

# Top officials mum about possible security improvements at Capitol

AUSTIN - Security concerns ballooned on Jan. 21, after a man fired pistol shots outside the south entrance of the state Capitol building.

Fausto Cardenas, the shooter, was quickly apprehended by authorities and no one was injured in the incident.

On Jan. 28, leaders met to discuss how Capitol security might be improved. Checkpoints and surveillance cameras were mentioned, but officials with the Texas Department of Public Safety, Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, House Speaker Joe Straus and others did not give deeper details after their closed-door meeting.

Visitors, employees, lawmakers and other public officials have enjoyed minimal scrutiny in their Capitol comings and goings, but the time for more

stringent measures may have come. The Texas Department of Public Safety has a force of trained officers stationed at the Capitol and the nearby Governor's Mansion. Still fresh in mind is the June 8, 2008, fire ruled as arson, that destroyed much of the mansion, prompting worries about security.

## Tax relief program to benefit many

In 2009, more than 2.3 million Texans claimed the Earned Income Tax Credit and received more than \$5.3 billion in EITC refunds, State Comptroller Susan Combs said Jan. 29. "That's an average of \$2,313 per qualifying household, bringing financial relief to families and a boost to the Texas economy," she said.

This year, more Texas families will be able to take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit because of the slow economy,

Combs said.

EITC refunds are based on family size and income. Families with three or more children and less than \$48,279 in earned income during 2009 may qualify for a tax credit up to \$5,657. Families with two children and an earned income less than \$45,295 can claim a tax credit up to \$5,028. Families with one child earning less than \$40,463 may qualify for a tax credit up to \$3,043. For a childless family earning less than \$18,440, a credit up to \$457 is available. Call the Internal Revenue Service at (800) 829-1040 for details.

## Unemployment rate increases

Texas' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 8.3 percent in December, up from 8 percent a month ago, the Texas Workforce Commission reported Jan. 21. The U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for

December was 10 percent.

In other labor news, on Jan. 25, Tom Pauken, Texas Workforce Commission chief, released new federal labor statistics showing Texas created more private sector jobs than any other state in the nation over the last 10 years and has the lowest unemployment rate among the 10 largest states in the nation.

Current Employment Statistics for December 2009 show Texas created 724,300 more net private sector jobs as compared to December 1999, the largest private sector job gain nationwide over the last decade.

## Debates slated for guy candidates

Incumbent Gov. Perry, U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison and Debra Medina of Wharton County, all Republican candidates for governor, have debated twice before a large broadcast audience, first on

Jan. 14 and again on Jan. 29.

The second and final debate for the Republicans was staged at WFAA-TV, a Dallas station owned by Belo Corp. Reporters peppered the three candidates with questions on jobs, taxes, health care and transportation.

Now it's the Democratic candidates' turn. Former Houston Mayor Bill White and hair products millionaire Farouk Shami of Houston will square off in their own debate to be broadcast live on Feb. 8.

## Former Commerce chief dies

Gov. Perry directed Texas flags to be flown at half-staff at state buildings on Jan. 27 in memory of Texas businessman Robert Mosbacher Sr., U.S. Commerce Secretary from 1989 to 1992.

Mosbacher, 82, died of pancreatic cancer on Jan. 24 at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson

Cancer Center in his hometown of Houston.

## Magazine rates Texas near top

Forbes magazine, in a special "Global Debt Crisis" report published Jan. 20, ranked Texas as having one of the lowest debt burdens in the country compared to the other 49 states.

Texas ranked fourth overall behind Utah, New Hampshire and Nebraska. Conversely, California, Connecticut, New York and Illinois ranked 47th through 50th, respectively.

## Early voting to begin Feb. 16

Feb. 1 was the last day to register to vote in 2010 primary elections on Tuesday, March 2. The first day of early voting is Feb. 16 and the last day of early voting is Feb. 26.

## WILLACY COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT 90-DAY ELECTION NOTICE

An election will be held on May 8, 2010, for the purpose of electing five (5) directors to the Board of Directors of Willacy County Hospital District - two (2) from Willacy County Commissioner Precinct One, two (2) from Willacy County Commissioner Precinct Three and one (1) for the At Large Position.

