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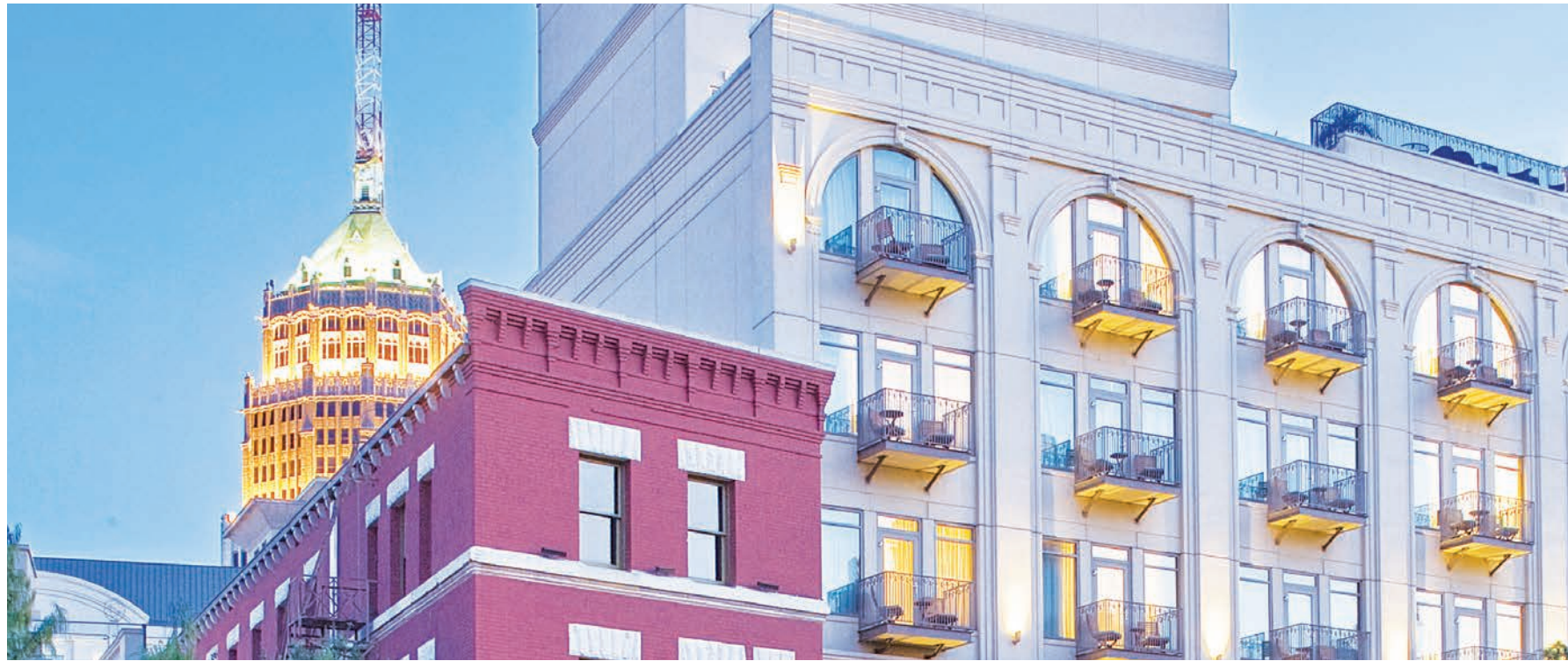
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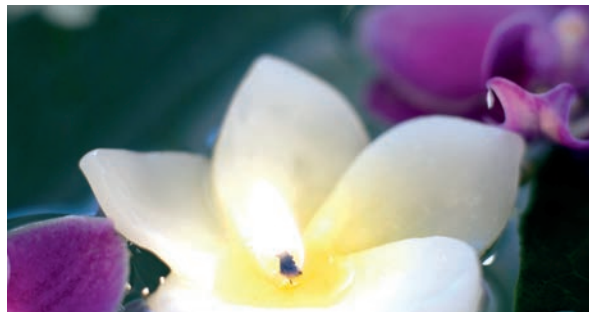


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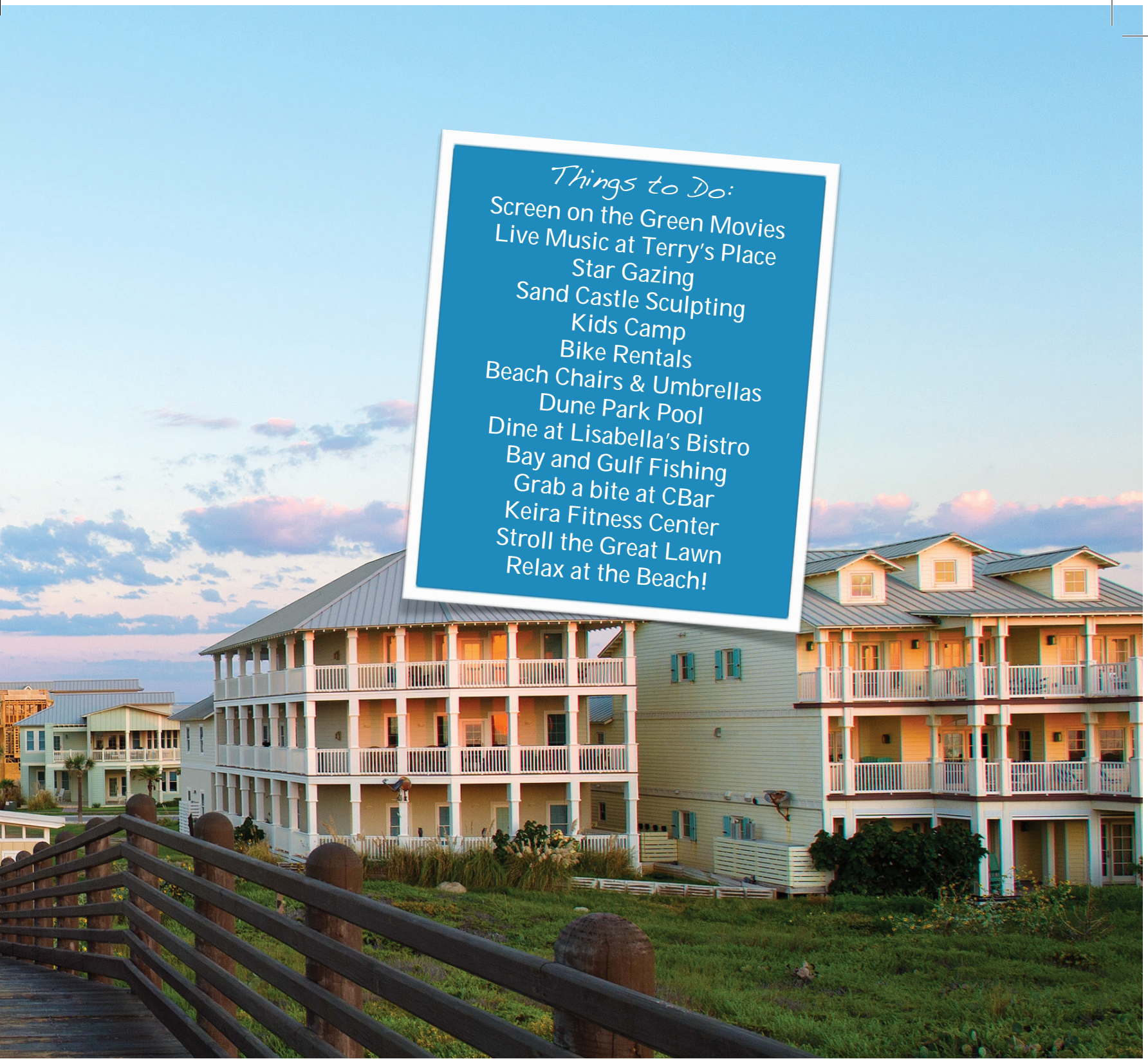


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90. STAR QUALITY

We love how Audrey Hepburn inspires us, and fashion, to this day. With her most fashionable film in mind, *Funny Face*, we give you sumptuous frocks and styles to inspire your very own modern day interpretation for spring wardrobe choices.

Photography by Marc Oberlin Styling by Zoe Hennessy

100. SHORE THING

Port Aransas is something of both folklore and legend. For generations it has attracted the beach set of prominent Texans and here we take you on a journey to see why that is, along with a VIP look inside some of our favorite beach homes to inspire your own home design.

By Ellie Leeper Photography by Tim Burdick

(Left)
CHARADE

Dress by Anthony Franco is made-to-order with a corset dip-dyed ostrich feathers and solstiss lace scallop. Price upon request at Anthonyfranco designs.us Necklace by Samantha Wills Art Deco, at Samanthawills.com. Black mask from PRB Studio Private Collection at Prbpr.com. Vintage rhinestone bracelet: stylist's own.



Cover: The home of Sylvia and Hector Villareal in Port Aransas Texas
Photography by Tim Burdickw



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47

Goddess on the grounds at the Ashram

26. CONTRIBUTE

It takes a village to create a magazine and its digital media platform. Here is a look at the many dynamos who have helped make it happen this month.

30. PUBLISH

Publisher Eduardo Bravo is excited about spring. Here he shares a few of his favorite spring insights for the warmer weather months.

33. EDIT

Creative Director and Editor-in-Chief Lance Avery Morgan loves the newness of spring Who doesn't? Here he shares some spring cleaning wisdom he's learned along the way to inspire you.

34. HOST

Want to host an in-store event that gives back to charity? Here our Los Angeles-based entertaining expert Lara Shriftman lends her point of view with tips of how to do that at a high level.

37. DEFINE

The international fashion scene changes both its hemlines and cultural capitals often. Here Dee Covey weighs in on the fashion scene and what it means worldwide.

39. COLLECT

Chic Austinite retailer Masha Poloskova reveals a few of her favorite things that make her life more stylish. With her decidedly sharp eye and vintage viewpoint learn how you can enhance your wardrobe with a few storied pieces like she has.

42. ACQUIRE

San Antonio trendsetter extraordinaire Erin Busbee recommends pink, pure and simple, as the go-to accent color for all your spring dressing decisions.

42



Vintage Valentino silk evening gown, 1995

39

45. BEHAVE

In certain circles, good manners are a must, and exquisite manners are even better. This month our Ms. Modern Manners, Sharon Schweitzer, shares her wisdom on how you can live a more beautiful life with the best behavior for any situation.

47. RENEW

Austinite Lynn Miller was searching for more when she entered the world famous Ashram resort in the hills of Malibu. What she found was more than she expected... herself.

49. RESTORE

Austin-based acupuncturist Andra Millian offers insight and advice on how this spring can be your healthiest one yet.

52. EVOLVE

How can you emerge more powerfully in your life? Austin-based Resonance RepatternIng practitioner, Mary Schneider has tips to encourage your successful personal evolution.

54. DESIGN

Searching for the best new design products to inspire your everyday life? Lance Avery Morgan has a few recommendations after his international scout for them.

58. RECOUNT

Houstonian Curry Glassell was born into wealth and learned along the way just how fluid a relationship with money can really be. Here she shares her insight to motivate how you steward your own wealth.

58. PROMOTE

Join us as we celebrate new store openings with J.McLaughlin and event happenings at North Star Mall.



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Burberry Spring Summer 2014 Collection, London

37

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Table by Danny Cuellar of Trinity Flowers



Wally and Jeanie Kilroy Wilson, Gary Tinterow & John Kotts

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Tommy and Laura Craddick

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The Very Best Events in Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, Austin, and South Texas

ENTRANCE

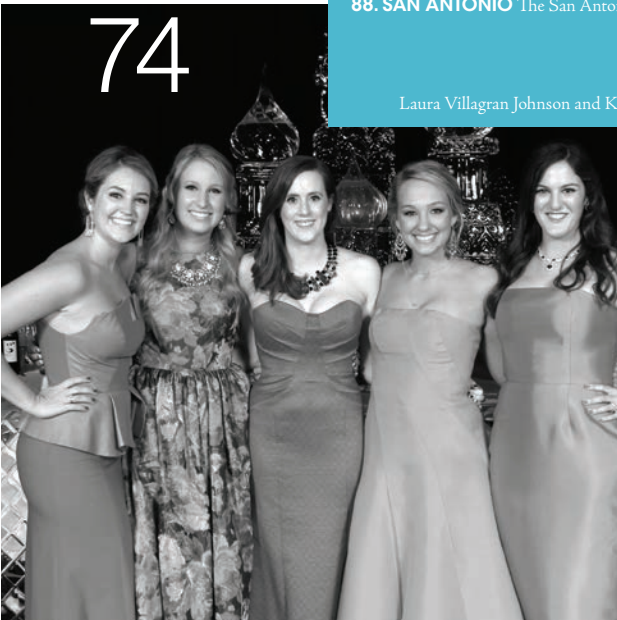
- 68. AUSTIN & LOS ANGELES John Paul and Eloise DeJoria's Malibu event
- 72. HOUSTON The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation winter ball
- 74. SAN ANTONIO The German Club's debutante parties
- 78. DALLAS Neiman Marcus celebrates Karl Lagerfeld
- 80. SOUTH TEXAS The South Texas Charity Weekend event
- 84. AUSTIN The Center For Child Protection gala
- 88. SAN ANTONIO The San Antonio Library Foundation luncheon

ARRIVAL

- 127. SAN ANTONIO The Tobin Foundation Ghostlighter's event
- 128. AUSTIN The Dell Children's Medical Center gala
- 130. SAN ANTONIO The Ruiz Healy Gallery event
- 131. SAN ANTONIO The Kappa Kappa Gamma luncheon
- 134. HOUSTON The Museum of Fine Arts dinner
- 136. SAN ANTONIO The San Antonio Opera event
- 138. AUSTIN The Rise School luncheon
- 140. SAN ANTONIO The Cancer Therapy and Research Center event
- 139. HOUSTON The Medical Bridges/Huffington Center luncheon

144. ARRANGE

Laura Villagran Johnson and Kevin Smothers share the best events possible in Austin, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and South Texas.



74

Caroline Greehey, Charlotte Cooper, Elizabeth Arnim, Shelby Smith & Blake Sealy



80

Janell Kleberg



68

Andrew Rice, John Paul and Eloise DeJoria & Eddie Safady



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and Olivia
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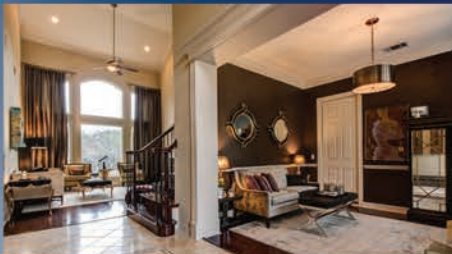
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MARCH • APRIL 2014

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THE BROADWAY POSTS RECORD YEAR

Proves Condos Are Popular Home Option in San Antonio

The Broadway, a 20-story one-of-a-kind luxury residential high-rise in the heart of San Antonio, posted record numbers in 2013 amid a hot housing market. Through a strong commitment to the San Antonio community and an exclusive listing partnership with Phyllis Browning Company, Koontz McCombs, the developer of the residential high-rise building, made 2013 a banner year for The Broadway.

"The Broadway literally sells itself. You cannot find better views or a higher quality of service in the city. I'm in love with this building," said Phyllis Browning, founder and CEO of Phyllis Browning Company.

With 12 homes sold in 2013, The Broadway increased the total number of homeowners in the luxury high rise to an impressive 38 percent. The Broadway closed on more than \$15 million dollars in sales last year, achieving a nearly \$7 million increase in sales from the previous year. Two penthouses sold in the building at more than \$3 million each, and The Broadway sold out of its popular Imperial Junior Penthouse averaging at nearly \$2 million a home.

Bart Koontz, president and CEO of Koontz McCombs, credits the spike in sales to the

unmatched lifestyle, amenities and convenience provided by The Broadway.

"The primary benefit to condominium living is convenience. At The Broadway, our owners lead active lives and we afford them a low-maintenance lifestyle while cultivating a sense of community among the residents," said Koontz.

A long line of satisfied residents including executives, doctors, philanthropists and entrepreneurs of all ages has led to the steady increase in sales, as the homeowners have generated an enthusiasm that can only be achieved through word-of-mouth. New residents find that The Broadway redefines "home" in San Antonio with the building's ultra-luxurious convenience, ease of living, and stellar location.

"The Broadway's amenities allow our residents to have an experience similar to what they get at their favorite five-star resort - only they never have to check out. Condo living in San Antonio is gaining popularity, which is an exciting indicator of a strong housing market," said Jenifer Brown, vice president of residential sales and marketing at The Broadway San Antonio.

With unique views of the gorgeous city and up to 5,830-square-feet of spacious living,

The Broadway has gone from one of San Antonio's best-kept secrets to one of the city's most desirable communities. The sleek and spacious interiors attract discerning buyers with enormous floor-to-ceiling windows, an open floor plan, chef's kitchen, master suites and hardwood floors. The 11 distinctive floor plans range from 1,262-square-foot to a sprawling 5,839-square-foot with the option to combine units for a customizable square footage and floor plan.

Sitting on 2.5 acres at the gateway to San Antonio, the completely residential project has more than 140,000 square feet of amenities including a state-of-the-art fitness center with yoga and Pilates studios, media room, pet park, conference room, catering kitchen and on-site, hotel-trained staff. The resort-style, climate-controlled pool boasts covered cabanas, lounge bar, flat-panel TVs, MP3 docking stations and WiFi.

Homes at The Broadway start in the \$400's and go up to more than \$4 million. Floor plans are offered in one, two and three-bedrooms. The project is a development of San Antonio-based Koontz McCombs, founded in 1997 with properties in San Antonio, Austin, Houston and Port Aransas, Texas.

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TIM BURDICK

A Utah native but a Texan at heart, the feature photographer for our cover feature, *Shore Thing*, Tim Burdick moved to Port Aransas when he was two years old and graduated from Port 'A' High School in 2001. From 2005 to 2008 he attended the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, Calif., receiving his B.A. in Visual Journalism. Currently he operates a photography gallery and business on Port Aransas' historic Tarpon Street and more of his work can be seen at TImburdick-photography.com.



ERIN BUSBEE

San Antonio style maven Erin Busbee founded her own fashion consulting company, Busbee Style, through which she offers fashion styling, personal shopping and closet organizing. She also serves as the regular style expert for the popular south Texas TV show, San Antonio Living and is the on-camera fashion stylist in more than a hundred videos for Tyra Banks' TypeF.com and she also writes her own fashion and beauty blog, Busbeestyle.com. This month she's all about honeymoon must-haves in this month's Acquire department.



DEE COVEY

Dee Covey is a *The Society Diaries* features contributor (for fun) and also serves as one of Texas's top multi-generational marketing and branding trend experts, and author of the upcoming *Dinosaurs and Brats: How To Get What You Want From Other Generations*. As the head of PR/ER studios (Prernow.com), she teaches New York and Austin clients exactly how to shine in TED talks, on *The Today Show*, investor presentations, book tours and other high-stakes situations when she isn't writing about global fashion trends like she does in this month's article, *The Business of Chic*.



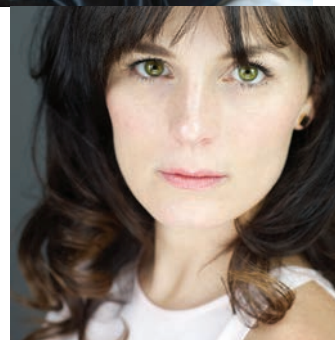
CURRY GLASSELL

Businesswoman and philanthropist Curry Glassell weighs in this month in an article about her financial experience gained through adversity before she learned the true meaning of personal wealth and sharing these tools with her affiliation with Access Change. Glassell is also an international speaker, certified life coach, and author. She enjoys working with anyone who is willing to change their lives, from elementary school children to corporate leaders, and can be found at Curreyglassell.com. Photo by John Conroy.



ZOE HENNESSEY

Zoe Hennessey began her fashion career in Manhattan as an assistant stylist, learning quickly by working with top celebrities such as Beyonce, Halle Berry, Sarah Jessica Parker and Sandra Bullock, to name just a few. Her talents propelled her to Los Angeles to focus on styling celebrities for the red carpet. Currently dividing her time between NY and LA, Zoe is happy to make time to personally consult for those who desire expertise in personal shopping, wardrobe and superb style. More of Zoe's work can be seen at Zoehennessey.com



ELLIE LEEPER

Social chronicler and writer of this month's feature on Port Aransas, *Shore Thing*, Ellie Leeper is both a native San Antonian and a social enthusiast. She utilizes her affinity for connecting others through her passion for the arts and the non-profit as our Associate Editor. In addition to her contributions to the magazine, Leeper serves as Development Outreach Coordinator at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts.





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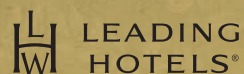
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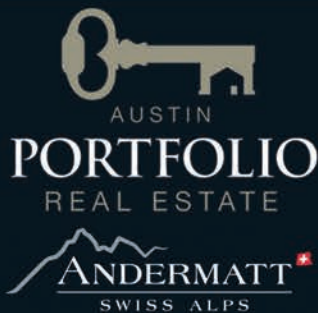
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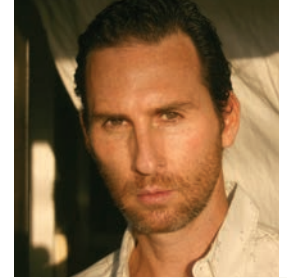
LYNN MILLER

This estate manager/personal assistant has devoted over 20 years to the care and feeding of some of the world's most famous and uber-wealthy individuals. Having lived in Manhattan, Los Angeles, Seattle, Cape Town and Florence, Lynn has not only traveled the world like a rock star, but has been exposed to a lifestyle of which most could only dream. She has now settled in Austin to take care of the most important person; herself. In this month's Destination: Soul Search, Miller takes us on a journey to heal the heart, mind and body at one of the best kept secrets in California, The Ashram.



MARK OBERLIN

Our feature photographer for this issue's Star Power fashion editorial is Los Angeles-based Mark Oberlin. Oberlin has also photographed the collections of many of the West Coast's top fashion designers. He is an acclaimed painter, as well and has exhibited his paintings in Los Angeles, New York City and San Francisco galleries. More of his work can be found at his website at Markoberlinphotography.com



MASHA POLOSKOVA

Masha Poloskova, who writes *Seams Like Old Times* this month, has spent the last decade shaping the retail landscape of her hometown Austin, Texas. She is the former co-owner and buyer for Feathers Boutique, which has been nationally regarded as one of the best vintage stores in the country recognized by publications like Elle, Lucky and Nylon. Currently, she owns MOSS Designer Consignment and in mid-2014 she'll launch a new, boutique outpost, Garment Modern + Vintage.



MARY SCHNEIDER

Mary Schneider has been studying alternative healthcare modalities for over 20 years and is certified in Holographic Repatterning and Touch for Health. She has studied homeopathy, the Chinese 5 Element Acupuncture System, The Work of Byron Katie and numerous other modalities. Her practice is the Holographic (Resonance) Repatterning Institute (Repatternit.com) and she happily resides and practices in Austin. This month she writes on the process of creating emotional growth.



SHARON SCHWEITZER

Our Ms. Modern Manners expert Sharon Schweitzer is a global and cross-cultural consultant, an attorney, and the founder of Protocol & Etiquette Worldwide in Austin, Texas. Blending her experience as a board certified labor and employment lawyer with protocol officer and intercultural management training and her travel to all seven continents, her customized training for clients in Canada, China, the Czech Republic, England, France and worldwide creates a better understanding of how global culture and etiquette help us develop stronger, deeper, and mutually beneficial relationships with our global connections. She has been published in local, national and international media including *European Business Express*, *Texas Lawyer*, *Boston Business Journal*, and others since 2008.



LARA SHRIFTMAN

Our West Coast Lifestyle Editor Lara Shriftman co-founded Harrison & Shriftman in 1995, an agency that specializes in public relations, marketing and events for high-profile luxury brands. The agency specializes in public relations, marketing and events for high-profile luxury brands. In addition to serving as a correspondent for Extra with her own segment, Party Confidential, Shriftman has authored four books on entertaining, *Fete Accompli*, *Fete Accompli Workbook*, *Party Confidential* and *Party Confidential: New Etiquette for Fabulous Entertaining*. This month she writes about how to host in-store charity events.



