

**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**

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 979-234-5521 • Fax: 979-234-5522  
 email: eaglelakeheadlight@sbcglobal.net  
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**Produced and Distributed By:**

James Sweet  
 Carol Cardenas • Doug Beal  
 Donna Samora

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**Public Utility Commission Approves Wind Energy Plan**

AUSTIN - The Public Utility Commission of Texas on July 17 approved a large-scale plan to transmit a high quantity of wind-generated power on new lines from West Texas and the Panhandle to metropolitan areas of the state.

The \$5 billion plan would add about \$4 a month to residential electric bills. The PUC estimated that the new lines will be in service within four to five years.

SB 20, passed by the state Legislature in 2005, directed the

PUC to select the most productive wind zones in the state and devise such a plan.

**DPS chief resigns from office**

On July 11, Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., director of the Texas Department of Public Safety announced his resignation.

"After 43 years and 9 months with the Texas Department of Public Safety, I am retiring on Aug. 31, 2008," he said.

Gov. Perry and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst reacted to Davis's

announcement with statements expressing their appreciation of Davis and his many years of service.

Since the June 8 arson fire gutted the governor's mansion, the Department of Public Safety, which maintains a security detail at the mansion, has been under increasing criticism. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

**Restoration fund kicks off**

On July 14, Texas First Lady Anita Perry held a press conference to solicit private donations to a fund created to restore the fire-gutted Texas Governor's Mansion.

The effort to fix up the 152-year-old state-owned building could take years and millions of dollars. Former Gov. Dolph Briscoe donated \$100,000 to the fund.

**Comptroller leads trade mission**

Texas Comptroller Susan Combs traveled to Spain in mid-July, leading a group of Texas government officials and business leaders on a business recruitment and trade mission.

Combs promoted Texas as a business location for companies and offered the state's assistance

in finding opportunities.

She cited Texas' "favorable tax environment, tremendous work force, world-class universities and leadership in innovation and technology."

**Bell to run for state Senate seat**

Sen. Kyle Janek, R-Houston, resigned from office effective June 2, leaving his seat vacant.

A Nov. 4 special election will decide who will fill the vacant Dist. 17 seat in the Texas Senate.

Democrat Chris Bell, a former member of Congress and candidate for governor of Texas in 2006, on July 13 announced his candidacy for the seat.

Republicans Joan Huffman, Austen Furse and Grant Harpold also have declared as candidates for the seat.

**Perry spokesman Black resigns**

Robert Black, the governor's director of communications, announced his resignation on July 14.

Black, who had served on Gov. Perry's staff since 2003, said he plans to form his own consulting business, specializing in public affairs and political and strategic

communications.

**Parks agency reports drownings**

At least 13 people drowned in public waters over the Fourth of July holiday, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department reported.

The total number of water-related fatalities in Texas is 66 so far this year; more than half of those deaths did not involve boats, according to TPWD.

**Toll moratorium gets extension**

U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, announced July 10 that she secured her amendment to a federal transportation spending bill that would continue the current ban on placing toll booths on interstate highways in Texas through September 2009.

However, efforts to toll newly constructed lanes or new highways are not prohibited in Sen. Hutchison's amendment.

The transportation spending bill, S.3261, moves next to the full Senate for consideration.

**Lawmakers promote propane use**

Three powerful Texas House committee chairs penned an open letter to all state and local leaders,

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State Capital



**HIGHLIGHTS**  
 By Ed Sterling

seeking to promote the conversion of vehicles to plentiful and clean burning propane fuel.

Among suggestions offered was replacing retired fleet vehicles such as school buses and garbage trucks with ones fueled by propane or natural gas.

"Escalating gasoline and diesel prices are threatening our national economy and draining our personal budgets," they wrote.

The letter, dated July 14, was signed by Rep. Jim Keffer, R-Eastland, chair of House Ways and Means; Rep. Warren Chism, R-Pampa, chair of House Appropriations; and Rep. Rick Hardcastle, R-Vernon, chair of House Energy Resources.

**Happy "Sweet 16" Birthday**  
 July 26, 2008  
 Sarah Marie Navarro

Love,  
 Coco, MoMo and PoPo Cardenas, Daddy, Momma and Bingo, Chach, Stacy, Bully, James and Binks

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**Let's Look Back... 24 YEARS AGO**

**August 9, 1984**

**Coby Shorter III** president of the Texas Association of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) was one of 100 state FFA officers who met on Tuesday July 24 President Ronald Reagan...

**Mrs. Loretta Faye Dutcher**, 39, of Lissie, passed away August 3. The funeral was conducted at 10 a.m. Monday, August 6 in the Dulany Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. E.B. Beasley, of the Lissie United Methodist Church officiating. Graveside services and interment was held at 4:30 p.m. Monday, August 6 in the Alazan Cemetery in Nacogdoches with Rev. Charlie Neighbors, of the Fredonia Hill Baptist Church officiating...

