

# Your Letter From Home

Sgt., reporting to the Co.:  
"I think we've got their morale a little too high, sir. They want to know if it's true that some day they might have to return to civilian life!"  
From "The Tarranteer,"  
Ft. Worth Army Air Field.

Sent To You With The Best Wishes Of  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
The Gates Dry Goods Co.  
The Fort Dodge Creamery Co.  
The Fort Dodge Serum Co.  
The Tobin Packing Co.  
The Elks Club of Fort Dodge  
The Loyal Order of Moose

Radio Station K V F D

Sponsors of "Your Letter From Home" heard over KVFD  
daily 12:45 p. m., Monday through Friday.

"Wonder what that knock is," said the young man, as the motor pounded furiously and then died.  
"Maybe," said the gorgeous blonde beside him, "It's opportunity."  
From "Walker Talker,"  
Victoria Army Air Field,  
Victoria, Kansas.

Vol. 2. No. 2

WRITTEN EVERY FRIDAY

November 3, 1944

☛ **DEAR JOE:** We have had the beguiling kind of autumn weather lately that you loose your heart to. Indian summer—days and days of it—full of sunshine and the stimulating air of fall. We are raking yards, cleaning gardens, taking off screens, putting up storm windows, burning leaves. The days are so lovely it hardly seems real . . . To high school the other day some publicity-conscious young lasses wore blue jeans and flannel shirts with the tails out fore and aft in the manner of Wellesley and Vassar. Faculty and students refused to be shocked. Perhaps for Fort Dodge the style died a-borning . . . The witches rode for Halloween this week under a big fat moon that hung like a yellow apple in the sky. The 'teen agers and the grade school moppetts were out in strength, going from door to door, demanding treats or threatening tricks. A slogan I hadn't heard before was "Grub or scrub!" The vanishing Chic Sale has robbed these youngsters of a lot of fun . . . O. P. A. is investigating the cigarette black market. Reports say that some places wholesalers are insisting that retailers buy punch boards if they want cigarettes. Neatest trick of the week. One restaurant operator demands the purchase of a sandwich with the purchase of a package of cigarettes.

☛ **AROUND THE TOWN.** Karl Kaderabek has opened an Electric Service shop with Art Olson at 10 North 10th Street . . . Charlie Ernest and Junior Janssen, of the Dodger football team, are off to Ft. Snelling for physical examinations . . . The pheasants so far this season have refused to stand up and fight. Hunters report that they prefer to remain skulking in the grass. Very unsporting, I call it . . . The Junior Chamber is being reorganized here. Beryl Houck is temporary chairman, Bob Meyer temporary secretary and treasurer. H. E. Marxhausen and Don Hanson are drafting a charter . . . The Adam Johnstons celebrate their golden wedding anniversary last Sunday, October 22nd . . . Frank Brown is in jail again, charged with stealing a number of things and also charged with bootlegging. He was caught unloading four cases of whiskey in the alley behind the Swaney garage . . . The Glee Club sang this week in Gilmore City . . . When the Women of the Moose took over the city hall last Friday, they were confronted with a petition for a glue factory. It was a sticky affair and they decided not to touch it . . . Mrs. C. J. Jensen has been elected sergeant-at-arms of the national organization of the Army Mothers Club.

☛ **ENJOYING MOM'S COOKING.** Jack Bartlett, S 1/c, on a 48 hour furlough, had the bad luck to lose his airplane ticket and \$20.00 . . . T/Sgt. Harold Strong after 65 missions with the 9th Air Force in a Martin Marauder. He's on his way to Santa Monica, Calif. . . . John Potter, A/S, from Ames, where he finished engineering. He's on his way to Asbury Park, N. J. . . . Verle E. Jordison, S 1/c, from 20 months in the S. W. Pacific on the U. S. S. Oakland . . . Sgt. Richard Leonard, from Lubbock, Texas, where he is training as a glider pilot . . . Cpl. Robert Mallinger, from Walker Air Field at Victoria, Kansas . . . T/Sgt. James Fulton, from 62 missions in a Martin Marauder in the Mediterranean theatre . . . S/Sgt. Raymond Stringer, from England, where he has been a gunner on a Fort . . . T/Sgt. Cliff Lillig, of Lehigh, from the Mediterranean, where he has been a gunner on a bomber . . . Cpl. Raymond Smith, from Italy, where he was with the engineers . . . Robert Hinkle, A/S, enroute to Camp Peary, Va. . . Pfc. Thomas Hurrt, of Lehigh, from England, after 35 months overseas service . . . Pvt. Oscar Karstens, from Italy. He was wounded in the right arm and will go to O'Reilly General Hospital at Springfield, Mo. . . A/S Ray Nelson, enroute to Albuquerque, N. M. . . Pvt. John Doud, from Ft. Riley, Kansas . . . Robert A. Rose, S 2/c, from Farragut, Idaho . . . Ralph V. Bueoy, S 2/c, from San Francisco, Calif. . . Sgt. Merle Olofson, from O'Reilly General Hospital. He broke his ankle in a jeep accident in Italy . . . Lt. Joseph Wall, from the South Atlantic, enroute to Norfolk, Va. . . Pvt. Melvin Fuller, of Otho, from Ft. Geo. G. Meade, Maryland . . . Capt. Howard Gamper, soon returning to Italy.

