









Feb. 1996 Community Calendar

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SERVICES AVAILABLE Texas Driver's License renewal, 8 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m., 1119 Travis, rear entrance, 732-3451; testing: Monday only, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Vehicle License Plate renewal, purchase: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., basement, Colorado County Courthouse, office of Mary Jane Penitsch, county tax assessor-collector: 732-2710. Social Security: Department of Health and Human Resources, P.O. Box 646, Brenham, TX 77833. SCORE (Service Core of Retired Executives): For appointment, Columbus Chamber of Commerce, 732-5881. Texas Department of Public Welfare, Visits: Eagle Lake city hall council meeting room every Thursday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; main office: 1336 Fannin St., Columbus; Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 732-6231. WIC Program: Each Tuesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Eagle Lake Medical Clinic, 700 S. McCarty, Eagle Lake. By Appointment only. For more information, 732-6390. Surplus Food Registration: Combined Community Action Agency Inc., 903 Preston, Columbus; Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.		Don't Forget... Valentine's Day Wednesday Feb. 14 		1 Eagle Lake Lions Club, noon, Community Center Eagle Lake Recreation Center Board meeting, 7 p.m.  AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 19	2 Senior Citizens Dance KC Hall, Eagle Lake 7:30-11 p.m. Everyone welcome \$5 per person <i>First movie close-up, 1893</i>	3 Prairie Edge Museum Thrift Shop Open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Museum Open 2-5 p.m. <i>Civil War peace talks, 1865</i>
4 Prairie Edge Museum Open 2-5 p.m. ***** <i>Apache Wars began, 1861</i>  Full Moon	5 Martha Class, call for hostess Eagle Lake VFD practice, 7 p.m. St. Mary's 4-H, 7 p.m., Parish Hall, Nada Museum Board, 7 p.m., Prairie Edge Museum Outreach Bible Study, 7 p.m., 414 East B. Street Alpha Delta Phi, 7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts, 7:30 p.m., Scout Hut Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., hospital conference room <i>Mexican constitution adopted, 1917</i>	6 Cancer Support Group, GCMC room A, 3 p.m. Colorado County Democratic Club, 7 p.m. Xi Pi Psi, 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous, E.H. Henry Bldg., 8 p.m. <i>Massachusetts ratified Constitution, 1788</i>	7 Pilot Club executive board, noon meeting Eagle Lake Rotary Club, 12:10 p.m., Community Center <i>Charles Dickens born, 1812</i>	8 Ministerial Alliance, 9 a.m., Hospital Board Room Eagle Lake Lions Club, noon, Community Center Raider Powerlifting Boys Team at East Bernard, 4 p.m. Sheridan Water Supply Corp., 6:30 p.m., Sheridan Community Center Cancer Support Group, GCMC room A, 7 p.m. VFW Post #8783, 7:30 p.m., KC Hall Eagle Lake Ambulance Corps, 7:30 p.m. Ambulance Hall <i>Boyce founded Boy Scouts, 1910</i>	9 Masonic Lodge, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Hall <i>AFL-CIO merged, 1955</i>	10 Prairie Edge Museum Open 2-5 p.m. ***** <i>25th Amendment to Constitution, 1967</i>
11 Prairie Edge Museum Open 2-5 p.m. OLG Men's Club Breakfast, Andrew Hall, after 7 a.m. Mass Monday, Feb. 12 Continued... Alzheimer's Support Group, 7 p.m., Mansfield Library, Columbus Dorcas Sunday School Class, 7 p.m. Outreach Bible Study, 7 p.m., 414 East B. St. Rice CISD board, 7:30 p.m., Adm. Building Boy Scouts, 7:30 p.m., Hut Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., hospital conference room	12 Commissioner's Court, 9 a.m., Courthouse Chamber of Commerce, noon; call 234-2780 for reservation Rice 4-H Club, Mrkwa's home, 5007 N. Lake, Eagle Lake Colorado County Children's Service Board, 4 p.m., Courthouse Eagle Lake VFD business meeting, 7 p.m., station (Continued at left)  Last Quarter	13 WMU, 9:30 a.m., First Baptist Church, Sheridan Central Appraisal Dist. board, 1:30 p.m., Courthouse Extension Homemakers, 1:30 p.m. Raider