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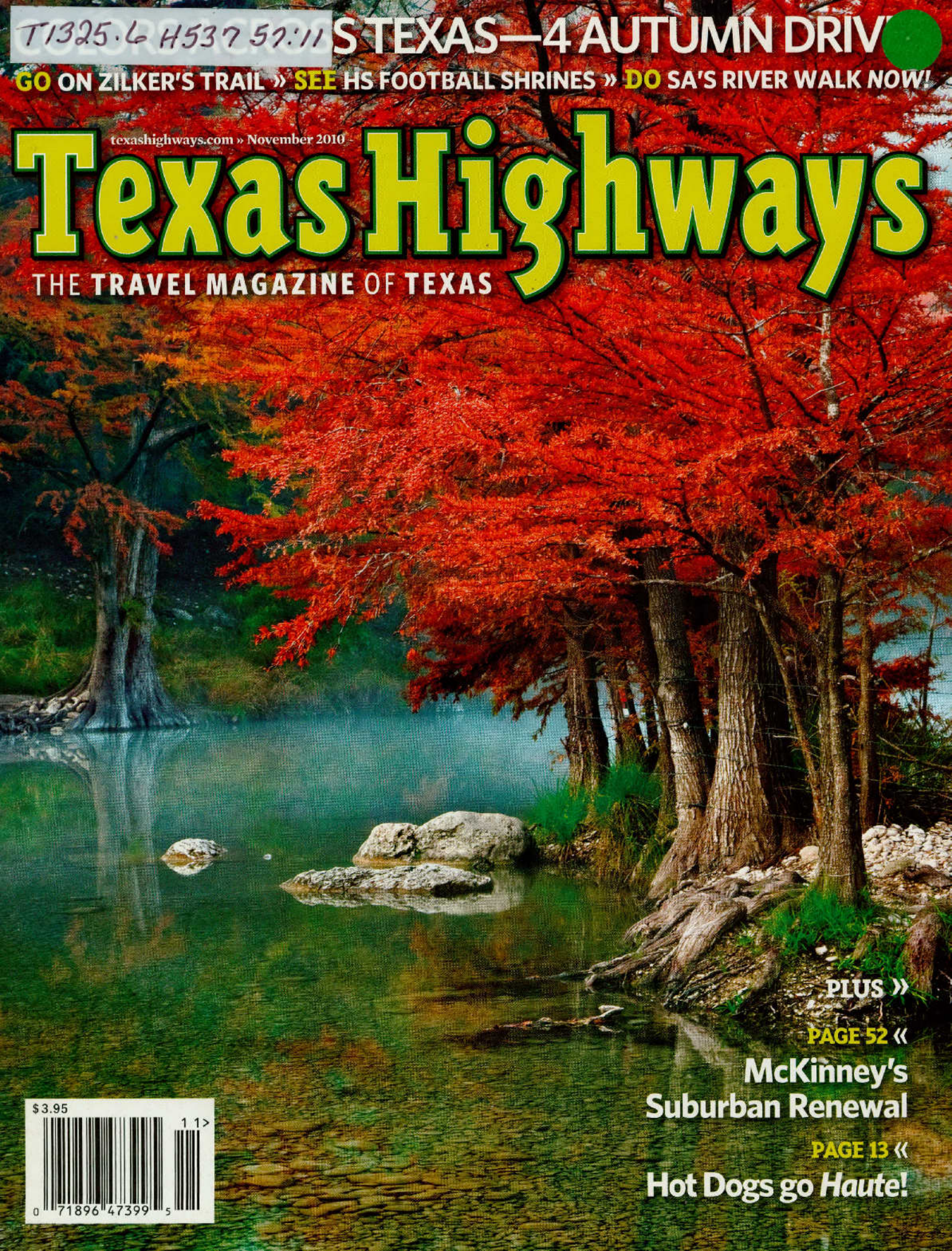


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THE TRAVEL MAGAZINE OF TEXAS



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PAGE 52 «

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Hot Dogs go Haute!

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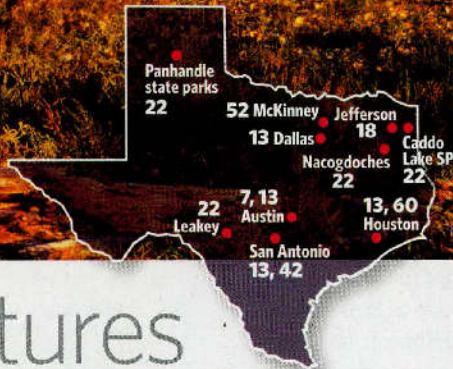
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Four for Fall 2010

Autumn comes to Texas, as shown in the splendor of four fall drives that spotlight destinations in the Panhandle, the Hill Country, and East Texas.

Text by MELISSA GASKILL



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Check out www.texashighways.com for more travel information

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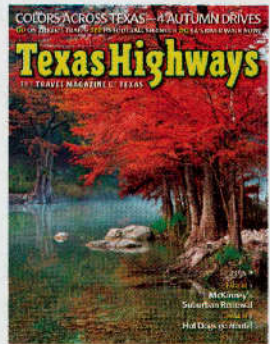
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About Our Covers
FRONT: A blaze of orange along the Frio River just below Garner State Park announces the arrival of fall. **Photo** © Charles Carlson

BACK: A river taxi travels through the Lock and Dam of the San Antonio River Walk's new expansion. **Photo** by Randall Maxwell

Photographic Prints Available 
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© JEFF WILSON



Anticipation? Memories? Autumnal nostalgia? Jeff Wilson's 50-yard-line photographs of Texas high school football stadiums evoke the community as well as the sport. This stadium is home to the Mason Punchers.

Spirit of the Season of Spirit

IN TEXAS, November means football. Even though I'm not a serious fan of the game, I revel in the season and the memories it generates. One of my favorite memories involves a Friday evening in the north Texas town of Albany. I was driving through just after dusk, and stopped with Sara, my tailless heeler mix, to admire the Shackelford County courthouse.

The steady wind confused Sara and made her squint because she couldn't tell what was buffeting her fur coat (she was suspicious of me). Even so, she enjoyed chasing the dry leaves that skittered across the expanse of lawn. We could see the glow of the lights illuminating the high school stadium not far away, and were both surprised to hear a loud cheer erupt. The curious look Sara gave me at that moment is etched in my memory. We both wondered what exactly had caused the excitement.

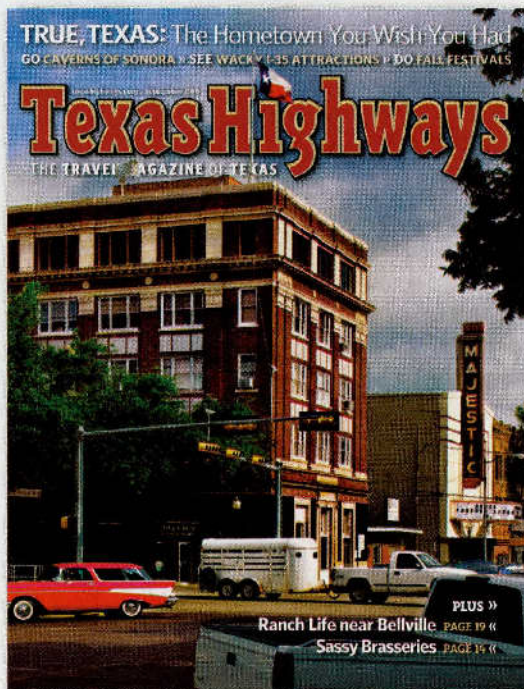
The Albany High School stadium is not among Jeff Wilson's photographs of high school shrines in the feature that starts on page 32, but the spirit of the cheer Sara and I heard that evening is something you can imagine as you peruse the images—all taken from the 50 yard line toward the empty stands. Do you believe the photograph was taken before the game and you anticipate the action that's about to come? Or is it after the game, and the memories of cheers and crowd are still vivid?

Either way, the photographs evoke a sense of the season. In fact, the only view that offers a more specific sense of autumnal Texas is one like the cover image, by Charles Carlson, of rust-colored cypress near Leakey. Once again this year, we asked Melissa Gaskill to check with our friends at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center to select four fine fall drives around the state. And, as always, the photographers came through with fabulous and colorful images that make you want to see for yourself. We hope you will take the time to do just that.

Charles J. Lohrmann, Editor

I love this magazine. Each issue gets heavy use and ends up worn and torn!

—MELISSA HARVILLE,
TH Facebook Fan



True Fans

I just had to tell you how much I enjoyed the “True, Texas,” article in September. To see that you captured the essence of our wonderful (and generally small) Texas towns in a few common traits we all relate to is remarkable. Even with such a diverse and large state, you managed to put everything into a nutshell of what Texas *really* is. The article is the epitome of why we love this state and where we live. The graphic design was well done and icing on the cake. Excellent work!

ANDREA PORTER
Canyon

As presented by TH, True is imaginary and can be any place of choice in the state. I wonder if you know there was a real hamlet of True, Texas. It was located about

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**TH READER
RECOMMENDATION**

Love Me Tender

WE HAPPENED upon a restaurant in **Livingston** called **Cookin' On Wood Pit BBQ** and enjoyed the best barbecue we have ever tried. So tender you don't need a knife! And they have a brisket meatloaf that is out of this world. Should be five stars!

BOBBY AND PATTI HOCKING,
La Marque

Cookin' On Wood Pit BBQ is at 3560 US 190 W.; 936/967-2533.

five miles north of Newcastle in Young County. It's not on the road map anymore.

ROB L. ROARK
Graham

EDITOR'S NOTE: According to The Handbook of Texas Online, the town of True (originally called Liberty) was platted in 1877, "and the settlement grew to include a store, a blacksmith shop, and several homes. A post office was granted in 1894 after the town agreed to change its name, which duplicated that of an earlier settlement in Liberty County." Most residents left around 1910 to be near the railroad; the post office officially closed in 1912.

CONTACT TH

We want to hear from you! Send feedback and recommendations to: Texas Highways, Box 141009, Austin 78714-1009. E-mail: letters05@texashighways.com. We reserve the right to edit items. Because we're unable to check out every recommendation, and because hours vary and details can change, please call ahead for more information.

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Do!

Read Every Town
Needs a Trail
by Jen Ohlson

Trail Tour

Savoring the sites along Austin's Lady Bird Lake Hike and Bike Trail Text by **MELISSA GASKILL**

THE STRETCH OF THE COLORADO River known as Lady Bird Lake runs like a cool, refreshing drink through the physical and metaphorical heart of Austin. Its north shore winds along downtown, its south Zilker Park, and the lake is fed by the waters of Barton Creek and encircled by the wildly popular, 10.1-mile Lady Bird Lake Hike and Bike Trail. During my 30-odd years in Austin, I've spent many hours walking, jogging,

cycling, and even pushing a stroller along the length of that often shady and always scenic trail. I favor a three-mile loop that runs between the Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge, at South Lamar and West Riverside Drive, and the pedestrian bridge under MoPac, where the expressway crosses the lake. I've dashed this route in less than an hour in running shoes. I've also lingered on it for an entire day, detouring at many points along the way, as

I did recently with my 17-year-old daughter, Bridget, who spent time on the trail before she was born.

We started at Lift Café, a full-service bistro in The Bridges condominiums, at the corner of South Lamar and Riverside Drive, with a stout Ethiopian brew for me, a latte for Bridget, and breakfast

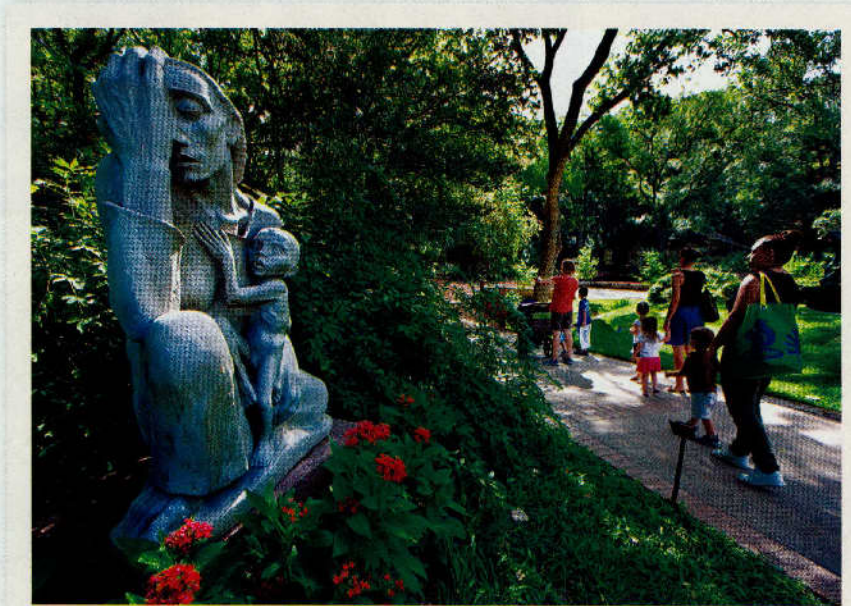
Lou Neff Point on the Lady Bird Lake Hike and Bike Trail offers views of Austin's skyline.

Postcards

tacos for us both. We ate on the patio so we could soak up fine fall weather. Then we asked café owners Tori and Tom Tinnon to pack picnic lunches for later: chunky, chicken salad sandwiches, creamy pasta salad, and a couple of Sweet Leaf Teas.

The rest of the day's activities could easily be done on foot, but we headed a few blocks down the road to Barton Springs Bike Rental, where bright-red beach cruisers and black three-speeds come with basket, lock, and helmet. The shop also rents kid's bikes, and its free shuttle service provides an easy out for tired cyclers of any age. The shuttle will also pick up customers from just about anywhere in downtown Austin.

We rode west to the Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, at the corner of Barton Springs and Robert E. Lee roads, where dozens of outdoor sculptures of children, angels, mythical figures, whimsical animals, and other subjects mix with oak, pecan, and cottonwood trees



around a cattail- and lily-covered pond. Most are works by Charles Umlauf, a prolific artist and a professor at the University of Texas for 40 years. He and his

wife, Angeline, lived in a home on a bluff overlooking what is now the sculpture garden, and in 1985, they donated their homesite and several hundred pieces of sculpture to the city of Austin.

At the time, the six acres below the bluff had fallen into a neglected state, and Austin philanthropist and civic activist Roberta Crenshaw led a group that raised money to transform the land and established a nonprofit that funds, manages, and maintains the facility. Crenshaw also deserves credit, along with Lady Bird Johnson, for saving Lady Bird Lake from commercial development and for the existence of the hike-and-bike trail.

Zilker Park, which begins just across the creek from the Umlauf, offered a wide choice of spots for our lunch—a picnic area overlooking Barton Creek's cool, green waters; tables near a broad expanse of soccer fields; or other tables above Austin's iconic Barton Springs Pool, whose constant-68-degree waters and 1,000-foot length attract swimmers even this time of year. But we opted to follow the hike-and-bike trail along the creek to the broad gazebo [continued on page 10]

The 10-mile trail passes the Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum. Charles Umlauf's *War Mother* is shown here.

A collage of three photos: a street scene at night, a boat on a river, and a house with Christmas lights. The text reads: "Visit Historic Jefferson, Texas!" "28th Annual Candlelight Tour of Homes, December 2-11" "Buy tickets online at HistoricHomeTours.com" "Holiday Trail of Lights" "Runs all December long" "City of JEFFERSON" "VisitJeffersonTexas.com (903) 665-3733"

Go!

Check out exhibits at the Arlington Museum of Art

Strike!

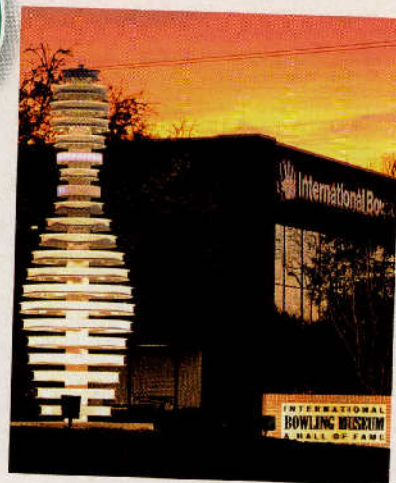
Arlington adds another sports attraction to its repertoire

AS A NEW BOWLING CRAZE SWEEPS THE NATION, AN impressive venue that celebrates the sport has rolled into Texas. In January, the International Bowling Museum & Hall of Fame relocated from St. Louis, Missouri, to Arlington's newly constructed International Bowling Campus, a 100,000-square-foot complex across the street from Six Flags Over Texas. With Arlington already home to the Cowboys Stadium and the Rangers Ballpark, it's no surprise that the city ranked by *Men's Health* magazine as the #1 Sports-Obsessed City in the nation would want a hand in bowling's revival.

The museum offers a number of technology-driven and interactive exhibits, including touch screens in the Hall of Fame, which bowling enthusiasts can use to learn more about the game, look up stats on their favorite bowlers, and vote for their favorite moments in bowling history. Nearby, the museum's History section showcases bowling's beginnings in ancient Egypt, late-1800s bowling lanes, and a '50s-style diner (it doubles as a snack bar). In the Modern Era section, visitors can also learn about bowling today, get a few

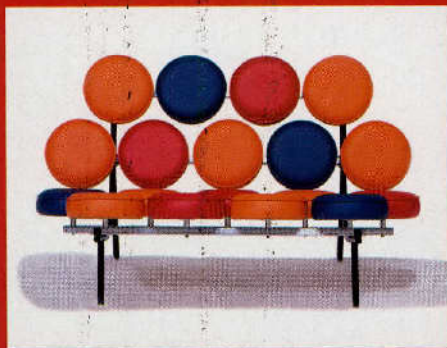
tips from an interactive bowling coach, and watch a film on bowling history.

Besides the museum, the International Bowling Campus houses a United States Olympic Committee-recognized training facility, which conducts the most advanced bowling research, testing, and training in the world. Groups can arrange in advance to tour the campus and to bowl on the same lanes that Team USA, Junior Team USA, and other teams use to train for competition. Call 817/649-5105; www.bowlingmuseum.com. —Haley Dawson



A stylized bowling pin marks the site of Arlington's International Bowling Museum & Hall of Fame.

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Postcards



Kayakers and canoeists on Barton Creek are a familiar sight along the Hike and Bike Trail.

☞ continued from page 81 at Lou Neff Point, where Barton Creek flows into the lake. We ate perched on a stone wall under the wisteria-draped structure, enjoying an impressive view of the Austin skyline across the water, framed by the limbs of soaring cypress trees.

