

A cubist painting featuring two figures. The figure on the left is a man with a beard, wearing a tall, striped hat and a red and blue striped tunic. He holds a white dove in his right hand. The figure on the right is a woman wearing a white hat with a red band and a red and blue striped tunic. She is looking towards the man. The background is composed of various geometric shapes and colors, including shades of gray, blue, and red. In the bottom left corner, there is a small, ornate, light-colored object that resembles a piece of furniture or a decorative element. The word "Flair" is written in a large, stylized, white font with a blue outline, positioned diagonally across the center of the image. A small white dove is also visible near the end of the word "Flair".

Flair

OLDE WORLD

Fall 2013



from the Publisher

Even before we went to print on this issue, one of my proofers said “I think this is the best one yet”. I hope so. Our goal is to make each issue better than the last. That may sound like a lofty goal, but we feel that we learn more each time, and so it would naturally follow that we get better each time.

This issue is “Olde World”. The art reminded me of things reminiscent of the old world and so we embraced that theme. Our stories are about the rich cultural heritage people brought with them and the ways in which they celebrate traditions from their forefathers in our country. One of the things that make this country so wonderful is its diversity. We have the best that other cultures have to offer all in one nation. So, you will see games, food, dress, wine, traditions and more from all over the world in this issue.

And we have added something new that we hope you love. Arts at The Lake is now a 3 year old art walk along Highway 36. *Flair* has partnered with them to develop and distribute their playbill. Please let me know if you like it. With our love of art and an invitation to work with this group, there was only one possible response.

Sherry McCartney



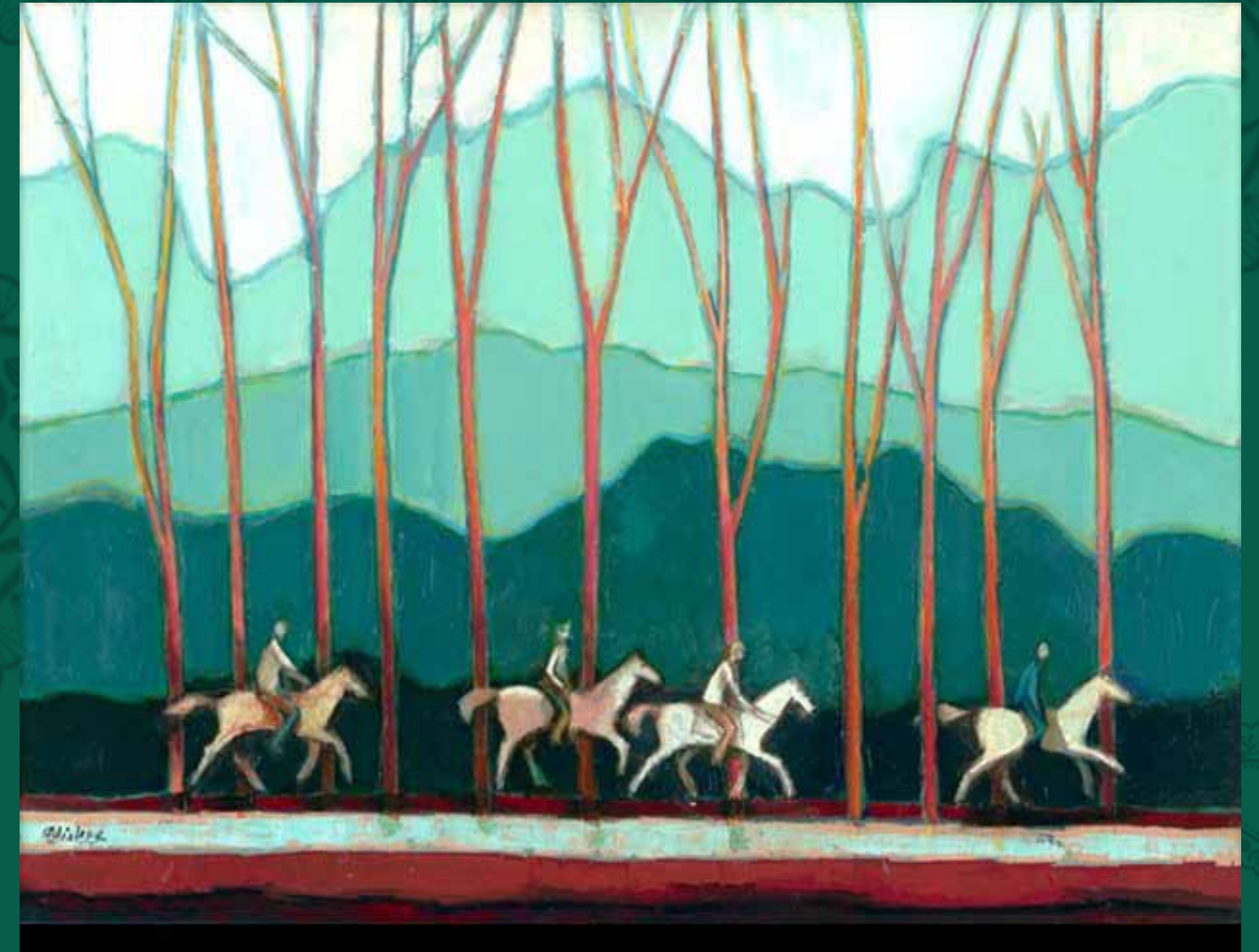
**LADY IN BLACK WITH
TOURQUOISE BREACELET**
by David Adickes

*“It is not the honor that you take with you,
but the heritage you leave behind.” ~ Branch Rickey*

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by David Adickes

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LES EMBARRAS LADY
by David Adickes

Appreciating a Hero's Heart



A German Boy's Life Forever Changes Because of an Aggie Ring and Selfless Servants

Heroes on Both Sides
In 1944, Aggie 1st Lieutenant Turney Leonard bravely fought and died in WWII in the Huertgen Forest, near former Kommerscheidt (now Schmidt), Germany. During battle, Leonard lost his left arm and Aggie ring. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in 1945.

Around 1946, Alfred Hutmacher, a 15-year old German boy and Sebastian's future grandfather, found Leonard's ring 200 yards from his home. By 1949, a search team recovered Leonard's body and returned it home. Unaware of the Aggie ring's significance or its owner's story, Hutmacher kept it safe and unharmed.

Fifty plus years later, Hutmacher's son-in-law and Sebastian's father, German Army Lieutenant Volker Lossner, asked Hutmacher about the WWII Huertgen Forest battles. Hutmacher recalled the ring, showed it to Lossner, and both men agreed to find the owner and return it. Lossner's leads revealed that the ring belonged to Leonard, one of seven Aggie Medal of Honor recipients. In time, A&M President Ray Bowen invited Lossner to present the

ring to Leonard's family at the Sanders Corps of Cadets Center and Aggies vs. Oklahoma half-time on Veterans Day in 2000. Touched by Sebastian's family's efforts, an anonymous donor offered to fund Sebastian's future education at Texas A&M. One tragic event brought numerous acts of kindness, changing Sebastian Lossner's life forever!

The Rest of the Story
Sebastian's visit to A&M in spring 2011 "proved to be the turning point for my future plans. I wanted to become an Aggie, no matter what!" He has since researched Turney Leonard and regularly visited the Corps of Cadets Center, viewing the encased ring, medal, and amazing story. "I am proud of my ancestors and A&M and reminded that I am just a small part of something bigger than myself," he adds.

Sebastian agrees that this could not have been planned "by anybody besides maybe God. Nobody else realizes how life-changing this ring's unimpressive location was to our family! At first, my grandfather feared judgment because he didn't immediately pursue the ring's owner, but little did he know how grateful Aggies are!"

Even Sebastian's father didn't understand "the significance of the ring, but, if his father had died in WWII, he would've wanted this memory of him, so the ring had to return 'home.' My father is still astonished by the results from a relatively small gesture, reinforcing his belief in the power of doing the right thing."

Humbled by his family's selflessness and his donor's philanthropic support, these events have motivated Sebastian to continue Aggie charity work and encourage other German students to study at A&M. These events "happened for a reason, and I will get the chance to give back what I received in another way."

To learn more about this amazing story, read Texas Aggie Medals of Honor by James R. Woodall or call (979.862.2862) and visit the Sam Houston Sanders Corps of Cadets Center at 1400 TAMU, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

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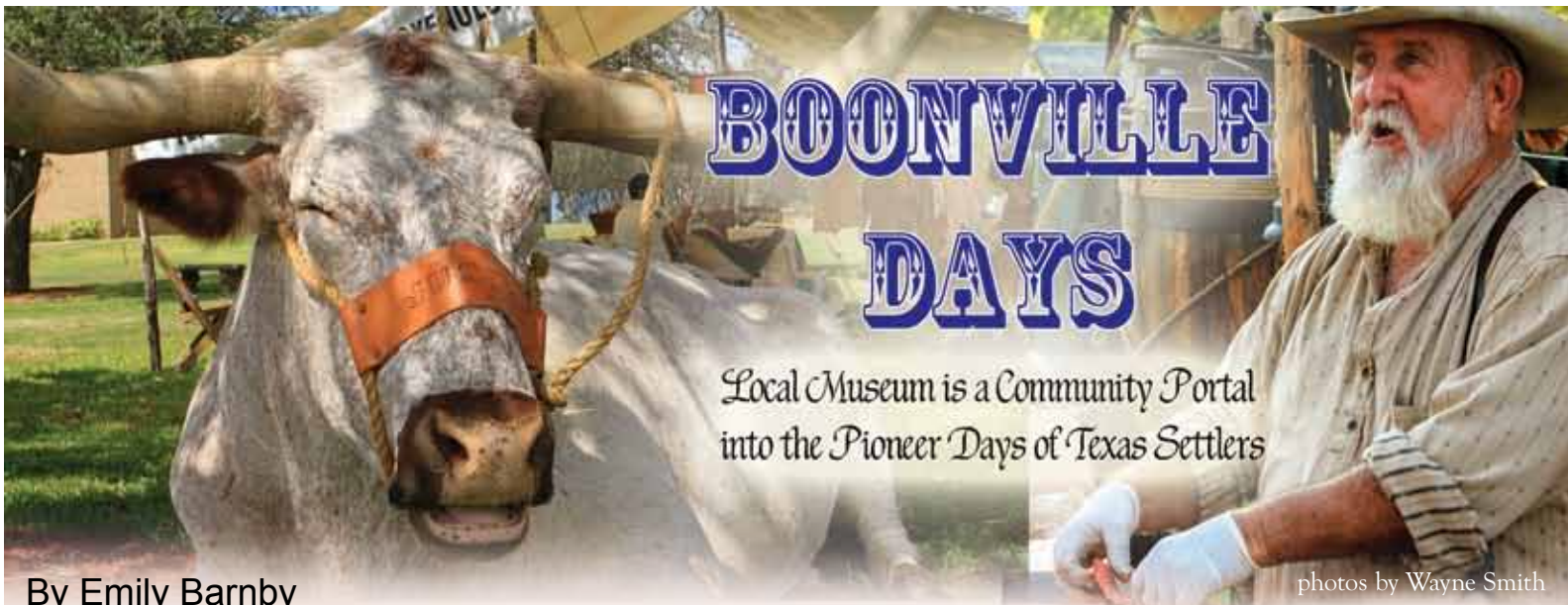


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By Emily Barnby

Any avid young reader may remember E.L. Konigsburg's *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, a story about a 12-year-old girl and her younger brother who run away from home to live at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. They sleep in a royal bed, hide in bathroom stalls to avoid security guards, collect coins from the fountain for vending-machine meals, and tag along with school groups to learn more about the exhibits. And they love it.

By preserving history, museums, like the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History (BVMNH) in Bryan, Texas, allow visitors to peek into the past, to curiously observe the lives of people of different cultures, ancestry, values, and ways of viewing the world. By hosting events and activities, the BVMNH brings history to life. They present summer and winter camps, nature and science programs, display exhibits on a wide variety of topics including Texas and local history, the sciences, natural and cultural history including indigenous peoples, and ice age and dinosaur fossils. They even have displays of live animals in their discovery room.

ROUND UP YOUR POSSE

Their largest fundraiser is the 8th Annual Boonville Days Living History Fair, taking place on October 4-5. Showcasing Brazos County's pioneer history, the event features civil war re-enactments, cowboy music and dance, and crafting activities to make corn-husk dolls and pinch pots. Exhibits and demonstrations, like flint-knapping, pottery, and blacksmithing, reveal how pioneers lived.

The fair also includes the 5th Annual Buffalo Stampede, where runners will take their

marks on Saturday, October 5th. The half-marathon begins at 7:30am, while the 5K run begins at 7:45am. The stampede includes water stops, a DJ playing music along the course, and race photography. Both races end at the BVMNH, where families can enjoy the living history fair. Winners receive medals, trophies, and cash prizes by age groups.

