

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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TYC Moves Inmates From Facility

AUSTIN — The Texas Youth Commission removed 197 male inmates confined at the Coke County Juvenile Justice Center in Bronte and transferred them to other facilities on Oct. 2.

Recent audits of the facility, near San Angelo, operated by the private firm GEO Group Inc. raised concerns about the safety and welfare of inmates.

On Oct. 1, TYC acting executive director Dimitria Pope determined the facility was in an advanced state of disrepair, that programming and rehabilitation efforts were not being pursued, and the overall health and safety of the youth housed there were in jeopardy. She ordered the transfer of the youths.

The state canceled its \$8 million annual contract with GEO Group and an investigation has begun.

Disaster declaration is approved

President George W. Bush on Oct. 3 approved a federal disaster declaration for Bexar, Harris, Jones, Kendall, Medina and Taylor counties to help address severe flooding and wind damage caused by Tropical Storm Erin.

The declaration covers damages incurred Aug. 14-20, when a foot or more of rainfall was recorded in portions of the state, contributing to six deaths, plus road closures, flooded homes and more than 100 high-water rescues.

Gov. Rick Perry on Oct. 3 said individuals and families who are not covered by insurance can apply for financial assistance, temporary housing, tax relief, legal services, crisis counseling and unemployment assistance.

President vetoes kids' health bill

President Bush on Oct. 3 carried through on his promise to veto legislation he said would be

too costly and would have made health coverage available to families that are not needy enough.

The federal SCHIP bill was crafted to increase funding for state children's health insurance programs and expand it to cover more families that make too much money to qualify for Medicaid but still cannot afford health insurance.

Funding for SCHIP under the vetoed bill would have totaled \$35 billion over five years. The president has an alternative plan that would increase current funding by \$5 billion over five years.

Members of the U.S. House are counting votes to see if there are enough to override Bush's veto.

Texas ranks lowest among the 50 states in making health care available to its poorer citizens.

Texas awards first wind leases

The Texas General Land Office on Oct. 2 awarded the first four bid leases for offshore wind power in U.S. history.

"The Texas Wind Rush is on, and the pioneers are staking their claims," Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson said.

The leases, awarded to Lou-

isiana-based Wind Energy Systems Technology, allow work to begin on the construction of meteorological testing towers on the tracts.

Once the wind farms are operational, the lessee will pay the state's Permanent School Fund a minimum of \$132 million over the 30-year life of the leases.

Nutrition programs move to TDA

USDA nutrition programs formerly administered by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission moved to the Texas Department of Agriculture effective Oct. 1.

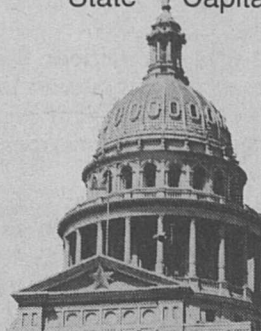
Now the TDA administers the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program for private and faith-based schools, Summer Food Service Program, Special Milk Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Food Distribution Program, Commodity Supplemental Food Program and the Texas Commodity Assistance Program.

Online sex offenders are arrested

Investigators with Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott's Cyber Crimes and Fugitive Units

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

arrested 14 convicted sex offenders who illegally created profiles on the Web site MySpace.com.

After receiving a subpoena from Attorney General Abbott earlier this year, MySpace.com provided investigators with a list of registered sex offenders who use the site.

Registration deadline is upon us

Oct. 9 is the voter registration deadline for the Nov. 6 election.

Registration applications are available at www.sos.state.tx.us, the secretary of state's Web site.

Also, voters may register at county voter registrar's offices, and most libraries, post offices and high schools.

THIS IS D.Q. COUNTRY SPECIAL
Jalitos Ranch
Hungerbuster \$3.19
Combo \$4.99

Offer good
Through Oct. 21



New Hours

Sun.-Thurs.-10 am - 10 pm

Fri.-Sat.-10 am - 11 pm

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We Now Accept Visa & Mastercard

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Lunch and Dinner Specials
Mon.-Fri. Beginning at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Buffet Tuesdays and Thursdays
11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Hours:
Mon.-Thurs.: 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.
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 29, 1983

FHA officers of 1983-84 are **Billy Harrison, Sharri Webb, Beth Ferguson, Maria Ramirez, and Vicky Hernandez...**

Raymond and Vernell Luedecke celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on September 17 in Sealy...

Dr. R. Russell Thomas was named diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice...

Peggy Williams bride-elect of **Bill Olson** was honored with a linen shower on Sept. 21...

Diane Burnett and Kurt Thomas were honored with a shower on Sept. 10 at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. Ken Craig...**

Mrs. Rudolf (Christine) Wick, mother of **Wilfred Wick** passed away Sept. 21 at Youen's Memorial Hospital in Weimar...