After tossing our lunch crumbs to the geese and ducks patiently bobbing nearby,

we hopped back on our bikes and rode to Zilker Botanical Garden. These 31 acres just south of the lake and trail contain a variety of habitats and gardens with native and exotic

plants, including rose and Japanese gardens. Our favorite corner of it, Hartman Prehistoric Garden, houses a spread of cyads and ferns that date back 100 million years to the Cretaceous period, when dinosaurs roamed the earth. The unusual plants, quiet pools, and wide waterfalls cascading over limestone cliffs lend an otherworldly, back-in-time feel to the

Hartman. The dino-connection plays out in an eight-foot-tall sculpture of an *Ornithomimus* and replica of tracks made by a real one, discovered in Zilker Botanical Garden in 1992 and reburied for safekeeping in a secret location somewhere beneath the gardens. Petrified wood and a sun shelter full of fossils complete the prehistoric atmosphere.

Next, we stopped at the Rowing Dock, and traded our wheels for kayaks.

Next, we stopped at the Rowing Dock, a few blocks west of the trail bridge under MoPac, and traded our wheels for kayaks. We paddled upstream, along fern-studded limestone cliffs [continued on page 12 ☞

THERE ARE SOME DETAILS YOU JUST WON'T FIND ON GOOGLE MAPS.

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PHOTO: STAN WILLIAMS

New Twist On Maya Meaning

Kimbell advances appreciation of Maya art

FORT WORTH'S KIMBELL MUSEUM

stands ready to present significant advances in the collective understanding of and appreciation for Maya art. The museum's current exhibit *Fiery Pool: The Maya and the Mythic Sea* brings that understanding and appreciation to a new level, moving beyond the content provided by the breakthrough 1986 exhibit titled *The Blood of Kings: Dynasty and Ritual in Maya Art*. The *Fiery Pool* exhibit will continue through January 2, 2011.

The Maya civilization has long been acknowledged as one of the most sophisticated in the ancient world. The Maya practiced a complex religion, building a comprehensive knowledge of advanced mathematics and communicating in part through the use of a refined pictorial writing system. This appreciation for the Maya of Southern Mexico, Guatemala, western Honduras, and Belize has grown in parallel with the translation of the Maya's 800-glyph visual language, 90 percent of which is now understood..

Despite steady advances in understanding of the Maya, it was not until the late 1980s that the translation of a Maya glyph for "the sea" helped explain the importance of the sea in Maya culture. The identification of this glyph, translated literally as "fiery pool," clarified the essential nature of this previously unknown aspect of Maya life. Hence this exhibition and its companion book (an impressive resource published by the Peabody Essex Museum in association with Yale University Press). In addition to presenting the conceptual breakthrough of the "fiery pool," this exhibit offers several significant pieces of Maya art that had not previously reached the United States.

"In 1986, *The Blood of Kings: Dynasty and Ritual in Maya Art* shed new light on the importance of dynastic lineage and blood sacrifice to the Maya," comments Eric Lee, director of the Kimbell. "Recent archaeological discoveries and the deciphering of the Maya glyph for the sea have led to a new, broader understanding of the expansive influence that water in all its myriad forms had on both the daily life and spiritual beliefs of the Maya people. This exhibition is the next important chapter in Maya research, and I am thrilled that the Kimbell Art Museum will showcase it." Call 817/332-8451; www.kimbellart.org.
—Charles Lohmann

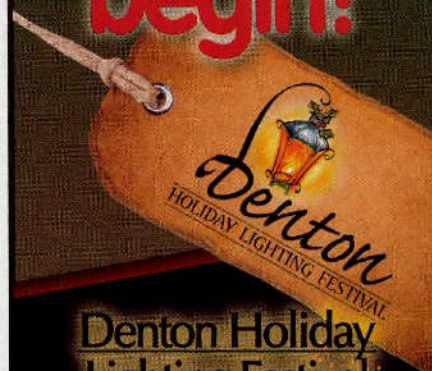


Lintel with bloodletting rite, A.D. 723, Yaxchilan, Mexico, limestone.



Lidded vessel with the Sun God paddling the aquatic floral road, 200-450, Mexico or Guatemala, ceramic and cinnabar.

Let the festivities begin!

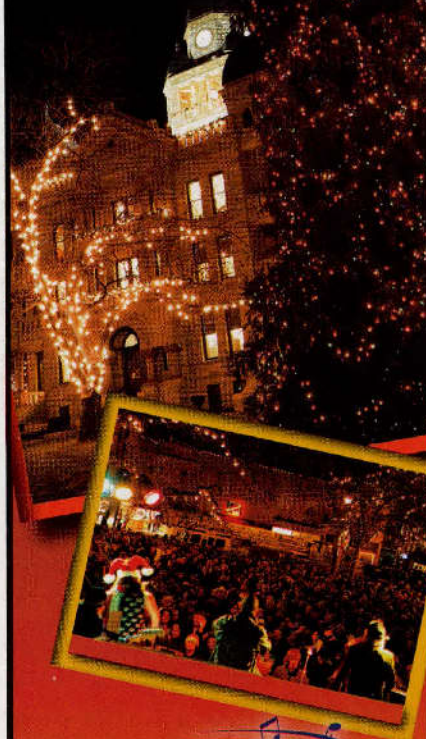


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Postcards

☉ continued from page 10] and past towering trees and caves, occasionally startling a great blue heron into majestic flight. In about 30 minutes, we reached Red Bud Isle, a small, wooded island occupied by one of Austin's most popular dog parks. A leisurely journey around the island and we were floating back toward the dock, past the University of Texas' Brackenridge Field Lab, an 82-acre field research station supporting all manner of studies including fire ant control and algae as fuel.

Back on our bikes, we returned to the trail, crossed to the north side of the lake, and hung a right toward downtown. As we rode along, we stopped at scenic overlooks to watch ducks and swans, to check for turtles sunning on logs, and to admire some of the many cute dogs and babies also enjoying a day on the trail. After passing under Lamar Boulevard, we followed the winding ramp onto the Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge, a great place to take in Austin's evolving downtown

skyline, and the perfect spot to watch the sun set over the green hills of west Austin. Once the sun disappeared, we continued across the bridge and reluctantly turned in our bikes. All that rowing and riding had worked up our appetites, so we cruised "restaurant row" on Barton Springs Road,

trying to choose between hearty Tex-Mex at Chuy's, barbecue at Green Mesquite, juicy burgers at Shady Grove, or smoothies at Austin Java. Local establishments like these, the park, the serene lake, and the lively action on the trail itself all make Austin a place I love to call home. **TH**

Lady Bird Lake Hike and Bike Trail

The trail is in downtown **Austin** and runs between the pedestrian bridge under MoPac (Loop 1) on the west side to Longhorn Dam on the east. Find a map at ci.austin.tx.us/parks/trails.htm. For details, call The Trail Foundation at 512/791-7572; www.thetrailfoundation.org. For general Austin visitor information, call 800/926-ACVB; www.austintexas.org. Other contact information follows.

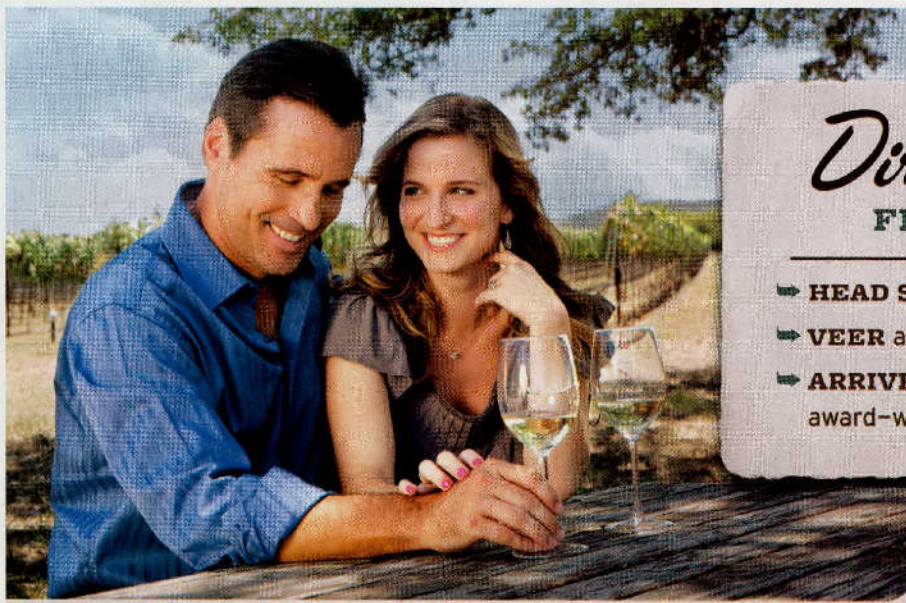
Lift Café, 215 S. Lamar Blvd., Ste. A., 512/472-5438; www.liftaustin.com.

Barton Springs Bike Rental, 1529 Barton Springs Rd., Ste. 31., 512/480-0200; www.bartonspringsbikerental.com.

Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 605 Robert E Lee Rd., 512/445-5582; www.umlauflsculpture.org.

Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 512/477-8672; www.zilkerbotanical.org.

Rowing Dock, 2418 Stratford Dr., 512/459-0999; www.rowingdock.com.



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Do!

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Hot Dogs Go Uptown

Make room at the table for over-the-top "haute dogs"

Text by **JESSICA DUPUY**

Not all chili dogs are created equal. At Frank in downtown Austin, the tangy Chili-Cheese Dog is made with 100 percent Vienna beef.

AMIDST A SEA OF FOOD BLOGS AND NEWSPAPER STORIES,

I recently came across an article about a popular New York restaurant called Serendipity 3, which is turning heads with a new high-dollar menu item: a \$69 hot dog. Yes, hot dog. Or rather, "haute dog." This three-foot-long, all-beef frank is dipped in truffle oil before it's grilled, then nestled in a fresh pretzel bun and topped with foie gras and a sprinkle of black truffles.

I couldn't help but chuckle. It was only a matter of time, I thought, before the "foodie" culture spruced up the lowly hot dog with a little glitz and glam. Growing up, I relished hot dogs at family cookouts and carnivals. But these days, the hot dog can go well beyond the minimally adorned franks you've probably enjoyed at the ballpark. Restaurant chains and chef-driven kitchens alike are raising the bar on this American classic.

You don't have to go to New York to enjoy a "haute dog." In fact, Max's Wine Dive, a popular wine bar and restaurant with locations in Houston, Austin, and San Antonio, has a "haute dog" of its own. (Unlike the \$69 New York bad boy, Max's runs a mere \$14.) Amid menu items like spicy fried chicken and mushroom-studded meatloaf, you'll find a beefy behemoth dubbed the Texas Haute Dog. Made with grass-fed Black Angus beef, hearty chili, house-pickled jalapeños, cotija cheese, and diced onions, and served in an artisan bun, it arrives at your table accompanied by a mountain of piping hot French fries and onion rings.

"People love hot dogs," says Max's owner, Jerry Lasco. "So we challenged our chefs to create the best hot dog that money could buy, using great beef, buns, house-made condiments, everything."

Taste

But fancy hot dogs don't appeal to everyone, especially those who like to stick with the classics. Of course, depending on where you live, a "classic" hot dog can mean many things: In Chicago, it means a Kosher beef frankfurter with sweet pickle relish, hot peppers, tomato wedges, and celery salt; in New York, "classic" means yellow mustard and sauerkraut; in the deep South, "slaw dogs" rule. In Texas, the classic

Wherever you go, people eat hot dogs. Hot dogs should be there whenever anyone's having a good time.

dog is characterized by chili, cheddar, and onions. After all, chili is the official Texas State Dish, and what better way to enjoy it than on a hot dog?

Chili dogs are the number one draw at Houston's famed James Coney Island. Recently voted one of the "Top 5 Drive-Ins" in the country by the Food Network, this fast-casual Space City icon has been serving up traditional chili dogs since 1923. Founded by brothers Tom and James Papadakis, who emigrated from Greece in the early 1920s, "JCI" was inspired by New York street vendors along the popular Coney Island Boardwalk. In 1923, the Papadakis brothers opened the first James Coney Island in downtown Houston; now there are more than 20 locations in and around the city. (The brothers flipped a coin to see whose name would adorn the restaurant. You can guess who won the toss.)

"I used to come here as a kid with my dad," says Darrin Straughan, who took over the restaurant chain in 1994.

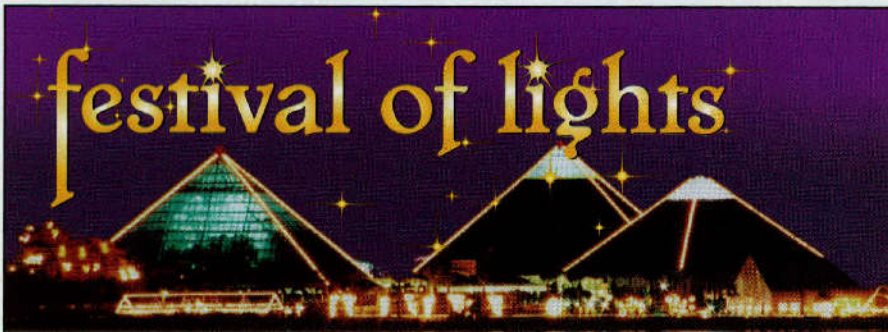
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"My business partners and I are all Houstonians, and we try really hard to maintain the reputation the Papadakis brothers started."

Straughan has expanded the JCI menu with such regional favorites as a Chicago-style dog, a New York-style dog, and even a Polish sausage. It's something a number of hot dog-happy restaurants have done around the state. In Dallas, Wild About Harry's may be known for its tasty frozen custard, but it also draws a crowd for its selection of regional hot dogs, as does Austin's Dog Almighty. But Austin's Frank carries the trend to new extremes.

In fact, Frank, which opened in 2009 in Austin's downtown Warehouse District, has introduced a number of creative variations to entice epicurean and traditional palates alike. From the "Jackalope," an antelope, rabbit, and pork sausage served with huckleberry compote and spicy sriracha, to the "pizza dog," stuffed

With some 20 locations in Houston, James Coney Island offers regional favorites from the Chicago-Style Dog to the Jalapeño Dog.

with pepperoni, marinara, and mozzarella cheese, to specialty dishes starring kangaroo or alligator sausages, Frank hits the hot dog concept out of the park.

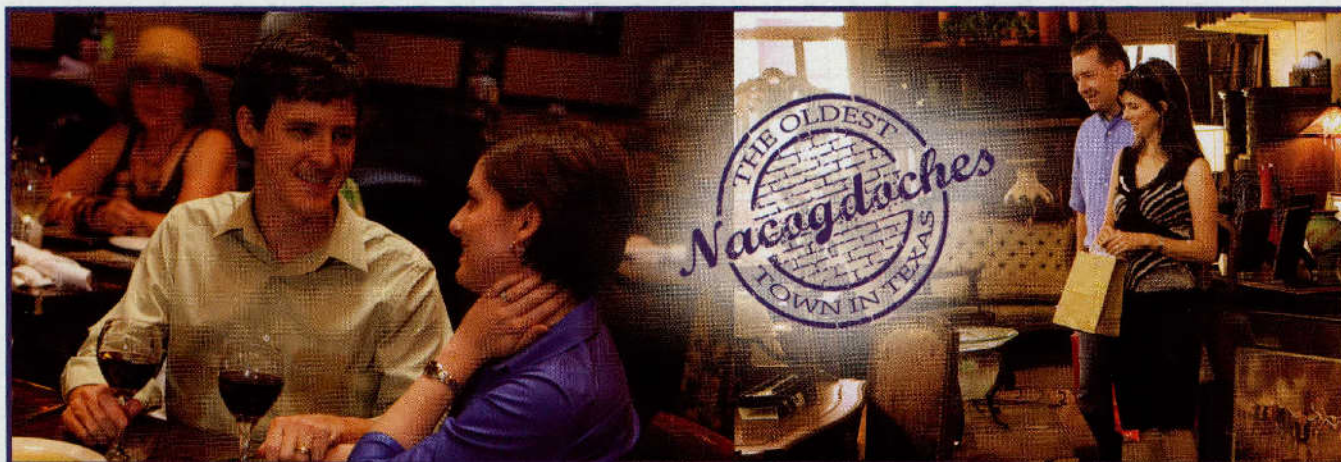
"You can come in here and get a basic, cheap chili dog with a beer," says owner Daniel Northcutt, "or be a 'foodie' and try a wild boar dog with a glass of wine."

Although Northcutt wanted to celebrate the almighty hot dog at Frank,



he also wanted to make sure everyone could find a place here—hence the veggie dogs and gluten-free bun option.

"Lawyers come in, throw their ties over their shoulders, and tear up chili



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DECEMBER

- 2 Victoria Bach Festival Conspire Christmas, Carillon Concert
- 4 Lighted Holiday Parade
- 10-Jan 16 "All that I can't leave behind"—Lea Barton, Nave Mus.
- 15-19 The Nutcracker, Leo J. Welder Center
- 18 Market Days, De Leon Plaza, 9-4

JANUARY

- 14 The King and Cash, Leo J. Welder Center, 7:30 pm
- 18-19 Shriner Circus, Victoria Community Center
- 28-Mar 6 David Adickes Exhibition, Nave Museum

FEBRUARY

- 4 Outdoor Family Expo, Victoria Community Center, Free
- 11-13 The Fantasticks, Leo J. Welder Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 pm except Sun., matinee 2 pm
- 17-27 Victoria Livestock Show Carnival, Victoria Community Center Grounds
- 19 Victoria Livestock Show Parade
- 24-28 Victoria Livestock Show, Victoria Community Center

MARCH

- 18 Trey Hensley, Leo J. Welder Center, 7:30 pm
- 18-May 15 Susan Budge Exhibition, Nave Museum
- 19 Market Days, De Leon Plaza
- 26 Polo at McFaddin Ranch
- 27-28 Home Product Show, Victoria Community Center, Victoria Builders Association

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Taste



Alex Meixner (far right) and members of Meixner Music often invite local musicians, including Sauerkrauts bandleader Gary Trumet (second from left), to perform with them at Wurstfest.

Wurstfest Turns 50

New Braunfels' salute to sausage boasts lively lineup

JOIN NEW BRAUNFELS IN CELEBRATING ITS GERMAN

heritage at the 50th Wurstfest. As always, you can expect a hearty taste of German-style food, fun, and entertainment at this boisterous event. This year, however, you might also encounter one of many Braunfels, Germany, residents who plan to travel across the world to commemorate half a century of Wurstfest.

The fun begins Friday, October 29, and continues through Sunday, November 7. Inside the festival grounds along the banks of the Comal River, more than 40 musical groups will entertain spectators with polkas, waltzes, and Alpine music, and a local theater will perform a nightly melodrama. Local craftsmen and artists will also show off their talents in booths scattered throughout the area. And there's the food—festival-goers can choose among a multitude of German-inspired dishes such as sauerkraut, strudel, and, of course, many varieties of sausage, including bratwurst and knackwurst. Beer is the drink of choice for many, but wine and non-alcoholic beverages are also available.