V & JV Baseball at Cuero, scrimmage, 4 p.m. Sheridan PTS, 6 p.m. Eagle Lake City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall Narcotics Anonymous, E.H. Henry Bldg., 8 p.m. <i>First magazine in America, 1741</i>	14 Valentine's Day TOPS meeting, 9 a.m., June Mahalic's home WMU, 9:30 a.m., Virginia Bauer 1st Baptist WMS, 9:30 a.m. Pilot Club, noon, business meeting Eagle Lake Rotary Club, 12:10 p.m., Community Center Study Club, 2 p.m., Wintermann Library Colorado County Fair Assoc., 7 p.m. County Ag. Bldg., Columbus  <i>League of Women Voters formed, 1920</i>	15 Colorado County Soil and Water Conservation District, 8 a.m., Ag. Bldg., Columbus Eagle Lake Lions Club, noon, Community Center Historical Commission, 7 p.m. Colorado-Fayette Nurses, 7:30 p.m., Columbus <i>Ancient Roman feast of Lupercalia</i>	16 Raider V & JV Baseball vs. Hempstead, scrimmage, Here, 5 p.m. <i>Decatur burned Philadelphia, 1804</i>	17 Prairie Edge Museum Thrift Shop Open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Museum Open 2-5 p.m. ***** <i>Union regained Fort Sumter, 1865</i>
18 Prairie Edge Museum Open 2-5 p.m. ***** <i>Louis Comfort Tiffany born, 1848</i>  New Moon	19 CCA surplus food, Providence Baptist Church, 1207 E. State, Eagle Lake Raider Girls Golf at Caldwell Alpha Delta Phi, 7:30 p.m. Eagle Lake VFD Ladies Auxiliary, 7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts, 7:30 p.m., Scout Hut MAYC meeting, 7:30 p.m., Town and Country Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., hospital conference room <i>Ezra Pound won Bollingen Prize, 1949</i>	20 Shrove Tuesday Cancer Support Group, GCMC room A, 3 p.m. Raider V & JV Baseball at Hempstead, 4 p.m. Colorado County Horse Club, 7 p.m., Columbus Xi Pi Psi, 7:30 p.m., City Hall Narcotics Anonymous, E.H. Henry Bldg., 8 p.m. <i>K. Cobain born, 1967</i>  PISCES Feb. 20 - March 20	21 Ash Wednesday TOPS meeting, 9 a.m., June Mahalic's home Eagle Lake Rotary Club, 12:10 p.m., Community Center <i>W.H. Aulen born, 1907</i>	22 WMU Friendship Fellowship, 11 a.m., Sheridan Baptist Church Eagle Lake Lions Club, noon, Community Center Cancer Support Group, GCMC room A, 7 p.m. <i>Arrests at Montgomery Boycott, 1956</i>	23 Raider Varsity Baseball at Terry, 7 p.m. <i>Guyana became a republic, 1970</i>	24 Prairie Edge Museum Open 2-5 p.m. Raider Boys & Girls Powerlifting Teams Here, 9 a.m. Raider Jr. High Track at Belleville Relays <i>Julian calendar corrected, 1582</i>
25 Prairie Edge Museum Open 2-5 p.m. ***** <i>Pierre Renoir born, 1841</i>  First Quarter	26 Commissioner's Court, 9 a.m., Courthouse Raider Boys Golf at Caldwell Rice District Hospital Board, 6:30 p.m., conference room Eagle Lake VFD business meeting, 7 p.m., station Boy Scouts, 7:30 p.m., Hut Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., hospital cafeteria	27 Raider V & JV Baseball vs. Tidehaven, Here, 5 & 7 p.m. Eagle Lake City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall Narcotics Anonymous, E.H. Henry Bldg., 8 p.m. <i>Shanghai Communique, 1972</i>	28 TOPS meeting, 9 a.m., June Mahalic's home 50 & over party, 11:30 a.m., Dindler Hall, covered dish luncheon and games Pilot Club, noon, program Eagle Lake Rotary Club, 12:10 p.m., Community Center <i>Last episode of "M*A*S*H", 1983</i>	29 Raider JV Baseball Tournament begins Eagle Lake Lions Club, noon, Community Center	Feb. 1996 Garden Tips <i>From Harris' Farmer's Almanac</i> It's time to start seeds indoors. Begin with clean containers. Prune berry canes, grape vines and fruit trees for a healthier, more abundant harvest; remove any diseased prunings. Feed over-wintering birds in areas where insects are a problem; the birds will eat the larvae. In southern regions do heavy pruning of evergreens and plant evergreen hedges; this is a good time to start asparagus and plant annuals. FEBRUARY FARM DATES Plant above-ground crops: 1-3, 20, 21, 24, 25 Plant root crops: 9-12 Tend hydroponic crops: 20, 21 Control plant pests: 13, 14, 18 Transplant: 1-3 Cut flowers: 1-3, 9-12, 20, 21, 24, 25, 29 Set Eggs: 1-4, 26-29	

