sentenced to eight months state jail.

Patrick O'Neal Spates, burglary of habitation. Motion to withdraw and dismiss motion to adjudicate or revoke.

County Court Dispositions September 5

Following are Colorado County Court dispositions from September 5, 2007.

Christopher E. Adams, driving while license invalid. Sentenced to three days in jail, credit for two served, fined \$350.

Joe Burley, Jr., theft of stolen property. Sentenced to 90 days in jail, credit for 56 served.

Joe Burley, Jr., evading arrest/detention. Sentenced to 90 days in jail, credit for 56 served.

William Coronado, III, assault causing bodily injury. Sentenced to 30 days in jail.

Amy N. Craven, theft. Sentenced to two years deferred adjudication, fined \$100, \$2,198.86 restitution.

James M. Davis, Jr., driving while license invalid. Sentenced to three days in jail, credit for two served, fined \$350.

London M. Ferguson, driving while intoxicated. Sentenced to 30 days in jail, fined \$500, six months driver's license suspension.

Jacques O. Henderson, evading arrest/detention. Sentenced to 30 days in jail.

Melvin Ray Henry, criminal trespass. Fined \$100 and restitution.

Jennifer Johnson, driving while intoxicated. Probation conditions modified.

Steven W. Langston, driving while license invalid. Sentenced to six months deferred adjudication, fined \$100.

Valente O. Puerta, driving while license invalid. Sentenced to three days in jail, credit for two served, fined \$350.

David Robison, theft of stolen property. Sentenced to 60 days in jail, credit for 65 served.

Paul Edward Sword, driving while intoxicated. Sentenced to

Continued on page 3

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