

THC Conference Set For Galveston

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) hosts its annual statewide conference on historic preservation in Galveston on April 20-22 at the historic Tremont House.

This year's theme, "Deep in the Heart of Texas: Preservation Makes Cents," gives conference attendees the tools to bring the economic and cultural benefits of preservation to their communities.

The conference features workshops, sessions and special events that highlight historic preservation. Pre-conference workshops and tours include a trip through the historic cemeteries of Galveston with Linda McBee, better known on the island as "The Cemetery Lady."

A walking tour of the commercial architecture of Galveston will be conducted by Stephen Fox, an architectural historian and Galveston historian Margaret Doran will conduct a tour of the residential architecture of Galveston.

The "Before Disaster Strikes: Having a Plan to Protect Historic Resources" workshop will be of particular interest to attendees living and working along the Gulf Coast. All conference sessions offer useful information for both preservation novices and seasoned professionals.

The keynote speaker for this year's annual conference, Donovan D. Ryp-

kema, is principal of Place Economics, a Washington, D.C.-based real estate and economic development consulting firm specializing in services to public and nonprofit sector clients who are dealing with downtown and neighborhood commercial district revitalization and the reuse of historic structures.

Rypkema will speak on Friday, April 21 at the conference opening session beginning at 8:30 a.m. A special

preservation awards luncheon takes place at noon on Friday.

For more information contact the THC Marketing Communications Division at 512/463-6255 or visit www.the.state.tx.

The Texas Historical Commission is the state agency for historic preservation. The agency administers a variety of programs to preserve the archeological, historical and cultural resources of Texas.

Brune Family Reunion Planned For May 7

Back in the 1840s and 50s conditions in Germany and opportunities in Texas prompted many Germans to come to Texas.

The Brunes were amongst the early settlers of this state. Several sons and grandsons of Georg Christoph (born in 1782) and Charlotte Luise Brune came to Texas during this time period.

Each year family members of these original Texas Brunes meet and hold a family reunion.

They share family history and

research. Some bring pictures of the farm in Germany and the families in Texas, and some tell old family stories.

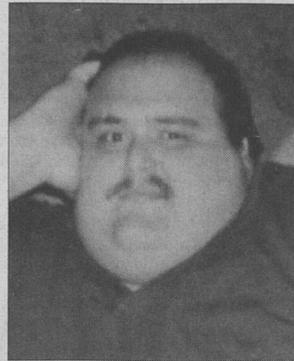
Others come for the good fellowship and the food.

This year the 46th annual Brune family reunion will be held on May 7 at the Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Dining Hall in Frelsburg.

This reunion includes all Brune descendants of these immigrants. Guests are also welcome.

A noon meal will be served. Everyone is asked to bring a basket lunch that includes a meat, vegetable, and dessert dish. Eating utensils and drinks will be furnished.

Come, bring some old family pictures along, enjoy the company, and reconnect with your heritage!



John Joe Cardenas, Jr.

John Joe Cardenas Jr., 28, of Eagle Lake passed away Monday, April 10 in Austin from injuries received in a car accident.

He was born July 26, 1977 in Eagle Lake, the son of John Joe Sr. and Cherry Morrison Cardenas.

John was a welder and had been recently employed by Stewart and Stevenson in Sealy.

Survivors include his parents, John and Cherry of Eagle Lake; a sister, Rebecca Servantes of Sherman; and a brother, Richard Edward Cardenas of Eagle Lake.

Funeral services were held Friday, April 14 at 10 a.m. from Eagle Lake Funeral Home with Rev. Floyd Snyder officiating. Interment followed in Lakeside Cemetery in Eagle Lake. Eagle Lake Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were Javier Salinas, Ramiro Rico, Michael Rico, O.C. Mancias, Marty Manciaz, Jeff Moreno, Steve Navarro and Robert Paul Moreida.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.



Carrie Lynn Semora

Carrie Lynn Semora, 25, of Eagle Lake passed away Monday, April 10 in Austin from injuries received in a car accident.

She was born February 13, 1981 in Eagle Lake, the daughter of Bobby Charles and Mary Jane Marling Semora.

Survivors include her daughter, Cheyenne Thomas of Brookshire; father, Bobby Charles Semora of Eagle Lake; mother, Mary Jane Semora of Brookshire; stepfather, Julian Wisniski of Brookshire; and a brother, Michael Semora.

Funeral services were held Friday, April 14 at 3:30 p.m. from Eagle Lake Funeral Home. Interment followed in the Nativity Cemetery in Eagle Lake. Eagle Lake Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were Johnny Prazak, Joe Marling, Jody Marling, Donnie Wensel, Bobby Gene Johnson, John Carlos and Harry O'Dell, Gary Smith and Jack Mayes.

