

46 beds available for medical care

Community Hospital wing completed

Work is complete and the new wing at Eagle Lake Community Hospital has been in use for several weeks along with other equipment the facility has added to increase its ability to serve the community.

In the planning for at least two years before construction started in March of last year, the expansion adds 14 patient beds in the new wing, in six private rooms and four semi-private rooms. Also in the new wing is a complete physical therapy department.

According to Jack M. Harrell, hospital administrator, the remodeling in other areas of the hospital included adding a four-bed recovery room, renovation and enlarging the hospital pharmacy as well as the nurses station, and adding a new nurses lounge with private lockers. An office for the director of nursing also was constructed.

There are new services available for patients because of new equipment, which the hospital auxiliary, known as The Pink Ladies, helped make possible. For instance, the Pink Ladies paid \$10,000 of the \$47,000 cost of the new Zero Mamography unit, manufactured by the medical division of Xerox Corp. The pink ladies also gave the hospital the Fetal Heart Monitor which costs about \$7,600. That machine gives doctors a new tool to more accurately monitor the health of unborn children, especially at the critical time just before and during delivery. The mamography unit is the "state of the art" in detection of breast cancer, its primary function, but it can "see" other things as X-Ray machine would not.

Also in the radiology department, a nuclear scanning machine and Ultra Sound equipment have been added through a contract with the company that operates them. In the laboratory, a new semi-automated chemistry machine has been added. It includes computerized print-out and recording of lab test results.

"Residents of Eagle Lake and the surrounding area should be very proud to have a hospital of this quality," Harrell said last week in talking about the expansion and renovation. And, of note, is the fact that there was no indebtedness incurred either by the construction, or with equipping and furnishing the new area. The community donated funds to cover equipment and furniture costs, and actual construction expenses were paid from the hospital's funded depreciation account.

Putting the new wing and equipment into operation means Eagle Lake Community Hospital has come a long way since it was chartered in 1967 as an outgrowth of Laughlin hospital that was privately owned by doctors J. R. Laughlin, J. C. Laughlin and Raymond Thomas. It now is one of the area's largest enterprises, both in terms of number of employees and in revenues. More than 100 people work there, and the hospital's annual payroll is over \$1 million. For the year, the hospital should generate

more than \$3 million in revenues. But as administrator Harrell says, it takes \$235,000 monthly to cover basic operational costs to keep the doors open. Twelve hundred or more patients are admitted each year, with thousands of dollars of free care given to indigent patients annually.

The hospital is classed as a general, short-term, acute care hospital. It is fully accredited by the Joint Committee on Accreditation of Hospitals, and holds membership in the American Hospital Association, and the Texas Hospital Association. Service is furnished under the federal medicare and Medicaid programs also.

The hospital is operated through a board of directors that originally included the late Mrs. Annette Rogers who served as president, J. H. Clipson Sr., Charles D. Stephens, Bob Ashby, Loretta Dye and William H. Harrison Sr. Several years ago the board was increased to nine members, and currently includes Harrison who is chairman of



The breeze keeps the flags flapping in front of Eagle Lake Community Hospital. In the right of the picture, a portion of the new wing can be seen. Just to the right center of the photo is the entrance to the Emergency Room.

the executive committee, Stephens who is treasurer, and Ashby who is secretary, as well as new members W. W. Stuart, W. N. Lehrer who is vice president, Steve Balas who is chairman of the education and quality assurance committee, Anthony Kallina, who is a member of the executive committee, Wayne Corman who is chairman of the building and grounds committee, and Mrs. Eunice Franks who



The Fetal Heart Monitor, shown here in one of the delivery recovery rooms, was purchased by The Pink Ladies, and donated to the hospital.

is publicity chairman. Shuart is chairman of the board. Harrison, who heads the executive committee, will freely talk about the facility's dedicated, professional staff of employees and physicians, that take the time throughout the year to keep up with the ever changing knowledge about their fields.