CIRCLE YOUR WAGONS

To please that hungry palate, visitors can also enjoy the 2nd annual Chuck Wagon Cook-Off, a unique and delicious competition for amateur (or "seasoned") chefs of the frontier variety. Each team receives enough ingredients to feed 40 ticket-holders and the judging panel, plus cooking occurs on outside wood-fires to make it authentic. Winners receive cash prizes for the tastiest dishes, including best meat, beans, and cobbler. Teams also compete for the most authentic trail-wagon, staying true to criteria like the brake system, chuck box, and appearance of the wagon and team. The cook-off is a two day event, spanning Friday evening through lunch-time on Saturday, and is limited to 12 wagon entries. The public is welcome to come Friday to watch the setup and to see the wagon judging that starts as soon as all the wagons are ready, which can be as early as 11am or as late as 3:30pm.

Museums refine us, educate us, and enrich our lives in the present by revealing the lives of the past. So, unless you have a buffalo in the backyard or a fossil collection in the hall closet, squint through the telescope of time at the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History.



photo by Don Smith



For more information about the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History, call 979.776.2195, check them out online at www.brazosvalleymuseum.com, or visit the museum at the Brazos Center, 3232 Briarcrest Drive in Bryan, Texas.



**ELEGANT LADY
BAROQUE PAISLEY**
by David Adickes

Revisiting Backgammon

*An Old Game Attracts
A Younger Following*

By Kevin Still

Like most newlyweds, we began our family with little money for social recreations. In those days, we considered a night at Barnes-n-Nobles with coffee and magazines a hot date. And then we discovered a mutual love of Backgammon, a game that neatly folded into a tiny briefcase for easy transport. In fact, we took our board everywhere. We played in coffee shops, in pubs, and in parks. As a result, we learned a great deal about one another, leaning over our Backgammon board.

Occasionally, we made friends in public places. Waitresses or baristas, even fellow patrons, stopped by our table declaring, "My grandfather loved that game! I didn't know anyone still played!" Together, we were antiquated in our youth, prematurely aged by our love of games and cheap entertainments.

A Bit of Backgammon History

Backgammon has a strange history, showing up in the leisured histories of several cultures and nations. Archaeologists found boards similar to our modern Backgammon board, potentially dating as far back as 3,000 BC, in Iran. In Ancient Rome, boards and written rules have been found for a game known as tabula, meaning "table" or "board", which uses three dice, rather than modern Backgammon's two dice. Also popular in China, Backgammon was a betting game before Chinese checkers stole the gambling spotlight.

According to the Oxford English Dictionary, the term Backgammon - constructed from a combination of the terms "back" (due to the offensive direction of opponent's pieces in a strike) and the Middle English term "gamen" (meaning "game" or "play") - made its first written appearance in 1650. Even before this moment of linguistic significance, Backgammon blotted across Europe in various forms before finally (and legally) arriving in England in the 18th Century. Prior to this, Elizabethan laws and church regulations prohibited table or betting games. However, upon its legal introduction into leisure English society, Backgammon grew in popularity, eventually making its way to America, where it did not catch on with great popularity until the 1920's invention of the betting cube. At that time, and with the assistance of the paparazzi snapping photos of famous socialites playing Backgammon before a backdrop of glitzy cigars and martini glasses, the game gained ground as a common pastime.

Our Current Backgammon Love

Nine years into marriage, my wife and I still allow most of our dates to revolve around Backgammon. Sunday mornings in our home begin with coffee and records and a short tournament, where the winner chooses our dining out option for the week. The game is woven deep into the fabric of our family. It is interesting to consider Backgammon's rich history, as it possesses so much of our own history.





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EMBRACING THE OLD WORLD TO APPRECIATE THE NEW

Flair Visits and Brings Back a New Outlook on European Culture

By Janalisa Soltis

Navigating through life is hard enough. Imagine navigating through life in numerous foreign countries for the first time, experiencing the differences and similarities of many distinct cultures! *Flair* recently accomplished that task. Nobly going where this local publication had never gone before, our adventurous *A-Flair*-ican magazine embraced its need-to-know spirit and visited Europe.

Going With the Flow

While attempting to grasp an Old World mentality, *Flair* discovered what qualities of life did not transfer from the European to the American culture society of today. For instance, the American dollar is weaker in Europe. When *Flair* visited in June, €1.34 equaled \$1.00 American. In addition, the price a European pays has tax already factored into the Euro's price. Knowing that, *Flair* became more cognizant of the money exchange to make shopping more accommodating. When driving on the Autobahn (Germany's highway system), *Flair* quickly realized the importance of "dodging bullet cars" in the far left lane. *Flair* also noticed that two way streets have only white lines; yellow lines only appear over the white lines, to redirect traffic during construction. Somehow, Europeans know which lanes go which direction, so *Flair* was perfectly fine allowing other more seasoned drivers to drive. With sparse shopping strips or fast food restaurants available, or even visible on the Autobahn, *Flair* learned to

make snacks and drinks available in the vehicle whenever traveling.

Flair would soon learn to appreciate modern American conveniences, such as free toilet use, the existence of nearby water fountains at every corner, or air conditioning in homes, businesses, and cars. Cafes were abundant in France, and, if *Flair* reclined in one of their chairs, expecting a moment's rest, a waiter immediately appeared to take an order. *Flair* soon understood that soft drinks are cheaper than bottled water so ask for tap, not bottled, water. Surprised that only duvets are cover and one sleeps on duvet-type square pillows on beds, *Flair* became accustomed to two twin beds pushed together to make a full size bed. In addition, open windows invited a cool evening breeze, promising an awakening by the local church bell's chime the following morning. When needing the metro system, comprised of buses, above ground trains, and subways, *Flair* was often confused by these similarly numbered choices of travel.

Some Things Never Change

Despite these differences which did not transfer to American society, *Flair* still noticed familiar similarities between the Old and New World cultures. Friends still gathered in market places and cafes to share moments together. Families of all ages vacationed, and children still joyfully played in neighborhood parks. Mostly, though, history was overwhelmingly rich, and Europeans, regardless of America's perception of them, were distinctly proud of their heritage and eager to share it with others. Evidently, adventure is universal.

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Jamie South, D.O.

The Icing on the Cake

For Dr. Jamie South, moving to College Station means family, values and a supportive medical community.

by Jennifer Armstrong

Dr. Jamie South is the most recent addition to the staff of the Brazos Valley Women's Center. She brings with her an enthusiasm for helping women lead fulfilling and healthy lives.

As a child, growing up just north of Houston, Jamie developed an interest in the medical industry. She attended Southwestern University where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Biology and Spanish. While attending the University of North Texas Health Science Center, she met and fell in love with her, now husband, Dr. Eric South. The two finished up their schooling together at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine.

As the time came for Jamie and Eric to find employment that would fulfill the complexities of their varied specialties, they drew a circle around their location of choice and dubbed the space, the "Motherland." The location was a place surrounded by family members in towns such as Bellville, Bryan and Hearne. As luck would have it, Bryan/College Station was right in the middle.

"We knew that moving back to the "Motherland" meant moving back to what is most precious to us, our family," Jamie explains. Now that the couple has two children of their own, Edie and Libby, it was an easy choice for the couple to choose this community. And, it was an easy choice for the Brazos Valley Women's Center to welcome Dr. Jamie South into their family. In fact, it was "the icing on the cake."

"We feel so blessed to have found a healthcare community looking for both a family medicine physician and an obstetrician/gynecologist," Jamie shares. "I love taking care of female patients. I know when I care for a woman I am helping her care not only for herself, but also for her family."

It is Jamie's wish to be an integral part of her patient's lives by improving their health and thereby affecting local families in a positive way. She is excited that the Brazos Valley Women's Center shares the same goals and has the tools to help her succeed.

"My schedule is open to seeing patients at Brazos Valley Women's Center in the Bryan and College Station offices starting in August," Jamie shares. "También me gusta a servir a la mujer que prefiere hablar español. I look forward to meeting and caring for Flair readers for years to come!"

Jamie South, D.O.
Brazos Valley Women's Center
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LADY IN RICH PINK,
WITH BORDER
by David Adickes

The Circle of Women: A Legacy of Hope

What is the Circle of Women?

Be it the one we were raised in, the one we created as an adult, or the one we dream of, the family home represents security, stability, love, and learning for many of us. Many families in Bryan College Station, however, are trapped in substandard housing, with health and safety risks, and circumstances that limit the possibility for a positive future for the family. Habitat for Humanity works in partnership with families in need of decent, affordable housing, to provide a way for them to move their families out of substandard housing and into a family home, with the opportunity for a better future.

Women who supported Habitat for Humanity's housing mission created the Circle of Women in 2007. Forty-four women and one organization provided the funding for a home for a woman who had raised eleven daughters. The women came from a variety of backgrounds, but they shared the vision of women helping women and of the importance of a stable family home. Every year since then, Habitat for Humanity has built a Circle of Women house. Construction on the 2013 house will begin in late September. Since that first house, hundreds of women have been a part of the Circle of Women. Some belong only a year. Some participate periodically. Others withdrew after belonging several years when their own circumstances changed. Today, forty women and organizations have remained in the the Circle after joining. New members are always welcome to join the Circle.

Each Circle of Women member knows that by her own participation she is contributing to the positive future of another woman and another family.



Bryan/College Station
Habitat for Humanity



Meet Daphne Nix - New Homeowner - Circle of Women 2013



Life has not always been easy for Daphne. In fact right now, she is battling thyroid cancer. "I am determined and will not falter or let anything keep me from completing my plan," says Daphne. "God is giving me the strength within to continue on in my struggle against cancer."

Daphne Nix has a 15-year plan that includes owning her own home. Now in the Habitat program, she's well on her way to achieving that goal. She's already completed over 200 of the required 500 "sweat equity" hours every Habitat homeowner must contribute in helping build other family's homes as well as their own.

An employee of Bryan Independent School District for the last 10 years, Daphne has made many lasting relationships at work. Several of her coworkers have offered to volunteer on the construction of her home.

As a deeply spiritual woman, owning a home in Habitat's new Faith Subdivision has significant meaning for Daphne. She often walks around her lot on Denise Drive and imagines how life will be as part of that community.

If you would like more information on how you can participate in this year's Circle of Women, with a financial contribution, as a construction volunteer, or providing construction site lunches, please contact Nancy Kinkler, Development Coordinator - BCS Habitat for Humanity, development@habitatbcs.org, www.habitatbcs.org.

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From Paris to Heaven

David Adickes' Art, Born from Parisian Old World Elegance & History

By Sharon Roe

Artist David Adickes was born in Texas, but he went to Paris as quickly as he could. Adickes experienced Paris the first time in 1945, while in the army at 18 years old. Six decades later, the old world elegance, architecture, and history he experienced there still shape his artistic vision. Adickes says, "I didn't always know I would be an artist. I was raised in small town Huntsville and no artists were really there. My father was an engineer and an Aggie, and I thought I would be flying planes. Being in France is what inspired me to be an artist. I'm very interested in history, and you can see the history of the 21st century in my work."

At the Atelier Leger

In 1948 on the GI Bill, David went back to Paris to study painting for two years at the Atelier Leger under Fernand Leger. "That whole two years was the making of everything," says Adickes. "My style of painting when I arrived in Paris was Mexican or regional American, and then, when I went to France, it became European, and I've never painted any other style since. I met a guy (at Atelier Leger) who was a New York fashion photographer. We became friends and I worked for him and carried the camera. That influenced my style of elegant thin lines. I'm painting a lot today that was influenced by that period. I like tall skinny things and that might be from that fashion period."

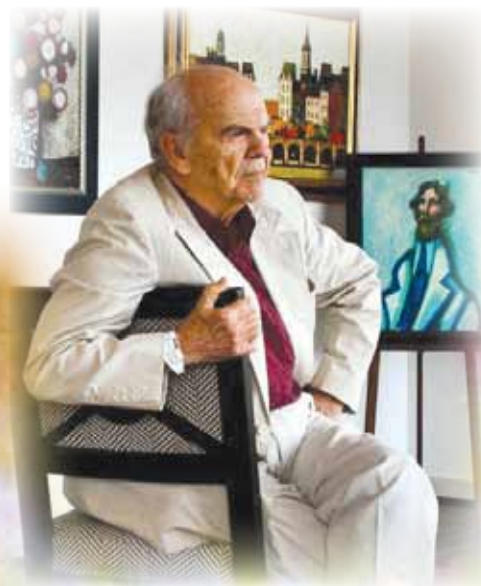
In Search of Permanence

"What I'm trying to accomplish," Adickes describes, "is to create a body of work that will be around one hundred, two hundred years from now, in contrast to contemporary artists that are doing things that are

temporary, like graffiti—here today and painted over tomorrow. I see the world through the eyes of my generation, and I'm 86 years old, so I have a broader view than a 20 year old does. I don't criticize this generation, but I don't know if they care about what's going to be around twenty years from now. I lived in France for six years, and that's where the idea of permanence came in. I want to be here forever." Adickes chuckles and adds, "My sculptures are going to be here because they are too heavy to move. They're concrete."

