

Mayor Cook explains City Park plans, grant funds

Fellow citizens, As most of you are aware, City Manager Ron Holland and myself have been looking at the feasibility of applying for a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department grant through the Texas Recreation and Parks Account Program. This grant will fund up to \$1,000,000 with a 50% match from the City.

Our goal will be to receive as much of our share of the match in the way of land donations, in-kind work and cash contributions as possible.

The purpose of this item being placed on the agenda at this point is to make you aware of our progress and to get your blessing to proceed.

We will need to take action to approve the formation of a Park Board and my appointments to that board. I recommend that we name the entity the "Eagle Lake Municipal Park Board."

The Park Board will be appointed every two years by the mayor with Council approval.

Council will have to approve the application before its is submitted for

review. The deadline for the application to be submitted is Jan. 31, 1996.

My nominations for the board are Helen Craig, Olivia Makie, Susan Tomchesson, Larry Contreras and myself. I may appoint others if the need arises.

An extremely important part of this project will be the amount of donations and in-kind contributions we receive. Lucille Perry will set up a separate line item in her books within the parks and recreation account to record these contributions.

I am happy to report that the Lower Colorado River Authority and Texas A&M Extension Service have offered to help us with the grant application process.

LCRA has also agreed to contribute resources which can be used to ward the 50% match. Those resources will be in-kind and equipment along with their expertise in park planning and construction.

Discussions with the various landowners for acquisition of the properties needed for the park are going well. The City cannot take ownership of the

property until such time as the grant is awarded.

At this stage, I have simply made the property owners aware of our intentions and have received their permission to proceed with the plans concerning their respective properties included in the event that we do receive the award, we then can proceed with negotiations.

David Wintermann and Jack Johnson with Ada Wintermann Estate, the surviving members of Professor E.H. Henry's family, Mark Anderson, Tom Reed, the board of directors of Revitalize Eagle Lake and the Eagle Lake Community Center have all been extremely cooperative in our discussions concerning the necessary land acquisitions to make the park become a reality.

The scope of this project is quite large and will involve various types of recreation, wildlife and open space opportunities for the citizens of Eagle Lake as well as visitors to our community.

The conceptual design is only a starting place in the planning process and can be altered as the project progresses.

The initial plans call for a nature trail that begins the swimming pool and follows the creek to the Eagle Lake lake. Overlooking the lake, we plan to establish a wildlife sanctuary with viewing areas and hiking trails. We have had some discussions with members of the Tom Waddell Nature Club and the Audubon Society concerning the proper plans for this area. I will propose that we dedicate this area to David and Eula Wintermann for their dedication to the preservation and conservation of wildlife and for their many contributions to our community.

Just north of this area on the E.H. Henry School grounds plans call for a covered basketball court, a volleyball court, an open-air picnic/entertainment pavilion and possibly a soccer field and children's playground.

Professor Henry's family has requested, and I will propose, that this section of the park be dedicated as a memorial to him.

Plans to renovate the swimming pool will also be included. I will propose that when we acquire the swimming pool and surrounding property that we also take over management and operations of the pool. Mrs. Shannon Perez has done an outstanding job managing the pool and I hope she will continue to do so.

The area around the pool and on both side of the creek will be made into a picnic area with tables, barbecue pits

and possibly a gazebo. This area will also be the main entrance to the trail to the lake and the wildlife viewing area. Because of this, we will have to figure out a place to put a parking lot.

The trail behind the swimming pool will then become a walking/jogging trail which will travel underneath Hwy. 90, come out across the creek from Lake Motors and travel in the direction of the tennis courts.

Plans in this area include the construction of a children's playground where the Lions Club play equipment is now. The tennis courts will be resurfaced and fitted with new nets and lighting equipment. Tom Reed has generously offered to donate this property for the park and has asked that we dedicate this section of the park to his father, the late Joe Reed. I feel this is an honorable gesture and a request we should approve.

