How nice it is to be able to thank all of our wonderful customers and wish them a happy holiday season!

cpl

Try a Living Christmas Tree

(By Dorothy Schomberg
County Extension Agent)

With Christmas in the near future and decorations already on the store shelves, consumers still wonder what kind of tree to decorate with all the shiny new ornaments. I suggest that you consider using a live tree for the holiday decor.

The living tree can be a welcome addition to any landscape following the Christmas season. Certain Christmas trees better suited to the oddities of Texas weather include the Deoder Cedar, Eastern Red Cedar, Arizona Cypress, Italian Stone Pine and Japanese Black Pine. The Yaupon holly, Japanese yew, Burford holly and cherry laurel can also make an attractive living Christmas tree.

But regardless of the type of tree, all varieties require a certain amount of care. Keep the tree in a cool location in the home, away from heating vents and radiators. And place it where there is natural light. Water the tree about twice a week. It is best not to keep the tree inside the home for longer than two weeks.

Use damp peat moss around a balled and burlapped tree for better moisture retention. Highlight the tree by placing it in an attractive container.

Although a living tree may cost more and need a little added care, it can be used to beautify the landscape after the Christmas holidays. Thus, a bit of the holiday spirit will remain through the whole year and years to come.

Ringing out good wishes for the Christmas season to our wonderful friends and patrons.

MART IV SHOES
220 EAST MAIN
EAGLE LAKE

May the happiness of this holy season remain within every heart and every home.

EAGLE LAKE MOTORS
Mr. & Mrs. B. E. Altman
Eagle Lake

Visit With Santa

Grandmother Pearl Meitzen, at far right, brought her grandchildren to visit with Santa Claus Dec. 11th. Shown with Santa are, left to right, Marla Thomas, Walter Meitzen IV, Patricia Thomas and Michelle Meitzen.

In the center photo, Charles Stovall liked the idea of having his picture made with Santa, even though he was a bit leery of the white-whiskered gentleman.

In the lower photo Tammy Simmons and Becky Dennis show that they enjoyed visiting with Santa and especially when they were asked to sit upon his knees.

Leaflet Has Details on Seed Tag Changes

A new leaflet now available at the county Extension office spells out the details about the change in seed certification labeling which becomes effective January 1.

The leaflet is appropriately titled "Seed Certification—The Meaning Has Changed But the Value Is Still There."

The leaflet briefly outlines what is involved in the new certification standards, how the standards vary from the past, and why the changes were made. Commonly asked questions about the change in seed certification standards are also listed along with answers that should give producers the information they need.

The key as far as farmers are concerned is to carefully read both labels when purchasing certified seed.

Producers are encouraged to pick up a copy of the new leaflet on seed certification at the county Extension office or at any seed dealer.

An 1862 report from the newly formed United States Department of Agriculture noted that on three out of four farms, "The wife works harder, endures more, than any other on the place." The author suggested that the farm mother "should train her daughters for marriage and her sons in giving their wives proper treatment."

24 YEARS AGO

The Way It Was..

(September 4, 1952)

It's Carnival time tomorrow night, Friday, with the Eagle Lake Lions Club annual Fall Carnival scheduled on the city square. . . . Mrs. Reinhard Wied, longtime resident of the Garwood community passed away in the Nightingale Hospital in El Campo September 1st. . . Eagle Lake students will begin their annual trek back to school Monday morning, with the formal opening of the 1952-53 school term. . . . A reception honoring the faculty of the Eagle Lake High School and Elementary School is scheduled to be given by the Eagle Lake Parent-Teacher Association Monday evening, September 8, at 8:00. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Seaholm are the parents of a new baby boy, John Leonard, born August 29 at 11:58 a.m. and weighing 6 pounds and 14 ounces. . . Oct. 5 Prison Rodeo opens 21st Annual event in Huntsville. . . . Betty Kay Meitzen attends baton twirling school. . . Local stock in Halletsville Rodeo beginning tonite. . . . An announcement was made this week by Pastors Emil and Selma Burger of the Eagle Lake Mission Church that on Saturday and Sunday nights, Sept. 6th and 7th, little nine year old Jo Ann Minter will conduct services and preach the gospel for these two nights in the Mission Church on Prairie Avenue here in Eagle Lake. . . . . David Konesheck's Hobo party Saturday marks 11th birthday. . . . John Brasher is returning WCJC football letterman. . . Golf Course is setting for Lamkin family reunion last Sunday. . .Beginning at the September 4th meeting of the Eagle Lake Lions Club, all future meetings of the Club will be held in the new Community Center. . . . The Eagle Lake Garden Club held its first meeting of the 1952-53 year Wednesday morning with a coffee in honor of the Club's new president, Mrs. G. C. Duncan. . . . Speed boat racing fans can start tuning up their motors as El Campo's new lake is filling quickly and officials expect it to be filled about September 15th. . . New yellow and black stop signs have been placed by the City of Eagle Lake at numerous intersections in the residential areas, in the vicinity of the schools and along the proposed alternate route of Highway 90A traffic on Church Street, and citizens are warned by Police Chief M. F. Campbell that strict enforcement will be made. . . The McClelland interest in the McClelland Warehouse Package store in Eagle Lake has been purchased by his partner, H. O. Holm, who with his associate, Henry Becker, Jr., will be doing business as the Holm Store.

