



THE EAGLE LAKE HEADLIGHT

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To The Editor & You

Good to see old 'stomping grounds'

Note: This is a portion of a letter
from Tom Armbrust to friends after
his visit to his old stomping grounds.
After traveling through Dallas and
a short flight from Dallas to Houston,
I drove 100 miles from the airport to
Eagle Lake and Garwood, my old
goose hunting stomping grounds. The
day was beautiful with a clear blue sky

and temps in the mid-70's. A wonder-
ful afternoon to see the country.
Small flocks of geese trading back
and forth from rice stubble, to rye
grass, back to water. The ground
looked dry with many farmers on their
tractors doing field work, preparing
their ground for planting. This warm
beautiful weather seemed like sum-

mer to me. After the hard, cold winter
we have had in Chicago.
I was getting hungry, I pulled into
Sportsman's Restaurant in Eagle
Lake. To my surprise, Mike "Mag-
num", one of my old hunting guide
buddies, was eating lunch. Dennis
Strusch, Carl and Annie were all in
town as they all guide for Clifton Tyler
Hunting Club and I could catch them
all before they went on their afternoon
scouting trip for geese. We all had an
excellent get together talking about
old friends and some wonderful duck
and goose hunts together. God, I was
enjoying this.

Already it seemed like old home
week getting to see all my old friends.
Janie Schwenn owner of the Sports-
man's Restaurant, rushed out from
behind the counter, she had tears in her
eyes as we gave each other a big hug.
She had just gotten some terrible news
that a close friend of their family had
just died. Janie said, "God sent you
through that door at that moment,
when I had just learned of a friend's
death, and that you being a very good
friend eased my pain!"

She told me that, as I thought about
not seeing her in three years, and at
that moment she made me feel great!
Let me tell you, they don't come any
better than Janie, working so hard at
the restaurant, cleaning, etc.
making some wonderful, tasty special
meals for us hunters.

Then on to Garwood to see my old
friend Porky Stephens. He is one very
interesting person, a crop duster by
trade, plus a most excellent guide for
both geese and ducks. He knows every
inch of this country like the back of his
hand, plus he knows just about every
rice farmer. If he finds birds on a lease,
he usually knows who to contact for
permission to hunt.
Porky was guiding for the "Buck-
snag" Hunt Club in Garwood, and we
had two great hunts together. Just a
little history about the Bucksnag
Clubhouse. This beautiful old hotel
was built in 1910 and many antiques
and old pictures still decorate the in-
side of this wonderful old building.
Many thanks to Jodie Locha and Bea
Bittner for having me as a guest hunter.

at the "Bucksnag".
After goose hunting with Porky,
the next day I took off to the city of
Weimar on a wild feral hog hunt. The
wild hogs were hunted with dogs. I
had a wonderful time with all the fel-
lows in camp after the chase, talking
about cattle ranching and rice farming
in the past. All their hard work, pride
and work ethics were great to hear, as
so much lying, cheating and stealing
goes on in the workplace now days.

We ate like kings that afternoon,
huge steaks with baked potatoes and
onions fried on an open grill. Plus all
those excellent stories about the old
days growing up in Texas! A great
time was shared by all of us, and I
really hated to leave the fine company
of these cowboys as they were real
people!

My next day was a little sad, as I
would return to the cold winter of
Chicago land and its rat race. On my
way back to the airport, I made a stop
at the Eagle Lake rice dryer to find hats
for my nephew's hat collection. Talk-
ing with Jeanette Zajick about my
nephew's cap collection, she took me
to her boss' office and showed me a
huge collection of hats from all over
the area.

She just went out of her way to get
me some hats, plus we had a good visit
as she took the time with me, even if
she was busy. She even took time to
call another rice dryer to get me more
hats. Seems so strange to get such
wonderful treatment from so many
good people in Texas. It had been
three years since my last visit and I
told myself that's too long to not see
such good friends. I hope to get back
next year.

Leaving Porky and Gay's house, I
had to leave them about noon being
grandparents, as their daughter is ex-
pecting a child any day now. Porky
said I can't believe I'll be living with
a grandmother. When I was leaving,
Gay was practicing making baby
bottles.

God Bless you all for the most
interesting and wonderful stay in
Texas.

Tom Armbrust

Pen pals wanted

Hello,
I'm writing to see if you could
please help me get a small ad printed
requesting pen pals.

As you know, we all make mis-
takes and I'm no exception. I'm incar-
cerated on a theft charge and need
some pen pals I can share some smiles
with.