When asked where his art has taken him, Adickes quickly replies, "To heaven." After a moment, he continues, "Everybody agrees that the most important thing in life is doing what you love to do as much as you can and doing what you don't like to do as little as possible. You owe it to yourself to spend your days in the most creative ways you can."

For more information on Adickes' work, go to www.adickes.net.



HARLEQUIN FLAUTIST
by David Adickes

Let's Cook

with Chef Jeff Puckett



Pear, Gorgonzola, and Walnut Grilled Pizza

Grilled Pizza Rustica

Yield: Three 10" pizzas
Time: 45 minutes (prep and cooking)

Ingredients

- 1 Pre-made Pizza Dough, large
- Extra Virgin Olive Oil to rub onto crust prior to cooking
- Salt and Pepper
- 2 Tablespoons Cornmeal
- 2 Links Italian Sausage
- 1 ½ Tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- ½ Medium Red Onion, sliced
- 2 Cups Cremini Mushrooms, quartered
- ¾ Cup Marinara Sauce
- ¾ Cup Mozzarella, grated
- ½ Cup Parmesan, grated

Instructions

Preheat grill to 400°F.
Divide dough into three even pieces. Roll out to roughly 10". Rub small amount of olive oil on both sides of each piece of dough. Sprinkle a pinch of salt, pepper and cornmeal on each pizza. Set aside.

In a sauce pan, sauté sausage until half way done. Add olive oil, onion, mushrooms and a pinch of salt and pepper. Cook until sausage has browned and mushrooms and onions are caramelized.

Clean grill and turn heat down to medium. Place pizza dough on grill. Poke bubbles down with fork or knife as they appear. Rotate each piece of dough every minute or so until golden brown. Remove from heat.

On cooked side of each piece of dough, evenly spread ¼ cup Marinara, ¼ cup Mozzarella and some Parmesan. Scoop a third of the sautéed mixture onto each piece of crust and spread evenly. Place each pizza back in the grill and cook until bottom is golden brown. Remove from grill and let sit for one minute. Slice and bon appetite!

Yield: Three 10" pizzas
Time: 45 minutes (prep and cooking)

Ingredients

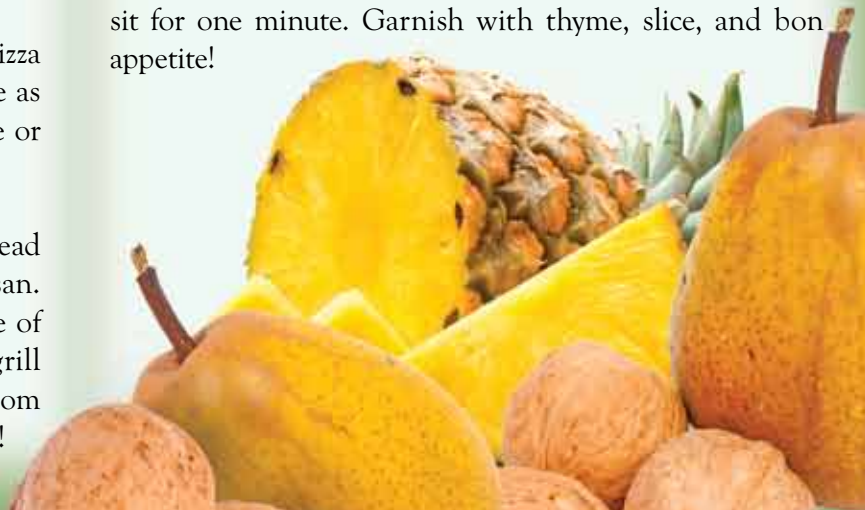
- 1 Pre-made Pizza Dough, large
- Extra Virgin Olive Oil (to rub onto crust prior to cooking)
- Salt and Pepper
- 2 Tablespoons Cornmeal
- 2 Medium Bosc or Taylor Pears, halved, seeded and sliced
- ¾ Cup Gorgonzola, crumbled
- ¾ Cup Walnuts, roughly chopped
- Fresh Thyme, roughly chopped for garnish

Instructions

Pre-Heat grill to 400°F.
Divide dough into three even pieces. Roll out to roughly 10". Rub small amount of olive oil on both sides of each piece of dough. Sprinkle a pinch of salt, pepper and cornmeal on each pizza. Set aside.

Clean grill and turn heat down to medium. Place each piece of pizza dough on grill. As they appear, poke down bubbles with a fork or knife. Rotate each piece of dough every minute or so until golden brown. Remove from heat.

On cooked side, evenly layer 1/3 of sliced pears around the outer portion of each crust. Sprinkle gorgonzola and walnuts over pears. Place each pizza back in grill and cook until bottom is golden brown. Remove from grill and let sit for one minute. Garnish with thyme, slice, and bon appetite!



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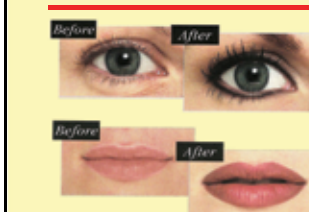
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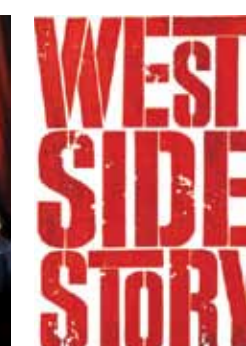
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THE PASSION OF A LOST ART



Local Wood Worker Enthusiast Shares His Passion for Tool Making

"I fell in love with making things to make things with." – Bob Strawn

Before mass production, wood working meant using one's hands with specialized tools to form or shape wood. From small carvings to ornate pieces of furniture, a wood worker's patience and tools helped to turn wood into art. Wood workers designed and created each tool, no matter the size or shape, for a specific purpose.

After Bob Strawn, a local wood worker enthusiast, made a penny whistle for his wife, he started creating his own wood working tools; in the process, he discovered a passion. His first tools used carving blades attached to small pieces of wood for a handle. From this, Bob soon realized the importance of a handle's shape.

A HANDLE'S IMPORTANCE

A tool's handle connects the wood worker to the wood. A good handle design conforms to the shape of the wood worker's hands. "The handle is our interface," Bob explains. "It must allow us safety, while reducing fatigue and giving us control." The octagonal shaped handle is one of Bob's favorites because it fits comfortably in his hand.

As for the design of the tool's handle, another huge advantage that a good grip can give its user is awareness. Similar to how one uses a fork or knife when eating, humans extend their "awareness" when



they use tools. "Often we extend our perception of our awareness to our tools," Bob states. "They really do become part of us."

TOOL MAKING HISTORY

Before hardware stores sold tools, wood workers hired an apprentice for assistance and to teach the art of tool making. "In ancient times, an apprentice would craft and fill his tool box as training and as one of his demonstrations of skill," Bob notes.

Strawn crafts his tools with passion, enjoying the research and functionality of each one. "After making a few tools...it became clear that my love for learning and research could combine with my love for artistic expression, classic lines, function and craft," Bob shares. "I fell in love

with making things to make things with. I have been altering, improving and improvising tools my whole life, but the act was always goal oriented and part of the task I was doing. Active tool making slowed me down to examine the tool itself. After I have the finished tool, my abilities are increased by that tool."

Bob's passion for creating tools will inspire those interested to learn more about the historic trade. When asked if he ever considered teaching a workshop, Bob notes, "I would love to arrange a tool making workshop. I know of a venue that would work really well, and I think it could be a lot of fun."

By Andrew Armstrong

Learn more about Bob Strawn's tool making on his website: <http://toolmakingart.com>.

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Submitted by Lu Hollander

On March 2, 1836, a delegation of 59 men gathered at Washington-on-the-Brazos to determine how to protect themselves from the tyrannical Mexican government. Days later, news of the Alamo's massacre reached them. Under Sam Houston's direction, the delegates drafted a Declaration of Independence and established a constitution for a new nation. Etched in the history books forever, Washington County became the "Birthplace of Texas."

Washington County's Historic Cities to Visit

Brenham, the county seat, opened to settlement under the Spanish in the early 1820s and was later named for Dr. Richard Fox Brenham, a hero of the Texas Republic and the Mier Expedition. Washington County was formally organized in 1837 as part of Stephen F. Austin's original colony. Today, downtown Brenham features an array of antique and specialty shops, all clustered around the courthouse square, and offers a variety of restaurants, plus the Brenham Heritage Museum and professional productions at Unity Theatre.

Burton, population 325, surrounded by cotton farms, prospered during the 19th and 20th centuries. Today, it is known for its historic, restored 1914 cotton gin, named the official Texas Cotton Gin Museum by the Texas Legislature. Special activities, planned for 2014, will mark the 100th anniversary of the cotton gin and the 25th anniversary of the annual Cotton Gin Festival.

Chappell Hill, founded in 1847, prospered as a popular stagecoach stop and steamboat port for shipping cotton down the Brazos River to the Port of Houston. A dozen National Register properties and a museum record the town's early history. With quaint shops and a historic bank, it hosts the annual Bluebonnet Festival in April and Scarecrow Festival in October.

Independence began in 1824 on land granted by Mexico to Judge John Prince Coles, arriving in Texas in 1821 as one of Stephen F. Austin's 300 colonists. In 1836, the community was renamed Independence to honor Texas' declaration of freedom from Mexico. In 1839, a Baptist church was established where Sam Houston attended and was baptized. Houston's mother-in-law was so grateful that she had a large iron bell created and presented to the church. The Texas Baptist Historical Center-Museum features this bell and many other early Texas history exhibits.

Washington-on-the Brazos Relived Today

Washington, with a unique place in Texas history, houses the Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site and the Star of the Republic Museum on its original site. A replica of Independence Hall echoes with the voices of men who created the Republic's governing documents. The museum perpetuates "Old Washington" through exciting cultural exhibits focused on the Republic period.

The period is brought to life in living color at Barrington Living History Farm. Visitors can also spend time viewing the Visitor Center's interactive exhibits, shop in the extensive gift shop, enjoy a picnic lunch on the beautiful park grounds next to the Brazos River, and explore interpretive trails.



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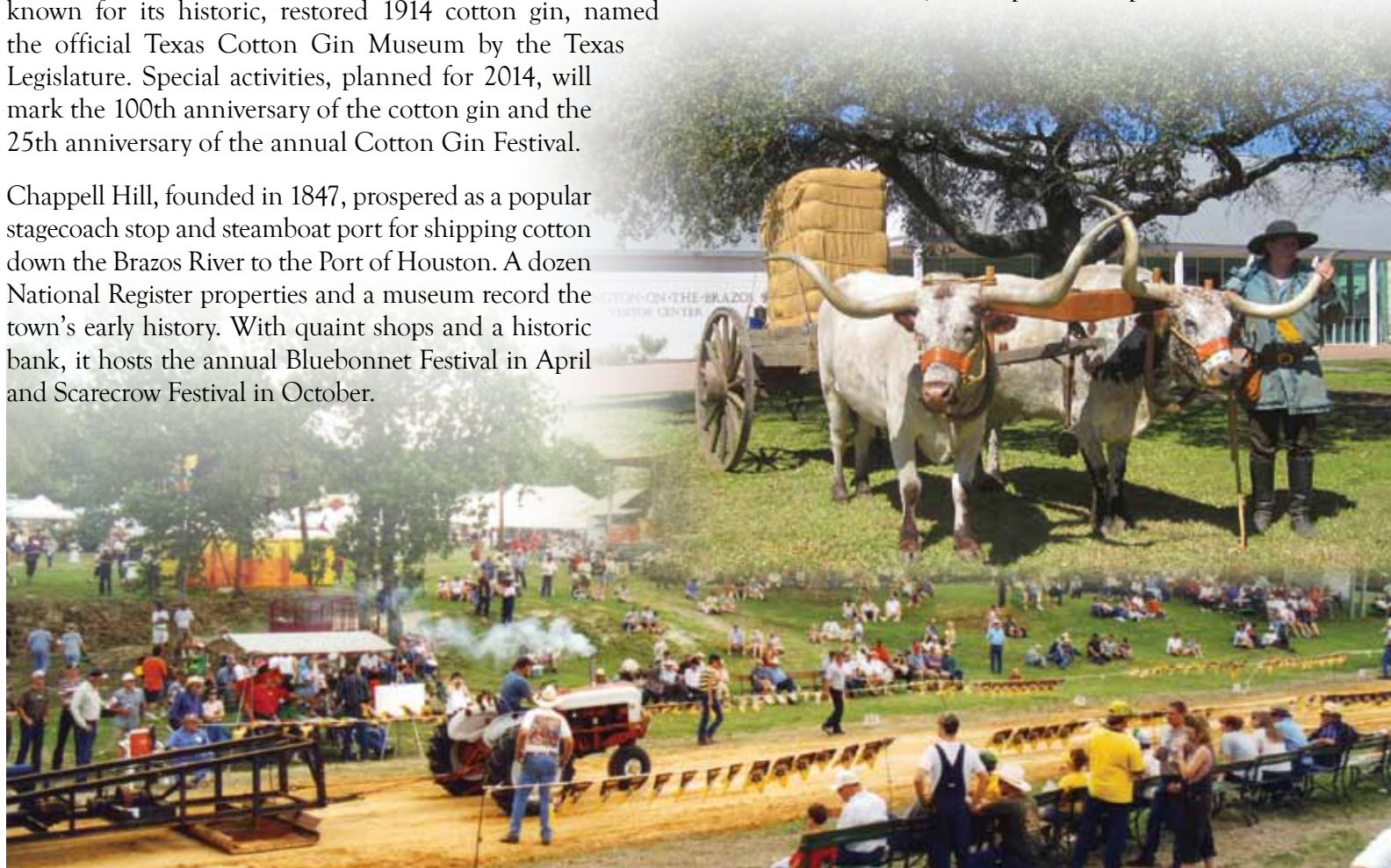
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Sho'Nuff Soul Food

Serving Up a Slice of History with Every Bite!

by Nicole Walsh

The history of "soul food" can be traced back to Africa, but the slave trade presented foods, such as rice, sorghum, and okra, to the southern United States. Slave owners modestly and frequently fed slaves with leftovers or unwanted food, like turnips, beets, and dandelions, from the plantations. From there, slaves were soon cooking with collards, kale, cress, mustard, and pokeweed, adding flavor to their food with onions, garlic, thyme, and bay leaf. Years later in the 1960s, and because enslaved Africans ate like this on a daily basis, this intriguing diet became what we know today as "soul food."



