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TRAVEL MAGAZINE OF TEXAS

TEXAS HIGHWAYS

OCTOBER 1998

\$3.50

HIT THE URBAN TRAILS

WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

HEAD FOR THE HILLS!

Chappell Hill
Liberty Hill

TEXAS QUILTS

Designs of the Times

SWEET TREATS
FROM PALESTINE

Eilenberger's Bakery

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This year marks the 175th anniversary of the **Texas Rangers**. To commemorate the anniversary, contributor **Sheryl Smith-Rodgers** of Blanco takes a look at the world-famous law-enforcement organization. Founded by Stephen F. Austin when Texas was still a Mexican state, the Texas Rangers became one of the cornerstones of Texas mythology.

We are fortunate to have found **Inez Sterling Adams** of Corpus Christi, whose father, the late **W.W. Sterling**, served as a Texas Ranger captain and as Texas Adjutant General (commander of the Texas Rangers and the Texas National Guard) in the Thirties. Thanks to her father's position and the fact that he wrote the photo-rich Texas classic *The Trails and Trials of a Texas Ranger*, we were able to illustrate our story on the Rangers with a number of turn-of-the-century images.

Historians have described W.W. Sterling as the physical and spiritual epitome of a Ranger—tall and rugged, a fearless yet gentle man, one who lived an action-packed life that gained him a reputation as an intelligent and relentless lawman.

The late Colonel Homer Garrison Jr. said of the Rangers that they were "men who could not be stampeded." Examples of this abound at Waco's **Texas Ranger Museum and Hall of Fame**, whose director, **Byron Johnson**, provided Sheryl with invaluable help in preparing her story. Among the Rangers honored at the museum is Captain James E. "Jim" Riddles (1910-1975), who commanded Company E, better known as "Riddles' Rangers." Riddles was fiercely proud of his men and said of them, "My Rangers don't need supervision in the field; if they needed field supervision, they wouldn't be Rangers." As one retired Riddles' Ranger put it, "I would rather have shot myself in the foot than have disappointed my Captain."

Austin writer **Mike Cox** also helped us research Sheryl's Rangers story. Mike, who has written several stories for *Texas Highways*, serves as chief of media relations at the Rangers' administering agency, the Texas Department of Public Safety, and is the author of a number of books on the Rangers. The *Midwest Book Review* called Mike's *Texas Ranger Tales: Stories That Need Telling* "terrific reading" and added that the book "has much of value for students, scholars, and popular western fiction writers seeking a firmer grounding in authentic background materials for some of the best known American lawmen to ever strap on a gun and pin on a star."

Mike also contributed this month's story on Texas' rare-book stores. A number of them may even carry out-of-print classics like Frederic Remington's *How the Law Got Into the Chaparral: Conversations with Old Texas Rangers*, Walter Prescott Webb's *The Texas Rangers: A Century of Frontier Defense*, and W.W. Sterling's *The Trails and Trials of a Texas Ranger*.

Speaking of trails, this is a great time to relish the wilds of urban Texas. Frequent contributor **Randy Mallory** of Tyler writes about some of his favorite **urban trails** this month. As Randy points out, Texas cities offer a wide assortment of landscapes ideal for mountain bikers, climbers, hikers, picnickers, canoers, animal-watchers, plant-lovers, and nature enthusiasts of all stripes.

We hope you also enjoy the stories on 100-year-old **Eilenberger's Bakery** and old and new **Texas quilts**, before you head for the hills—that is, **Chappell Hill** and **Liberty Hill**.

Have an outstanding October.



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Texas Highways (ISSN 0040-4349) is published monthly by the Texas Department of Transportation, 150 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704. The official travel magazine of Texas encourages recreational travel within the state and tells the Texas story to readers around the world. *Texas Highways* is funded solely through sales of magazines and related products. © Texas Department of Transportation 1998. All rights reserved.



Internet Sites: www.texashighways.com; www.traveltex.com; and www.dot.state.tx.us

The editorial office of *Texas Highways* is at 150 East Riverside Drive in Austin. Call 512/486-5858; fax 512/486-5879. Send queries about manuscripts or photographs to Box 141009, Austin, Texas 78714-1009. We are not responsible for unsolicited materials.

Subscriptions to *Texas Highways* are \$17.50 annually (\$25.50 foreign). Single copies, \$3.50. For subscription services, including ordering, changes of address, and requests to be removed from mailing list sales, write to *Texas Highways* Circulation, Customer Service, Box 149233, Austin, Texas 78714-9233, or call 512/416-3492 or 800/839-4997.