The festivities don't end at the park gates. The New Braunfels Running Club sponsors a 10K walk, the Marsch-Und Wandergruete organization presents a five-mile run-walk and a kids' 1K, and on nearby Canyon Lake, more than 200 sailboats compete in the Wurstfest Regatta. Area newcomers can also take guided tours of New Braunfels, Historic Gruene, and the Hill Country. Work up an appetite for some satisfying food, and come enjoy the rollicking celebration. Call 830/625-9167; www.wurstfest.com.

—Haley Dawson

Go!
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PHOTO: COURTESY WURSTFEST

dogs. Grandma and Grandpa come in for Chicago dogs and bratwursts; and then we've got hipsters, musicians, and construction workers all coming in here and finding something they really like," he says.

With a new restaurant concept in the works for Houston, Max's Jerry Lasco aims to please as many hot dog aficionados as possible. His new, yet-unnamed project will pair wines with a variety of specialty hot dogs, but he also plans a gourmet "toppings bar" so that customers can build the *perfect* hot dog with everything from Asian kim-chee to house-made sauerkraut. Lasco sets out to prove that the all-American hot dog brings people from all walks of life together.

"Wherever you go, people eat hot dogs—on the 4th of July, and at ball games, carnivals, and other places where families are getting together," says James Coney Island's Darrin Straughan. "Hot dogs should be there whenever anyone's having a good time."

I may not reach for a foie gras hot dog anytime soon, but seeing how a wide variety of dining establishments are heralding this old-fashioned classic, I am revisiting my childhood love of the hot dog. Chili, mustard, and cheese, please—but hold the onions. **TH**

Hot Diggity!

Max's Wine Dive, three locations in Houston, Austin, and San Antonio; www.maxswinedive.com.

James Coney Island, multiple locations in the Houston area; www.jamesconeyisland.com.

Frank, 407 Colorado St., Austin, 512/494-6916; www.hotdogscoldbeer.com.

Wild about Harry's, 3113 Knox St., Dallas (location in Austin coming soon), 214/520-3113; www.wildaboutharrys.com.

Dog Almighty, 3005 S. Lamar Blvd, Austin, 512/912-1105; www.hotdogalmighty.com.

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By the Book

Jefferson embraces its literary legacy

Text by **KATHLEEN KASKA**

AS I DROVE OVER BIG CYPRESS BAYOU LAST JANUARY, THE SPANISH moss-draped trees ahead seemed to part like a curtain across a stage, creating an illusion of mystique and magic. I'd just arrived in the historic northeast Texas town of Jefferson, known for its Victorian-style B&Bs, French Quarter-style architecture, antiques shops, and quaint eateries. But in the past few years, Jefferson has earned a new moniker: the little town that reads. I was in town to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Kathy Patrick's Pulpwood Queens and Timber Guys Book Club, the largest book group in the country, which originated here and meets the third weekend of every January for a literary festival known as the Girlfriend Weekend Author Extravaganza.

With a few hours to spare until events commenced, I cruised through town to take in the sites and visit a couple of Jefferson's literary venues. Red-brick roads led me through the historic district to the Jefferson Historical Museum. Built in 1888 as a federal courthouse and post office, the museum showcases thousands of artifacts relating to Jefferson's history, including a collection of novels, plays, and short stories by journalist and novelist John Barry Benefield. Benefield grew up in Jefferson and often wrote about life in East Texas; his bestselling 1925 comedic novel *The Chicken-Family Wagon* portrays a Southern family's move to New York.

Four blocks west, Scarlett O'Hardy's *Gone With the Wind* Museum displays one of the largest collections of *Gone With the Wind* memorabilia in the world. Owner Bobbie Hardy began collecting items more than 30 years ago; rarities include a signed first edition of

Kathy Patrick often talks reading with customers at *Beauty and the Book*, a Jefferson hair salon that features bestsellers as well as blow dryers.


Margaret Mitchell's epic novel, along with autographs of film stars Vivien Leigh, Clark Gable, Leslie Howard, and Olivia de Havilland. On my self-guided tour, I discovered a reproduction of Scarlett's green drapery dress and a miniature version of a two-story, eight-room plantation house, complete with a library and sweeping staircase.

Over the hum of the blow dryer, Kathy told me about her mission to promote literacy and get folks reading.

I could have easily lost myself in Scarlett and Rhett's world, but I reluctantly departed to check into my accommodations for the weekend. I'd chosen a room in the two-story Wise Manor Bed & Breakfast Inn, which dates to 1851 and sits beneath a grove of pecan trees just a short walk from downtown. Owner Susan Wise grew up in this house, as did her mother and aunt and uncle. As I made myself at home, Susan and I visited, and I learned that she is a librarian. Wherever I looked, it seemed, I found books.

A few months prior to the 2010 event, I had met the book festival's ringleader, Kathy Patrick, while enjoying a relaxing weekend in Jefferson. I happened by her shop, Beauty and the Book, a beauty salon that doubles as a bookstore, and I was as intrigued by the decor as the concept: The shop brims with bestsellers, books by first-time authors, and literary classics, but Patrick also offers rhinestone tiaras, handcrafted jewelry, and vintage clothing for sale, along with hot pink T-shirts emblazoned with her book club's logo.

When I stopped by, Patrick was styling a customer's hair, and the two were discussing books. She invited me to join the conversation, and over the hum of the blow dryer, described her mission to promote literacy and get folks reading. "Books bring people together in a special way,"



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A two-story, Greek Revival B&B lies next to Scarlett O'Hardy's *Gone With the Wind* Museum in Jefferson.

Patrick said. "When you read a book and share your thoughts with others, it takes reading to an entire new dimension."

In her own book, *The Pulpwood Queens' Tiara-Wearing, Book-Sharing Guide to Life*, Patrick wrote about making the most out of life and giving back to the community; her endeavors have landed her on *Good Morning America* and *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. Since the book club began in 2000, it has grown to more than 300 chapters across the United States and in 10 foreign countries. As I left her shop, she extended an invitation to return in January to see for myself how her little town can draw a big crowd.

And so I did.

The 2010 event kicked off with an author/reader gathering at the Excelsior House Hotel, which hosted writer Oscar Wilde in 1882, while he was in town to give a lecture at the Carnegie Library. Patrick had arranged for cookbook authors Debbie Thornton (*Any Blonde Can Cook*), Janis Owens (*The Cracker Kitchen*), and Lynn Fredrickson (*Specialties of the House*) to prepare a few Southern dishes for the readers attending. As folks dined on Coca-Cola ham, corn casserole, crawfish gumbo, and chocolate cake, Patrick

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introduced the authors and gave them the opportunity to pitch their books. "I wanted to make it easy for authors and readers to get together," she explained.

Over the next two days, Kerry Madden, author of *Up Close: Harper Lee*, shared stories about her interviews with residents of Lee's hometown; first-time author Jamie Ford told of his detailed research of internment camps during World War II while writing the bestseller *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*; and bestselling author Pat Conroy (*The Great Santini* and *South of Broad*) entertained us with his story about the day Barbra Streisand called wanting to make a movie based on his book *The Prince of Tides*. Thinking the call was a prank, he asked her to sing "People." After a short pause, she granted his request.

The upcoming 2011 event—scheduled for January 13-16—is one I won't miss. Pat Conroy is returning as a keynote speaker along with his bestselling-author wife, Cassandra King, and his daughter, Melissa Conroy, also an author. Fannie Flagg will be there to talk about her new novel, *I Still Dream About You, Honey*, due out in November. Patrick has confirmations from more than 50 other authors.

The 11th annual Author Extravaganza is sure to be another sellout. **TH**

Jefferson Books Up

The 11th annual **Girlfriend Weekend Author Extravaganza** takes place January 13-16; www.pulpwoodqueen.com.

Beauty and the Book, 608 North Polk St., 903/665-7520; www.beautyandthebook.com.

Jefferson Historical Museum, 223 West Austin St., 903/665-2775; www.jeffersonmuseum.com.

Scarlett O'Hardy's Gone With the Wind Museum, 408 East Taylor St., 903/665-1939; www.scarlettohardy.com.

Wise Manor Bed & Breakfast Inn, 312 Houston St., 903/665-4500; www.wisemanor.com.

Austin Street Bistro, 117 East Austin St., 903/665-9700; www.austinstreetbistro.com.

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Mummy Mask of a Man (detail), Roman Period, early 1st century A.D., stucco, gilded and painted, 20 1/4 x 13 x 7 7/8 in. (51.5 x 33 x 20 cm), place made: Egypt, Africa. Charles Edwin Wilbour Fund

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FOUR *for* FALL 2010

*Our picks for an awe-inspiring
autumn show*

Text by **MELISSA GASKILL**

I **drove into Caprock Canyons State Park** for the first time on a crisp fall day. The park straddles a line where the Southern Plains meet Caprock Escarpment, and about a quarter-mile past the gate, the ground suddenly drops away. Long, narrow canyons stretch like claw marks through tawny sand and red rocks, their slopes splashed with dark green juniper, the sparkling streams below edged with yellow cottonwoods, wild plums, and hackberries. Until that day, I had no idea that Texas contained such a perfect fall palette.

The color and intensity of our fall displays depend on various conditions, says Joe Marcus, collections manager at the University of Texas' Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.



Cottonwoods shimmer along the banks of the Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River in Palo Duro Canyon State Park.

© JEROD FOSTER



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Besides the right species of trees, you need favorable temperatures and rainfall throughout the previous year. A little less rain in spring, say, or an early fall freeze can make a big difference, for good or bad. That makes fall kind of hit-or-miss in Texas, adds Dr. Hans Williams, associate dean of the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture at Stephen F. Austin State University. "You have to get that just-right combination of conditions, and our fall nights tend to be warm and our weather relatively dry, while cool nights and moist soil are best for fall color."

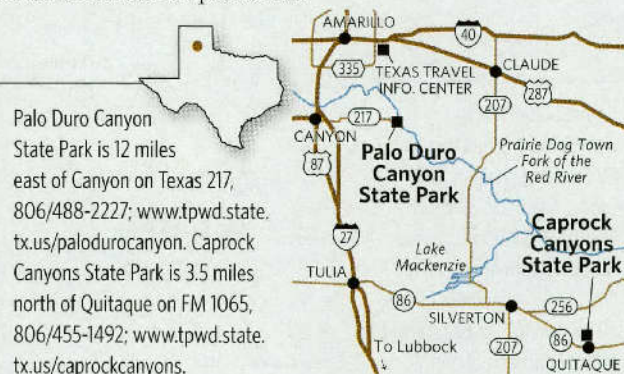
But considering Texas' size, in any given year favorable conditions exist somewhere in the state, whether for buttery cottonwoods and rosy sumacs out west, the Hill Country's fiery oaks and maples, or deep red tupelo and sweetgum in our eastern reaches. Here are our picks for this fall.

How do leaves change color?
Find out at www.texashighways.com/webextra.

Panhandle Parks

Up to 20 miles wide and 120 miles long, Palo Duro Canyon splits the Southern High Plains, or Llano Estacado. Shortgrass prairie covers its rim, while 800 feet below, the moister canyon floor supports a variety of plants, including sumac, mesquite, cottonwood, willow, and juniper trees. Palo Duro Canyon State Park trails and resources manager Mark Hassell sends visitors to the Chinaberry Day Use Area and along the one-mile, meandering Paseo Del Rio trail along the river to find fall color. "Western soapberry turns a pretty, bright yellow," he says "and sumacs throughout the park turn red." Cottonwood trees create a river of gold along the canyon floor, best viewed from pull-outs on the trip down from the rim. Peak color usually happens mid- to late-October, Hassell says.

Some 80 miles southeast, Caprock Canyons State Park's 15,000-plus acres range from sparse badlands with mesquite and juniper to bottomlands populated by wild plums, hackberries, and cottonwoods. The latter trees line the streams and forks of the Red River that carved these canyons, and their beautiful fall colors can be enjoyed from many spots, says park superintendent Donald Beard. Almost 90 miles of trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding crisscross the rugged terrain, each trek a bit different. The easy and accessible Canyon Rim Trail, an out-and-back hike up to three miles long, offers great views of a deep canyon full of trees. Those seeking a bigger challenge can hit the rugged, 7.5-mile Upper Canyon Trail. Beard suggests mid- to late-November is the best bet for peak color.



Palo Duro Canyon State Park is 12 miles east of Canyon on Texas 217, 806/488-2227; www.tpwd.state.tx.us/palodurocanyon. Caprock Canyons State Park is 3.5 miles north of Quitaque on FM 1065, 806/455-1492; www.tpwd.state.tx.us/caprockcanyons.

A peak-season Panhandle palette gleams along US 287 east of Clarendon.

Leakey and Garner State Park

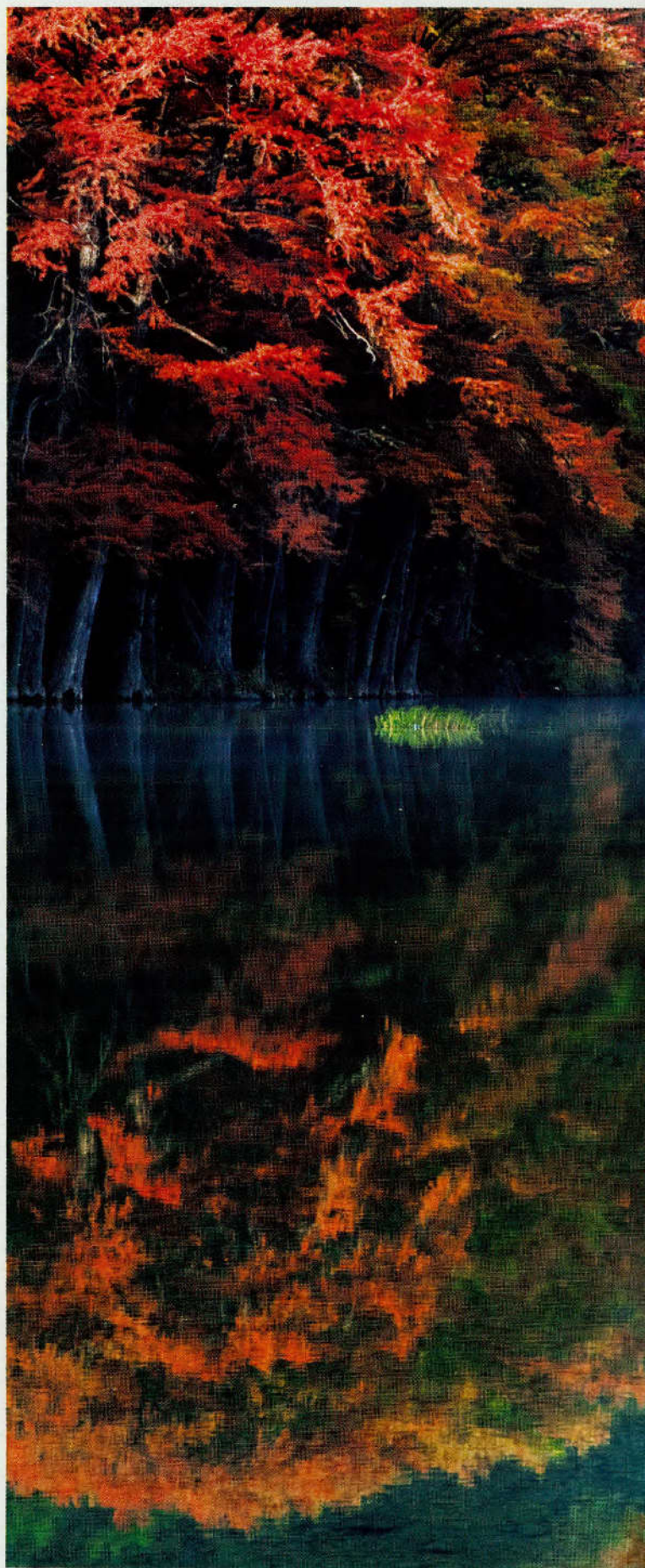
Autumnal adventures await in the land around Leakey, with hills rising up to 2,400 feet raked by deep canyons carved by the Nueces, Frio, and Sabinal rivers. The natural beauty of this southwestern edge of the Edwards Plateau attracts folks in all seasons (*TH* highlighted the area for spring wildflowers in April 2010), but fall can be spectacular here. Head just about any direction, says Michael Eason, conservation program coordinator with the Wildflower Center, and you'll run into fall photo opportunities. Ranch Road 337, which crests a ridge between Leakey and Camp Wood, ranks as one of the most scenic drives in the state year round; stop at the scenic overlook a few miles outside Leakey to gawk at flame-splashed hillsides. Or, drive north on US 83 toward Junction and take advantage of the views from every rest stop. Trees to thank for the awesome color include appropriately named flameleaf sumac and Texas red oak (also known as Spanish oak), Southern red oak, black cherry, bald cypress, Texas walnut, and sycamore.

A glassy Frio River mirrors coppery cypress just below Garner State Park.

Nine miles south of Leakey on US 83, Garner State Park enjoys renown as a summer destination, drawing throngs with the Frio River and nightly dances at the pavilion. But fall visitors enjoy cool temperatures, smaller crowds, and impressive foliage, according to interpretive specialist Frank Roberts. Canyons angled southeast to northwest capture cooling moisture from southeast prevailing winds to create richly diverse vegetation, including abundant trees such as mesquite, Texas redbud, bald cypress, western ashe juniper, pecan, Spanish oak, and Lacey oak (also known as Texas blue oak). The oaks, says Roberts, color up nicely when conditions are right, especially on north-facing slopes in the middle of the park. Cypress trees along the river can turn deep bronze, a photo-worthy contrast to the Frio's deep-green waters. Peak foliage conditions here tend to occur around Thanksgiving and a few weeks afterward.



Garner State Park, at 234 RR 1050, offers tent and RV camping, shelters, and cabins. Call 830/232-6132; www.tpwd.state.tx.us/garner. For area information, call the Frio Canyon Chamber of Commerce at 830/232-5222; www.friocanyonchamber.com.



© CHARLES CARLSON



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Caddo Lake State Park

A maze of sloughs and bayous creates nearly 27,000 acres of cypress swamp in the northeast corner of Texas at its border with Louisiana. Caddo Lake State Park occupies the shore of

Saw Mill Pond off Big Cypress Bayou, which leads to Caddo Lake.