The Heart and Soul of Sho'Nuff

In 2012, the Sho'Nuff Soul Food Diner opened to the public in the charming town of Rockdale, Texas. Its founders are Dr. Dennis Brooks and his wife, Clara, who celebrated their 50th anniversary on July 4th. Also the pastor of New Jerusalem Interdenominational Church of Rockdale, Dennis has approximately 30 years of pastoring on his resume. Together, the couple opened the restaurant with a unique purpose in mind: to "feed, rebuild, and help their community." Dennis's goal for Sho'Nuff was to bring a part of his childhood and youth back to life, while sharing that passion of soul food with his community.

Dennis explained that soul food is unique, when compared to any other kind of food. Real soul food is distinctly full of flavor and always made from scratch. Even now, Sho'Nuff takes pride in making everything from scratch. They use all fresh vegetables and season their meat with direct heat, up to three days, to ensure the seasoning marinates properly. Sho'Nuff is a reminder of the charm of the old South, where the only meals that mattered were dinner and supper. Happiness was inhaling the delicious aroma of collard and mustard greens or cabbage and when people enjoyed a glass of Poly Pop on the front porch. This is the heart and soul of Sho'Nuff. No wonder it has become a favorite diner for its area and surrounding communities. There is no place like it!

Rebuilding the Community

The Sho'Nuff Soul Food Diner's motto is to "commit at least one dollar to the demolishing or remodeling of old buildings in the surrounding community." Because of this, Dennis and his family are dedicated to rebuilding the community. They extend employment and training opportunities to everyone, including people with criminal backgrounds, to help them have a better life and become productive citizens of the community. The Brooks family's philosophy is that Sho'Nuff "is a piece of history, melding the childhood experience of many people. It's a combination of culture and heritage, family and community, food and life."



For information on the Sho'Nuff Diner, visit their website at shonuffsoulfood.com/

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Polish Roots Growing a Texas Tree

Downtown Bremond's Texas Slavic and German Warehouse Is Making It "Hip to Know Your Roots"

By Sharon Roe

"Most people's passions stem from something real and identifiable." Jason Gouge

For Jason and Denise Gouge, running the Texas Slavic and German (TSG) Warehouse in downtown Bremond means much more than operating a thriving business in their hometown. It's also about preserving traditions and promoting a sense of belonging. According to Jason, "The core beginning of TSG Warehouse stems from the pride that Denise and I have in being Polish and having memories of grandparents that still spoke the language. The Polish immigrants—the way they lived and thought about life and had strong Polish traditions—are something to identify with. The traditions get diluted if the 20 year olds and teenagers have no clue what these traditions mean. That's the challenge."

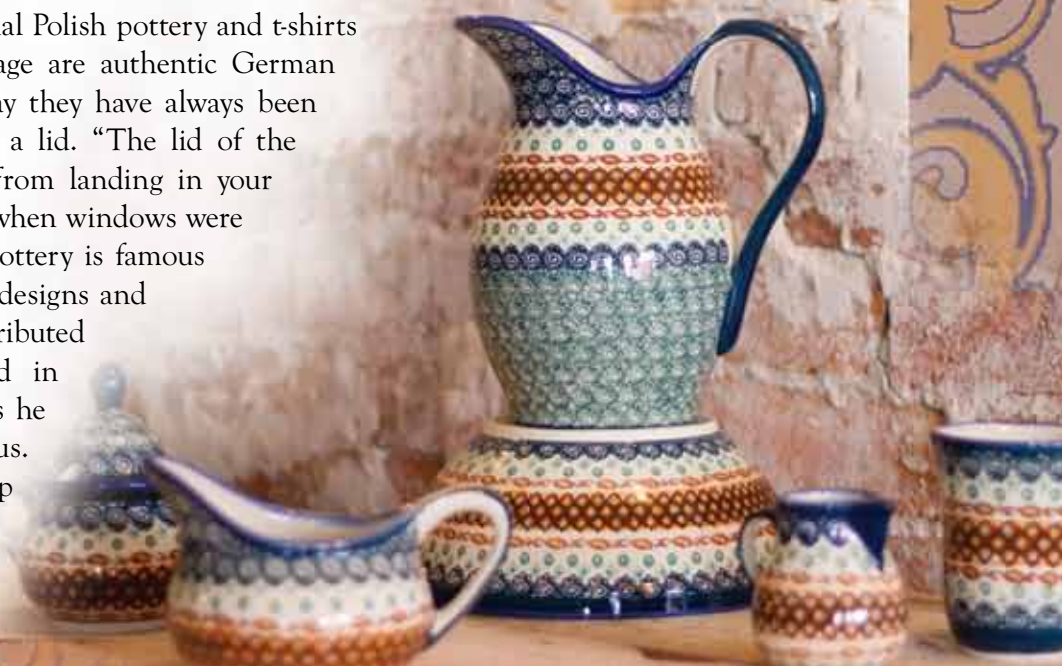
On the Road

The Gouges quickly broadened their market to include the Czech and German cultures because so many Texas towns were started by these same immigrants. Jason adds, "We go on the road with a team of people for town festivals. Most people's passions stem from something real and identifiable. In this case, they remember sitting with Grandmother in the kitchen making traditional meals. When guests visit our booth at the festivals, they'll tear up when they see recipes written in our cookbook the way they were in Grandmother's cookbook."

In Downtown Bremond

That sense of tradition can be seen in the Gouge's store, a 100 year old building on Bremond's South Main Street. "Some of the walls are eight bricks thick," states Jason, "and it's got high, vaulted ceilings. We've added the comforts of modern day with air conditioning and such, but it's got that look." Joined to the store is an event hall with a stage for live music. Jason includes, "We'd like it to be used for family reunions, wedding receptions, anniversaries, birthdays, even New Year's Eve. It's a hoppin' place for Polish Day, Polski Dzien, during the 4th weekend in June. Though it's not a bar, we can sell beer and will serve wine soon."

With a slogan like "We are THE general store for Czech, German, and Polish Texans," beer is a must and is served in the store. Alongside traditional Polish pottery and t-shirts proclaiming Czech heritage are authentic German beer steins, made the way they have always been made in Germany, with a lid. "The lid of the stein was to keep flies from landing in your beer," adds Jason, "back when windows were without screens. Polish pottery is famous for its beauty of painted designs and durability... a quality attributed from unique clay found in the area." He chuckles as he adds, "Come by and see us. Where else can you shop for fine pottery with a glass of beer in your hand?"



For more information, check out www.tsgwarehouse.com or call 866.930.7030.

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CELEBRATING GERMAN HERITAGE IN AN AMERICAN SETTING

Local German couple hosts monthly gatherings in Bryan Brauhaus

By Liz Mertz

MORE THAN JUST A WORD

Dictionary.reference.com defines the German noun, *Ge•muet•lich•keit*, pronounced guh-myt-likh-kahyt, as warm cordiality, comfortable friendliness, and congeniality. Can one word sum up an evening of relaxed conversation in a warm atmosphere of acceptance that creates a cheerful feeling? Dieter and Wilma Brueckner would say yes, and the word is “*Gemuetlichkeit*.”

Wilma says the term best describes the gathering of Germans at Murphy’s Law Pub and Brauhaus in downtown Bryan on the third Friday of every month. “There is no word in English that means the same,” explains Wilma, who grew up in Berlin. Compared to the English language, German has many more specific words for various items and situations. The opportunity to talk freely in their language brings Germans, living in Bryan and College Station, together to enjoy one another’s company as well as the food and drinks served at the Bavarian Brauhaus.

SPEAKING THE SAME LANGUAGE

“We talk about Germany, who went to visit Germany, or whatever we want to, as long as it is in German,” describes Wilma. “Everyone has stories to tell. We celebrate birthdays together, and when parents are visiting from Germany, this is a good place to bring them.”

When Wilma came to College Station about 20 years ago, she met other Germans, but no traditions existed here. “We would meet together in our homes,” she explains. Speaking German with friends, cooking traditional foods, listening to favorite music, and taking trips back to visit Germany helped her stay connected to her heritage. Now the Brauhaus provides a place to regularly assemble.

Most of the other Germans attending the gatherings at the Brauhaus are women, and their American husbands and children join in the fun. “Little kids are always welcome,” Dieter emphasizes. “The musicians like to invite the children to come up and dance while they play.”

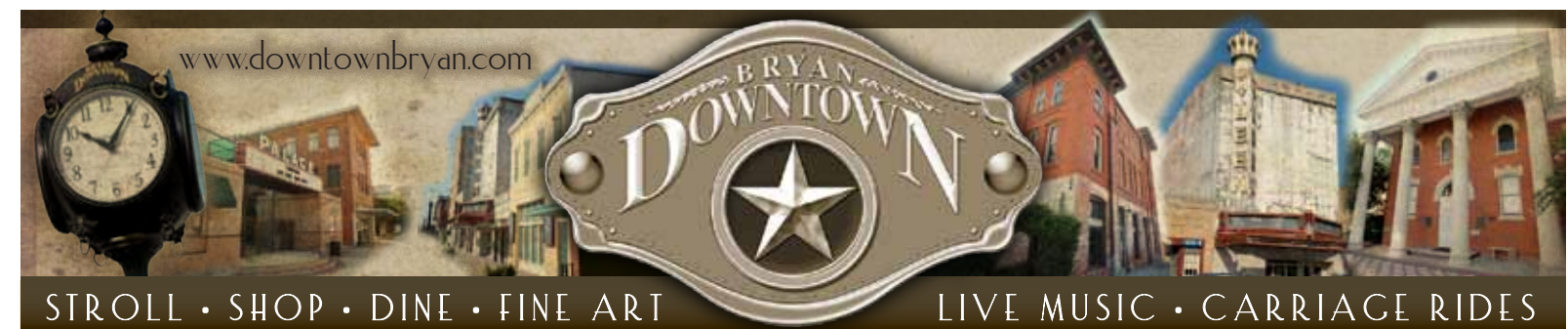
MUSICIANS ADD TO THE FUN

“We usually have two musicians who play German music,” adds Wilma, noting that the music reflects the regional differences in her homeland. Berlin is in the north, while her husband’s hometown, Nuremberg, is in the south. Both lost a spouse, when mutual friends in Houston introduced them, and they have been married for four years.

“She’s a ‘Yankee!’” Dieter teases, with a grin. “Most people think of German music as oompah bands and yodeling, but those are traditions from southern Germany,” he added. Wilma agrees, “They don’t yodel in Berlin!”

Music also draws the couple to festivals around the area to enjoy the bands, singing, and folk dancing. They attend the Tomball German Heritage Festival, Maifest in Brenham, and German Fest in Deanville at St. John’s Lutheran Church. Locally, they have provided food for the World Fest German booth at Wolf Pen Creek.

Gemuetlichkeit is located at 107 N. Main St. in Downtown Bryan on the third Friday of every month. To learn more, visit www.murphys-law-bryan.com/Contact.aspx.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mark your calendars - Downtown Bryan will be the place to be this fall! In addition to all the wonderful shops, restaurants and entertainment venues open every day, special events will add even more opportunities to visit historical downtown and enjoy the ambiance it provides.