For the benefit of patients, the hospital is associated with the Life Flight program through Herman Hospital, that in life-threatening situations transports emergency patients to Houston via helicopter. That flight easily cuts 30 to 45 minutes off the trip, as well as provides onboard medical care by a doctor and trauma trained RN nurse. That flight is an additional cost item, starting at \$150 for the lift-off fee and \$6 per mile, plus supplies. But when patients need

specialists for consultation and additional medical service, the hospital has a consulting staff of physicians that are on call to the hospital, decreasing the need to refer patients to Houston and cutting the cost of such trips. "The first time I walked through this building," Harrell says, "I couldn't believe that a hospital that size had a hospital that was so well equipped."

"What impressed me so much was what I found inside," he adds, "not only is the hospital well equipped, but the staff is excellent."

Departmental managers at Community Hospital include Mrs. Anna Kessner,

director of nursing services; Mrs. Ruth E. Nelson, operating room supervisor; Don Bisher, physical therapy; Dennis Connor, inhalation therapy; Jane Blaha, anesthesia; Lovie Girard, central stores and purchasing; Peggy Dietrich, radiology; Mrs. Barbara Taylor, medical laboratory; Mrs. Dorothy Newsom, food service director; Mrs. Jewelene Fling, executive housekeeper; Domingo Castillo, head maintenance engineer; Betty Kana, bookkeeping; Mrs. Patricia Seaborn, business office manager; Darlene Dornak, chief medical record librarian, and John Paslay, director of pharmacy.



Right, hospital pharmacist John Paslay works in the expanded Pharmacy. Below right, Peggy Dietrich prepares some of the new equipment made available with the help of the Pink Ladies. Below, at the end of the counter is the new laboratory computer, that speeds lab work when physicians need it most.

Consulting Staff:
E. J. Tagel, M.D., Orthopedics
Nicholas Papadakis, M.D., Orthopedics
Gary Apple, M.D., Urology
Carlos Zorrilla, M.D., Cardiology
Tom Hancher, M.D., Internal Medicine
E. L. Higelow, M.D., Pathology
O. Varon, M.D., Pathology
Thomas Weil, D.D.S., Oral Surgery
James Kennedy, D.D.S., Oral Surgery
Benton Baker, M.D., Gynecology & Obstetrics

Active Staff:
R. Raymond Thomas, M.D., Chief of Staff
C. Curtis Laughlin, M.D., Vice Chief of Staff
Harold L. Griffin, M.D., Secretary
Jose M. Ugarte, M.D., Family Practice
R. Russell Thomas, D.O., Family Practice
O. P. Copeland, M.D., Radiology
Steve Edwards, D.D.S., Dentistry

Above, The expansion created new patient rooms, like this semi-private room to help make your stay comfortable. Left, is some of the new equipment in the Radiology Department associated with the hospital. Below, from left, Margie Hlavinka, Rhonda Vernon, and Debbie Truede work at the expanded nurses station.