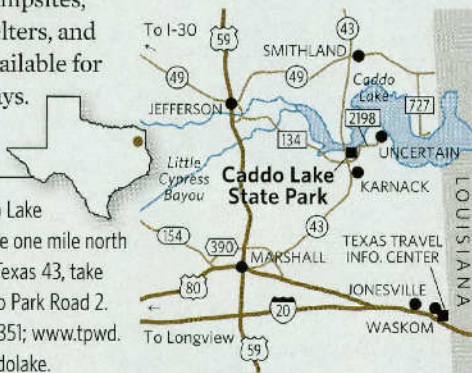
Leaves on the stately cypress trees, some of them more than 400 years old, turn shades of copper and bronze in certain fall conditions.

Some of the best color is down by the bayou, says park resource specialist Chuck Hubbard, where, in addition to cypress, abundant oaks, sweet gums, and maples paint the landscape.

Rent a canoe and glide through this watery wonderland to enjoy the trees and their reflection on the glassy water. The park also has two-and-a-half miles of hiking trails winding from bottomland hardwood to ridge tops, with color from maples, oaks, and hickory. The park is usually most photogenic from the last week of October through the third week of November, according to Hubbard.

The lake contains 71 species of fish, and if you can take your eyes off the trees, you may spot an alligator, mink, or beaver. Campsites, screened shelters, and cabins are available for overnight stays.

Dissolve into fall at Caddo Lake State Park, where you can canoe through a maze of cypress-studded sloughs and bayous.



To reach Caddo Lake State Park, drive one mile north of Karnack on Texas 43, take FM 2198 east to Park Road 2. Call 903/679-3351; www.tpwd.state.tx.us/caddolake.

Nacogdoches

With more than 600,000 acres of national forest land, Deep East Texas is known for trees. It stands to reason, then, that one would find fall color around Nacogdoches, which sits amid hundreds of square miles of towering trees and rolling hills. Local horticulturist Jeff Abt recommends driving Texas 21 east to San Augustine, or west to Alto for a good dose of fall. The Carl Monk Scenic Overlook, nine miles east of the loop on Texas 7 toward Center, overlooks a good show. In fact, just about any road in any direction out of Nacogdoches takes you through woods painted by sweet



© JOE LOWERY



To order a print of this photograph, call 866/962-1191, or visit www.texashighwaysprints.com.



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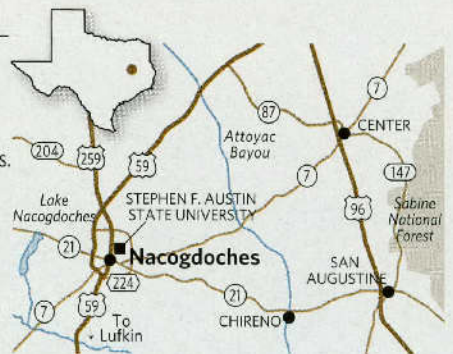


gum, Southern sugar or Florida maple, black gum, hickory, beech, honey locust, and dogwood.

For less driving and more sit-and-pondering, visit Stephen F. Austin State University's 10-acre Mast Arboretum on Lanana Creek. More than 200 different varieties of Japanese maples blaze in hues of yellow, red, and purple, accompanied by color from Mexican sugar maples, black walnut, and azaleas. At the school's Pineywoods Native Plant Center, 40 acres on the north end of campus, hackberry, redbud, Florida maple, and hickory cover the yellow spectrum. These facilities all have accessible walking paths and ample benches from which to enjoy the show. For best results, visit the Nacogdoches area in mid- to late-November. **TH**

LEFT: In East Texas, tallow trees splash the landscape north of Center. **ABOVE:** Multihued maple leaves complement the pines in Angelina County.

Call the Nacogdoches Convention & Visitors Bureau, 936/564-7351; www.visitnacogdoches.org. For more on the Stephen F. Austin State University Mast Arboretum, call 936/468-3705; <http://arboretum.sfasu.edu>.

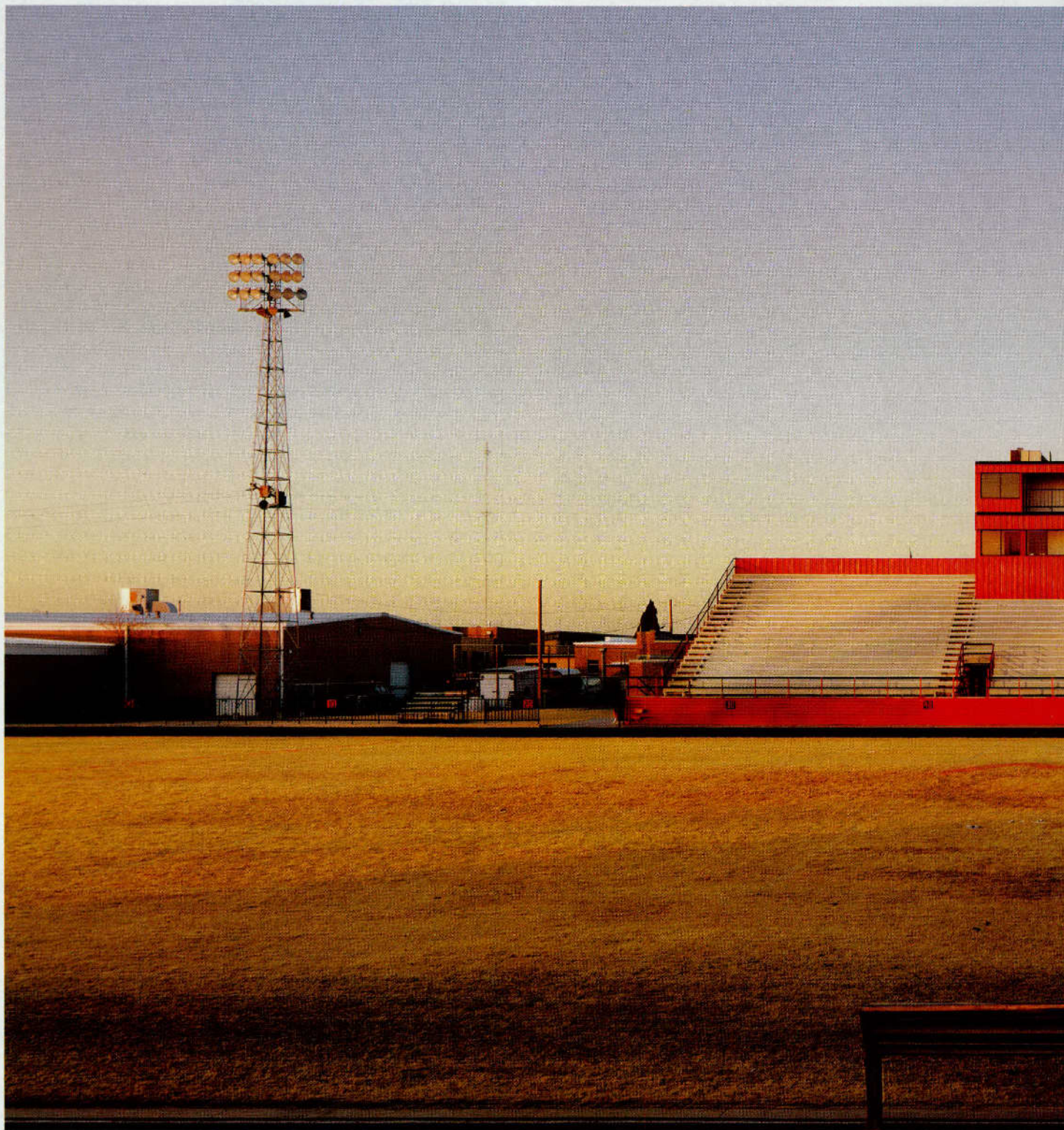


MELISSA GASKILL's fondest fall memories involve huge piles of leaves that her three kids turned into forts, hiding places, and trampolines for hours of free fun. She also loves soaking up fall colors around the state.

BOTH PHOTOS © JOE LOWERY

Home Field Vantage

A 50-Yard-Line View of Texas High School Football Shrines



WILDCAT FIELD, Wink

*Text and photographs excerpted from Home Field,
Texas High School Football Stadiums from Alice to Zephyr, by Jeff Wilson
Foreword by Buzz Bissinger; Text compiled by Bobby Hawthorne*

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AS A PHOTOGRAPHER, I AM COMPELLED TO DOCUMENT and reserve for posterity both the things that interest me and the things that I feel have an impact on the larger landscape of modern culture. In our society, football is a pursuit that is rife with meaning, both overt and obscure. It is easy to discount the importance of what is, in essence, just a game. To do that, however, is to overlook the cultural significance of sports in general, and football in particular. In the intricacies and eccentricities of human endeavors, rarely is there an undertaking that is truly superficial.

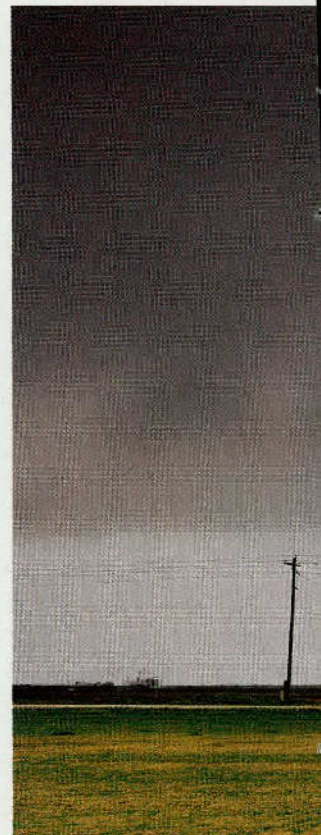
Texas high school football has alternately been presented as a noble pursuit and as the apogee of excess. It has been aggrandized to the point of hyperbole in television, motion pictures, and print. The idea of the football stadium as a house of worship is a shopworn metaphor, but one that lives on because it is close enough to reality to remain eerily and sometimes comically plausible. In truth, each community has its own relationship to the game and to the cultural phenomenon it embodies. That relationship manifests itself in many ways, from the color of the uniforms, to the choice of mascot, right down to the playing surface. The stadium, however, has become a particularly special expression of how a community as a whole feels about the game and, oftentimes, how it feels about itself. It is a specialized architecture, meant for only one purpose. It is a structure that is revered in a way that most will never be. In many ways it is a community gathering place, on a par with the drive-in on Saturday nights or the corner coffee shop. It is a place to congregate, to exchange thoughts and ideas, and, most importantly, to experience a kind of camaraderie unavailable, and possibly even frowned upon, in any other venue.

The promise of an empty football field is an irresistible force for those who understand and revere the game. It represents a blank canvas begging to be painted with the varied sights and sounds of youthful action and enthusiasm. Covering a cross section of social, economic, and geographic criteria, the photographs in this book represent a small but varied sample of stadiums across the state. By surveying the stadiums in winter repose, after the season has run its course and the crowds have filed out, we as viewers are privy to a quieter and more contemplative side of the subject that is seldom revealed to the casual observer. Presenting the home stands of each stadium from the same vantage point on the 50-yard line allows the viewer to see them as equals, regardless of their position in any hierarchy. Looking at these photographs, we can experience these places that hold so much collective memory in a state they were not meant to be seen in: as potential, rather than kinetic, energy. Far removed from their normal state of intense dynamism, they become cultural artifacts to be puzzled over for their quirks and appreciated for their ability to offer us a window into the hearts of those responsible for them.

Any fan, however jaded, would be hard-pressed to stand in the middle of a West Texas football field at dawn and not be moved. The relative innocence of the game in high school keeps the sport grounded in a way that it can never be at the collegiate and professional levels. The banners of butcher paper exhorting players to excel, the colorful images of mascots crafted from plastic cups stuck in chain-link

fences, and the grass trampled by hundreds of pairs of cleats tell the story of a season. The meaning of something as basic as one hundred yards and a pair of goalposts can easily be clouded by the introduction of money and the expectation of profits that inevitably follows. But for the time being—as captured in these photographs—it is simple and pure, like a perfect spiral arcing gracefully across the sky. **TH**

PREVIOUS SPREAD: "When I was in junior high, Wink was playing Pecos and the teams got into a big fight. I took out that way. But then my dad said, 'Stay put.' Someone called the fire department, which came out and hosed everybody down." —Lillian Horner





FALCON FIELD, Veribest



MUSTANG BOWL, Sweetwater

Home Field Vantage

Texas High School Football Shrines





EAGLE STADIUM, Sanderson

"Our stadium was built for flood control and is affectionately known as 'The Pit.' (Flooding) doesn't happen very often as we're 'The Cactus Capital of Texas.' Four or five years ago, we had a heavy rain and the newspaper ran a photo of kids swimming back and forth between the 40-yard lines." — Beverly Farley Choate

Home Field Vantage

Texas High School Football Shrines





EAGLE STADIUM, Leakey

"The stadium was originally built for eight-man football, which used an 80-yard field. When we switched to 11-man, we had to add 20 yards to the field. Now, the bleachers are centered on the 30 to 35 yard line, not the 50." —*Martin Martinez*

Home Field Vantage

Texas High School Football Shrines



RABBIT STADIUM, Atlanta





SA River Walk



Reimagined

Extending San Antonio's fabled River Walk revitalizes the city's sense of community

Text by LORI MOFFATT

Photographs by RANDALL MAXWELL

Artist Donald Lipski's colorful installation, *F.I.S.H.*, suspends 25 orange-and-blue fiberglass sunfish beneath an I-35 overpass, where they glimmer at night.



When I travel, I enjoy interacting with the locals as much as with fellow visitors, so I'm excited about the River Walk's latest expansion. This project extends river-level pedestrian (and river taxi) access about 1.5 miles upriver to the renovated Pearl Brewery site, but more significantly, the extension draws together two distinct personalities of the river (and of San Antonio).

For the old-school River Walk experience and the tourist crush, stroll the boisterous commercial section, a two-mile horseshoe bend that offers margaritas, mariachis, and elbow-to-elbow people-watching amid restaurants, bars, scenic bridges, and shaggy cypress trees strung with glittering lights.

In contrast, the new stretch—called the “Museum Reach” section because it affords river access to the San Antonio Museum of Art—seems tranquil. There are no plans for river-level businesses, and the native landscaping (overseen by the San Antonio River Authority with advice from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin) affords color and texture year round, simultaneously attracting yellow-crowned night herons, butterflies, and other wildlife. In some spots, your only company might be a trio of ducks or a heron stealthily stalking breakfast in the water. The new extension's park-like character entices residents and visitors, just as it creates a dynamic sense of community—complete with public artwork, bicycle and dog-walking access, and a vibrant Saturday-morning Farmer's Market at the Pearl.

I visited this new stretch of River Walk in November 2009, shortly after the expansion's ribbon-cutting. But I hadn't seen it at night, when many of the artworks on the river change character and take on new identities through illumination, and I hadn't enjoyed the river-barge journey upriver via the Lock and Dam. So on a recent weekend, I returned to San Antonio with my husband to experience a fuller sampling of what the new expansion offers.

Our first stop: the dramatic Pearl Brewery site, aka “Pearl,” which ceased its brewery operation in 2001 after more than a century of making beer. The Pearl's campus of repurposed brewery buildings—the stable for horses that pulled delivery wagons, a bottling warehouse, recycling center, and other structures—lies at the northernmost navigable point of the San Antonio River. Today, the 22-acre complex is rapidly evolving into a center for shopping, dining, living, and learning. Anchored by one of three campuses of the Culinary Institute of America, the Pearl already draws an eclectic mix of businesses and nonprofit organizations. The

LEFT: A lock-and-dam feature lifts river taxis some 10 feet in about five minutes. RIGHT: The weekly farmers market at The Pearl draws San Antonians and visitors for produce and performances.

Nature Conservancy of Texas offices are here, along with the American Institute of Architects' Center for Architecture; both offer lectures and photography exhibits among a list of periodic attractions for the public.

In the brewery's Full Goods



Building, which once served as the distribution center, an independent bookstore called The Twig specializes in Texana and books for children; next door, cookbook author Melissa Guerra's namesake housewares shop carries all manner of culinary implements, including many hard-to-find items from Latin America. (This is the place to find authentic Mexican *molcajetes* along with paella pans, hand-embroidered dish towels, and mesquite rolling pins from northern Mexico.) Nearby, Chef Andrew Weissman's restaurants Il Sogno and The Sandbar offer intimate dining spots for creative Italian fare and seafood, while a new venture called La Gloria Ice House introduces diners to savory dishes often found in the street stands of Mexico's cities.

In some spots, your only company might be a trio of ducks or a heron stealthily stalking breakfast in the water.

"The CIA campus here offers a great opportunity to shine new light on Latin American cuisine—which is unbelievably complex and often underappreciated," Melissa Guerra told me. In fact, with a recent expansion of CIA programs and the addition of culinary classes for "food enthusiasts," layman cooks like me can learn techniques in commercial kitchens usually reserved for aspiring professional chefs.

The lunchtime line outside CIA graduate Johnny Hernandez' La Gloria Ice House, one of the Pearl's newest (and busiest) restaurants, moved quickly, and soon it was our turn to order at the counter. Hernandez focuses on the street foods of interior Mexico—tacos, ceviches, *tlayudas* (what Hernandez calls "Mexican pizzas"), Mexican sandwiches called *tortas*, and various representations of gorditas and tostadas—all stuffed, filled, or topped with traditional ingredients like shredded beef, marinated fish, and citrus-marinated pork.

We ordered a sampling of mesquite-grilled fish tacos, ceviche made with tomatillos and green olives, and one of La Gloria's vegetarian options made with sautéed green beans and carrots, queso cotijo, and a rich mole sauce. We then settled at a mist-cooled table on the patio, where we enjoyed a view of the landscaped riverbank to our right. When we looked to our left, we watched construction cranes assemble new loft apartments

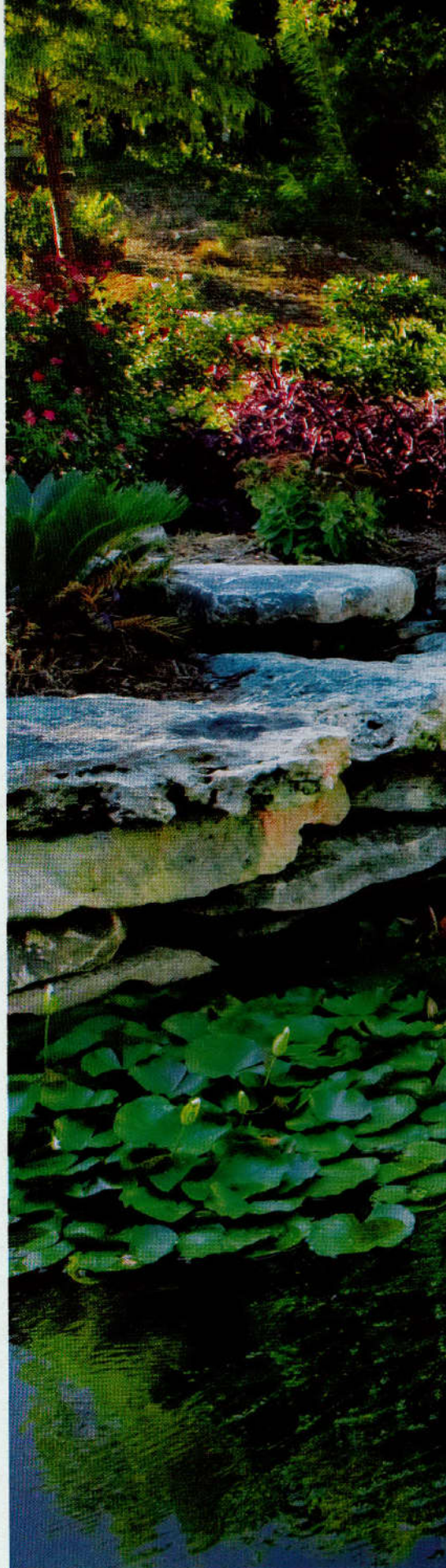
like so many Tinker Toys near the old brewery building. Soon, we hoisted glass bottles of fizzy Topo Chico mineral water in a toast to the fascinating development project, which honors history as it creates a new environment for today's community.