CLUB & ORGANIZATION NEWS

Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce elected officers and five board members recently.
Serving as Chamber President in 1996 is Gerald Retzlaff. His officers are: Kenneth Abel, president; and Brenda Besch, treasurer.
The five new board members are: Abel, René Al-Osadi, Don Bendy, Mary Ann Kaluza and Joan Wiese. Also on the board are Becky Anderson, Linda Balas, Jonna Bowen, Leslie Matthews and Vicki Powers.
The Annual Chamber Banquet is

scheduled for Monday, Jan. 29, at the Eagle Lake Community Center. Serving will begin at 7 p.m.
Guest speaker at this year's affair will be Ted Shaw, owner of KULM Radio in Columbus and long-time weather man for Channel 2, Houston.
Tickets are available from any board member, at Wilcox Foods IGA, or at the Chamber Office, 408 E. Main. Chamber Secretary Lana Dalany reminds everyone that the office is open from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday through Friday.

Daughters of the Republic of Texas

The Monument Hill Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas met Jan. 13 and were called to order by President Imogene Williams.
Chaplain Bessie Bean gave the invocation and Registrar Dorothy Albrecht led pledges of allegiance to the U.S. and the Texas flags.
We were pleased to have with us as guests, Walter and Ginny Gersch of Austin, brother and sister-in-law of Associate Member Mary Ann Kocurek, and Anita Johnson of Austin, sister-in-law of Rox Ann Johnson.
In the absence of Secretary Deborah Higgins, Anita Johnson volunteered to serve as secretary.
Minutes of the Nov. meeting were approved, noting a misspelled name. Treasurer Carolyn Marble's report was accepted and filed for audit. Marble noted that the price of sales tables at the annual convention in May has increased, and, considering her position on the Board of Management, suggested we delay reserving one until we know how many members will be available to help work it.
Bessie Bean presented to Registrar Albrecht the application papers for her granddaughter Jennifer Hoffman, CRT member seeking Daughters membership.
Rox Ann Johnson reported that presentation of the Texas flag to Neal Johnson's class has been accomplished. A thank you note was read from David Luther, grandson of Bessie Bean, for the map presented to his class at St. Leo's Catholic School in San Antonio.
Williams read a letter from Louise Polley of the French Legation Museum Committee for the help rendered by the Monument Christmas celebra-

RDCH Auxiliary

During the Christmas season, candy canes were being sold by the "Pink Ladies" at Rice District Community Hospital to spread Christmas cheer.
Candy canes were in honor of Debbie, Shelly and Shanna Stasney; Jan, Rebecca, Sarah, John and Rachel Rivers; Leslie Harris, Glen Lundquist, Tom Barber by Letitia Lundquist.
Also, Amanda, Theresa, Margaret and Michael Henry, Melissa, Lee and Andrew Wilcox Trigg by Robert & Betty Wilcox; Materials Management by Love Girard; Myrtle Vogelsang, Brenda Beisel, Janie Sosa; in honor of Paula Orag, Betty Campos by Physical Therapy.
In honor of Noble & Meredith Anderson, Robbi Shavers by Ruby Morris; in honor of Lloyd & Don Spangler by Louise Spangler; Donna Seaholm, Jerome McAfee, in honor of Bronwyn, Krysta & Wesley Popp, Stephen McNally, Heath & Chasin Allen by Jean McIntire.
In honor of John W. Bell, James W. Gail, Justin, George W. Debbie, Rachel, Kelli, Allison & Bethany Mathys, and in memory of George C. Mathys by

Prairie Edge Museum

At its annual meeting in Dec., Prairie Edge Museum Board elected the following officers for 1996:
President, Helen Craig; vice-president, Obie Rhodes; secretary, Jean S. Leopold; treasurer, Gretchen Wilkerson. Craig, Rhodes and Leopold were elected to second terms. Wilkerson will be serving her first term as an officer, taking over from out-going treasurer Ethel Cone McCreary.
Also elected at the meeting were Alternate Trustees Melvin Schmitt, Joe Fling and Grace Cooper. Alternate trustees are voting members when a quorum of trustees does not occur.
The complete Prairie Edge Museum Board is:

