

Formosa plant expected to help high jobless rate

PORT LAVACA (AP) — Formosa Plastics Group announced plans Monday to build a \$1.3 billion production facility that will employ up to 1,700 workers and is expected to put a dent in a jobless rate that once hovered at 26 percent.

The Taiwan-based company already has a plant at nearby Point Comfort that employs 166 workers, but groundbreaking for a new expanded facility is expected to begin early next year and will provide up to 4,000 jobs during its three-year construction phase.

Up to 1,700 workers will be hired at the Port Lavaca facility, which will have an annual payroll of \$85 million, Formosa Chairman Y.C. Wang told about 400 people, including a delegation from Taiwan.

Wang praised a Texas-size recruitment effort, led by Gov. Bill Clements and Sen. Phil Gramm, that helped him

decide to locate the new facility on the Texas Gulf Coast.

"Their support moved me a great deal and I am extremely grateful," Wang said through an interpreter. "There were many other states that would like to have the project in their state and we had deep consideration (of their proposals), but we were moved by the sincerity of your people."

"I feel very happy and at the same time I am very, very scared," Wang said. "I must exert every effort in order that you won't be disappointed."

Clements, Gramm and state and area officials said the economic impact for the surrounding community would include 7,800 indirect jobs, \$2.3 million annual increase in personal income and a \$1.1 billion annual increase in the state gross product.

The unemployment rate in Calhoun

County once was 26 percent, but has dropped to about 10 percent. "This means more jobs, more growth, more opportunity for our people," Gramm said. "This is the beginning of a development of a new major industry in Texas and America. This is a good, red-letter day for the state of Texas."

Gramm said 70 percent of the plastics products will be sent overseas, but the remaining 30 percent will be available to process in the United States and could develop to as many as 100,000 new jobs in the United States.

"If you want to set in a context of things that we've all heard about . . . it's roughly equivalent to terms of the economic impact to a new homeport in Corpus Christi," Gramm said.

"If we go through the full vertical integration, this will become the largest private industry in Texas and will be roughly equal in terms of economic impact of getting the new superconducting supercollider," he said. "So we are talking about a megaeconomic event."

Texas officials offered tax incentives, help with infrastructure and road construction and aid in deepening the Gulf Coast channel so exports could be shipped out more easily.

Formosa, which started in 1954 with a \$670,000 from the U.S. government, now has 14 plants in the United States; most of the products are exported.

Clements said the new Formosa plant would be the largest one-time investment by a petrochemical manufacturer in the state's history and thanked Wang for his decision.

"He is the private entrepreneur that we all talk about," Clements said.

The Formosa facility will include eight major plants spread over 600 acres of a 1,500-acre tract and will include an electric plant using gas-fueled turbines.

Numerous businessmen said in interviews that announcement of a new facility would help merchants, who were struggling in a depressed economy.

"There's a lot of us hanging on," said Lanny Marshall, who owns Marshall Lumber and Hardware. "If this announcement hadn't been made, I'm sure there would have been lots of businesses that would have shut down."

State ruling requires auction of Roloff farm

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — The successor to the late evangelist Lester Roloff is infuriated over a state ruling that calls for the auction of a 550-acre spread where Roloff operated unlicensed homes for youths.

The Rev. Wiley B. Cameron said, "The church does not belong to Caesar. Should we render money to Caesar, or (render) redeemed people now able to walk uprightly and not be a burden to the state?"

The state Supreme Court ruled in September that the church owed taxes to a local school district after finding the church had nullified its tax-exempt status by allowing a for-profit business to operate on the property.

Roloff, a dynamic radio preacher whose sermons were broadcast throughout the nation, died in 1982 when his private plane crashed.

"The Farm," as Roloff called it, is located just outside the Texas coastal city of Corpus Christi on Farm-to-Market 665.

The property of People's Baptist Church, founded by Roloff in 1951, will be auctioned Tuesday at the Nueces

County Courthouse to satisfy a \$75,250 judgment against the church for back taxes owed to the West Oso Independent School District.

Last Friday, the church was about \$1,000 short of halting the public auction by paying the taxes owed for 1978 through 1985, plus penalties, interest and court costs.

Church and school district officials could not reach an agreement on payment of the back taxes. The West Oso school board decided last week that the church must pay the taxes in full.

The property includes outbuildings for farm equipment, a guest house, residences for about 65 church and school staff members, a school for children ages 3 years to 18 years — and what remains of Roloff's controversial homes for drug abusers.

Roloff's 72-year-old widow, Marie, lives on the farm in the two-story home she once shared with the evangelist, but is reclusive.

About 450 troubled youths and drug and alcohol abusers lived in five homes located on the farm, but today only 150 remain in three homes.