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PUBLISHER'S LETTER

Spring's Bridge To Summer

I LOVE SPRING BECAUSE IT IS THE BRIDGE FROM THE cold winter to our warm and fun summers, which brings us more light and heat, which in turn, lifts our spirits as we watch the dramatic changes of nature. The trees grow back their green leaves and flowers bloom in glorious colors. We get a sense of *Spring Fever*, with renewed energy and hope for a great rest of the year. Some of us even have a tradition of spring cleaning, or getting everything in order to prepare for a great year, both personally and professionally.

In this issue we have devoted almost 30 pages to Port Aransas because the Texas coast is one of the best places to take a spring vacation, in my opinion. You can revel in the joy and peace of fishing and take your catch to a local eatery where they will prepare it for you. Stretching out and sun bathing on the beach is always fun, or you can become a thrill-seeking adventurer through wind surfing, kite surfing or parasailing. There you can also watch birds and dolphins frolicking past the surf. It has plenty of shops, art galleries and boutiques that are part of Port Aransas' laid back culture. Where to stay? Choose from a cozy cottage, conventional motel room, luxury condominium, or the privacy of your own beach house. Here we show you some of our favorites.

Also in this issue, we feature spectacular spring fashion inspired by Audrey Hepburn, the iconic Academy Award-winning actress best known for her roles in classic movies like *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and *My Fair Lady*, as well as our own homage to her film, *Funny Face*. When her career ended, she became a dedicated humanitarian and was appointed a special ambassador to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) dedicating her time, talent and treasure to helping impoverished children, so her legacy lives on.

As they say, the largest room in the world is room for improvement, so be sure to read our self-improvement advice in our Spring into Action departmental features. You will see a long list of statewide events, a party in Malibu that we covered and was hosted by John Paul DeJoria and his wife, as well as a special event that Neiman Marcus created to honor legendary designer Karl Lagerfeld.

It is our pleasure to provide you with the latest societal scene across the state. I hope you will plan to enjoy reading this issue, and as always, let me know of any special events or activities you would like us to cover in the future. 🌟

All the best,
Eduardo Bravo, Publisher
eduardo@thesocietydiaries.com



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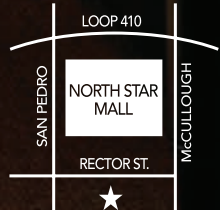
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Spring's Awakening

LOOK AROUND AND YOU WILL SEE THE REMnants of winter falling away in every direction. Brown morphs into green, pink is the new red (and the navy blue of India as style guru Diana Vreeland once remarked) and there's a crisp smell of freshly mown grass just about everywhere. Hope springs eternal, literally.

In this issue, which was a blast for our team to create for your enjoyment, takes us from the shores of sunny Port Aransas and a VIP look at some of the coast's most loved treasure troves of beach chic... to fashion on the streets of Paris where we are inspired by the film, *Funny Face*, the ultimate Audrey Hepburn-Fred Astaire film based on the real life antics of Richard Avedon and San Antonio native supermodel Suzy Parker. It is a refreshing look at the 1957 classic, with a decidedly new twist, that photographer Mark Oberlin shares with his unique eye. You'll see inspiration board to the right.

And, let's face it. Part of our continued success is because we chronicle the high performers of the state who not only make the scene, they *are* the scene. One such recent event scene was at the Malibu estate of spirits and beauty tycoons John Paul and Eloise DeJoria, who know how to throw a heck of a memorable party every year to celebrate life. In fact, we like unlocking the gates and sharing a VIP access with you in every issue. The DeJorias, along with our other galas, luncheons and events we chronicle, have contributed to our popularity to be a favorite read of yours.

These scene-makers can be subtle philanthropists or they can represent a rarified world filled with big fortunes, big rocks and unimaginable extravagance. Regardless, cast of characters all, incidentally, have one thing in common: a robust appetite for internal success and the creating the best of the best for themselves and the world around them. We like it when people try harder. It's not about the money at all. It's about the *effort* that goes into living a more beautiful life. In fact, all our contributing writers and associate editors are focused on that goal personally and professionally, as well as being experts in their field, and we thrive on sharing their vast expertise with you.

Around here we have learned that there are seven keys to live a more beautiful life with those around you. Want in on the secrets of how people really thrive? Here goes:

1. Know thyself.

It requires focused introspection and concentration. Explore all areas you want to explore

to determine your passions; your deepest desires and fears; what makes you proud, insecure, and ashamed; what work you would love to do even without getting paid.

2. Define what "beautiful life" means to you.

It's not material things that will lead us to a beautiful life. Ask yourself: What am I filling my life with that I'd rather replace with other things? How can I take action? How can I feel I deserve it?

3. Start working toward living a beautiful life.

Think about ways to attain what's missing or eliminate what's unnecessary. This is where all the adventures take place. Step out of your comfort zone, because adventures are exhilarating. If you commit to this step, you will no doubt feel how exciting life can be.

4. Appreciate where you are in this process.

Building a beautiful life can be a tough process at first. There will be starts, stops, and lots of tension along the way. Feel good about getting to the halfway point to living a beautiful life.

5. Adjust your expectations.

Creating your beautiful life can full of surprises. You may find that things you've determined to be true about steps one, two, three, and four have changed. By this time, you've likely gotten a taste of how beautiful life can be through adventures and new experiences, and refocus. or continue down this path.

6. Count your blessings and be grateful for what you have.

If you remember to count your blessings, you're already living a beautiful life. What's also true is that once you count your blessings, you'll realize that life is, indeed, beautiful and you're full of gratitude for what is and what can be.

7. Live your beautiful life.

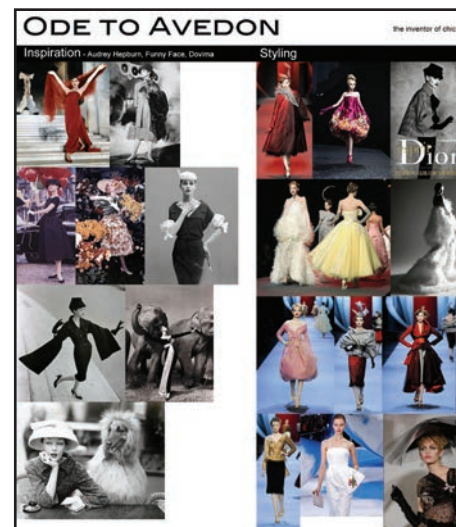
Yep, go ahead. Do it. You deserve it.



Portrait photography by Jen Perez
Styling by Amanda Donley
Location: The Driskill Hotel

As you can see all around you, we are living in an exciting world of enlightenment. We hope you enjoy this special spring issue to kick off the warm weather months and we look forward to seeing you in the ballroom. 📍

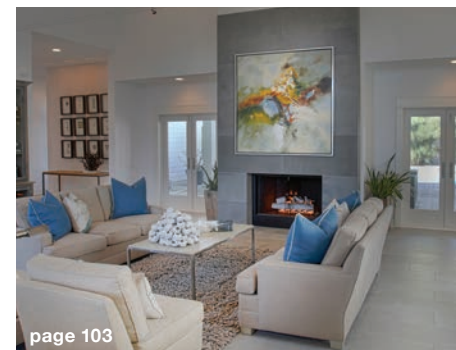
XOLANCE AVERY MORGAN
lance@thesocietydiaries.com



From the Design department, page 54



John Paul DeJoria,
Lance Avery Morgan, Eloise DeJoria
and Rob Giardinelli



page 103

Charity Culture

Want to make a splash and also, help your favorite cause? **Our hostess with the mostest Lara Shriffman** recommends hosting a trunk show to raise much-needed funds for your favorite cause. Here are tips on how to create it successfully.

OFTEN I PLAN LARGE STAR-STUDED EVENTS FOR clients, yet when it comes to throwing parties for myself though, I prefer small intimate gatherings with my close friends. I have hosted small get-togethers for many different occasions, but I became most excited when I stumbled upon the trend in entertaining with trunk shows.

Trunk shows that benefit a worthy charity allows a very chic and private shopping experience for those who want personalized attention paid to their purchases. They allow friends to enjoy cocktails, play “dress up” and often times meet amazing designers who have created what the guests are purchasing. Plus, with a portion of the proceeds donated to a worthy cause, you have a wonderful time while doing good in the world.

Here’s my step-by-step guide to throwing a great charity-benefitting trunk show:

Cause For Help

Ask the designer or vendor if they can offer a discount or donate a portion of proceeds to a cause. This is an especially nice touch as guests feel encouraged to shop and buy more in order to help the specific cause. Anywhere from 10-20% of the proceeds from one event can help provide vital services for the cause you choose.

Location, Location, Location

Consider your guests when choosing a party site. A trendy boutique in your city can help make this event spectacular. It is already equipped with the racks, hangers and mirrors you need to host a trunk show, so choosing a retail space will save you time and money that can go to the cause. As an alternative, your home can provide an intimate setting for a group of close friends, as can a new restaurant or hotel in your area.

Guest Who’s Coming

A pristine guest list is key to any successful entertaining. Be sure to invite a like-minded, interesting and diverse group. This will allow guests to mingle with old friends, while also meeting new ones.



Above: Haney Pret-a-Couture Ambassador Events, Los Angeles and San Francisco

Lean’s Cuisine

Keep the menu light. People often arrive at parties hungry, so make sure to have bites for guests to nibble. Since people will be trying on clothes, it is especially important to keep portions small. Serve bite-sized snacks like caviar on toast for high-end formal events, and different dips for more casual gatherings. Also make sure to have something sweet, like cookies on hand. To minimize mess, try to serve foods without wrappers.

Preparation, Meet Opportunity

Make you have all supplies- racks, hangers, mannequins, mirrors. Good lighting is a must, as people will be trying on clothing. Also make sure that you have an area for guests to sit down and socialize- it is a party after all!

Delegate And Conquer

Make sure that you have hired help, or designated a friend to help guests try on clothes, and operate the cash box for purchases if necessary. This will help ensure that things run smoothly. This will also relieve you of stress and allow you to enjoy the fruits of your labor.

Cocktails, Anyone?

Drinks can be a pivotal point of any party. A signature cocktail will create a common ground stimulate conversation. A few cocktails may even encourage your friends to model their favorite looks from the trunk show in a fashion show and perhaps, buy more that will benefit the charity. Pre-make your cocktails, and hand them out to guests as they arrive. 🍷

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The Business Of CHIC

Ah, Paris. Is it still the world's fashion capital? Not officially, according to the Global Language Monitor, which named London the Top Global Fashion Capital in 2012-13, beating out New York, Barcelona... and yes, Paris. **Here Dee Covey explains how the brave new world of fashion will be affected.**

PAIRS WAS KNOCKED OFF ITS PERCH IN 2007, AND HAS YET to regain the top spot. Culturally, though? Mais oui! The City of Lights will always be synonymous with the soul of chic and truly timeless elegance. Fashion is in the genetic code of the city and its women, dating back to the eighteenth century and its highly stylized court in Versailles.

The ironic twist is that it took an Englishman, Charles Frederick Worth, to bring haute couture to the world. After settling on the rue de la Paix in 1845, Worth invented the entire concept of annual collections, and in one fell swoop, established the beautiful beachhead of wearable art and culture that we call "fashion." From that day, Paris has been the center of this universe, radiating its style influence to the most remote regions on earth. It would be here that Coco Chanel unveiled her "little black dress" and classic tailored tweed suit, Christian Dior introduced his highly influential New Look, and people of taste booked passage across the Pond to order their seasonal wardrobes.

This veritable open-air trend factory, however, eventually had its copiers and challengers, and soon found itself running neck-and-neck in that race. After World War II, garment business geniuses in the U.S. shook loose the codes of chic, and rewrote history by designing the famed ready-to-wear (or "prêt-à-porter") business imported into France in the 1950s.

In recent years, new fashion meccas are springing up alongside Paris: New York, London, Milan, Buenos Aires and Dubai, all with their own genius designers who compete with the Parisians for catwalk space. Japanese, Belgian, English, American, and even Korean and Chinese have talent who are shaping the design scene.

Still, the French design esthetic reigns supreme, is a crucial part of the national identity and the definition of success for ambitious artists. "Whether you're French or foreign, showing your lines in Paris is a rite of passage," says Jean-Pierre Mocho, President of the French Fédération du Prêt-à-Porter. "That's why dozens of foreign designers and brands put on fashion shows here: they need this image and recognition. Paris has always welcomed all countries. This city exists on a

more human scale than New York or London and has a spirit that encourages fashion. Paris clearly remains the capital in which styles are consecrated."

Simply, to every fashion season comes Paris. It is a magnificent melting pot that makes it possible to discover designers of dozens of nationalities. To French insiders, nobody can compete with their catwalks, and believe that other cities' "fashion weeks" are too nationally-oriented and focused on connecting budding brands with the big luxury names. To them, Paris is where collections creatively coalesce and are balanced between cutting-edge creative and straightforward need-to-sell, satisfying both trend scouts and department stores buyers.

These "made in France" designs are also exported all around the world. Despite the French domestic consumer market being on the decline, foreign trade and exports of Parisian ready-to-wear have seen non-stop growth since 2010. Overall sales are up 3.4% in 2012 over 2011, reaching 2.65 billion euros.

Better yet, the European Union is no longer the biggest market calling for French products, though it still represents 49.3% of exports. U.S. consumers are snapping up 28% more French fashion goods (235.7 million euros), followed by Japan and Hong Kong, which saw an astounding upsurge of 40% in 2012. London may enjoy the current title of World Fashion Capital, but the French are beating them at the cash register by over 10%.

These same experts also note that French fashion may be vulnerable on a completely different level. "More than anywhere else, Paris really encourages stylistic diversification," says Mocho. "But there is a question about whether it is an adequate source of creativity itself, a place where new fashion ideas are born. New York, Milan and London are particularly dynamic right now, and Paris

L'Wren Scott Spring Summer 2014 Collection, London



Burberry Spring Summer 2014 Collection, London



Roksanda Ilincic Spring Summer 2014 Collection, London

must vigorously support the design industry and simultaneously redefine what it means to have a true 'French touch.'" Though certainly known for luxury labels like Dior, Louis Vuitton, Balenciaga, Lanvin, Chloé and Céline (to name a few), few Parisian designers are at the helm. French Christophe Lemaire is at Hermès and Hedi Slimane at Saint

Laurent are among the exceptions, but the country is being challenged country to create a more supportive contemporary environment.

Two young Paris designers are making their mark. Guillaume Henry at Carven comes to mind; and Isabel Marant is enjoying skyrocketing popularity abroad, without ever having been backed by a major group. Her secret is striking the perfect balance between creativity, originality and wearability, all in an unmistakable style that's part Parisian, part casual chic.



Burberry Spring Summer 2014 Collection, London


Another of Paris' strengths lies in its array of young brands, a superior strike force in women's fashion (such as Maje, Vanessa Bruno and Zadig & Voltaire), accessories (Jérôme Dreyfuss is the darling of American stars, Sarah Jessica Parker the first among them) and menswear is a booming business.



L'Wren Scott Spring Summer 2014 Collection, London

With these labels as locomotive, the train of French fashion could pick up speed and steam full force into emerging markets like Indonesia and South America, by adopting a strategy proven by many up-and-coming foreign designers. One example is Yohji Yamamoto, who is presenting a more creative upmarket line in Paris and reserving her "Y's" label for the Japanese market.

Some say the trick to recapturing Parisian glory is a nimble openness to international influences, without compromising the deft French eye for beauty. "As these trends takeoff, we expect digital chatter and media coverage will reflect Parisian gains on the rankings report," says Dr. Paul Payack, head of the Global Language Monitor and widely considered the top word wonk on the planet.

Will Paris regain its crown in 2014? The only person who knows the answer is Payack, who will release *Fashion Capital* during February's Fashion Week in New York. *Vive la France!* (and all fashion designers everywhere). 



Preen by Thornton Bregazzi Spring Summer 2014 Collection, London.jpg

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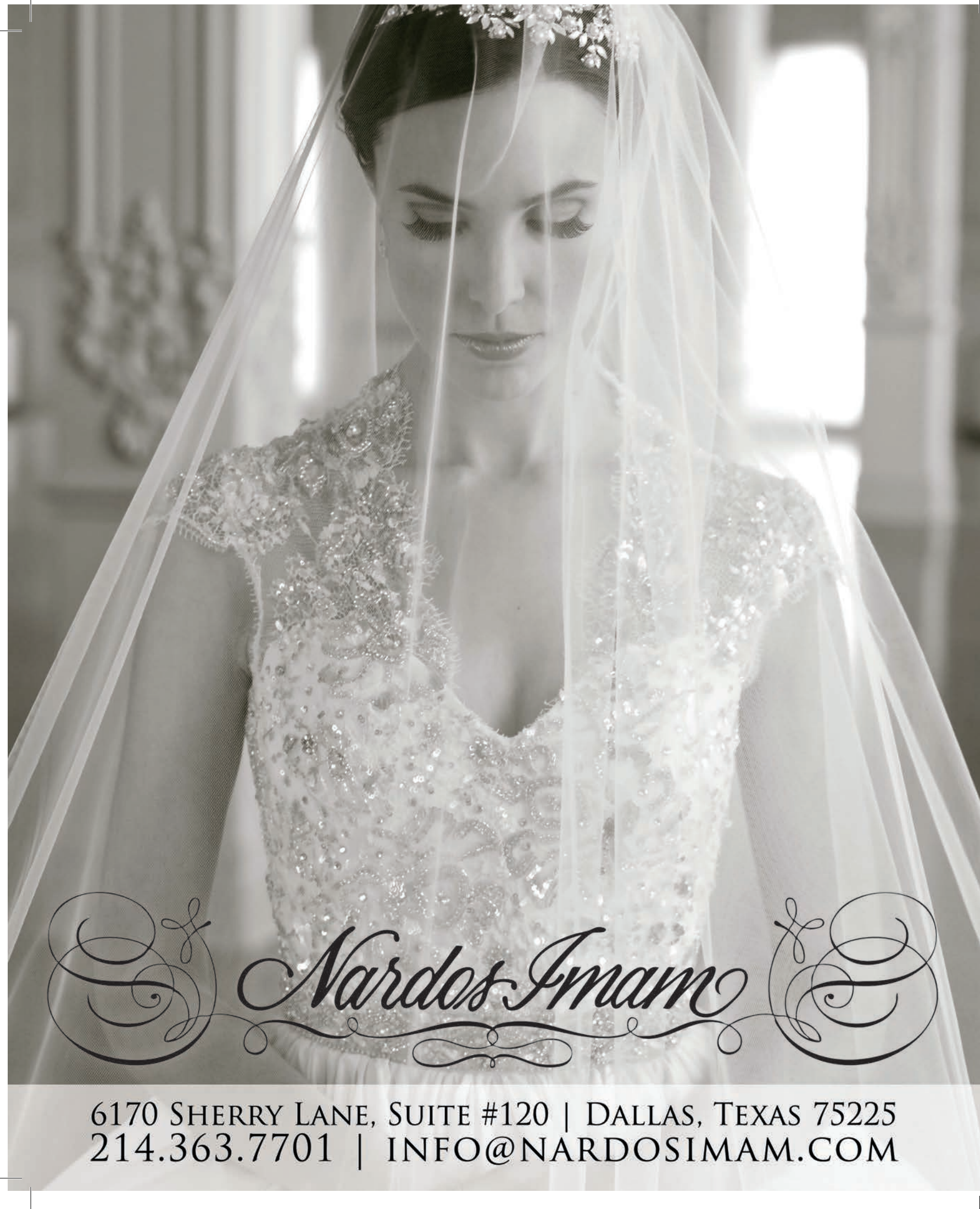
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SEAMS LIKE OLD TIMES



Vintage Balenciaga gowns, 1950s

Creating true personal style means incorporating vintage pieces into your wardrobe. The vintage advantage? All it takes is a sharp eye like **Austin-based vintage expert and retailer Masha Poloskova** who shares her secrets on how you can make collecting vintage clothing into a way of life.



Vintage silk Halston silk chiffon gown with matching stole, 1970s

AS A BUYER AND OWNER OF BOUTIQUES CARRYING HIGH-END vintage clothing, I often am asked, “Why wear vintage?” My response is always a resounding, “Because there is magic in each piece.” Every article of clothing or accessory tells a story and has its own unique history. Dressing in vintage clothing is a way to connect us with the past and also gives us a chance to redefine and breathe new life into a garment.

If you already wear vintage, you will certainly never arrive at a party dressed in the same outfit as another guest. It also ensures that an overly envious friend cannot rush out and purchase your fabulous frock. In my experience, the women who wear vintage are as varied as the styles themselves, but there is one common thread between them: they view their personal style as an art form.

My personal closet contains, what I would consider, three types of vintage pieces: wearables, rescues and collectibles. Wearables are items that immediately

work in my wardrobe and need little to no tailoring. When you try on a piece of clothing that fits, it is practically begging to be worn. Then there are times when shopping that I find myself on a rescue mission. Not long ago, I came across a tattered '20s flapper dress with an amazing beaded embellishment and my instinct was to save it from deteriorating on the hanger. Lastly, there are some items in my closet that are too precious to wear, like my delicate, silk, 1930s floral dresses, or my collectible designer pieces such as my '70s bell-sleeve Pucci gown. They are works of art with impeccable construction and I take great pride in archiving and displaying them in my closet. Whether it is a wearable, rescue or collectible, I select clothing because a certain detail, fabric, or cut speaks to me. Vintage is personal. It is special. One-of-a-kind.

Shopping for vintage to add to your wardrobe is akin to collecting antiques for your home. Look for pieces with immediate draw. If you fall in love with an item, then you know it's worth considering. And, if you are new to vintage, there are

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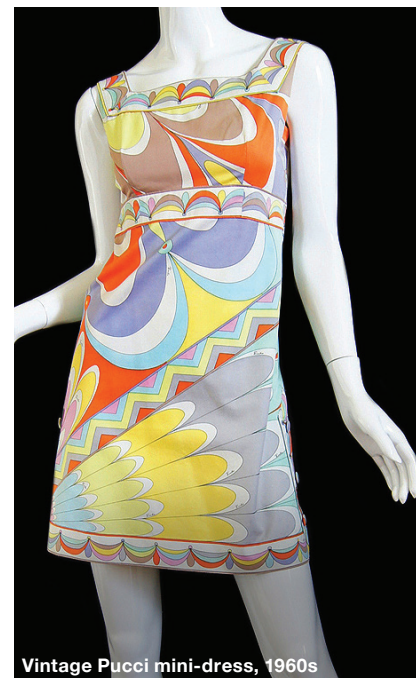
COLLECT

a few things to keep in mind. Look for cuts that flatter your body. Just as you would when shopping for contemporary pieces, go for designs that work for your shape. Try it on. The size on the label may not always reflect modern sizing charts. Consider details and fabrication. High-quality, collectible labels like YSL, Chanel, Halston, and Alaïa will stand the test of time. For inspiration, a wonderful resource to peruse is an enormous collection of vintage is 1stdibs.com. The website features curated pieces from hundreds of vendors across the country and you can search by designer. It's like shopping in a fashion history museum.




Vintage Valentino silk evening gown, 1995

While it may be unexpected, vintage is also a great way to incorporate current trends into your wardrobe. Nearly all fashion trends are reinvented from decades past. Previous good design inevitably influences the forthcoming seasons. Take for instance the crop top that has popped up everywhere this past year. The crop top was popularized in the 1980s and was a trend that carried on, into the 1990s. Historically paired with low-rise jeans or flouncy skirts, designers have modernized the look by using fresh colors,



Vintage Pucci mini-dress, 1960s

prints and fabrications like hairpin lace or neoprene, and paired crop tops with high-waisted trousers or pencil skirts. Finding innovative ways to wear a classic vintage piece is one reason I will always love being a part of this industry.

The exceptional thing about vintage is that there is a finite amount of clothing from any given decade. Fortunately, with every decade that passes, we will be given another era of vintage fashion. With time, fashion forgets and what's old is new again. 