Among those in the top five

percent of the National Merit Program was **Julia Rosprim**, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Willie Noska, Jr.** of Eagle Lake...

Airman Eugene Spears son of **Princess Spears** of Eagle Lake graduated from the U.S. Air Force law enforcement specialist course at Lackland Air Force Base.

October 1, 1959

V.D. (Jack) Morris, owner of Jack's Barber Shop as added a second chair to his shop and **Alton Kirchoff**, barber, formerly of Orange Grove, will be helping Jack at the shop...

Albert Louis Miller, Jr. son of **Mr. and Mrs. Albert Louis Miller** of Eagle Lake was born September 24 at Laughlin Hospital...

Gayle Pence, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. S.G. Pence** of Rock Island, was honored with a party at

Rawhide Corral, on her sixteenth birthday September 26...

John Beseda, former Eagle Lake High School star was picked as lineman of the week for his outstanding play with the Texas A&I College Javelinas against Trinity University. John is the son of **Mr. and Mrs. John Beseda** of Eagle Lake...

Mr. and Mrs. E.C. Cassidy, Mrs. William Spalinger and Mrs. Dale Cassidy were joined by **Mrs. Herman F. Ireland** and **Mrs. Bob King** of Houston at **Bill Williams** restaurant in Richmond September 23 on the occasion of **Mrs. E.C. Cassidy's** birthday...

Louis A. Miller, son of **Mr. and Mrs. Louis F. Miller** of Nada, earns Air Force Commission after graduating from the AFROTC program in San Marcos.



Enter First National Bank's Friday Give Away!

The winner will receive a **Rice Raider stadium seat.**



One winner every Friday
Entries Now Being Accepted
Drawings will be held weekly during the
Rice Raider football season.

Drawing will be held at 3:00 p.m.
Ask your friendly teller for an entry ballot.
(need not be present to win; no transaction necessary to enter)
FNB employees and immediate family are not eligible to enter.

Temp. Water Board Member Gives District Opinion

Many people have asked, "Why do we need a Groundwater Conservation District?"

The law that governs water in Colorado County today is the "rule of capture". The "rule of capture" gives a landowner the right to remove unlimited amounts of groundwater with no consequence for problems caused by his neighbor.

The "rule of capture" allows your neighbor to pump as much water as he can out of the ground, and to use that water for any reason he chooses, as long as it is not wasteful or done maliciously. The law also allows him to sell as much of that water as he can. The only limitation he faces is a dry well. This is his right under the old Texas law. He does not need

a permit to sell his water under the "rule of capture". All he needs is a buyer.

The "rule of capture" is a rule that has not always been in the best interest of landowners. There are Texans that have dry wells because their neighbors have pumped too much water out of the ground. The landowner with the dry well bears the burden of the cost because he must drill a new, and deeper well to supply his water needs. Remember, the "rule of capture" says there is no consequence for problems caused to his neighbor.

The State of Texas recognized this problem. The state did not take away the landowners' right to use or to sell his water. The state

did however give us a way to limit the amount of water taken out of the ground. A groundwater conservation district is the only way to limit and protect groundwater. The groundwater conservation district gives us a way to modify the law for the protection of everyone.

We would like to think that our neighbors will respect us, and our need for water. And, we would like to believe that our neighbors will not over pump the water supply. Yet, the threat of over pumping will always exist unless we change the law by approving a groundwater conservation district.

Vivian Spanihel, Temporary Board Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District

Reader Recalls Football Games; Eagle Lake of Old

Dear Editor,
Having hunted ducks in the Eagle Lake area for the past 20 years or so, while there recently for early teal season I picked up a copy of your paper and read the "Let's Look Back..." section that inspired me to write you and see if you could come up with an account of the Hitchcock vs. Eagle Lake football game that was played in Hitchcock during the '58 season.

Jerry Adams played for Eagle Lake, he now being an attorney in Galveston, and we were both seniors then. I recently sent him a copy of the program from the

game. Although we butted heads on the football field (I played fullback and he was an end), we did not engage one another in the legal forum because I represented injured plaintiffs and his practice is corporate and commercial. **Clifton Tyler's** processing place is a favorite of mine as is **Sportsman Restaurant** after our hunts.

Then, a visit to **Johnny's Sport Shop** is always interesting where I have from time to time contributed to helping them stay in the black. **George Cason**, the JP there, is a good friend of mine, he having previously resided here in League City.

Am looking forward to the November 3 regular duck season opener.

Leonard A. Cruse
League City

From The Editor

We will look into the football story and see what we can find out. Many of our archives are currently being transferred to pdf format so that they can be viewed and searched on the computer instead of scrolling through miles of microfilm. Look for something in the next few weeks on the game. Thanks for your interest.

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