

THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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979-234-5521 • Fax: 979-234-5522

email: eaglelakeheadlight@sbcglobal.net

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Appliance Rebate Demand Quickly Outstrips Funding

AUSTIN — The Texas Trade Up Appliance Rebate Program began and ended on April 7, with nearly 39,000 rebate reservations made before funding was used up.

State Comptroller Susan Combs called the response unprecedented. A staff of 550 answered an estimated 1,000 calls per minute from Texans who wanted a break on the cost of

replacing certain functioning household appliances with more efficient Energy Star-rated appliances. The rebate Web site received 39 million hits at a rate of 2,400 per second.

"Regrettably, we were only given approximately \$23 million to implement and administer the rebate program in a state of this size, and there were some people who were not able to get through in time to reserve a guaranteed rebate," Combs said.

Meanwhile, Combs plans to investigate what appears to have been a Web attack that flooded the online reservation system early in the day, using nearly 75 percent of the available capacity.

Beware of Census-season scams

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott on April 8 encouraged residents to participate in the 2010 U.S. Census, but said to watch out for identity theft scams that might be attempted by thieves posing as U.S. Census Bureau employees.

Census employees will be clearly identified with a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice, Abbott said, and one should always look for identification from Census takers before opening the door and agreeing to provide personal information.

Abbott said "con artists are using the program as an opportunity to swindle people out of their hard-earned money and even their identities."

The Census does not request personal financial information such as bank or credit card numbers or Social Security numbers and no official census information

will be collected via e-mail.

Anyone who thinks or knows they have been scammed should visit the AG's Web site at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov or call (800) 252-8011 for a copy of the Identity Theft Victim's Kit.

Rep resigns to head TSU System

State Rep. Brian McCall, R-Plano, was named chancellor of the Texas State University System in late March.

On April 2, McCall, 51, announced his resignation from the Texas House of Representatives. A special election to fill the House District 66 seat is scheduled for May 8. The winner will serve out the remainder of McCall's unexpired term.

McCall served as a House member for 18 years. In the 2009 session of the state Legislature, House Speaker Joe Straus appointed him chair of Calendars, the committee that controls which bills move to the House floor for consideration and possible enactment.

McCall earned a bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University, a master of liberal arts from Southern Methodist University and a Ph.D. in Humanities, Aesthetics from the University of

Texas-Dallas.

NTSB releases plane crash report

The National Transportation Safety Board on April 6 released a preliminary report on the Feb. 18 plane crash into a north Austin office building that killed two people and injured 13 others.

Andrew Joseph Stack III of Austin, identified as the pilot soon after the crash, intentionally flew his single-engine Piper aircraft into the Echelon I building. Stack was killed on impact. Vernon Hunter, 68, of Austin, an Internal Revenue Service employee who was working in the building at the time of the crash, also was killed.

Stack took off in his plane from Georgetown Municipal Airport, according to the report, and headed southbound.

"At 0954, the airplane was observed on radar descending out of 4,800 feet and making a turn toward the west. At 0957, the airplane was last observed on radar at an altitude of 1,000 feet on a southwesterly heading before the data ended. (At 0958) the airplane collided with the office building between the first and second floors and exploded on impact. ... The airplane was destroyed by

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

State Capital



HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

impact and the post-impact fire." "As this event was an intentional act, the FBI has assumed jurisdiction and control of the investigation," the report stated.

Slow process draws attention

The Dallas Morning News recently published a series spurred by three pending allegations of abuse against elder veterans at two state veterans homes.

The allegations, made in 2007, have not been resolved. This news prompted a response from Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, a veteran himself.

Patterson criticized the slowness of the investigatory process and said, "Bureaucracy should never get in the way of caring for our veterans."

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

May 8, 1986

A murder charge was filed against Barry Woods of Eagle Lake, after Jose Daniel Navarro, passed away about 10 hours after suffering three gunshot wounds on April 30...

Leonard Perry of Eagle Lake was among 551 students to be named to the honor roll for the 1985 fall semester at the University of Texas at Austin...

Local students graduating from WCJC were Renae Dierschke, Rodney McClintock and Steven Simcik of Eagle Lake; Shelia Dabney and Mark Egge-meyer of Garwood; Jeffery Dugie and Michele Genz of Nada...