Simon G.



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**HEIRLOOM EARRINGS**

Elizabeth Locke designed these dainty "Pink Pegasus, Goddess & Moon Intaglio" pendants to look heirloom-worthy. They are made of 19-karat yellow gold and Venetian glass (gold hoops are sold separately). \$1,550. Availability and photo courtesy of NeimanMarcus.com

CHOO SHOE

A pointed-toe pump is an absolute must for spring. Another must-have...? Pink. These "Addison" suede d'Orsay pumps in sorbet by Jimmy Choo have you covered on both fronts. \$575. Availability and photo courtesy of SaksFifthAvenue.com

**SWEET SPECS**

Check out these feminine and fresh frames by Cutler and Gross. A perfect subtle accent for your face. \$470. Availability and photo courtesy of Net-A-Porter.com



TOUCH OF Pink



Pink can be polarizing. You tend to either love it or hate it... I am definitely in the *love* camp. Pink is pretty, feminine, and flirty, so expect to see all shades of pink this spring, from fuschia to blush. Here, be inspired by these fresh and modern pink pieces, hand-picked by **our very own San Antonio stylist dynamo Erin Busbee...**

LACE PERFECTION

This lace pencil dress by BluGirl is ladylike, sophisticated and incredibly versatile. You can wear this elegant dress to so many different events. \$905. Availability and photos courtesy of LuisaViaRoma.com

**REGAL SEAT**

This classic and elegant "Marquise" chair gets a bold and bright makeover in the exclusive, paisley print fabric by Valbella. \$5,775. Availability and photo courtesy of Roche-Bobois.com

**CLEAR & CLEAN**

I am not a skincare expert, yet I am definitely a fan of the compact Clarisonic "Mia" Skincare Brush. The company touts it will remove more makeup, reduce dry skin, oily skin and blemishes and leave skin looking smooth. \$125. Availability and photo courtesy of NeimanMarcus.com



TAKE A BOW

This blush, silk-chiffon bow collar from Yves Saint Laurent will easily elevate a white button-down shirt from simple to sophisticated. \$390. Availability and photo courtesy of Net-A-Porter.com



MIX AND MATCH

Add a pop of color to your living space with this plush pink, down-filled, jacquard accent pillow from Missoni Home. Mix and match it with other prints, textures and colors for maximum impact. \$275. Availability and photo courtesy of Net-A-Porter.com



HEAD TURNER

Houston-based fashion designer, Elaine Turner, designed this elegant and effortless piece... the "Luca" leather, accordion clutch in blush taupe. \$450. Availability and photo courtesy of ElaineTurner.com



VISION IN PINK

You will be an ethereal vision in Lanvin's Grecian, liquid jersey, pleated gown in rose. The belted waist can highlight your tiny waist or create a waist, if you don't have one. \$4,550. Availability and photo courtesy of NeimanMarcus.com



EYE CANDY

Timeless and elegant. This pink, mother-of-pearl and diamond "Stella" ring by Ippolita, definitely belongs on my hand... and yours. \$995. Availability and photo courtesy of NeimanMarcus.com

VERY PRETTY IN PINK

Dior's polish in "pink champagne" is perfect for the blushing bride or for you ladies who want just a hint of color on your hands and feet. \$24. Availability and photo courtesy of NeimanMarcus.com



ACTIVE ACCENTS

On trend are sporty details in clothing and accessories like the black mesh panels and exposed zipper in this beautifully tailored ponte "Denise" dress by Victoria Beckham. \$1,895. Availability and photo courtesy of Net-A-Porter.com



ADD SOME SPARKLE

Pair the "Ariel" pink sequined mini skirt by Trina Turk with a chunky knit for a modern and trendy daytime look. \$268. Availability and photo courtesy of JulianGold.com



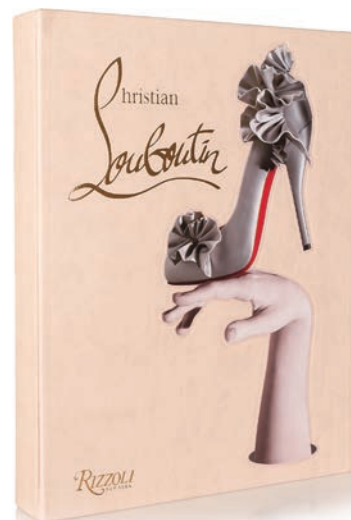
SORBET STRIPES

Your classic, striped, boat-neck sweater gets a makeover in bright and pale pink. Wear the "Charter" sweater from J.McLaughlin with white shorts or jeans for a crisp, chic, springtime look. \$125. Availability and photo courtesy of JMcLaughlin.com



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Object D'Art? It's Yours...

How do you handle the challenges of today's etiquette dilemma? ***Our Ms. Modern Manners, Sharon Schweitzer*** rides to the rescue with answers to pressing conundrums like inheritance wishes, forgetting names, host gifts, and awkward run-ins with a former spouse.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

My mother-in-law, who is getting up in years, has recently asked what my husband might like to have of hers after she is gone. How should we answer the next time she asks?

Dallas Inheritance Inquisitor

Dear Inquiring Inheritor,

Questions like this from a loved one are often difficult to absorb, despite the fact that his mother is asking. Make no mistake that she is sincere or she would not pose this delicate question. She has come to terms with her own mortality. Her son may respond by advising her that he will ponder her question, respond soon and then tell her the truth with grace and in person. If he has always loved her Japanese chair, silver tea set, or his father's desk, then let her know how much it would mean to have something that would remind him of the family. Also, you may want to gently recommend her to consult an estate-planning attorney to make a will. She can make a special bequest or written list of cherished possessions with intended recipients. Storing this with her will for safe keeping goes a long way toward reducing future family squabbles. She is blessed to have you both.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

I seem to keep running into my former husband at social gatherings. We stay friends because of the children, but I'd rather not converse in a social situation with him. How do I take the high road, yet avoid the awkwardness?

Riveted in River Oaks

Dear Riveted and Riled,

This situation may be a continuing déjà vu if your circle of friends continues to be the same people you were friends with when you were married. The main thing to remember is that your actions will affect how comfortable the other guests feel around the two of you. Do not ignore him when you see him for the first time at an event. If he's standing close enough to be included in conversation, greet him cordially. You may make small talk for a few minutes, then excuse yourself. Do not make a scene of trying to avoid him for the rest of the evening. If he does happen to join a conversation you're involved in, smile and greet him by name. Be cordial, but not overly friendly, since you are not obligated to smother him with overt kindness.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

Please settle an argument. My husband thinks I over give. I always bring a host gift, give gifts for birthdays and holidays, write a thank-you note for gifts received - the things we were taught to do. Am I over doing it or clinging to a be-a-good-guest-be-a-good-host system that it seems might be going out of style?

Curious in Alamo Heights



Dear Curious As All That,

The basics of etiquette were designed by society to create order and respect for other people. As time goes by, some have observed that the basic social graces seem to be ignored, or even forgotten. You, however, seem to have done neither. A gracious guest brings a host or hostess gift and gives a gift for a special occasion such as a birthday or holiday. Thank you notes are de rigueur. These social graces are not considered 'over giving' unless the gifts are inappropriately flamboyant. While it may seem that our society has become more relaxed when it comes to manners, make no mistake - the social graces will not go out of style.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

My architect and his long-term life partner of 15 years have eloped to another state where gay marriage is legal. How should I acknowledge that the next time I see them?

Honesty in Old Enfield

Dear Honest Engine,

With joy and happiness, of course. Acknowledge their marriage with the positive expressions of love. "So happy for both you and your partner" "Congratulations gentlemen" or "Best wishes for a long and happy marriage" are all good ways to acknowledge this gay marriage. These newlyweds will be delighted to receive gracious wishes of future happiness. I encourage you to treat this newlywed couple as you yourself would hope to be treated as a newlywed. 🍷



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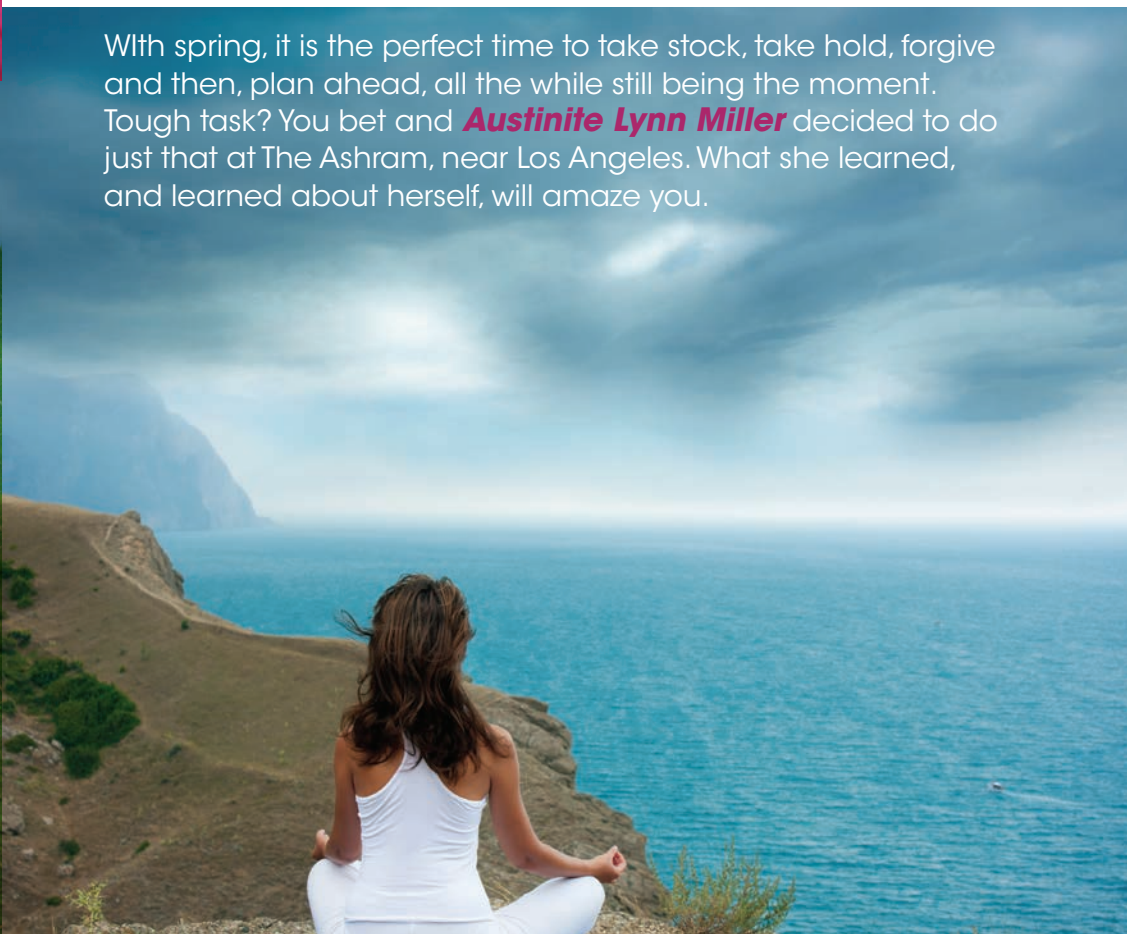
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DESTINATION: *SOUL SEARCH*

With spring, it is the perfect time to take stock, take hold, forgive and then, plan ahead, all the while still being the moment. Tough task? You bet and **Austinite Lynn Miller** decided to do just that at The Ashram, near Los Angeles. What she learned, and learned about herself, will amaze you.



Goddess on the grounds at the Ashram



Swimming gear

REMEMBER THE OLD WHITNEY HOUSTON SONG *WHERE Do Broken Hearts Go?* The song in which she ends up back in the arms of her lover? My heart was breaking and the arms of my lover had gone far, far away. So where, you ask, did I decide to take my broken heart? I took it to the Ashram for some New Age healing. And, none too soon.

I think of the Ashram and visions of Julia Roberts in *Eat, Pray, Love* come to mind. The days of silence in the presence of your guru guiding you to inner peace. And, in a short time I might feel at one with the Universe and before I know it, it is time to pop off to Bali and fall in love again. As if.

Goodbye, Julia Roberts. Hello, West-Coast style boot camp known as the Ashram near Calabasas, north of Los Angeles. Established in 1974 by Catharina Hedberg and Anne-Marie Bennstrom, The Ashram has grown into one of the world's most famous New Age boot camps. The likes of Oprah Winfrey, Jane Fonda, Dan Aykroyd and Amber Valleta are among the alumni of guests who return year after year to have their butts gently kicked. With good reason. They go to grow like I did.

FORWARD MOTION

The Ashram is located in the Santa Monica Mountains above Malibu and the program consists mainly of daily hikes and healthy vegetarian meals. Getting back to the land. Every week 14 guests show up to go through the life-changing

program that begins daily at 5:30 AM. Monday is aptly named Mellow Monday, although I'm not sure what is mellow about being awakened that early and then embarking upon a 10 mile (mostly up hill) hike. Even with the huffing and puffing, I can't help but smile in the midst of this beautiful landscape and the sweeping views of the ocean. Two and a half hours in, we stop for a bathroom break at the only portable facility we will see all week; it is strictly bushes from here onward. Then it is off for another half-hour climb, straight up hill before we get to stop for a snack that consists of coconut water, sliced apple dipped in sea salt and slices of banana.

At the end of the hike we are cold, sore and famished. The van climbs the winding road back to the Ashram where we are met with lunch at the communal table. It is a salad topped with beet and sunflower pate'. I am guessing if it is called pate', it must be good and so, I dive in. All of the flavors seem to explode in my mouth and I cannot seem to get enough of this salad. The reds, greens and yellows of it looks as good as it tastes. All the food here is vegetarian and most of it comes from the organic garden on the property. Portions are small, yet somehow it is enough to sustain you and give you the energy needed for the next days 10 mile hike and classes that follow.

After lunch there is a bit of free time. Our group consists of two best friends from Connecticut. A wealthy businessman from Miami. An enthusiastic young man from Texas that was sent by his parents. Another wealthy businessman



Welcome at the Ashram



Buddha



Hiking gear



Yoga Shala

HOW TO DO THE ASHRAM

The Basics: A week at the Ashram costs \$4,800 and includes all meals, activities and massages. Single rooms can be requested, but most share accommodations. The Ashram typically books six months in advance but it's worth putting yourself on the waitlist, in case of a cancellation.

When to Go: Spring or fall is best, considering the long daily hikes in the Santa Monica Mountains. Avoiding the hot summer months is advisable.

from Dallas and two athletic divorcees from Northern California. Along with several returning clients who would count this visit as number 12 or 13; they can't seem to get enough of this place and the wonderful staff who run it. Add to the list me and my broken heart and you've got 14 people sharing eight rooms and four bathrooms. This is like camp for grown-ups. Most people share the minimal, clean and comfortable rooms (there's nothing spa-like or posh about this place) although, there are a few single rooms and they are handed out on a first come, first serve basis.

Some of the guests will relax their weary muscles in the hot tub on the patio, or perhaps, opt for a shower and a power nap before the first class of the afternoon begins. There is yoga, a barre class, TRX and strength training as well as a much-needed afternoon massage. It is the massages, along with the classes, that put my body back together each afternoon and readied me for the next day's big hike.

UNPLUGGED PARADISE

The rules clearly state there are no cell phones, computers or electronics to be used in the common areas and most of the guests seem to respect this rule and find a quiet place outside with reception to connect to the outside world from time to time. For me, it is a blessing that reception is limited and the use of electronics is discouraged. I came to get away from the buzz of the outside world and focus on healing my broken heart and finding a much-needed new perspective on life. I needed to look inward and quiet my mind and the Ashram provided just that.

The Ashram offers a fresh perspective on healthy living, good clean food and exercise, but it also inspires a new perspective mentally. They hug me when needed and pamper my soul in a way that will allow me to reach out to the Universe with what I really want from life.

The staff at the Ashram is encouraging and this is not just a job for them, it is a way of life. They care about the guests and want to see us succeed. Cat, the founder, in particular, is incredible. She really cares and gives everyone her attention. She is filled with positive energy, insight, and makes each person feel special and at home.

What I lost in one week at the Ashram, was 17 inches and 2lbs. Others lost as much as 12 lbs. and 24 inches. What I gained, which was much more valuable, was a clearer perspective on eating healthy and taking care of myself. That I am actually capable of hiking 10 miles a day and that it is ok to be in the back sometimes. The view is wonderful, I still get where I am going, and I truly had time to spend with myself along the way. I have learned that my heart may get broken again, yet in order to find true love we all have to be willing to put ourselves out there in the first place, sometimes again and again and again.

While I may not be back in the arms of my lover, like Houston ended up in her song, I have found my way home and I am looking forward to the journey ahead, thanks to a new found perspective at the Ashram. 🌿

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SPRING RENEWAL

Spring has sprung and there is something in the air. Is it a touch of spring fever? Or just a vigor that was dormant during winter? Here **acupuncturist and health expert Andra Millian L.Ac.** weighs in on how to put more, well, spring in your step for the coming warmer months with proper nutrition and a healthy cleanse.

THERE IS THE TERM WE ALL KNOW OF AS BACK IN THE saddle. In this case, the saddle seasons are not a reference to herding livestock, but the best times of the year to cleanse and recharge our body's energy. For many centuries, Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) has emphasized the importance of cleansing one's system during seasonal shifts. The mild saddle or 'in between' seasons of spring and fall occur between hot summer vacations and the cold, winter holidays.

Here in the U.S., major cleansing periods for our homes, cars and bodies tend to be when the weather is mild. Traditional Chinese Medicine states that spring is the time of re-growth and renewal after a dormant winter season. Meaning, we soften, prepare and clean our liver/metabolism in order to wander freely and easily about in our world. In the fall we harvest and gather for the storing season of winter. At this time our lungs and *Wei Chi* (the TCM equivalent to our immune system) should be strong against the cold and our storage vessel (the colon) should be cleaned and prepared.

Spring is the time of the year most related to the liver and gallbladder, the 'wood element' according to Traditional Chinese Medicine. The deep cleansing of spring focuses on rejuvenating and cleansing the liver, the *super filter* of our body. Think of it in automotive terms, as a liver filter change and tune-up to keep your body's engine and transmission functioning at its peak. Detoxifying our bodies gives us a break from unhealthy stress, environmental toxins, residue from household and garden products, cosmetic products, pesticides and unhealthy additives that we come in contact with or ingest daily. Many people report experiencing increased energy, a better mood, more restful sleep, clearer skin, loss of excess weight, and more comfortable digestion.

A short, seasonal cleanse can give your body a break from the effort it expends digesting rich food and instead, diverts some of that energy into expelling toxins and healing itself. Wonderful benefits take place after eliminating stress. Reducing toxic intake and making small, yet important improvements in our nutrition through cleansing allows us to reduce the likelihood or severity of allergy symptoms and degenerative illnesses.

Traditional Chinese Medicine suggests that sour flavored foods are best for cleansing and boosting the biliary system. Adding a tangy taste to one's diet this season like pickled veggies, sour kraut, lemons and limes can be beneficial in moderation. Spring is the time for new awakenings and sprouting of buds, so visit your local farmer's market for the greatest variety of freshly sprouted foods

to add spice and color to salads, or try growing a sprout garden on your kitchen windowsill.

According to traditional Chinese lore, green is the color of spring, so add a lemony vinaigrette to a crisp, fresh salad or a tablespoon of super green food to your breakfast juice and feel instantly refreshed. Super green foods are rich in antioxidants and phytonutrients, available in powder or liquid form, are a quick way to get our daily veggie supply. Green foods help create a disease-busting alkaline environment in your body and Dr. Mitchell May developed the wonderful Pure Synergy products at UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles available at TheSynergyCompany.com. Liver boosting supplements like silymarin (milk thistle), dandelion, and red clover teas help nourish your liver to keep it clean and working optimally. All are available in the health section of most grocery stores, and come prepackaged, or as loose teas.



During your saddle season cleanse, it is also important to incorporate more gentle forms of exercise. Some of these more beneficial forms are also stress-reducing such as Tai Chi, yoga, walking outdoors, swimming and Pilates. Many people consider massage, acupuncture, and chiropractic to be therapeutic as well.

A word of caution against extended, medically unsupervised water fasts or beginning any cleansing program without professional medical supervision: it is highly recommended that all cleansing be under the supervision of a licensed health care practitioner. Frequently, doctors work with Chinese Herbalists, Naturopaths and dieticians to recommend appropriate herbs and supplements based on specific health concerns to maximize the best possible outcome for those who wish to have a successful cleanse experience. Most people do well with cleansing every six months or two times a year, preferably in the saddle seasons. Cleansing more than four times a year, especially for people who are weak, have just had surgery or given birth, can be quite taxing on their delicate systems and is not recommended.

There are many products on the market these days to help cleanse the colon or biliary tract. Only use the highest quality pharmaceutical grade products recommended by a health care professional. Begin and end your cleanse gradually and gently with a one to two day period of eating simple foods such as steamed vegetables and broths. Remember to drink lots of clean, filtered water daily throughout your cleansing period. Before you know it, you'll be 'back in the saddle' again and feeling your absolute best. Austin Onsite Acupuncture conducts supervised 10 day seasonal cleanses twice yearly and for more info, visit AustinOnsiteAcupuncture.com. 📍

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Emerging **EMPOWERMENT**

We all create flight-fight reactions to handle situations that arise from an immediate challenge, causing disempowerment. Instead, empower yourself with solutions shared by **Austin-based Resonance Repatterning practitioner, Mary Schneider.**

EXACTLY WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE EMPOWERED? THE traditional definition of empowerment means increasing the spiritual, political and economic strength of individuals and communities. The opposite of empowerment is oppression, or the absence of choice. As long as we are locked into the unconscious repetitive patterns of our own history and that of our family and generational history, we continually threaten our own empowerment.

What happens in our day-to-day existence that threatens or takes us out of empowerment? A victim mentality, co-dependence, relying on coping mechanisms such as alcohol, drugs and tobacco are a few of the ways that people experience disempowerment.

These days, because so many of us are mired in a Sympathetic Nervous System overdrive situation, we constantly try to find external methods to calm ourselves down. Most of these attempts are feeble at best, especially when we engage in behaviors that are designed to distract us so that we can simulate relaxation. When we take ourselves out of the moment we may respond in a disempowered manner.

Here's basically what is happening: we were given a Sympathetic Nervous System to deal with saber-toothed tigers, or threatening situations, at the beginning of our time on this planet. The tiger appears. Our Sympathetic Nervous System is activated and our reptilian brain engages. We move into a fight-flight response. The reptilian brain activates our adrenal glands and they start pumping adrenalin and the cortisol hormone to help us either successfully fight or flee.



What most of us do not understand is that we were also given a Parasympathetic Nervous System that was specifically designed to allow us to move into deep relaxation and rejuvenation immediately upon either successfully fighting or fleeing. Unfortunately, when the Sympathetic Nervous System has been activated over long periods of time we lose our ability to automatically move into the Parasympathetic Nervous System. The result? Even though we may want to, we cannot relax.

This is one of the primary reasons why our culture is steeped in the coping mechanisms like alcohol or drugs. We are, albeit unsuccessfully, trying to simulate the

Parasympathetic Nervous System response that is no longer available to us. And, in the process of trying to simulate that response, we are disempowered.

Why? The simple answer is that when we are engaged in most of these kinds of distracting behaviors, they take us out of the present moment. When we are not present we are either stuck in old emotions from past experiences, or we are throwing ourselves into the future to try to control the negative outcomes we imagine might occur. The negative outcomes we imagine in the future are commonly referred to as *negative predictions*. Many of us live in our negative predictions about the future. As a result, we live in the fantasy of our future lives that cannot exist and avoid being in the present moment. Thus, again, this creates being disempowered.

At other times, a present negative experience triggers a similar past experience and we are thrown back into the past with its itinerant negative feelings and emotions. Much of the time we experience these negative feelings and emotions as actually occurring in the present and generally creating negative consequences.