Any person desiring to have his or her name printed on the ballot as a candidate for director will file a petition with the secretary of the board of directors, signed by at least ten qualified voters asking that such name be printed on the ballot. Said petitions will be filed with the secretary not later than the 61st day before the election. To be entitled to a place on the list of write-in candidates, a candidate must make a declaration of write-in candidacy. The declaration of write-in candidacy must be filed with the secretary not later than the 54th day before the election.

To qualify for election to the board, a person must be a qualified voter and a resident of the commissioner precinct for which he or she is a candidate, with the exception of the at large position for which the candidate may be a resident of any precinct in the district.

Questions regarding the election should be directed to its office at 1623 South 15th Street, Raymondville, Texas, 78580, or by phone to 956-689-6565.

Issued this 3rd day of February, 2010.

Linda Dominguez, President  
WCHD Board of Directors  
5-1TC

## LASARA I. S. D.

P. O. BOX 57  
LASARA, TEXAS 78561  
(956) 642-3598

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, February 10, 2010 at 6:00 P.M.  
Lasara I. S. D. Comunity Resource Center

The Lasara Indepent School District Board of Trustees will conduct a hearing to review the following item:

1. Review Lasara ISD Performance in the Academic Excellence Indicator System for 2008 - 2009
2. Review Lasara Elementary Campus Academic Performance

Any interested person can participate in the hearing by signing up with school board president before 6:00 P. M.

Mr. Rolando Peña, Superintendent

5-1TC

## PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY

The City of Lyford is accepting sealed bids for the purchase of City-owned real property described below. The City will consider bids offering cash and/or other real property. Bids must be for all of the real-property described below and not just for a portion thereof. No late bids will be accepted. The receipt of responses does not require the City to accept any bid, enter a contract or to complete a sale or exchange.

The City will receive responses to this Sealed Bid at the City of Lyford, Attention: Lydia Moreno, City Secretary, 13550 Main Street, Lyford, Texas 78569 until February 8, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. Questions concerning the bid must be submitted in writing via email at [Clyford@grandriver.net](mailto:Clyford@grandriver.net). The bids will be publicly opened and read at the Lyford City Hall, 13550 Main Street, Lyford, Texas on February 8, 2010, after closing of the bids.

Description/Location: Lots Four (4), Five (5), Six (6), Seven (7), and Eight (8), Block Twenty-Six (26), Original Townsite of Lyford, Willacy County, Texas, according to the official map or plat thereof recorded in Volume 528, page 144, Map records, Willacy County, Texas.

Conditions of Sale: On or before sixty (60) days from the closing, purchaser shall begin construction of a multi-family housing complex. Purchaser must comply with the City's zoning ordinance and building requirements.

Minimum Bid Amount: Bids must be for all of the property to be sold, with a minimum bid of \$30,000.00 (thirty thousand dollars). Earnest money deposit \$1,000.00. Closing costs to be paid by the buyer.

The City of Lyford reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Henry De la Paz, Jr.  
Mayor

4-2TC

## ORDINANCE NO. 10-01-25

### ORDINANCE PROVIDING THE CREATION OF A 4-WAY STOP CONDITION AT THE FOLLOWING INTERSECTIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF LYFORD, TEXAS, that:

1. A 4-way stop condition will exist at the following intersections:

#### West Side of Bus. Hwy. 77

- Intersection of Park Avenue and La Noria Avenue

2. The above conditions shall be in effect at all times every day.

3. Should any section, subsection sentence, provision, clause or phrase be held to be invalid for any reason, such holding shall not render invalid any other section of this Ordinance and for this purpose the sections are deemed to be severable.

4. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby expressly repealed.

5. That any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of the Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each violation hereof and each day such violation shall be permitted to exist shall constitute a separate violation.

7. That this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the City of Lyford.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** on this the 25th day of January, 2010.

City of Lyford

Henry De la Paz, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Lydia Moreno  
City Secretary

4-2TC