(September 11, 1952)

The Eagle Lake High School Eagles knock the lid off the 1952 football season tomorrow night, Friday, at 8 p.m. when they play hosts to the Cypress-Fairbanks Bobcats at the high school stadium. . . . The Colorado County Farm Bureau will sponsor the appearance of Russell Cash, champion corn grower of Texas, at the Mentz Hall Monday, September 15th at 8 p.m. . . Eagle Lake High School's athletic stadium has been undergoing a big improvement program during the past several weeks. . .Eagle Lake Schools opened Monday with 934 students. . . Garwood Postmaster Priesmeyer resigns after 25 years service. . . Wedding shower honors Mrs. Kenneth Lundquist in Rock Island Friday. . . . American Rice Growers Office reached a high for the season Monday when 43,300 barrels of Century Patna and Bluebonnet were offered for sale in twenty-four lots.

(Sept. 18, 1952)

Five thousand gallons of gasoline burn after truck jackknifes on 90-A. Driver of the truck, Dick Obenhaus escaped injury in the accident which occurred as he tried to stop the tank truck so as to avoid collision with a pickup attempting to pass a stopped school bus. . .The Eagle Lake P-TA, under the leadership of Mrs. V. T. Matthews, has been awarded as a plus for the work accomplished during the 1951-52 school year. . .The Chamber of Commerce announces its selection of Judith Anderson as Eagle Lake's representative at the International Rice Festival in Louisiana . . . Shade and Trowel Club opens new year with tea honoring the new president, Mrs. W. L. Bauer. . .Congratulations are being extended to Miss Nellie DeShazo and Walter Fruks who were united in marriage September 6th. . . Cpl. Floyd Hodde is playing a vital role on half-track in Korea battles. . .Lt. Cdr. Robert J. Ney, USN is a member of Efficient Patrol Squadron. . .Little Kenny Roberts is a patient in the Cullen Children's Hospital in Houston where he was admitted for skin grafting operations. . . Eagles bow to Cypress-Fairbanks 7 to 0 in last three minutes. Leading in defense were Leon Simank, Jack Dowdy and Dan Duncan. Centers John Adkins and Lewis Epps played a hustling game and guards Weldon Knox and John DeShazo played their positions to good advantage. It was their first game under the tutorship of Coach W. B. Hinton. . .Congratulations to Charles Ray Altman who celebrated his birthday Sept. 12th. . .Connie Lin is the new arrival for Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Hayden. . .

(Sept. 25, 1952)

Eagles set back 7 to 0 for second time in Sealy last Friday. . .Henry Kretzschmars move into new home, the former W. B. Martin home. . . A pheasant, a rare site almost anywhere, but definitely a rare sight on the streets of downtown Eagle Lake, briefly halted traffic Tuesday afternoon at the city square while the majestic bird tried to decide whether to take the big leap and cross the street or to remain in a few clumps of grass on the square. When approached for a photograph, the bird decided that she had had enough of this foolishness and took off in a long glide for safer pastures. . .Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. James Mathis on the birth of a new baby son, James, Jr. . . .Durbin Motor Supply closes, Mr. Durbin now associated with Durbin-Fuller Speciality Company with headquarters in Alice. . .Patsy Scott suffers slight shake up in gym class tumbling accident. After a series of X-rays and other tests, her physician reported nothing more serious than a good hard bump . . .Robert Zahradnick playing football with Trinity College . . .Duncan Stewart to head Garwood FFA Chapter. . . Among birthday honorees recently were Jimmy Wiese and Carol Beth Wells. . .Jerry Peterson, 1952 graduate of Eagle Lake High School, has been named for one of five University of Texas Air Cadet posts. . .

Register At Miller's Grocery

Miller's Grocery in Eagle Lake invites citizens in the area to come by to register, without obligation, for a number of prizes to be awarded at 4:00 p.m. this Friday, Dec. 24th.

The airport serving Jackson Hole, Wyoming, is the only commercial airport ever incorporated into a United States national park.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

To friends and customers, old and new, warm "thanks" and best holiday wishes.

