

NEWS BRIEFS

Citizen group files suit against Blinn

A Bryan citizen group filed a lawsuit Monday to stop the construction of a Blinn College campus on Villa Maria in Bryan.

The lawsuit, filed by Citizens United for a Responsible Bryan, names the City of Bryan, Blinn College, Bryan's mayor and city manager, the president of Blinn College and the president of the Blinn Board of Trustees as defendants.

CURB contends that the use of city funds and credit for the benefit of Blinn College violates the Texas Constitution, which prohibits such transactions.

CURB was formed in October 1994 to protest the construction of the campus for fear that the campus would cause traffic and parking problems and destroy the quality of life in the neighborhoods.

Warrant issued for suspected arsonists

The Bryan Police Department is searching for two men believed to be responsible for the arson of the Bryan Library on March 28.

Felony warrants were issued Saturday for Clyde Newton Settles and Ronnie O'Neal Jr., both of Midland, charging the two with arson and burglary.

Information obtained through a tip to the Brazos County CrimeStoppers provided the leads necessary to obtain warrants in the investigation.

Gov. Bush views end of former drug house

TAYLOR(AP) — With hundreds of residents looking on, a bulldozer crashed into a former drug house Monday, and Gov. George W. Bush hailed it as an example for communities across the state.

Bush's office said other cities are interested in duplicating the "Turn Around Taylor" program, which has seen volunteers armed only with hard hats and T-shirts march through a drug-infested neighborhood to chase dealers and customers away.

With the Taylor program as a guide, the governor's criminal justice division is launching a "Turn Around Texas" program.

Senate approves bills to suspend licenses of deadbeat parents

□ The bills, which passed the Senate without debate, would give judges another option in dealing with parents who fail to pay child support.

AUSTIN (AP) — Parents delinquent in paying child support could face the loss of their state driver's and professional licenses under bills passed Monday by the Texas Senate.

"I want the children of Texas addressed. I want child support paid and paid timely," said Sen. Chris Harris, R-Arlington, sponsor of the legislation.

"If getting the driver's license is what it takes to get somebody's attention, then that's what needs to happen," Harris said.

His bills passed the Senate without debate or objection and now go to the House, which has included similar license revocation provisions in a welfare reform bill.

The House bill, in addition to driver's and professional licenses, would provide for suspension of hunting, fishing and other recreational licenses.

The Senate legislation didn't include suspension of recreational licenses because of concerns about whether the state could enforce that provision and at what cost, Harris said.

"To really do this, you'd have to have a computer terminal every place a hunting and fishing license is sold," he said. "I don't think that there's that much of an advantage of taking a hunting and fishing license to justify that kind of cost."

But he said lawmakers still are studying the idea.

Harris said his bills would apply to a parent who owes child support that is at least 90 days in arrears and who has failed to comply with a payment plan for the past-due amount.

A petition to suspend a license could be filed with the state attorney general's office or in court, and suspension could be ordered following a hearing, according to the senator's office. The person who owes support would get a chance to present his or her side, and potentially work out a payment plan.

Harris said he doesn't know how many parents would fall under his legislation, but he said, "I'm sure it would be in the thousands and thousands."

The measure is meant to give more options to judges who now only have the authority to jail deadbeat parents, he said.

"In lots of counties, we still currently

have jail overcrowding," Harris said. "A judge can take the attitude that he rather have a murder and a rapist in jail cell ... instead of a parent who is paying their child support."

Gov. George W. Bush, who during last year's campaign voiced strong support for suspending the licenses of deadbeat parents, said he was pleased by the Senate action.

"I think it's going to be a very good tool for making Texans understand that they are responsible for their behavior," he said.

Bush said that although the legislation does not include the suspension of recreational licenses, driver's license suspension would affect someone's ability to obtain those permits as well.

"If you don't have your driver's license, you're not going to get a hunting or fishing license," he said.

HEALTH TIPS

Healthy treats provide alternative to traditional Easter baskets

By Cami Bremer
A.P. BEUTEL HEALTH CENTER

Spring is in the air. Easter is just around the corner.

Soon, the Easter Bunny will be hopping into our homes with treats to delight the whole family. The holiday is full of fun with candy and colored eggs, stuffed bunnies and chicks and Easter Lilies.

However, we may be faced with some choices that could boost our calorie and fat intake.

You may be planning to make an Easter basket for a little brother or sister, a niece or nephew, or someone special. Before you load the basket full of candy, remember that the typical basket could be loaded with up to 3,000 calories and 163 grams of fat.

You can limit the number of calories by putting smaller portions in the Easter basket or by balancing it with some healthier choices from the "Healthy Choice Basket."

By reading labels, you can be aware of the calories in each item. Remember that

no more than 30 percent of calories should come from fat.

The "Healthy Choice Basket" can be filled with healthier treats in plastic eggs. This can cut the calories to about 600 and the fat grams to 13.

Filling the basket with healthy snacks like pretzels, snack cookies or fruit will cut calories and emphasize healthy snacking.

It is important to remember that neither of the following two types of baskets are entirely good or entirely bad.

You may want to take ideas from both of these baskets and combine them to form a basket that provides treats, but at the same time, stresses the importance of a healthy diet.

Another way to stress the importance of a healthy lifestyle is to construct a theme basket

with items from a particular sport, items that stress personal improvement or items that stress relaxation.



TYPICAL EASTER BASKET

	Calories	Grams of Fat
1 large rabbit, 5 oz. hollow, milk chocolate	800	46
1 egg, 5 oz. creme-filled	690	30
1 rabbit, 3 oz. solid, milk chocolate	450	30
3 eggs, chocolate covered peanut butter filled	350	20
10 small chocolate eggs solid, candy covered	300	16
40 peanuts, 1 oz. dry roasted	170	15
8 malted milk robin eggs	240	6
TOTAL	3,000	163

HEALTHY CHOICES EASTER BASKET

	Calories	Grams of Fat
1 oz. raisins	28	0.0
3/4 oz. small bear-shaped cookies (about 20)	60	2.0
2 hard-boiled eggs	79	5.6
1 oz. low-fat cheese	72	4.5
18 to 20 jelly beans	200	0.0
15 grapes	51	0.3
1 Kiwi fruit	46	0.3
1/2 oz. pretzels (about 10)	55	0.5
TOTAL	591	13.2

ALTERNATIVE THEME BASKETS

- Spring Fun - exercise themes, tennis shoes, sunglasses, sunscreen, frisbee
- Picnic Basket - apples, oranges, bottled water, books
- Personal Basket - perfume, bubble bath, lotion, soaps, potpourri
- Sports Basket - baseball, tennis, fishing equipment
- Music Basket - tapes, magazines, a new instrument

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