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For further information, contact Ofeira Gazzaway at 409-283-2272 or (800)-323-2194

King Ranch lecture scheduled for Heritage Village

WOODVILLE, Texas – The phrase “everything is bigger in Texas” is known around the world, even to those who have never set foot in the state, and it certainly applies to the world-renowned King Ranch. The ranch, which comprises 825,000 acres of South Texas land, was established by Capt. Richard King and his heirs, and is still controlled by his family. It includes portions of six counties and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1961.

The history of the King Ranch will be the topic for the latest installment in the lecture series at Heritage Village. Ray Hensarling, a rancher and self-described amateur historian, will be on hand to deliver the lecture. Hensarling has studied the King Ranch, and other historic ranches, since 1991, and is happy to share what he has learned. The lecture will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at the Pickett House. Tickets for the event are \$10 each and will be available at the Heritage Village museum store, by phone or at the door.

The lecture is the third in an ongoing series that was borne of the need to give area residents an entertaining and educational evening out every couple of months. Susan Blanks, who serves as treasurer for the Tyler County Heritage Society, envisioned the lecture series as fulfilling a needed role in the community as well as part of TCHS's goal.

“Since part of our mission is education, we have been looking for people to speak on history, whether on Texas, its people, or crafts, etc.,” Blanks said.

Other topics that have been addressed thus far in the series were the Runaway Scrape and quilts.

The King Ranch lecture will present another opportunity for area residents to learn about a world-famous part of Texas culture. The ranch, which was founded in 1853, has become a sort of cultural institution associated with the Texan identity. It has been referenced in films and works of literature, and its name is on a special edition Ford truck. Its name even graces a regionally beloved chicken casserole.

Hensarling's lecture will detail the ranch itself, but also the iconic Richard King who put together the massive amount of land.

Heritage Village Museum is located on US Highway 190 West near Woodville. You can call the Museum for further information at 409-283-2272 or toll-free at 800-323-2194 or email hvillagemuseum@att.net to arrange a tour, or for any other information.

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