**Mrs. Elenore Noska**, 81, of Eagle Lake, passed away August 3 at 3:30 a.m. in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital. Services were conducted at 3 p.m. Sunday, August 5 in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church with the Rev. Ray Widacki officiating. Burial was in St. Anthony's Catholic Cemetery in Columbus...

**Mr. and Mrs. Howard Wilkerson**, announce the birth of their second child, a daughter, born on July 23 at 1:56 p.m. at the Eagle Lake Community Hospital. The baby was named Kayce D'Lanie and she weighed five pounds eight ounces...

**Mr. and Mrs. Thierry Hoff-**

man of Nada announce the birth of their second child, a daughter named Kinsey Lynn. The baby was born at 10:41 p.m. on July 18 at Eagle Lake Community Hospital and weighed six pounds, 12 ounces...

**Helen Pilkington** has been named Cystic Fibrosis chairman for the Gulf Coast Chapter of the

**Austin's On Top 50 BBQ List**

Austin's Barbecue was recently named one of Texas Monthly's top Barbecue Joints in Texas in the July, 2008 issue.

Texas Monthly sent out eighteen reviewers, they drove/flew a total of 14,773 miles, visited 341 barbecue joints and Austin's was one of their top picks!

The reviews found Austin's Potato Salad Two Ways (with mayonnaise or mustard) one of the best.

This is the third time Austin's has been on Texas Monthly's list (1998, 2003 and 2008).

Excerpts from the review: Austin's is a converted gas station with outdoor seating and service bays filled with two cast-iron pits.

Austin's has a full menu of brisket, sausage, pork, chicken, potato salad, cole slaw and more.

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation...

**Patricia Seaholm** of Eagle Lake, an independent beauty consultant for Mary Kay Cosmetics has just returned home from three days of intensive sales and product training in Dallas as a participant in Mary Kay's 1984 national seminar...

**Marine Pfc. James R.**

**Kretschmer, son of Lucy M. Ramsey** of Garwood, has completed the fiscal accounting clerk's course...

**Julie Ruffeno**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mac Ruffeno of Columbus will be representing Colorado County Farm Bureau in the queen and talent find contest...

Eagle Lake is known as the "Goose Hunting Capital of the World." Year after year, hunters flock to Austin's to get their fill of Texas barbecue. Austin's is also a popular choice for catering

private events. For more information, please call Austin's Barbecue, 979-234-5250 or the Chamber at 979-234-2780. Austin's website can be found at www.elc.net/austins.



Pictured above, Doug Beal, editor of the Headlight, receives a plaque from Rice CISD Board Vice President Vivian Spanihel in recognition of being named to the Texas Association of School Boards' Media Honor Roll.

**Beal Named To Media Honor Roll**

Douglas Beal of the Eagle Lake Headlight and Jacob Truchard of the Colorado County Citizen were named to the Media Honor Roll, a program sponsored by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB), by Rice Consolidated ISD.

The Media Honor Roll recognizes media representatives statewide who deserve recognition for fair and balanced reporting of news about public schools.

Media representatives from approximately 450 Texas newspapers and radio and television stations were honored by their local school districts.

Criteria for the district selection included the media representative's efforts to get to know the superintendent, board president, and the district's mission and goals; report school news in a fair, accurate, and balanced manner; give a high profile to positive news about schools; visit the schools; and maintain a policy of no sur-

prises by sharing information with school officials.

"Districts across Texas appreciate these reporters for their balanced and accurate approach to sharing both the challenges facing our schools and the successes achieved by local teachers, students, and school boards.

Their work aids local communities in focusing on the goal of providing the best public schools we can for every child," said Renard Thomas, TASB president.

The Rice CISD School Board passed a formal resolution and presented a personalized certificate to their nominated news media.

TASB is a nonprofit organization established in 1949 to serve local Texas school districts. School board members are the largest group of publicly elected officials in the state. The districts they represent serve more than 4.5 million public school students.

**ATHLETIC MOUTHGUARDS**  
 A mouthguard is a flexible appliance made from plastic that is worn in athletic and recreational activities to protect teeth from trauma. Anytime there is a strong chance for contact with other participants or hard surfaces, it is advisable to wear a mouthguard. Players who participate in basketball, softball, football, wrestling, soccer, lacrosse, rugby, in-line skating, martial arts, skateboarding, and bicycling should wear mouthguards while competing. A mouthguard can prevent serious injuries such as concussions, cerebral hemorrhages, incidents of unconsciousness, jaw fractures, and neck injuries by helping to avoid situations where the lower jaw gets jammed into the upper jaw. Mouthguards are effective in moving soft tissue in the oral cavity away from the teeth, preventing laceration and brushing of the lips and cheeks especially for those who wear orthodontic appliances. If you have any questions about mouthguards, call your dentist.  
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