San Antonio excels at that, I'd learn. I later visited with Steven Schauer, who leads tours of the new Museum Reach and oversees community relations for the San Antonio River Authority, one of several private and public entities that combine forces to improve the river experience.

It turns out that the Museum Reach project is the first of several expansion projects now on the River Authority's drawing boards. The River Authority partners with the San Antonio River Foundation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bexar County, and the City of San Antonio.

"We're already working to extend the riverfront trails to Brackenridge Park as part of the Museum Reach section," Schauer told me. "But we're also working on the 'Mission Reach extension,' which by 2013, will create a pedestrian pathway south of downtown, an eight-mile trail connecting all four of the city's historic missions. We're going to

One stop along the way features a grotto designed by Carlos Cortes and enhanced by colorful gardens and water plants.







great lengths to plant trees, sow native grasses and other plants, and restore the river to a more natural state. Eventually, you'll be able to start at Brackenridge Park, near the zoo, and walk along a trail system to the Pearl and the San Antonio Museum of Art, through the downtown commercial district all the way to Mission Espada—a 15-mile, linear park through the heart of San Antonio.”

But first things first. My husband and I had booked a room for the weekend at the recently refurbished Holiday Inn El Tropicano, which overlooks the river at the Lexington Street Bridge, the official beginning of the new Museum Reach promenade. The hotel's festive, Miami-inspired lobby and pool area (think brown-and-white glass tiles, toucans in floor-to-ceiling cages, and Celia Cruz over the sound system) belies the no-frills rooms, but the central location wins points, and the hotel—popular with families and conventions—often offers special package deals.



ABOVE: The Pearl's Full Goods Building, once a beer distribution center, now houses an independent bookstore (The Twig), along with specialty stores and restaurants. RIGHT: The old stable (through the entrance, at right) now hosts special events.



The extension creates a dynamic sense of community—complete with public artwork, bicycle and dog-walking access, and a vibrant Saturday-morning Farmer's Market at the Pearl.

Outside the hotel, at river level, we spied our first piece of River Walk artwork—a restored 1930s tile mural of a Mexican street scene, which once was commissioned for a relative by New Deal congressman and San Antonio mayor Maury Maverick, who spearheaded the River Walk's development in the late 1930s. For the Museum Reach project, the San Antonio River Foundation commissioned more than a million dollars worth of new public art to embellish this stretch. A few strides away, beneath the Lexington Street Bridge, Martin Richman's *Shimmer Field* offers a glimmering, fluttering sculpture of "light chimes" that incorporates hundreds of strips of acrylic.

We planned dinner at Il Sogno, James Beard Award-nominee Andrew Weissman's new Italian restaurant at the Pearl, and so with dusk approaching, we phoned for a pickup by a Rio San Antonio Cruise water taxi. When the open-air boat arrived 20 minutes later, we joined a barge-load of tourists and San Antonians headed up-river, and we found surprises around nearly every corner: Suspended panels beneath an overpass morphing from pink to purple to blue as the light changed, fiber-optic paint creating optical illusions, handrails resembling abstract interpretations of nature, and other subtle pieces that rewarded observant eyes.

At the Lock and Dam, a small-scale engineering marvel similar to the one used to raise and lower ships through the Panama Canal, cameras clicked as our driver guided our boat into a large chamber (called the lock), secured the door, and allowed the lock to gradually fill with water, raising the barge some 10 feet so we could continue our journey. (The ride through takes about five minutes.)

Approaching the San Antonio Museum of Art and the Jones Street Bridge, a melodic chorus of nature sounds—birdsong, frog and insect serenades, splashing water—dominates the atmosphere, and our guide tells us that this is a "soundscape" called *Sonic Passage*. This delightful effect springs from the mind of ambient artist Bill Fontana, who recorded hundreds of sounds on the river and



LEFT: Il Sogno features the creative dishes developed by Chef Andrew Weissman. ABOVE: Independent bookstore The Twig specializes in Texana.

edited them together to “wash” visitors with sound. A little farther north, Donald Lipski’s wry *F.I.S.H* installation—a school of 25 orange-and-blue fiberglass sunfish, each seven feet long and lit from within at night—“swims” suspended

beneath the I-35 overpass. (A 26th fish is on display indefinitely at the San Antonio Museum of Art.) Far below the fish, visitors take in lush landscapes of koi ponds, golden stands of grasses, and blooming lantana, sage, and blue salvia. A little farther on, approaching the Pearl, concrete artisan Carlos Cortes’ whimsical Grotto pays homage to the *faux bois* creations of his father, Maximo Cortes, who worked with famous *faux bois* artisan Dionicio Rodriguez.

Our dinner that night at Il Sogno, a restaurant known for its innovative menu as well as for diligently operating according to rules of environmental sustainability, was magnificent. The menu features such dishes as spaghetti with balsamic-marinated quail, skewered monkfish with scallops and green olives, and house-made gnocchi in rabbit sauce. We chose to share a composed salad of octopus, citrus, fennel, and mint; a rich osso buco with Parmesan risotto; and lobster-and-mushroom ravioli. We challenged our sommelier to suggest a wine to complement such disparate flavors, and he suggested a Fiano di Avellino from the southern Italian region of Campania.

The next morning, we returned by boat to the Pearl for the Saturday Farmer’s Market, where more than 30 vendors from a 150-mile radius around San Antonio sell baked goods, nuts, eggs, seasonal produce, cheese, herbs, candy, spices, and a selection of meats. We stopped one more time at La Gloria for a snack before driving home, and when a waiter brought a tremendous *molcajete* full of bubbling queso and green chiles to the table next to us, I couldn’t resist quizzing the diners about the selection. They quickly dished up a sample for us.

That moment of sharing seems to characterize the new River Walk extension: the chance to become friends breaking bread at the table of shared experience. And that’s what the River Walk continues to bring to San Antonio—a sense of connectivity and community. **TH**

Senior Editor **LORI MOFFATT** returns to San Antonio every chance she gets. Staff photographer **RANDALL MAXWELL** has been a fan of San Antonio’s River Walk since childhood and finds the Museum Reach extension a great cultural introduction for his own children.

TH ESSENTIALS



San Antonio River Walk Expansion

FOR INFORMATION about lodging, dining, events, and attractions in San Antonio, call the San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau at 800/447-3372; www.visitsanantonio.com.

For details about the **Pearl**, including the Pearl Farmers Market, restaurants, shops, offices, the CIA campus and classes, and the history of the Pearl Brewery, see www.pearlbrewery.com.

The **San Antonio Museum of Art** is at 200 W. Jones Ave. Call 210/978-8100; www.samuseum.org.

San Antonio River Taxis run frequently between spots on the commercial stretch of the River Walk, and make regular excursions on the Museum Reach. Call the dispatch line at 210/225-8002 to schedule a pickup; also see www.riosanantonio.com.

Holiday Inn El Tropicano is at 110 Lexington Ave. Call 210/223-9461 or 866/423-7814; www.eltropicanohotel.com.

To help with or learn about ongoing river-improvement projects, contact the **San Antonio River Foundation** at 210/224-2694; www.sariverfoundation.org.

Suburban Renewal



Spoons Café & Bar lures hungry guests with its all-day breakfasts as well as comfort food for lunch and dinner. The adjacent Spoons Garage & Bakery draws crowds craving coffee and pie.

McKinney establishes its identity apart from the Metroplex



Text by **JUDY WILEY**

Photographs by **KEVIN STILLMAN**

ON A QUIET WEEKDAY AFTERNOON IN MCKINNEY'S downtown historic district, a guitar player is picking out a tune in the shadow of Collin County's 1876 courthouse, now reborn as the McKinney Performing Arts Center. These streets, which bustled in the 1870s when cotton made McKinney the commercial center of the county, still hum with residents and visitors alike, who come to explore boutiques, restaurants, and galleries.

But the well-preserved historic district—one of the largest in Texas—is only part of the pull. In the summertime, crape myrtles exploding with blooms line the main thoroughfares and green spaces. Year round, three wineries offer tastings and tours,

ABOVE: When artists are working on the street, an eager crowd of onlookers descends on McKinney's downtown historic district, which is among the largest in Texas.

Suburban Renewal

a nature center and science museum provide encounters with wildlife, and cultural attractions include film screenings, live music, theater, and living-history reenactments of the county's 19th-Century history. McKinney lies only 30 miles north of Dallas, but in some respects, it feels worlds away.

I've passed the McKinney exit a few miles from my home in Grapevine many times over the years, but I decided to drive into town and investigate after friends and acquaintances raved about the restaurants, shopping, and more.

As I head down Tennessee Street, one of the main avenues in the historic district, I drop in to visit with artist Laura Moore, who paints and exhibits her works in a bright, 1800s building that once served as a cobbler's studio. Moore, who left a career in computer science to become a painter, graduated in 2006 from the Art Institute

of Chicago, and now works in a variety of media and styles. Along with her own works, Moore shows contemporary pieces by Texas and national artists, including abstract pieces by Annie Lee of nearby Allen, who specializes in realistic portrayals of African-American life and culture.

The wall of windows at Laura Moore Fine Art Studios complements Moore's fascination with shifting light and reflection, a fortuitous marriage that guarantees a different gallery experience every time you visit.

After I leave Moore, a yellow-and-blue sign that reads "Alternative Furnishings" on Louisiana Street catches my eye. Inside, McKinney native Charm Cameron presides over a collection of unusual architectural antiques selected for her downtown shop by buyers who scour locales across the globe in search of hand-carved doors and mantelpieces, handwoven textiles, iron railings, chandeliers, and other artisan-made pieces. "I try

LEFT: Time for a cupcake and an espresso? Set up a TV tray near a corner couch in Spoons Garage & Bakery. RIGHT: Laura Moore at work on a painting in her gallery studio in downtown McKinney.



to find out the stories behind the items," says Cameron. "Whether something came from a flea market in Italy or a cathedral in France, it's wonderful to keep the history alive in a new home."

It's no wonder that so many designers frequent her shop.

This little stretch of Louisiana Street holds another cache of antique pieces leading contemporary lives: Karen Dawkins' shop, Smitten, blends old and new with an inventive sense of whimsy. Dawkins, who ran an antiques mall in



town for more than a decade, says she has always liked antiques, especially when they're given a new function and brought back to life for a modern environment. The shop's motto is "reuse, repurpose, refresh," which the shop does to great effect. Pillows made with vintage buttons and petticoat trim, picture frames fashioned from antique pressed-tin ceiling squares, and jewelry made from found objects like seashells and keys prove the ultimate in creative recycling.

In fact, repurposing on a grand scale

REPURPOSING on a grand scale informs the entire historic district, with its chic shops behind facades built of brick worn soft by time.



McKINNEY lies only 30 miles north of Dallas, but in some respects, it feels worlds away.

informs the entire historic district, with its chic shops behind facades built of brick worn soft by time. In the 1950s, downtown supported five movie theaters, and one—the Ritz—survives today as a collection of businesses that includes a salon, a jewelry store, a wine-tasting room, and a 12- by 24-foot boutique called Sharla's. Here, custom-made cabinetry, brown marble floors, antique chandeliers, and French and Italian music create a sophisticated, welcoming environment for owner Sharla Bush's private skin-care line (developed by East Coast plastic surgeons). Bush also carries exclusive brands such as Le Clerc, Carthusia, and Bond No. 9,

along with shaving accouterments, candles, Venetian-glass soap dispensers, and other elegant bath accessories.

Near noon, crowds begin to amass at Spoons Café & Bar on the corner, a 1920s-era Texas Power and Light Company building converted to a casual eatery with red-and-yellow-striped awnings out front and shading the patio. I join in, and am tempted by all-day breakfast dishes such as migas and house-made granola, and calorie splurges like fresh-baked pies, cherry cobbler, and cheesecakes. But I

wind up ordering the Spoons' Sig Salad, a mix of baby spinach, golden raisins, strawberries, and blue cheese—a lively sweet-and-salty combination—though the BLTA, made with applewood-smoked bacon, avocado, and a lemon-basil mayonnaise, almost made the cut.

Large windows and an open kitchen keep the café cheery and comfortable inside. The adjoining Spoons Garage & Bakery—where the power company once sheltered its trucks—is now a coffeehouse serving specialty coffees and teas on vintage TV trays. Here, you can re-energize at a well-used science-lab table, surf the Internet, and admire (or purchase) a piece of the Garage's ever-changing collection of funky antiques.

ABOVE: McKinney bustles as a crossroads of energetic locals and enthusiastic visitors taking part in events like Art Walk in the spring or Oktoberfest in the fall. RIGHT: With 289 acres of wooded preserve, the Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary attracts families seeking a natural escape.



Next up on my McKinney must-see list: lodging. And one of the best spots in town is right across the street.

Visitors will find several well-appointed B&Bs in the historic district, but for a boutique-hotel experience, check out the four-story, 45-room Grand Hotel. The elegant gem opened in 2007 in the renovated 1880s Heard Opera House and Heard Mercantile building. The Grand pampers guests with Frette robes and linens in period-decorated rooms, a fitness center, and modern bathrooms outfitted with gleaming granite and glass. The hotel's restaurant, Rick's Chophouse, offers room service, but it's a shame to miss the clubby ambiance here—leather booths, original wood floors, iron chandeliers. Rick's specializes in steak, but also serves Texas quail, buttermilk-fried chicken, and fare such as elk medallions.

After a look at rooms and a chat with bubbly front-desk clerks happy to share what they know about McKinney, I'm ready to walk off lunch, and I know just where to go.

A visit here isn't complete without a trek to the Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary, a 289-acre wooded preserve about five miles south of downtown. Seven hiking trails wind through blackland prairie, woodlands, and wetlands habitats. No matter the season, you're likely to spy (and hear) some of the hundreds of bird species that nest here or migrate through. In the native plant garden, agarita and red bay begin to flower in early spring, and the tall oaks along the trails provide shade in the summer for picnicking.

Inside the museum, kids can dig for fossils in a replicated dig site, and learn about snakes, rocks, minerals, and marine life; this part of North Texas was once covered in Cretaceous seas.

The choice for supper is a no-brainer: Everyone I've spoken to so far has urged me to try Café Malaga, a Spanish tapas

It's scary, fun, and educational: The Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary brings natural history to modern-day relevance.



More on Café Malaga at texashighways.com/webextra.

restaurant that had just moved to a large location with sprawling decks about two-and-a-half blocks from the Performing Arts Center.

Red interior walls and vibrant yellow tablecloths create a warm setting for exploring the cuisines of Spain and North Africa. Outside, on an expansive, bi-level patio cooled by misters, diners overlook crushed granite pathways, an herb garden, and a stone fountain.

Café Malaga's emphasis on tapas (small plates designed for sharing) means meals are a fun experience with lots of sampling. First up: a delicious, salty-crunchy platter of three mesquite-grilled, prosciutto-wrapped asparagus spears, followed by *patatas bravas*, a small platter

of fried potatoes tossed in a spicy North African chili sauce. Next, my server recommends one of the restaurant's bestsellers—strips of paprika-dusted, mesquite-grilled hanger steak, drizzled with a tangy, blue cheese aioli.

I caught up with owner Annie Stokes about a week later at the Saturday farmer's market at nearby Chestnut Square, where she sells bacon-wrapped dates and other signature dishes from the restaurant. She grew up in England, but the inspiration for Café Malaga came from her Spanish grandmother. "Being British, I always thought I'd someday open an English tearoom," she says. "Then when I first set foot in Spain, I found the food phenomenal and the dining experience relaxing and inspiring. I knew my friends in Texas would feel the same way. And I thought, 'Of course! It's tapas, not tea!'"



TH ESSENTIALS



McKinney

McKINNEY is about 30 miles north of Dallas, in Collin County. For more details about lodging, restaurants, and attractions, call the McKinney Convention & Visitors Bureau at 888/649-8499; www.visitmckinney.com. Information about sites in the story follows.

Shopping

Laura Moore Fine Art Studios, 107 S. Tennessee St. Call 214/914-3630; www.laura.mooreart.com.

Alternative Furnishings, 105 W. Louisiana St. Call 972/562-0716; www.alternative-furnishings.com.

Sharla's, 103 E. Virginia St., Ste. 101. Call 214/544-2200; www.sharlas.com.

Smitten, 118 E. Louisiana St. Call 972/529-6994; www.smittenmckinney.com.

Dining

Café Malaga, 107 S. Church St. Call 972/542-9996; www.cafemalaga.com.

Spoons Cafe, 100 E. Louisiana St. Call 972/548-6900; www.spoonscafe.com.

Lodging

Grand Hotel, 114 W. Louisiana St. Call 214/726-9250; www.grandhotelmckinney.com.

Outdoors and History

Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary, 1 Nature Place. Call 972/562-5566; www.heardmuseum.org.

Chestnut Square, 315 S. Chestnut St. Call 972/562-8790; www.chestnutsquare.org.

Chestnut Square Historic Village lies just a few blocks south of the downtown square. The 2.5-acre compound represents life in Collin County from 1850 to 1930, when the railroad and cotton farming brought prosperity to the North Texas prairie. Six homes with period furnishings, a general store, a wedding chapel, a smokehouse, and a replica of a one-room schoolhouse welcome visitors for self-guided and guided tours, and a visitor's center houses the world's largest collection (300 strong) of historic ice cream freezers, some dating to the mid-1860s.