San Antonio patrol officers testify in capital murder trial

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Two patrol officers testifying Monday in a capital murder trial described the grisly scene they found after entering a mobile home where four siblings were hacked to death with steak knives.

Leopoldo Narvaiz Jr., 20, is on trial in the April 15 deaths of the three sisters and one brother.

The two officers, in separate patrol cars, testified they answered the call of a woman who said a man was attacking her family about 3:27 a.m. on April 15.

Officer Sylvia Saenz said she entered the mobile home on the city's south side and found the bodies. The three sisters were naked, and there was no evidence indicating they had been sexually assaulted, she said.

She testified that the boy had a 12-inch knife sticking in his neck. The handle had been broken off, according to Saenz.

The dispatcher told Patrolman Wayne Swindell that a

woman called and she said, "My sister's boyfriend just killed my sister," according to Swindell. Then the dispatcher said the phone line went dead.

The door of the trailer was ajar, and Swindell said a window was propped open with a board in the back of the trailer. Beneath the window was an ice chest, said Swindell.

He and Saenz knocked at the ajar door, got no response, indicated they were police officers and then pushed the door open.

He saw one victim.

"At first I thought someone had fallen asleep in front of the TV," said Swindell.

Saenz walked in closer and saw another person lying on the floor on the other side of the room. Then they saw the boy, whose body was lodged between a couch and chair in the living room.

'Sex addicts' existence, treatment questioned

LOS ANGELES (AP) — As many as 6 percent of Americans may be so obsessed with sex it interferes with their lives, but experts can't agree how to treat these "sex addicts" — or even if they're addicts.

Eli Coleman, a pioneer in the field, says there's no question that sexual addiction exists, and that his patients include men who are "masturbating 10 to 15 times a day resulting in physical injury, hiring prostitutes on a daily basis, (or having) multiple anonymous sexual encounters without any regard to risk of health or commitments to family or relationships."

The concept has become increasingly popular in recent years, spurring the creation self-help groups modeled after Alcoholics Anonymous. Mary Ann Miller, a psychologist who founded the Chicago chapter of Sex Addicts Anonymous, has estimated that up to 6 percent of Americans are addicts.

However, sociologists Martin P. Levine and Richard Troiden wrote in the August issue of the Journal of Sex Research that the sex addict theory amounts to "transforming sin into sickness."

"There's no such disease as sexual addiction or sexual compulsion," said Levine, at Bloomfield College in New Jersey. "It doesn't exist. You can't be addicted to sex. Addiction is a physiological dependency on a substance."

He and Troiden, of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, wrote that the invention of sexual addiction and sexual compulsion as "diseases" threatens the civil liberties of sexually variant peoples like homosexuals.

"Mental health professionals must remain cautious about endorsing concepts which may serve as 'billy clubs' for driving the erotically unconventional into the traditional sexual fold," they cautioned.

While not addictive in the chemical sense, this kind of behavior is pathological and self-defeating, said Coleman, a psychologist in the University of Minnesota Medical School's human sexuality

"It's their sense of worthlessness that pushes them to engage in sexual behavior that violates their values . . . if you're engaging in behavior that traditionally has been defined as sin, transforming it into a disease absolves you of any moral failing."

— Martin P. Levine, sociologist

program. "These individuals display hypersexuality in response to feelings of anxiety, depression or loneliness. Many describe a sexual act as a 'fix' to some very negative feeling," he said. "But this relief is short-lived and negative feelings recur."

Dr. Theresa Crenshaw, a San Diego physician and sex therapist who served on President Reagan's AIDS commission, said the sex addicts she treats want help. "They don't like the behavior," she said. "It is not ordinarily a diagnosis superimposed from the outside."

"It's a compulsive behavior pattern the person continues to repeat in spite of disruption to marriage or primary relationships, in spite of self-disgust," she said.

Levine said self-help groups like Sex Addicts Anonymous and Sexaholics Anonymous simply try to stop the sexual behavior and don't deal with the underlying problem for those who are unhappy because their frequent sexual behavior violates moral standards.

have for their misery." Coleman said he and other sexual addiction therapy pioneers agree that underlying feelings of worthlessness must be treated, and that none of them advocate simply suppression of sexual behavior.

"There is no unanimity of treatment," he said. "Some view this as a psychiatric condition and treat it with medications. Others treat it with psychoanalytic or behavioral therapy. Others adapted the methods of treating alcohol addiction."

Levine said the sex addiction-compulsion concept "appeals to most Americans because . . . if you're engaging in behavior that traditionally has been defined as sin, transforming it into a disease absolves you of any moral failing."

Coleman insisted that sex addicts who seek treatment are accepting responsibility, and self-help groups do not relieve them of responsibility, but they do try to relieve them of shame.

PREMEDICAL/PREDENTAL SOCIETY MEETING

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