It would be such a blessing to hear
from someone who is just as lonely as
I am in here.

I have learned from this mistake,
want to move on with my life, make
some new friends and connect with
the minds of those out there and stay
away from the ones in here and keep
myself in a positive direction.

Mail call is the highlight of my day
here so I hope you're an understanding
person who will help me make
some new friends. It would be nice to
stay in touch with these people and
mail them a card on holidays and let

them know how their caring and
friendship helped me through some of
the hardest times of my life.
I hope to hear from you soon.
Thank you for your time and consid-
eration.

Sincerely,
Carl Smith
Box 540-137-164
St. Clairsville OH 43950

Let's Look Back...

24 & 48 YEARS AGO

May 27, 1971
Terry Landry of Eagle Lake is
re recuperating in Eagle Lake Commu-
nity Hospital from injuries received in
an accident on a county road west of
East Bernard early Tuesday morn-
ing.
High school drum major and twirl-
ers have been named for the Eagle
Lake and Garwood Jr. High School
bands. At ELMS, drum major will be
Laurel Anderson and twirlers will be
Carolyn Bowers, Julia Thomas,
Penny Tate and Denise Wiese. At
Garwood, leading the Jr. High band
will be drum major Laurie Kasmier-
sky and twirlers Crystal Jones and
Anna Rohwer.

Mr. & Mrs. Louis J. Muzny
spent Monday of this week with Mr.
& Mrs. Henry Kretschmar of Sug-
ar Land. Both couples were observing
their 35th wedding anniversary and
attended the "Dialing for Dollars"
television show in Houston and win-
ning a number of prizes...
Dr. A.S. Tjaden, doctor of chiro-
(See 24 & 48, Page 4)

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WAKE UP CALL

to all

Citizens of East Bernard
Independent School District

"Concerned Citizens"

would like to

Invite & Encourage You

to attend the

Feb. 12, 1996, EBSD

School Board Meeting

to be held at the school beginning at
7:00 p.m.

Paid for by "Concerned Citizens"

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Osteoarthritis Guidelines Focus on Pain

Osteoarthritis is the most common type of arthritis. All types of
arthritis involve inflammation of the body's joints. Osteoarthritis is
referred to as *degenerative arthritis* because of the breakdown (degenera-
tion) of the protective cartilage that may occur with age. Cartilage helps the
joints move easily and comfortably. Over time cartilage wears away, and
the bones begin to rub against one another causing pain and inflammation.
While there is no cure for osteoarthritis, there are a few things that can be
done.

New treatment guidelines announced at a recent meeting of the
American College of Rheumatology focus on exercise, diet, and over-the-
counter (OTC) pain medicines. Physicians at the meeting stressed the
importance of weight loss and strengthening muscles through exercise.
One physician recommended aerobics, fitness walking, and exercising in
water. Exercise to the point of pain should be avoided.

According to the guidelines, the medicine that should be tried is OTC
acetaminophen. If acetaminophen is not effective, the nonsteroidal
antiinflammatory medicines such as *ibuprofen* should be considered, fol-
lowed by an injection of steroid medicine if necessary. Reconstructive
surgery may be considered if these therapies do not work.

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Onward, upward
for Sheridan Park

Another milestone vanished in the
dust on Jan. 25 shortly after 9 a.m. at
Texas Park and Wildlife Department
Headquarters (TP&W) in Austin as
representatives from Colorado Coun-
ty and Sheridan Park and Recreation
Center Inc. heard TP&W Commis-
sion Chairman Lee Bass tap the gavel
to acknowledge the approval of 25
grant requests for park funding from
towns all across Texas. With 110
points, the Sheridan Community Park
Project, Colorado County, was at the
top of the list.

Grapevine Pool and Trails with 92
points was the next highest scoring
project to be submitted. The lowest
project to win approval and matching
funds, number 25 on the list to be
funded, was Trenton Athletic Com-
plex with a score of 53. The evalua-
tions of TP&W staff take many as-
pects into consideration to arrive at
scores for each project. Approx-
imately half the requests submitted
were turned down.

Sheridan Community Park stands
to accumulate \$415,000 in matching
funds toward construction of the park
facilities. Already built with local
donations, the concession stand, chil-
dren's playground and the baseball
softball field will be accompanied by
a swimming pool, volleyball courts,
covered pavilion, basketball court,
RV campground, primitive camping,
soccer/football field, walking/jog-
ging, bike trails, horseshoe pits, fish-
ing pier and another playground area.
Sheridan's grant request, spon-
sored by Colorado County Commis-
sioner's Court, was submitted to
TP&W in July of 1995, following a
year of preparation. Six months of that
year were occupied with formulating a
master plan for parks and recreation
for the entire County that can be used
by other communities both incorpo-
rated and unincorporated.