September 6 - First Friday

As area students head back to classes, this month's theme is Downtown Loves Kiddos. The Palace Theatre will host kid-friendly entertainment throughout the evening and, as always, everyone is invited to the free movie in Gloria Sale Park.

September 27-28 - Texas Reds

Now in its 7th year, downtown plays host to Texas Reds, a steak and wine festival. The festival kicks off Friday evening at 5 p.m. with a vendor and artist showcase, and free admission to a concert by the David Whiteman Band, a popular dance/party band from the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. Saturday features wine tastings, a steak cookoff, high school culinary competitions, and a Downtown Bryan Association stage providing music all day. Downtown restaurants will serve steak-themed items for patrons. Evening entertainment begins at 7 p.m. with John Conlee, followed by headliner Steve Wariner. Dedication of the historical plaque for the Queen Theatre will take place during the festival. This year, the Texas Reds Festival will be dedicated to our firefighters. A charitable donation will be given in honor of Ricky Mantey, Jr. and Mitch Moran, and in memory of Greg Pickard and Eric Wallace, on behalf of each volunteer and sponsor. A percentage of the festival's proceeds will be donated to the Bryan Firefighters Association to directly benefit these families.

October 4 - First Friday

Grand Slam Poetry takes the stage this month as we also celebrate the arts and culture that is essential to the vibrancy of downtown.

November 1 - First Friday

It's going to be MonuMetal! Leading up to First Friday, teams will spend weeks creating sculpture from scrap metal to be displayed throughout downtown. A People's Choice will be declared and the sculptures will be auctioned to benefit the restoration of the Queen Theatre. Performing groups from Bryan ISD will provide entertainment at the Palace Theatre.

November 22 - Lights On!

One of the Brazos Valley's most anticipated holiday traditions - the 6th annual Lights On! celebration, will take place on this Friday evening. Each year, this free event brings hundreds of people from throughout the community to Historic Downtown Bryan for an evening of cider, Santa and, of course, the LIGHTS!

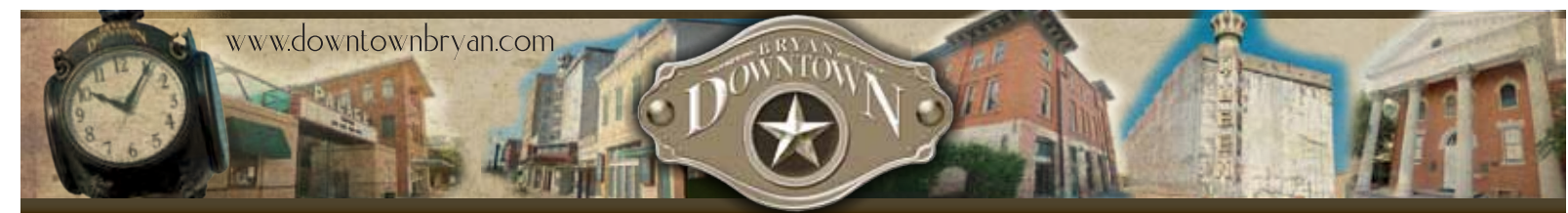
December 6 - First Friday

We welcome the entire community to enjoy the sights and sounds of the holiday season. The theme will be The Spirit of Giving, and the A&M Consolidated High School Choir will provide entertainment at The Palace.

December 13 - Downtown Christmas Parade

Join us for this fun, free community event. Downtown will be twinkling with lights and the parade will feature hometown organizations and floats.

Photo by Liz Chivvis



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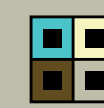


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CHOOSE YOUR OWN [TEXAS] ADVENTURE



By Emily Barnby

America's trademark year was 1872: New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art opened; Yellowstone was established as the world's first national park; Susan B. Anthony voted for the first time; and Columbus, Texas, held its first annual spring festival. Nearly a century-and-a-half later, the people of Columbus are still very proud of the Columbus Folk Fest. They wanted to continue to "showcase the town's role in the fight for Texas' independence" in a way that was enjoyable for the whole family.

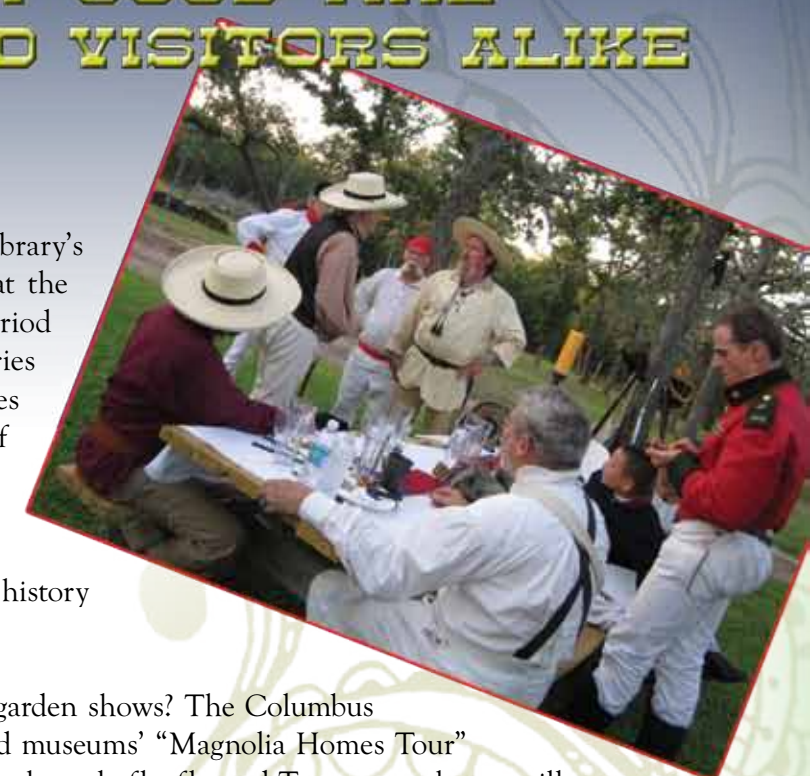
Come One, Come All

The annual festival takes place at Beason's Park on the first weekend of November, this year on November 1-3. Starting early evening on Friday, the festival is like a "choose your own adventure," with events and activities for everyone. For the history buff, re-enactments from the Texas Revolution will occur. Pioneer Camp features period music from The Tejas Pioneers, whose members, dressed in costume, play "authentic music of early Texas...[including] songs of the pioneers in the early days, patriotic music of the mid-19th century...and authentic cowboy songs."

For more information about the Columbus Folk Fest, call the Columbus Chamber of Commerce at 979.732.8385, email questions to ColumbusFolkFest@gmail.com, or view the full schedule of events at www.columbusfolkfest.com.



The Columbus Folk Fest is a GUN-SLINGIN' GOOD TIME FOR LOCALS AND VISITORS ALIKE



For the adventurer in your family, Nesbitt Memorial Library's "Live Oaks and Dead Folks" popular cemetery tour, at the Old City Cemetery, offers Columbus locals dressed in period costume representing historic residents and sharing stories from the past. Characters who lived in memorable times spring to life through the eyes of history and the voices of local re-enactors. You will meet the ghosts of Columbus' past whose strange, heroic and sometimes tragic tales will have you wiping away tears of joy and sorrow. This event is a fun and educational way to learn about Texas history while celebrating those who lived through it.

Have someone in your family who's a fan of home-and-garden shows? The Columbus Historic Preservation Trust hosts their iconic homes and museums' "Magnolia Homes Tour" and "Architectural Tour," like the Stafford Opera House, the only flat-floored Texas opera house still in existence, and the Alley Log Cabin and Antique Tool Museum.

Made in Texas

The artists will enjoy viewing the Plein Air Art Competition, a traditional outdoors-style of painting, featuring historic Columbus scenes as well as the Live Oak Photography Club exhibit, highlighting Columbus' celebrated Live Oak trees.

If you are a food connoisseur or just someone whose idea of a good time includes a stack of napkins, the food vendors will be a favorite hot spot. Wear the kids out by playing washers and horseshoes, and the little princess in your family will enjoy the presentation of the "Magnolia Belles" and "Miss Columbus" Pageant.

For 141 years, Columbus has hosted a festival that delights, educates, and encourages family fun. Don't miss this year's trip to a Texas yesteryear!

Columbus Folk Fest

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Nov 1, 2 & 3

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Where Time Stands Still

Having done no research, this certainly is only the opinion of an experienced porch sitter. Porch sitting is one of the most simple, but glorious, events for one who appreciates the joys of early morning or late afternoon. Combine conversation, mixed with a sip or two of coffee or sweet tea, all the while realizing that a slight breeze is more effective than any fancy air conditioning system. That's true porchin'.

Maybe a bias exists for all who grew up without the convenience of air conditioning because they remember the porch as a respite from grueling heat. However, it seems that even today's youngsters, when introduced to porch sitting, are quick to understand the pleasure of gathering on the porch for ice cream, storytelling, or even a sing-along with a guitar. Hopefully, there are still families that practice the tradition of using a sleeping porch to capture summer breeze. Some say that porch sleeping is as much fun as camping out...and without bugs.

A Tribute to the True Porch Sitters

Columbus, Texas, is known for historical preservation and beautiful trees. Some people have admitted that they first loved the look of Columbus for its porches and side yards. These shady enclaves often had yard chairs that beckoned one to relax and truly watch the world go by.

By Nancy Dickson Stiles

Talk to those of a past generation in Columbus and hear their remembrances of porch sitting at Lois Burt's on Spring Street. Once Lois positioned herself in the late afternoon shade of her east porch, the extra chairs began to fill. Her porch could easily accommodate eight to ten neighbors and become a full house. Lois might have her little radio set for an Astros' game, but with no hurries for anything but friendly talk. Now, that same porch sitting tradition continues next door at Mary Richter's house, where her porch is graced with a swing, rattan chairs, and even filmy curtains that show the southern breeze. The signs on the porch say, "Come, sit on the porch with your good friends" and "Sit long and talk much."

Jacob Wirtz built many of the finest Columbus porches around the turn of the century. His gingerbread porches truly are works of art. He must have believed that a home with a lovely porch says to those who pass by, "Welcome, do sit, and enjoy yourself for a while." In fact, Magnolia Oaks Bed & Breakfast, at 634 Spring Street, has porches built by this master of gingerbread art. Its porches even led to the house being called the Queen of Eastlake Gingerbread.

Porch sitting is soul satisfying. Feel free to enjoy the historical aura that's free to all who visit Columbus. While you're there, find a porch that welcomes you to sit and rock a while.



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Czech Communities are Keeping
their Culture from the Old Country
to the New and Back Again

By Sharon Roe

Czech communities in the Brazos Valley and the Moravian region of the Czech Republic have more than just kolaches in common. Not surprising, since folks from both countries are keeping the Czech culture alive by establishing sister cities and sharing experiences.

"Caldwell is the sister city of Roznov in Northern Moravia," says Joe Rychlik, a member of the Czech community in Burleson County. "It started when people here traveled to Europe and made friends with relatives, and they came to visit. They have different celebrations there, and we compare how our lives and their lives are. Czechs are very social people and they love to visit. One year, David Shineman and others went to Europe specifically to demonstrate how we do barbeque. Recently, a distilled liquor made out of plums called Slivovice is becoming popular here because of folks traveling back and forth. It's the Czech version of White Lightning. The traditional toast is Na Drav, 'to your good health.'"

From Czechoslovakia to Texas

"The beginning of the settlements in our area started in 1850," Rychlik continues. "Moravia is where ninety percent of the Texas Czechs came from. The Joseph Skrivane family loaned money to Czech immigrants so families could buy land. When they came here, they established two main settlements in our area, Snook and Novy Tabor, or New Tabor. To help each other, they started an insurance company called the SPJST, which in English is the Slavonic Benevolent Order of the State of Texas. Snook became more of a town, but New Tabor stayed a community. A lot of Czech names are still there. They built buildings and halls, and, in turn, those became

For more information, visit Caldwell Kolache Festival's Facebook page or contact the Burleson County Chamber of Commerce at 979.567.0000.

social centers for the community. They were hardworking people who also loved to hear music, so they would gather at the New Tabor Hall for barbeque, parties, and polka dances."

From Texas to the Czech Republic

For over twenty years, the Caldwell Kolache Festival has made a huge contribution to fostering Texas Czech culture. "The SPJST has youth groups and Beseda dancers," Rychlik says. "They dress in costumes of Europe. There's a caller and Czech music plays. We kept all of our music that our ancestors brought over. Sometimes, visiting Czechs get amused that we know all those old songs that their grandma might know."

The visitors also participate in the festival. For instance, Hana Juracakova, won first prize at the Caldwell festival with her "old country" kolache recipe, and, the following year, the city of Roznov held its own "cake" festival. In fact, fifty Texans made the trip to Roznov to attend. This year's Caldwell festival is on Saturday, September 14. Come for a visit, a kolache, and a toast—to your good health.



