



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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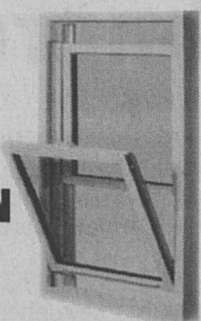
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Gov. Mansion Expansion Dropped

AUSTIN — A proposal to add a two-story addition to the Governor's Mansion has been abandoned by the State Preservation Board after a chorus of complaints.

Board Executive Director John Sneed said the proposed addition to the 153-year-old mansion has been withdrawn from consideration.

The Preservation Board was moving ahead with the expansion before the idea was greeted with a wave of protests.

House Speaker Joe Straus, R-San Antonio, recently objected to the 3,000-square foot addition.

He joined earlier objections voiced by former Govs. Dolph Briscoe and Mark White, both Democrats.

Straus is a member of the Preservation Board.

Gov. Rick Perry initially appeared to support the plan, but he backed off after it became a political liability.

The mansion is undergoing renovation after it was heavily damaged by an arson fire in 2008.

No one has been arrested in that incident.

Senate studies health care

In response to health care reform measures in Congress, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst has issued a charge to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee to study ways to make health care in Texas more affordable, accessible and efficient.

The committee will take on that task in the interim before

the 82nd Legislature convenes in January 2011.

"The problem with our health care system in America is not that we spend too little.

"The problem is that we don't spend our health care dollars effectively," Dewhurst said.

"America actually spends more per capita than any other industrialized country in the world, often with poorer results."

Dewhurst said committee members will study the effects of any federal health care reform bill on Texas; recommend changes in the exchange of health care information statewide to improve care; examine ways to improve Texans' health; and study ways to make use of best policies in health care.

State Sen. Jane Nelson, chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, said, "As we monitor the discussions about federal health care reform, it is important that we examine the underlying challenges in our health care system, as well as our broader mission to protect the overall health of our citizens."

Straus looks at budget

House Speaker Joe Straus has named a select committee to study how to manage a strained state budget in a declining economy.

The House Select Committee on Fiscal Stability will assess whether the state budget is facing a shortfall in 2011 and what to do about it.

Straus named state Rep. John Otto, R-Dayton, to chair the com-

mittee, and state Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-Houston, as vice chairman.

"Fiscally responsible work we do today will put Texas in better shape tomorrow," Straus said.

Perry refuses race-to-top funds

Gov. Perry said Texas would not compete for up to \$700 million in federal education grants, calling it a sprint to "mediocrity."

The Race to the Top grants, funded from the 2009 stimulus package approved by Congress, are to encourage education reform and innovation.

Perry said the grants are based on Texas developing national curriculum standards for math and English, which "smacks of a federal takeover of public schools."

Critics of Perry's position, noting that half the points toward the grants are based on past educational accomplishments, said the governor is admitting Texas cannot compete nationally.

Texas and Alaska are the only two states not participating in the development of national curriculum standards in math and English.

Perry's Republican primary opponent, U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, said she also would not have sought the grant money.

Cameras for state homes

Security cameras will be placed in the state's 12 homes for people with mental disabilities, formerly known as state schools.

After a series of violent incidents, the 2009 Legislature ap-

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

proved funds for the cameras to protect residents.

More than 3,000 cameras will be installed in 335 buildings.

Cameras already have been installed at the state home in Corpus Christi, where employees were found to be staging fights among residents.

Cameras also will be added to the homes in Austin, Abilene, Brenham, Denton, El Paso, Harlingen, Lubbock, Lufkin, Mexia, Richmond, San Angelo and San Antonio.

Reminder: registration deadline

Monday, Feb. 1, is the deadline to register to vote in the 2010 primary elections.

County offices, some post offices and libraries offer voter registration applications.

Texas residents also can print out a voter registration application available online at: www.votexas.org.

For more voting information, call the Secretary of State's voter hotline at 1-800-252-VOTE.

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AN AMERICAN
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Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

Feb. 13, 1986

Draper Stephens, manager of Eagle Lake Implement Co. was accepted into the John Deere Circle of Excellence in recognition of the company of outstanding achievement in sales for 1985...

Winners in the Eagle Lake Knights of Columbus Council 10th annual free throw contest were Albert Shropshire, Monica Vargas, Manuel Plata, IV, Jose Gonzalez, Ericka Trevino, Brian Amos and Laciencia Weeks...

On Jan. 30 Rice High School Cosmetology held its annual local contest. Winners advancing to district are Kimberly Aldridge, Sherri Frnka, Barbara Kuykendall, Lisa Owers, Shelley Owers, Lydia Rodriguez, Margaret Leal, Sherry Williams, Dalia Garza, Nelva de la Garza, Cheryl Semora and Monica Marsalia...

C.K. (Buddy) Randow of

Eagle Lake passed away Jan. 30 in Columbus...

Mayor Elmer Struss signed a proclamation designating the week of Feb. 14 as a "Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week." On hand for the signing were Helen Supak, president of the Ladies Auxiliary of Rice Area Memorial VFW Post 8783 and R.J. Armstrong, Post Commander.

Feb. 11, 1960

The Eagle Lake School Board of Education voted to extend the contract of Supt. Willard Etheridge. Etheridge became the superintendent following the death of E.B. Gibson...

Armit Thomas, 78, who celebrated his birthday, Feb. 2, is one of the community's oldest pioneer rice farmers...

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kretschmar honored their daughter, Kathy, with a dinner party on the occasion of her 13th birthday...

Fifteen couples enjoyed ballroom dancing at the Eagle Lake Community Center under the direction of Mrs. Nina Mascheck...

S.C. Stafford celebrated his 90th birthday Feb. 6 at his home...

Directors of Club Montezuma met and elected John Clipson president of the club for 1960. He will succeed R.H. Waddell...