The golf course will also become part of the new park system with the City acquiring the course. I will propose that we continue to contract with the Eagle Lake Recreation Center to

manage the course. They have always done a good job and I see no reason to change that arrangement.

A big advantage is that while we will acquire the course toward the 50% match, City equipment and labor will be able to help out at the course if needed since it will be City property.

Some ideas for the golf course are to replace the concrete picnic tables with new ones and landscape that area. There may be other things we can do at the golf course, but I would like to meet with the Recreation Center Board to get their input.

Back to the jogging trail where we left it at the tennis courts; the trail will travel from the tennis courts through the intersection of Golf Course Road and Partridge Lane. It will then travel along side Partridge Lane, around the backside of Hole #2 green, and follow the golf course property line behind the Primary School (the golfers need not worry, the trail will not be constructed on the course itself).

Behind the school, we have plans to build another basketball court,

some picnic tables and possibly a children's playground. Dr. Richard Gott, Superintendent of the Rice School District, and I have discussed the possibility of the City and the District entering into an interlocal agreement to share in maintenance of this section of the park so the school could utilize it, if they so chose.

This is certainly an exciting project and one that can be an enormous asset to our community.

I know this sounds like a lot if we are going to try to do the park with a little or no "out of pocket" expenses. Our capacity to do this with no upfront costs to the City depends on cash contributions we receive and how much we receive in labor, equipment and land donations.

But, it can be done!

I hope the City Council and citizens of Eagle Lake will join me in support of this project so we can all work together to see the Eagle Lake Municipal Park become a reality.

Sincerely,
Robert L. Cook III, Mayor



Mayor Robby Cook explained the layout of the proposed "Eagle Lake Municipal Park" during the last City Council meeting on Nov. 14.

Headlight Photo by Lynda Appelt

Happy 5th Birthday
Nov. 26, 1995
Angela Martinez
From Mom & Dad & Family

CLUB & ORGANIZATION NEWS

LOCAL 4-H'ERS HONORED
On Saturday, Oct. 21, Ryan Brandt of Wild Clover 4-H Club in Weimar and Frances Mrkwa of Rice 4-H Club in Eagle Lake were among a total of 40 youth from the Coastal Bend District of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service receiving the coveted 4-H Gold Star Award at the luncheon co-sponsored by Central Power and Light and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. The luncheon was held at the Ramada Inn, Victoria.

Attending the banquet from Colorado County were Frances Mrkwa and her parents, August and Patsy Mrkwa, and County Extension Agent C. Jack Hunter and his wife, Linda. Ryan Brandt was unable to attend due to participating in marching court with the Weimar High School Band.

The Gold Star is the highest county 4-H Award given by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Outstanding 4-H members who have achieved high standards of excellence in their work may be chosen annually from each of the 17 counties in the Coastal Bend District to receive this honor.

Selection is made by a committee on the basis of personal development, leadership, outstanding achievement in 4-H projects and activities and contributions to the overall 4-H program. Enrollment in the 17-county is over 12,000 youth between ages of 9 and 19.

The keynote address was given by Mr. Don Renchie, Extension Associate, Texas A&M University, College Station.

Serving as Mistress of Ceremonies was Katie Hanselka, president of the Coastal Bend District 4-H Council from Victoria County.

Jackson County Judge Harrison Stafford presented the 4-H Gold Star pins to the honorees. He was assisted by Shirley Nagelmueller, president of the Coastal Bend District 4-H Adult Leaders Association from Lavaca County, and Leann Farrow, District Council member from San Patricio County.

Educational programs conducted by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of socio-economic levels, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS
The Monument Hill chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas met on Nov. 4 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Monument Hill chapter charter.

The meeting was held in the Fellowship Hall of the Methodist Church in San Felipe.

At 10 a.m., we viewed the parade honoring the birthday of Stephen F. Austin. Following the parade, members enjoyed a riding-tour of historic San Felipe the Stephen F. Austin State Park.

