

of everyday life in Dime Box

Marburger is a rancher and a regular customer at Sonny's. "Ever since I've been coming here I've never seen a scrap because of a game. Everybody just plays a friendly game, and there ain't no gamblin'."

Sonny's is a simply decorated place, with walls lined with mounted game and remnants of the past.

"Lots of city folk come and go in here, and they think they can tell us country folk how to make money," Spacek said. "They tell me to re-do the place and add some new touches to the place, but I've had it this way for 18 years and I'm not going to change it."

"If I did, all my customers wouldn't feel at home anymore, and they'd stop coming. Then I'd lose money."

Spacek said not much of anything goes on in Dime Box.

"About the biggest thing that happens is the annual fireman's barbeque," Spacek said.

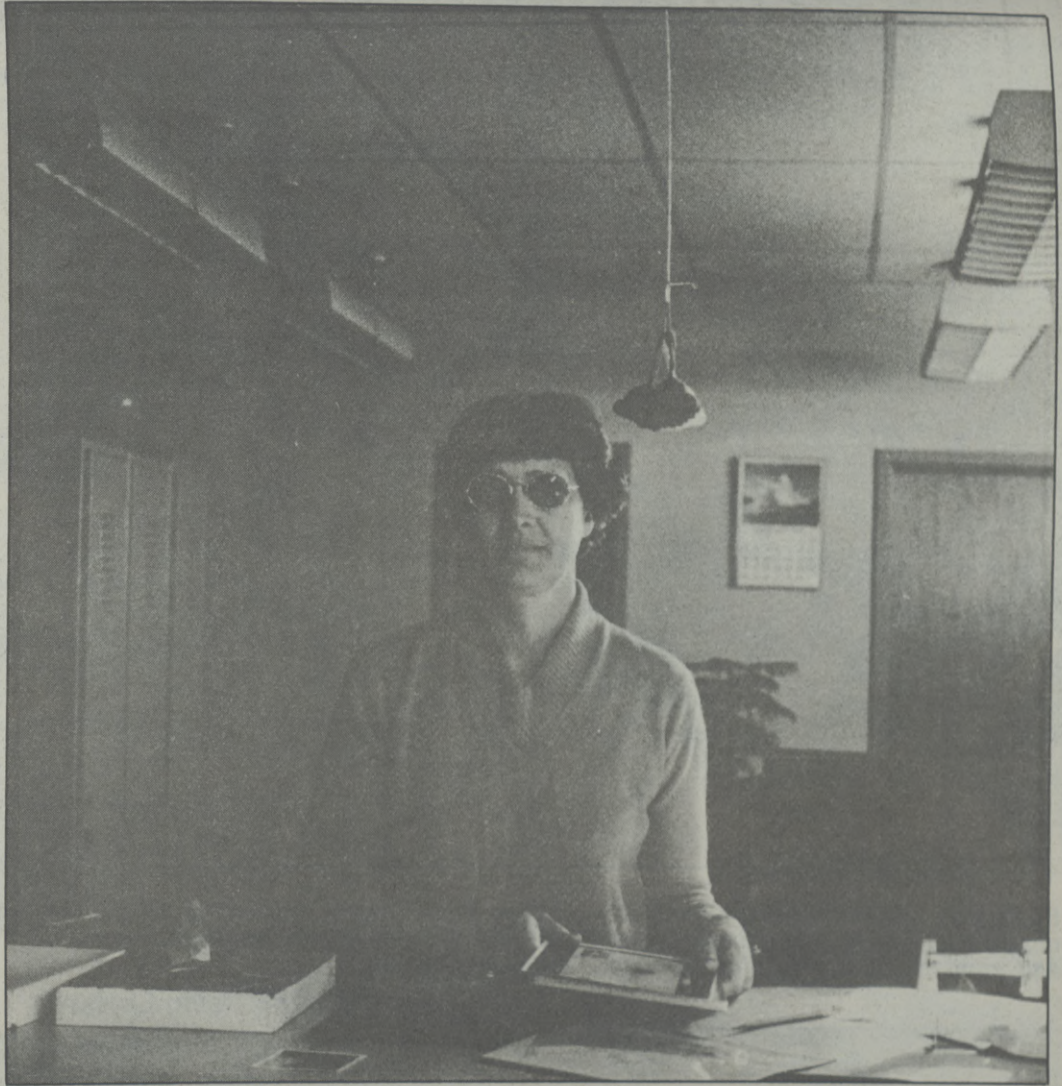
"But every Saturday night people from all around come to Dime Box to the dance at the SPJST Hall. There's at least 500 folks there every Saturday night and sometimes over 900 or more squeeze into the hall when the band People's Choice is playing."

"I sure do like to dance," Frances Greenwood added. She's a waitress at Sonny's and has lived most of her life in Dime Box.

"Every Sunday up at the Country Corner the 'young crowd,' like Frances here, get out and have themselves a good time," Spacek said. "Everybody up there is between 50 and 80. It's good to know that folks their age still get out and have some fun on their own."

Dime Box received national publicity in 1943 when a March of Dimes campaign originated in Dime Box.

Story
and
photos
by
Lisa
Martin



The town of Dime Box is located southwest of Bryan-College Station. Sonny's, top left, a local bar, is a favorite gathering place for Dime Box residents. "Mr. Joe," bottom left, a longtime resident, goes to Sonny's in the

afternoons, to "look at the pretty women." Alene Cottrell, top right, who has been the postmistress for 22 years, can relate many of the historical facts about Dime Box. Downtown Dime Box is shown in the picture bottom right.



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