

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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Gov. Asks For FEMA Wildfire Aid

AUSTIN — More than 5,300 wildfires have burned an estimated 940,000 acres and destroyed 140 homes in Texas, the governor's office reported on March 20.

Gov. Rick Perry is urging the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide more assistance in dealing with three months of wildfires that have burned in 216 of Texas' 254 counties since Jan. 1.

In a letter to FEMA chief David Paulison, Perry requested that the state be reimbursed in full for wildfire-related efforts carried out since January.

State and local governments have spent \$20.5 million on this so far. FEMA has spent \$75 million.

But FEMA isn't the only agency that can help. Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples wrote a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, asking for an increase in assistance for farmers and ranchers who have suffered damages due to wildfires.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department reported a massive wildfire that torched 95 percent of the 15,200-acre Chaparral Wildlife Management Area in South Texas, but much of the wildlife on the state's premier public hunting site escaped harm.

Bowling Congress to move here
 The United States Bowling

Congress plans to move its headquarters from Greendale, Wis., to Arlington, Texas, and bring 200 jobs.

A \$693,000 award from the Texas Enterprise Fund may have helped in the group's decision to relocate.

The fund, created by the Legislature in 2003, is used to recruit and bolster business. To date, the fund has helped projects generating more than 51,800 new jobs and \$15.6 billion in capital investment in the state, the governor said.

Ethics agency fines former rep

On Feb. 12, the Texas Ethics Commission adopted a ruling that former state Rep. Toby Goodman, R-Arlington, used campaign donations to buy real estate, in violation of the state election law.

The commission imposed a \$10,000 civil penalty against Goodman and on March 11 ordered payment within 30 days.

The ruling came about as the result of a complaint filed in 2006 by the Dallas-based Texas Values in Action Coalition.

Goodman, who represented House District 93 from 1991 to 2006, on March 20 said he plans to appeal the ruling.

Travis DA investigates speaker
 When the 81st regular session

of the Texas Legislature convenes in January, the 150 members of the House may reelect House Speaker Tom Craddick or choose someone else.

The office of the Travis County district attorney has been investigating a criminal complaint against Craddick, R-Midland.

Texans for Public Justice, a government watchdog group, filed the criminal complaint against Craddick, alleging he sent campaign money to a political action group and illegally instructed the group to write checks to the campaign funds of lawmakers that might make a difference to him early next year.

State law prohibits the use of campaign funds for such a purpose, and Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle said he plans to review the matter.

County asks AG about bonuses

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott on March 11 received a request for an opinion on a legal matter that may be of interest to all 254 counties in Texas, and to all taxpayers.

Midland County Attorney Russell W. Malm, in a written request, asked if it is legal for the county to pay performance bonuses to its elected officials.

Malm said the county judge is

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State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS
 By Ed Sterling

interested in adopting such a plan, subject to approval by the county commissioners court.

The attorney general's office issues most opinions within 180 days of the request.

Berlanga's request is denied

The State Board of Education will vote on a new set of English reading and writing standards at its March 27 meeting.

A week before the meeting board member Mary Helen Berlanga of Corpus Christi and state Rep. Abel Herrero, D-Robstown, asked that time be allotted for expert input on learning styles of Hispanic children.

SBOE chair Don McLeroy of College Station said there was no time available to accept the proposed input.

Eagle Lake Knights of Columbus

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Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

March 8, 1984

Philip E. Leopold from Eagle Lake, has earned Distinguished Student status at Texas A&M University. Leopold is a senior industrial engineering major. He is the of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Leopold...

Eugene Lamar Guyon of Eagle Lake was on the list of degree recipients, announced by Dean William H. Cunningham, who was awarded a master's degree from the University of Texas Graduate School of Business at the end of the 1983 fall semester...

Gilbert Corella, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Corella, auditioned in a national competition for Disneyland—Disney World. He has been selected to perform with the All-American college band at Disneyland in California...

Funeral services for Frank Alvarado, Sr. were held Monday, March 5 at Our Lady of Guadalupe

Church with Father Ray Widacki officiating...