On Saturdays from March through October, the Chestnut Square Farmer's Market takes place here, with dozens of vendors selling produce, breads, jams and jellies, and other foodstuffs, along with jewelry, ceramics, and locally made products.

I made a return trip to McKinney just to take in Chestnut Square and the market. Though a stiff, cold wind drove the vendors home early, families who braved the weather to amble through the compound enjoyed a warm welcome from volunteers versed in McKinney history, and bacon-wrapped dates were still on sale at Stokes' table. Here, heartfelt pride in the past meets McKinney's creative, vibrant present—the winning combination that will keep you coming back, too. **TH**

***JUDY WILEY** is a freelance writer who lives and works in Grapevine. Even though she has traveled as far as Dubai, she enjoyed McKinney's creative dining options and sophisticated shopping. Photographer **KEVIN STILLMAN**, an avid cyclist, wanted to set his camera aside and join the two-wheelers touring downtown McKinney.*

An Astronaut's Mission

Alan Bean, the only artist who has walked on the moon, creates eyewitness accounts of space experiences

Text by **KATE HULL**



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ON JULY 20, 1969, PEOPLE ACROSS the globe watched their televisions in amazement as Apollo 11 landed the Lunar Module on the moon, and Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin took that "giant leap for mankind." Between 1969 and 1972, 12 astronauts set foot on the moon as part of the Apollo missions for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). But of these 12 Americans, only one is a native Texan—Alan Bean.

Born in 1932 in Wheeler, Texas, Alan LaVern Bean grew up with dreams of becoming a pilot. He studied aeronautical engineering at the University of Texas, then served as a U.S. naval aviator and test pilot before being selected through a rigorous process for NASA's third astronaut group in 1963.

Highlights of Bean's 18-year career at NASA include serving as the Lunar Module pilot of Apollo 12

in 1969 (he and Commander Pete Conrad spent almost eight hours on the moon's

Artist Alan Bean, shown here in his Houston studio, draws inspiration from his and fellow astronauts' missions in space.

"I wanted to leave something behind to show what it was like [in space] and what we did."

surface), and as Spacecraft Commander of Skylab 3, a 59-day, record-setting flight that studied humans in long-term zero gravity, the sun and stars, and the earth itself, from 260 miles up.

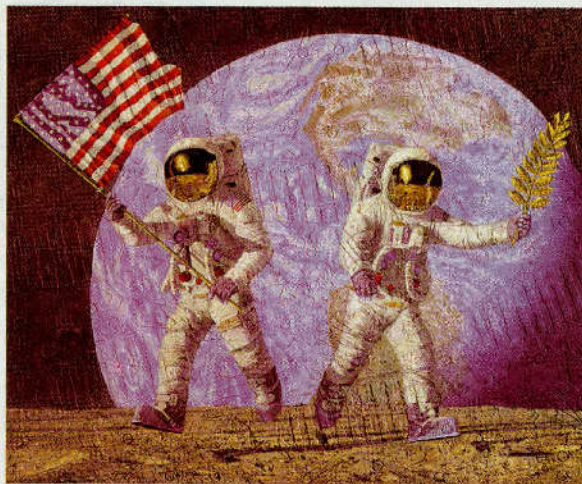
But in June 1981, Bean surprised his colleagues and decided to leave NASA to pursue his other passion—painting—and begin a new career as an artist. For the past three decades, by combining the technical mind of an astronaut and the creative imagination of a painter, Bean has captured his memories and those of fellow astronauts with artwork depicting space exploration.

"I gave up a job that I loved, and that I had worked for fundamentally all of my professional life, to do this," he says. "I was lucky and somehow got this honor to be on the moon, and I felt that this [career change] was the right thing to do. But it was a tough decision because I loved being an astronaut."

Bean started his new career by taking art classes to learn different techniques and styles. Early on, he painted still lifes and other studies before he began depicting his experiences as an astronaut. "I didn't realize it at the time," he says, "but when I became the fourth man to walk on the moon, I also became the first artist to walk on the moon."

"I wanted to leave something behind to show what it was like and what we did. This is what I do now on a daily basis. I paint my experiences, as well as stories that other astronauts have told me, to leave behind when we are gone."

In the dozens of paintings he has completed, he has captured the moment Neil Armstrong placed the American flag on the moon, images of himself and Pete Conrad looking out into space as they stand



In Spirit of Apollo, Bean depicts Neil Armstrong carrying an American flag and Buzz Aldrin holding a gold olive branch.

on the moon's surface for the first time, and personal experiences of his fellow astronauts.

As he works on each painting, Bean is meticulous about representing the rough, three-dimensional texture of the moon's surface. "It has been a journey of discovery learning to paint dirt and make it look good," he quips.

He paints on airplane plywood instead of canvas because of its sturdy quality, he says. He also incorporates personal objects from past missions. He makes imprints using a model of his moon boots and uses pieces of patches from his suit dirtied with dust from the mission, as well as discarded pieces of foil from the heat shield of the spacecrafts.

Before he begins a painting, he designs a model of each scene to ensure that



HOTELS OF TEXAS

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Alvin	Kerrville
Amarillo (2)	Kilgore
Angleton	Killeen
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Anthony	La Grange
Athens	La Porte
Atlanta	Lake Dallas
Austin	Lake Worth
Bastrop	Lamesa
Bay City	Laredo
Baytown	Levelland
Beaumont	Lewisville
Beeville	Lindale
Benbrook	Littlefield
Big Spring	Livingston
Borger	Llano
Bowie	Lockhart
Brady	Longview (2)
Brenham	Lubbock (2)
Bridgeport	Lufkin
Brownfield	Madisonville
Brownsville	Mansfield
Bryan	Marvel
Buda	Marble Falls
Buffalo	Marshall
Burleson	Mathis
Burnet	McAllen
Canadian	McKinney
Canton	Mexia
Canyon	Midland
Carthage	Mineola
Cedar Park	Mineral Wells
Center	Mission
Ceuro	Monahans
Childress	Montgomery
Clarendon	Mount Pleasant
Cleburne	Nacogdoches (2)
Cleveland	Navasota
Clifton	New Braunfels
Clute	New Caney
Coleman	North Richland Hills
Columbus	Odessa
Comanche	Ozona
Copperas Cove	Palestine
Corpus Christi (5)	Pampa
Corsicana	Paris
Cotulla	Pearland
Cresson	Pearsall
Dalhart	Pecos (2)
Dallas (4)	Perryton
Dayton	Plainview
De Soto	Plano
Decatur	Port Aransas
Deer Park	Port Lavaca
Del Rio	Portland
Denison	Post
Denton (2)	Quanah
Donna	Raymondville
Dumas	Refugio
Duncanville	Rio Grande City
Eagle Pass	Roanoke
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Edna	Rockdale
El Campo	Round Rock
El Paso (2)	Salado
Falfurrias	San Angelo
Floresville	San Antonio (12)
Forney	San Benito
Fort Stockton	San Marcos
Fort Worth (3)	Schulenburg
Franklin	Seagoville
Fredericksburg	Sealy
Freer	Shamrock
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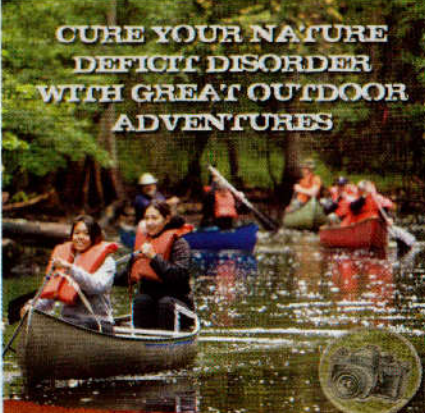
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Space Center Houston: Moon Rocks and More

JUST 25 MILES FROM downtown Houston, Johnson Space Center (formerly known as the Manned Spacecraft Center) has been the home of NASA's manned space flight program for nearly half a century. Space Center Houston, the JSC's official visitors center, gives guests an inside look at NASA, with activities from watching a launch in the Blast Off Theater to experiencing life in the International Space Station.



A tour of the historic Apollo Mission Control Center and the Space Vehicle Mockup Facility offers the chance to see astronauts in training. No tour would be complete without a visit to the Astronaut Gallery, where portraits of astronauts, crew photos, and spacesuits tell the story of the nation's first astronauts.

To learn about the start of manned space flight, take a tour of the Starship Gallery, which begins with the film *On Human Destiny* at the Destiny Theater. Afterwards, see artifacts from early space missions, including an original model of the Goddard Rocket. Other exhibits feature original space capsules, including the Apollo 17 Command Module, which was the last capsule to circle the moon. SCH also has moon rocks on display for guests to see and touch.

Space Center Houston, at 1601 NASA Pkwy., opens weekdays from 10-5 and on weekends 10-6. For information on special events and attractions, visit www.spacecenter.org, or call 281/244-2100.

—Kate Hull



A visitor studies one of the space suits on display in the Astronaut Gallery at Space Center Houston.

the lighting angles are the same as they would have been at the time of the mission. Using tools that measure the actual light angles from recorded data of the missions, he paints shadows and highlights with the earth in the background. "The light is brighter up there because the moon does not have an atmosphere like the earth does," he says. "It is the same white light, but just much brighter. I am very careful to show these things as close as possible to how they were."

But some of his depictions are created for fun, he says. One of his favorites, a fictional portrayal titled *The Fantasy*, shows Pete Conrad, Dick Gordon, and Bean on the moon's surface looking into

a camera. Bean painted this image in honor of astronaut and friend Dick Gordon, who remained in lunar orbit aboard the command module, while Conrad and Bean continued to the moon. The painting was originally sold to a collector, but after Conrad's death in 1999, Bean bought the painting back as a keepsake.

Alan Bean lives in Houston with his wife, Leslie. His art has been featured in numerous exhibitions, including *Alan Bean: Painting Apollo, First Artist on Another World* at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., which celebrated the 40th anniversary of the moon landing. His 2009 book by the same title features 120 of his paintings. **TH**

PHOTO: COURTESY SPACE CENTER HOUSTON

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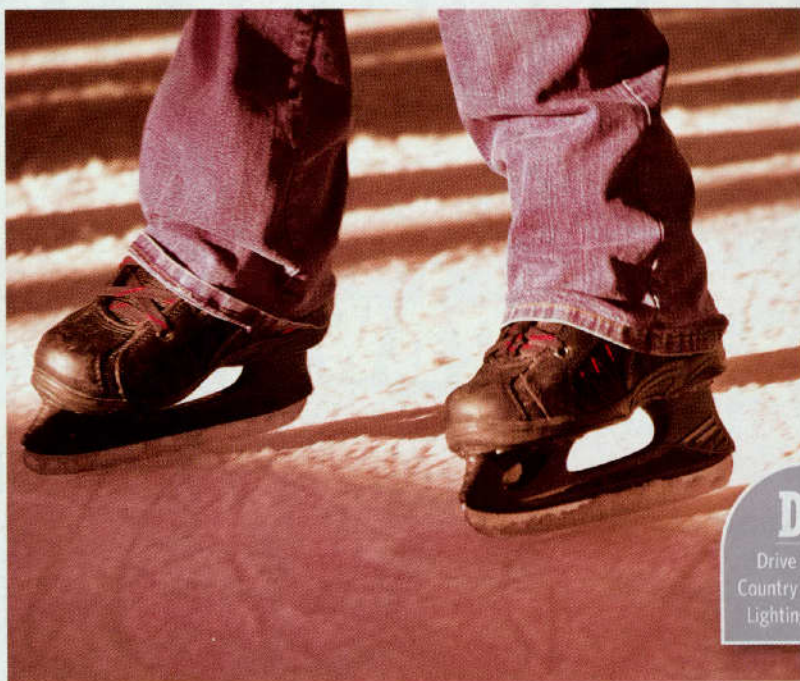
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FREDERICKSBURG'S EISBAHN, THE ICE- skating rink that generates smiles from Thanksgiving weekend through the first days of the new year in the Kinderhalle of the downtown Marktplatz, opens again for its six-week season on November 26 and continues through January 2, 2011. You'll find Marktplatz at the intersection of West Main (aka US 290) and North Adams streets. Eisbahn operates from 4-8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from 10-10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and from 1-8 p.m. on Sunday. Daylong admission to Eisbahn is \$10 per person, which includes ice skate rental. The rink is available at other times for special events. Call 830/997-6597; www.skateinfred.com.



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November Events

BIG BEND COUNTRY

- EL PASO: Border Art Biennial 2010** November 14-Feb. 13. www.elpasoartmuseum.org 915/532-1707
- FORT DAVIS: Fall Birds at the Nature Center** November 13. 432/364-2499
- FORT STOCKTON: Women's Division Arts & Crafts Fair** November 20. Pecos County Civic Center. 432/336-3804
- MARATHON: Cowboy Social** November 7. Ritchey Brothers Building. 432/386-4249
- MIDLAND: Christmas at the Mansion** November 20-Dec. 30. 432/683-2882
- MONAHANS: Caregivers & Veterans Salute** November 11. www.monahans.org 432/943-2187
- ODESSA: Merry Marketplace** November 4-7. Ector County Coliseum. 432/563-8186
- ODESSA: Tejano Low Rider Car Show** November 21. Ector County Coliseum. 432/337-2189
- SAN ELIZARIO: Mission Trail Art Market** November 28. www.missiontrailartmarket.com 915/594-8424
- TERLINGUA: Terlingua International Championship Chili Cook-Off** November 4-6. www.abowlofred.com 817/653-0988
- TERLINGUA: Terlingua International Chili Championship** November 4-6. www.chili.org 888/227-4468

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GULF COAST

- BEAUMONT: Crockett Street's Thanksfest** November 25. www.crockettstreet.com 409/832-2944

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CORPUS CHRISTI: YWCA Yuletide Market November 5-6. www.ywca.org/site/pp.asp?c=crKLIWNMF&b=787037

EDNA: Texana Chili Spill & Veterans Appreciation Dinner November 11-14. www.brackenridgepark.com 361/782-5229

GALVESTON: Seaside Treasure Festival November 19-20. www.moody.org/stf/409/744-4526

GALVESTON: ArtWalk November 27. www.galveston.com/galvestonartscenter

HARLINGEN: Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival November 10-14. www.rgvbirdfest.com 800/531-7346

HOUSTON: International Quilt Festival November 4-7. www.quilts.com 713/781-6864

HOUSTON: The Nutcracker Market November 11-14. Reliant Park. www.nutcrackermarket.com 713/535-3271

HOUSTON: Chocolate Festival of Texas November 13. www.chocolatefestivaloftexas.com

HOUSTON: Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service November 18. www.rothkochapel.org 713/524-9839

HOUSTON: Houston Championship Chili Cook-Off November 20. www.tradersvillage.com 281/890-5500

HOUSTON: H-E-B Holiday Parade November 25. www.hebparade.com

HOUSTON: The Nutcracker November 26-Dec. 26. www.houstonballet.org 713/227-2787

HUMBLE: Trade Days November 19-20. www.humblecc.com 281/446-4140

KEMAH: Antiques by the Bay November 4-7. 281/334-1611

KINGSVILLE: Ranch Hand Breakfast November 20. www.kingsvilletexas.com 361/592-8516

LAKE JACKSON: Festival of Lights November 20-21. 979/297-4533

PASADENA: Martyn Farm Fall Festival November 13-14. www.abnc.org 281/474-2551

PORT ARANSAS: Fallback Festival November 6. www.pelicanslanding.com 361/749-6405

PORT ARTHUR: Cultural Lighted Parade November 27. 409/963-1107

PORT ISABEL: World Championship Shrimp Cook-Off November 6. www.portisabel.org 956/943-2262

ROCKPORT: Film Festival November 4-7. www.rockportfilmfest.com 361/729-5519

SAN BENITO: Market Days November 20. www.cityofsanbenito.com

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Lighting of the Island November 26. 800/657-2373

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND: Christmas Mercado November 27. 956/761-2626

TOMBALL: Holiday Parade November 20. www.tomballchamber.org 281/351-7222

VICTORIA: Dia de los Muertos: A Celebration November 1-28. www.visitvictoriatexas.com 361/575-8227

VICTORIA: Market Days November 20. www.victoriatx.org 361/485-3200

WEST ORANGE: Holiday in the Park November 6. 409/889-3468

WHARTON: Wharton Chamber Christmas Parade November 23. www.whartontexas.com 979/532-1862

HILL COUNTRY

AUSTIN: Komen Austin Race for the Cure November 7. www.komenaustin.org 512/473-0900

AUSTIN: A Tuna Christmas November 23-28. www.austintheatre.org 512/472-5470

AUSTIN: Chuy's Christmas Parade November 27. www.chuysparade.com

BANDERA: Cowboys on Main November 6, 13, 20, 27. www.frontiertimesmuseum.com 800/364-3833

BANDERA: Country Christmas Ball November 27. www.farmcc.com 830/589-7226

BLANCO: Blanco Trade Days & Farmers' Market November 27-28. www.blancotradedays.i8.com 830/833-4460

BOERNE: Key to the Hills Antique Show November 6-7. 830/249-8000

BOERNE: Market Days November 13-14. www.boerne-marketdays.com 830/249-5530

BOERNE: Dickens on Main November 26-27. 830/249-7277

CASTROVILLE: Market Trail Days November 13. www.castroville.com 830/741-2313

COMFORT: Christmas in Comfort November 27. www.comfortchamberofcommerce.com 830/995-3131

DRIPPING SPRINGS: Community Arts Festival November 6. www.wesleygallery.com 888/224-3644

FREDERICKSBURG: Fall Antiques Show November 13-14. Gillespie County Fairgrounds. www.texasantiqueshow.com 830/995-3670

FREDERICKSBURG: Pacific Combat Living History Re-enactment November 13-14. www.pacificwarmuseum.org 830/997-8600

FREDERICKSBURG: Trade Days November 19-21, 26-28. www.fbgtradedays.com 830/990-4900

FREDERICKSBURG: Gifts From the Heart Arts & Crafts Show November 26-27. 930/456-4273

FREDERICKSBURG: Texas Hill Country Regional Christmas Lighting Trail November 26-Jan. 1. www.tex-fest.com 866/839-3378

GEORGETOWN: Indian Classical Dance Performance November 12. www.icmca.org

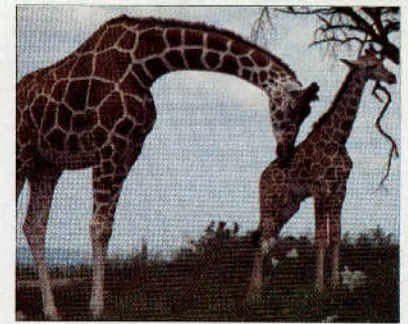
GRUENE: Old Gruene Market Days & Photos with Cowboy Kringle November 20-21. www.gruenemarketdays.com 830/629-1721

