

**THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT**

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**Texas Based Banks Remain Strong Amidst Turmoil**

AUSTIN - With the U.S. Congress on the verge of passing a Wall Street bailout bill, what repercussions lie in store for America remain to be seen.

Reports of troubled financial markets cause uneasiness or cast gloom. Here in Texas, however, there appears to be a bright spot despite the financial turmoil.

The outlook for Texas-based banks is strong, members of the Independent Bankers Association of Texas reported during the group's 34th annual convention Sept. 20-23.

Surveys conducted among the membership of the nation's largest state community banking organization showed that member banks are well capitalized and in good financial shape.

"Texas community banks did not participate in the exotic mortgage frenzy that created so much havoc across the nation,"

IBAT chairman Cliff McCauley said. "They stayed pretty much with the types of lending they have done for years, to local consumers and small businesses."

A small percentage of Texas-based banks will experience some losses related to the financial crisis, but the survey showed that none will be damaged significantly.

McCauley said the Texas economy is still strong and people still want to live in the Lone Star State. "Job growth, tax revenues, new construction, home sales - while no doubt impacted by the overall slowdown in the national economy - are still the envy of the rest of the nation."

"Many of our members see an increase in business opportunities as consumers seek stability and the comfort of doing business with someone who knows them and actually cares about their financial well-being," McCauley said.

The Independent Bankers Association of Texas represents some 2,000 Texas domiciled banks and branches. McCauley

is executive vice president of San Antonio-based Frost Bank, with 91 branches throughout the state.

**Hurricane recovery forges ahead**

Now, more than two weeks since Hurricane Ike tore through Texas Sept. 13-14, we're still in the early stages of recovery. Ike claimed 27 lives in Texas and damages may reach \$35 billion.

Repair, debris removal and aeration are hard at work. Aerial spraying for mosquitoes is under way. But in hard-hit Galveston, water and electrical services are not fully restored.

FEMA and HUD are helping displaced Texans find temporary housing and the Department of Labor approved a \$16 million federal grant to fund 600 temporary positions to assist in clean-up and recovery efforts.

On Sept. 23 in Washington, D.C., Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst testified before a U.S. Senate subcommittee on disaster recovery.

After acknowledging that Texas was granted 100 percent federal cost share for evacuees for 30 days, Dewhurst said, "Senators, 30 days is a real hardship.

The city of Galveston with 57,000 inhabitants, the city of Orange with more than 18,500 inhabitants, plus other heavy impact areas, are wiped out.

"Most homes and businesses have been damaged. Most electricity remains out. Most water and treatment facilities are damaged. Most sewage service and treatment facilities are down.

"It is estimated to take up to six months to make Galveston, Orange and other heavy-impact areas totally habitable.

"Texas respectfully asks that Individual Assistance be extended until the heavy impact areas are rebuilt and totally habitable. Again, treat us as Louisiana was afforded after Katrina."

**Insurers win in Sunset vote**

At a Sept. 24 meeting of the Texas Sunset Commission, lawmakers deadlocked on a proposal to require the state's five largest insurance companies to wait at least 30 days before raising rates on homeowners' insurance.

The deadlock translates to a win for insurance companies, so they will be able to increase rates without approval from the state

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

State Capital



**HIGHLIGHTS**  
By Ed Sterling

of Texas.

The proposal requiring a waiting period to raise rates was made by Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, D-McAllen, who noted that Texans pay the nation's highest rates.

**Evidence preservation is topic**

The collection, storage and preservation of evidence were discussed at a Sept. 25 meeting of the Texas Criminal Justice Integrity Unit. State Rep. Jim McReynolds, D-Lufkin, said he is concerned about wrongful convictions and the need for proper storage of biological evidence.

**EAGLE LAKE NAILS & EAST BERNARD NAILS**  
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**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.

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

**October 18, 1984**  
 Robert R. Pratt, son of Robert T. Pratt of Garwood recently enlisted in the United States Air Force on September 15...

Family and friends were shocked to learn of the death of Dennis Polach, 28, of Indianapolis, Indiana, formerly of Eagle Lake. Dennis passed away October 15 of an industrial accident in Indiana. A rosary was recited at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 18 in the Henneke Funeral Home Chapel. Services were held at 10 a.m. on Friday, October 19 in

St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Columbus with burial in St. Anthony's Cemetery...

Elenora Thuman and Henry Ruthledge were married 50 years ago on September 26, 1934 at the New Biellau Lutheran Church in Weimar. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ruthledge were remembered in this special occasion by their children. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ruthledge of Eagle Lake, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wright of Sheppard, Mr. and Mrs. Don Rossow of Pearland, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baca of Missouri City...

Gary and Suzette Harris added a new addition to their family. They became the proud parents of Garrett-Winchester on Sunday, October 7 at 5:57 p.m. He was born at Spring Branch Memorial Hospital in Houston and weighed in at seven pounds, one ounce and measured 19 1/2 inches long...

Buddy and Heidi Mills are proud to announce the birth of their second child, Heather Anne, born October 8 at 6:35 a.m. at the Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton. Heather Anne weighed seven pounds, six ounces and measured 19 1/2 inches long...

Mrs. Rosie (Henry) Reuther was honored on her 90th birthday with a lawn party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H.S. Hensley in Victoria...

Angela Rachelle Kallina and William Dudley Lehrer of Garwood were first place winners in the Tiny Tot beauty contest held October 6 in El Campo. She is the daughter of Carl and Marsha Kallina. Dudley is the son of Paul

and Monica Lehrer...

