



The first home on The Eagle Lake Civic Garden Club Holiday Homes Tour will be the Sidney and Barbara Struss home, located at 100 W. Stockbridge.

Smithson-Struss Home To Be On Homes Tour

By Mary Ann Kaluza
Wm. T. M. Smithson, following the battle for Texas Independence, made his home in Galveston, Texas.

In 1850, he moved to a large tract of land between Weimar and Sheridan. From here, in 1860, he moved to Wharton, Texas, along with his family.

In 1861, Wm. Smithson's daughter, Lodi, married Daniel Webster Stockbridge.

Together, Smithson and family moved and settled on a large tract of land between Lake Avenue and Walnut Street in Eagle Lake, Texas.

Smithson and his son-in-law, along with the \$8,000 he had made from the sell of Smithson's home place between Weimar and Sheridan, built out of Cypress

wood in 1862, the main part of the home that faces McCarty Avenue and Stockbridge Street (that part which has stucco on it today).

After the civil war, Smithson moved in with his second wife's son in Wharton, Texas.

Daniel Webster Stockbridge and Lodi Smithson continued to raise their family and live in the Smithson home place.

In 1870 - 1871 Stockbridge remodeled the home adding wall-to-wall carpet to the home. It was known as "the house with the carpeted rooms".

In 1932, the W.A. Dallas family again remodeled the home due to a hurricane that caused extensive damage in 1931.

At this time, the surround porch and the two chimneys were removed, and an apartment was

built over a garage.

The servant quarters and kitchen were moved and attached to another home directly behind the Smithson - Struss Home which is part of the Struss Estate today.

In 1972, William Kell bought the home and built a large garage attached to the older garage (below the apartment) which was built for the smaller Model A by W.A. Dallas. Mr. Kell also added several rooms to the back area of the home.

In 2006, Sidney and Barbara Struss bought the home from William Kell and immediately began a total restoration. A book entitled "The Old House- Smithson to Struss 1862" is due in book stores in the Fall of 2008.

This book describes the com-

plete history of the home and the people who lived there.

As an example, John Hancock, a signor of the Declaration of Independence and Daniel Webster Stockbridge eash share the same great-great-great grandmother!

Also, Dilue Rose Harris lived with her daughter and wrote her memoirs in the upstairs bedroom of this home. Her book has been published in numerous history books.

Another resident, Captain George Ziegler, head of reconstruction efforts after the Civil War, and his wife lived in the home.

And, yes, there are two ghosts that still make their presence known in "the old house".

The Struss' will be glad to share some evidence of the ghost, Annie with the tour participants.



Pictured from left to right are members of the Eagle Lake Lions Club who participated in the BBQ dinner held Sunday, Oct. 7. Roy Dean Van Nort, Michael Cooper, Steve Taylor, Len Matula, Major Bengé, Joe McCreary, Glen Sunderman; in back, Pat Pavlu and Bruce Johnson.

Harris Finishes Air Force Basic



Air Force Airman Rachel L. Harris has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College

of the Air Force.

She is the daughter of Steve Harris of Katy and Christian Matlock of Weimar.

Harris is a 2003 graduate of Katy High School.

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New Arrivals

Jacoby Maddox Partida
Theresa Castillo and Humberto Ramon Partida of Wharton/Eagle Lake are pleased to announce the birth of their third child, a son, born October 1 at 10:43 p.m. at Gulf Coast Medical Center in Wharton.
Jacoby Maddox weighed seven pounds.
He was welcomed home by his big brothers, Issac and Raymond Partida.

Maternal grandparents are Ramon and Alicia Castillo of Eagle Lake.

Paternal grandparents are Sandra Partida of Wharton and Humberto Ramon Partida, Sr. of El Campo.

Great-grandparents are Matilda and Daniel Partida of Wharton; the late Julian and Sara Sosa; and Jose Castillo of Eagle Lake and the late Manuela Castillo.

County Hay Show Slated On October 11

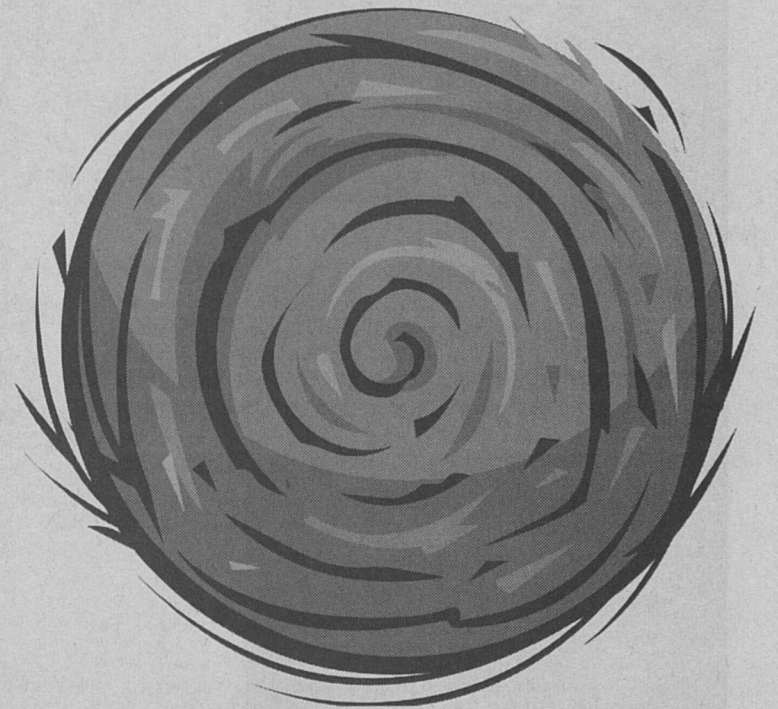
The annual Colorado County Hay Show will be held on Thursday, October 11, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at the Eagle Lake location of the Texas Agriculture Experiment Station.

We will have a program on what's in your hay bale by Dr. Larry Redmon-Forage Specialist with Texas Cooperative Extension Service. Larry Nickel-County Extension Agent Fayette County will serve as out Hay Show judge. Two C.E.U. will be offered to

private, commercial and non-commercial applicators.

The County Hay Show is being sponsored by the Colorado County Livestock Committee, Local Agribusinesses, and the Texas Cooperative Extension Office.

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



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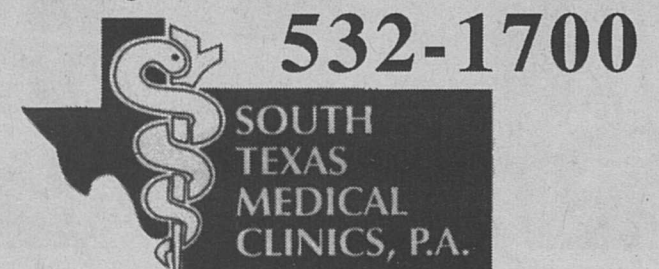
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