Honorary pallbearer was Michael Semora.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.



Connie Marie Stephens

Connie Marie Stephens, 46, of Sheridan passed away Friday, April 14 in Eagle Lake.

She was born February 24, 1960 in Houston the daughter of Harvey Stowe and Sybil Marie Mitchell Lundy.

Connie was employed as a prison guard for the State of Texas and was of Baptist faith.

Preceded in death by her father, Harvey; and a brother, Robert Lee Stowe; survivors include her friend, Marvin Arnold of Sheridan; mother, Sybil, of Livingstone; daughter, Shawndee Marie Felder of Sheridan; son, Jimmie Ray Felder of Monroe, Louisiana; sisters, Debbie Pampell of Giddings and Kande Rae Dunk of Port Barre, Louisiana; brothers, Chester Stowe of Houston and Steven Charles Stowe; and two grandchildren, Marysna Jo' Shawn Nays and Sharissa Nicole Nays.

Graveside services were held Tuesday, April 18 at 3 p.m. from Cheetham Cemetery with Leonard Ward officiating. Eagle Lake Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Sympathy is extended to the family in their loss.

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Different Options for Treating Osteoporosis

Osteoporosis is a condition that causes fragile or porous bones and increases the possibility of fractures and breaks. Upwards of 10 million Americans over the age of 50 have osteoporosis. Although it can occur in both men and women, it is most common in women.

Treatment starts with lifestyle modifications that include calcium and vitamin D intake, weight bearing exercise, and the avoidance of tobacco and alcohol. If medication is needed, there are several options. Bisphosphonates are a group of drugs that include alendronate (Fosamax®), ibandronate (Boniva®), and risidronate (Actonel®). These prescription drugs come in formulations that allow for daily, weekly, or monthly dosing. Some also contain added calcium and vitamin D. Raloxifene (Evista®) is taken daily and can improve cholesterol and osteoporosis. Historically, hormone replacement therapy (estrogen) was commonly used in post-menopausal women, but its use has declined due to risk of cancer, heart attack, and stroke. Calcitonin (Miacalcin®) is a nasal spray that is sometimes prescribed. Lastly, daily injections of parathyroid hormone or teriparatide (Forteo®) can be given, but long-term use has not been evaluated.

ACS Relay For Life This Weekend In Columbus

Colorado County's third annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life will start this Friday at six o'clock at the Columbus High School football stadium, and last until the early morning hours Saturday.

The relay centers around the activities of the several teams which have been created to spearhead fundraising efforts for the event, but persons who are not on teams are also encouraged to attend. Anyone can participate in the numerous games, listen to the music, cheer on the relay teams, and buy concessions.

The relay allows the community to grieve for those who have died of cancer, to celebrate the lives of those who have survived, and to honor those who have provided care to cancer patients. Cancer survivors take the first lap around the track.

For cancer patients, the event is a tangible recognition that the community cares about their plight. It

also offers them the opportunity to interact with other cancer patients, discussing their disease and offering each other hope.

The funds raised at the event go to the American Cancer Society, which has been financing efforts to make people aware of the symptoms, causes, and treatments for cancer, efforts to improve therapies and reduce suffering from cancer, efforts to prevent cancer, and efforts to find a cure for cancer, for nearly a century.

Jobless Rate 4.5 Percent

The unemployment rate for Colorado County for February 2006 was 4.5 percent, figures from the Texas Workforce Commission show.

For February in Colorado County, 9,767 persons were employed and 455 seeking work.

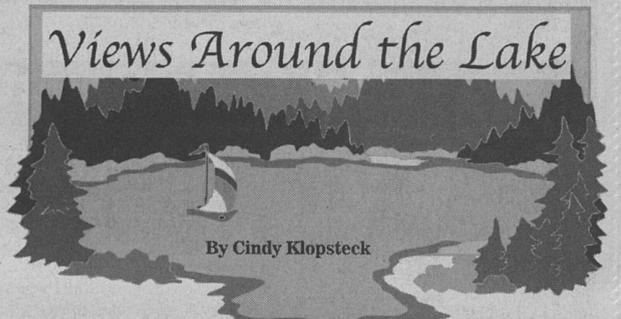
The figure compares to statewide unemployment in February, 5.2.

For Fayette County, unemployment was 3.7 percent, with 11,499 employed and 444 looking for jobs.

For Lavaca County, unemployment 3.9 percent, with 10,301 employed and 417 looking for jobs.

For Wharton County, unemployment was 5.0 percent with 19,905 persons employed and 1,058 looking for jobs.