Ervin Richter, father of Janet Schorlemmer and Larry Richter of Eagle Lake, passed away February 20 at his home in Georgetown. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. February 22 at Zion Lutheran Church in Walburg, Texas. Interment followed in Zion Lutheran Cemetery...

Professor Eugene Hubert Henry, Sr. of Elm Grove, former principal of E.H. Henry High School, passed away March 5 at 10 p.m. Funeral services will be held

this Saturday, March 10 at 2 p.m. from the Tabernacle in Egypt.

April 7, 1960

E.H. Shirley elected mayor with a total of 261 votes. Sam Davidson and Alvin W. Kohleffel named as councilmen...

Gerald Birdwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Birdwell, received grand prize award in the Regional Science Fair on the campus of Baylor University...

W.H. Abell of Garwood passes away April 3 at the age of 82. Funeral services were held April 5...

Stanley Whitley, and Misses Vivian Priest, Donna Behrens, Martha Black and Rita Dromgool were elected as cheerleaders for the 1960-61 school year for Eagle Lake High School...

Sock Hop to be held at Community Center Friday...

Jeff Frnka takes lead in Chamber of Commerce sponsored fishing contest with his big one pound, 13 ounce white perch he caught. His mother, Mrs. Eunice Frnka, won top honors last week with a two pound, seven ounce bass.

Poison Prevention Week Observed

National Poison Prevention Week is observe March 16-22, 2008 and is a national awareness week that the Poison Prevention Week Council organizes each year, say Sally Garrett, County Extension Agent - Family & Consumer Sciences.

Unintentional poisoning is second only to motor vehicle crashes as a leading cause of unintentional injury death in the United States. More than 23,000 unintentional poisoning deaths occurred in the United States in 2005 and almost all of them were due to drugs.

In 2006, poison control centers reported about 2.4 million incidents where people were exposed to poison. About 85% of these exposures were unintentional and more than 92% occurred in the home.

Just over half the poison exposures reported to the poison control centers affect children younger than six years. Exposures in this age group commonly involve cosmetics and personal care products, cleaning substances, pain relievers, topical medications, foreign bodies, cough and cold preparations, and plants. Adult exposures often include pain relievers, sedatives,

or cleaning substances.

The Soap and Detergent Association (SDA) has a list of Dos and Don'ts for Poison Prevention that can serve as guidelines to help ensure that unintentional exposures do not occur:

DO store cleaning products in a locked closet or cabinet away from food, and not accessible to young children.

DO store products in their original container and never remove product labels. Product information, precautions, and first aid instructions vary. It can be dangerous to use a product incorrectly or follow the wrong emergency treatment guidelines. You will need to give product details to the Poison Control Center expert if there is an unintentional exposure.

DO schedule routine cleaning of surfaces and dishwashing when there is a lull in activities, such as nap time, or when children are not in the room.

DO put the product away immediately after removing the amount needed for the cleaning job at hand.

DO rinse measuring cups after each use to avoid accidentally mixing products.

DO be aware that some cleaning product - like oven or drain cleaners - present a significant potential hazard. Use these products with great care.

DO Dispose of empty cleaning product containers carefully and promptly. Follow label instructions for disposal and replace the cap to protect children, pets and garbage handlers.

DON'T mix cleaning products. Some products can become dangerous if mixed with other products.

DON'T allow distractions or interruptions when an adult is cleaning.

DON'T leave cleaning buckets containing even small amounts of liquid unattended, and never allow unattended toddlers around buckets while in use.

KEEP the phone number to the Poison Control Center's Hotline handy in case of an unintentional exposure - 1-800-222-1222.

For a copy of the SDA's Clean and Safe in the 21st Century or for further information, contact the Colorado County Extension Office at (979) 732-2530.

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Canaris In Hospital In Houston

Family and friends of Tallon Canaris, age 11, son of Peter and Kari Canaris, are sending him get well wishes and hope he gets to come home real soon.

Tallon was admitted into Texas Children's Hospital on Monday, March 24. If you would like to call or send him a card:

Texas Children's Hospital Tallon Canaris, Room 1423 6621 Fannin Houston, TX 77030 Ph# 832-826-1423

You can also send a greeting card via email at the following link at Texas Children's Hospital: <http://www.texaschildrens.org/parents/patientgreeting/default.aspx>.