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"Wine is passion. It's family and friends; it's warmth of heart and generosity of spirit. It's art, culture, the essence of civilization, and the art of living." - Robert Mondavi

By Nicole Walsh

Retreat and Relax

According to an ancient Persian fable, wine was the fortuitous unearthing of a princess determined to end her life with poison. Instead of poison, however, she experienced the elixir's potent effects as it freed her mind from the worries of royal court. Over the centuries, grape growing and wine-harvesting has become a powerful potion for people's imagination, stirring passion and creativity.

Located in the serene setting of Grimes County in Navasota, Texas, Retreat Hill Winery and Vineyard is an award winning winery. It provides a charming, country scene to allow guests to free their minds of their worries and simply embrace the peacefulness of the country. Their senses are awakened and aroused by the powerful flavors and aromas of Texas wine, guaranteed to conquer even the pickiest palate. According to their website, the wine inventory currently consists of "a variety of dry reds, sweet, and dry white wines, along with a few dessert wines."

The Vision of the Vineyard

The Retreat Hill Winery & Vineyard's website explains that "with any winery, the heart and soul is the vineyard." Once the perfect two-acre plot was chosen and prepared, planting began on March 7, 2009 with approximately 30 people volunteering to "prune and plant the young vines." The volunteers spent eight long hours working hard to complete the planting; when they were finally finished, they were served wine and barbeque and left with an incredible story to tell their family and friends. In 2011, this vineyard harvested grapes that made award winning wines. Some awards granted were from "Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, International Wine Competition, New York Finger Lakes International Wine Competition, and Lone Star International Wine Competition."

Experience the Journey

The Retreat Hill Winery & Vineyard offers wine tastings available every weekend in an assortment of flavors including "floral, spicy, fruity, vegetative, caramelized, woody, and earthy." In addition, they also offer the Star Club, providing benefits to its members, including wine and merchandise discounts. Finally, the Retreat Hill Winery & Vineyard participates in the Bluebonnet Wine Trail every year. According to its website, visitors are guaranteed to have an unforgettable experience, tasting incredible wines along the picturesque views of Southeast Texas, partaking in "wine tastings, grape crushing and stomping, mystery dinners, music concerts, wine paired dinners, and vineyard tours."

For information on the "Retreat Hill Winery & Vineyard," visit their website at <http://www.retreathill.com/>. For more information on the "Texas Bluebonnet Wine Trail," visit their website at <http://www.texasbluebonnetwinetrail.com/>.

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The Joinery is the Artistry

"My tables are influenced by my love of European Gothic literature and architecture." - Stephen Tokoly

By Nicole Walsh

The Inception of the Tokoly Tables

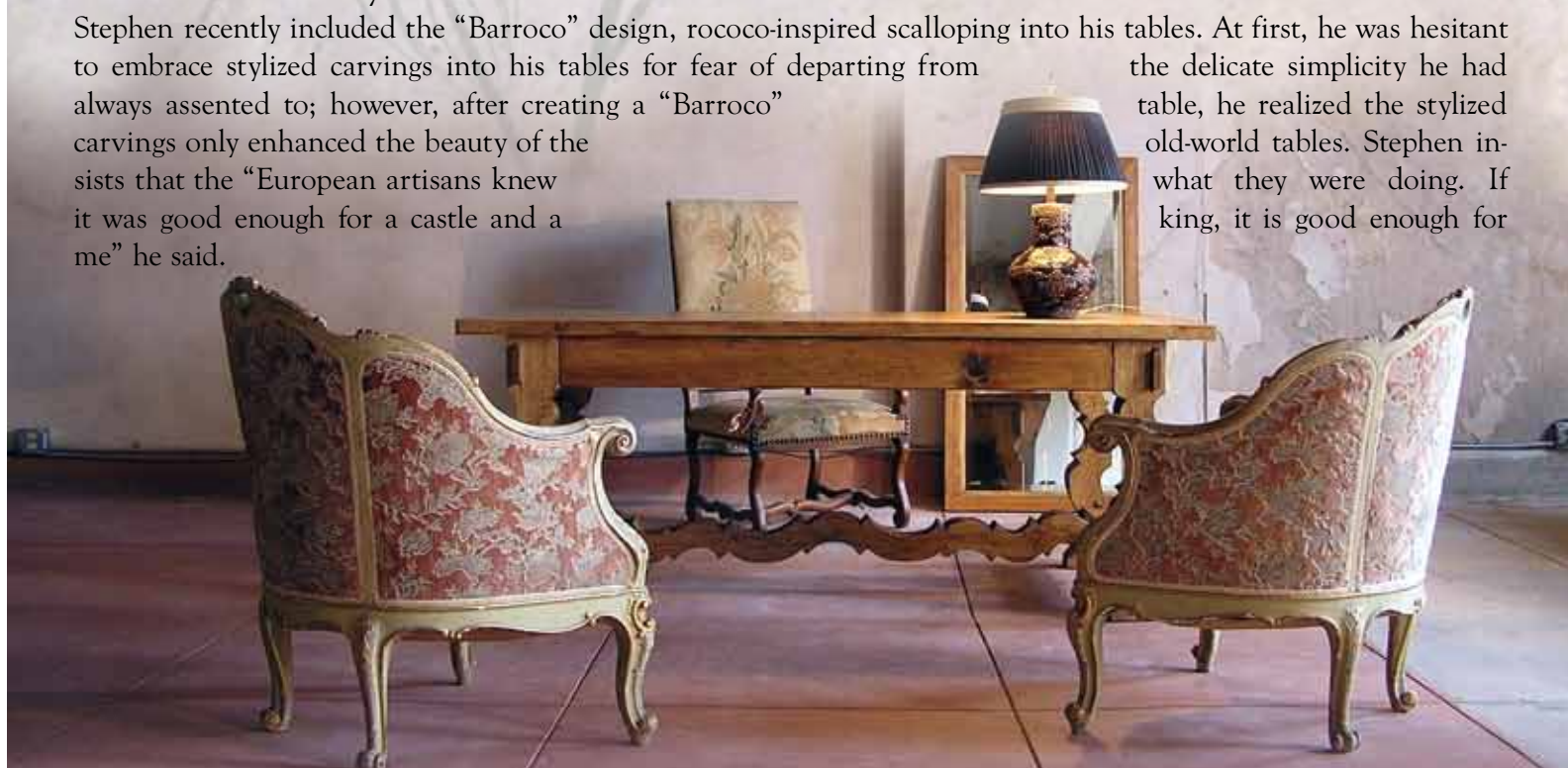
When patrons enter "Tokoly Tables," located on the second floor in the historic Ketchum Building in the French Market of downtown Navasota, they remember a past era of long ago. Tokoly Tables will breathe old world charm and beauty into any home, while taking it on a journey to the days of the paintings of Giotto, the poetry of Dante and Chaucer, the travels of Marco Polo, and the architecture of Gothic cathedrals such as Chartres.

Stephen Tokoly was inspired to build tables that could compete with the grandiose French and Spanish antique tables. However, before "Tokoly Tables" was born, he began building tables using power tools, screws, and glue to attach and assemble the tables. It took Stephen approximately a year to become proficient in mortise and tenon joinery, an ancient technique that has been used for thousands of years. The joinery is an intricate technique and the application even more so. This technique requires the assemblage of furniture without nails or screws. Even though the joint may be glued in place, Stephen does not adhere to using any glue in his furniture. "I have gone to great lengths to avoid the usage of glue or any form of metal joinery on my tables. If it cannot be accomplished strictly with interlocking wood, I will not do it," Stephen says.

Stephen built his very first table, naming it the "Do Not Drop Table" because "one of the skirt boards came off of an old cargo container and had a stencil with 'DO NOT DROP' on it." Stephen recalls, "I didn't sand the stencil off and it's still on the table." This marked the beginning of "Tokoly Tables" and an extraordinary journey of building furniture that breathes passion, allure, and a forgotten time of long ago.

The Future of Tokoly Tables

Stephen recently included the "Barroco" design, rococo-inspired scalloping into his tables. At first, he was hesitant to embrace stylized carvings into his tables for fear of departing from always assented to; however, after creating a "Barroco" carvings only enhanced the beauty of the sits that the "European artisans knew it was good enough for a castle and a me" he said.



For information on "Tokoly Tables," visit Stephen Tokoly's blog he created this year at www.TokolyTables.com, where he documents the building of his tables with photographs and instructional writing that is easy to understand.

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By Any Other Name

Huntsville's landscape blooms brighter because people aren't afraid to get their hands dirty

By Emily Barnby

Plant-swapping roses, daylilies, and daffodils doesn't sound like a typical day job. But David Zeller, a Huntsville horticulturist, needed a way to landscape the city. As an employee of the Parks Department in the 70s, he had little budget to purchase plants. Instead, he asked people for a few canna lilies and daylilies from their gardens. From this, he met others and started swapping plants.

Now, this "informal network of plant-traders" propagate the plants they find to share the wealth, David explains. These freely growing, old-fashioned plants are super hardy and exactly what they need, especially when water conservation and a maintainable landscape are a concern. The work is often trial-and-error. If certain plants don't succeed, then enthusiasts try to reintroduce them. Sometimes, they are forced to back off, scratch their heads, and try again at another place or time.

The Tale of Old Blush

The story behind one of Huntsville's most lovely floral accoutrements began at an 1850s homestead. Years ago, Huntsville city officials decided to build a new post office on the site of an old plantation. Before the 1850s-style Greek-revival house was moved, David and fellow plant-swapper, James Patton, gained permission to scout the site. Behind the back of the house, David spied a shrub, covered and smothered by an invasive honeysuckle. Pulling the honeysuckle away revealed a suffering and unidentifiable old rose. He dug it up, brought it back, gave it a little TLC, and it ended up being the most beautiful China rose.

Research revealed that clipper ships brought this beautiful flower from China to the States in the 1850s. "Somehow," he says, "this old China rose made its way to Huntsville, Texas, and it had been flowering at the back of the house for who-knows-how-many years, just waiting to be rediscovered." He planted the rose, named Huntsville Old Blush, in his yard, and, when it thrived, he passed it to his plant-swap partners. He's been passing it on to friends for years, and they've planted it all over town. "It illustrates how wonderful old plants can be and how fun it is to find them," he emphasizes. Old Blush is hardy and "profusely blooms all year and doesn't have the fungus and insect pests like modern roses."

Texas Rose Rustlers

Also enjoying this floral scavenger hunt are the Texas Rose Rustlers, an early group with a mission to seek, find, and identify neglected vintage roses, growing at old house-sites and cemeteries. In fact, their founding and still current member, Mike Shoup, owns the lovely Rose Emporium in Independence, Texas. He would be the first to say the Rustlers provide rose-enthusiasts with information and opportunities to get involved in their own floral quests.

For plant-swapping or Texas Rose Rustlers information, visit www.texasroserustlers.com. To see the picturesque roses, courtesy of Mike Shoup, visit the Rose Emporium at 10000 FM 50, outside Independence, Texas. 979.836.5548, roses@wearerose.com, or www.antiquerose-emporium.com.



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Fabulous Photos from the Unskilled Eye

Sam Houston Museum hosts the 4th Annual Amateur Photography Contest

by Jennifer Armstrong

Amateur photographers are set to display their works from October 14 – December 22, 2013, at the Sam Houston Museum. Casey Roon, Curator of Exhibits, shares that the excitement for the event is building!

“The 4th Annual Amateur Photography Contest is a great way for amateur photographers to display their work in a Museum setting,” Casey shares. “This is a great opportunity for budding photographers!”

Photographs can relate to themes such as travel, food, action, faces and many more! Or, they might dabble in the tricks of flora and fauna, or black and white! The field of interest is wide for this year’s photography contest. “My favorite photos are the ones that have passion behind

them. They are more than just a macro shot of a flower or a field of bluebonnets. They come from photographers that have a strong, very personal story behind their photos,” Casey says.

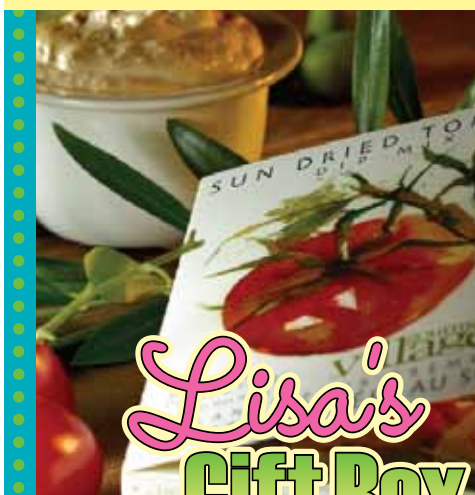
A “Best in Show” award signifies the Grand Champion of the event. That lucky photographer receives a \$200 check. Curator’s Choice, the reserve champion, won’t go home empty handed, as they receive a \$100 check. Monetary prizes go to first, second and third place winners as well. Though the photographers can enjoy the spoils of winning prizes, the real winning comes from the recognition of an interesting piece of work among the museum enthusiasts.

