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ASSOCIATION**

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State Officials To Challenge EPA Clean Air Finding

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry, Attorney General Greg Abbott and Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples on Feb. 16 announced the state had filed legal papers to challenge the EPA's endangerment finding.

The issue for Texas, the three officials said, is that tighter regulations would be damaging to energy sector industries, farmers, ranchers, small businesses, and to the economy at large.

In Dec., the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published the endangerment finding showing evidence that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases have negative effects on human health.

The finding opened the door to tighter regulations on the release

of greenhouse gases under the federal Clean Air Act.

The Texas officials' challenge also suggests the endangerment finding is not to be trusted because the EPA outsourced its scientific assessment to the International Panel on Climate Change, a research organization that has been accused of using phony data overstating the effects of human activity on the world climate.

progress report from the agency's new chief executive Chris Traylor when the committee meets in March.

Traylor was named commissioner of the agency effective Jan. 1.

Decennial redistricting lies ahead

The House Redistricting Committee met Feb. 10 to consider matters relating to the upcoming 2010 Census and population estimates used to forecast Congressional apportionment and redistricting.

Based on the recent population surge putting the state population near 25 million, the Texas delegation in the U.S. House of Representatives could grow to 36 members from 32.

A four-seat gain would be the

biggest between-decades gain for Texas since at least 1900.

The state gained three seats after the 1930, 1980 and 1990 censuses.

Texas gained two seats after the 2000 census.

A total of 38 Local Census Offices are operating across Texas.

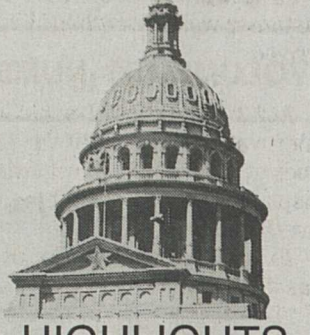
Road safety campaign begins

The Texas Department of Transportation in mid-February launched a campaign with advice for toll road users, such as:

- Slow down in toll plaza cash lanes and on exit ramps
- Never back up to change lanes on a toll road
- Avoid driver distractions, such as talking or texting on cell phones

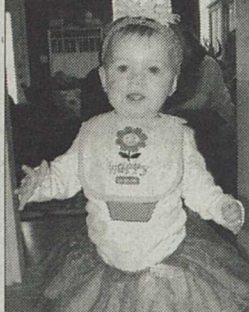
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling



Fallan Elizabeth Wied celebrated her first birthday with a party on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 13, 2010.

The party was hosted by her parents, Doug and Lana Wied, at their home in Garwood.

Party decorations featured a cupcake theme with toy doys and 1st birthday balloons, which were presented to the young guests for party favors.

The meal consisted of hamburgers grilled by her godfather, Shea Swoboda, chips, dip, pig shaped cookies, tortilla pinwheels, and cupcakes.

Special guests were her grandparents, Truman and La Nelle Engstrom, Jr. And Mark and Jane Wied; great-grandmother, Mary Lou will, Aunt Laura Engstrom, uncle Jacob Engstrom, uncle David Peacock, Madeline, Sam, & Gus Peacock, along with other aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

The birthday girl received a slide from her parents, a picnic table and a water table from her grandparents, and a variety of toys, clothes, and money from guests.

Her actual birthday was February 11.

"With billions of dollars at stake, EPA outsourced the scientific basis for its greenhouse gas regulation to a scandal-plagued international organization that cannot be considered objective or trustworthy," Abbott said.

"Prominent climate scientists associated with the IPCC were engaged in an ongoing, orchestrated effort to violate freedom of information laws, exclude scientific research, and manipulate temperature data. In light of the parade of controversies and improper conduct that has been uncovered, we know that the IPCC cannot be relied upon for objective, unbiased science, so EPA should not rely upon it to reach a decision that will hurt small businesses, farmers, ranchers, and the larger Texas economy."

Plane hits office building, 2 dead

About 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 18, a solo pilot identified as Austin resident Joseph Stack, 53, steered his single engine Piper Cherokee into the seven-story Echelon I office building in the northwestern part of the city.

The plane exploded on impact and ignited a fire that endangered the lives of dozens of office workers and resulted in the deaths of Internal Revenue Service employee Vernon Hunter, 67, and Stack.

Thirteen others reportedly were injured.

Stack, a computer engineer, operated a personal Web site where writings that likely were his own railed against the IRS, the Catholic Church and other entities.

The matter is under investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Lawmaker: Inaction unacceptable

State Rep. Patrick Rose, chairman of the House Human Services Committee, on Feb. 12 called a state agency's record in taking action to nursing home complaints unacceptable.

Rose, D-Dripping Springs, said the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services' backlog in response to complaints and incidents at nursing homes "must be cleared swiftly and the state must also ensure, moving forward, that deficiencies found in nursing homes are addressed."

Rose said he expects to hear a

Let's Look Back... 24 & 48 YEARS AGO

March 20, 1986

Former students, friends and colleagues of O.D. Sewell were saddened to hear of his sudden death on Feb. 4 in Hearne. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sewell were long-time teachers in the local school systems...

The Greater Rising Star Baptist Church once again is having their second annual youth benefit sponsored by Wilma Tillman. Dr. Russell Thomas and Rocket Robert Reid will speak at the benefit...

Mr. and Mrs. James Stevenson of McKinney, announced the birth of their first child, a daughter, born March 10. Natasha Anne weighed six pounds, two ounces. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Cecil A Smith of Garwood...