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By Cindy Klopsteck

A friend who commutes daily to work in Houston was unconsciously rubbing her neck during conversation recently.

"Neck strain from computer work?" I asked. "I doubt it," she replied. "If so, I would have had this problem years ago. I think it's from constant neck rotation checking the gas prices at all the stations I pass every day."

Sad comment on the times in which we live. When we actually do venture out on those expensive gas fumes to travel somewhere, we are on constant surveillance for good gas prices.

This past week's Houston Chronicle did not paint a rosy picture for the immediate future. In an article aptly entitled "Drivers, open your wallets", it predicts the price of gas to be up from last summer by at least 25¢.

That would make it an average summer price of \$2.52, which is actually DOWN from today's posted price. Most people feel it will be higher. Ahhhh...the ups and downs of summer travel.

My morning TV news station has been assisting travelers with information on the location of gas stations offering lowest prices.

They announce if gas is cheaper on the west side, the east side or anywhere in between. When they announce gas at a certain station at an unexpectedly low price, you can wait a few minutes for the traffic report, which will verify sudden traffic congestion and roadway tie-ups at (amazingly) that very same location.

We're all on the look-out for the

cheapest gas price. I can tell you right now the cheapest - set - priced gas in Eagle Lake is posted at the 600 block of East Main at a staggering \$1.33 a gallon regular. I silently fume and pop a blood pressure pill every time I drive by and see that unattainable low price.

The station has been boarded closed for some time now but the old prices remain on the billboard. I decided to visit one of the neighboring businesses - S&W - and get their input on the temptingly false advertising. "It's from about four to five years ago when the business there closed its doors," ventured owner Jim Woods.

I asked if it bugged him to daily see that price from the "good old days." He said it didn't bother him much because it seemed to attract a lot of interest from travelers.

He has had motor homes in particular pull in at the closed station, but walk into his business asking him to turn the pump on for gas. They were all just hoping the sign was correct. He also sees a lot of farmers during his working hours.

Their comment was that back in mid-December 2004 farm fuel (diesel) was 91¢ a gallon as opposed to \$2 in '05 and '06. We're all feeling the pinch.

And speaking of a pinch or a pain, whether like my friend it's in the neck or anywhere else on the anatomy, don't let the aches and stress go too far.

That would mean a trip to the doctor. You'd probably rather save the high priced gas for a possible vacation trip this summer.

2006 South-Central Texas Farm & Ranch Show

Saturday, April 29

Colorado County Ag Complex Hwy 71 Bypass Columbus

Calendar of Events

4-H/FFA Tractor Technician Contest - 8 a.m. (\$50 Pre-registration due by 4/15/06 and covers 3 member team registration, ribeye meal, and 1 teacher/chaperone meal.)
 4-H/FFA Hay Hauling Contest - 10 a.m. (\$10/team of 3)
 Antique Tractor Pull - 10 a.m. (Hook-up fee = \$10/pull)
 4-H/FFA Pig Catching Contest - 11 a.m. (No charge)
 4-H/FFA Antique Tractor Restoration Contest - Judging @ 11 a.m. (\$10/entry)
 Ranch Rodeo - 12 p.m. (\$40/team of 4, open to first 15 teams to pre-register)
 Antique Tractor/Equipment Parade thru the Ag Complex - 12 p.m.
 4-H/FFA Steer Saddle Contest - 1:30 p.m. (\$15/team of 3)
 Children's Pedal Tractor Pull (ages 2-7) - 2 p.m. (No charge)
 Tailgate/Pick-up Bed Cook Off - No Cook Trailers - Judging @ 6 p.m. (\$30/team of 3)
 2 Live Bands - "Donnie Wavra Polka Band" - 12-4 and "Southbound 71" - 4:30-8:30

Swap Meet

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 Air Conditioned Exhibit Hall available for Arts, Crafts, Antiques, Etc.
 Antique Equipment, Tractors, Cars, Trucks, Etc. - If you got it, bring it!
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Help Teach Today's Youth About the Equipment of Yesterday!

Excluding firearms, any and all exhibitors, vendors, businesses and organizations are invited to set up sales booths, exhibits, demonstrations, etc. There will not be a flat exhibitor fee - we are relying on your donations and sponsorship. Please plan to set up Friday, April 28, or Saturday, April 29, by 9 a.m.