The First National Bank



Community Calendar November 1983



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Your Pocket Size Appointment Calendars available at First National Bank Eagle Lake		1 All Saints' Day Nutrition luncheon and Senior Citizens meeting, Presbyterian Church, 12:10 p.m. KC Game Night, 7:30 p.m. TID BIT: First hydrogen bomb exploded, 1952.	2 A.A.R.P., noon, covered dish luncheon, Methodist Church Building. Rotary Club, 12:10 p.m. Nutrition luncheon and Senior Citizens meeting, Presbyterian Church, 12:10 p.m. Drug Abuse Assembly at Eagle Lake Middle School, 9 a.m. for 4th and 5th grades and 10 a.m. for 6th through 8th grade. TID BIT: James K. Polk born, 1795.	3 Sheridan WMU, 9:30 a.m. Sheridan Baptist Church Friendship Hall, Nutrition luncheon and Senior Citizens meeting, Presbyterian Church, 12:10 p.m. Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club, Community Center, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church Altar Society, 7 p.m., Diner Hall. Adult Night Classes, 7-9 p.m., ELMS. A.A.U.W., 7:30 p.m., home of Carol Edwards. ELMS teams vs. Belleville, Here, 5:30 & 7 p.m. TID BIT: Revolutionary Army disbanded, 1783.	4 Kevin Court Bazaar Kevin Court Apartments 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rice Varsity Football vs. Belleville, Here, 7:30 p.m. Rice Freshman & Junior Varsity Football vs. Belleville, There, 5:30 & 7 p.m.	5 Eagle Lake Volunteer Firemen's Stew Supper 5 to 7 p.m. Community Center Study Club Auction 7 to 10 p.m. Raffle Drawing Community Center Duck season, split season, begins TID BIT: Susan B. Anthony fined for voting, 1872.
6 Knights of Columbus Barbecue Sale Pendleton Street TID BIT: First intercollegiate football game, 1869.	7 Webelos Den No. 1, 3:15 p.m., Dulany residence. Adult Night Classes, 7-9 p.m., ELMS. Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Dept., practice, 7 p.m., fire station. Boy Scouts Troop 334, 7:30 p.m., Scout Hut. Martha Sunday School class, 7:30 p.m., home of Betty Brown. Dorcas Sunday School class, 7:30 p.m., home of Mrs. T. W. Scott. VFW Game Night, 7:30 p.m., Community Center. Alpha Delta Phi Sorority meeting, 7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., hospital conference room.	8 Election day Nutrition luncheon and Senior Citizens meeting, Presbyterian Church, 12:10 p.m. KC Game Night, 7:30 p.m., Andrew Hall. Eagle Lake City Council, 7:30 p.m., municipal building. Xi Pi Psi Sorority meeting, 7:30 p.m. JV and Varsity Girls Basketball vs. Moulton, Here, 5 p.m. TID BIT: Norman Rockwell died, 1978.	9 Rotary Club, 12:10 p.m., Community Center, program chairman Dan Thornton. TID BIT: Massive power failure hit Northeast, 1965.	10 Nutrition luncheon and Senior Citizens meeting, Presbyterian Church, 12:10 p.m. Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club, Community Center, Free Public Health Immunization Clinic, 1-4 p.m., Ugarte Clinic, 706 S. McCarty. Eagle Lake Volunteer Ambulance Corps, business and training meeting, 7:30 p.m., Ambulance Hall. Adult Night Classes, 7-9 p.m., ELMS. TID BIT: Hirohito enthroned as emperor of Japan, 1928.	11 Veterans Day Duck season, split season, ends First National Bank closed for Veterans Day. Post Office closed for Veterans Day. Masonic Lodge, 8 p.m. Patriotic Program sponsored by Eagle Lake VFW, Eagle Lake Middle School, 10 a.m. TID BIT: Armistice ended WWI, 1918.	12 10th Anniversary Eagle Lake Ambulance Corps Banquet & Dance 7 p.m. Community Center Deer and Quail season opens. VIP Luncheon and Games Party, 11:30 p.m., Methodist Church Building. TID BIT: Gas engine invented, 1879.
13 TID BIT: Robert L. Stevenson born, 1850.	14 Commissioners' Court, 10 a.m., Courthouse. Webelos Den No. 1, 3:15 p.m., Dulany residence. Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Dept., practice, 7 p.m., fire station. Adult Night Classes, 7-9 p.m., ELMS. Rice school district board of education, 7:30 p.m., administration building. Altair. Boy Scouts Troop 334, 7:30 p.m., Scout Hut. VFW Game Night, 7:30 p.m., Community Center. Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., hospital conference room.	15 Colorado Co. Soil and Water District, 8 a.m., Ag Building in Columbus. Nutrition luncheon and Senior Citizens meeting, Presbyterian Church, 12:10 p.m. Museum Committee of Revitalize Eagle Lake, Inc., 7:30 p.m., city hall. Colorado-Fayette County LVNs, 7:30 p.m., Weimar. KC Game Night, 7:30 p.m., Andrew Hall. VFW Ladies Auxiliary, 8 p.m., fire station. VFW Post 8783, 8 p.m., Eagle Lake Recreation Center. Freshman, JV and Varsity Girls vs. Brenham, Here, 5 p.m.	16 Rotary Club, 12:10 p.m., Community Center, program chairman George Welsch. TID BIT: U.S. recognized Soviet Russia, 1933.	