The business meeting was called to order by President Inogene Williams of San Antonio.

Chaplain, Bessie Bean, also of San Antonio, gave the invocation, and Registrar Dorothy Albrecht of La Grange led pledges of allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

We were pleased to have with us a guest, Mrs. Jody Boyd of Sistersville, West Virginia, who is the sister and house guest of Treasurer Carolyn Marble.

In the absence of Secretary Deborah Higgins, CRT Chairman Betty Hill took minutes and read the minutes of the Sept. meeting, which were approved.

Treasurer Carolyn Marble of Lincoln gave her report, and it was accepted.

Registrar Albrecht reported that two potential members, Dorothy Bradman and Holly Krops, are still working on their papers. Rox Ann Johnson of Austin will present a Texas flag to local Johnson class on Monday, Nov. 6, DRT Founder's Day. She will present a Texas map to his class later on another Texas DRT honor day.

It has moved, seconded and passed that a gift be presented to Mr. Dan Thornton of Eagle Lake, who was selected '1995 Grandfather of the Year' by the Monument Hill chapter sponsored by Children of the Republic of Texas.

Marble read a poem written by her granddaughter, Suzanne Marble, when she was 11 years old. The poem, titled "The Alamo", tells the story of the men who bravely defended the Alamo.

Albrecht read her proposal for a by-law change to include an additional category of membership, "affiliate member."

Awards for DRT "Stars" were discussed, and members were urged to complete the necessary documentation for having some of our hardworking chapter members designated "DRT Stars."

The Wish List was discussed. The Cradle has "wished" for several items. Motion was made and seconded that our chapter provide one of the items, a wastebasket for The Cradle powder room. Motion passed.

The District VII Workshop in Fredericksburg on Sept. 16 was attended by 165 Daughters from various

chapters in District VII and Board of Management officers. Nine from Monument Hill chapter attended.

Williams informed the membership of several items of interest from the Board of Management minutes. Among them that approval has been given to place the Pioneer Woman statue on the Capitol grounds in the rose garden; that Japanese cherry trees are to be planted on the Alamo grounds in Nov., commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Japanese monument at the Alamo; and a covered wagon will be acquired for the children's area of the museum using retiring president general project funds.

Members were reminded and urged to document their DRT hours starting at the end of the 1995 convention and continuing until informed to stop. The hours included time spent on actual DRT activities including, but not limited to, travel, workshops, committee and chapter meetings. Reports may be made quarterly or turned in at chapter meetings for tabulation.

The next meeting will be on Jan. 13 at the home of Dorothy Albright. Williams thanked our hostesses, Betty Hill of East Bernard and Joan Chapman of Brookshire, for planning a most enjoyable program and a delicious luncheon.

Chaplain Bean closed the meeting with a prayer.

TOM WADDELL OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB
By Helen Craig
The year is drawing to a close and it is time to think seriously about 1996. A nominating committee of T. Lang, Donnie Wiese and Doris Laughlin may be contacting some of you about serving as an officer for next year.

No job is very onerous and I have enjoyed my energetic serving as your first president, but it is time for a change.

Also, we need to be thinking about field trips and programs for 1996. Any of the past programs that were particularly enjoyable could be repeated, but we need some new ideas. Drop us a note or telephone and we will see what can be arranged.

One thing that needs to be considered: Do we want to keep having our meetings and field trips on the second Monday of the month? This is a big conflict for some of our members and we need to consider other times. We have nothing etched in steel; we can be flexible! Think about it and come Dec. 11 to the annual meeting and voice your ideas.

Calendar of events
The TWONC calendar of events to the end of 1995 (subject to changes at any time):
Nov. 13: 4 p.m. Waterfowl coming to rest; Jimmy Thomas' Duck House, Eagle Lake.
Dec. 11: 7:30 p.m. annual meeting, membership drive and social; Prairie Edge Museum, Eagle Lake.

