

UP Engineers rewarded for saving fuel

Like all motorists, Union Pacific (UP) is feeling the economic pinch of rising fuel prices. The railroad uses an estimated 3.25 million gallons of diesel fuel every day and has seen its fuel costs grow by hundreds of millions of dollars over the past year. To control these costs and help employees fill their

own gas tanks the railroad is expanding a conservation program that rewards the fuel-saving efforts of locomotive engineers.

Called "Fuel Masters," the program rewards fuel-saving engineers with \$50 fuel cards that they can use to offset their own rising fuel costs. An engineer's conservation efforts are determined by comparing monthly fuel consumption performance against fellow engineers on the same territory.

A one-to-two month snapshot of each engineer's fuel consumption performance is used to calculate individual average consumption rates. Engineers are grouped by pool or specific run to eliminate variances such as flat versus hilly terrain, and each month engineers in the top 10 to 15% of each pool are awarded a fuel card.

"Fuel for Fuel" is more than a dollar-saving program, it's also an important conservation initiative for the railroad," said Wayne Kennedy, director of Union Pacific's Six Sigma program. "Whether finding new ways to stretch a gallon of diesel fuel or employing the latest technology to cut locomotive emissions, we are working very hard to protect the environment and our natural resources."

Since its introduction in April 2004, Fuel for Fuel has decreased fuel consumption by 10% on the run between North Platte and South Morrill, Neb. Other locations piloting the program have experienced improvements between 5 and 8%.

Education is an important part of the program. Engineers are provided a fuel conservation help sheet that offers tips for improving fuel consumption, and in several locations, engineers

work on simulators that offer instruction on fuel saving techniques. In addition, engineers are counseled on fuel saving methods by engineer peer trainers who are the top performers in their pool.

More than 1,000 engineers on 12 routes are participating in the Fuel Masters conservation program. The routes are located in Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri.

UP is committed to protecting the environment for its customers, employees and the communities it serves. The railroad strives to meet the highest principles of environmental responsibility in its role as a leader in transportation. To meet its commitment, UP is piloting programs such as "Fuel for Fuel" and testing new technology such as diesel-hybrid switching locomotives.

UP Corporation owns one of America's leading transportation companies. Its principal operating company, UP Railroad, is the largest railroad in North America, covering 23 states across the western two-thirds of the United States. A strong focus on quality and a strategically advantageous route structure enable the company to serve customers in critical and fast growing markets. It is a leading carrier of low-sulfur coal used in electrical power generation and has broad coverage of the large chemical-producing areas along the Gulf Coast. With competitive long-haul routes between all major West Coast ports and eastern gateways, and as the only railroad to serve all six major gateways to Mexico, UP has the premier rail franchise in North America.

For more information, contact Gene Hinkle at (402) 514-9406.

CPL Retail Energy Provides Tips To Keep DIY Projects Safe

It's important to think about safety first when starting a home improvement project. More than 4 million injuries involving typical do-it-yourself (DIY) projects are reported to hospital emergency rooms annually according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's National Electronic Injury Surveillance System.

Of the 4 million injuries, power tools are involved in as many as 110,000 emergency room visits and ladders and step stools are associated with more than 150,000 injuries.

In support of Building Safety Week, which is sponsored by the International Code Council May 8-14, and to promote the month-long awareness campaign of National Electrical Safety Month, CPL Retail Energy has prepared electrical safety tips to help make DIY projects safe.

DIY Safety Tips

Getting Started: Always wear eye protection and follow proper safety precautions when working with power tools. Avoid wearing loose clothing or jewelry, which could get caught in power tools.

Electrical Safety: When fixing or

checking electrical appliances or connections, always switch off the power and remove the fuse or circuit breaker. If you are fixing an electrical appliance, switch off the appliance at the socket and pull out the plug.

To prevent electrical shocks, ensure that the tools are properly grounded using a three-prong plug, are double-insulated or are powered by a low-voltage isolation transformer.

Do not use damaged or brittle electrical cords, even if bare wires are not visible.

Do not attempt to fix an electrical appliance or tool while the unit is plugged in.

Do not plug one extension cord into another.

DIY projects are typically more cost effective compared to hiring a contractor, but when in doubt call a licensed professional. Safety should always be the first priority during a DIY project.