We erroneously think that this is all happening in the present when actually it is not. We then respond to the present upsetting situation as if it were the past one sometimes with inappropriate emotional responses that may cause pain to ourselves, and others. *This* is disempowerment.

The solution? Empowerment happens when we react to a present situation with a present and, therefore, appropriate response. We are unencumbered by unresolved, triggered feelings and

responses from the past or negative predictions about the future. Our responses in this scenario will almost always be appropriate, measured and loving to ourselves and others.

Responding from empowerment in the present moment gives us access to all of our faculties and to everything we know – on a conscious, intuitive and sub-conscious level. As a result, we respond in a proactive, positive way as opposed to a reactionary, knee-jerk manner that may be problematic. Responding from empowerment in the present moment will give us the strength to handle most of the situations in our busy lives effectively and with compassion. 🌟

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FINE DESIGN

In the always-evolving world of technology, exemplary design, exemplary design always rises to the top of what people want, and often, even before they know they want it. In a new feature, **Lance Avery Morgan**, *searches the world over to bring you design that can inspire your everyday life.*



Suit Yourself

These shark-detererring wetsuit by Shark Attack Mitigation Systems (SAMS Technology™) were developed using materials that have a specific contrast, color, size and shape according to the position of the wearer in the water, at the distance a shark is likely to sense the wearer. The great news is that your wetsuit will no longer make you look like a seal.¹

Cover-Up

Real life *Mad Men* era art director George Lois created legendary *Esquire* magazine covers that still resonate soundly today.²

Glass Act

Recycling gets chicer every day. Check out the WesternTrash products that are based on reused wine and soft drink bottles, each carefully crafted into stylishly functional products for the home.³

Hollywood Regency Redux

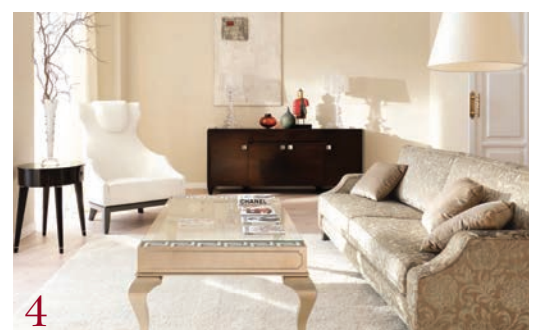
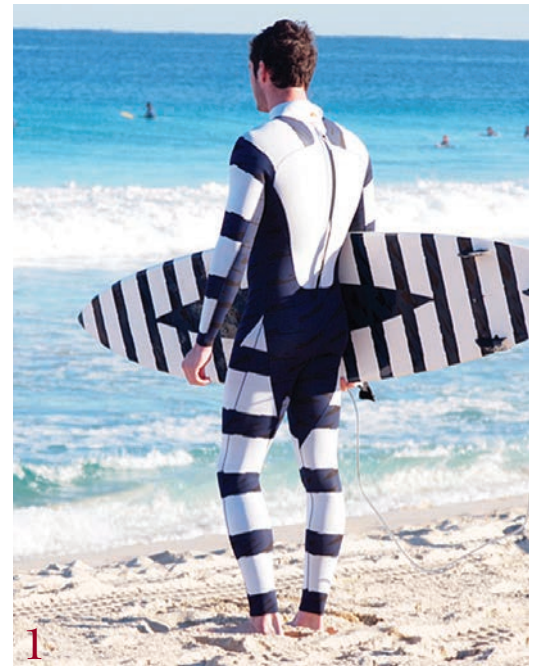
Italian-based Sylva embraces Old Hollywood glam in a curated line of furniture that raises any room's style quotient through the roof.⁴

Wright On

When in doubt, think Wright, who was rarely wrong. In the design world, anyway. Rediscover the allure of Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater home, masterful architecture that is timeless.⁵

Pencil and Paper

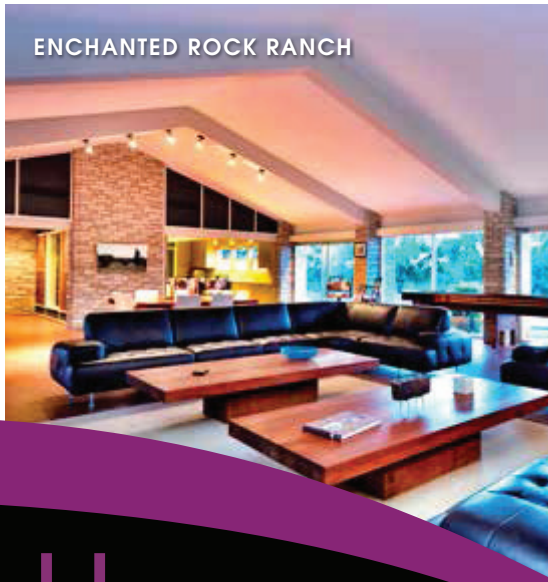
Design company Fifty Three debuted the app *Paper* that turns your iPad into a sketch pad. Going one step further, it created the *Pencil* stylus for designing that is formed like a carpenter's pencil that has been used by builders and creative types for centuries. \$59.95.⁶



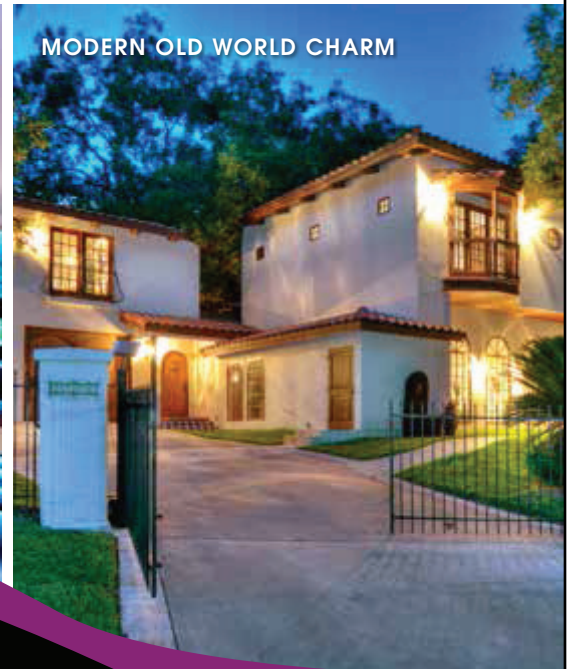
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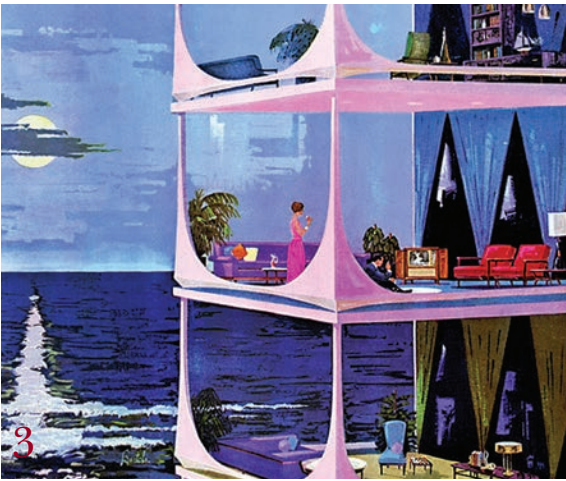


Just Hanging Around

German lighting maker Schneid Enlightenment has created a collection of eye-catching lamps made from sustainably-sourced poplar, ash or oak wood. Inspired by the cone of the French pine, this Zappy Ash model casts a very warm light, which is emitted through the high-quality veneer panels.⁷

Push-Button Living

Vintage Magnavox TV and Hi-Fi set ads represented imaginative forward-thinking Utopian living that continues to inspire.⁸



Time Is On Your Side

Bulbul, a Danish-designed watch brand debuted the Pebble watch that is not symmetric, square or round like watches traditionally are. About \$440.⁹

Mirror, Mirror

This Mingling Slats mirror from Horchow has added depth and interest. 42" Dia. x 2"D. \$395.¹⁰

Dance Fever

This sustainable energy floor is the fully recyclable, modular floor system from the Netherlands-based company, Energy Floors can be integrated into a wide variety of spaces. The energy it generates can be used to power the floor's LED lights or other applications, or it can even be fed into the electricity grid.¹¹

Brown Preps Mainstream

Revolutionary menswear designer Thom Brown's new Black Fleece line for Brooks Brothers tempers his ultra slim and short silhouette for the modern man.¹²



12

11

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Confessions Of An Heiress

FOR A VERY LONG TIME, I THOUGHT THAT RICH PEOPLE WERE basically mean. And because of that point of view I decided that poor people must be kind. That was not my brightest moment. So, I decided that in order *not* to be like my parents and in order to become kind I therefore must also become poor. This unconscious decision created a path I set in motion for my life as a young girl.

I rebelled against the idea of marrying for money, God forbid, which is what my father recommended. I resisted that encouragement and yes, I was not aware for many years that I was actually creating a poverty consciousness in every area of my life. I created poverty in all my relationships by resisting anyone who was filthy rich. I never really thought about money too much and always expected it would be there. Some ambiguous place called “there” is where I thought money would be. Looking back, it was blind faith and also, not my brightest choice.

Up until 2008 I never really worried about money. I always had plenty and I managed a home, sent two children to private schools, lived within a budget and established an art gallery. I also contributed to my favorite charities and community all without any emotional support from family. In fact, I thought I was a self-proclaimed *super girl*.

THE NEW REALITY

Then, in 2008, two things occurred. First, the worldwide economy crashed and my portfolio suffered. Second, my unclear and unhealthy 97-year old father died, leaving behind a chaotic mess. There more wills than you can count on two hands, and just about as many lawyers involved. I was stunned, angry and confused and unfortunately, I did not have a family lawyer, or even a business advisor that I could trust to call on to give me advice. So, I asked a friend. Lesson learned? Never ever, ever ask a friend to help you make a decision about whether to challenge a will or what lawyer to use.

Before I could steady myself and get off this rollercoaster I was deep into a lawsuit, and not for the reasons I desired at all. It was all so bizarre, unreal and hideous. At 50 years old, I was shocked to find out that suddenly I had *less* money and no substantial inheritance coming from Daddy. I had fallen victim to a situation that I had never imagined was possible. Going through the gamut of emotional extremes, I recognized I had a choice to sink or swim. Wow, that was one of the most liberating results of this family dispute.

I had been correct all my life, my knowing was spot on about each and every family member. In truth, I was not liked nor cared for at all, and had I not challenged the will I would have been run over and left for dead. Once I decided to make lemonade out of all the lemons that were thrown my way, life became easier and I began to allow myself to perceive exactly how courageous I truly was. That is how I survived an abusive childhood filled with years of neglect and lack of emotional attention. I was now able to move out of survival mode and into creating a future. What did that mean to me?

WHAT WILL PEOPLE THINK?

I was no longer subject to what society thought about me. I had destroyed the lies of my past and was now able to create a future based on the person I chose to be. I chose to be

Money does not buy happiness, but it does buy opportunity. What if you thought your life had opportunities that it did not and you had to create a new consciousness with money? That’s exactly what **Houstonian heiress Curry Glassell** learned after some difficult life lessons. Here is her story that is meant to inspire with the fact that we all create our own next chapters, as told to Lance Avery Morgan.

not what my parents and their peers demanded of me. This was a great new beginning for me; more than a New Years resolution but the beginning of a new life. I decided to educate myself about money and what it took to create and generate it. I also became aware of the fact that I made some very unconscious decisions and choices. Which left questions for myself. What choices did I have? What talents did I have that I could create and generate a life I wanted? What did I desire my life and future to look like? All these quandries empowered me to keep going, keep choosing and keep questioning everything and everyone until I received more information to creating a happy and kinder life.

I began to take inventory of the people in my life and what was truly valuable to me about living. A handful of people arose out of the mud of that situation and it became clear to me that I indeed had wealth and resources I had not recognized beforehand. I asked myself *what would I like the next 50 years of my life to look like, to feel like, and to be like?* At one point I wrote my own epitaph. It was an amazing exercise and I suggest you try it. My mentor Gary Douglas used it in one of his classes.

It went like this: Epitaph for Curry Glassell. *Loving mother, trendsetter, philanthropist, alchemist and social entrepreneur. She challenged our beliefs and pushed all our buttons. She always had a smile and a hug if we needed one. She was beloved and made the world a happier place for all who could receive it.*

How has *your* life affected the world in where you live? How will you be remembered?

Once I gained insight to how my life affected others, it became increasingly easier to create, ask questions and perceive what the future could be. If you could be or do anything what would it be? If nothing was impossible, what could you create? Today I travel the world facilitating classes called *Right Riches for You*, a specialty class from Access Consciousness. I meet with clients from the wealthy elite to the average Joe and I’ve found the root of most money issues seems to be the same, no matter who you are.

CURRY CONFIDENTIAL

Lance Avery Morgan: Your financial story has been well-recorded in newspapers and the outcome was not, unfortunately, what you expected. Tell me about the strength you summoned and how that helped you survive the ordeal.

Curry Glassell: More than anything what kept me going was acknowledging that my knowing was correct all along. Not that I was right and everyone else was wrong, but that I had to choose what was true for *me*. Being willing to stand up and fight for myself was another way I changed this from an ugly confrontation into a possibility for growth, even if it was not a popular choice to make. No one teaches us to have our own back and this was my learning to do that the hard way. The news didn’t present my case in this light, but that is what it was for me.



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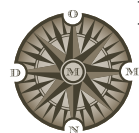
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SAN ANTONIO * DALLAS

LAM: Your father created a financial empire from the energy business, but little was left for you to change the world and enhance his legacy. So that means you have to create your own—what do you recommend for anyone in a similar position?

CG: In truth it was my grandfather that actually laid the foundation and created the empire that was given to my father. He actually always said that he got lucky. My father expanded and continued what my granddad began with some great contacts and lots of money to help him along.

For anyone in a similar position, I recommend first to set your priorities. The next key thing is to recognize that you need to educate yourself in every area in which where you are unaware with money or business. People in my position, and especially ladies, unfortunately, are often told they won't have to worry about these things and are kept in the dark. Not a comfortable position to be in when all of a sudden your security blanket is pulled away. For me, I took classes, read books, researched online, and asked questions of every successful person I know. I found that becoming more aware and conscious about money was as valuable as my investments. I recommend to start with being honest with yourself about where you are and exactly what your life costs to run. Then create at least three targets for where you would like to be in 3, 5 and 10 years in the future. I have many other ideas which will be available in my book called *Becoming Your Own Financial Guru* within in the next few months.

LAM: Money is an energy. What do you recommend for people to create a more succinct financial energy for themselves that will, in turn, positively affect others?

CG: I recommend to begin by putting 10 percent away from every penny you receive, every month, and when you have the equivalent of six months of living expenses in the fund then you will begin to perceive feeling less stress and more at ease with money. This also helps because a lot of people are living hand to mouth and willing to make money, but not actually willing to just have money. This is a great way of teaching yourself that you can have money.

LAM: Success at the highest level is to be shared. Describe the way you now share your success?

CG: Success to me is about changing lives and opening doors for people to *know that they know* so they can create the life they have always dreamed about. That begins with asking a question. The question always empowers and the answer always dis-empowers. I would invite anyone to begin to ask questions about what success means to them exactly and what does money mean to them ... and what does wealth mean to them exactly. For me I share my success by inviting others do to as I have done and learn from the choices I have made.

LAM: Fast-forward 20 years. You're telling your grandchildren one piece of advice about family and money. What would that be?

CG: The advice would be that their point of view does - and will - create their reality. I would encourage them to not depend on anyone for money, educate themselves, and do whatever it takes to find out what having their own back is like. I would encourage them to discover and pursue where their own confidence is, to have a look and see which arena they could be an expert in or what area do they love and have so much fun exploring. I would empower them to know they are capable of creating anything, that nothing is impossible, and it is up to them to decide how that looks. 📍

2014 Real Estate *Circle* Awards



2014 Pinnacle Award winners for sales production of more than \$30 million in 2013: Jennifer Shemwell, Denise Graves, Phyllis Browning and Judy Dalrymple



2014 SuperStar Circle Award winners for sales production of more than \$15 million in 2013: Ann Van Pelt, Patti Nelson, Kevin Best, Claudia Nolen, Janet Heydenreich, Ellen McDonough and Judy Barnes

Right: 2014 Star Circle winners for sales production of more than \$10 million in 2013: Carey Morgan, Leslie Brown, Robert Marshall, Kim Bragman and Ann Jones



Star Circle winner John Austin



SuperStar Circle winners Lynn Boyd and Judy Dunlap



2014 Platinum Circle winners for sales production over \$5 million in 2013: Debbie Garza, Mary Wofford, Jon Hess, Stephanie Tullis, Luann Butler, Kathy Vise, Carole Tubbesing, Tiffany Stephens, Monette Kroeger, Jo Lewis, Charles A. Beever III, Melanie Wilson, Kathy Seale, Lisa Grove, Nancy Oberman, Craig Browning, Tracey Lammert, Sue Rodarte, Jennie Hampton, Katy Stephens, Adrienne Frost and Kathleen O'Shea. Center: George M. "Mitch" West. Far right: Theresa Hines, Karen Trueblood, Colleen Casey and Janice Tisdale



CLASSIC, With A *Twist*



Casablanca Dress



Flagship Madison Ave. Store



Powell Jacket

IT IS NO SECRET THAT THE TIMELESS SENSIBILITY OF J. McLaughlin's American sportswear focuses on style, not fashion. *The Society Diaries* caught up with the brand's founders, Kevin and Jay McLaughlin, to learn more about their aesthetic and not surprisingly, we learned how being simply elegant suits them best.

Simply put, the brand's designs are reflective of how their customer lives, plays, and travels. This point of view extends to the locations of the company's store portfolio as well. Case in point: the brand's Texas stores. "Dallas, Houston and San Antonio are cities known for their discerning clientele," says Jay. "We wanted to expand our brand presence and built a loyal following through trunk shows, as well as our website. Once we secured the right sites, we knew the stores would be a shopping destination. Since our Dallas and Houston stores opened in July, 2013 they have been performing beyond expectations and we have every reason to expect San Antonio will do the same."

How did it all begin? Some 35 years ago, the brothers, then in their twenties, fueled by their passion for great style in good taste and flush with seed money from some ventures into historic Brooklyn brownstone renovations, decided to build a very different kind of house. Their dream: a clothing establishment designed to present their take on classic American sportswear and accessories in elegantly comfortable surroundings. To make their version of Saturday shopping, they looked to site their first shop on a stretch of Manhattan's Upper East Side that was home to a pair of "the post-Ivy League set's" favorite watering holes.

Focusing their vision on a rich tapestry of iconic American classics, they re-imagined the fundamentals to create a look and brand uniquely their own. The J. McLaughlin customer is someone who has a strong sense of his or her individual style, who demands designs that are timeless yet modern, quality materials, and attention to detail. Most of all, the J. McLaughlin customer loves colors and



Field Jacket



The Heritage Trench



Martinique Skirt

patterns, which is a part of the brand DNA. That is certainly evident in their most current offerings.

“We were inspired by our signature color, blue,” says Kevin about their spring 2014 collection. “We’ve always liked the color blue because it connotes trust, loyalty, serenity. Plus, we’ve always loved summers at the beach and the particular shade of blue which captures the sea, sky and swimming pools.” He continues, “When designing a season, we always look at how we can tweak our most-loved pieces to give our customer freshness. This spring we added a classic shirtdress in silk crepe de chine in prints that give it a fun, yet still classic vibe.”

Patterns and abundant color are also an integral part of the spring collection. “For our 1960’s inspired Swing Dress,” Kevin continues, “we’re offering it in a vibrant stripe inspired by our love of upholstery fabric and textiles that is just

brehtaking. Mixing patterns is also part of our design aesthetic and our customer really responds to that. For example, we’ve tweaked our popular Biscayne Tunic with a contrast collar this season. For men, we’re thrilled to take our colorful shirting in a new, more modern direction. Our new Trim Fit Shirt comes in patterns that wink at tradition, in a more streamlined fit we feel is very of the moment.”

The J.McLaughlin design aesthetic also extends to the brand’s stores. Residential in feel and reflective of the surroundings, they evoke a comfortable sense of always having been there. While at the same time, their inimitable bespoke décor (no two are alike) encourages customers to linger awhile and browse. Discover the J.McLaughlin collections and legendary customer service in person at in Houston at 1963 West Gray, in Dallas at the Plaza at Preston Center, and in San Antonio on Broadway in Alamo Heights. [S](#)



Swing Dress



Sophia Dress



Weekend Sweater

PROMOTE

North Star *Gives*

Eight Women and Men
Who Inspire Change To Be
Honored Thursday, March 20th
Photography by Greg Harrison



Left to right: Katy Flato, Jason Cox, Dr. Vivian Bucay, Louis Barrios, Di-Anna Arias, Peggy Brink, and Suhail Arastu (Beth Webster-Wright, honoree not pictured)



NORTH STAR GIVES, PRESENTED BY NORTH STAR MALL in partnership with Saks Fifth Avenue honors people who crusade for public good, 6 to 8PM., Thursday, March 20, in the Saks Fifth Avenue wing. The eight women and men being recognized this year include Suhail Arastu, Musical Bridges Around the World; Di-Anna Arias, Time Dollar Community Garden and Food Pantry; Louis Barrios, Viola's Huge Heart; Peggy Brink, Care; Dr. Vivian Bucay, Respite Care; Jason Cox, Marrow Me; Katy Flato, San Antonio Book Festival, San Antonio Public Library Foundation; and Beth Webster-Wright, The San Antonio Furniture Bank.

Now in its fourth year, the annual spring event celebrates champions of change who affect our community in a rich kaleidoscope of ways. Whether driven by personal quests or just a sincere desire to make a difference, the

people honored set inspiring examples of the meaning of volunteerism and advancing the quality of life for others. "North Star Gives is an opportunity for the community to gather together in celebration of good works and good causes and proves that the spirit of giving in our community is stronger than ever," says Michelle Robertson, senior marketing manager for North Star and The Shops at La Cantera.

Guests will enjoy a reveal of chic fashions by Saks Fifth Avenue, music, cocktails and light hors d'oeuvres, plus guests will have a chance to win fabulous prizes from North Star retailers. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$30 at the door (cash only at the door). All tickets sold directly benefit the charity from which they are purchased. For ticket information and event details visit Northstarmall.com, or visit the websites of those charities mentioned.



The 2014 Honorees Are:

Suhail Arastu, Musical Bridges Around the World

Founded in 1998, Musical Bridges is a cultural and educational non-profit focused on creating one-of-a-kind, multicultural performances by world-class, internationally renowned classical, jazz, and ethnic folk musicians and performing artists, for the benefit of the public and at-risk youth, while fostering San Antonio's reputation as a cosmopolitan cultural centre, promoting tourism and development. This year Musical Bridges will produce more than 15 concerts at San Fernando Cathedral, Trinity University and in private residences, and another 25 concerts in economically disadvantaged Title One middle schools, reaching up to 25,000 at-risk youth. To support this cause visit Musicalbridges.org.

Di-Anna Arias, Time Dollar Community Garden & Food Pantry

Time Dollar is a local community garden and food pantry that is based on the concept that everyone has something to give and can become involved in a network of exchange. The 501c3 organization on the city's West side of San Antonio uses its limited resources and volunteers to provide Precious Minds parenting classes, weekly boxes from the food pantry for families in need, Spanish literacy classes, El Jardin de La Esperanza Community Garden, Back to School Exchange for school supplies and uniforms for children in need and nutrition awareness and fitness instruction. This is a small non-profit organization with a HUGE will to help the individual within its community. To support this cause visit Satimedollar.com.

Louis Barrios, Viola's Huge Heart

Viola's Huge Heart Foundation is a 501c3 that regularly offers full scholarships to a private high school to deserving young people. These students have excelled academically and have shown exceptional character, their only challenge is that they have limited financial resources. To support this cause visit Violasheart.org.