Sher Sunderman won 2nd place in the statewide fine arts competition. She is the daughter of Melvin and Rita Sunderman...

Jose Daniel Navarro passed away May 1 at Hermann Hospital in Houston. Funeral services were held May 3 from the Vine of the Lord Church...

Ronny Cook is on the SWT ski team. He is the son of Bob and Pat Cook and skis in the slalom course event on the A team for SWT...

Mrs. Miles Theuman, grandmother and Mrs. Joe Laughlin, aunt, of Lake Jackson, honored Susan Kaluza with a graduation luncheon at The Farris 1912 on May 3...

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Stockard of Houston announced the engagement and approach-

ing marriage of their daughter, Patrice Renee to Arnold John Rodriguez of Garwood, son of Ignacio Rodriguez and the late Mary Rodriguez of Garwood. A mid July wedding is planned...

Claude Brewer, Jr. of Eagle Lake passed away April 29. Funeral services were held May 1 from Dulany Funeral Home in Eagle Lake...

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Munoz of Sheridan announced the birth of their second child, a daughter, born May 4. Jennifer Lauren was born at Eagle Lake Community Hospital. She was welcomed home by a sister, Heather, 22 months and a brother, Brandon, 10 years old...

Teddy and Sandy Ash of Eagle Lake announced the arrival of a son, born April 29 at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton. Erik was welcomed home by his sister, Kristin, 4 and Savannah, 15 months old...

UIL winners state bound included Tina Grahmann, Charles Turner and Laura Appelt...

Robert Hemphill of El Paso formerly of Eagle Lake, was named assistant principal at Douglas Elementary School...

Richard Wiese was elected vice president of the Texas Area III FFA at the area convention. Leslie Heard, District IV Sweetheart, was elected Area Sweetheart and will compete at the state FFA convention in Amarillo in the summer...

Ralph Garland, 78, of Rock

Island passed away May 4 in Houston...

Roy Van Nort was elected president of Revitalize Eagle Lake, Inc., at the non-profit organization's meeting held April 29. He replaces Paulette Klockman. Sandy Bandy was elected vice-president; Liz Waddell, secretary, and John Matthews, treasurer.

May 5, 1960

Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Duncan returned April 28 from a two-week trip in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Louisiana and Arkansas...

Mrs. Daniel Maretka was complimented with a tea shower at the Community Center April 29 by Mrs. Winnie Poole, Mrs. H.E. Burger, Mrs. Alfred Ruether and Mrs. Earl Braden...

Mr. and Mrs. John Clipson honored their daughter Judy and her senior classmates with a barbecue dinner on April 26...

Grace Luther League met for its monthly meeting on May 1. Carol Konescheck was elected president of the club...

Mechele Herman, year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Herman was complimented by her other on the occasion of her first birthday anniversary on April 26...

Members of the Eagle Lake High School Stage Band were Karen Cook, R.J. Gohn, director, Ja Nellie Anderson, Judy Frnka, Carol Beseda, Loretta Miller, Ja Nene Anderson, Leslie Crane, Wynn Rolf and Charmaine Causey...

Miss Rockie Bradford was named winner of the Colorado Soil Conservation District essay contest...

Four golfers at WCJC qualified for the team to enter the Pioneer Conference tournament. Among them was Jack Pidgeon of Eagle Lake...

Mr. and Mrs. L.O. Frnka announced the engagement of their daughter, Patricia Ann to Kenneth Pape, son of Mrs. Della Pape of Ganado. A summer wedding is planned...

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Stancik have returned to Eagle Lake to make their residence. He will become associated with the Home Appliances and Mill-Bauer Funeral Home businesses owned by Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Bauer and Mrs. Willie Mill, and Mrs. Stancik will return to employment at First National Bank. They have resided for the past year in Bay City...

Willie Noska landed a 20 pound catfish and moved into the undisputed lead in the Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce fishing contest...

Three former Eagle Lakers are active in the La Porte Jaycees. They are Lee Barnett, Sammy Tise and John Klein...

Gerald Birdwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Birdwell and

Continued on page 3

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FARMER'S MARKET EVERY WEDNESDAY 4 - 6:30 P.M. BEGINNING APRIL 21

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