To enter your photo, check out samhoustonmemorial-museum.com for details.



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Best Kept Secrets

Discover a “total package” of a weekend getaway in Huntsville

By Jennifer Armstrong

Imagine having a get-away in your own backyard. That’s the type of adventure awaiting visitors in Huntsville. Start off with a meal in one of the historic downtown eateries, sure to delight those with a passion for foodie fun. Enjoy Farmhouse Sweets and Eats, an old-fashioned soda fountain shop, offering deli delights, blue bell ice cream, candy and more! Or, visit the Cafe Texan, one of Huntsville’s oldest restaurants, serving up southern-style breakfasts from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On the square, take a stroll over 9 blocks of shopping. Ladies will enjoy stores such as Haute Boutique, Modello Footwear, Fabric Carousel and Tickled Pink Gifts, or visiting any of Huntsville’s 7 antique stores. Men can find the perfect place to get those hobbies in order, while shopping at stores like ACE Hardware or Richards Cycle Shop. The square offers something for everyone!

Huntsville is home to many historical landmarks. Spend the afternoon touring the Historic Gibbs-Powell House & Walker County Museum. Or, travel to the “Cabin on the Square” and learn about Texas history.

Visit a show at Huntsville’s Community Theater, a richly blessed group of talented, local actors. Lastly, after a long day, settle your toes for the evening at the Smither Family Bed & Breakfast. With an affordable cost per night, enjoy a European-style hotel room, right on the downtown square.

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ANTIBES
by David Adickes

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navasotatheatrealliance.com



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stagecenter.net



Texas Grand Slam Poetry Festival

October 4 & 5
Revolution Cafe, The Palace Theatre,
The Grand Stafford Theatre
miccheckpoetry.org



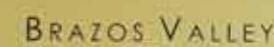
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New Dance Theatre,
Texas A&M University
brazosdance.org/events



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brazosvalleyworldfest.org



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bvchorale.org



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Fall Insert



Arts at the Lake

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NO SHOW SUNDAY AT ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELCOME TO THE 2013 GRAND ART TRAIL & SALE

From the President

Arts at The Lake (ATL) is a non-profit art organization dedicated to exposing the art and artists in Central Texas and educating artists and art lovers about art. Our organization covers a three-county membership area, including Burleson, Lee and Washington counties. We encourage artists and art lovers outside these counties to join as well.

We invite you to enjoy our art trail covering four counties in Central Texas.

Enjoy the works representative of each artist in our brochure, and on the trail see well over 100 artists. Pick and choose the places and artists you wish to visit or see the entire trail; the choice is up to you. The map provided helps you navigate through the area and in the towns. As you enjoy your day, grab a bite to eat at one of our local restaurants. Each of the towns is unique and charming in its own way. If you are taking in the whole trail, check out one of our hotels or bed and breakfasts.

Artworks include ceramics, pottery, stained glass, bronze, pastel, oil, watercolor, photography, jewelry and more. Find that "just right" original piece of artwork for your collection.

Arts at The Lake is a genuine group of characters. Whether our artists are highly accomplished professionals or newly emerging artists, they seek daily to improve their work by traveling to find new inspirations, studying to develop their techniques and growing professionally. In some way, each artist teaches what they have learned about art and life to those around them.

Members of Arts at The Lake are both artists and art supporters. Each person brings a unique point of view to the organization. All our sponsored activities are run on a volunteer basis and each person works hard to make ATL successful.

We look forward to meeting you on the Grand Art Trail and Sale this year! Like us on Facebook or visit www.artsatthelake.org for more information.

As president of ATL, I hope you will enjoy our art trail this year. Thank you very much and have fun!

Clover Cochran

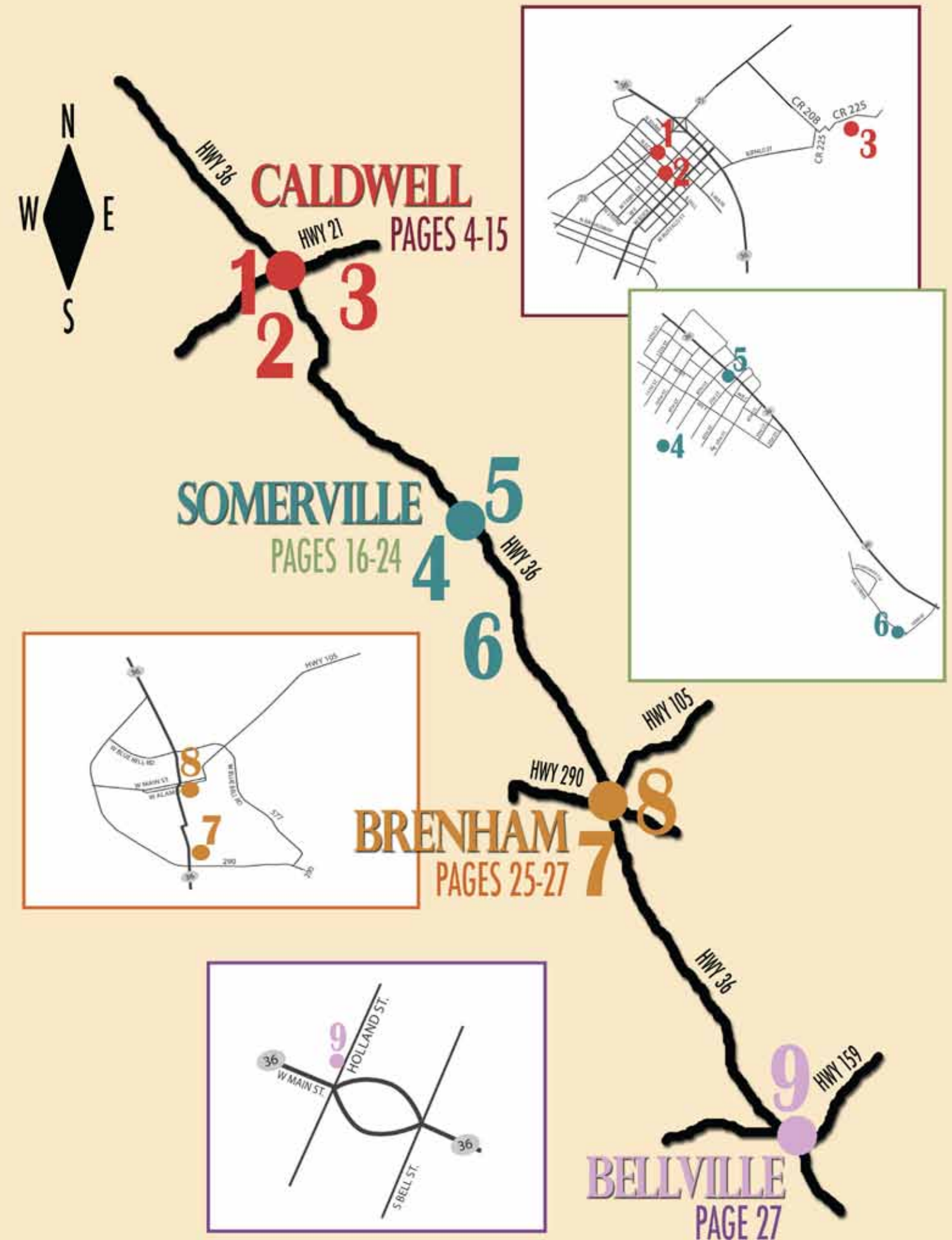
President ATL 2013
clover.cochran@gmail.com | PO Box 45, Somerville, TX 77879



www.ArtsatTheLake.org

Member of the ACBV
Arts Council

Fall Insert



Arts at the Lake

Fall Insert

CALDWELL

The City of Caldwell
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www.caldwelltx.gov



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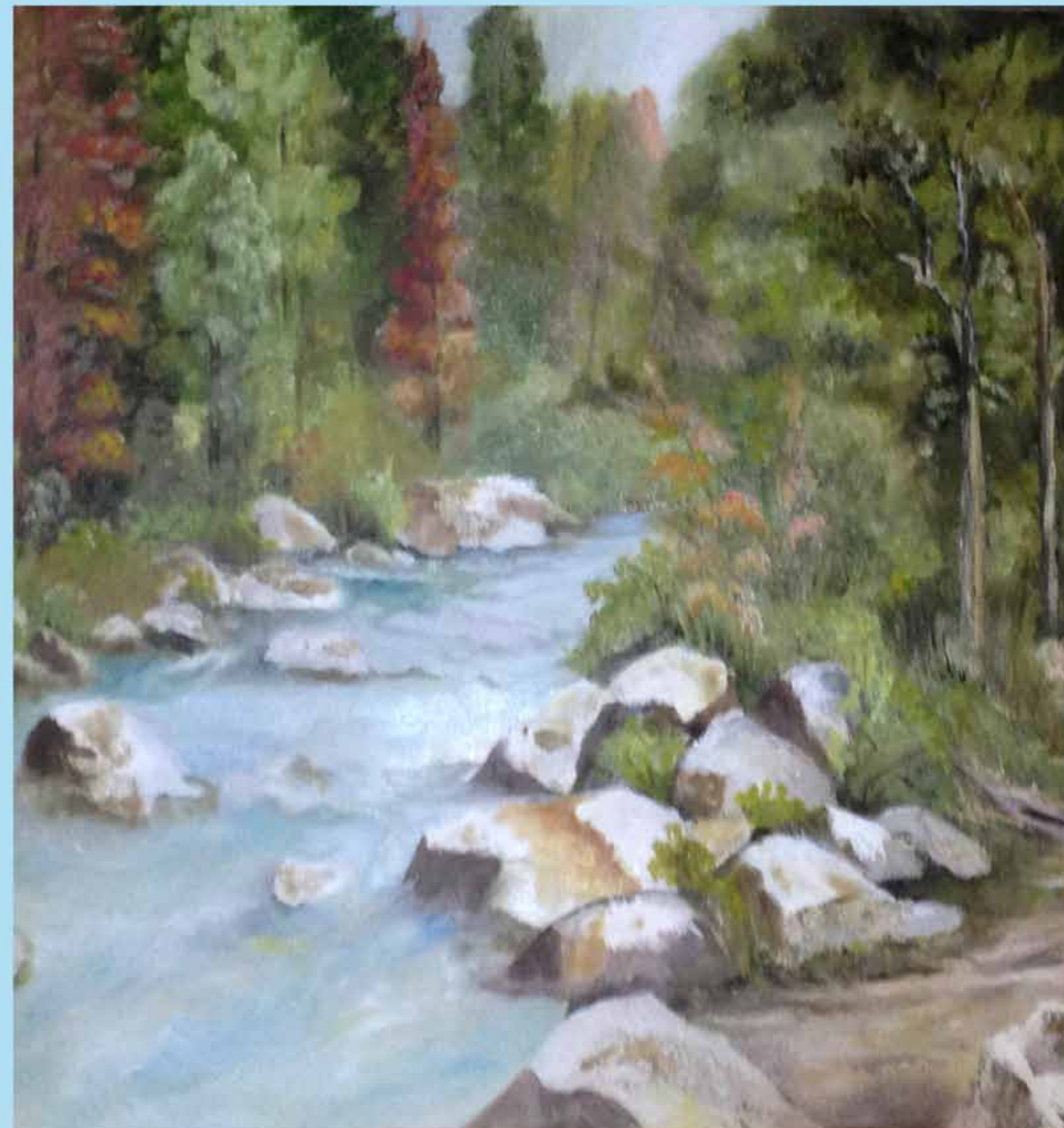