IRVING WILLIAMS
Licensed Plumber

MR. AND MRS. IRVING WILLIAMS AND FAMILY
EAGLE LAKE

BEST WISHES

We have enjoyed serving you during 1976 and we hope to be able to to do business with you again in 1977. Have the warmest holiday possible with lots of fun and laughter.

KURLETTE BEAUTY SHOP
216 EAST MAIN – EAGLE LAKE

It's our favorite time of year . . . when we pause to thank our many good friends for their patronage in the past. We look forward to serving you in the future. Have a Merry Christmas.

The First National Bank
Officers and Directors
EAGLE LAKE, TEX. & Staff MEMBER F.D.I.C.

Holy Night

For on this night a child is born and the angels sing. Joy be with you this Christmas.

TEXAS FRIED CHICKEN
ROBERT HICKS, OWNER
EAGLE LAKE

May the glad tidings bring joy into every heart at this holy season. And may every home be blessed with all the warmth and cheer of Christmas! Greetings from everyone at

GOLD CONSTRUCTION CO.
Walter, Mary Ann Gold and Family
Eagle Lake and Nada

$38.8 Million Farm Products Produced In County in '74

The market value of all agricultural products sold by the 1,350 farms in Colorado County in 1974 amounted to $38,577,000, according to a preliminary report of the 1974 Census of Agriculture released this week by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census. Production expenses on these farms totaled $28,120,000 in 1974.

The figures are for farms qualifying under the definition first used for the 1969 Census of Agriculture: A farm includes all agricultural operations conducted at any time during the census year under the control of an individual management, provided that sales of agricultural products amounted to, or normally would amount to, at least $250 for places of less than 10 acres of $50 for places of 10 acres or more.

Figures for farms with sales of $2,500 or more are shown for 1974 and 1969. These farms accounted for $38,117,000 of all agricultural products sold in 1974 and $19,810,000 in 1969.

There were 624 of these farms in 1974 compared with 683 in 1969. The average size increased from 680 to 777 acres during the five years. The value per acre increased from $267 to $496 raising the average value per farm from $181,746 to $385,104.

The market value of livestock and their products on farms of $2,500 or more of sales was $8,955,000 in 1974; poultry and their products, $1,068,000; and crop sales, including nursery products, hay and forest products, $28,704,000.

Farms reporting less than $1,000 in sales numbered 74 in 1974. The value of agricultural products sold on these farms totaled $18,000.

And To all our friends "Thanks" for everything

Gulf Coast Oilfield Contracting
THE VAN NORTS & EMPLOYEES
EAGLE LAKE

Christmas cheer in full measure to friends and patrons. Thank you for letting us serve all of you during the past year.

ARGO AUTO SERVICE
Verlin Argo & Staff
EAGLE LAKE

Visit With Santa

You get a variety of expressions when the children come to visit with Santa Claus and those in this series of photos show just about every kind of expression. At the top, left to right, Robert Parker said "Who me sit on Santa's knee?" Casey Clipson says, "Hurrah for Santa" while Tripp Clipson's expression says, "Aw shucks." In the center photo, Scott Williams says, "Santa don't forget me!" while Kevin Bendy shows expression of being enthralled by all that's going on. In the lower photo, Roscoe and Nora Sosa joined Santa in saying, "Merry Christmas to all."

Victorians Sent First Holiday Greeting Cards

Sending and receiving greetings of the season is one of the most enjoyable of Christmas chores, and we can all thank Victorian England for this charming custom.

To be more specific, we can thank a Victorian gentleman who was too busy during the holiday season of 1843 to send his customary notes to friends, wishing them the best of the season. So it was that Henry Cole asked a friend to design a printed card that he could send to friends in place of the usual handwritten note.

The friend, artist John C. Horsley, illustrated a group of celebrants raising their glasses in a toast, flanked by illustrations of others feeding the poor and clothing the needy. The message read, "A merry Christmas and a happy new year to you."

It wasn't long before the printed greeting card appeared in America, designed by one R. J. Pease, a dry goods merchant from New York state, who sent out cards advertising his goods.

However Louis Prang, a lithographer living in Boston during the 1800's is known as the father of the American Christmas card. Charles Dickens is said to have sent Prang a Christmas card received from a friend. Prang printed the card for his family and friends and later began creating his own cards in 1874.

Greeting cards have changed greatly since that first card sent out by Henry Cole, and no doubt that good gentleman would be amazed at the diversity of designs sent through the mails at Christmastime.

Hollies For The Holidays

The holiday season would not be complete without a touch of holly. And Texas is the perfect home for new holly plants.

"A touch of Christmas cheer can be had through the year with a holly plant," notes Dr. William Welch, landscape horticulturist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. "The female holly with its bright red fruit is especially attractive in landscapes."

