

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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State Audit Shows Deficiencies In TxDOT Operations

AUSTIN - The Office of the State Auditor on Aug. 28 released an audit report on the Texas Department of Transportation's Financial Forecasting and Fund Allocation.

The overall conclusion was that "ineffective internal communication, a complex reporting structure and misunderstanding of reported data led TxDOT to overschedule \$1.1 billion in planned contract awards for fiscal year 2008."

And, the audit specified, "although the [TxDOT] has made organizational changes that should help reduce communication obstacles in the future, its reporting process still needs improvement."

Texas law requires TxDOT to contract for an independent audit of its management and business operations in 2007 and every 12 years after 2007.

Independent, external audits of TxDOT processes found weaknesses related to those the state reported.

New telemarketing rules to come

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott publicized the Federal Trade Commission's Aug. 25 announcement of a new rule governing prerecorded telemarketing calls.

Beginning Sept. 1, 2009, tele-

marketing companies must obtain call recipients' written permission before contacting them with a prerecorded message. More immediately, effective Dec. 1, 2008, prerecorded telephone marketing calls must have an opt-out mechanism so that recipients can elect not to receive those unsolicited calls in the future.

Telemarketers with pre-existing customer relationships will be allowed to continue using prerecorded messages to contact those customers only for one year after the rule is published in the Federal Register. At that time, telemarketing companies will need their customer's written permission before calling anyone with a prerecorded message.

However, under the new regulations, charitable organizations can continue contacting their members or previous donors, but will need to offer an opt-out mechanism once the new rule goes into effect.

The FTC's new rule will not prohibit customers from receiving certain prerecorded informational calls, such as those that announce flight delay notifications, upcoming appointments, or similarly helpful information. These phone calls are unaffected by the new rule because they are not used to market products or services to the recipient. Healthcare-related

phone calls also are exempt from the new regulations.

For complete details on the rule, go to www.ftc.gov.

Lottery privatization considered

State lawmakers met Aug. 27 at the Capitol to hear ideas on whether to privatize the Texas Lottery.

Scott Dudley of the Legislative Budget Board said the state's share of lottery proceeds is 26 to 28 percent, and 75 percent of the proceeds come from \$50 million in scratch-offs sold each week. But, Dudley said, sales are declining.

Representatives of some of the nation's largest brokerage houses testified at the hearing.

All pretty much agreed that the Texas Lottery could become more profitable, and that privatization is worth a look.

Lawmakers also heard anti-gambling testimony.

Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Lewisville, said she would want to make sure revenue from privatizing the lottery goes to fund education.

DPS cautioned holiday travelers

Before Labor Day weekend, the Texas Department of Public Safety sent out a reminder that drinking alcohol and driving shouldn't be mixed and wouldn't be tolerated.

These points were made:

-A Driving While Intoxicated

conviction stays on an offender's criminal and driving record forever.

-For the first offense, the law allows a maximum of six months in jail, a \$2,000 fine and a one-year driver license suspension.

-A DWI conviction also carries a \$1,000 surcharge for three years, in addition to any other fines or costs associated with the arrest.

The plan was for more law enforcement officers than usual to patrol roads, highways and interstates across Texas.

LBJ centennial is marked

On Aug. 27, the 100th anniversary of the late President Lyndon B. Johnson's birth was celebrated in Austin and at the Johnson

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



HIGHLIGHTS
 By Ed Sterling

family ranch in Stonewall. The LBJ Library and Museum staged a birthday party and launched "Space," a new display featuring the race to the moon in the 1960s.

Let's Look Back...

24 YEARS AGO

September 20, 1984

Sabino M. Cordova, 79, of Eagle Lake passed away Thursday, September 13 in the Eagle Lake Community Hospital at 7:15 p.m. following a lengthy illness. The funeral was held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, September 15 in Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with Rev. Ray Widacki officiating. Burial was at Lakeside Cemetery...

Mrs. Marie Williams was honored with a birthday party on August 25...

Dr. Jose M. Ugarte attended the annual scientific assembly of the Texas Academy of Family Physicians (TAFFP) in Houston.

The meeting was held September 7-9 at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel...

J.F. Ballew of Laredo, brother of Oscar Ballew of Eagle Lake, passed away Thursday, September 13 at the age of 74. He was buried in Sherman, and is survived by his wife and son of Laredo and brother...

Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Duncan went on an Alaskan cruise for two weeks in July. They boarded the ship in San Francisco, California and stopped at such beautiful places including Vancouver, British Columbia; Prince Rupert, British Columbia; Juneau, Alaska plus other places. They also cruised through Glaiser Bay. On their way home the ship stopped at Sitka, Alaska; Victoria, British Columbia, and Astoria, Oregon before returning to San Francisco. The Duncans reported on the beautiful scenery along the cruise and the weather couldn't have been better...

Mrs. C.E. Evoritt Jr., her daughter, Julie Gannon and her mother-in-law, Mrs. C.E. Evoritt Sr. toured Canada from September 1-10. They flew to Toronto, Canada and boarded a bus, which toured the Niagara Falls, Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston and Quebec. While there they saw the Pope and viewed many scenic areas...

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Dulany and children went to Florida from September 2-6 to Walt Disney World and toured the Epcot Center...

Tim and Judy Luedecke and T.J. and Kristi left the end of July to Florida and went to Walt Disney World and Epcot Center. On their way back they stopped in Slidel, Louisiana and stay a couple of days with friends...

Hazel Tise was a guest of her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. K.R. Blessing of Irving on a vacation to Honolulu, Hawaii. They spent a week in June touring Honolulu and expressed how lovely the weather was. On their way home they spent a couple of

days in Los Angeles, California... Eunice and Fred Frnka enjoyed a Hawaiian island cruise recently... Henry Dostal of Eagle Lake and Terry Dostal and Mr. and Mrs. Emil Hale returned Thursday from Colorado where Terry and the Hales were bow and arrow hunting for deer. Mr. Hale downed his buck on the second day. They all reported having a great time...

Miss Donna Trcka of Eagle Lake and Houston, bride-elect of Duane Farthing of El Campo, was honored with a miscellaneous shower on September 8 at 2 p.m. in the W.C.E.C. community room...

Larry and Darnell Varley of Sheridan are proud to announce the arrival of their first child, a son, born at 4:10 a.m. Friday, September 7 at DeTar Hospital in Victoria. Andrew Thomas tipped the scale at nine pounds, 11 ounces and measured 22 inches in length.

Taco Tony's Mexican Restaurant
 20 Calhoun Road • Eagle Lake
 979-234-3984

Breakfast Specials: Mon.-Fri., 8 to 11:30 a.m.

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.

Greater Rising Star Baptist Church Usher Department
 will sell Fried Fish Plates, Sat., Sept. 6 starting at 11 a.m.
 Plates are \$7 each and will consist of Fried Fish, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Bread, Cake and a Drink
 Contact 234-2423 for more information.
 Thank you in advance!

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

Grand Jury Hands Down 38 Indictments

The Colorado County grand jury on Thursday, Aug. 21, returned 38 indictments.

County Attorney Ken Sparks said it was the most indictments returned at one time since he has been in office.

Seven indictments were sealed, pending the arrest of the individuals.

Those indicted included:

--Anthony M. Barrios, 32, of Eagle Lake, manufacture or delivery of cocaine between 4 and 200 grams and possession of marijuana between 4 ounces and 5 pounds on July 25.

--James L. Black, 51, of Eagle Lake, possession of cocaine, less than a gram on June 30.

--Nicanor A. Campos, 27, of Houston, evading arrest on July 21.

--Willie L. Connor, 27, of Columbus, evading arrest on July 30.

--Andrew Gossamillo, 19, of Rock Island, possession of less than a gram of cocaine and 5 pounds or less of marijuana on Aug. 1.

--LaRay Glover, 28, of Colum-

bus, evading arrest on July 19.

--Teodoro M. Gonzalez, Jr., 53, of McAllen, possession of marijuana on July 23.

--David M. Guerra, 35, of Austin, evading arrest on July 17.

--Roy Hernandez, 44, of Columbus, assault causing injury, on July 30.

--Kenneth W. Kunetka, 54, of Weimar, possession of less than a gram of methamphetamine on July 18.

--Donisha D. Lewis, 30, of Columbus, aggravated assault on July 13.

--Bonnie K. Margolis, 51, of Weimar, felony DWI on July 4.

--Antonio H. Mendoza, 34, of Eagle Lake, felony DWI on June 6.

--Abel O. Morales, 27, of Houston, forgery on May 30.