Scholarship levels are \$1,000 Platinum • \$500 Gold • \$250 Silver • \$100 Bronze
 Pit prepared, PRASEK's Seasoned, Texas Ribeye Steak, beans, potato, tea combo plate \$10
 Interested in sponsoring, have a question or want to pre-register for an event? Please call 979-234-5148, 979-234-5148, e-mail us at loveallthelife@netzero.com or mail us at 7644 Hwy. 71 N, Garwood, TX 77442
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 GREATER UNION BAPTIST CHURCH: Matthews Community, Co. Rd. 141; Rev. Lawrence C. Robertson, Pastor; 234-2581.
 MT. CARMEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwy. 90-A (Pecan Valley), Eagle Lake; Rev. H.O. Williams, Pastor; 234-5813.
 LIVING HOPE CHURCH: Eagle Lake; Revs. Joe and Mercy Fling; 234-5536.
 BEREIA CLADIC: 623 Maple Avenue, Eagle Lake; 234-2130.
 ROCK ISLAND FULL GOSPEL: P.O. Box 232, Rock Island; 234-5840.
 CHRISTIAN CITY FELLOWSHIP: 1140 Meyer, Sealy; Rusty Griffin, Pastor.
 THE DAY OF PENTECOST APOSTOLISTIC REVIVAL RISING STAR: FM 102 South, Matthews; 4 p.m. (at Mt. Zion); Rev. R.L. Carter Sr.
 GREATER NEW FAITH CHURCH: 6406 Guylor, Wallis; Rev. Clay Spears, Pastor; 979-478-2169.
 EAST BERNARD FIRST BAPTIST FIRST BAPTIST: 527 N. Lake, Eagle Lake; Rev. Chris Thacker, Pastor; 234-2571.
 FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST: 405 S. Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-2130.
 IGLESIA BAUTISTA GETSEMANE: 901 B Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Mario Vasquez.
 GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST: Rev. Thomas Kuykendall; 705 Lake, Eagle Lake; 234-3545.
 WRIGHT GROVE BAPTIST: Rev. T.J. Cunningham Jr.; Altair.
 PROVIDENCE BAPTIST: 1207 Seaholm, Eagle Lake; Rev. Coby Shorter Jr.; 234-3735.
 CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 306 E. Stockbridge, Eagle Lake, 234-3437.
 ROCK ISLAND BAPTIST: Bob Allison, Pastor.
 SHERIDAN FIRST BAPTIST: FM 2437; Rev. Jim Dunn, Pastor; 234-3136.
 WHITE CLOUD BAPTIST CHURCH: 202 Old Altair Road, Eagle Lake; Rev. Obie Rhodes, Pastor; 234-3800.
 CHURCH OF CHRIST: Sheridan.

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP: Hwy. 90A, Sheridan; Del Sanford, Pastor; 234-3276.
 CHRIST OUR REDEEMER-Charismatic: Jerry C. McKinney, Pastor; 979-478-7534 or 478-6512.
 HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH: East Bernard.
 CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE NATIVITY: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sanctuary; 308 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; 8 a.m. (Español), 10 a.m. (English), Rev. Eddie Winkler, P.O. Box 307; 234-2842.
 ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH: Box 97, Nada; Rev. Joseph Koebel; 758-3218.
 GRACE LUTHERAN: 408 N. Stevenson, Eagle Lake; Services begin at 10 a.m.; Rev. Clements Richard, Pastor; 234-3381.
 LEHRER MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST: Garwood; 9 a.m. worship.
 LISSIE UNITED METHODIST: J.L. Craft, Pastor; 234-2112, Lissie.
 ROCK ISLAND METHODIST: Ken Sellar Jr. Lay-Pastor.
 UNITED METHODIST: 200 W. Prairie; Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m.
 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: 106 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; 234-3368.
 VINE OF THE LORD: 1300 E. State Street, Eagle Lake; Rev. Paul Aguilar, Pastor; 234-7543.
 CrossRoad ASSEMBLY OF GOD: 510 Wallace, East Bernard; Pastor George Kutach; 979-335-7706.
 THE CHURCH OF CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS: 600 W. St., Sealy; Marshall Crosby, Branch Pres.
 CHURCH OF CHRIST: 815 Milam, Columbus; Lynn Wilson, Minister.
 THE SHEPHERD'S WAY: Interdenomination Christian Fellowship; 1225 Eagle Lake Road, Sealy, Frank Lucas, Pastor; 979-885-1225.
 SOUTH POINT BAPTIST CHURCH: 6407 Hwy 71-S, Garwood; 979-758-3039; Pastor Dave Curry.
 ASSEMBLEA DE DIOS HOSANNA: 403 East Main, Eagle Lake; 979-732-1966; Pastor Romero Rodriguez Jr.
 BIBLE TRUTH APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Corner of S. Wharton & E. First St., El Campo; Pastor Larry T. Smith, 979-543-2331.

Bible Verse of The Week

"I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."
 Revelation 3:20
 Submitted by Carol Cardenas

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