☛ **WAR'S GRIM TOLL.** Pfc. Johnny Dickman, of Co. G., was wounded in Italy September 19th. He's on the mend . . . Lt. V. C. Merryman, pilot of a Mitchell bomber, is missing on a raid over Germany as of October 12th. His plane was based in England . . . S/Sgt. Gaylord Van Alstine is reported missing over Germany, October 7th. He was gunner on a Liberator based in England . . . Pvt. John Maddox, Jr., B. A. R. man with the infantry, is missing in action in Germany since October 3rd . . . Pfc. Dwain Hart was wounded in action on Saipan Island . . . Sgt. Bernard Bilskemper died in France of wounds October 8th . . . Pfc. Raymond Kehm is missing in action in Italy since October 10th.

☛ **TWO HEARTS THAT BEAT AS ONE.** Dorothy Namen, of Cedar Rapids, and Ensign Irving Dorheim, October 29th, in Cedar Rapids . . . Donna Davis and William Miller, EM 3/c, of Greenville, Pa., in Webster City, October 24th . . . June Stufflick and John D. Bownington, of Joliet, Ill., August 21st, in Norfolk, Va. . . Mary Jane Miller and Fred W. Maive, A/S, of Seattle, Washington, October 21st, in Chicago . . . Margaret Dablien and William J. Thomas, of Washington, D. C., sometime soon.

☛ **FROM THE FRONT LINE.** With the 30th Infantry Division, Private Earl R. Messerly, of Fort Dodge, is a rifleman of the 117th Infantry and trained to kill but he is instinctively a life saver. Enemy artillery was blasting near a position he occupied in Holland and in the midst of the bursting shells a little child, terrified,

was too frantic to seek shelter. Pvt. Messerly left his foxhole, was hit in the arm by a piece of shrapnel, but carried the child to safety.

☛ **SCOREBOARD.** Dodgers 29, Roosevelt 13. For my money the most exciting game of the year. Wily Archie Johnson, able Rough Rider coach, started his junior team. Early in the first quarter Joe Carpenter on a beautiful off tackle play, got in the clear on his own forty-five, outran two Roosevelt safety men and got the six points standing up and far over in coffin corner. Joe played beautiful ball all evening. A little later the Rough Riders backed up against their own goal line, attempted a punt. The ball got away from the Roosevelt back and bounded over his own goal line where he was forced to drop on it giving the Dodgers two more points. On the kick from the Roosevelt 20, Constantine and Carpenter lugged the ball back to the eight yard line. From there Charlie Ernst carried the ball and three Rough Riders over the goal line. Score 15 to 0. Then Johnson sent in his senior team and before the half ended they'd racked up two touchdowns. They recovered a Dodger backfield fumble on our twenty. Hawkins, smart Rough Rider quarterback, tossed a pass into the end zone to Jack Chaffee. That got 'em six and they kicked goal for one more. A little while later George Constantine went back to punt from our 30 yard line. Chaffee was through there in a flash, blocked the kick, picked the ball out of the air and went for a touchdown. Stuhrman missed the kick. Score, 13 to 15. And the end of the half. It didn't look good for us. The Rough Riders galloping out of the T were finding plenty of openings in our line and only a fumble had stopped another touchdown. In the second half we came back brilliantly. George Constantine's passing and running, added to the fine game Carpenter was playing, turned the trick. Runs by Carpenter and two passes, one to Ralph Woodward, the other to John Fieseler brought about the third touchdown. George Knack kicked the extra point. The game was almost over when George Constantine intercepted a pass about mid field and ran to the Roosevelt five. On the next play he went round end behind beautiful interference and scored standing up. Then he kicked the extra point. Knack still suffering from a shoulder separation, was in for moments only to kick off and do some punting and place kicking . . . It was a great game and maybe the last victory for a fine team. George Knack may not play again this season. Ernst is off to the army, Joe Carpenter has been ruled ineligible. Against Mason City tonight we may have to play a new backfield, probably, Constantine, Wasem, Bingham and Beers . . . Army is the top team of the nation, Notre Dame second, Ohio State third . . . Iowa lost to Indiana 34 to 0.