Mark your calendars for these dates and try to attend.

Oct. meeting
Eighteen members and one guest met at Atwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge at 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 9 for our fall tour of the area.

More than 25 species were noted by members with one unresolved disagreement over either a female Northern Pintail or female Redhead. Most numerous were Blue-winged Teal, Glossy Ibis, Long-billed Dowitchers and Cattle Egrets.

A pair of White-tailed Hawks was studied on the power line crossing the refuge and a covey of Bobwhite quail flushed from the roadway.

Some birds heard, but not seen, and vice-versa were the Pallid, Chi-Chi and Bull-Bat birds. These creatures were identified by their unusual calls, flying habits general (See Clubs, Page 8)

NADA CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS
Prior to the meeting, a memorial mass was held to honor the deceased members of the court. The church was lit with candles representing each deceased member.

St. Mary's PTC Fall Festival was to be held Nov. 19.

Christmas poinsettias, to be placed in the church, may be purchased from Emma Waligura.

Regent Schneider thanked members who participated in the National CDA day mass.

Christmas cheer baskets will be assembled at the next meeting. Please bring your homemade cookies and candy. If you're unable to attend but wish to donate cookies or candy, you may leave them at the store and they will be picked up.

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Waligura, Buchanan exchange vows

Miss Janice Marie Waligura and Mr. A.L. Buchanan II were united in marriage on Saturday, October 21, 1995, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. The Rev. Patrick J. Zurek of Austin officiated the ceremony.

Readings were offered by Mr. Mike Connor of College Station. National music was provided by Mrs. Rebecca Larkin, organist, Mr. John McSpadden, trumpeter, and Miss

Christina Glamma, vocalist.

A reception followed at the Kurten Community Center.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Waligura of Garwood. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. Buchanan of Tennessee Colony.

Given in marriage by her parents and escorted by her father, the bride wore a gown by Demetrios made of brocade fabric styled with an open

neckline and kotch collar with bonnet sleeves. The delicate Basque waistline flowed easily into a full skirt completed by the cathedral length train.

Pearls accented the gown by outlining the neckline, waistline and sleeves. Her fingertip-length veil, accented by the diamond white pouf tiara adorned with pearls, completed her elegant bridal ensemble.

Maid of honor was Miss Ann Wa-

ligura of Garwood, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Miss Pamela Kallina of Sugarland, Miss Valerie Drymalla of College Station, niece of the bride, and Mrs. Jeannie Wendel of Garham.

Miss Victoria Wrench of Richmond, cousin of the bride, served as flower girl.

The bride's houseparty included Mrs. Carolyn Drymalla, sister of the bride, Mrs. Glenda Cole, Miss Gaynell Howell, Mrs. Barbara Deuling, Ms. Rebecca Von Gonten and Mrs. Allison Crawford.

Best man was Mr. Arthur L. Buchanan, father of the groom.

The groomsmen were Mr. Randy Royall of Deer Park, and Mr. Stephen Rotsch and Mr. Stan Wilton, both of Bryan.

Mr. Jacob Sadler of Bryan served as the ring bearer.

The groom's ushers included Mr. Michael Waligura, brother of the bride, Mr. Gary Taylor, Mr. Anthony Drymalla, brother-in-law of the bride, and Mr. Richard Waligura, brother of the bride.

The bride is a 1985 graduate of Texas A&M University, and a member of St. Joseph Auxiliary and Chi-Omega sorority. She is employed by Ernst and Ernst D.D.S. Inc.

The groom attended Blinn College and Texas A&M University and is an established business man in the Brazos Valley. He is owner of The Corner Time Antiques and Collectible Mall as well as A.L. Buchanan Auctioneering and Sales Team.

Following their honeymoon trip, the couple reside in Bryan.



Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Buchanan II

SHERIDAN, LIBRARY NEWS

The Sheridan Library Board hosted an Appreciation Dinner honoring the Friends of the Library on Thursday, Nov. 9, at the Sheridan Community Center.

