

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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State Seeks Border Camera Bids

AUSTIN — A plan to put a string of 200 video surveillance cameras along the 1,200-mile border Texas shares with Mexico appears to be moving forward.

On behalf of the Governor's Division of Emergency Management, the Texas Department of Public Safety is soliciting bids from contractors who can install and maintain the cameras and do related work.

The state is calling the proposed line of cameras a "virtual neighborhood watch." That's because via the Internet, citizens are eventually supposed to be able to monitor the cameras and report suspicious activity.

Meanwhile, through lawsuits, the federal government is pressuring about 50 private landholders to allow their land to be surveyed as possible border fence sites.

But the federal government dropped its suit to acquire fenceable borderland under the control of the University of Texas-Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. The two sides say they will explore non-fence methods to secure the area.

Parties hold county conventions

On March 29, the Texas Democratic and Republican parties held county and senate district conventions to elect delegates and alternates to the state party conventions to be held in June.

Also at the county party conventions, officers were elected, convention rules were adopted and resolutions were passed and forwarded for consideration at the respective state conventions.

U.S. Sen. John McCain already has been declared the GOP presidential nominee based on the amassing of primary votes. U.S. Sens. Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton are still battling. Clinton won the popular vote in the March 4 Texas primary, but Obama won the delegate count on March 29, many sources have stated.

SBOE to accept Hispanic input

The State Board of Education met March 27 and voted unanimously to accept more input before final adoption of new English reading standards that will be used for the next 10 years.

The board is scheduled to vote on final adoption of proposed changes to the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test that students must pass to advance in elementary, middle and high school.

A week before the meeting, board member Mary Helen Berlanga of Corpus Christi and state Rep. Abel Herrero, D-Robstown, said more needs to be done to help students because thousands have struggled with the current reading curriculum.

Berlanga and Herrero asked that the board accept expert input on the learning styles of Hispanic children.

Forty-seven percent of the total number of children enrolled in public school in Texas are Hispanic, Berlanga pointed out.

Most eighth graders pass reading

Ninety-two percent of Texas' eighth-grade students passed the reading portion of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test, the Texas Education Agency reported.

This is the first year that students must pass the eighth-grade reading test in order to be promoted, the agency said.

Eighth graders will take the math portion of TAKS on April 8.

Auto insurance minimums go up

State law requires people who drive in Texas to be financially responsible for the accidents they cause.

Before April 1, the minimum amount of liability insurance required was \$20,000 for each person injured in an accident, up to a total of \$40,000 for every one injured in an accident, and \$15,000 for property damage per accident.

And beginning April 1, the minimum amount of liability insurance Texas drivers are re-

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS
By Ed Sterling

quired to carry for bodily injury/property damage will be \$25,000/\$50,000/\$25,000.

This is the first time those numbers have increased in 22 years.

Yudof accepts

California post Mark Yudof, University of Texas System chancellor for the last six years, is moving on.

Yudof, 63, accepted an offer to be chancellor for the University of California System.

The UT System board of regents will conduct a national search for candidates to succeed Yudof.

Texas metros are growing fast

Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, Austin and San Antonio were listed among the top 10 metropolitan areas in population growth, according to estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau on March 27.

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

April 15, 1984

Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Kasmiersky, Jr., of Garwood are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Marie Suzanne to Dennis Leroy Ramsey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip G. Ramsey of El Campo, formerly of Alma, Michigan. The wedding is planned for Friday, May 4 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada...

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Hyek of Nada announce the engagement of their daughter, Denise Renee to Philip James Urbanovsky, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Urbanovsky. The couple will be married at 2:30 p.m. on April 28 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada...

Mrs. Lieselotte Burnett of Freeport, Illinois, and Dennis Neiman of German Valley Illinois are pleased to announce the

engagement of their daughter, Doris Brigetta to Timothy Boyd Rees of Houston. The couple will be married at Mission Bend United Methodist Church in Houston on April 28...