About CPL Retail Energy

For more than 75 years, CPL Retail Energy and its predecessors have

(See DIY Safety Tips, Page 7)

Heritage Homes Tour

During Columbus Live Oak Festival

Saturday, May 21 • 1-4 p.m.

Visit the Beautiful Tate-Senftenberg-Cabin Museum
Explore the Historic Alley Log Cabin
Enjoy the Delightful Dilue Rose-Harris House Museum
Be Enchanted by the Mary Elizabeth Hopkins Santa Claus Museum
And
Be Dazzled By the Southern Charm Of the Magnolia Belles

Tickets Available on the Square or at the Individual Museums

3rd Annual Mudbugs and Music

Sat. May 21st • Downtown Eagle Lake

Cajun style crawfish with all the fixin's will be served from **5:30 p.m. until 7 p.m.**
Music starts at **5:30 p.m.** dancin' is encouraged!

Commerce Street between First National Bank and City Hall and Nieto Street behind the Post Office will be closed for the party.

Hot dogs and soft drinks will be available for the kids.
The Friends of Main Street-Eagle Lake are hosting the event.

\$12.00 Tickets should be purchased in advance from any Main Street volunteer.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Rhonda Bridges, Main Street Eagle Lake Manager at 758-4103.

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LIBRARY LINES

By Patty Holloway

The Wintermann Library is hosting an exhibit entitled Children of Children Portraits and Stories of Teenage Parents. This thought provoking exhibit is sponsored by the Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc. and will be at the library through May 17.

Teenage pregnancy and teenage parenting has far reaching consequences on a community. These stunning black and white photographs are accompanied by audio CDs recorded by the person in the picture. Perhaps this exhibit could open a door for someone who is at risk teen or someone who is trying to help an at risk teen.

While you are at the library for the exhibit notice the Cinco the Mayo Ex-

hibits through out the library. We have many new books available, some in Spanish/English for your reading pleasure.

The Wintermann Library gratefully acknowledges the following memorials. **In memory of George Birdwell:** John & Pat Birdwell; **in memory of Barbara Rhoades:** Mr. & Mrs. Larry (Joan) Reed; **in memory of Barbara Reese Rhoades:** Yvonne Reese, Kenneth Reese, Amanda Reese, Rusty Reese, Mr. & Mrs. Barry Rogers, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Dunn, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Stockman, Mr. & Mrs. George Sisson, Mrs. Catherine Veltheon, Mrs. Terry Sherman, Mr. & Mrs. Rolly Boucher, Ms. Mary Tillotson, Mrs. Helen Duart, Mr. & Mrs. Lee Allgeyer, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Childers, Frank Davidson, Mr. & Mrs. Doyle Waldrop, Faye Elliott; **in memory of Reggie Lois Stiles:** Mr. & Mrs. George Cason; **in memory of Martha Frances McLellan Matthews:** Eagle Lake High School Class of 1954.

Solomon presented "Volunteer of the Year" Award



Pauline Solomon of Sheridan, and a member of the Nada/Garwood Gadabouts Extension Education Club, was recently presented with the "Volunteer of the Year" award from the Gadabouts.

Pauline is so deserving of the award as she freely gives of her time and talents, as well as her monetary gifts. She volunteers one day a week at the Hospice Support Care of El Campo, supports her church with her time and so many gifts, and is always ready to help out in any way, be it money, baking cookies or whatever she can.

Catherine Berger, Nada/Garwood Gadabouts Secretary said, "We are fortunate to have Pauline as a member of our Club and a friend to all."

Methodist Pastor Moving to Victoria

On Sunday, May 8, Rev. David King announced to the congregations of Lehrer Memorial United Methodist Church (UMC) in Garwood and the UMC of Eagle Lake that he was moving. "Our Bishop, Joel Martinez, has asked me to move to John Wesley UMC in Victoria, and I have accepted," he told the two churches. "It came as a surprise to me but I really see the hand of God at work in making this appointment at this time."

Rev. King was appointed to the Eagle Lake/Garwood churches in June of 2002. United Methodist pastors are

appointed by their Bishop on a year-by-year basis.

So every year the pastors and the local churches have the opportunity or the possibility of being moved. The Bishop takes into consideration the gifts, strengths and needs of the local churches along with the gifts, strengths and needs of the pastor and family in making his decision.

The new pastor for the Eagle Lake and Garwood churches has not been named but will be in this week.

Rev. King's Farewell Sunday will be June 5.