☛ **FIRST BIRTHDAY OF Y L F H.** We had a party for that first birthday last week and to it came Cpl. Alberta A. Maitner, WAC; WAVE Ramona Calucci, Sp (R) 2/c; Robert Knudson, C Sp (R), USNR; 2 Lt. Fenton Isaacson, Air Corps; Mrs. Fenton Isaacson and Mrs. W. F. Rigby. From the station came Vernon Sharp, Marilyn Williams, Elvera Challberg, June Beckett, Irene Wretman, Vernice Johnson, Dorothy Flinn, Peter Russell, Marjorie Rudolph, Drexel Peterson, and Dennis Lee Rigby. Dennis Lee, Mrs. Rigby's grandson, had more fun than anyone else—because he's only four—but all of us had fun. YLFH had a cake and one tall candle.

☛ **A FEW WEEKS BACK** S/Sgt. F. C. Carlson, Co. B. 109th Me. Bn., 34th Division, wrote to tell me that he and his pals were preparing a replica in alabaster of the "noblest patch" of them all—that of the 34th Division, the Red Bulls. Today it arrived and it's beautiful. It came wrapped in an Italian newspaper, packed in a K Ration breakfast box. The horns and skull of the bull are done in relief in red alabaster and the background is polished black alabaster. Around the edge runs the inscription, "Co. B. 109th Med. Bn. 34th Division." Thanks, guys. It's swell.

☛ **GERMANY.** From somewhere in Germany, Sgt. Chas. A. Garlock writes, "I wonder how many Dodgers are now on German soil? Winter is on its way. Hope this fox hole doesn't freeze over. I'll try to write from Berlin."

☛ **DOWN UNDER.** Morris Nyrun, S 1/c, is somewhere in the South Pacific. He'd like to be back in Webster County for corn pickin' but "I guess I won't be able to."

☛ **OVER HERE.** Cpl. Joe Scales is at Jefferson Barracks, helping to operate a separation center. "In the few days it has been operating, one Fort Dodger has been discharged. Hope to see many more come through." . . . Sgt. Joe Seko is at Ft. Lewis, Wash. . . Sgt. Richard Vohs is at Dyersburg, Tenn. . . Bert Rule, S 2/c, is in cooks and bakers school at San Diego . . . Pvt. Earl Smith, USMCR, is at Camp Pendleton, Calif. We'll play that number, Earl . . . Pvt. William Ruebel is now at Camp Roberts, Calif. . . David E. Peterson, GM 3/c, is now stationed at Treasure Island, San Francisco, awaiting assignment to a destroyer . . . Pvt. Robert D. Ault is at Camp Polk, La. . . Plt. Sgt. F. D. Bailey, of the 2nd Marines, now at Bremerton, Wash., in the navy hospital, is heading for the navy hospital at Sun Valley, Idaho. He ran into Rae, of Rae's candies in the PX the other day and says by this time Rae should be home. Overseas he saw Bud Trost, Fred Brighi, Bob McNealy and Chet Brown. The last time he saw Bud was on the beach at Saipan. "We were too concerned with Nips then to talk about anything else." F. D. says "hello" to Justine Becker in England. Thanks a lot for the patch, Sgt. First Marine patch I've seen . . . Cpl. and Mrs. Don Ellinger and son, Gary Lynn, are at Casper, Wyoming . . . Chas. R. Claus, S 2/c, is in San Francisco . . .