The Eagle Lake Boy Scouts, Cubs, and Explorers are joining this week in observance of the 50th year of scouting. The Boy Scouts of America was formed in 1910...

Mrs. J. Ben Johnson was pleasantly surprised Feb. 4 as 19 guests arrived to help celebrate the occasion of her birthday...

Members of the Starlettes taking part in the freshman assembly are Susan Davidson, Glenda Altman and Judith Johnson...

Mark Anderson 1959 graduate of Eagle Lake High School is one of 100 new students who

enrolled in the Wharton County Junior College for the spring semester. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. B.D. Anderson...

Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Sens of Eagle Lake, announced the engagement of their daughter, Jo Ann, to Guy S. Burkhardt. The wedding will be held March 12...

Mr. and Mrs. H.F. Priesmeyer will be honored by their sons and daughter at a reception Feb. 21 in observance of their 50th wedding anniversary...

Rev. Joe R. Anderson will preach at the evening worship service of the Lissie Evangelical United Brethren Church...

Children and grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. M.E. Selph gathered to surprise Mr. Selph on the occasion of his birthday...

Mike Ware, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Ware was honored at Mrs. Eldin Kveton's play school Feb. 2 on the occasion of his 6th birthday.

COLORADO COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT

Grand Jury Indicts Thirteen

Thirteen individuals were indicted by the Colorado County Grand Jury on Jan. 12.

They included:

—Sharon Beyer, 23, of Weimar, for theft and engaging in organized criminal activity on Oct. 23.

—Jarmorris O. Brooks, 22, of Eagle Lake, for possession of a controlled substance, aggravated assault and unlawful possession of a firearm on Nov. 28.

—Joe E. Burley Jr., 50, of Weimar, theft on Oct. 29.

—Linda S. Cash, 60, of Weimar, theft of between \$1,500 and \$20,000.

—Quincy O. Diggs, 30, of Eagle Lake, assault on a public servant on Dec. 11.

—Monica M. Guerrero, 29, of Weimar, theft on Oct. 19.

—Ken D. King, 23, of Schulenburg, manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance on Dec. 2 and March 12.

—Hilarion S. Martinez, 57, of Weimar, felony DWI.

—Stanley D. Mitchell, 42, of Columbus, theft of more than \$1,500 on Nov. 17.

—Charles E. Mosby, 24, of Columbus, manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance on Dec. 15.

—Michael A. Nichols Jr., 26, of Columbus, assault on a public servant on Nov. 18.

—Jeremiah B. Williams, 23, of Weimar, manufacture or deliv-

ery of a controlled substance on Dec. 2.

One indictment was sealed, pending the arrest of the individual.

Thirteen Sentenced in County Court

Two individuals were sentenced in Colorado County Court on Wednesday, January 13. They included:

Luis Palacios, driving while intoxicated/ Pled to Obst. Hwy. Fined \$100 plus court costs.

Williams Rains, assault causes bodily injury family member and criminal mischief. Count I abandoned. Fined \$500 plus court costs and \$300 restitution on Count II.

Eleven individuals were sentenced in Colorado County District Court on Friday, Jan. 15. They included:

Gary Yarbrough Brooks, man del controlled substance. Probation conditions modified. One year extension.

Cameron Michael Burke, possession of controlled substance. Sentenced to two years deferred adjudication, fined \$1,000.

Monica N. Castillo, fraud use/poss identifying info. Motion to dismiss, motion to adjudicate or revoke.

Monica N. Castillo, fraud use/poss identifying info. Motion to dismiss, motion to adjudicate or revoke.

Monica N. Castillo, fraud use/poss identifying info. Probation conditions modified, sentenced

to 30 days in jail.

Mario Jose Garcia, possession of marijuana. Sentenced to eight years ID-TDCJ.

Gary S. Jones, aggravated assault date/family/house with weapon. Sentenced to three years deferred adjudication, fined \$1,000 to B.I.P.P.

Brandon R. Martin, unauthorized use of vehicle. Sentenced to 180 days in jail.

Stanley D. Mitchell, theft <\$1,500 2/more previous convictions. Count I, 18 months state jail; Count II, sentenced to three years ID-TDCJ.

Stanley D. Mitchell, theft <\$1,500 2/more previous convictions. Sentenced to 18 months state jail, 32 days credit.

Jesse Peterson, burglary of building. Sentenced to three years deferred adjudication, fined \$750, \$479 restitution.

James R. Plummer, II, theft of firearm. Sentenced to five years deferred adjudication, fined \$500.

David Earl Scott, credit card or debit card abuse. Sentenced to 18 months state jail.

David Earl Scott, credit card or debit card abuse. Sentenced to 18 months state jail.

David Earl Scott, evading arrest detention with previous conviction. Sentenced to 18 months state jail.

Frederick O. Wilks, Jr., burglary of building. Sentenced to three years deferred adjudication, fined \$250 and restitution.

Eagle Lake Chapter Ducks Unlimited Annual Banquet

Come Join Us! Saturday, January 23, 2010

Eagle Lake
Community Center,
100 N. Walnut Avenue

Advance Ticket Prices:

Individual: \$45

Couple: \$70

Sponsor: \$280

Sponsor Couple: \$300

Corporate Table: \$400

Ticket prices at the door will be higher.

Early Bird deadline: January 15

Event tickets include dinner, drinks, admission to the live/silent auctions, raffles and other drawings, membership in DU and a year of our magazine.

Please call for corporate table information:

Duane Olson: 281-414-4597
EagleLakeDU@gmail.com



Doors open: 5:30 p.m. • Appetizers: 5:30 p.m. Dinner: 7 p.m. • Auction: 8 p.m.
Register By Jan. 15 and be included in the Early Bird Drawing!