Homes open for Columbus Live Oak Festival

Columbus Historical Preservation Trust, Inc. (CHPT) has announced that they will open historical homes for tours during the Live Oak Festival on Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Homes on tour are: The 1836 Alley Log Cabin and Antique Tool Museum at 1230 Bowie Street, the 1858 Dilue Rose-Harris House Museum at 602 Washington Street, the 1867 Tate-Senftenberg-Brandon House Museum at 616 Walnut Street, and the Mary Elizabeth Hopkins Santa Claus Museum at 604 Washington Street.

Docents will be at the sites to greet visitors and talk about the history of the museums. The Magnolia Belles, dressed in their beautiful gowns, will visit each of the homes to lend their Southern beauty and charm to the festivities. High School girls in training to be Magnolia Belles and volunteer docents will be showing the Tate-Senftenberg-Brandon House Museum. Bill Seay and Faye Seay will show the Alley Log Cabin and Antique Tool Museum. Laura Ann Rau will show the Dilue Rose-Harris House Museum.

Tickets for the homes tour will be available on the square during the festival or can be purchased at the individual homes.

The Magnolia Belles will be presented at the Stafford Opera House at 7 on Friday night, May 20. The Columbus High School Steel Pan Band will perform before the presentation honoring the Belles.

THE COMPANY will be performing *Social Security* at the 1886 Stafford Opera House on Saturday evening. The show has been sold out for months. In the spirit of festival cooperation so that there is not conflict between the theatre production and music that will be

on the square, CHPT has scheduled the performance to begin at 6:45 p.m. Social hour will begin at 5 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m.

There will be only one more production of the 2004-2005 dinner theatre season.

The Art Park Players will perform the last production, *When Bullfrogs Sing Opera*, on Saturday, June 4, 2005.

Tickets are still available. For tickets or information for this performance call 979-732-5135.

Watch for the announcement of the 2005-2006 season.

Enjoy historical homes tours, the beautiful Magnolia Belles, and the dinner theatre during the Stafford Opera House during the Columbus Live Oak Festival weekend.



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Biology 2401	MTWR 8:00 a.m. - Noon	English 1301	MTWR 10:00-11:55 a.m.
Chemistry 1411	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - 2:05 p.m.	English 2311	MTWR 5:00-6:00 p.m.
Computer Science 1301	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon	English 2328	MTWR 7:00-8:55 p.m.
Economics 2301	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon	Government 2305	MTWR 5:00-6:55 p.m.
Economics 2302	MTWR 8:00 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.	Government 2306	MTWR 7:00-8:55 p.m.
Education 1301	MTWR 12:10 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.	History 1301	MTWR 8:00-9:55 a.m.
Education 1325	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon	Mathematics 0312	MTWR 10:00-11:55 a.m.
English 0320	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon	Mathematics 1324	MTWR 8:00-9:55 a.m.
English 1301	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon	Sociology 1301	MTWR 5:00-6:55 p.m.
English 1302	MTWR 8:00 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.	Speech 1321	MTWR 7:00-8:55 p.m.
English 2311	MTWR 8:00 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.	Spanish 2311	MTWR 8:00-9:55 a.m.
English 2333	MTWR 12:10 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.		
Geology 1403	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon	Sealy Campus	
Government 2305	MTWR 8:00 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.	Education 1325	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon
Government 2306	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon	Government 2305	MTWR 8:00-9:55 a.m.
History 1301	MTWR 8:00 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.	Reading 0306	MTWR 12:10 - 2:05 p.m.
History 1302	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon	Lab	MTWR 2:05 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.
History 2301	MTWR 12:10 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.		
Mathematics 0312	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon		
Mathematics 1314	MTWR 12:10 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.		
Mathematics 1324	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon		
Philosophy 1301	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon		
Psychology 2301	MTWR 8:00 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.		
Reading 0306	MTWR 12:05 p.m. - 2:05 p.m.		
Lab	MTWR 2:05 p.m. - 3:25 p.m.		
Sociology 1301	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon		
Speech 1315	MTWR 10:05 a.m. - Noon		
Speech 1321	MTWR 8:00 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.		

For a complete schedule of summer classes for the Brenham, Bryan, Schulenburg and Sealy campuses, admissions requirements, and registration information, visit our web site at www.blinn.edu

Registration under way now until May 27.
Classes begin May 31.

* Means no minimum number of students must be enrolled in order for the class to be held. These classes will not be cancelled.

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