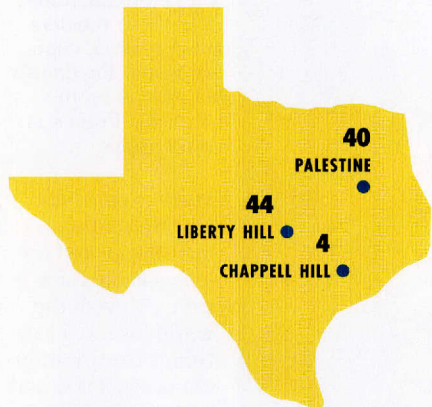
IRMA MEMBER, INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL MAGAZINE ASSOCIATION

PRINTED IN U.S.A. ON RECYCLED PAPER



Periodicals Postage paid at Austin, Texas, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Texas Highways* Circulation, Box 149233, Austin, TX 78714-9233.

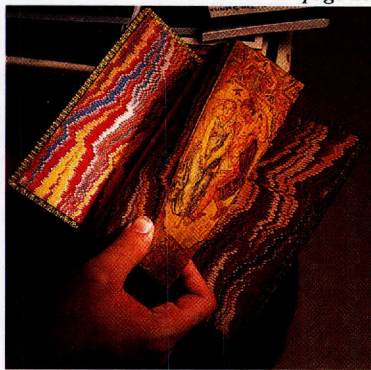
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ABOUT OUR COVERS

FRONT—In Forest Ridge Preserve, only minutes from downtown Austin, spring water descends over limestone ledges into Bull Creek. Turn to page 24 for more proof that you don't have to leave the city to enjoy nature at its finest. *Photo © Randy Mallory*

BACK—Peggy Raley's *Amish Shadows With an Attitude* was displayed at the 1998 Haupstrasse Quiltfest in Boerne. For more on Texas quilts, turn to page 18. *Photo by Stan Williams*

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SINGING THE PRAISES OF CHAPPELL HILL *by Diane Morey Sitton*

With 10 buildings boasting Texas Historic Landmark status, Chappell Hill takes rightful pride in its heritage. The history-minded hamlet turns frolicsome in October during its annual Scarecrow Festival

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BY THE BOOK *by Mike Cox*

If you're hooked on books, you probably already know that rare-book stores abound in Texas, offering collectors some stunning selections. A longtime bibliophile and Texana expert gives the lowdown on buying the best of the bunch

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A force to be reckoned with for 175 years, Texas Rangers still wear cowboy hats and boots. But these days, they use computers and sophisticated surveillance equipment to catch criminals

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An East Texas treasure, Eilenberger's Bakery in Palestine celebrates 100 years in business. Gourmet cakes, pies, cinnamon rolls, turnovers, cookies—the sweet treats just keep coming

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Readers: In September's special issue on architecture, we misidentified the top photograph on page 48. That beautiful interior belongs to The Jefferson Hotel (903/665-2631 or 800/226-9026), featured in the piece on historic hotels.

Also in that issue, we misspelled the name of the photographer who shot the Denton County courthouse, on page 29. Her name is Janet Broihier.

Gems of Justice

I enjoyed the article and photos of the old courthouses in September. In my humble opinion, one of the most beautiful courthouses in all of Texas is the Coryell County courthouse in Gatesville.

I used to live in Gatesville, and worked for the county attorney while in high school. I got to know that old courthouse top to bottom.

JASON E. STRINGER, *via email*

I especially enjoyed the article on courthouses, but Hopkins County's [in Sulphur Springs] was left out. Do you have something against us? We have the J. Riely Gordon courthouse (the one without a clock) on beautiful Heritage Square.

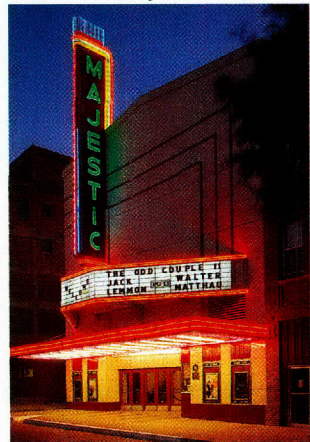
ANNADA JONES, *via email*

Ed. Note: We agree that Coryell and Hopkins counties have first-class courthouses. Unfortunately, it would take an entire issue (and then some) to cover all of Texas' 254 temples of justice.

