

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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State Looks At Toll Road Practices

The Texas House tentatively approved HB 2142, legislation to prevent the Texas Department of Transportation from promoting toll roads.

Now the bill, by Rep. Ruth Jones McClendon, D-San Antonio, moves to the Senate for consideration.

An identical bill, SB 384 by Sen. John Carona, R-Dallas, gained Senate approval and has moved to the House for consideration.

Either bill, if passed, would put a clamp on TxDOT's practice of using various means to influence public opinion in favor of toll road construction.

Under the legislation, TxDOT no longer would be authorized to engage in marketing, advertising, or other activities for the purpose of influencing public opinion about the use of toll roads or the use of tolls as a financial mechanism.

"TxDOT needs to be committed to the goals of the public, not just promoting its own goals," McClendon said.

TxDOT would continue to have the authority to conduct marketing and advertising activities to inform the public in regard to the status of pending and ongoing toll projects.

Senate passes campus guns bill

The Texas Senate on May 19 approved a bill that would allow students who possess a concealed handgun permit to carry a firearm on college and university classrooms, dormitories and other public buildings on campus.

Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, author of SB 1164, said shootings at colleges in other states inspired his bill.

"They were picked off like sitting ducks in the classroom in Virginia," he said. "I just think we ought to be able to defend ourselves from that kind of situation. It happens very rarely, but when it does happen, it's catastrophic."

Show helps in appraisal protest

The Texas Comptroller's Office Internet site, www.cpa.state.tx.us, features a new slide show to help homeowners who are protesting their property tax appraisals.

"How to Present Your Case at an Appraisal Review Board Hearing: A Guide for Homeowners" makes the property tax process more transparent by providing easy-to-understand information

about what to expect at a property appraisal protest hearing.

"Homeowners are empowered by understanding the protest process, knowing what information to present to the local Appraisal Review Board and how to present it," Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said.

"It helps homeowners make convincing appeals and helps the review boards make better decisions."

Appraisal review boards generally hear property appraisal protests between May 15 and July 25, except in major urban areas with extended protest periods.

AG joins in 'false charity' sweep

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott on May 20 joined 33 state attorneys general and the U.S. Federal Trade Commission in an effort to stamp out fraudulent charitable solicitations nationwide.

Abbott launched an online

portal that gives Texans greater access to information about law enforcement organizations that rely upon telemarketing to raise funds from the general public: http://www.oag.state.tx.us/consumer/charitysearch_info.shtml.

"Operation False Charity" targets solicitors that misled Texas donors into believing their contributions will directly benefit law enforcement, firefighters, veterans groups, military personnel and organizations that serve them.

DPS is on buckle-up campaign

The Texas Department of Public Safety is conducting its eighth statewide "Click It or Ticket" enforcement campaign, May 18-31.

Nine percent of Texans are not buckling up, Texas Highway Patrol chief David Baker said.

Drivers who are pulled over for seat belt and child safety seat violations by troopers will receive tickets for those violations.

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS
 By Ed Sterling

Senate approves stem cell bill

Scientists working on adult stem cell research would be able to collaborate more easily under a bill approved by the Senate May 20.

SB 73 by Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, creates a framework to promote cooperation among organizations involved in finding medical cures through adult stem cell treatments.

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Let's Look Back...

24 YEARS AGO

June 20, 1985

William Alexander Lyle Sr., age 64, of Bay City passed away June 11, from injuries received in an auto accident on FM 102 in Eagle Lake. Services were held Wednesday, June 13 at 2 p.m. from the Taylor Brothers Funeral Chapel with Rev. William Haskell, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Church of Bay City officiating. Interment was in the Roselawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Van Vleck. Local arrangements were

under the direction of Dulany Funeral Home of Eagle Lake...

Army Private Daniel R. Galicia, son of Thomas Galicia of Rural Route 1, Eagle Lake, has completed basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C...

Calvin Parker and son from Denver, Colorado, **Clyde L. Parker** and daughter from San Antonio and **Royal Parker** from Houston visited their mother, Mrs. Lillie Parker, and sister, Mildred

Williams and family, of Eagle Lake...

James and Gail Matthys, of Beasley, announce the birth of their first child, a son, born on June 7 at 6:05 p.m. a Polly Ryan Hospital in Rosenberg. The baby was named **Justin Werner** and weighed six pounds, 13 ounces and measured 19 1/4 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Gene Pries of Rosenberg. Paternal grandmother is Laura Matthys of Eagle Lake.