Peggy Brink, Care

Founded in 2009 by Lloyd and Peggy Brink, CARE rescues dogs and cats deemed unadoptable and places them in happy, permanent homes. Working with the City of San Antonio's Animal Care Service, the nonprofit group educates the community on the vital importance of becoming a foster home to save a life. CARE has been able to build a large foster care network that is not only saving lives but creating a trend on the importance of opening your home temporarily to a dog or cat that deserves a second chance. To support this cause visit Caretx.org.

Dr. Vivian Bucay, Respite Care San Antonio

Respite Care provides services to enhance the stability and the nurturing opportunities of families caring for a loved one with a developmental disability. Respite Care is a place for parents and families to regroup from the constant pressures of care and caring. It is a place where their children – who don't quite 'fit in' by some definitions – can participate, be cared for and be celebrated for

the individuals they are. Respite Care has also become a safe haven for children who have been victims of abuse or neglect. Encompassing a series of services and programs administered by professionally trained caregivers in multiple locations throughout San Antonio, Respite Care offers full-service child daycare, an emergency shelter, foster placement and part time day out programs. Most programs are for the child with special needs, as well as siblings. To support this cause visit Drvivianbucay.com or Respitecaresa.org.


Jason Cox, Marrow Me

Marrow Match is committed to raising awareness about the realities of marrow donation in order to grow the registry with viable, educated and dedicated donors. It works to connect a donor for every patient in need by educating and encouraging the community to join the registry and to fund its outreach. Marrow Me's goal is to match a donor for every person seeking a bone marrow match. To support this cause visit Marrowme.org.

Katy Flato, San Antonio Book Festival, San Antonio Public Library Foundation

The annual San Antonio Book Festival (SABF), a program of the non-profit San Antonio Public Library Foundation, is a new, major, cultural event held at the Central Library and Southwest School of Art that is free and open to all. SABF's mission is to unite readers and writers in a celebration of ideas, books, libraries and literary culture. Book lovers get up close to renowned writers at engaging readings, panel discussions, book sales and signings. The lineup of 70 acclaimed national, regional and emerging authors represents the best, most recent books that publishers are offering. There is something for everyone as topics range from politics and fiction to poetry, the environment and the South Texas border. For schools, families and younger festivalgoers, there are children's book authors, interactive bilingual areas, art activities and entertainment. A donation, at any level, will help San Antonio grow as a literary destination and strengthen our vibrant literary community. SABF is April 5, 2014. To support this cause visit Sapl.org/festival

Beth Webster-Wright, The San Antonio Furniture Bank

The San Antonio Furniture Bank is a non-profit whose mission is to provide free furniture to families struggling with poverty and other severe life challenges. These families are financially unable to furnish their own homes to even a minimal standard. Founded in May 2012 with an initial goal of helping 25 families, it quickly established roots and in less than 6 months helped more than 500 households. The families served by the furniture bank include the previously homeless, unemployed and working poor, battered women and children in retreat, immigrants, individuals with mental or physical disabilities, victims of fire, robbery, and natural disasters, etc. They partner with other non-profits to identify those most in need in the community because no one should have to sleep on the floor. To support this cause visit Sanantoniofurniturebank.org. 



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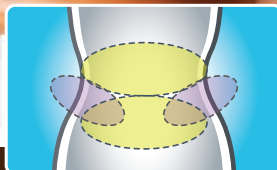
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*Photo by Layla E. Bowers, MD

MALIBU'S *Magic*

John Paul and Eloise DeJoria Host Glam Party At Their Malibu Estate

By Rob Giardinelli Photography by Silvia Mautner

THE SCENE: "SUCCESS UNSHARED IS FAILURE" IS ONE OF tycoon John Paul DeJoria's most known quotes... and that success was on full display on a beautiful Saturday afternoon at their Malibu estate as the Patron and Paul Mitchell founder along with his wife, Eloise DeJoria, graciously welcomed close family members, friends, and employees for an afternoon of holiday fun festivities.



Arlene Van Dyke, Eloise DeJoria, Dick Van Dyke and John Paul DeJoria



Jene' and Ed Brown & Julie Solwold



Alan Thicke and Tanya Callau



Suzanne Somers and Lisa Rinna



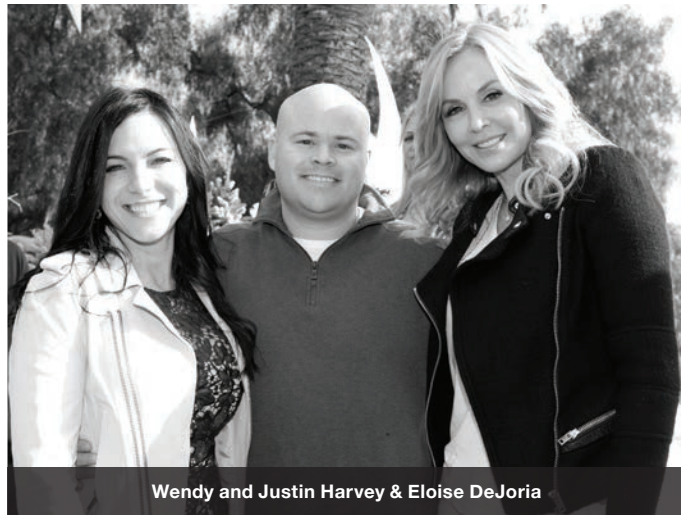
David Foster



Fran Drescher, John Paul DeJoria and Cheech Marin



Andrew Rice, John Paul and Eloise DeJoria and Eddie Safady



Wendy and Justin Harvey & Eloise DeJoria



Harry Hamlin and Robert Davi



Jane Seymour



Sophie Jones and John Anthony DeJoria





Dr. Phil and Robin McGraw,
John Paul DeJoria and Alexis DeJoria



Peter Fonda



John Paul DeJoria, Lance Avery Morgan,
Eloise DeJoria and Rob Giardinelli

THE VIBE: Upon arrival, partygoers were greeted and took pictures with the gracious hosts, and were offered an assortment of signature Patron, Ultimat and Pyrat beverages. Once inside, the lighthearted essence continued as guests were treated to a variety of experiences guaranteed to satisfy children of all ages. Some sledded down the slope, overlooking the Pacific Ocean, that contained several tons of snow trucked in just for event. Taking a photo with Santa, dressed in white to match the snow, was a favorite, while others dined on a delicious array of fine cuisine and desserts across the grounds. On the way to the children's area, two live reindeer enhanced the holiday spirit. For those wanting a keepsake of this special day, guests were able to create t-shirts from any one of several logos to take home with them. Another gift was a DVD of Eloise's latest film, *Angel's Sing*, another gesture to ensure this party will be remembered fondly by those lucky enough to attend. 📺





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Tina Kahlig is the local winner of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Woman of the Year 2013 Campaign raising more than \$150,000 for Cancer research. As the 2014 Candidates prepare for their campaign Tina looks forward to another exciting year for LLS as she now takes the role of mentor to the new candidates.

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VENITIAN SPECTACULAR

Women Of Distinction Celebrates With 27th Annual Winter Ball

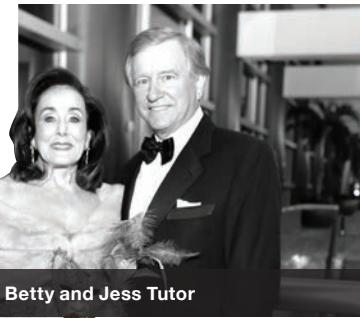
By Jennifer Roosth Photography by Kim Coffman and Priscilla Dickson



THE SCENE: A HIGH ENERGY CROWD OF notable guests enjoyed Venice in Houston. Wintery weather and divine masks were the perfect combination for the 600 guests who gathered at the Hilton Americas Hotel for Carnevale di Venezia, the 27th annual Women of Distinction Winter Ball.

THE VIBE: The Venetian Carnival theme kept the evening robust, with jugglers, mimes and masks. An opera singer serenaded entering guests as they enjoyed the Italian waterway scenery as they moved to their tables which donned with candelabras with glittery and feathered masks. The over-the-top live auction included custom earrings by Franco Valobra, a trip to Cabo, and a Mercedes-Benz 2014 S-Class sedan (thanks to the Mercedes Benz of Greater Houston event sponsorship). After dinner and the auction, the dance floor was packed well into the night.

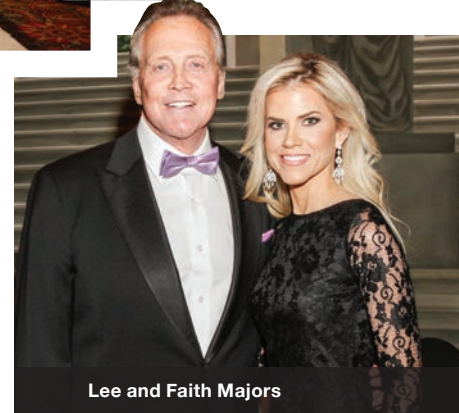
THE CAUSE: Benefiting the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation, the Winter Ball chaired by Denise Monteleone and Franelle Rogers and honorary chairs Betty and Jess Tutor brought in a record breaking \$830,000 for the cause. Twelve ABC Channel KTRK 13 "Women of Distinction" who have supported the community through their tireless volunteerism walked the runway to be honored included La Patronessa Straordinaria Rosanette Cullen, Jane Page Crump, Winell Herron, Penny Loyd, Joella Mach, Bobbie Nau, Roz Pactor, Rachel Regan, Lisa Simon, Nancy Strohmmer, Beth Wolf, and Beth Madison as the Women of Distinction Ambassador. 📍



Betty and Jess Tutor



Beth Madison and Henry Florsheim



Lee and Faith Majors



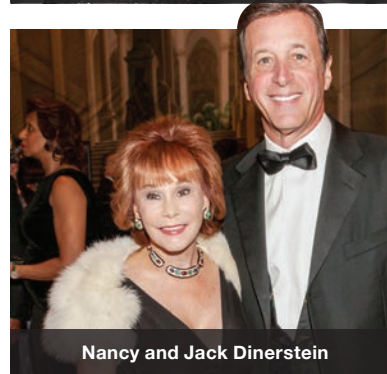
Katina Kearns



Joella Mach and Nancy Strohmmer



Patti Murphy and Elizabeth Stein



Nancy and Jack Dinerstein



Penny Loyd and Commander Mark McGinnis



Jerry and Lisa Simon



Carolyn Mann and Debby Leighton



Hans and Nancy Strohmeyer



Claudia and Jan Rask



Faith and Lee Majors, Zoe and Tony Buzbee & Bridget Cowley and Damon Blakemore



Gary and Caroline Kenney



Cynthia Peatross & Beth and Ed Wolff



Joella and Steve Mach



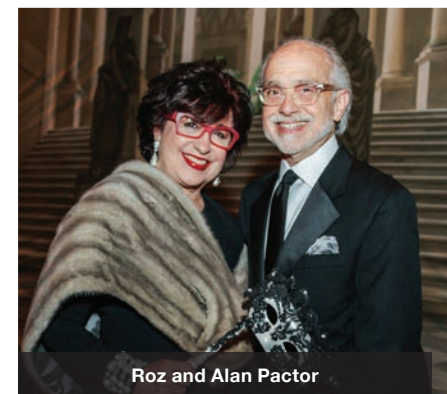
Denise Montelone, Michelle Stoddard & Franelle Rogers



James and Jane Page Crump



Rose Cullen with ballerinas



Roz and Alan Factor

Palace Pleasures

Debutante Ball Journeys To The Past in Historic Downtown Hotel

By Ellie Leeper Photography By Greg Harrison and Paul Overstreet

THE SETTING: A CHILLY WINTER NIGHT in downtown San Antonio set the stage for "An Evening at the Winter Palace." The historic St. Anthony Hotel was home to an extravagant debutante event to honor The German Club debs Elizabeth Marie Arnim, Charlotte Frances Cooper, Caroline Buchanan Greehey, Blake Whitlow Sealy, and Eliza Shelby Smith. Hosting the ball were the parents of the debutantes: Susan and Tommy Arnim, Susanne and Louis Cooper, Cheryl and Sid Greehey, Tammy and Lawson Walden and Susan and Lon Smith.



Shelby Smith, Susan Smith, Caroline Greehey, Cheryl Greehey, Charlotte Cooper, Susanne Cooper, Blake Sealy, Tammy Sealy Walden & Elizabeth Arnim and Sue Arnim



Abby Frank, Ellie Hamm and Elliott Robinson



Carlos Garcia, Bill and Louree Greehey & Sid and Cheryl Greehey



Sarah Wetzel and Mary Lawson Walden



Caroline Greehey, Charlotte Cooper, Elizabeth Arnim, Shelby Smith & Blake Sealy



Meredith Hilliard, Kylie Wade, Caroline Henton, Blake Sealy, Braeden Brock, Allee Harman and Laura Werline



Meredith Hilliard and Kimberly Foster



Brady Blonkvist and Lisa Blonkvist



Hannah Flato, Evan Golden, Sarah Nunley and Spencer Lewis



Ashley Cooper, Jake Everhart and Vickie Cooper



Rachel Ledbetter and Virginia Huffman



Trevor Lovelady, Phillip Massari, Charlie Fuhrmann and Mitchell Dan



Gayle Youngblood, Julie Speer and Dore Koontz



Kari and Robert Morrison



Lane Sealy and Erik Green



Miles Matthews and Corrine Daniel

The Vibe: Illusions Rentals transformed the newly renovated historic hotel interior into a White Russian winter wonderland, and Danny Cuellar of Trinity Flowers offered his holiday touch to the décor. The event featured a 16-foot ice bar with ten-foot ice carvings that replicated the landmark domes of Russia. The ballroom was twinkling with white, icy branches, six ornate chandeliers, a snowy white dance floor, and white plush leather seating for the guests to lounge in between dances. In the Fabergé lounge, Anthony Buzzini wooed guests with soft jazz on the grand piano as they sipped beverages at the surrounding bar, adorned with several three-foot tall Fabergé eggs. The after party took place on the 10th floor of the St. Anthony's romantic Starlight Terrace, while guests gazed at downtown's skyline and danced until dawn.

THE CAUSE: Steeped in centuries-old tradition, The German Club was formed in 1880 by a group of young men who had originally named themselves the "Ascension Club" and the name was changed in 1890 to the San Antonio German Club in honor of the popular ballroom dance of the era, "The German." For the past 133 years, the San Antonio German Club has presented its debutantes during San Antonio's social season. The 2013-2014 President is Clyde Johnson IV and the Chairman of the Opening German was Paul Rohlfs Jr. 🍷



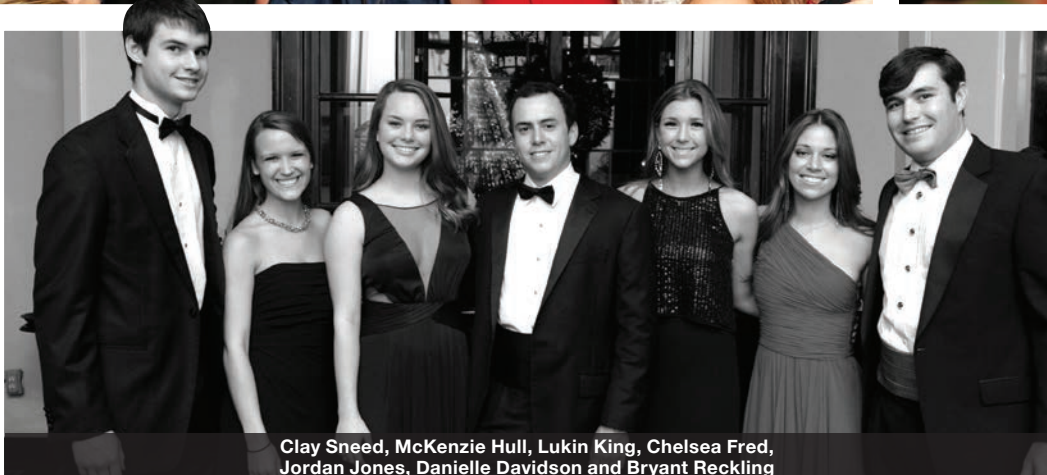
Allyson Cavender, Southy Cavender and Stuart Cavender



Marguerite Mannix and Francie Mannix



Debbie Gonzalez and Chip Young



Clay Sneed, McKenzie Hull, Lukin King, Chelsea Fred, Jordan Jones, Danielle Davidson and Bryant Reckling





Emily Arnam, Abbey Strunk, Brittany Brown, Elizabeth Marshall and Abbey Brady



Susan Smith, Shelby Smith and Lon Smith



Mike Warren, Matt Cohen and Parker Jessee



Suzanne Cooper, Zac Cooper, Charlotte Cooper and Louis Cooper



The Piano Bar



Patrick VanBuren



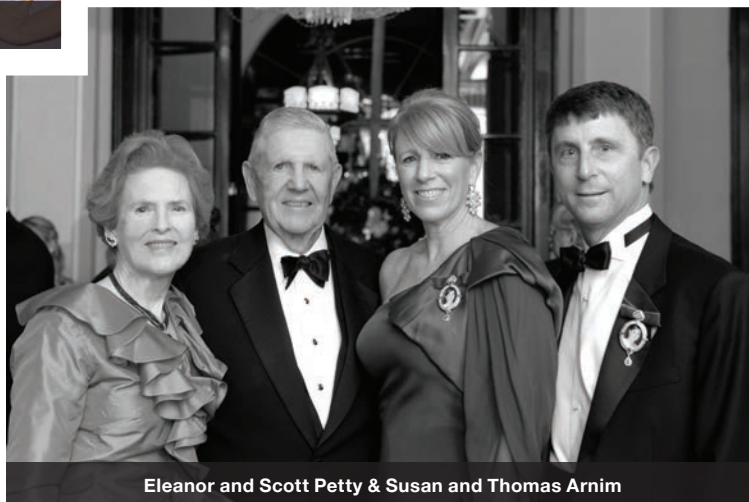
Patrick Lindley, Virginia Boswell, Overton Thomson and Olivia Buckner



Cynthia Scofield, Caroline Weathers and Sarah McSween



Martha Fuhrmann and Beth Smith



Eleanor and Scott Petty & Susan and Thomas Arnim



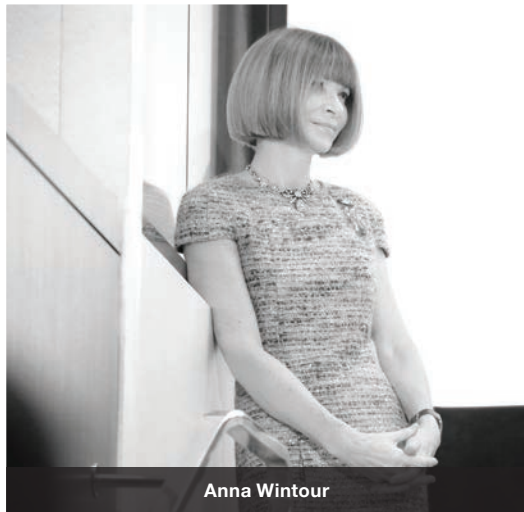
Channeling CHANEL

The Neiman Marcus Award For Distinguished Service Awarded To Karl Lagerfeld

By Rob Giardinelli Photography by Chanel and Stephen Karlisch

THE SCENE: NEIMAN MARCUS CEO KAREN

Katz, along with her co-host Jim Gold, president of Neiman Marcus specialty retail, outdid themselves recently at a private luncheon at the Neiman Marcus flagship store in Dallas. The Who's Who list of attendees included fashion luminaries like *Vogue's* Anna Wintour, Andre Leon Tally, Lynn Wyatt, and Gene Jones, who were all present to honor Karl Lagerfeld, Chanel's artistic director. He became the first-ever two time recipient of The Neiman Marcus Award For Distinguished Service In The Field Of Fashion.



Anna Wintour



Nancy Rogers

THE VIBE: The impeccably dressed crowd created a lively and fun atmosphere. The guests, as beautifully decorated as the ceremony and luncheon areas, were on hand to celebrate Lagerfeld's brilliant body of work.

THE CAUSE: The Neiman Marcus Award For Distinguished Service In The Field Of Fashion is given to those who have contributed to the world of fashion in a substantial way that influences the public. Over the years over one-hundred fashion icons have received this award including Coco Chanel, Princess Grace of Monaco, Estée Lauder, Bill Blass, Greer Garson, Oscar de la Renta, Giorgio Armani, and Richard Avedon. 📍



Kelli Ford and Gene Jones



Marjorie Harvey and guest



Karl Lagerfeld and Karen Katz



Lynn Wyatt and Andre Leon Tally



Luncheon venue at Neiman Marcus

RANCH STYLE MEANS



ENTRANCE • SOUTH TEXAS



Tio and Janell Kleberg

South Texas Charity Weekend Dazzles Supporters
By Jake Gaines Photography by Marie Langmore and Doug Smith

THE SCENE: IN SPITE OF THE 'BLUE NORTHER' BARRELING DOWN ON SOUTH Texas and icy roads between Kingsville and everywhere else, almost 300 friends and supporters made their way to South Texas Charity Weekend. At least 75 supporters came from Houston alone.



Gentry Beach, Sgt. 1st Class John Wayne Walding and Donald Trump, Jr.



Congressman R.M. Kleberg, Sr. on the invitation



Preston and Erin Hall



Mike and Joann Cone



Dan Pedrotti, Gary Hall and Celia Dupre'



Cornelius Dupre', John Schiller and David Dunlap



Erin Hall, Ollabelle Hall & Kathryn Beach



Kim Kleberg



Tom Gimple, Beaver Alpin and Mac Northington



Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Conservation Scarf. Limited edition, Hermes of Paris



Janell Kleberg



Red Steagall



Gary and Ollabelle Hall



Peggy and Wayne Hollis



Mark and Lynette Cone, Mike and Joann Cone, Dru and Scott Cone, Chris and Susie Cone



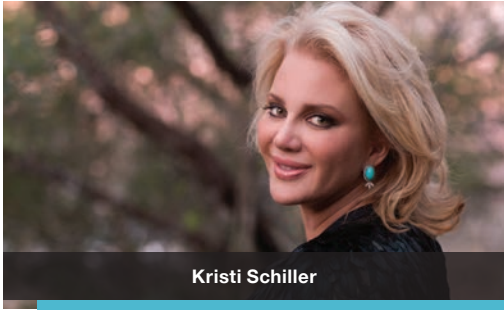
Red Steagall and Rick McCumber



Jessica Elliott



Lynn Gray



Kristi Schiller



R.C. Slocum and Kathryn and Gentry Beach

THE VIBE: The event was magical, with its cowboy flair and Tejano music. The Friday evening reception was held in the home of Janell and Tio Kleberg on the King Ranch, as was the shooting event Saturday and the farewell brunch on Sunday morning. The Artist’s Market, banquet and auction were held Saturday at the Tio and Janell Kleberg Wildlife Research Park, in the conference center named for legendary conservationist, Caesar Kleberg. Auction items included a print from Janell Kleberg’s award-winning book *Waiting for Daylight* and a stunning scarf recently released from Hermès of Paris that depicted beautiful wildlife of South Texas, created by famed Texas artist Kermit Oliver.

THE CAUSE: This charity event held annually supports local health care, wildlife conservation, and the region’s ranching heritage. The event was made possible through generous donations and through the support of the King Ranch. This unique event honors a worthy couple or individual whose contributions to South Texas are “above and beyond.” This year Mike and Joann Cone of Houston were recognized for their achievements supporting South Texas, and especially their support of the 17 scientists whose inquisitive passion is rewarded at the Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute. Active in the energy industry, the Cones and many of their guests understand the need for habitat restoration from basic soils to the native plants growing there. Landowners who attended know that South Texas is the Last Great Habitat for 650 wildlife species that live in or migrate through South Texas. Cone bought worn out farmland and, with the Institute’s help, is restoring it to a wildlife oasis. In fact, for their work in restoration, the Institute recently received the first-ever Environmental Stewardship Award from STEER, an association of the 11 largest energy companies working in the Eagle Ford Shale region. 🌱



Fred Bryant, Gus T. Canales, Bill Colston



Chris Kleberg





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TICKETS & INFORMATION 214.748.8580 DIFFADALLAS.ORG

Masquerade masks highly recommended

DIFFA
DALLAS



Million Dollar *Dancing*

7th Annual Dancing With The Stars Austin Raises A Million Dollars

By Rob Giardinelli Photography by Jeff Lofton, Dale Murphy, John Pesina and David Wheeler

THE SCENE: Recently, on a beautiful, crisp Sunday evening, nearly 1,000 lively guests gathered at the Downtown Hilton Austin to cheer on their favorite VIP's who cut a rug for a very worthy cause, the 7th Annual Dancing with The Stars Austin. The 10 localebrity dance contestants provided those lucky enough in attendance to delve into a "Sweet Escape" where dancers channeled their inner James Bond, brought "Sexy Back" and "Blurred Lines" with "All that Jazz," just to name a few of the evening's production numbers.