Trustees, 1998: Helen Craig, Gretchen Wilkerson, Obie Rhodes, Jean Leopold; alternate trustees: Melvin Schmitt, Mary Lou Szymanski.
Trustees, 1997: Michael Morales, Jessie Banks, T.J. Cunningham, Louise Spangler; alternate trustees: Jonna Bowen, Joe Fling.
Trustees, 1996: Ethel McCreary, Suzanne Kowalski, Deborah Reed, Susan Hadley; alternate trustees: Grace Cooper, Michael Gould.
Curators are William H. Harrison Sr. and Rollin Baker.
The Prairie Edge Museum welcomed all interested persons.
Board meetings are scheduled for 7 p.m. the first Monday of each month at the museum, 408 East Main Street. Visitors are always welcome.

BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors of the Prairie Edge Museum met on Jan. 3 at 7 p.m. for its first meeting of 1996.
Helen Craig was in the chair. New officers and trustees for the current year and next two years were distributed and confirmed.
The budget for 1996 was also presented by the budget committee and adopted by the board.
Discussion ensued about the acquisition of the Fraxar Building (previously donated by Gen. and Mrs. Fraxar on behalf of his sons).
Rice CISD Art Show was held at the museum on Saturday, Jan. 13.
A discussion also took place about how to manage and make use of some land on FM 102 which was donated to the museum.
The board learned that the Prairie Edge Players would be performing a comedy in the spring. Stay tuned for further developments.
The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Eagle Lake Rotary Club

Three hundred pounds of four-footed destruction was Earl Rodgers' description of the dramatic intrusion of feral hogs into the South Texas environment. This feral hog presentation at a recent meeting of the Eagle Lake Rotary Club.
These creatures, as pointed out by the speaker, are free-ranging, domestic-type swine gone wild to such a degree that they constitute a menace to wildlife as well as to farming and ranching practices.
They are bold, vicious and run in herds. Although not known to kill other large animals, they damage crops and surely compete for range nutrients with cattle, other domestic stock, white-tailed deer and their smaller relative, the native collared peccary or javelina, where the two occur together in South Texas.
Rodgers described seeing these unwanted "guests" while hunting this past season on his lease between Laredo and Carrizo Springs; counting herds of 40 individuals. The groups contained large and small individuals as well as different colors from reds and whites to browns and blacks. The differing physical features indicating they have been derived from more than one breed of domestic swine.
Ranchers have declared open season on feral hogs. The animals are dispatched by standard still-hunting with rifles by using baited cage traps and by tracking them with trail hounds. There are also professional hunters who will contract to kill hogs.
In an open discussion which followed Rodgers' presentation, several persons in the audience described how these critters are well entrenched in the Eagle Lake area.
They are rooting up large sectors of turf, invading crop lands and eating acorns, an important winter food for both deer and turkeys. Hog infestations in the Wallis, El Campo, Bay City, Rock Island and Columbus areas were described.
These animals are edible and, when marketed according to Rodgers, bring in as much as \$30 each.
It was concluded that feral hogs are a serious problem for Texas land operators. Since they reproduce rapidly and are wary, shy and cunning, the wily critters seem able to withstand control methods.
They, it is feared, are here to stay.

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Dr. Pierre Semrani is a graduate of the American University of Beirut with a Doctor of Medicine degree and Masters degree in Public Health. He has a Family and Community Medicine Fellowship and completed his Family Medicine Residency at Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Semrani is Board Certified in Family Practice by The American Board of Family Practice. He has been practicing at the Livingston Family Practice Center, and the Family Health Clinic, in Livingston, Texas. His experience and special interest are Community and Preventive Medicine and Geriatrics. Dr. Semrani will join Dr. Morris in the Sealy Office as a full time physician. He is fluent in English, French and Spanish. Dr. Semrani is now a resident of Sealy. His memberships include:
•Polk County Medical Society
•Texas Medical Association
•American Academy of Family Physicians
•Rotary Club-Livingston, Texas
•Who's Who Worldwide

For appointments, please call
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SOUTH TEXAS MEDICAL CLINICS, P.A.