Henry A. Berger, 87, of Columbus passed away October 8 at his residence in Columbus. Rosary was recited at 7:15 p.m. on Tuesday, October 9 in the Henneke Funeral Home Chapel in Columbus. The funeral was conducted at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, October 10 in St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Columbus with Father Brian Crookes officiating. Burial was in St. Anthony's Catholic in Columbus...

Stacy and Marilyn Mueller are proud to announce the arrival of their nephew, Eric Shane

Kuntschick, born October 15 in Gonzales to Mike and Darla Kuntschick. He weighed eight pounds, two ounces at birth...

Mrs. Iva May Young, 84, of Garwood, passed away on October 10 at her residence. Services were conducted at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 13 in First United Methodist Church of Harlingen with Rev. Harold Goodenough officiating. Burial was in Combes Cemetery near Harlingen. Local memorial services for Mrs. Young will be held at 3 p.m. this Sunday, October 21 from the Lehrer Memorial United Methodist Church in Garwood.

**Rice Medical Center Employee Volunteers**  
**13th Annual Harvest Ball**  
**Saturday, October 11**  
**Eagle Lake Community Center**  
**Honoring Mrs. Elfe Thomas**  
 Social Hour 6 p.m. • Dinner 7p.m.  
 Salute to Honoree 7:30 p.m. • Dancing 8 :30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.  
 Purchase tickets now \$35 per person (includes open bar, rib eye dinner and dance)  
 By Mail: Rice Medical Center  
 Attn: Vicky Pavlu  
 P. O. Box 277  
 Eagle Lake, Texas 77434  
 Or by calling Vicky Pavlu @ 979/234-5571, ext. 5216

**2008 LIVE AUCTION ITEMS**

- Caribbean Cruise for Two, 7 days - Donated by employees of Rice Medical Center and Rice Medical Associates
- 8 Course Gourmet Dinner for 8 - Donated by Dr. & Mrs. Russell Thomas, Mr. & Mrs. Bret Pardue, Mrs. Elfe Thomas and Rice Medical Center Employee Volunteers
- One night accommodations and 18 holes of golf for two at ColoVista Country Club & Resort, Bastrop - Donated by Columbus Metal Bldg. & Roofing Products - Warren Guthmann
- Rifle - Donated by Eagle Lake Knight of Columbus
- Bridge Luncheon for 8 - Donated by Mrs. Joan Matthews
- One Cake a Month for a Year - Donated by Mrs. Vicki Powers
- Guided Fishing Trip for 3 - Donated by Jeff Glueck and Dr. Ramon Cantu
- Guided Goose Hunt with lodging for 2 - Donated by Tim Kelly's Waterfowl Outfitters Unlimited
- Four Astros Tickets with Parking - Field box level behind home plate - Donated by Mark and Becky Anderson

**SILENT AUCTION & DRAWING**  
 (Purchase a \$20 tumbler for a chance to win \$500)

**COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT**

**Sixteen Sentenced In District Court**

Sixteen individuals were sentenced in Colorado County District Court on Friday, September 26.

Melissa J. Beyer, criminal mischief. Probation conditions modified, 15 days in jail COP.

James E. Davidson, possession of controlled substance. Sentenced to five years deferred adjudication, fined \$500 and \$140 to DPS.

Demon L. Diggs, sex offenders duty to register 10 years. Sentenced to 12 months probated two years, fined \$500.

Vickie Y. Drake, burglary of

building. Sentenced to five years ID-TDCJ.

Carlos Garza, driving while intoxicated 3rd or more. Sentenced to 10 years probation, probated five years, fined \$600, 10 days in jail.

Eddie Ladale Glover, III, possession of controlled substance. Sentenced to 12 months state jail (no credit).

Eddie Ladale Glover, III, prohibited substance correctional facility alcohol/drug/phon. Sentenced to two years ID-TDCJ.

Teodoro M. Gonzalez, Jr., possession of marijuana. Sentenced to 15 years ID-TDCJ.

Chelsea Lynn Guerrero, assault public servant. Reduced to misdemeanor Class A. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$500, 10 days in jail, ordered to attend anger management classes.

Jamie M. Jackson, possession of controlled substance. Sentenced to three years deferred adjudication, fined \$500, \$140 to DPS.

Zachary Allen Kropf, possession of controlled substance. Sentenced to four years deferred adjudication, fined \$1,500, \$140 to DPS, 30 days in jail (2 days credit).

Donisha Lewis, aggravated assault w/deadly weapon. Sentenced to two years deferred adjudication, fined \$250 plus restitution.

Alexandra Llanos, man delivery of controlled substance. Sentenced to eight years deferred adjudication, fined \$250, \$140 to DPS.

Federico Pena, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to 15 years ID-TDCJ.

Christopher D. Reed, possession of controlled substance. Sentenced to seven months state jail.

Thomas James Sablatura, deadly conduct discharge firearm. Sentenced to three years deferred adjudication, fined \$250.

Maricella G. Siller, obstruct retaliation. Sentenced to two years ID-TDCJ.

Continued on page 3

**ASHES TO BEAUTY PRESENTS**

**Eagle Lake Community Outreach**  
**Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**11am - 2pm**  
**Eagle Lake Community Park**  
**FOR ALL AGES!!**  
 Free food, music, entertainment, games, and prizes.  
**See you there!**

*"Changing families, one person at a time."*

For more information you may call 234-3002.