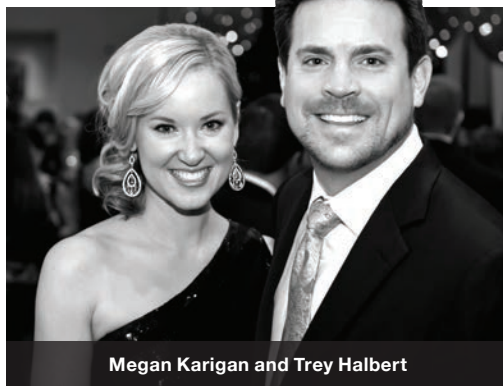
Carol Adams and Alex Winkelman



Mary Tally and Gary McIntyre



Kevin Burns and Sarah Berens



Megan Karigan and Trey Halbert



Matt Stewart and Katie Jaffe



Jerry Albright and Bernadette Carmichael



Klair Van Slyke and Will Hardeman



Gray Hawn



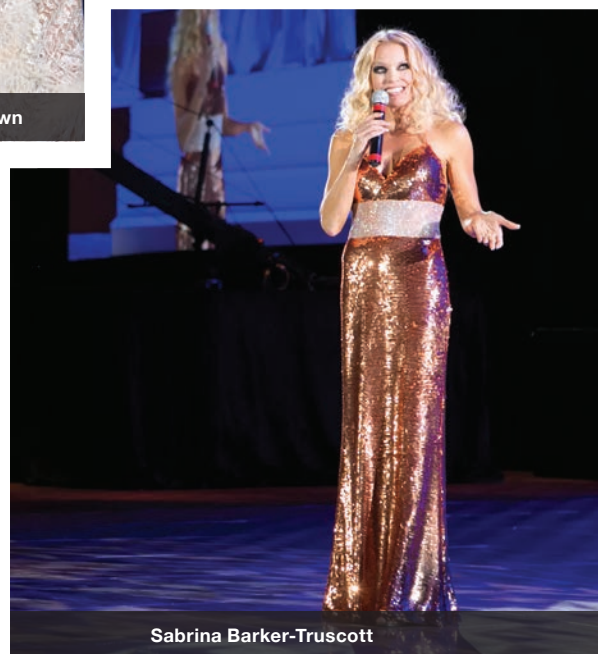
Lauren Dewalt and Matthew Redden



Randy Ferguson and Becky Beaver



Cassie LaMere, Danielle Kress and Erin Jolly



Sabrina Barker-Truscott



THE VIBE: It was classic eclectic-Austin: chic black-tie and formal gowns mixed seamlessly with hip cocktail attire. The pre-dancing festivities included a festive cocktail hour, where several of the dancers came out from behind the scenes to mingle with the crowd. Guests then adjourned into the ballroom for dinner, a special professional performance of "Save the World," and a live auction which featured items such as a 2014 F1 VIP experience, an Aspen vacation, two Luca, Italy jaunts provided by Charles Duggan, and two spots in the 2014 Dancing with the Stars competition. Once the 10 dance performances concluded and the votes were being tallied, presenting sponsor Lexus of Austin raffled off a Lexus ES 300 hybrid. Then the mirror ball trophy was presented to winner Will Hardeman before guests proceeded to the dance floor, partying the night away to the beats of DJ Johnny Bravo.

THE CAUSE: Dancing with the Stars, co-chaired by Carol Adams and Alex Winkleman, raised over a million dollars for the Center for Child Protection, a nationally accredited child advocacy center which provides services to over 2,000 abused and neglected children along with 1,300 adults each year. 📍

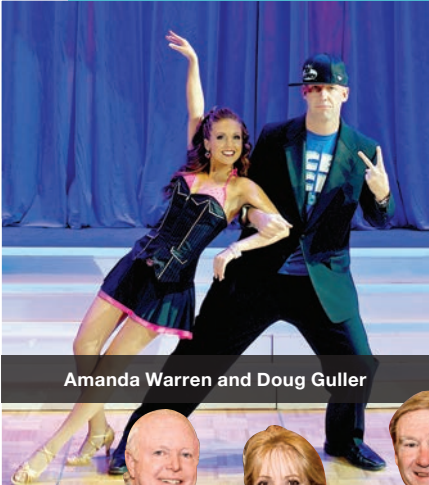
Rowdy Dufrene and Jamie Barshop



Megan Wells and Andra Liemandt



Mike Topel and Abby Argo



Amanda Warren and Doug Guller



Dr. Sneha Shah, Dr. Eva Chou, Dr. Tanuj and Nidhi Nakra, Dr. Ximena DeSabra and Dr John Sabra



Rusty Tally & Susan and Clint Hackney



Michael Torres, Maxine Roberts and Bill Lindner



Taletha Jouzdani and Jeff Jumonville





JORGE L. MENENDEZ
Certified by The American Board of Plastic Surgery
Fellow of The American College of Surgeons
Member of The American Society of Plastic Surgeons
Member of The American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery

M
JORGE L. MENENDEZ, M.D., F.A.C.S.
M

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Board Certified Plastic Surgeon Dr. Jorge L. Menendez understands that treatment does not begin and end with a surgical procedure. The special bond he creates with each patient fosters an unparalleled level of comfort. He believes in frequent follow ups with each person in order to monitor the results over time and ensure the best in health and happiness.

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Tel: 212.744.8787

Prince Of *Chintz*

San Antonio Public Library Foundation
Hosts Designer Mario Buatta

By Ellie Leeper Photography By Greg Harrison

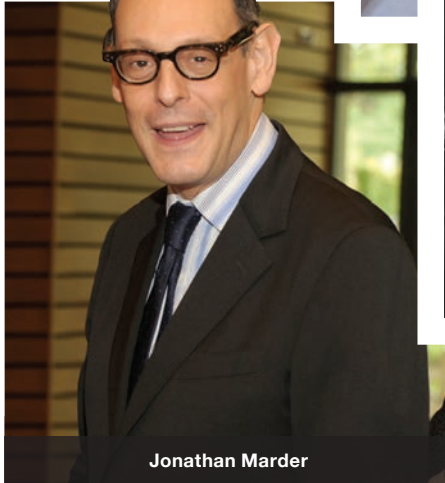
The Setting: The renowned interior designer Mario Buatta was fêted with a luncheon benefitting the San Antonio Public Library Foundation and the theme was "Fifty Years of American Interior Decoration," also the title of the designer's new tome. Presented at The Briscoe Western Art Museum on the San Antonio River, guests lunched and listened as Buatta reflected on his illustrious 50 year career. San Antonio Public Library Foundation's supporters Liece Hollis and Melissa Morgan co-chaired the exclusive event.



Mario Buatta



Melissa Morgan and Liece Hollis



Jonathan Marder



Jill Giles, Alice Foulz and Tracey Bennett



Luci Pitman and Jenevive Zoch



Becky Canavan, Paige Holland and Richard Bates



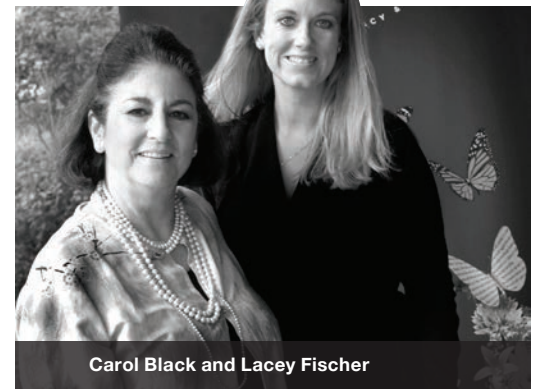
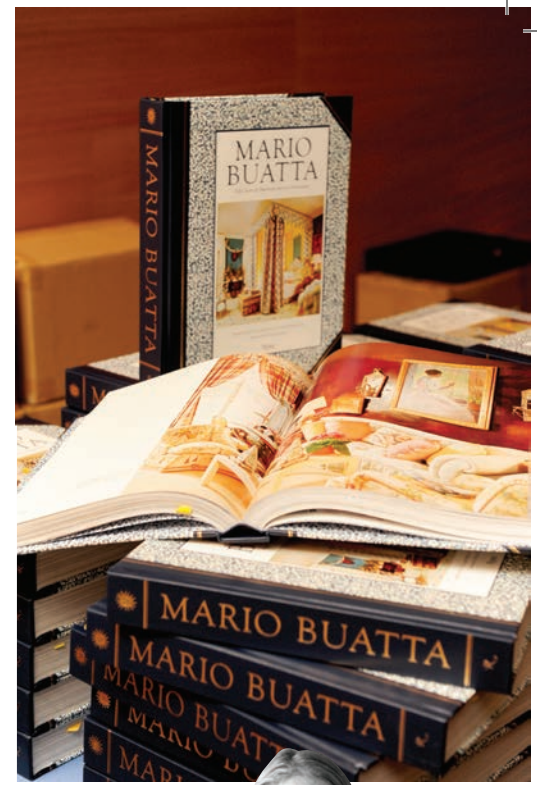
Karen Lee Zachry and Nicole Greenberg

The Vibe: Influenced by the understated elegance of Colefax and Fowler, and the doyenne of exuberant American decor, Sister Parish, Buatta reinvented the English country house style state-side for clients such as Henry Ford II, Barbara Walters, Malcolm Forbes, Mariah Carey, and for Blair House, the President's guest quarters. He is acclaimed for his lavish rooms that layer fine antiques, confectionary drapes and sublime colorations, creating an atmosphere of lived-in opulence - something we Texans can appreciate. Known as the "Prince of Chintz," Buatta shared insights into his process, his own rules for decorating, and personal stories of his adventures along the way. Guests of the luncheon also enjoyed a book signing with Buatta of his latest book, *Fifty Years of Interior Decoration*.

The Cause: The mission of the San Antonio Public Library Foundation is to support the San Antonio Public Library, to increase awareness and to enhance the community's appreciation and use of the library as a vibrant cultural and educational institution. Among the list of several impressive accomplishments for the organization, the Foundation has contributed over \$35 million to improve the public libraries of San Antonio. 📖



Sarah Moore, Anita Archer Allison and Tracy Williams



Carol Black and Lacey Fischer



Leslie Jenkins, Abby Tolin and Vivian Bathie



Connie McNab, Nicola Bathie and Dore Koontz



Candy Bagby, Peggy Pace, Jean Lee and Margie Baird



Star Quality

Her compelling charisma is beguiling to both men and women. Our *It Girl for spring*, with her bewitching beauty and effortless glamour, is **stopping traffic, evoking thoughts and casting spells...** just like her inspiration, Miss Hepburn, did so lovingly in *Funny Face*. Join us as we offer this season's stunning styles to **evoke your own inner movie star.**

Photography by Mark Oberlin
Styling by Zoe Hennessey

Hair by Angel V. Prado using Bumble and Bumble, Makeup by Albert Elizondo using Becca Cosmetics,
Assistant Stylist: Jennifer Lafferty, Model: Anna Crysell, TWO MGMT, Los Angeles, Sitings Editor: Lance Avery Morgan



GREEN MANSIONS

Oscar de la Renta emerald dress, \$5,290, at Saks Fifth Avenue Beverly Hills. Green and yellow quartz one-of-a-kind necklace, price available upon request at Faraonemennella.com. Gloves from PRB Studio Private Collection at Prbpr.com. Shoes by Massimiliano Mugnai, \$312 at Mugnai.eu. Vintage scarf: stylist's own.



LOVE IN THE AFTERNOON

Gown by J. Mendel, \$5300, at Saks Fifth Avenue, Beverly Hills. Earrings by Samantha Wills earrings at Samanthawills.com. Gloves and peacock fan, price upon request, at PRB Studio Private Collection at Prbpr.com.



MY FAIR LADY

Made-to-order silk taffeta ball gown with floral embroidery & Swarovski hand-beading by Anthony Franco. Price upon request at Anthonyfranco-designs.us. Ametrine necklace by Faraone Mennella, \$57,400 at Faraonemennella.com.



TWO FOR THE ROAD

Column dress by Emilio Pucci, \$2850, at Saks Fifth Avenue, Beverly Hills. Pearl earrings by Danielle Stevens at daniellestevens.com. Shoes by Hey Lady \$280.00, at shopheylady.com.





ROMAN HOLIDAY

Dress by Jason Wu, \$3680, and floral coat by Valentino, \$4980, at Saks Fifth Avenue, Beverly Hills. One-of-a-kind pink quartz and citrine earrings by Faraone Mennella. Price upon request at Faraonemennella.com. Gloves by PRB Studio Private Collection at Prbpr.com. Shoes by Emmett, \$650 from Runway Archives & Showroom, at Runwayarchiveshowroom.com. Vintage necklace: stylist's own.



FUNNY FACE

Floral dress by Oscar de la Renta, \$4490, at Saks Fifth Avenue, Beverly Hills. Veiled hat by Arturo Rios. Price upon request at Arturorios.com. Earrings by Samantha Willis at Samantawillis.com. Ring and bracelet by Danielle Stevens at Daniellestevens.com. Vintage pearl necklace: stylist's own.



PARIS WHEN IT SIZZLES

Dress by Chloe \$3995 at Saks Fifth Avenue, Beverly Hills. Isabella necklace and Carlotta cuff by Nissa Isabella at Nissajewelry.com. Shoes by Hey Lady, \$320.00 at Shopheylady.com.



HOW TO STEAL A MILLION

Dress by Emilio Pucci, \$3100 at Saks Fifth Avenue, Beverly Hills. Satin hat by Arturo Rios. Price upon request at Arturorios.com. Earrings by Nissa Maya at Nissajewelry.com. Gloves by PRB Studio Private Collection at Prbpr.com.

SHORE THING

Coastal Abodes And A Weekend in Port Aransas Awaits You

By Ellie Leeper Photography by Tim Burdick, Archival Photography Courtesy Of Port Aransas Museum



Franklin Roosevelt fishing in Port Aransas



Photo by Paul Overstreet



Fishing in Port Aransas, 1940's



Tarpon Inn, 1920's



Photo by Paul Overstreet



Photo by Paul Overstreet



“**T**HERE IT IS. I SEE THE SAND.” THAT IS MY initial response while cruising down highway 361, as we spot the first glimpse of soaring seagulls, rolling sand dunes and green-brown sea grass in the distance: a sign we have almost made it to the Texas coast. We

cross a bridge, navigate winding side roads and roll down the windows to smell the refreshing salt of the ocean. We wave at moseying locals and weekenders, and take note of every residence along the quaint neighborhood streets. One cannot help but notice the vibrant hues that breathe life into the seemingly slow-moving and restful weekend destination. The purple, blue, green, pink and turquoise add luster to the vivacious array of nautical small town spirit, home to Texans from both near and far whose fond memories on the island span generations.

As we arrive with an SUV packed full of our trendiest totes and tastiest treats, our hosts graciously welcome us into their beach chic coastal home and onto their romantically illuminated patio for a twilight libation of choice: a glass of chilled Pinot Grigio or a ‘Coronita,’ a baby-sized Corona. As we take in the ocean breeze and chat about the sights to see in their beloved Port A, a modest white stucco façade perched on a grassy green knoll glimmers in the sunset. It supports a religious cross on its roof. Curious as can be, I wander across the street and hike to the top of the highest dune on the island to find beauty indicative of a simple and modest time, discovering the Chapel in the Dunes.

Considered one of the Eight Wonders of Port Aransas, Chapel in the Dunes was built in 1937 by Aline Carter of San Antonio. Carter’s chapel soon became the center for Sunday ice cream gatherings for the children of the island, who deemed her “The Angel Lady,” as she often wore long, white dresses. I timidly and reverently made my way into the small chapel, feeling the worn, wooden pews and admiring the detailed mural depictions of Bible stories narrated on the walls. With statues of smiling, chubby cherubs, perched to guard the small altar, there is a calm that encapsulates my soul like the sound of the ocean tides just beyond the dunes. Peering out from the chapel windows I can almost see tranquility, as the dusk of night blankets the water off of the island. Relishing in this humble moment, I begin to better understand the irresistible charm of Port Aransas.

Curious to learn more about the island’s history on the second day of our visit, we set out to live like islanders and conquer three more of the Eight Wonders of Port Aransas. Our first stop is The Port Aransas Museum. The building that houses the displays and collection of the coastal town’s history was brought to the island as a kit house shortly after the 1916 hurricane and was built to replace the Life Saving Station, now the Coast Guard. Stepping inside of the region’s time capsule reveals the island’s history through pictures, exhibits, and movies. We watched Farley boats deep-sea fishing; we admired a photo of President Franklin D. Roosevelt catching an 80-pound tarpon fish, and absorbed historical facts about the discovery of the island itself.

Having just learned about Farley boats at the Port Aransas Museum, naturally our next stop was the island’s sixth wonder: The Farley Boat Works. The

Farley family originally arrived in Port Aransas in the 1880s and established homes, businesses, and the first taxidermy services on the island. In 1915 the family opened a boat shop, where they custom made boats specifically engineered for local fishing conditions. The Farley family hand-made several hundred custom boats, and the Boat Works presents a visual demonstration of the boat-making process for visitors today, as the shop is now operating as a boat making school. We arrived just in time to hear a local gent tell us about the boat he was making in the shop and explained about the different types of wood used in making his Farley boat. He boasted that he could now cross off an item from his bucket list: learning how to make his first boat at the Farley Boat Works.

We also visited the island’s number one wonder: The Light House. Standing guard stoically over the land, reminiscent of its history, the Aransas Pass Light Station was built as a result of weather and politics - both powerful forces of change during the island’s beginnings. Construction began on it in 1854, and the tower first shined its bright, navigational light in 1857. Mounted in the lantern at the top of the tower was a fourth-order Fresnel lens, which made the light visible seven miles out to sea. In 1862, when Civil War divided the nation, the station became the target of Confederate forces. In a daring raid, the forces detonated two kegs of black powder, destroying the lens and damaging the tower. After refurbishing the damage, The Light House has since stood strong, and has remained a beacon for the island.

Built in 1886 during the final phase of construction of the Jetties at 200 East Cotter Avenue, the Tarpon Inn is the oldest surviving structure on the island, earning its title of Port Aransas’ third wonder. It has become an icon of the island’s waterfront after surviving a history of setbacks caused by Mother Nature. It was badly damaged in a fire and nearly destroyed by a severe hurricane. However, in the shadow of its challenging history, the inn is still available to reserve a room, or to enjoy a delicious meal. Upon visiting, a stop inside of the lobby is a must-see because unique wall décor is a feature that cannot be found anywhere else: tarpon fish scales signed by those who caught them. On the back wall is a very special scale signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, immortalizing his historic catch off of the island in 1937.

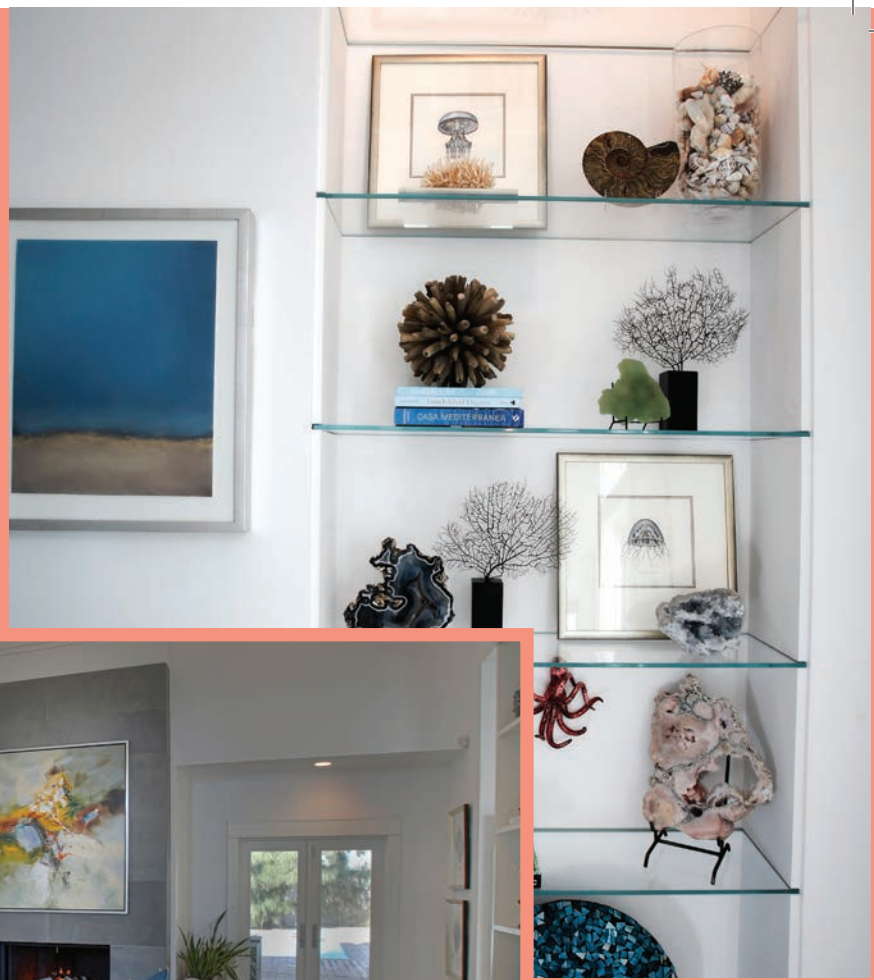
Then, after a full day of exploring Port Aransas, our group had worked up an appetite and was in search of a quiet atmosphere in which to enjoy some authentic island cuisine. We parked our cars, wandered up a set of wooden steps and were greeted on the deck of a restaurant we heard was a local favorite. We waved to friends across the way from San Antonio, were seated at our table, and served a glass of wine.

Sitting in this cozy and quaint structure watching the sunset over the water in the distance, I realized why Texans travel from near and far to relax on the shores of ‘Port A.’ In fact, Texans love to unwind here. Life is simple and far from complicated. Everyone is unique, yet they all fit in. They enjoy time with friends, lounge in their beachy bungalows, and make memories that are cherished by their families for generations. 🍷

Coastal Retreats

Home Away From Home In Port Aransas





Sylvia and Hector Villarreal's home was built in 2010 by Jerry Buckley of Buckwild Builders. The architect was Melton Henry of Houston, and the interior décor and furnishings were designed by Susan Castor of Port Aransas and Corpus Christi. Hector has owned Southern Landscapes in Corpus Christi for 38 years and has designed the landscapes and outdoor spaces of many iconic Port Aransas homes. Keeping all of the original pine trees on the property and complementing them with angular, low-key plantings fulfilled their landscape vision for the property. They appreciate their island jewel as a peaceful escape from city life.



The Biedenharn's love affair with Port Aransas was sparked in 1982. Their home was built by local architect Bill Bundy in 1998. Hector Villarreal of Southern Landscapes in Corpus Christi helped create the family's vision to design the pool, exterior walls and the enclosure. Kathy's favorite feature of the house is its location and the wrap-around ocean view. The Biedenharns have discovered the charm of Port Aransas because of its convenient location, the company of many good friends, and an endless list of local restaurants to frequent. They treasure their simpler life getaway that Port Aransas has to offer. Most of the art is from the Felder Gallery in Port Aransas.