Forty-seven guests attended the dinner, consisting of four varieties of soup, three kinds of sandwiches, dessert, tea and coffee.

Joyce Ohm, president of Friends, gave the blessing. Zeldia Walker gave a short welcome, followed by a summary of the library's year by Lillian Gohlke.

Mary Lou Walker recognized the members of the library board: Walker, chairman; Ed Parham, Natalie Dupré, Ruth Brisco, Carolyn Brisco and Gohlke.

Walker recognized 12 volunteers whose names were engraved on a plaque for their services to the library. These dedicated volunteers are Mary Lou Criswell, Violet Herrington, Omi Kincheole, Jeannine McClain, Gladys Kay, Joyce Ohm, Bill and Gail O'Neill, Martha Polach, Ora Tesch, Beverly Houser, and Ruth Brisco.

Each year additional volunteers will be named on the plaque.

Door prizes were won by Carmen

Jackson, Andrew and Kimberly Varley, Criswell, Kay Parham, Ann Cunningham, Janet Otto and Kayla Roberts.

Attending the dinner were Webb and Ann Cunningham; Beverly Houser; Carmen Jackson; Evelyn Holt; Dave, Patsy & Kayla Robertson; Ed & Gladys Noy; Violet Herrington; Wayne & Natalie Dupré; Charles DeShazo; Eldon, Joyce & Janet Otto; Celia, Lloyd & Gary Spittler; Larry, Darnell, Andrew, Tiffany & Kimberly Varley; Franklin, Trisha & Brandy Walker; Omi Kincheole; Ed and Kay Parham; Harry & Grace Brisco; Eddie Ray & Lois Taylor; Dottie Adams; Mary Lou Criswell; Dean & Betty Varley; Bill & Lillian Gohlke; Jean & Zeldia Walker; and Loretta McClain.

Special thanks to Dupré Lease Service and Oak 'n' Acorn for their donations to the dinner.

Attending the Friend Simpson Memorial Library dedication ceremony in Hallettsville on Sunday, Nov. 12, was Lillian Gohlke.

Spending the evening with Bill and Lillian Gohlke was Charles DeShazo of Huntsville. He returned to

attend the appreciation dinner.

Violet Herrington of San Antonio spent the evening with Mary Lou Criswell. Violet formerly resided in Sheridan and was down to attend the dinner.

Enjoying the Wurstfest in New Braunfels this past weekend were Larry and Darnell Varley and family, Jerome and Joanie Anselmo, Willard and Irene Hagendorf and possible others.

Recent book donations to the library were received from Dean and Betty Varley and Marilee Geoghegan. Webb Cunningham gave a cash donation.

Two more patrons were enrolled in the Friends of the Library, making the total number of "Friends" 86 for this year. New patrons are Nancy Chabreck and Alice Hinze. Your support is appreciated!

The library received two memorials at the end of last month: in memory of Roland Schillhab by Bill and Lillian Gohlke; in memory of Jewel Ross by Charles and Mary DeShazo.

Stephens honored with showers

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Higgins was the setting for a Christmas ornament shower Sunday, Nov. 12, honoring Patty Ann Stephens, bride-elect of Shane Thomas LaTouf.

In keeping with the Christmas theme, the Higgins' home was festive with holiday decorations.

Hostesses for the party were Mrs. Arthur Anderson, Mrs. Major Benge, Mrs. Jim Clippson, Mrs. Vic Corman, Mrs. Clark Powers, Mrs. Thurston Webb and Mrs. Frank Higgins.

On Saturday, Nov. 18, a barbecue and "honey-do" party was given in Austin by Bren Masterson and Watty Puryear for Patty and Shane.

Close friends of the couple were in attendance with special guests, being Shane's parents, Ed and Caron LaTouf of Austin; and his brother, Ed, and family of Corpus Christi.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed LaTouf held a family "Get Acquainted and Engagement Party" for Patty Ann and Shane on Sunday, Nov. 19, at the LaTouf home in Austin.