Many partnerships ranging across
Texas have made it possible to get this
far. Texas A&M Extension Service,
LCRA, Texas A&M University (Dr.
Carson Watt and his class, Ken Pa-
gans), Rice Consolidated Independent
School District and Weimar High
School government class have all
been supportive to this point.

If visitors take a short trip through
Sheridan off Hwy. 90A, they might
pass by the modern ambulance/fire
department garage that holds two am-
bulance units (one of them only two
years old) and fire vehicles. The Sheri-
dan Community Center building, also
housing the Sheridan Library, located
across the street from the school, has
been maintained and improved by the
community for over 26 years.

Water service has been provided
to the town for 30 years by the Sheri-
dan Water Supply Corporation. With-
out a city council, manager, mayor or
tax money, who makes sure Sheri-
dan's public facilities are built, main-
tained and continue serving the citi-
zens? The citizens themselves.

Only a small handful of people are
not involved in helping keep the com-

munity running - without being paid!
Because our buildings, services and
facilities belong to each and every one
of the people; they are valued and kept
by each and every one, with very few
exceptions.

On a trip through Sheridan in
1995, Roger Lewis with LCRA com-
mented on how clean and neat the
Sheridan Park's restroom/concession
building was. He was answered with
the fact that the children and families
of Sheridan feel their ownership of the
Park and its facilities.

The kids, parents and friends have
planted flowers, picked up stumps and
rocks, built fences, dug trenches and
buried waterlines, painted buildings
and backstops, moved mountains of
dirt, written grants, donated their time
and money, and picked up trash a few
inconsiderate people have thrown on
the ground.

Sheridan Park belongs to each and
every one of the people who use it. It
is a public park in the highest sense of
the word!

Commitment, pride and hard work
still produce results.
When this job is finished, the
public is invited to come jump in our
pool, play volleyball, jog on our trails,
fish in our pond, camp, play and enjoy
the benefit of hard work, commitment
and pride.

The 435-page grant request from
Sheridan was prepared by Park volun-
teers working to improve the commu-
nity and make it a better place to live,
not by consultants paid with tax
dollars.



Sheridan Park & Recreation (SPARC) and Colorado County repre-
satives posed in front of the headquarters of Texas Parks & Wildlife after
learning SPARC's grant proposal was #1 statewide. Pictured in back,
from left, are Jack Vawter, SPARC secretary; Monte Peck, SPARC vice-
president; and Carmen Jackson, SPARC treasurer. In front are Marty
Graves, County Extension Agent; Darnell Varley, SPARC board mem-
ber; and Carolyn Brisco, SPARC grantwriter.

Photo Courtesy of SPARC

Stafford Opera House

presents 'Our Hometown III'

...and its river, the Colorado, on
Feb. 17, allows a cross-section of the
community to collaborate as it pre-
sents an evening of good family enter-
tainment.

The play is an original drama with
comedic overtones and musical inter-

ludes that depicts the history of this
community's relationship with its
river. The music includes old-time
favorites as well as original music and
popular selections. Al McNutt has
written a song for the production titled
"Colorado River Blues". The band for
the play is the Hometowners-Bob
Stiles, Al McNutt and Marsha Miller.

Within the play, there is a time
span from 1830-1995. Characters,
both real and fictitious relate happen-
ings that were known to have occurred
on the Colorado River-our most noted
natural resource.

Our Hometown III is the only lo-
cally written and produced event held
at the historic Stafford Opera House
during the season. The play is written
by Nancy Dickinson Stiles, Bill Stein,
Tracey Wegenhoft, and Laura Ann
Rau, with assistance from Anne Cain
and Mary Ann Pickens.

It is the third year that the theme,
our hometown, has portrayed the
charm and intrigue of life in small
town Texas. The participants in
volunteers, believe that this type of
wholesome community activity
brings togetherness to locals, new-
comers, and citizens of all ages. It
represents the unity that can be a
powerful tool in maintaining a vital
(See Hometown, Page 4)

COLORADO COUNTY
COURTHOUSE REPORT

Deed: El Clapp Survey A-149 et al; 11-6-95.
Deed: Ruth Bligam Lock to Billy
B. Mayes et ux, 37.96 acres out of the Mar-
made Baton Survey A-105; 11-6-95.
Deed: Joseph H. Carvoso et ux to Judy
Rodriguez 11.37 acres out of the BBB&C
RR Co. Survey A-113; 11-6-95.