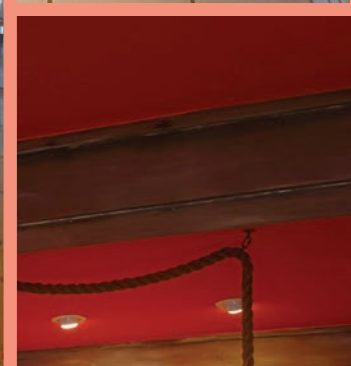


KATHY AND ALBERT BIEDENHARN

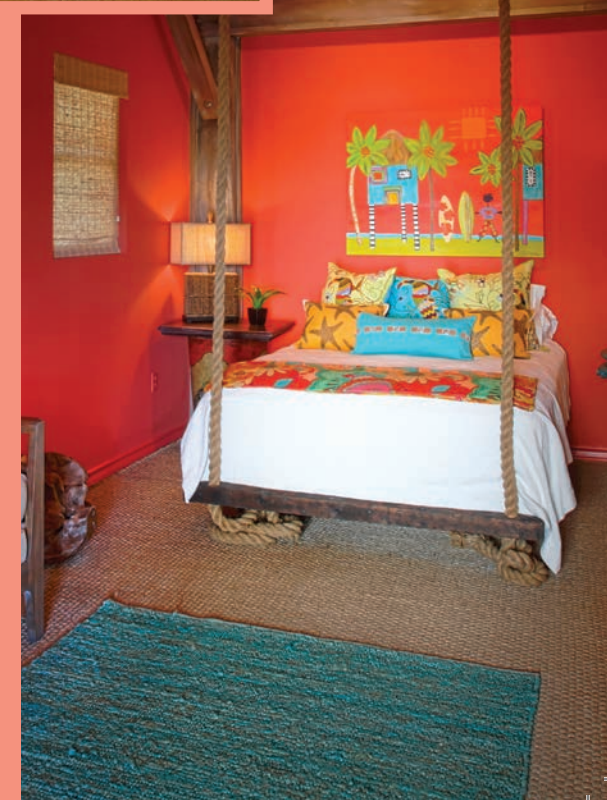




TOMMY CARLISLE



Tommy Carlisle's home was built by local architect Bill Bundy in a Dutch Bahamian style. He favors the attention to detail in the home and its elaborate features like the eaves that have intricate and ornate elements, the floors are of antique natural pine, and the seashells below the bar were all collected locally and set into concrete. Susan Castor of Port Aransas and Corpus Christi decorated the interior of the home. As a Corpus Christi local, Carlisle lives and works just 30 minutes from his nautical retreat, and enjoys the convenience of escaping there as often as possible...within an hour's notice he can be cruising on his boat, sipping a cocktail, and observing exotic wildlife. Most of the art is from the Felder Gallery in Port Aransas.





The Steves' home was built in 1969 and was designed by Phil Carrington. Nancy and Edward Steves and Sarah and Sam Steves have shared the home for six years. Phil Carrington utilized decks to expand the interior spaces of the home with a view of the Lydia Ann Ship Channel on one side of the house and slips for family boats on the other side. The peninsular location provides all necessary amenities and the Steves family loves to sit and watch the ships in the channel and view the sunset from the Crow's Nest overlooking the harbor. Hector Villarreal landscaped the property, creating a sense of seclusion in a palm grove. The most important feature of the home is its ability to accommodate both family units at once, allowing their enjoyment of their "island time" on Port Aransas.



NANCY AND EDWARD STEVES & SARAH AND SAM STEVES





SARAH AND STEVE PITT



The vacation home of Houstonians (with strong South Texas ties) Sarah and Steve Pitt was built in 2005, and was designed as a coastal getaway to entertain their family and friends. Local Port Aransas architect Bill Bundy took on the project as the architect and builder. When the property was bought from the original owners, Bonnie Chumbley from San Antonio designed the interior, bringing nautical luxury into the relaxing and expansive vacation home. The outdoor gardens and pool area were designed by Hector Villarreal of Southern Landscapes in Corpus Christi and with a view of the ocean from the living room, the home provides a luxurious spot for R&R.





Cecilia and George Hager's home was built in the late 1920's and they purchased the compound in 2007, after a long history of previous ownership by the Episcopal Church, the McAllister family from San Antonio, and others. Their vision was to restore the original footprint, honoring the traditional feel of the Old Town area of the island. Using George's company, Hager Construction, extensive remodels and restorations were made on the house's various structures. The furniture was gathered throughout years of antiquing trips to Round Top and vintage beach stores and the interiors of the houses were designed by Bonnie Chumbley Interiors in San Antonio. The art was provided by Robby Felder of the Felder Gallery in Port Aransas.



CECILIA AND GEORGE HAGER

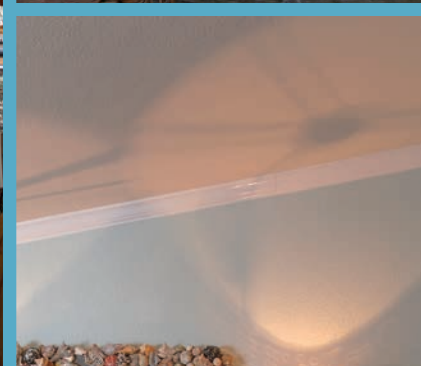
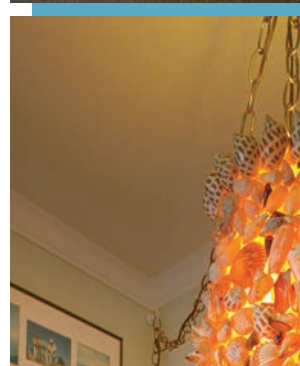




CHRISTINE AND THOMAS TYNG



Christine and Thomas Tyng's vacation spot is located atop a sand dune, with a view of the ocean, that they have owned 12 years. It has stood strong through the worst of the island's storms. The locals call it "The Pink House" because it has always been painted pink, despite changes in ownership. The home suffered a fire in 2010 and was saved by a local newsie who spotted smoke billowing from the bungalow on his morning paper route. The volunteer fire department saved the home from being completely destroyed and after the fire Christine decided to make changes to the home and redecorated with a fusion of traditional beach shack, pop art, and Mid-Century modern on a clean white palette.



Rick Liberto's great-grandmother Edwards, and her sister from San Antonio, acquired their beachfront property in the 1940s, and they built two beach bungalows that the family has been enjoying ever since. Each family member has fallen in love with Port Aransas and its laid-back lifestyle because they have found it is one of the few places in the world that offers them relaxation year-round. In 2008, Rick Liberto and his family planned a major remodeling of the original bungalows and they purchased the property across the street to accommodate their needs for a coastal refuge. They call the addition "The Squeeze Inn."



RICK LIBERTO





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GULF GETAWAY

Palmilla Golf Course

Palmilla Beach Resort & Golf Club: Texas' First Beach Resort Is A Koontz McCombs Master-Planned Beachside Community In Port Aransas

The Palmilla Beach Vision

From Palmilla Beach Resort & Golf Club's inception, renowned Texas developer Koontz McCombs insisted that there is simply no replacement for perfection. As a master-planned resort community, the development includes luxury single-family homesites, condominiums, a resort-style pool, boat slips and private beach access. The property is the first true beach resort in Texas and holds a deep commitment to the state's landscape and natural beauty that is Port Aransas.

Palmilla Beach Golf Club: An Arnold Palmer Signature Course

The centerpiece of Palmilla Beach is its acclaimed Palmilla Beach Golf Club, managed by Troon Golf®. Measuring over 6,900 yards from the back tees, the par 71 golf course offers spectacular views of both the Gulf of Mexico and the Corpus Christi Bay. In addition, a new golf shop and clubhouse are currently under construction with expected completion by March 1, 2014. The clubhouse will feature both indoor and outdoor dining options with a three-story architectural element as part of a patio that offers breathtaking beach views.

Luxury Homesites and Condominiums

Phase one of the development is underway and a limited number of single-family homesites starting at \$250K and condominiums starting at \$450K are currently available. Nestled in the center of this community, these offer homeowners an opportunity to call this one-of-a-kind, master-planned beachside community home.

"The expertise our preferred homebuilders will add to the project is key to its successful execution," said Koontz McCombs President and Chief Executive Officer Bart Koontz. "We are very pleased to partner with these firms and look forward to providing an excellent level of service and product to Palmilla Beach home buyers."

A number of early purchasers already have custom homes under construction. Reserve your homesite or condominium now and enjoy the exclusive benefits as a member of our Founder's Club. Whether for a weekend, a week or forever,

Palmilla Beach will truly be the perfect escape for the entire family. Please more information, call the resort's Welcome Center at 877.215.2855 or visit Palmillabeach.com.



Palmilla Pool and Amenities Center Rendering



Palmilla Condominiums

PORT ARANSAS: YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Photography by Tim Burdick,
Archival Photography Courtesy Of Port Aransas Museum



Tarpon fish caught in the Deep Sea Roundup Tarpon Rodeo, 1930s



Girls at the beach in Port Aransas, 1940s



The ferry and port in Port Aransas, 1940s



Port Aransas ferry, 1940s



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When you vacation at their seaside village on the Texas Coast, you'll enjoy walking access to the beach with stunning gulf and bay views, as well as fine dining and entertainment options right in their very own Town Center. Cinnamon Shore is a visionary place of distinctive homes in a charming, small town setting with peaceful parks, ponds and pools around every corner. Plus, practically every imaginable activity under the sun awaits you.

Cinnamon Shore is the pinnacle of accommodations, amenities and services. When you stay at one of their homes, expect luxury defined, where everything is just a phone call away. Our concierge services will provide you with whatever you need from beach chairs and umbrellas, to bicycles, kayaks and fishing equipment. And they are just a few miles away from many local recreational sites, offering easy access to everything from world class fishing and exceptional birding, to first-rate golfing, great shopping, amazing restaurants – even an exciting nightlife, very much alive with a truly vibrant music scene.

Check out their luxury vacation rentals including beach rental homes that sleep up to 14 and one-, two and three-bedroom vacation rental condos. We can accommodate groups for weddings, milestone celebrations and corporate retreats and team building. Whether you are a group of two seeking that destination honeymoon, a family of four looking for the beach vacation of a lifetime with plenty of activities for the whole family, or a large party searching for an event location, you'll find it at Cinnamon Shore. For more information visit Cinnamonshore.com. 📍



THE BEST OF PORT ARANSAS

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Cinnamon Shore. A traditional seaside village with beach home and condo vacation rentals available. 5509 Highway 36. Cinnamonshore.com

Port Royal Ocean Resort. A Port Aransas beach resort 210 beach-front condos set on 25 acres with four lagoon pools available for rent. 6317 Highway 361. Portroyal.com

Seashell Village Resort. It has the appearance of a residential neighborhood with large covered porches. Rental cottages available. 502 E. Avenue G. Seashellvillage.com

Tarpon Inn. It is the birthplace of Texas sport fishing since 1886, and each room is unique with its décor with a collection of Texas antiques. 200 E. Cotter Avenue. Thetarponinn.com

Sandcastle. This beach-front resort and conference center offers condos with Gulf or pool views and balconies for rent. 800 Sandcastle Drive. Portaransas-texas.com/sandcastle.php

DINE

Lisabella's. Casual dining at its finest. 165 Social Circle. Lisabellas.com

Roosevelt's at the Tarpon Inn. Creative cooking and the perfect setting for a casual meal. 200 (A) E. Cotter. Rooseveltsporta.com

Shells Pasta & Seafood. Pasta and fresh fish. 522 E. Avenue G. Eatatshells.com

Venetian Hot Plate. Authentic Italian cuisine. 232 Beach Street. Venetianhotplate.com

Café Phoenix. A casual Mediterranean restaurant. 229 Beach Street.

SHOP

Coastal Closet. An exceptional emporium with a masterful mix of fashions for you and your home that is a design destination. 1700 State Highway 361, Suite E.

Susan Castor Collection. A unique shopping experience with value added design and competitive pricing of quality home furnishings. 106 E. Roberts Avenue.

A Mano, The Soul of Mexico. With items created and made by artisans

from central and southern colonial Mexico. 1726 State Highway 361, Tower Center Suite K.

Cita Resort Interiors. Carries resort-style furnishings, gifts and accessories. 129 N. Allister.

Gratitude. Has unique gifts, clothing, jewelry, books, signs, and greeting cards. 316 N. Station Street

DO

Captain Kelly's Deep Sea Headquarters. Home of the finest fleet on the Gulf Coast for deep sea fishing, bay fishing and dolphin watching. 440 W. Cotter Street. Deepseaheadquarters.com

Red Dragon Pirate Cruises. A two hour interactive pirate cruise, perfect for family reunions and group cruises. 440 W. Cotter Street. Reddragonpiratecruises.com

Port Aransas Museum – Visit Port Aransas island history through pictures, exhibits and movies. Free admission. N. Alister Street. Portaransasmuseum.org

ART

Felder Gallery. The Felder Gallery features the art of Larry Felder, along with 22 other local, regional and national fine artists who work in a variety of styles and mediums, most of which is coastal-themed art with paintings, sculpture, jewelry, glass, fish prints, antiques and more. 1728 State Highway 361, Suite F. Feldergallery.com

Port Aransas Art Center. A thriving center of the visual arts to Mustang Island, Padre Island the neighboring communities. Artists from the Coastal Bend, Austin, San Antonio and Houston display and sell their work. Port Aransas Art Center Village. Portaransasartcenter.org

Tim Burdick Photography & Gallery. A Utah native, but a Texan at heart, Burdick offers a variety of photographic services from architecture and real estate to weddings and portraits, fine art reproduction and journalistic assignments. 722 Tarpon Street, Suite L1. Timburdickphotography.com

Mustang Island Art Gallery. The 5000 square foot gallery was designed to display paintings, sculptures, pottery and photography and has 26 local artists are currently represented. 2222 Highway 361. Mustangislandgallery.com

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Lighting The Way

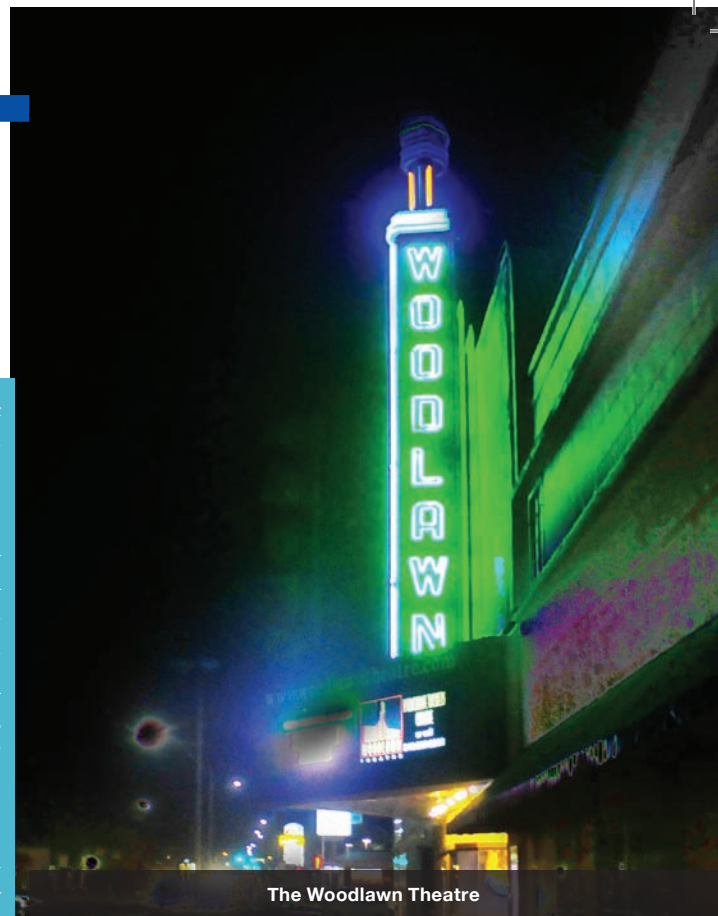
The Tobin Center Ghost Light Society Hosts Swingin' Speakeasy

By Miriam Sitz Photography By Greg Harrison and J. B. Lyde

THE SETTING: The Jazz Age came to life for the "Society Speakeasy" at the beautifully historic Woodlawn Theatre in the city's Deco District, hosted by the Ghost Light Society, a young professionals organization, of the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts.

THE VIBE: The Midtown Jazz Sound set the mood with classic tunes while 150 guests, all members of the Ghost Light Society, donned their most period-appropriate glad rags, and sipped on custom crafted rakia cocktails from the Doréol Distilling Company and other generous sponsors including Pura Vida Tequila, Cinco Vodka, Glazer's and Silver Eagle Distributors. Performers from Trilogy Dance Studio, playing their parts perfectly in flapper dresses and pearls, taught attendees the Charleston dance, while True Flavors served small speakeasy bites such as "Cotton Club Crab Stuffed Mushrooms" and "Loungin' at the Waldorf Salad Bites." DJ Adam Madrigal kept party-goers dancing late into the evening.

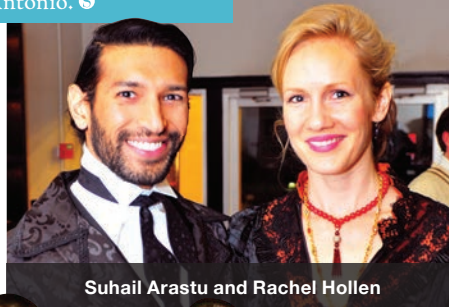
THE CAUSE: Opening in September, The Tobin Center will provide world-class venues in which to showcase the city's arts organizations. The Ghost Light Society has built a community of individuals united by their appreciation for and support of the arts in San Antonio. The Society offers exclusive opportunities to interact with the city's professional performers, artists and companies through exciting monthly events, as well as the opportunity to forge meaningful relationships with other likeminded and involved young leaders in San Antonio. 📍



The Woodlawn Theatre



DJ Adam Madrigal, Paige Blend, Courtnie Mercer and Tiffany Torres



Suhail Arastu and Rachel Hollen



Mario Guajardo and Erica Kerns



Steven Brown, Cameron Redding, Meredith and David Alvarez



Jill and Ari Jordan

A *Storybook* Affair

Dell Children's Hospital Gala Raises Record Funds

By Rob Giardinelli Photography by Jennifer Perez



THE SCENE: A BEAUTIFUL, CRISP EVENING recently found 1,100 of Austin's most fashionable and sociable gathered at the Austin Convention Center to celebrate winter social season. Through displays and personal testimonials, the Dell Children's "Storybook Gala" event featured an evening that told the many stories of hope, love and recovery that were brought about by the staff.



Stephen and Suzanne Erickson



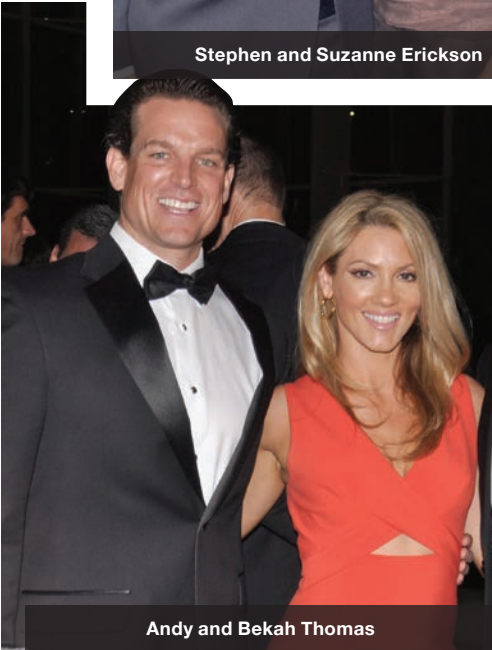
Mort and Bobbi Topfer



Tommy and Laura Craddick



Trey and Ali Watson



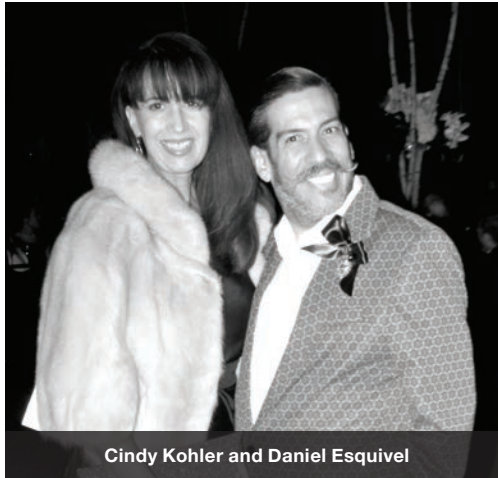
Andy and Bekah Thomas



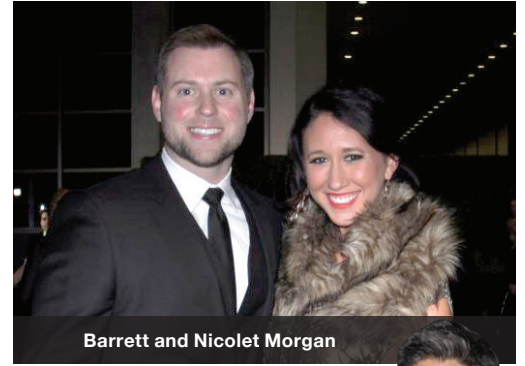
Sabrina Brown & Chris and Abby Hendel

THE VIBE: The crowd came dressed to impress - the women dazzled in stunning gowns and fabulous jewels and the men sizzled in their dapper tuxedos. From the start of the evening, the fun and jovial mood spread throughout the venue as old friends mingled in the lobby over cocktails and caught up on their holiday escapades as new friends were also made. Partygoers floated into the ballroom where guests dined on a delicious meal, while viewing a captivating program that included family testimonials and a live auction. Upon conclusion of the program, guests rolled the dice at the luxe casino created inside the ballroom, while others adjourned to Trio restaurant inside Four Seasons for the after-party, capping off an amazing evening.

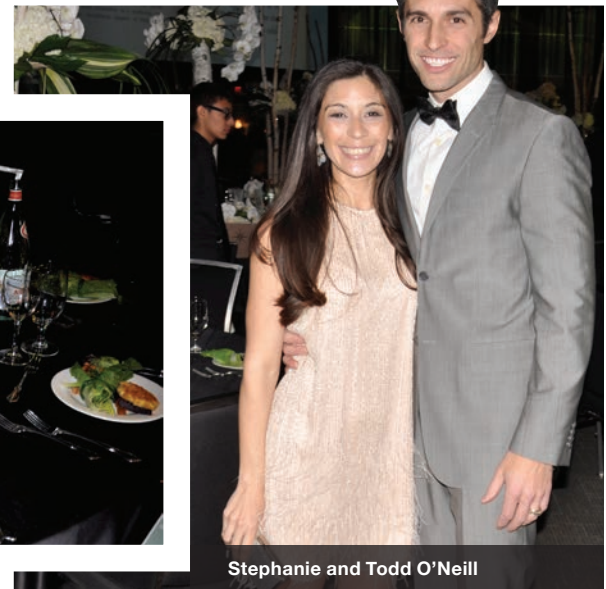
THE CAUSE: The Dell Children's "Storybook" Gala, co-chaired by Tommy and Laura Cradick, raised nearly \$1.5 million dollars for Dell Children's Center, a state-of-the-art facility covering 46 counties in the area and one of only seventeen Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Centers in the United States. 📍



Cindy Kohler and Daniel Esquivel



Barrett and Nicolet Morgan



Stephanie and Todd O'Neill



Jennifer and Chuck Rice



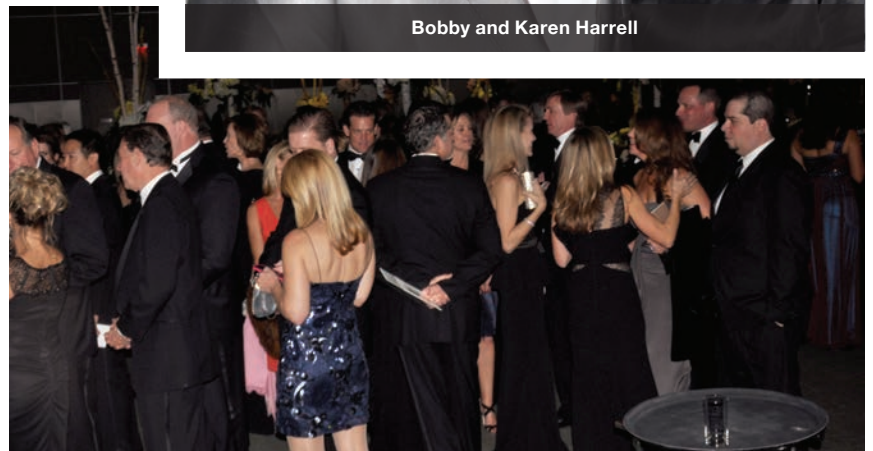
Brad Ring and Holly Jackson



Bobby and Karen Harrell



Bryan Gardner, Dave Steakley and Armando Zambrano



Artfully *INCLINED*

Ruiz-Healy Art Studio And Inaugural Exhibition Opening

By Meredith Heins Photography by Al Rendon

THE SCENE: A COCKTAIL PARTY WAS held in the chic creative space of Ruiz-Healy Art Studio's new location, as well as its recent exhibition, Continuous Change. Artists featured in it included Pedro Diego Alvarado-Rivera, Cecilia Biagini, Nate Cassie, Benjamin Dominguez, Andres Ferrandis, Nicolas Leiva, Constance Lowe, Creighton Michael, Cecilia Paredes, and Chuck Ramirez.