Pvt. Archie Larson is at Ft. Benning, Ga. . . Pvt. John Thissen is in radio school at Boca Raton Field, Fla. . . Phil Dorweiler, S 2/c, is now at Camp Scott, Spokane, Washington, waiting to go to school . . . Capt. Walter L. Vieregiver is back in school, attending civilian personnel officers' school at Baltimore, Md., at Holabird Signal Depot . . . Cpl. Darrell Nash is a surgical patient at the Station Hospital at Camp Crowder, Mo. . . Pvt. D. E. Wilshusen has been doing so much K. P. at Lowry Field that he "not only has dishwasher hands but will also make somebody a good wife" . . . Pvt. R. W. "Bill" Rabbitt is at the air field at Florence, S. C. Also stationed at the field is Bill Roberts . . . Pfc. Raymond West is back from Italy and North Africa and now at Norfolk, Virginia. He and Pfc. Kenneth Olson were doing guard duty over Prisoners of war.

☉ **SERVICE PATCHES AND INSIGNIAS.** "The Guinea Pig" from Pfc. Floyd Derrig, New Guinea. Thanks, Floyd . . . The "St. Albans Naval Hospital News" from K. C. Johnson, GM 3/c, who is in Ward F-106 of that hospital at Long Island, New York . . . "The Yank" from Sgt. Ted Rule, San Pedro, California. Thanks, Ted . . . "The Brief" of the 7th AAF, two copies of it; the Pacific edition of "The Yank"; the "Midpacifican"; and numerous publications and guides to wartime Honolulu, all from Carl Theiss, WT 2/c, C-3 in Hawaii. Thanks, Carl.

☉ **LUXEMBOURG.** Pvt. Don Derrig, now in Luxembourg, sends a 5 franc note and a copy of the "83rd Spearhead" published somewhere in France. "Luxembourg is a very nice place but it doesn't compare with back home. And I don't think I'll find anything that will." Thanks, Don.

☉ **GOOD FELLOWS GET TOGETHER.** Pvt. Dick Taylor, USMC, Cliff Castor, Art Dilges and Pauline Partello in Los Angeles. Dick is stationed at Oceanside, California . . . Larry Geer, Gerald Gronwall and Lt. Bob Hughes of Rockwell City in Miami. Larry was down there on a hurry-up trip because of illness in the family. Gerry was there in short leave and Bob was back from England and in Miami for a rest. Sgt. Harry Largent, back from the South Pacific, is in Miami for reassignment. Pan-American's Dean Cavanaugh and Ford Muhl are in and out. The home town got together while Larry was there and a good time was had by all." . . . Robert Hutchinson, S 1/c, and John Schaupp at the Naval air station in Los Alamitos, California.

☉ **OVERSEAS.** A Xmas post card from Sgt. James Nolan in Iran . . . Moving again, Capt. Roscoe E. Klinger is now APO 637, New York. "This stone is gathering no moss but as an old college prof. said, a rolling stone does get a heck of a polish" . . . Somewhere along the Ledo Road is Pvt. Carol A. Sorlie . . . T/Sgt. Robert L. Bell, now on the Hawaiian Islands, is heading home. We'll play that tune, Sgt. . . Pfc. Floyd Zeka is now in India "where civilization is nearly as old as the hills."

☉ **BELGIUM.** Pvt. Gordon Foster is now in Belgium . . . R. B. Webster with the 2nd Armored Division has seen action in Sicily, Africa, France and now in Belgium. Occasionally he sees Chaplain Bertram. Thanks, Dick, for the patch.

☉ **LA BELLE FRANCE.** Pvt. Byron J. Wille of Williams is in France. Yes, sir, Byron, We'll do that number for your grandmother . . . Pfc. Merton Sweet is in France and has visited LeMans. Thanks, Merton, for the patch of the 90th and the two franc note.

☉ **MERRY ENGLAND.** Pvt. Hughey McCahill is in England. We'll do that number, Hughey.

☉ **ALASKA.** Cpl. Ray Felkey is somewhere in Alaska, but heading home and out of the land of the willewaus. We'll play that number, Ray.

☉ **HIGH C'S.** Bob Jamieson, RM 2/c, working somewhere along in the Italian shoreline on a P. T. is yearning to see some home town guys. He urges Dodgers in that area to look over any P. T.'s they see. He sure would like to see them.