17 Nutrition luncheon and senior citizens meeting, Presbyterian Church, 12:10 p.m. Eagle Lake Noon Lions Club, Community Center, Sheridan WMU, 1:30 p.m., Sheridan Baptist Church. Sunshine Class, 2:30 p.m., home of Ophelia Raabe. Adult Night Classes, 7-9 p.m., ELMS. Colorado County Historical Commission, 7 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, Columbus. Parents Reaching Out, 7:30 p.m., Waldvogel Center, Columbus. TID BIT: Congress met in Washington first time, 1800.	18 TID BIT: Standard time went into effect, 1883.	19 Duck season, split season, begins 20th annual Sheridan Lions Stew Supper, Sheridan Community Center, 6 p.m. TID BIT: Lincoln delivered Gettysburg Address, 1863.
20 TID BIT: Francisco Fraco died, 1975.	21 Chamber of Commerce, Noon. Sportsmans Restaurant. Webelos Den No. 1, 3:15 p.m., Dulany residence. Adult Night Classes, 7-9 p.m., ELMS. Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Dept., Ladies Auxiliary, 7:30 p.m., Fire Station. Alpha Delta Phi Sorority meeting, 7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop 334, 7:30 p.m., Scout Hut. VFW Game Night, 7:30 p.m., Eagle Lake Community Center. MAYC meeting, 7:30 p.m., Town & Country. Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., Hospital conference room.	22 Nutrition luncheon and Senior Citizens meeting, Presbyterian Church, 12:10 p.m. Eagle Lake City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall. KC Game Night, 7:30 p.m., Andrew Hall. Xi Pi Psi Sorority meeting, 7:30 p.m., KC Hall. Freshman, JV and Varsity Boys Basketball vs. Sweeny, There, 5 p.m. Freshman, JV and Varsity Girls vs. Cuero, Here, 4:30 p.m.	23 Rotary Club, 12:10 p.m., Community Center, program chairman Harold Williams. TID BIT: Life magazine began publication, 1936.	24 Thanksgiving First National Bank closed for Thanksgiving Holiday. Post Office closed for Thanksgiving Holiday. Rice CISD Schools closed for Thanksgiving Holiday. St. Mary's School in Nada closed for Thanksgiving Holiday. St. Anthony's School in Columbus closed for Thanksgiving Holiday. TID BIT: Psi Upsilon founded, 1833.	25 Rice CISD, St. Mary's School, and St. Anthony's School closed for Thanksgiving Holiday. Freshman, JV and Varsity Boys vs. Brazoswood, There, 6 p.m. TID BIT: Andrew Carnegie born, 1835.	26 Freshman, JV and Varsity Girls vs. Yoakum, There, 2 p.m. TID BIT: John Harvard born, 1607.
27 First Sunday of Advent TID BIT: French Fleet scuttled, 1942.	28 Commissioners' Court, 10 a.m., Courthouse. Columbus. Webelos Den No. 1, 3:15 p.m., Dulany residence. Hospital Board, 6:30 p.m., Hospital conference room. Adult Night Classes, 7-9 p.m., ELMS. Eagle Lake Volunteer Fire Dept., 7 p.m., business meeting, fire station. Boy Scouts Troop 334, 7:30 p.m., Scout Hut. VFW Game Night, 7:30 p.m., Community Center. Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., Hospital cafeteria. TID BIT: Magellan entered Pacific Ocean, 1520.	29 Nutrition luncheon and Senior Citizens meeting, Presbyterian Church, 12:10 p.m. KC Game Night, 7:30 p.m., Andrew Hall. TID BIT: Louisa May Alcott born, 1832. Freshman, JV and Varsity Girls vs. Yoakum, Here, 5 p.m. Freshman, JV and Varsity Boys vs. Needville, There, 5 p.m.	30 Rotary Club, 12:10 p.m., Community Center, program chairman D. R. Wintermann. TID BIT: Sir Winston Churchill born, 1874. Garden Club, 2:30 p.m., home of Mrs. Hattie Carter.	To Announce Your Activities, call 234-5521. Social Security: Department of Health and Human Service, Box 646, Brenham, Texas 77833. SCORE: For appointment, call Columbus Chamber of Commerce, 732-5881. State Department of Welfare: 435 Spring Street, Columbus, Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. At Eagle Lake City Hall Council Room, Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Regular Services, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Voter Registration and Auto Registration offices located in basement of Colorado County Courthouse. Regular Services, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to Noon and 1 to 5 p.m.: Driver's License office located on main floor of Colorado County Courthouse. Driver License Trooper will be at office on Mondays only from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.		