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-VOLUME 16, NO. 96 THURSDAY MAY 11, 2000-

According to a family member, 45-year-old Jerry Bishop of Liberty remains in very critical condition, but life signs have stabilized and his doctors say that is a slight improvement. The former Liberty resident and father of three was one of six people injured in a gas leak explosion on Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Bluewater Plant near Greenville, Mississippi. The hope had been to transfer Jerry Bishop to Hermann Hospital in Houston, but doctors at the Delta Regional Hospital in Greenville said the comatose man is still too critical to be moved.

The Liberty- Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce Monthly Luncheon will be this coming Wednesday May 17<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Liberty City Hall Auditorium. Guest speaker will be Bob Allen from KTRK Channel 13 in Houston, who will discuss the "Sunshine Kids" Charity Program. Lunch will be crawfish etouffee by Fontenot's Cajun Foods Tickets are \$6 each and reservations should be made early by calling 336-5736.

Tuesday night City Manager Kerry Lacy informed the Liberty City Council that a recent video inspection had revealed serious problems inside the above ground and ground water storage tanks next to the city's power plant at Monta and Main. Lacy said there were also major rust problems on the legs and struts of the above ground tank. Lacy said the problems should be addressed early in the fall after the new fiscal year begins. Cost of repairs could run as high as \$150,000. In other action at Tuesday's council meeting, the winners of Saturday's council election were installed. The oath of office was administered first to Mayor Bruce Halstead, then to council members Dennis Odell, Mike McCarty and Michael Mark.

The Liberty and Dayton Post Offices will once again participate in the Annual National Letter Carriers Food Drive this Saturday. To donate, just leave non-perishable food items such as beans, rice, baby food or peanut butter in or near your mailbox Saturday morning for pickup. Last year, postal workers gathered almost 14,000 pounds of food for donation to local charities such as the Dayton Food Bank and the Liberty Spirit of Sharing.

**FUNERAL: Edward "Ellison" Jutson, 35, Services at 10 a.m. tomorrow at Sterling Funeral Home in Dayton. \*\***

**\*\* LAKE RELEASE: 13,000 CFS \* LIBERTY BRIDGE: 15.76 ASL \*\***

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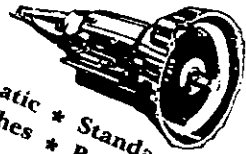
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