HONDO: Christmas in God's Country November 20. www.hondo-chamber.com 830/426-3037

JOHNSON CITY: Lights Spectacular November 26-Jan. 1. www.johnsoncitytexas.com 860/868-5700

KERRVILLE: Texas Furniture Makers' Show November 1-Dec. 4. www.kaccckerrville.com 830/895-2911

KERRVILLE: Holiday Lighted Parade & Courthouse Lighting November 20. www.kerrvilletx.gov 830/792-8395



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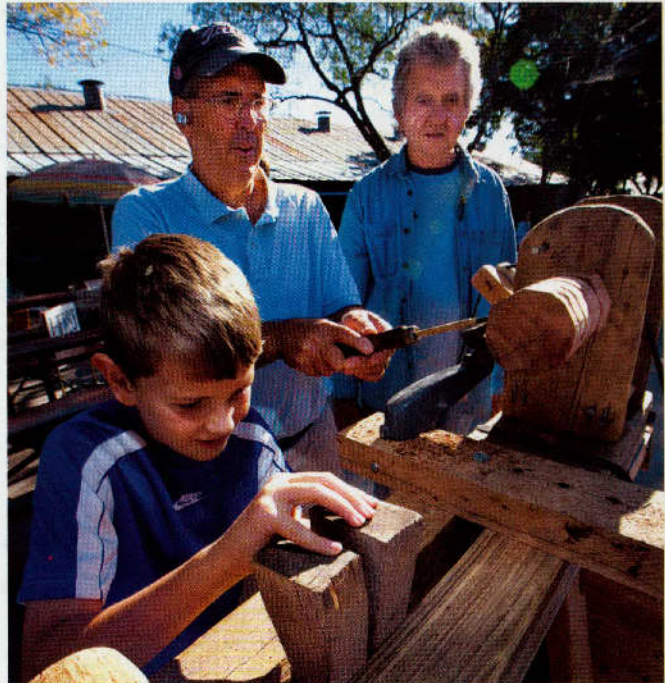
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TH SPOTLIGHT

Sharing the Art Spirit X 2

THE CHICKEN FARM ART CENTER IN SAN ANGELO has been "sharing the art spirit" with visitors since 1971 through various events, including a Ceramic Weekend each April, Blacksmiths and Blues each May, and **First Saturday**, a monthly gathering of artists that features demonstrations, live music, and children's activities (November 6, 2010). But the center's biggest event is its annual **Thanksgiving Open House**, held the Friday-Sunday following Thanksgiving (November 26-28, 2010). This year's lineup includes three days of nonstop music from bluegrass to blues and demonstrations by weavers, potters, and blacksmiths. Artists in each of the center's 15 studios will be on hand to talk about their work, and 65 invited artists will display their wares. The center's Silo House Restaurant will serve burgers and wood-fired pizza. Call 325/653-4936; www.chickenfarmartcenter.com.



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LAGO VISTA: Thanksgiving Holiday Shopping Spree November 26-28. www.flatcreekstate.com 512/267-6310

LEAKEY: Christmas on the Square November 27. www.friocanyonchamber.com 830/232-5222

MARBLE FALLS: Walkway of Lights November 19-Jan. 2. www.marblefalls.org 800/759-8178

NEW BRAUNFELS: Santa's Ranch November 6-Jan. 2. www.santasranch.net 830/743-1293

NEW BRAUNFELS: Weihnachtsmarkt (German Christmas Market) November 19-21. www.sophienburg.org 830/629-1572

SAN MARCOS: Veterans Day Celebration November 6. www.toursanmarcos.com 512/393-8400

SAN MARCOS: Commemorative Air Force Dinner/Dance November 13. www.realtime.net/centex 512/396-0765

STONEWALL: Holiday Cookie Decorating & German Traditions November 27. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/lbj 830/644-2430

UTOPIA: Annual Fall Fair November 6. www.utopiatexas.net 830/966-5569

WIMBERLEY: Santa on the Square November 26. www.wimberley.org 512/847-2201

PANHANDLE PLAINS

ABILENE: Christmas Carousel November 4-7. 325/676-6211

ABILENE: ABWA Christmas in November November 12-14. 325/673-1142

ABILENE: City Sidewalks November 30. 325/829-7975

ALBANY: Old-Time Albany Christmas Parade November 27. www.albanytexas.org 325/762-3133

AMARILLO: WRCA World Championship Ranch Rodeo November 11-14. www.wrca.org 806/374-9722

BALLINGER: Christmas in Olde Ballinger November 27. www.ballingertx.org 325/365-2333

CANADIAN: Christmas in Canadian November 20. www.canadiantx.com 806/323-6234

COLORADO CITY: Railhead Trade Days November 20-21. www.coloradocitychamberofcommerce.com 325/728-3403

LUBBOCK: Celebracion November 1-28. www.buddyhollycenter.org 806/775-3560

LUBBOCK: Holiday Happening November 17-21. www.jlubbock.com 806/794-8874

POST: Old Mill Trade Days November 6. www.postcitytexas.com 806/495-3461

SAN ANGELO: Adult Birding Adventure November 13. 325/944-1839

SAN ANGELO: Art Walk November 18. www.downtownsanangelo.com/artwalk.html 325/653-3333

SEMINOLE: Seminole Trade Days November 19-21. www.seminoletradedays.com 432/758-0807

SWEETWATER: Trade Days November 5-7. www.tradedayssweetwater.com 325/235-2227

WICHITA FALLS: Christmas Magic November 5-7. Christmas market. www.jlwf.org 940/692-9797

WICHITA FALLS: Downtown City Lights Festival & Parade November 20. www.downtownproud.com 940/322-4525

PINEY WOODS

CROCKETT: Christmas in Crockett November 20. www.crockettareachamber.org 936/544-2359

HENDERSON: Heritage Syrup Festival November 13. www.hendersontx.us 866/650-5529

JASPER: Lakes Area Cruisers Rod Run November 19-21. Featuring vintage automobiles. www.lakesareacruisers.com 409/384-8745

JEFFERSON: History, Haunts & Legends November 6. www.jeffersonghostwalk.com 903/665-6289

JEFFERSON: Holiday Trail of Lights November 26-Jan. 1. Lions Park. www.visitjefferson.com 903/665-3733

KILGORE: Christmas in the Patch November 18. 903/984-1333

KILGORE: Annual Christmas Parade November 30. www.kilgorechamber.com 903/984-5022

KIRBYVILLE: Christmas in the Park November 27. 409/423-3319

LONGVIEW: Mistletoe & More November 20-21. www.shoptiludropla.com 318/470-6714

MINEOLA: Iron Horse Fall Fest November 6. www.mineolachamber.org 903/569-2087

NACOGDOCHES: Nine Flags Festival November 13-Dec. 11. www.nineflagsfestival.com

NACOGDOCHES: Holiday in the Pines November 18-20. Annual shopping extravaganza. 888/653-3788

TEXARKANA: State Line Music Festival November 6. www.txkusa.org/txparks 903/798-3978

THE WOODLANDS: 15th Annual Children's Festival November 13-14. www.woodlandscenter.org 281/363-3300

TYLER: Mistletoe & Magic November 11-13. Holiday market. www.juniorleagueoftyler.org 903/593-1080

WINNSBORO: Christmas in the Park Bazaar November 13. 903/342-5446

PRAIRIES AND LAKES

ADDISON: Bookworm Bash November 5-6. www.addison.texas.net

ANDERSON: Twilight Firelight at Fanthorp Inn November 27. www.birthplaceoftexas.com 936/878-2214

ATHENS: Bluegrass Gospel Weekend November 7. www.texas-gospelmusicall.com 903/677-2492

ATHENS: Land of Lights Christmas Park November 10-30. 903/677-6354

BASTROP: Pine Street Market Day November 13. www.bastropbusinesswomen.com 512/303-6233

BASTROP: Veterans Day Celebration and Classic Car Show November 13. http://bastropdba.org/vets 512/848-3754

BRENHAM: Poinsettia Celebration November 20-21. www.ellisonsgreenhouses.com 888/273-6426

CANTON: Festival of Trees November 20-Dec. 11. www.chambercantontx.com 903/567-2991

CLEBURNE: Chuck Wagon Cook-Off & Pioneer Days November 19-20. 817/648-1486

COLLEGE STATION: Santa's Wonderland Lighted Christmas Display November 19-Jan. 1. www.santas-wonderland.com 979/690-7212

COLLEYVILLE: Romanian Food Festival November 5-7. http://romanianfestival-dallas.com 817/858-0801

CUERO: Christmas in the Park Lighted Driving Tour November 22-Jan. 1. www.christmasincruero.com 361/275-2112

DALLAS: Autumn at the Arboretum: The Great Pumpkin Festival November 1-7. www.dallasarboretum.org 214/515-6500

DALLAS: Dallas Symphony Orchestra November 4-7, 11-14, 18-20. www.dallasymphony.com

DALLAS: Chile Pepperama November 14. www.chilepepperama.net 972/943-4624

DALLAS: Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker November 19-21. www.liveatthemajestic.com 214/880-0137

DUBLIN: A Night on the Town November 6. www.dublin.txchamber.com 254/445-3422

EDGEWOOD: Heritage Festival — 33rd Annual November 13. www.edgewoodheritagefestival.com 903/896-1940

FAYETTEVILLE: Jam at Texas Pickin' Park November 13. www.texaspickinpark.com 979/378-2753

FORT WORTH: Thanksgiving/Holiday Activities November 26-28. www.stockyardsstation.com

FRISCO: Christmas in the Square November 26-Jan. 2. www.friscosquare.com/christmasinthesquare2 469/633-1721

GIDDINGS: Christmas Merry Marketplace Arts & Crafts Show November 21. www.giddingsstx.com 979/542-3455

GRAND PRAIRIE: Prairie Lights Drive-Through Holiday Lighting ExtravaGRANDza November 25-Dec. 31. www.prairielight.org 972/237-GLOW

GRAND PRAIRIE: Holiday Market with Santa Claus November 27-Dec. 19. www.tradersvillage.com 972/647-2331

GRAPEVINE: Light Show Spectacular November 23-Jan. 3. www.GrapevineTexasUSA.com 800/457-6338

KILLEEN: Fort Hood Officers' Wives Club Annual Holiday Bazaar November 13-14. www.forthoodosc.org

LULING: Christmas Arts & Crafts Show November 27. 830/875-3214

MCKINNEY: Dickens of a Christmas November 26-28. www.downtownmckinney.com 972/547-2660

MESQUITE: Mesquite Championship Rodeo November 26-27. www.MesquiteRodeo.com 972/285-8777

PALESTINE: "The Polar Express" Train Ride November 12-Dec. 27. www.TexasStateRR.com 888/987-2461

PLANO: "Neath the Wreath Holiday Gift Market November 11-14. www.jlplano.org 972/769-0557

PLANTERSVILLE: Texas Renaissance Festival November 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 26-28. www.texrenfest.com 800/458-3435

ROUND TOP: The Heart of Texas Chorus November 20. At Festival Hill. http://festivalhill.org 979/249-3129


SALADO: Scottish Gathering of the Clans & Highland Games November 12-14. www.ctam-salado.org 254/947-5232

SAN FELIPE: Novemberfest November 6. www.visitsealy.com 877/558-7245


SMITHVILLE: Airing of the Quilts November 13. www.smithvilletx.org 512/237-2323

STEPHENVILLE: Arts, Crafts & Gift Show November 5-6. www.ci.stephenville.tx.us 254/918-1292


SULPHUR SPRINGS: Christmas in the Park November 27-Dec. 3. www.visitsulphurspringstx.org 888/300-6623




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Camping



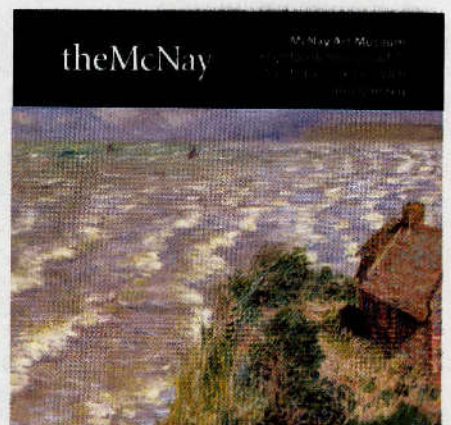
THE Golf
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in Texas



THE Fun
American Heroes
Now in
Geographing Contest
Ends Nov. 30
2010

THE Fun
Holiday in the Park
Dec. 4

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www.VisitTheColonyTx.com



theMcNay

Landscapes from the Age of Impressionism

October 6, 2010 | January 16, 2011

An extra admission charge to the McNay applies during this exhibition (general admission: \$5). General admission to the McNay collection is FREE on Thursday nights and on AT&T First Sundays of the month.

Co-curated by the McNay Art Museum and the University of Texas at Dallas. Organized by the Bookley Museum of Art, Dallas. Co-curated by the Bookley Museum of Art, Dallas. Organized by the Bookley Museum of Art, Dallas. Co-curated by the Bookley Museum of Art, Dallas. Organized by the Bookley Museum of Art, Dallas.

Image: Charles Bonington, *View of the Bay of Trouville*, 1825. Musée de la Ville de Paris, Paris. Photo: Bookley Museum of Art, Dallas.

NOVEMBER 2010 | TEXAS HIGHWAYS 67

WACO: Homestead Craft & Children's Fair November 26-28. www.homesteadheritage.com 254/754-9600

WAXAHACHIE: Downtown Victorian Christmas Festival November 27. 972/937-2390

WHITEWRIGHT: Fall Festival November 6. www.whitewright.org

SOUTH TEXAS PLAINS

EAGLE PASS: Veterans Day Parade November 6. 830/773-2528

EDINBURG: Market Days November 6. www.edinburg.com 956/383-4974

GEORGE WEST: Storyfest November 6. www.georgeweststoryfest.org 361/449-2481

GOLIAD: Fall Flotilla November 6. www.canoetrailgoliad.com 361/575-6366

GOLIAD: Market Day November 13. www.goliadcc.org 361/645-3563

SAN ANTONIO: Dia de los Muertos November 2. www.sacalaveras.com

SAN ANTONIO: Rock 'n' Roll Marathon & Half-Marathon November 14. <http://san-antonio.competitor.com>

SAN ANTONIO: Light the Way November 22-Jan. 6. University of Incarnate Word. www.uiw.edu

SAN ANTONIO: Ford Holiday River Parade & Lighting Ceremony November 26. www.thesanantonioriverwalk.com 210/227-4262

Want more? Go to the Events Calendar at www.texashighways.com.

For a free printed copy of a more detailed, quarterly schedule of events, write to Texas Events Calendar, Box 149249, Austin 78714-9249. Or, call 800/452-9292 from anywhere in the U.S. or Canada, between 8-6 Central.

For Texas travel questions, call 800/452-9292 to reach a TxDOT Travel Information Center, where a professional travel counselor will provide routing assistance, advise you of any emergency road conditions, and send brochures (including the official Texas State Travel Guide and map, accommodations guide, and quarterly Texas Events Calendar).

Send future event information to: Texas Events Calendar, Box 141009, Austin 78714-1009; fax: 512/486-5879; e-mail: trv-tec@dot.state.tx.us. Listing deadlines: Spring (Mar, Apr, May) Dec 1; Summer (Jun, Jul, Aug) Mar 1; Fall (Sep, Oct, Nov) Jun 1; Winter (Dec, Jan, Feb) Sep 1.



Texas Highways

THE TRAVEL MAGAZINE OF TEXAS

Reader Service Guide to Advertisers

For information from our advertisers, use the forms in this issue, or go to www.texashighways.com. (Reader service numbers are in bold.)

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ONE OF THESE BABIES HAS YOU WRITTEN ALL OVER IT.



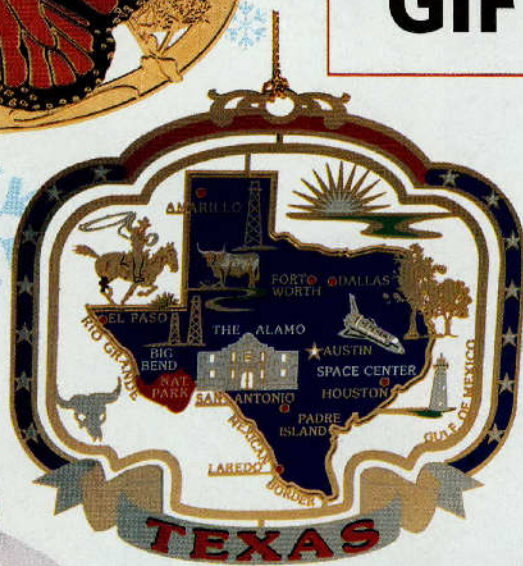
Your vehicle registration sticker is personalized with your license plate, county of registration, and partial Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). When you renew your sticker, you're helping Texas build and maintain highways, roads, and bridges. And that says even more about you. Learn all about it at www.TxDMV.gov. **WHEN DO YOU RENEW?**

 Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
HELPING TEXANS GO. HELPING TEXAS GROW.



Texas Highways

Holiday GIFT GUIDE



Keep Texas Beautiful Ornament

7th Edition

This collectible metal ornament features the monarch butterfly, the official State Insect of Texas. The piece displays the exquisite beauty and grace of the species, and speaks to its enduring spirit and resiliency. Width: 3"

Editions 1 - 6 also available at www.texashighways.com.

Item 39407 \$19.95

Around Texas Ornament

This fun ornament, featuring Texas landmarks, makes a wonderful stocking stuffer or a great addition to your tree. 24K gold-flashed brass with color highlights. Width: 3½"

Item 39503 \$12.95

Denim Boot 2010 Ornament

Texas artist Pattilu Bowsby's hand-decorated globe ornament — featuring a denim boot hanging from a colorful holiday spray — will add sparkle to your tree. Hand painted. Diameter: 2½"

Item 39502 \$15.95

Holiday Boots Boxed Cards

These whimsical boots are ready to dance across Texas to wish your friends and family seasonal cheer. Inside message: "Wishing you the Happiest Holiday's Ever!" Box includes 18 cards and envelopes. Card size: 5" x 7"

Item 35521 \$14.95 per box

Santa's 10-Gallon Hat Boxed Cards

Santa changes into his 10-gallon hat as he crosses the state line into Texas. Message inside: "Season's Greetings." Box includes 18 cards and envelopes. Card size: 5" x 7"

Item 35520 \$9.95 per box

To order, call **1-800-839-4997** (386-597-4297 from outside the U.S.)

or visit **www.texashighways.com**

Gifts FOR HER



State of Mind Rainbow Tee

Made of eco-friendly and super-soft bamboo, this tee proclaims "Texas is a State of Mind." Designed in retro letters, the rainbow colors form a silhouette of Texas. Remarkably breathable, bamboo fabric will keep her cooler in hot weather and significantly warmer in the cold. 70% bamboo, 30% cotton. Color: asparagus green. Machine-washable. Sizes: S, M, L, XL

Item 38265..... \$24.95

Texas Star Charm

A classic sterling silver star charm by Kitty Keller Designs features a textured background with a 3-D star that adds fantastic depth. This round charm is a perfect addition to her charm bracelet or accessory on her favorite necklace. .925 solid sterling silver. Diameter: $\frac{13}{16}$ ". Loop diameter: $\frac{1}{4}$ "

Item 37904..... \$24.95

Texas Star Earrings

Kitty Keller Designs' French loop earrings are a beautiful addition to her jewelry collection. The textured background offsets the sparkling 3-D Texas star design. .925 solid sterling silver. Diameter: $\frac{1}{2}$ ". 1" long.

