

Battalion Classifieds

Houston industries report lower level of toxic chemicals

What's Up

Wednesday

MUSIC PROGRAMS: will have a Lyric Art Festival Concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Lyric Forum.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS: will meet at 8:30 p.m. For more information contact the C.D.P.E. at 845-0280.

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 301 Rudder by CCC weekly meeting.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: will meet at noon. For more information contact the C.D.P.E. at 845-0280.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDermott, no later than three business days before the desired run date. We only publish the name and phone number of the contact if you ask us to do so. What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Submissions are on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no guarantee an entry will run. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3315.

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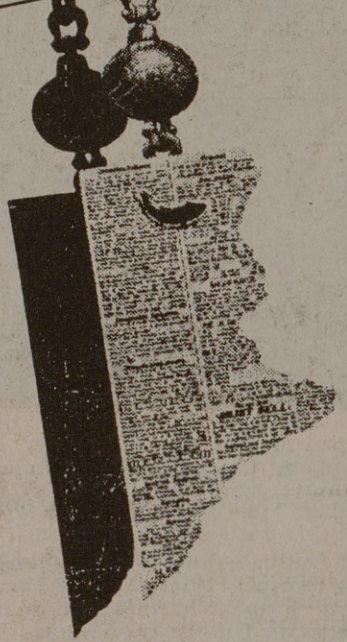
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HOUSTON (AP) — In reports that are part of new federal public disclosure requirements, five major Houston-area industries said they reduced the level of toxic chemicals their plants are pouring into the air.

The companies' industrial complexes, which reported 1987 releases of airborne toxic chemicals that were among the largest in Harris, Galveston and Brazoria counties, reported combined reductions in those emissions of 22 percent in 1988, according to a *Houston Chronicle* analysis.

Some company officials acknowledge, however, that actual reductions are not as great as the figures reflect. The new reports were due to government officials by July 1. Their statistics covered the second year of a public disclosure program that has focused unprecedented attention on toxic air pollution and figured prominently in the debate over strengthening the Clean Air Act.

The *Chronicle* analysis shows that the combined 1988 estimates of Amoco Chemical's Chocolate Bayou plant and the multiple facilities of Dow Chemical at Freeport, Exxon in Baytown, Shell in Deer Park and Union Carbide at Texas City totaled about 24.9 million pounds of toxic substances released to the air. The 1987 total was about 32 million pounds.

Houston man kills wife before shooting himself; no clues found by police

HOUSTON (AP) — Police say they have no clues as to why a real estate investor shot his wife and then himself with a gun he had purchased about an hour earlier.

"There was no note," homicide Detective Brian Foster said. "We do know that on at least two occasions there were domestic disturbances at the house in which police were called."

Police said Billy Krumbein bought a five-shot Rossi revolver for \$170 at a sporting goods store near his southwest Houston home about 3:45 p.m. Sunday and later shot his wife, Ila Jean Krumbein, 46.

Krumbein, 58, and his wife died a few minutes before 5 p.m. at their home.

"We don't know how long he had been home when the shooting started, but it was only a few minutes," Foster said.

Krumbein confronted his wife and fired all five shots from the .38-caliber pistol at her, striking her in the chest, Foster said.

"It looks like they struggled over the gun," he said.

"We believe it started in the bedroom. All we really know is she ran into the den where their 17-year-old son was and told him she had been shot."

The son ran to a neighbor's house to call for help.

Ila Jean Krumbein died near the front room door. After she was shot, her husband walked outside to the garage behind the home, and emptied the shell casings from the pistol, Foster said.

Falling Comal River water level may dry up recreation business in New Braunfels by Labor Day

NEW BRAUNFELS (AP) — Although the hotels are full and tourists are renting inner tubes and spending money, those in the river-dependent recreation business say the river could dry up by Labor Day.

City officials said water levels in the spring-fed Comal River are the lowest since 1984, although still well above the stagnant levels that caused the city to post warnings at the river in '84 because of a buildup of fecal coliform bacteria in the water.

Normally, the constant flow of the springs flushes out impurities, but in droughts the water's movement slows as the springs dry up.

Inner tube renters said they will try to squeeze as much business as possible into the following, while hoping for rain to replenish the Edwards Aquifer, an underground limestone formation that feeds the springs.

"Mother Nature runs everything. Right now the Comal is still clean and it's moving," tube impresario J.R. "Jay" Felger said, as he loaded his converted school bus with inner tubes and prepared to shuttle some customers to the river.

New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce officials said the estimates show the city's water recreation industry can pump up to \$22 million into the local economy. But except for a giant water park called the Schlitterbahn, which uses recirculated treated river water, the falling river levels may cut short this year's good summer.

Last week, the falling aquifer level triggered mandatory water conservation measures contained in a New Braunfels city ordinance.

The water levels in a New Braunfels test well were at 621 feet above sea level. The springs dry up completely when the levels hit 619 feet, which could occur in four weeks at the well's current rate of decline.

"When people call me, I do not lie to them. I tell them what the (river) level is and let them be the judge. It's low, but it's clear and it's tubeable."

— Donna Brown, Landa Trailer Park manager

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"When people call me, I do not lie to them. I tell them what the (river) level is and let them be the judge," said Donna Brown, who manages a riverside campground, Landa Trailer Park, with her husband. "It's low, but it's clear and it's tubeable."

Count of oil, gas rigs rises after lapse

HOUSTON (AP) — The number of oil and gas rigs working in the United States rose by 10 to 830 last week, according to Baker Hughes Inc.

Prior to last week's decline, the count increased for seven consecutive weeks. A year ago, the number of working rigs totaled 903.

The company's rig count — the widely watched industry index of drilling activity — reflects the number of rigs actively exploring for oil as of last Friday, not the number of rigs actively producing oil.

Houston-based Hughes Tool Co., an oil toolmaker company that merged with Baker International Corp. of Orange, Calif., has kept track of the rig count since 1940.

In December 1981, at the height of the oil boom, the rig count reached a peak of 4,500. But oil prices plunged to less than \$10 per 42-gallon barrel in the summer of 1986, prompting a collapse in the rig count that bottomed out at 663.

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