THE VIBE: From New York to San Antonio, Ruiz-Healy Art specializes in bringing modern and contemporary works of art and well-wishers were on hand to celebrate their continued success. Founder Patricia Ruiz-Healy holds four major exhibitions per year and presents annual published catalogues. Collecting art over the years is her passion and as an exclusive representative she has been given access to important European, Mexican, and American galleries and collections. Her personality and personal relationships with the artists she represents enhances both cities' art communities and she also chairs the Circle Member Events at the San Antonio Museum of Art and serves on the San Antonio Public Library Board. ☺



Caroline Carrington and Ricardo Romo



Nate Cassie, Ethel Shipton, Alice Sinkins, and Guillermo Nicolas



Joanie and J.R. Hurd and Courtney Walker



Patricia Ruiz-Healy and Eva Fernandez



Julius and Kathy Gribou



Liz Boldrick and Belinda Nixon



Emilia Bueno, Alejandra Bueno, Miguel Yacaman, Maria Fernanda Andrade and Juan Pablo Andrade



Francesca Stone, Patricia Prachett and Julie Wilkinson

Dining Tableaux

Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumni Association Hosts Annual Fundraiser

By Ellie Leeper Photography By Greg Harrison

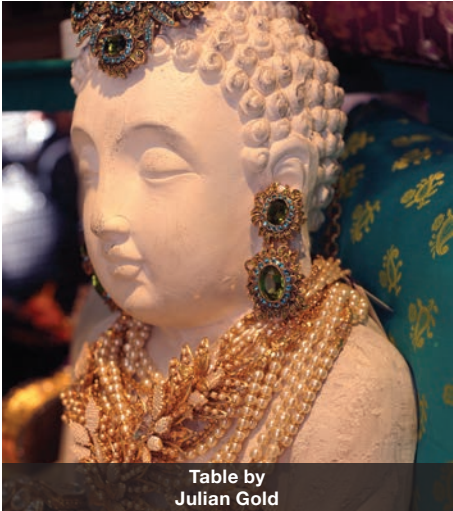


Table by
Julian Gold



Cornelia Guest and Lisa Kopecky



Table by Danny Spear and
Oscar Morales of the Land of Was

THE SCENE: THE KAPPA KAPPA Gamma Alumni Association of San Antonio hosted their annual Tablescapes Luncheon this winter at the San Antonio Country Club. KKG San Antonio Alumni Association President Elizabeth Boddy organized the event with co-chairs Sarah Hodge and Bonnie Muecke.



Peggy Colglazier and Elizabeth Boddy



Table by Danny Spear and
Oscar Morales of the Land of Was



Table by Julian Gold



Sara Walker and Whitney Schones



Bonnie Muecke, Jamie West and Sarah Hodge



Danny Spear and Oscar Morales



Sarah Johnson and Ginnie Johansen Johnson



Mary Stephanie Peavy, Jill Peavy, Carrie Worthen and Hilary Hamilton



Table by Danny Cuellar of Trinity Flowers

THE VIBE: With 42 tables, ornately decorated by local businesses and designers, the ballroom and first floor were transformed into a wonderland of decor in a room of beautifully dressed guests. The event speaker was Cornelia Guest, an iconic New York-based designer, socialite, author, entertainer and philanthropist. Her first book, *Simple Pleasures*, includes original recipes, décor, party tips, and photos from throughout her life. She founded Cornelia Guest Events and Cornelia Guest Cookies catering to high-end charity and entertainment events with healthy vegan dishes.

THE CAUSE: Proceeds from the 2014 Tablescapes event benefits Morgan's Wonderland, Monarch Academy at Morgan's Wonderland, and The Kappa Kappa Gamma Foundation. The mission of Morgan's Wonderland is to provide a safe, clean and beautiful environment that is free of economic barriers that individuals, regardless of age, special need or disability, can enjoy. Proceeds will also help the Monarch Academy at Morgan's Wonderland to provide students with special needs a unique learning environment to reach their maximum potential. 📍



Ann Himoff, Stacy Smaistria, Maria Beck and Lauren McLaughlin



Loretta Patterson and Kathy Biedenharn



Table by Central Market



Kristen Tips and Megan Steves



Megan Sander and Brooke Meabon



Carlisle Maxwell O'Brien and Martha Maxwell



Table by Botanika



Mary Worth and Scarlet West



Nancy Maloy and Cheryl Greehey



Tricia Steves and Joy Fuhrmann



Xitlalt-Herrera Salazar and Kris Williams at the Neiman Marcus table



Nell Belt and Jean Lee



Table by Elaine Turner

Dinner For *The Arts*

MFAH Rienzi Society Holds Annual Dinner

By Jennifer Roosth Photography by Jenny Anthill

THE VIBE: SOPHISTICATED FORMAL intimate dinner party for 90 members of the Houston Museum of Fine Arts Rienzi Society, which benefits the museums European decorative arts and paintings in the former home of Carroll Sterling and Harris Masterson III.

THE SCENE: The event began with cocktails and a preview of pieces carefully selected by the Rienzi Collections subcommittee. As guests sat down to dinner in Rienzi's formal ballroom, MFAH director Gary Tinterow, Rienzi director Katherine Howe, and Curator Christine Gervais, led a discussion about art available for acquisition including *Pair of Bergeres* and *Ewer Depicting Cavaliers in Battle*. Rom Ryan provided a guitar and flute to set the tone for the affair as patrons enjoyed an elegant three-course dinner from Swift + Company.



Molly and Ken Delery



Susie McGee, Elise Reckling & Carroll Goodman



Wally and Jeanie Kilroy Wilson, Gary Tinterow & John Kotts



Celina Hellmund



Mark Kelly, Tami and David Wall & William and Sarah Teten



Margot Trevino and Charles Rosson & Carrie and James Leader



Margaret Alkek Williams, Amy Purvis & Cyvia Wolff



Tommy and Isla Reckling



Skip and Susie McGee & Suzanne and Dixon Montague



Rose Cullen, Rosslyn Crawford & Judy Margolis

THE CAUSE: Hosted by Susie and Skip McGee; Suzanne and Dixon Montague, the 14th Annual Dinner of the Rienzi Society raised over \$300,000. Funds raised support the acquisition of new pieces for the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, as well as housing in the museum for European decorative arts and paintings. Members participate in selecting pieces for the collection to be purchased with funds raised at the Rienzi Society Dinner. The evening allows members to preview the items available for acquisition and to enjoy a spectacular formal dinner in the Rienzi ballroom. Since 2000, the Rienzi Society has raised more than \$3,050,000 and acquired 31 fine objects for the Rienzi collection. 🍷



Stephanie and Brad Tucker & Christiana McConn



Delise Ward and Craig Lidji



Claire and Eric Anyah



Michael and Susan Bloome & Kathy and George Howe



Victor and Jerry Ann Woodfin Costa & Muffet Blake and Robert Murray

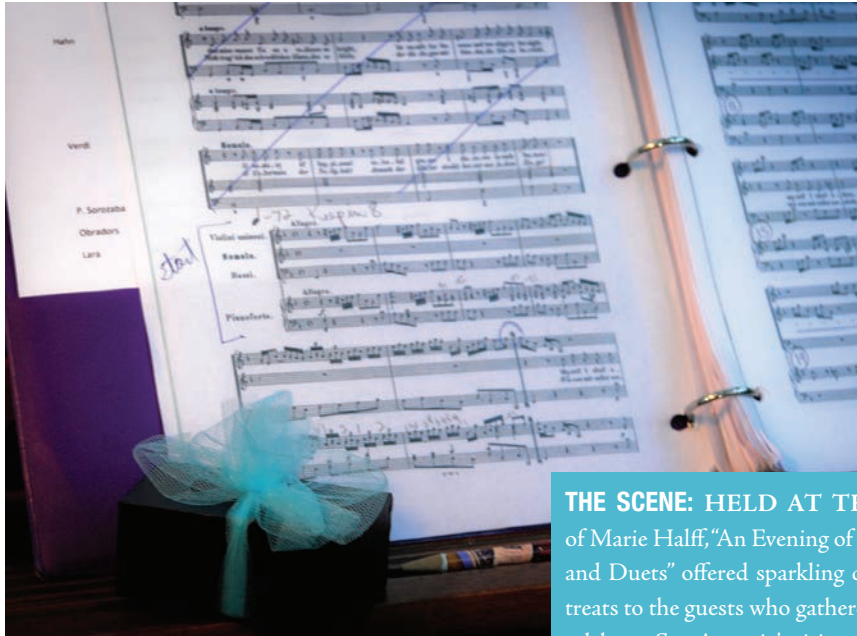
A NIGHT AT THE OPERA

Rising Opera Stars Feted At Gathering

By Francesca Garrett Photography by Al Caballero



Timothy Todd Simmons and David Portillo



THE SCENE: HELD AT THE HOME of Marie Halff, "An Evening of Songs, Arias and Duets" offered sparkling cocktails and treats to the guests who gathered at dusk to celebrate San Antonio's rising opera stars.



Marie Halff and Margaret King Stanley



Kevin McCullough and Lauren Guido



Plato Karayanis, Mel and Sandy Weingart & Tobias Picker





Linda Hardberger and Rose Glennon



Timothy Todd Simmons

The Vibe: Inside, guests mingled among the works of art that adorned the home's walls. Outside, as the sun set, the stars came out in full force when soprano Susannah Biller, tenor David Portillo, and pianist Timothy Todd Simmons, took to the stage. Artistic Director Tobias Picker served as master of ceremonies, as Founder and Chairman of the Board Mel Weingart guided guests from the buffet dinner to an intimate outdoor performance area where orange and gold-hued flowers, graciously provided by Sue Paciocco and Alamo Plants & Petals, blanketed the venue.

The Cause: The evening raised funds for the The Opera San Antonio, a resident company of the Tobin Center dedicated enhancing the reputation of performing arts in San Antonio through education, engagement, and world-class productions of compelling operatic masterpieces past and present. The soirée will also support a semi-staged production of Dvořák's Rusalka that was in collaboration with the San Antonio Symphony at the Majestic Theatre. 🎵



David Portillo and Susannah Biller



Sebastian Lang-Lessing and Kathleen Weir Vale



Timothy Todd Simmons and Susannah Biller



Joe Johnson and Katie Kinder



Jim and Ruth Berg



James and Aurora Nester

RISE TO THE OCCASION

The Rise School's Heart And Sole Luncheon Sets Records

By Rob Giardinelli Photography by Jennifer Hancock

THE SCENE: Fundraising, shoes and bags, oh my! Austin's Four Seasons Hotel was the site of the 7th Annual Heart and Sole Luncheon where the ballroom foyer was transformed into a high-end shoe and purse boutique. A swirl of Sociables bid on chic jewelry, designer purses, and shoes... all in the name of good fun, fashion, and fundraising.

THE VIBE: Guests arrived early to scope their favorite items on which to bid. The list of labels was a cavalcade of the top designers including Neiman Marcus, Tiffany & Co., Zink, Bob Salo, W by George, Dillard's, Ralph Lauren, Kendra Scott and Michael Kors. Guests then adjourned to the ballroom where emcees Daniel Esquivel and Matt Swinney led a lively auction followed by an adorable father/child fashion show. Steve and Donna Hicks, accompanied by their grandson Ronen, concluded the festivities, offering a touching speech and tribute about how much the Rise School has meant to them personally, as well as to the Austin community.

THE CAUSE: Heart and Sole, co-chaired by Becky Cook, Kathy Mervin and Venus Strawn, raised over \$200,000 for the Rise School Austin, which provides quality early childhood education for children with a diverse range of learning abilities. 📌



A selection of silent auction items



Daniel Esquivel and Misty Dawn Taylor



Lisa Trahan, Venus Strawn and Cara Abazarri



Kelly Moore, Shelley Berger, Dana DeLorenzo, Merideth Jones and Julie Hill



Ruby Mae Magierski



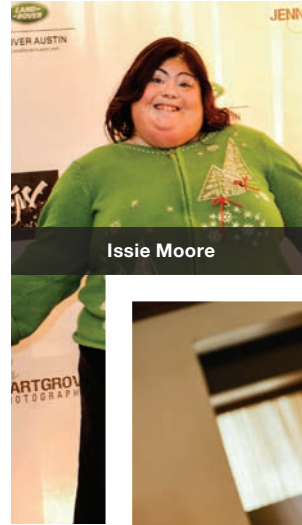
Steve and Donna Hicks with grandson Ronen



Emily Greer and Carolyn Bryant



Kara and Matt Swinney



Issie Moore



Michael Murray and Peter Murray



Ellie Snell and Michelle Tapken



Katie Hoglund, Colin Hoglund and Sharon Pankey



Valerie Flores, Stephanie Landry, Stacy Dollar, Amanda Linn and Kristy Knippa



Ann Marie Smith and Kim Todd



Ross Bennett and Cindy Lind

Curing Body, Mind And Soul

Cancer Therapy and Research Center Hosts Annual Fundraiser

By Ellie Leeper Photography By Greg Harrison

THE SCENE: SANDI AND BOB KOLITZ recently hosted a cocktail reception in their home that honored committee members of the Cancer Therapy and Research Center at UT Health Science Center San Antonio. It was a precursor to the 22nd Annual *San Antonio Express-News* Book and Author Luncheon, benefitting the Institute for Drug Development (IDD), the Phase I Clinical Research program of the Cancer Therapy and Research Center (CTRC). Committee members were invited to the Kolitz's home to meet the authors highlighted at the luncheon the following afternoon. The reception honored six authors of newly published books by Kay Bailey Hutchison, Scott Anderson, Jamie Deen, Kathleen Kent, A. Scott Berg and Bob Staake.



Bob and Sandi Kolitz



Molly Sowry, Scott Anderson,
Leslie Komet Ausburn and Laura Moreno



Ed and Nancy Kelley & Jamie Deen



BJ Mamuzic and Anne Ownby



Pam and Art Burdick



Traci and Scott Lewis

THE VIBE: Guests mingled, sipped beverages, and were treated to a culinary experience catered by the RK Group, while the table arrangements and embellishments were designed by Flair Floral.

THE CAUSE: The luncheon is an annual philanthropic event that has raised over \$3 Million for Phase I Clinical Research in 22 years. Proceeds from the luncheon help the IDD develop new ways to prevent cancer and novel cancer treatments, including targeted, viral-based and immune therapies, as well as combinations of agents with diverse ways of attacking cancer cells. CTRC is one of only four National Cancer Institute-designated cancer centers in Texas. 📍



Rose Marie Banack, Donna Block and Marti Raba



Manny and Sheri Ortiz



Jim and Lora Watts



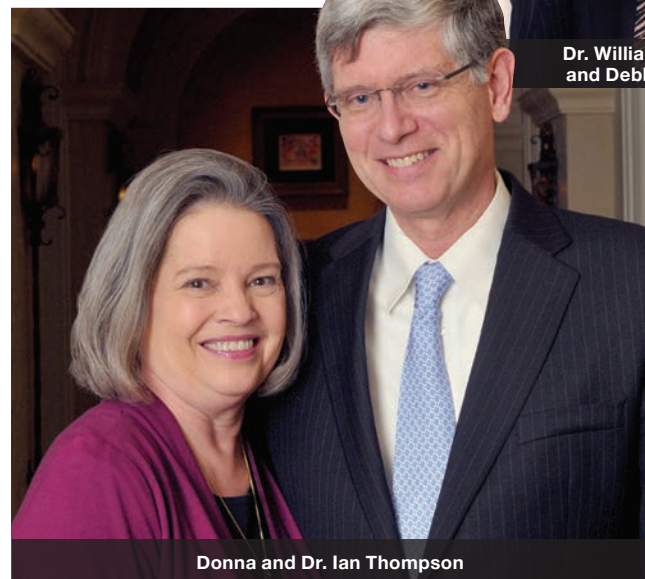
Amy Fitzgerald and Kathleen Kent



Dr. William Henrich and Debbie Morrill



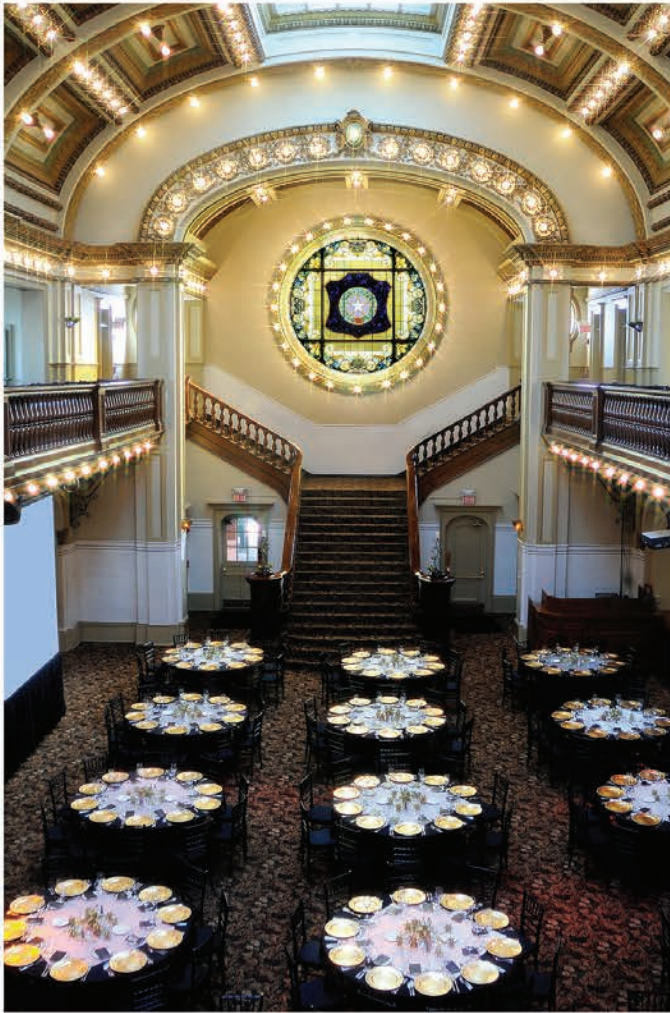
Billie-Kite Howlett, Willa Jo Beuhler and Margaret Kanusek



Donna and Dr. Ian Thompson

Shweiki Ad Here

“ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE”



GREG HARRISON
SAN ANTONIO PHOTOGRAPHER

austin
social planner**March 1**

The Crystal Ball
Helping Hand Home for
Children
helpinghandhome.org

March 1

President's MASKED
Scholarship Gala
Huston-Tillotson University
htu.edu

March 1

Viva RED
AIDS Services of Austin
asaustin.org

March 6

Texas Film Awards
Austin Film Society
austinfilm.org

March 7 - 16

SXSW
sxsw.com

March 22

Bandana Ball
Ronald McDonald House
Charities
rmhc-austin.org

March 22

29th Annual Rare & Fine
Wine Auction
Wine and Food Foundation
winefoodfoundation.org

March 29

ride. drive. give.
Center for Child Protection
centerforchildprotection.org

March 29

Austin Cattle Baron's Ball
American Cancer Society
gala.acsevents.org

April 2

5 x 7
The Contemporary Austin
thecontemporaryaustin.org

April 4

Austin Under 40 Awards
austinunder40.org

April 4

Luminaria 2014
American Red Cross of
Central Texas
redcross.org/tx/austin

April 12

Elizabeth Ann Seton Board
Live! Gala
easbgala.org

April 12

A Day to Shine Gala
SafePlace
safeplace.org/adaytoshine

April 17

20 Years of Women on Their
Toes
Ballet Austin
balletaustinguild.org

April 24

Garden Party
Umlauf Sculpture Garden &
Museum
umlaufsculpture.org

April 24 - May 3

Austin Fashion Week
fashionweekaustin.com

dallas
social planner**March 1**

Texas Ballet Theater Gala
texasballettheater.org

March 22

Cotes Du Cour
American Heart Association
- Dallas
dallaswineauction.com

March 27

Rock Out for the Red Cross
American Red Cross
redcross.org

March 29

House of DIFFA:
Masquerade
diffa.org

April 4

Spring Gala
Dallas Opera
dallasopera.org

April 4

26th Annual Luncheon and
Fashion Show
Children's Cancer Fund
childrenscancerfund.com

April 8

Cherish the Children
Luncheon
Dallas CASA
dallascasa.org

April 11

Accessible Luxury
Texas Scottish Rite Hospital
for Children
tsrhc.org

April 23

23rd Annual Arts Perfor-
mance Event with Diana Ross
Vogel Alcove
vogelalcove.org

April 25

Heroes and Handbags
Luncheon
Heroes for Children
heroesforchildren.org

houston
social planner**March 1**

Houston Museum of Natural
Science Gala: Shaken, Not
Stirred
hmns.org

March 4

Hats in the Park Luncheon
Herman Park Conservancy
hermannpark.org

March 7

Centennial Wine Dinner and
Collector's Auction
Houston Symphony
houstonsymphony.org

March 19 - 30

The Pin Oak Charity Horse
Show
pinoak.org

March 25

Hats Off to Mothers
Luncheon
Easter Seals Greater Houston
eastersealshouston.org

March 28

Best Dressed Luncheon and
Fashion Show
March of Dimes
marchofdimes.com

April 1

The Pleasure of Art
The Jung Center
junghouston.org

April 4

65th Anniversary Gala and
Art Auction
Contemporary Arts Museum
Houston
camh.org

April 5

HRC Houston Gala Dinner
hrchouston.org

April 5

Fabergé Pearls of Art Gala
Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine
Arts
pearlmfa.org

April 5

Houston Grand Opera Ball
Fleurs de L'Opera
houstongrandopera.org

April 6

Bayou Bend Garden Party
The Museum of Fine Arts,
Houston
mfah.org

April 12

Circle of Life Gala
Memorial Hermann
memorialhermann.org/
foundation

April 12

Alley Theatre Ball
Ultimate Construction
alleytheatre.org

April 16

Butterfly Luncheon
Houston Hospice
houstonhospice.org

April 26

Cattle Baron's Ball
American Cancer Society
cattlebaronsball.org

san antonio
social planner**March 1**

Fête du Cuvée Wine Auction
Junior League of San Antonio
jlsa.org

March 7

Doorways of Hope Luncheon
Alpha Home
alphahome.org

March 24 - 30

Valero Texas Open
valerotexasopen.org

April 5

Heart Ball
American Heart Association -
San Antonio
heart.org/sanantonio

April 5

San Antonio Book Festival
saplf.org/festival

April 10 - 27

Fiesta San Antonio 2014
fiesta-sa.org

April 11

WEBB Party
San Antonio AIDS
Foundation
webbparty.com

April 12

Chips 'N Salsa
SA Youth
chipsnalsafiesta.com

April 16

Cutting Edge Fiesta Fashion
Show
University of the Incarnate
Word
uiw.edu/cuttingedge

April 22 - 25

A Night in Old San Antonio
San Antonio Conservation
Society
niosa.org

April 23

Coronation of the Queen of
the Order of the Alamo
fiesta-sa.org

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