Ms. Kaye Hemphill and Mr. Dennis Hemphill are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Janice to Terry Lee Cunningham, son of Rev. and Mrs. T.J. Cunningham, Jr. of Matthews. Kaye and Terry will be wed April 26...

Brian Thomson and Jose Ugarte, III, both of Eagle Lake,

became members of the Sigma Chi fraternity and its newly chartered chapter at Southwest Texas State University...

A birthday party was held for Willie Noska, Sr. at his residence on March 16. His actual birthday was March 10. Mr. Noska turned 82.

March 17, 1960

Billy Uzzell was named to the District 25-A cage team...

Army Pvt. James L. Meisner, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Meisner of Nada is receiving 8 weeks of advanced individual artillery training at the Artillery and Missile Center in Fort Sill, Oklahoma...

A prominent state official, State Comptroller Robert S. Calvert, was a visitor in Eagle Lake...

The Administration and Faculty of Southwestern University recently honored student who achieved the University Distinction List. Among those honored were Miss Lydia Jean Causey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed H. Causey of Eagle Lake...

Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Larmer of Brazosport passed through Eagle Lake on their way to Fort Worth where they went to receive

6-day-old twin boys who will make their home with them by adoption. The youngsters have been named Brent Clayton and Seth Reagan Larmer...

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stone of Garwood announced the arrival of a baby daughter, Janet Lynn, born March 10 in Wharton...

Pearl Farrow, 60, well known and respected citizen of the community, passed away in Laughlin Hospital on March 8...

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Lundquist were honored with a reception on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary...

Bill Eggers, Wallis High School sprint star, won the 100 and 220 yard dashes at the QB Night Relays to also win top individual scoring honors. He received his trophy from the Track Queen Miss Judy Clipson...

The Eagle Lake Rotary Club elected officers for the 1960-61 year beginning July 1. Harold Thomas was elected president to succeed William Farris. Other officers included Fulton Dromgoole, vice-president; Leon J. Spanihel, secretary; Sam H. Broyles, treasurer; and Jack Mann and Clyde Brown, directors.

Colorado County Courthouse Report

Eleven Sentenced In County Court

Eleven individuals were sentenced in Colorado County Court on Wednesday, Feb. 17. The included:

Calvin Price Bedford, assault causes bodily injury. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$150 plus court costs, 10 days in jail as COP, \$586.14 restitution.

Wayne Brown, theft stolen property >=\$20<\$500 by check. Fined \$100 plus court costs.

Adrian Lynn Campbell, Jr., assault causes bodily injury. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$150 plus court costs, restitution, ordered to attend anger management classes.

Ernest Henry Barton, criminal mischief >=\$500<\$1,500. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$100 plus court costs, 10 days in jail as COP, \$586.14 restitution.

Andrew Martin Serrato, driving while intoxicated. Sentenced

to one year probation, fined \$500 plus court costs, interlock device, DWI impact panel.

Robert MacCready, possession of marijuana <2 oz. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$250 plus court costs.

Christopher L. Machart, possession of marijuana <2 oz. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$250 plus court costs.

Ruben Mendez, driving while intoxicated with previous conviction. Sentenced to six months deferred adjudication, fined \$350 plus court costs.

Phillip A. Prause, assault causes bodily injury family member. Sentenced to one year deferred adjudication, fined \$150 plus court costs, ordered to attend anger management classes and alcohol evaluation.

John Robert Villanueva, resist arrest, search or transport. Sentenced to 300 days in jail.

Reginald Ward, assault causes bodily injury. Sentenced to 180 days in jail, plus court costs, \$1,658.78 restitution lien.

Three Killed In I-10 Collision

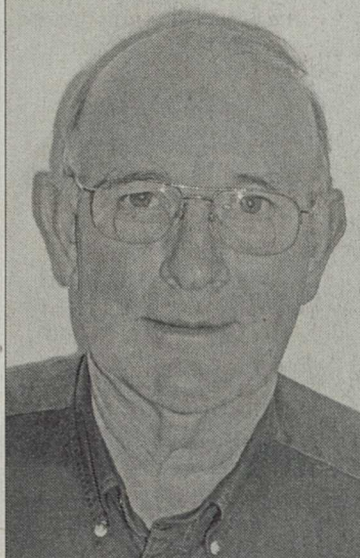
Three people were killed and one injured in a three-vehicle wreck about eight miles east of Columbus on Wednesday, Feb. 17.

The accident occurred about 7:15 p.m. when an eastbound tractor-trailer truck left the roadway,

Continued on page 10

Correction:

In the story about the city's TCEQ fine last week, it should have read that the fine was for a violation for over pumpage of nitrogen at the sewer treatment plant, not the water treatment plant.



**Vote For Candidate
Edward Sunderman
For Colorado County
Commissioner
Precinct 4**

I know the lay of the land here, the value and dignity of work and the need for better coordination between governmental levels for economic and job growth.

- You know the quality of my work, my reliability, and my dogged determination...Let me represent you, and I'll bring those same high standards to improving our county.
- Hard work and integrity never go out of style.
- High quality and cost effective solutions... always delivered!

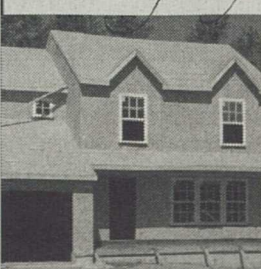
Vote for Edward Sunderman and let's make our county better.

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Home & Garden



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*Mid pleasures and palaces
though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble,
there's no place like home.*

- John Howard Payne: Home, Sweet Home

Deadline Feb. 26 - 5 pm