--Stephanie N. Navarro, 24, of Eagle Lake, aggravated assault on July 7.

--Federico Pena, 45, of We-slaco, possession of marijuana on July 23.

--Michalle R. Richard, 24, of Columbus, felony DWI on July 20.

--Joseph Ruiz, 17, of Eagle Lake, aggravated assault on June 21.

--Martin Saenz, 43, of New Ulm, felony DWI on July 24.

--Angela L. Schuster, 27, of Eagle Lake, forgery on March 18.

--Savannah R. Spears, 21, of Eagle Lake, retaliation on Aug. 1.

--Joseph P. Williams, 30, of Baytown, theft of a bulldozer on July 21.

--Anthony D. Wright, 23, of Eagle Lake, two counts of aggravated assault and one count of unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon on July 20.

--Eruiin A. Zelaya, 21, of Houston, forgery on July 9.

Four Sentenced In County Court

Four individuals were sentenced in Colorado County Court on August 27 in Columbus. They included:

Doris Comacho, interference with public duties. Reduced to Class C, fined \$300 plus court costs.

Alonzo Gomez, Jr., possession of marijuana. Sentenced to 30 days in jail.

Oscar Favnera Herrera, JP Appeal. Fined \$99 plus court costs.

Jorge A. Salmeron, JP Appeal. Fined \$100 plus court cost, plus court costs and reduced to speeding less than 10% over limit.

Study Club Auction Plans Gearing Up

Continued from front page
 tion will start with auctioneer Dick and JaNene Richter presiding. Some of the many faithful donors who will again donate the same popular items as before are the Raymond Thomas Family's gourmet dinner for 8; Joan Matthew's bridge luncheon for 12; Vicki Powers cake-a-month for a year; Christine Herman Owen's batch of cookies-a-month for a year; Judi and Jack Johnson's four tickets for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo; the Arthur and Mark Anderson families each donating four Astros tickets; Martin Herman's choice of a variety of baked goods; a tree of your choice from the Glueck Tree Farm; Eddie Pavliska's cinnamon rolls.

Brand new items are: from Dina Kohleffel Livermore a delightful luncheon at her residence for 12 people followed by a guided

one hour 45 minute private tour of the Yuletide exhibition at Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens presented by Sally Luna scheduled in December.

Dina's husband, Bob Livermore is donating four tickets to a Rockets game with very special "ball rights". This means that if a child twelve years or older if one of the 4 guests, he or she will be able to dribble balls with the Rockets before game time!

There should be hot bidding for all of these items as well as for the other wonderful items.

So prepare for an entertaining

evening on the 20th as we gather as much support for our wonderful Wintermann Library as possible. Remember, that all during the main auction, starting at 7 p.m. there will be tickets drawn for super special items such as Visa cards, a gun, season tickets for the Stafford Opera House dinner theatre, a necklace, "fishing stuff" and others.

Tickets are \$20 each or six for \$100 and are available at the Library, Struss Co., Chamber of Commerce, and from Study Club members. Support your Library!!

2008 Colorado County Fair
 DESTINY DRIVE - MEMORY LANE
 Yesterday... Today... Tomorrow...
September 11-14 Tommorrow...
Colorado Co. Fairgrounds
 Hwy. 71 @ I-10 (Exit 695) - Columbus, Texas
 30th Anniversary

JOHNS GUNS THURSDAY * 8:00 PM
SOUTHBOUND 955 SATURDAY * 8:00 PM & Midnight
BART CROW FRIDAY * 8:30 PM
JOHN CONLEE SATURDAY * 9:00 PM
CHARLIE ROBISON FRIDAY * 10:30 PM
LITTLE TEXAS SATURDAY * 10:30 PM
THREE MAN BAND... SUNDAY * 1:00 PM **NEIL ROSS BAND**... SUNDAY * 4:00 PM

Carnival CPRA Rodeo BBQ Cookoff Petting Zoo
 Antique Tractor Pull Creative Homemaking
 Arts & Crafts Livestock Show & Sale
 Lanky the Clown Mechanical Bull and Much More!

\$10 Admission • \$5 Sunday Afternoon • Sunday- \$2 for Sr. Citizens • \$3 Ages 6-12 • 5 & under Free
 For more info visit us at www.ColoradoCountyFair.org
 or call 979.732.9266

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