Deed: John E. Ermis et ux to Jose A.
Rodriguez, 1.5 acres out of the A.D. Ken-
nion League A-367; 11-7-95.
Deed: Regina Frances Buskammer to
John Buskammer, a part of Range Nine of
the Smith and Jones Addition, Town of
Columbus; 11-7-95.

Deed: Sue Wegenhoft Briscoe, Trustee
to Sue W. Briscoe Management Trust,
four tracts in the T.J. Smith Survey A-500
et al; 11-7-95.

OIL, GAS AND MINERAL LEASES
Albert Wilke and Lois Mae Wilke to
Shell Western E&P Inc., 20 acres being the
south half of Lot 11, Amos R. Alexander
Survey, A-51; filed 11-6-95.

Maude Botard Townsend to Shell
Western E&P Inc., 30 acres, being the
southeast quarter and southwest quarter of
Lot 3 and the northwest quarter of Lot 4 out
of the Amos R. Alexander Survey, A-51;
11-6-95.

COUNTY COURT CASES FILED
Nina Biecar, Rosenberg, driving
while intoxicated (DWI); filed 1-19-96.
Jonathan Caban Ellis, San Marcos,
driving while license suspended,
(DWLS); 1-29-96.

Michael William Coll, Webster,
DWLS; 1-29-96.
Randy Louis Daniels, Eagle Lake,
possession of marijuana; 1-29-96.
Johnny Frausto, Houston, DWI; 1-29-
96.

William Ira Galloway, San Antonio,
DWLS; 1-29-96.
Felix Javier Garcia, Galveston,
DWLS; 1-29-96.
Tyrell Glenn, Weimar, deadly con-
duct; 1-29-96.

David Estrada Llanos, Eagle Lake,
DWLS; 1-29-96.
David C. Langhoff, Weimar, false re-
port; 1-29-96.
Doreta Popp, Houston, hindering a
secured creditor; 1-29-96.
Michael Val Rossa, Weimar, DWI; 1-
29-96.
Odell Thomas, El Campo, DWI; 1-29-
96.

Thomas Wright, Columbus, unlaw-
fully carrying a weapon; 1-29-96.

MARRIAGE LICENSE
APPLICATIONS
Larry Alley, 43, of Weimar, and Eddie
Marie Williams, 42, of Eagle Lake.

DISTRICT COURT
DIVORCES GRANTED
Toy Kurtz Ramsey and Phillip Win-
ston Ramsey; granted 1-25-96.

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blended to convey
the message of love.

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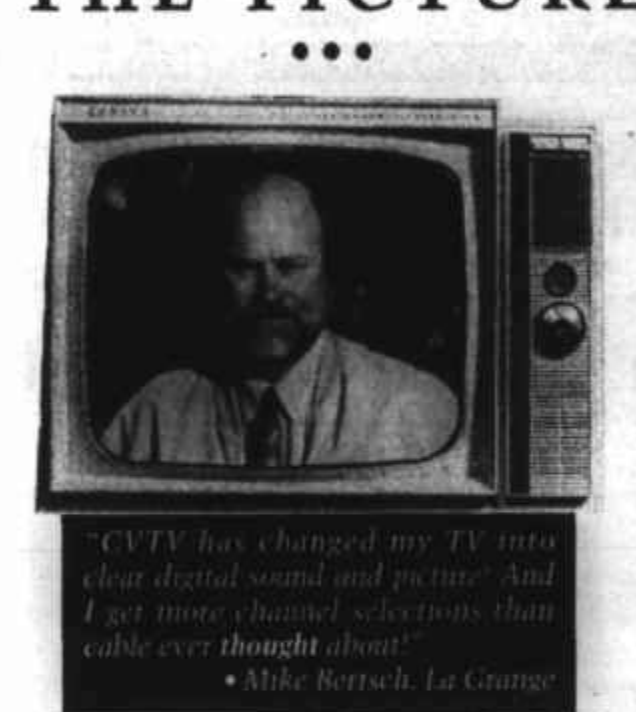
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700 South McCarty Eagle Lake

Welcoming

Polly Hendler, MSN, RN, FNP
Nurse Practitioner

Gynecology Group
Dr. Walter Thomas
Dr. Peter Boutros
Dr. Howard Schreiber