Attending from Eagle Lake were Mr. & Mrs. Draper Stephens, Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Stephens and Chuckie,

Jill and Tyler, Mr. & Mrs. Brice Stephens, Mrs. L.J. Spaniel, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Sunderman and Kurt.

Coming from Garland, were Mr. and Mrs. John Draper Stephens and Amber.

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Sheridan School announces 'Smart Awards'

Sheridan School Principal Larry Varley has released the winners of the school's "Smart Awards" for the second six-week grading period; a total of 262.

Kindergarten: Courtney Andrejczak, Randall Brown, James Felder, Brandon Harden, Kaci Kazmir, Bryan Layton, Wesley Lean, Clayton Mahalic, Julian Moore, Melissa Smith, Armando.

First grade: Brent Botard, Victor Brewer, Amber Buegeler, Alex Felder, Megan Hinze, Tawana King, Amber Kinney, Jason Laake, Adriana LeVine, Daniel New, Kayla Robertson, Miranda Sol, Kurt Stern, Kimberley Varley.

Second grade: Edward Gundelach, Jeremy Hill, Buren Kallina, Jarod Munoz, Ryan New, Chelsea Ray, Jacob Spangenberg, Ashley Ticken, Myekia Williams.

Third grade: Brian Avila, Stephanie Botard, Raul Garcia, Chad Garza, Breanna Gottschald, Erica Heam, Julie Houser, Quindora Jones, Clifton Kazmir, Donovan King, Tyler Kloss, Katie McDaniel, Rachel Peterson, Stuart Ray, Tiffany Varley.

Fourth grade: Karl Alex, Paul Brown, Arturo Garcia, Lauren Kasper, Esteyvon King, Zachary Kloss, Michael Mowery, Steven Moore, Jennifer Perez, Esequiel Perez, Marshall Peterson, Jarod Sainz, Clifton Spangenberg, Tarah Stern, Dustin Young, Allen Greak.

Fifth grade: Leila Baggett, Krystal Buegeler, Erica Cason, Reggie Ford, Jason Godley, Matthew Hinze, Hannah Kallina, Debi Rea Lowe, Jacqui Mahalic, Patrick Milentz, Travis Pittman, Felipe Rangel, Alicia Roberts, James Scott, Andrew Varley.

Sixth grade: Jakkii Alleyway, Acey Banks, Lakeisha Dawson, Kimberly Denley, Johnny Edds, Ahida Garcia, Bennie Glover, Michael Kincheole, Gilbert Kutach, Amanda Labay, Mar-

dy Banks, Dustin Brisco, Chanda Coxwell, Virginia Edds, Adrian Garcia, Brandy Lawson, Justin Lawson, Teresa Pittman, Matthew Ray, Danielle Tesch, Cody Thompson.

Seventh grade: Tyler Abernathy, Robyn Alleyway, Isam Brisco, Natalie Brocker, Erica Cole, Robert Estrada, Christina Garcia, Eric Kasper, Jeffrey Kazmir, Bruce Lowe, Chris Marchart, William Ross, Colleen Sevcik, Josh Spangenberg.

Eighth grade: Joel Baggett, Bran-

dy Banks, Dustin Brisco, Chanda Coxwell, Virginia Edds, Adrian Garcia, Brandy Lawson, Justin Lawson, Teresa Pittman, Matthew Ray, Danielle Tesch, Cody Thompson.

Seventh grade: Tyler Abernathy, Robyn Alleyway, Isam Brisco, Natalie Brocker, Erica Cole, Robert Estrada, Christina Garcia, Eric Kasper, Jeffrey Kazmir, Bruce Lowe, Chris Marchart, William Ross, Colleen Sevcik, Josh Spangenberg.

Eighth grade: Joel Baggett, Bran-

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