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

Nine Sentenced In District Court

Nine individuals were sentenced in Colorado County District Court on Friday, May 22. They included:

Matthew S. Amezcuita, theft property, public serv/elderly. Sentenced to 180 days in jail.

Matthew S. Amezcuita, burglary of building. Sentenced to 180 days in jail.

George Wesley Boynton, IV, possession of a controlled substance. Probation conditions modified, to Nueces G. Treatment Center, one year extended and ankle monitor.

Patrick James Burge, driving while intoxicated-3rd or more. Sentenced to five years ID-TDCJ probated five years, 10 days in jail as condition of probation.

Brenda Cunningham Byrd, forgery financial instrument. Sentenced to three years deferred adjudication, fined \$1,000.

Frederick D. Ellison, delivery controlled substance. Sentenced to eight years to ID-TDCJ.

Joy Lynn Jezek, possession of a controlled substance. Sentenced to 180 days in jail.

John Ashley Murrin, driving while intoxicated-3rd or more. Sentenced to seven years ID-TDCJ

probated 10 years, fined \$1,000.

Angela Schuster, forgery financial instrument. Sentenced to two years deferred adjudication, fined \$500.

Isidro Vargas, driving while intoxicated-3rd or more. Sentenced to three years ID-TDCJ probated five years, fined \$500 and 10 days in jail.

Ten Sentenced In County Court

Ten individuals were sentenced in Colorado County Court on Wednesday, May 20. They included:

Mason Bergman, possession of marijuana. Dismiss motion to adjudicate.

Jessica Fern Chapman, assault causing bodily injury. Extended probation three months.

Michael Hubenak, driving while intoxicated. Pled to obstruct highway, dismiss Class C, fined \$850 plus court costs.

Chelsea R. Postell, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to three days in jail, fined \$350 plus court costs.

Cornelius Deshawn Ashton, theft stolen property. Fined \$100 plus court costs, \$79.41 restitution.

Robin Brewster, possession

of marijuana. Sentenced to three days in jail, fined \$250.

Joseph Chamberlain, driving while intoxicated. Sentenced to five jail, fined \$1,000 plus court costs, six month's driver's license suspension.

Johnny K. Matejek, burglary of vehicle. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$350 plus court costs, \$179 restitution.

Antonia Moreida, criminal mischief. Sentenced to one year probation, fined \$150 plus court costs, \$247.26 restitution.

Herbert Ramsey, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$250 plus court costs, ordered to attend drug classes.

One Suit Filed In District Court

One suit was filed in Colorado County District Court in the past week.

On May 26, Pharia LLC, filed suit against Olga Rodriguez in a dispute over payment on a credit card account. The amount in dispute is \$24,642.

Divorce Filed

Jennifer Marie Castillo and **Richard Jose Castillo**, May 26.

Former Eagle Lake Police Officer Slain

On May 20, at 5:31 p.m. the Colorado County Sheriff's Office was advised of a suicidal subject that was possibly under the Colorado River Bridge on Hwy 90A near Altair.

Deputies arrived at the location and initiated a dialog with the subject.

After approximately 20 minutes, the subject decided to end his own life by a self inflicted gunshot wound.

After an investigation at the scene, the body was transported

to the Travis County Medical Examiner's Office for an Autopsy.

The decedent was identified as **Timothy Scott Crume**, 38 of Eagle Lake.

Crume had worked for the Eagle Lake Police Department for about seven and a half years from 1995 to 2003.

He was currently working as a police sergeant in Hallettsville where he had worked since 2004.

Eagle Lake Police Chief **W. E. Lattimore** said the following about Crume:

"Tim chose a career as a peace officer so he could serve the public and make a positive difference in his community."

"I salute the good that was in Tim and the good things he did. Tim literally saved my life years ago and I have no doubt that I would not be here now if it were not for Tim."

"I mourn his passing and grieve for the good that was lost and the good that could have been. I pray that God's Peace remains with Tim's family."

Grand Jury

Continued from front page
 possession of controlled substance, March 19.

--Hoa N. Tong, Tulsa, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle on April 14.

--Edgar Vyera, unknown hometown, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, April 29.

--Datron R. Washington, Austin, bail jumping, May 4.

--Henry Wilson, Columbus, burglary of a building on March 17.

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