Stewart crowned queen

Kacey Stewart, a Columbus High School senior, has been named 1996 Queen of the Texas Trail Riders Association. Pictured with her is Henry Hudec Jr. of Weimar, newly-elected trail boss.
Riders from all over the Lone Star State will gather in and leave from Sealy, this Saturday, Jan. 27, at 8 a.m. to begin the 42nd annual ride promoting the San Antonio Livestock Show & Rodeo.
Kacey, 17-year-old daughter of Tommy and Jane Stewart of Columbus, currently holds the title of Miss Columbus-1995. She is active in FFA, S.T.A.N.D., German Club, Student Council, National Honor Society and tennis and is a varsity cheerleader. Her goal is to attend college and become a paralegal.
The Stewart family has been participating in the Texas Trail Ride for many years.
Commenting on the fact that her birthday is during the ride, Kacey said, "I always look forward to my birthday because going on the ride is like a week-long birthday party; a time to be with my family and visit with friends and enjoying my love for horses and riding."
Kacey and Trail Boss Henry Hudec Jr. will lead the Texas Trail Ride Association into San Antonio for the show on Saturday, Feb. 3.
The Association has 450 members with Kenneth Brune of Columbus serving as its president.
Other directors for 1996 include Ray Bartels and Ben Rosenbaum Jr. of Columbus; Bennie Davis and David Pruett of Gonzales; Harry Corlies, Leon Schneider and Richard Seifert of Garwood; Joe Mike Spaniel of Eagle Lake; Frank and Kenneth Staff of Nade; Larry Wallace of El Campo; Tony Wied of Tatum and John Davenport of Hallettsville.
For more information, call Hudec at 409-263-5346 or Brune at 409-732-5185.



Kacey Stewart, 1996 Queen of the Texas Trail Riders Association, is pictured with Henry Hudec Jr. of Weimar, newly-elected trail boss.

Alleyton

Chapter 7: Dodging The Press Gangs
Outside of town, Seth reined in under a tree and quickly changed his stage-traveling clothes for heavier and less formal horse-riding gear. He reminded himself to buy a wide-brimmed hat at the next town.
He did his best to fold his Sunday-best clothing and rolled them along with other accoutrements in his oilskin wrapper to secure behind his saddle.
Not sure what was ahead of him, he checked the loads in his Derringer and put it inside his blouse and above his belt. He did the same on the bulky Colt revolver before placing it in a belted leather holster well-concealed under his dingy long-coat.
The knife, which his Richmond dealer had provided, fit comfortably in his right boot. Seth felt he was now ready to head through Mississippi, Louisiana, and on to Alleyton.
He walked and half-trotted his aging but surprisingly-durable mount most of the afternoon along a well-

marked west-heading trail. The hilly country was generally wooded featuring open glades and occasionally creek-side cultivated fields.
Pines and leafless hardwoods flourished on the sandy and sometimes reddish-colored upland soils. Seth decided that if he were living here that he would invest in the lumber business.
Seth avoided the few rural homes which he encountered along the trail. Occasionally he met a youthful horseman or an ancient drover, sometimes exchanging greetings. Seth asked one or two of them if he was heading properly in the direction of Jackson, or better still, Natchez.
"On ahead, Mister," was the usual terse answer to his inquiry. "But, you have a long ride."
While the persons met did not give Seth much time-of-day, he did get the feeling that they were sizing him up as either a war-dodging jayhawker or a deserter.
As a result, when he could detect someone's presence ahead or behind, he quietly as possible got off the road and into woody cover to avoid contact.
One small party of cavalry or mounted foot soldiers did pass by while he concealed himself. They were headed in the same direction as he was. If they were looking for recruits — him, for instance — maybe some earlier passerby had judged him highly eligible and tipped them off of his whereabouts.
Visibly shaken by this speculation, Seth kept off the road a distance of one hundred yards or so. He followed the right-of-way by occasionally zig-zagging to it to obtain needed direction. The going was slower and the unclear countryside beset with tangles and deep draws.
But perhaps this means of travel was safer for him. He longed for his officer's saber or even a brush knife of some kind to clear passages through thick brush.
What really shook him up most was the prospect of being pressed into military duty by some Mississippi or Louisiana infantry unit. Convinced a pompous local commander, for example, of his military record would be tough indeed for Seth.

Besides, it would also be most embarrassing were he to have to communicate with Richmond in order to serve that he was already a commissioned officer in the Confederacy.
His cover for this secret mission would surely be blown. And last but not least, his superior officers would be convinced that he was a failure in the line of duty, with valuable time and money lost at the same time.
Consequently, he avoided people as much as possible. He slept in abandoned barns and under tree canopies. For food he was obliged to visit either

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