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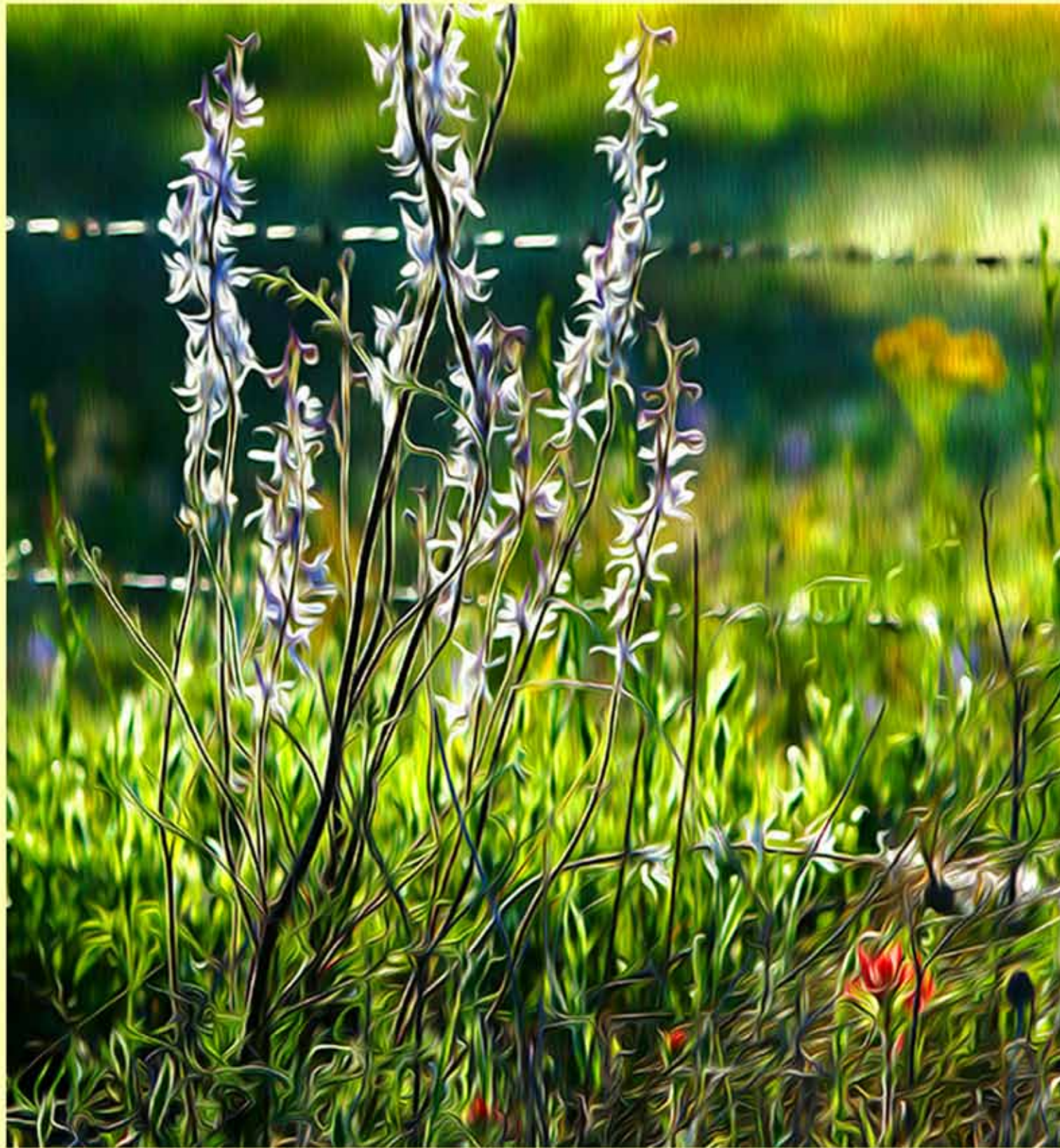


LouAnn Englemann
Oil

"I always preferred crayons and coloring books over any other toy as a little girl!"
louanne1937@gmail.com

SHOWING AT THE CALDWELL CIVIC CENTER

Arts at the Lake

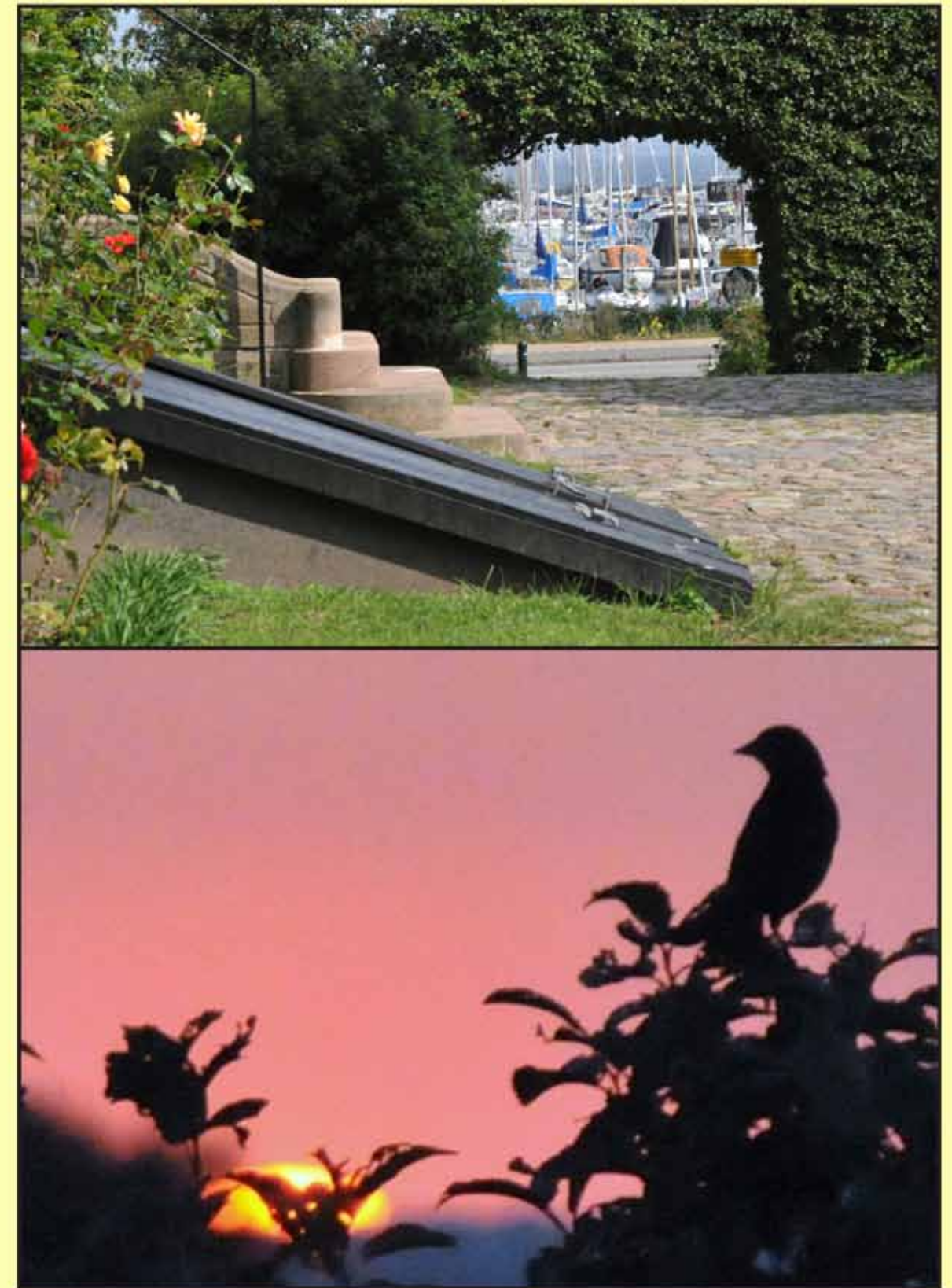


Miriam Rieck
Photography

"I live on feeling, by feeling and expressing that feeling. My goal — to invoke the same from you."
wyldesoulphotography.zenfolio.com

SHOWING AT THE CALDWELL CIVIC CENTER

Fall Insert



Peggy Gaskamp
Photography

"My photographs are not retouched; I shoot them like you see them."
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SHOWING AT THE CALDWELL CIVIC CENTER

Arts at the Lake



Marsha Waits

Wood

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Cheryl Wooten

Watercolor

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Glenn Williams

Photography

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glennwilliamsphoto.com

SHOWING AT ROSEWOOD

Arts at the Lake

Fall Insert



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4



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5



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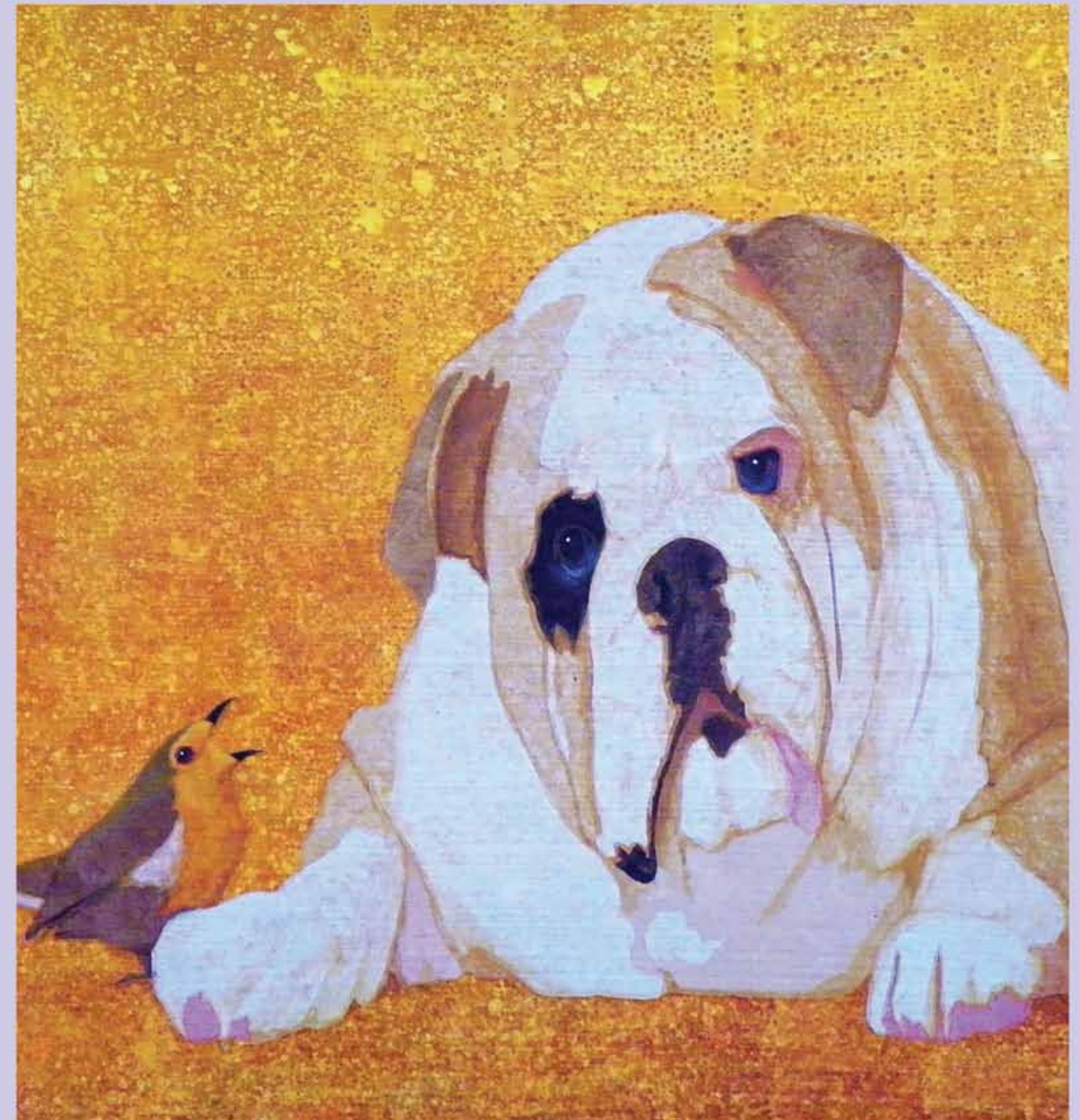
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6



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oldartguy.com

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Arts at the Lake



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Fall Insert



Tim Vanya
 Oil

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SHOWING AT THE SOMERVILLE YEGUA CENTER

Arts at the Lake



Jean Curling
Oil

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mysite.verizon.net/resw35yc/curlingbrushstrokes

SHOWING AT THE SOMERVILLE YEGUA CENTER

Fall Insert



Anita Cannon
Watercolor

"My inspiration is primarily nature with all its colors, contrasts and particularly, drama."
esperanzaart@mac.com

SHOWING AT ART C'S

Arts at the Lake

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Fall Insert



Cathy Schuster
Watercolor

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cschuster9@aol.com

SHOWING AT ART C'S

Arts at the Lake



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"Doug's work is an expression of his travels and his Texas roots."
doug.peck@hotmail.com

SHOWING AT ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Pattie Pederson

Photography, Canvas & Pyrography

"Unique, one-of-a-kind, original and custom artwork, created from your imagination or mine, no piece too large or small."
facebook.com/CirclePOriginals

SHOWING AT ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Arts at the Lake



DOWNTOWN ART GALLERY

113 W. Alamo, Brenham, 77833

(979) 836-1622

downtownartgallery-brenham.com



Patsy Supak

Oil

"My inspiration is the beauty of the Texas landscape dotted with old barns, wildlife and native flowers."

downtownartgallery-brenham.com

SHOWING AT DOWNTOWN ART GALLERY

Fall Insert



Coleen Bradfield

Bronze, Oil & Acrylic

"Some days my love of sculpting and painting is so intense that I think I must have a body of clay with paint in my veins."

artbycoleen.webs.com

SHOWING AT DOWNTOWN ART GALLERY



BELLVILLE

HOLLAND STREET GALLERY

14 N. Holland, Bellville, 77418

(979) 865-4278

hollandstgallery.com

Arts at the Lake



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