☉ **FROM THE FIVE CORNERS OF THE WORLD.** Lt. Edgar R. Rosen, Assam, India, "I'm a glider pilot, and have been for two years. I've flown several missions in Burma in the "one way Boxcars." Aside from that, I've flown transports. I have been overseas about ten months and I'm ready to come home, but I still have seven or eight months to "sweat." If you'd send me Charlie Lane's address, I might be able to get over to see him. I read in Sept. 22 YLFH he was in the hospital. After spending 9 months overseas and 21 months as a flight officer I finally made 2nd Lt. That could hardly come under the heading of Hometown Boys make good; if you know what I mean! In the First Troop Carrier Sqdn. legend has it, "They fly when the birds walk," but now we're through with the monsoons."

A/S Dale E. Hetland, Perrin Field, Sherman, Texas. "While I was home, I ran across a few things that seemed so funny to me. And one of them was the way everyone scrambles to the cigarette counter, asks what brand they have on hand, and walks away with his head hung low and his tongue hanging out. We guys in uniform don't have to worry about all that. We merely go to the P. X., ask for a package of Luckies, Camels or what have you, and think nothing of it. And we get them! That's another advantage of being in uniform! Oh yes, another thing that impressed me was the shortage of chewing gum. Most of the civilians, except those who had the right connections were without gum. And more people asked me to send them some. Why, if I would send everyone who asked me just one stick of gum, I would be sending gum from now until the duration plus six, and still not get them all sent. That's how desperate some people are for little things like that, and those, among other things, are what our boys are over there fighting—getting killed for."

T/Sgt. Othello C. Duckett, somewhere in France. "The California Chamber of Commerce would have plenty to work on over here. Currently it is wet, the ground is sloppy and slushy and it is cool. I am located in an area where the vegetation is very lush and the livestock would draw plenty of praise from the Iowa farmers. There is a village nearby whose outstanding structure is a Catholic Church, variously reported as five to seven centuries in age." (Thanks, Sgt. for the French money.)

Chaplain Arnold H. Bertram, Germany. "Your excellently edited YLFH reads as nicely here as it did in Holland, Belgium, France, England and Africa. It's a morale booster and a good one. The days of fluid war as we knew it through France and Belgium are over. It's a slugfest now and no holds barred. It's dangerous, too. I'm writing this in an underground shelter by three candlelight.

It's damp but quite safe." (That's a good idea—we are working on it.)

S/Sgt. Richard A. Johnson, New Guinea. "I was down to APO 713 the other day and saw M/Sgt. Herb Smith again. That is the third time Herb and I have been together since he came overseas. I saw him before both on my way down and on my way back from Australia for my furlough. However, things here aren't so bad. My tent is really neat. Built on stilts on the side of a hill. Screened in and has wooden floors, electric lights and one of the boys (there are four of us) has a radio so you can see we don't stand short. Being situated on the side of a hill we always have a nice cool breeze. The rain has been exceptionally light but I don't mind as long as the breeze holds out. Though I haven't seen any beer here on this base, our smoke situation is good. Along with our cigarettes this month they also had 16 cigars per man. I know a couple of non-smokers, so I'm pretty well supplied with cigars." (We'll do that number, Dick. Thanks for the "Torrid Sun.")

Lt. K. I. Hartman, France. "My promotion came through the other day. I'm a First Lt. now. The next promotion I would like to have has a different uniform. My blue suit. That will really be the day for me. Today I received a flat fifty of cigarettes from the Home Town Canteen. They came at the right time as they are pretty scarce around here right now. As you see, I'm in France now. Another new country, another new address. My APO is 758 now. I am moving around quite a bit, and am seeing a lot of this country. The people here were certainly glad to see us come in here. Lots of hugging and kissing and stuff like that. It almost made me nervous. I like this country much better than England or Italy. They were very interesting but nothing like this. This would be the place to go on a vacation. I've visited Nice, Cannes, Marseilles, and many other interesting places."