The Greenleaf and Savannah varieties are some suggested hollies. These will grow to a height of 20 feet or more and provide food for nearly 20 species of birds, points out Welch.

Most hollies should be transplanted between November and March when the plant is dormant, explains the horticulturist. However, plants found in a nursery can be planted any time with sufficient care. Welch recommends the balled-and-burlapped types rather than bare-rooted plants.

The plants need not be fertilized until their second year of growth. Barnyard manure may be mixed with the soil and a mulch of leaves and pine straw provided.

Merry Christmas TO ALL

It's the season to pause and think about friends old and new . . . and to wish them health and happiness!

KALLINA DRYER, INC.
ANTHONY KALLINA, Mgr.
Altair, Texas

Let's Look Back 48 YEARS AGO

(Saturday, August 25, 1928)

A mass meeting in the City Hall begins a movement for better roads within the county. A committee composed of Fritz Engelhard, Harry Reading and J. A. Dromgoole were appointed to confer with representatives of other cities in the county on building new roads and improving present ones. . . Rice cutting is general and threshing is expected to begin next week. The New Orleans market quotes rice prices at $4.16 1/2 for Edits and $3.87 for Lady Wright. . . Texas Rangers visit here and make a large number of arrests for gaming establishments in the colored sections of the city and destroyed approximately 600 bottles of illegal beverages. . . Judge John Hoye is appointed secretary of the national commander's committee for the National American Legion convention in San Antonio next week. . . Mont G. Calvert is the new owner of the Putney Drug Co. and will manage the same as the Calvert Drug Co. . . . Coach W. B. Hinton has issued a call for all interested boys to appear for the football practice sessions which begin Sept. 1. . . Supt. W. C. Reed has announced opening date of Eagle Lake schools as Sept. 3rd. . . Francis Hamilton, Jr., has formed a partnership with Prof. Zador Arkush of Los Angeles, California and will work as business manager for the accomplished pianist. . . To date 900 bales of cotton have been weighed here by Public Weigher Fritz Emshoff with middling basis selling for 18.65. . . Mrs. Ruth Durbin was hostess at a slumber party last Monday night honoring Misses Gracie Jean Vincent and Erin Bolg. . . Mr. and Mrs. Dave Thomas and daughter, Ada accompanied by Miss Ruth Ernestine Powers left for a visit with Mrs. E. B. Powers and family in Temple. . . A new cottage is being built on State Street for Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Boothe.

(Saturday, Sept. 1, 1928)

A light vote was registered in the second run-off primary. Walter Adams defeated Geo. W. Keith by a narrow margin for Commissioner of Precinct 4. Geo. Heck defeated Ashley Walker for local constable and Tom Connally was nominated in the state race with Mayfield for State Senator. . . Jim McCarty, Helmer Seaholm, H. T. Neiswender, C. C. Pennington, Max Conner and Meriwether Anderson made near perfect grades in a Masonic Lodge proficiency examination conducted by Walter Pierson of Houston. . . Rice threshing underway with the rice price hovering near the $3.25 mark. The harvest is running only fair, with an average of sixteen barrels per acre. . . Scoutmaster J. W. E. Airey and a number of Boy Scouts are on a trip through west Texas and other western states. Scouts on the trip are: Merlin Ney, Roger Fuller, Leroy Laird, Alvin Kahlfeldt, Buster Johnson, Antonio Morales, Everett McRee, Howard Conrad and Fulton Dromgoole.

Have a happy and safe holiday season

Mascheck-Marx Gulf Station
MR. AND MRS. VICTOR MASCHECK & FAMILY
EAGLE LAKE

Blessings to All

Christmas is the most Holy of holidays when we celebrate the birth of our Lord. We hope that all enjoy a Holy and happy Christmas Season.

YOUR COLORADO COUNTY OFFICIALS

Lester J. Cranek, COUNTY JUDGE	Walter Henicke, COMMISSIONER, PREC. NO. 1	George (Doc) Mueller, COUNTY SHERIFF
Henry J. Hajovsky, TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR	Otto H. Loessin, COMMISSIONER-ELECT, Pct. 1	J. T. (Jimmie) Frnka, CONSTABLE, J. P. PREC. 3
Harvey Vornsand, DISTRICT CLERK	Crockett Layendecker, COMMISSIONER, PREC. NO. 3	M. M. (Mac) Jones, JUSTICE OF PEACE, PCT. 3
L. W. Stiles, Jr., COMMISSIONER, PREC. NO. 4	James Whitcomb, COUNTY ATTORNEY	Mrs. Martha Bodungen, COUNTY TREASURER
Lester Schneider, COUNTY CLERK	Donald N. Bendy, COUNTY ATTORNEY-ELECT	M. L. Briscoe, COUNTY AUDITOR