Debbie Sommerlatte Mascheck and Jerry Cameron exchanged wedding vows on February 25 in the United Methodist Church. Officiating at the double ring ceremony was the Rev. Charles Runk...

Mr. and Mrs. Fred P. Dornak of El Campo proudly announce the engagement and forth coming marriage of their daughter Mary Kay, to Robert L. Cook III, son of Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Cook, Jr., of Eagle Lake. The couple will be married at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 19 at St. Philip's Catholic

Church in El Campo...

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Miksch are the pleased parents of their first child, a son, born Sunday, March 4 at 11:44 p.m. at Ceton Hospital in Austin. Given the name Dustin James, the little tot came into the world tipping the scales at eight pounds, four and one half ounces and measuring 21 1/2 inches long...

Hugo Herman Bubela, Sr., 81, of Nada passed away Friday, March 2 at El Campo Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m. March 3 in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nada with Monsignor Victor Schmidtinsky officiating.

April 14, 1960 Construction will begin in the immediate future to re-build the

Altair Dryer which was destroyed by fire last Thursday...

Joe Semora, 87, was buried April 8 in the Chesterville Cemetery. Joe passed away last Wednesday night...

Coach Victor Scott presented jackets to five Eagle Lake High School seniors at the Eagle Lake Quarterback Club All Sports Banquet April 4. Those who lettered in basketball were Margaret Meitzen, Patsy Brasher, Karen Cook, Dolly Stiles, and Jo Ann Gause...

Mrs. R.R. Thomas complimented her son, Kurt, with a party on the occasion of his fifth birthday April 5 at their home...

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gersch are the parents of a baby boy born April 12 at Laughlin Hospital.

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

District Court Dispositions

Twelve individuals were sentenced in District Court on Friday, March 28. They included:

Fred Julius Bolebarker, possession of a controlled substance. Sentenced to two years ID-TD-CJ.

Donald Ray Brown, Jr., unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. Sentenced to nine months state jail.

Abel Cardenas, evading arrest/detention using a vehicle. Sentenced to 60 days in jail, fined \$1,000.

Christina Ray Fuller, burglary habitation intend other fraud. Sentenced to five years ID-TDCJ.

Curry Lynn King, possession

of a controlled substance. Sentenced to 10 months state jail.

Gabriel Anthony Sanchez, prohibited substance correctional facility-alcohol/drug/phone. Sentenced to two years ID-TDCJ.

Connie Mearl Schafer, driving while intoxicated-3rd or more. Sentenced to five years ID-TDCJ.

Connie Mearl Schafer, bail jumping and failure to appear/felony. Sentenced to five years ID-TDCJ.

Brandon O. Scott, criminal mischief. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$500 and \$1,844 restitution.

Jeremy Demond Shannon, sex offender's duty to register life/annually. Sentenced to two years ID-TDCJ.

Evelyn R. Solomon, fraud use/

possession of identifying information. Sentenced to three years deferred adjudication, fined \$800.

Eron L. Toliver, evading arrest/detention using a vehicle. Sentenced to 10 months state jail.

Eron L. Toliver, kidnapping. Sentenced to two years ID-TD-CJ.

Gregory Vela, III, driving while intoxicated with child passenger under 15. Sentenced to three years deferred adjudication, fined \$800 and 15 days in jail.

County Court Sentencings

Twelve individuals were sentenced in Colorado County Court on Wednesday, March 26. They included:

Bruce Ceasar, driving while license invalid with previous. Sentenced to three days in jail, credit for five, fined \$350.

Nicky Nixon Daughtrey, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$500.

Jeremy January, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$250.

Verna C. Johnson, fictitious/counterfeit inspection/insurance document for display. Sentenced to 15 days in jail.

Calvin Wayne Kutac, driving while intoxicated. Sentenced to one year probation, fined \$500.

Nicholas Mack Nicholson, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to one year probation, fined \$600.

Eduardo Rosales, assault causing bodily injury family member. Sentenced to 10 days in jail-weekends.

Eduardo Rosales, assault causing bodily injury family mem-

Continued on next page

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