Pvt. Robert Baker, Germany. "At the present time, I am in Germany. It was a lot different when we entered Germany than when we went through France and Belgium. Here the people didn't throw flowers at us or give us wine, fruit and all the other things we received in France and Belgium. Instead, a person could expect a hand grenade in place of a bouquet of flowers. So far, nothing like that has happened to me. A person can't trust any civilian though. If looks could kill, all of us would be dead. The German homes are more modern than the homes I have seen in France and Belgium, but hell, these people got the best of everything from the occupied countries so they should have better living conditions. They are paying for it now, though. I hate to see anybody suffer, but if they would give up there would be a few homes left. The German soldiers didn't have any mercy for the people in France and Belgium. I have seen the work of Hitler's S. S. troops and a person couldn't believe it until you've seen it for yourself. They didn't even spare women and children. Well, it won't be long until Christmas will be here again. I would give anything in the world to be home for Christmas this year, but it doesn't look like it now. Maybe next year."

Cpl. Ross Tuel, Jr., Germany. "As for my travels, I have really been covering ground. Landed in Normandy, France and have been in Belgium, Holland and now Germany. Before we reached Germany the people were really swell to us and very glad to see us. Of course, here it is different and they just look at us and we don't speak very often. Belgium was my favorite country as everything was so neat there. About all I know of Germany is that I have been "sweating it out" here and it can't last forever."

Pfc. Donald A. McClure, Holland. "I suppose I should tell you why you haven't heard from me, but here is the history. I joined the Army at Fort MacArthur, California, on May 16, 1942. May 1, 1942—Fort Dodge. May 16, 1942, joined Army. May 21, 1942, Camp Livingston, Louisiana. 7 months of training with the 28th. 2 months training at Camp Gordon, Georgia; 2 months training at Ft. Benning, Georgia. (Five jumps—also gained my wings.) April 29, leave New York. May 10th—Arrive in North Africa. May 18th, leave Casablanca. Remember the show—never found Rick's Bar. May 19, arrive at Ouyda, Africa. June 20, leave Ouyda, Africa. June 21, arrive Oram, Africa. July 10th, hit silk at Sicily, land at small town called Gela. We see our first action, also wait for troops to reach us. We fight the battle of Hell's Vineyard—Mr. Herman Goering's 15th Panzer Division, also Mark VI'S tanks. August 31, leave Sicily by plane. Sept. 1, arrive in Cairo, Africa. Rest and resupply. Sept. 14th. Hit silk at Salerno, Italy. Sept. 19th—fifty miles by boat up coast of Italy. Oct. 1—arrive in Naples; first troops to reach town. Nov. 19th, leave Naples by boat. Dec. 9th, arrive North Ireland where we spent some swell times. Feb. 15th, leave North Ireland. Feb. 16th, Glasgow, Scotland. Feb. 17th, arrive in England. June 6th. Hit silk at St. Mere Englise, the town's ours, or what's left of it. Well, from there we learn the art of hedge-row fighting the hard way. Also throw in a few high hills, few 88's and 6 barrel mortars. June 15th, leave France. June 16th, arrive in England. Well, there's three we hope it's our last, so we go back to our mild and bitters, and good old English ways and "Cherrios" and all that, but alas, that Guy with the four stars and the pins! Sept. 17th, jump on Holland, can't say where at but I'll bet it's in the papers back home. This is a new type of war, and the only way Jerry seems to understand is to have his feet sticking straight up. He is also getting the same. Well, Ed, you can see for yourself I've been busy. I hear a lot about clusters and so forth, for the Air Corps, but most of us boys have four missions over enemy lines and we never have the pleasure of a ride back in one of those one engines and a prayer. We spend a lot of time in the air for our short jump to the ground and action. Well, if I get out of this deal I'll pin the 4th star in my wings and hope they call it quits. Hope to see Fort Dodge real soon. I'm ready to settle down and call it home." (Thanks, Don, for the patches and the Dutch coins.)

Another football game coming up tonight as we finish this second letter in volume 2, against our old and traditional rivals, the Mohawks of Mason City. They haven't a great team this year. They've been beaten, but they've still got a Di Marco to do some fancy passing. And they still have the old yen to beat the Dodgers . . . Joe, I wish you could be back here for pheasant hunting and duck hunting and fall fishing. Fishing has been good lately. I wish you were back to see again how beautiful Iowa is in the fall, to walk through the woods, see its rich fields and black soil; to stand under its tall blue skies and smell that good fragrance of harvest and burning leaves . . . We miss you just as much as you miss us. We live for those good days ahead when you'll be back and we'll be neighbors again. So long, fellow, and the best of good luck.

Your home town correspondent,

Ed Breen.