Item 37905..... \$29.95

Texas Heartline T-shirt

Our "crazy soft" missy tee is beautifully printed with Texas in red foil and stylish tattoo designs on front and back. Color: Black. Sizes: S, M, L, XL

Item 38254..... \$28.95

Bluebonnet Throw

She can get comfy with this beautiful tapestry of bluebonnets. Lap throw is roomy enough to keep her warm and small enough to travel along. 100% cotton. Machine-washable and dryer-safe. 34" x 52"

Item 37710..... \$32.95

Bluebonnet Tote

This deluxe carry-all tote bag will help her keep everything close at hand. Carefree poly-cotton blend exterior. Fully-lined. 14" strap makes it easy to hang on the shoulder. 17" x 17"

Item 37415..... \$22.95

Texas Earrings

These French loop earrings, in the shape of Texas, sport the Lone Star flag design. A perfect complement to her Texas charm bracelet in beautiful .925 sterling silver. Height 2.5 cm

Item 37902..... \$29.95



Texas Star Table Runner

She'll enhance your table setting in Texas style. Popular decorator colors – sage, gold and merlot – fashioned around a central Texas Star design will bring life to any table. Woven cotton/polyester blend. Available in two sizes: 12 3/4" wide by 72" or 90" long.

Item 37801 is 72" long\$35.95

Item 37802 is 90" long\$42.95

Texas Star Throw

This 100% cotton tapestry throw combines the sophistication of urban allure with the serenity and charm of the countryside. Sage green paisley background is offset by a Texas Star motif encircled by barbed wire. Large enough to snuggle under on cool Texas nights. 51" x 68" Machine washable.

Item 37807 \$42.95

Back at the Ranch Mug

Your cowgirl will enjoy her morning brew or evening tea when it is served in this mug. The wrap-around design of cowgirl gear over a Texas flag background is screen-printed on an 11 oz. white ceramic mug.

Item 37336 \$9.95



Texas Scroll Art Tee

A pretty whisper of color and softness, this cap sleeve tee sports a silk-screened scroll design around Texas and enhances any casual look. 4.5 oz., pre-shrunk 100% ring-spun cotton, tapered cut, chestnut brown. Sizes: S, M, L, 1X, 2X

Item 38266 \$21.95

Women's Windbreaker

A Texas wildflower design is beautifully embroidered on our light-weight, all-weather jacket. Full-length zipper closure and adjustable hood; sage green with black side panels; 100% polyester; fully lined; machine washable. Sizes: S, M, L, XL

Item 38502 \$32.95



View our entire collection at
www.texashighways.com

Gifts FOR HIM



1836/1845 Republic of Texas

He'll be in style and look great in our Republic of Texas t-shirt. Multi-colored shield design will show his true Texas pride. 100% preshrunk cotton, machine washable. Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL

Item 38262 \$18.95

Rustic Texas Star Business Card Holder

Hand-crafted in Texas, our Texas Star business card holder will look great on his desk. Powder-coated finish; holds up to 70 cards. 3½" wide x 2" high x 1¼" deep

Item 37718 \$15.95

Texas Pride Cap

"Pride · Independence · Strength" sum up this khaki and brown 6-panel cap with embroidered accents in cream and gold tones. Velcro closure makes it easy to adjust.

Item 38729 \$16.95



Texas Armadillo Tee

This fun design is a true Texas original. The cream and gold motif, printed on the rich, dusky hue of our pigment-dyed tee sets this apart from the crowd. 5.5 oz, pre-shrunk, 100% cotton. Color: Olive. Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL

Item 38263 \$21.95

Texas Size Mug

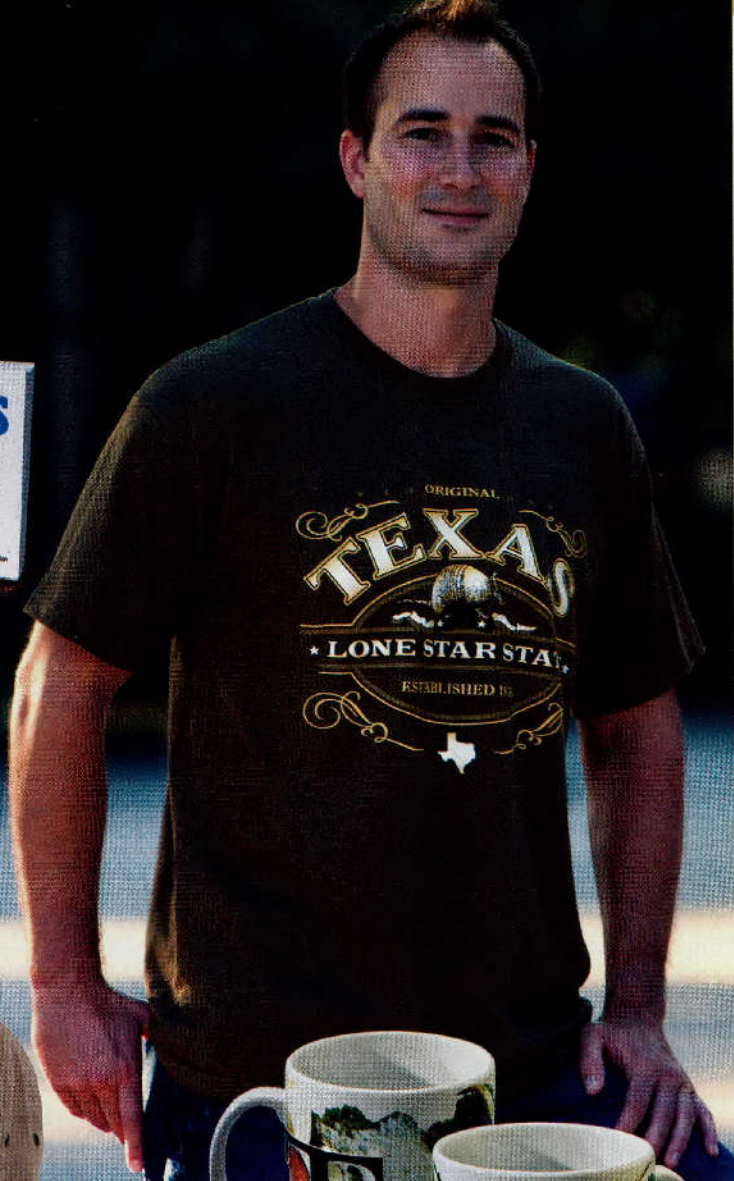
He can sit back and relax with this super-sized mug. Embossed mug with "TEXAS" in raised letters over a backdrop of Texas iconic art. 18 oz.

Item 37332 \$9.95

Texas Original Denim Shirt

This classic button-down collar shirt features a stone-washed effect and unique detailing of the Texas star on the shoulder. 100% cotton, 6.5 oz. denim. Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL

Item 38246 \$36.95



Laser-Engraved Money Clip

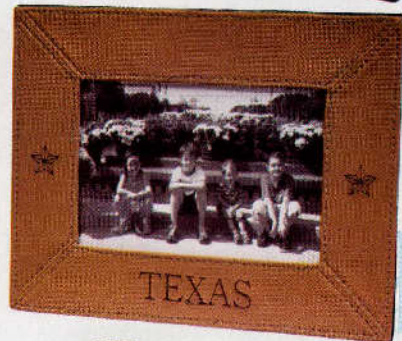
Help your cowboy keep his money organized in true Texas style. Laser-engraved images in cherry wood depict a hat, boots, rope and saddle with "TEXAS" above it all. Size: 1¼" x 2"

Item 37722 \$7.95

Texas Red & Gray Cap

Attention to detail makes us proud to add the *Texas Highways* label to this 6-panel cap. "TEXAS" stands out in strong embroidered letters on the front. White piping and trim across the brim coupled with white stitching give this cap a beautiful finished look. Six eyelet vents keep it cool. And we finished it with a small Texas flag embroidered on the back, next to an adjustable Velcro closure.

Item 38730 \$16.95



Texas Seal Crystal Magnifier

This magnifier is cleverly disguised as a sparkling lead crystal desk accessory. A laser-etched 3-D State Seal of Texas can be viewed from the front, and small text can be magnified through the top. 3" x 2" x 1"

Item 37804..... \$24.95

Texas Independence Tee

This tee says it all. A multi-toned stamped design celebrates Texas' Independence. The Texas State Seal is proudly displayed with "Texas," "Lone Star State," and "Independence 1836" printed across the front. The comfort of cotton is blended with the easy-care durability of polyester in a shirt that is made to last. 5.6 oz., pre-shrunk, 50/50 cotton/polyester. Color: Black. Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL

Item 38264..... \$21.95

Texas Leather Look Frame

Frame his favorite photo in style with our machine-stitched leather-look frame decorated with "Texas" and two iconic Lone Stars. Black velvet back with hinged stand. Frame dimension 8 3/4" x 7". Photo display 6" x 4".

Item #37803..... \$15.95

Men's Windbreaker

Keep him comfortable and dry in our light-weight, all-weather jacket. Distinctive Texas ocean star design is embroidered over the heart. Khaki with black side panels. Full-length zipper closure and adjustable hood. 100% polyester, fully lined. Machine washable. Sizes: S, M, L, XL

Item 38501..... \$32.95

Professional... Houston (2,149,848) county seat; largest Texas city; fourth-largest in nation. A leading center for manufacture of petroleum equipment, agricultural machinery, fabricated metals, a major distribution, shipping center, engineering and research center; food processing, hospitals. Plants make apparel, lumber and wood products, furniture, heavy machinery, petroleum and coal products publishing center; one of the nation's largest public utility systems; prewar national center; 50 Texas Days (October) in February/March; International festival in April.



View our entire collection at www.texashighways.com

Gifts FOR ALL



Texas Flag Travel Pillow

Now, you can have your state and take a nap, too. This mighty, mini travel pillow is the perfect Lone Star accompaniment for all your adventures – whether en route to the office, across the state or, ahem, the world outside Texas' borders. Happy snoozing! Zipper closure for easy cover removal; machine washable. Size: 8½" x 14¼"

Item 37805 \$12.95

Crockett Travel Mug

Davy Crockett's feisty quote, "You may all go to hell and I will go to Texas" is printed on this stainless steel travel mug. The opposite side has a Texas star and the words, "Texas, The Lone Star State." Holds 14 oz., hot or cold.

Item 37333 \$11.95

Wildflower Note Cards

Gift box of eight gorgeous cards featuring a sampling of images for the Lone Star Wildflowers book. 8 cards and envelopes, blank inside.

Item 35203 \$11.95

Texas Flag Luggage Tag

Your luggage will stand out from the crowd when you add this Texas Flag luggage tag. Sturdy rubber and plastic construction will hold up to the toughest handlers. Texas Flag on front with insert for your name and address on the back.

Item 37719 \$7.95

Republic Flag Travel Throw

The Texas Star, also known as the First Flag, is loom-woven into this lightweight, natural all-cotton throw. A gift to enjoy year-after-year. Perfect travel size: 36" x 50"

Item 37806 \$32.95

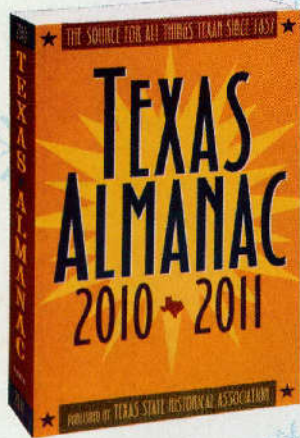
Hill Country Blues Tote

Crafted in the U.S.A., this authentic jacquard woven tote depicts a classic Texas Hill Country scene by artist Roberta Wesley. Fully lined 16" x 16" size with a 14" strap makes it easy to grab what you need, throw it over your shoulder and go. Machine-washable poly-cotton blend.

Item 37417 \$27.95

Books

FROM OUR SHOP



Texas Almanac 2010 – 2011

Take a trip across the Lone Star State. Filled with hundreds of color maps and photographs from every corner of the state, the Texas Almanac is the ultimate resource on all things Texan. 736 pages, 6" x 9", soft cover.

Item 36708 \$19.95

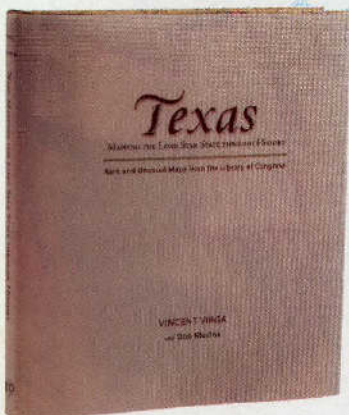


Mavericks: A Gallery of Texas Characters

By Gene Fowler

Stories of Texas eccentrics from the worlds of ranching, real estate, oil, politics, rodeo, metaphysics, show-biz, art, and folklore. Includes Trinity River prophet Commodore Basil Muse Hatfield; poet-politician Cyclone Davis Jr.; Big Bend tourist attraction Bobcat Carter; and the dynamic chief executive of the East Texas Oil Field Governor Willie. 157 pages, paperback, black and white, 6" x 9"

Item 36709 \$19.95

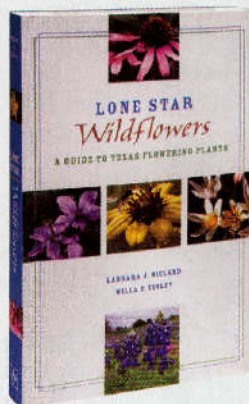


Texas: Mapping the Lone Star State through History

By Vincent Virga and Don Blevins

A stirring trip through Texas history via 50 full-color, gloriously detailed, fascinating historical maps from the Library of Congress. Maps accompanied by details of its origin and essays on how they reflect the history, culture, and sensibilities of the state and its residents. 116 page, full color, hard back, 9" x 10"

Item 36710 \$24.95

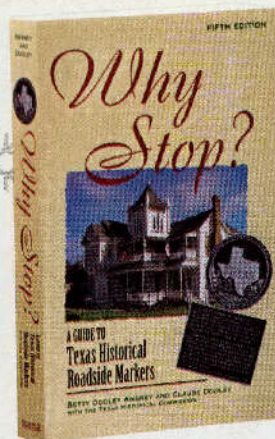


Lone Star Wildflowers: A Guide to Texas Flowering Plants

By LaShara Nieland and Willa Finley

Enjoy the botany, ecology and rich lore of Texas wildflowers with this easy-to-use and fun-to-read book. Makes a great travel companion as well as a beautiful gift. 321 full-color pages.

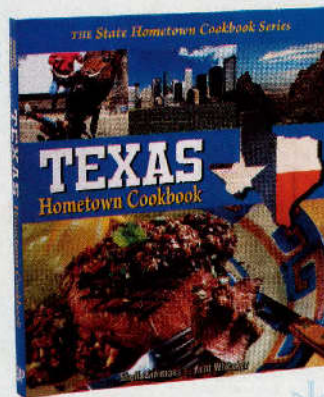
Item 36526 \$29.95



Why Stop

This fascinating guide features locations and text of more than 2,600 roadside markers across the state. The markers describe historical events; famous and infamous Texans and non-Texans; origins of towns, churches, and organizations; battles, skirmishes, and gunfights; settlers, pioneers, Indians, and outlaws; and much more! 581 pages, 6" x 9", soft cover.

Item 36335 \$19.95

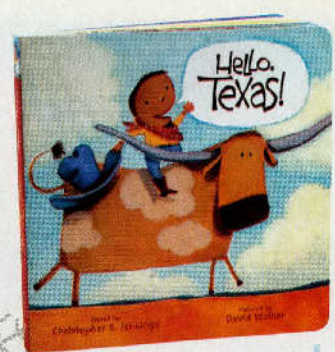


Texas Hometown Cookbook

By Kent Whitaker & Sheila Simmons

Texas Hometown Cookbook dishes up a double-helping of local, tried and true recipes and fun-filled facts about hometowns all-over the Lone Star state. Texas cooking is diverse and delicious. From frontier campfire cooking to spicy Tex-Mex fare; old-fashioned cowboy cooking to the German influence of Central Texas; or southeast Texas' own style of Cajun and Creole cooking. 256 pages, black and white, soft cover, 8" x 9"

Item 36138 \$18.95



Hello, Texas!

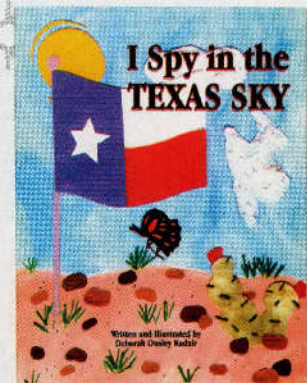
By Christopher S. Jennings

David Walker (Illustrator)

Ages 2-5

Texas is terrific! Visit the thundering cattle, watch bottlenose dolphins leap out of Galveston's waters, and remember the Alamo as loud cannons boom for Texas Independence Day. 20 pages, full-color, board book, 7" x 7"

Item 36802 \$6.95



I Spy in the Texas Sky

By Deborah Ousley Kadair

Joining clever rhymes and collage illustrations of clouds in the Texas sky, Kadair uses this what-am-I guessing game to teach young children about seven important state symbols. From the state flower to the state flying mammal, Kadair celebrates her love of the Lone Star State in this colorful tribute. 2009, 27 pages, 9" x 11 1/4", full color, hard cover

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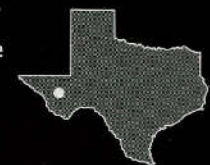
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Window on Texas

Photograph by **E. DAN KLEPPER**

SILVER BULLET A faithful steed stands sentry at the Prude Ranch, six miles northwest of Fort Davis. Wranglers have used "Silver Bullet" to teach guests proper saddling techniques for decades. The ranch itself dates to 1897 and has hosted paying guests since 1921. **For more information about the Prude, call 432/426-3202 or 800/458-6232; www.prude-ranch.com.**



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