The Reel Thing

I cannot thank you enough for the September 1998 article "Fit for a Screen." My two brothers and I were fortunate to be raised around the theater business in Odessa. In the '50s and '60s, everyone flocked to the downtown Scott and Rio theaters for first-run movies and Saturday-morning Westerns. Those pleasant, West Texas summertime nights would find us enjoying double features at the Twin-Terrace drive-in. Our grandmother, Winnie Scott, owned the theaters, and we three grandsons were allowed to work there. The theater business just got

BOTH PHOTOS BY J. GRIFFIS SMITH



We misidentified these theaters in September's special issue. Eastland's Majestic is on the left; Wills Point's is on the right.

know is out there. His interesting classes opened up a new and exhilarating view of the world for me. I saw things from a different perspective and had new insight into composition,

gradation of values, shadows, texture, and light. He is a wonderful instructor and willingly shares his great love and expertise with all of his students. Although he has had many opportunities to teach and work elsewhere, Carter has chosen to remain in the East Texas area that he portrays in his portraits. If photography is, as they say, the "Poetry of Light," then Keith Carter is truly a Master Poet!

GAY NELL McCAUGHN
Beaumont, via email

Tubb Tribute

On behalf of the Tubb family, I would like to thank you for Gene Fowler's nice write-up on Ernest Tubb in the July issue. My husband is the one who wrote "Waltz Across Texas" and many other ET songs. *Texas Highways* is very educational and beautifully done.

BOBBIE AND TALMADGE TUBB
El Paso

Go, Griff!

You publish many great photographers, but in the August issue, Griff Smith proves once again that he is the absolute master of this type of photography. He is one of the few photographers whose work has a signature quality that can be recognized even without his name on it.

DICK McMAHAN, *via email*

Ed. Note: We hope you enjoy Griff's work in this issue's stories on rare-book stores, Eilenberger's Bakery, Liberty Hill, and Chapel Hill.

in our blood. We all three love going to movies today, but there is something about that bygone era of the one-screen, small-town theater that makes us want to go back in time and catch a John Wayne movie with a box of hot popcorn and soda. What a great way to grow up!

JACK L. SCOTT
Burleson

Regarding September's story on movie theaters: I was happy to see that the Majestic from my hometown of Wills Point was included. I have spent many hours in that theater and continue to do so every chance I get. I did notice a mistake on page 56, though. The picture on that page is of the Majestic in Wills Point, but the caption says it is Eastland's Majestic.

RHONDA MARTIN
Wills Point, via email

Ed. Note: You're right, Ms. Martin. The top photo on page 55 is of the Majestic in Eastland; the photo on page 56 is Wills Point's Majestic (see above).

I have fond memories of attending my first picture show at the Select Theatre in Mineola. In 1949, my older sister took me, a seven-year-old, to town with a dime to spend. After she paid the nine cents for me to

attend the movie, she gave me the remaining penny for a treat.

JOEL HORTON
Keizer, Oregon, via email

Artists Extraordinaire

Your August article on Luis Jiménez, "Recasting the Icons of the West," was most enlightening for me, especially the photo of the *Sodbuster* sculpture. On a recent visit to Fargo, North Dakota, I snapped a photo [of a sculpture] without crossing the street to learn more about it. You cannot imagine my surprise at not only finding the exact picture, but also learning about the creator of this interesting work.

EVELYN WILSON
San Antonio

Wow! A 12-page spread in the August issue on the photography of Keith Carter, East Texas' own "Golden Bayou Boy," who succeeded through many years of hard work, persistence, and dedication to his craft. In 1990, upon retiring, I decided to attend Lamar University as a nontraditional student and study the arts, specifically photography. Professor Carter was my instructor for five semesters. He has wonderful insight into a world of mythic imagery that very few people are in tune with or even

If you would like to write to *Texas Highways*, the editors would enjoy hearing from you. Though we are unable to print every letter, we just might select yours to appear in the magazine—whether you send us kudos or criticism. We reserve the right to edit letters we print. Write to Letters Editor, *Texas Highways*, Box 141009, Austin 78714-1009, or fax 512/486-5879.

The first gasoline-engine automobile in Texas belonged to Colonel E.H.R. "Ned" Green of Terrell. The auto, a phaeton runabout built by the St. Louis Gas Car Company, had a two-cylinder engine, a tiller, and a buggy top. The 1899 model cost Colonel Green \$1,260. As the son of Hetty Green, the so-called "Witch of Wall Street," said to be the richest woman in the world, Green could well afford his "horseless carriage." The car, called a St. Louis, was shipped to the colonel by its designer, George P. Dorris. Dorris came with the car to Fort Worth and accompanied Green on the first automobile trip in Texas, which took place October 5, 1899.

The 30-mile trip from Green's home in Terrell to Dallas, where he maintained an apartment, took the men five hours. They spent one hour of that time in the small town of Forney, where the state's first automobile accident occurred. According to an article in *The Dallas Morning News*, the car's water tank sustained damage when a farm wagon crowded it off the road and into a gully. The article further reported that "A stop at a blacksmith shop operated by Reeves Henry, an African-American who [ran] shops in Forney from the turn of the century until the 1920s, resulted in Henry's becoming the first automobile repairman in Texas."

With repairs complete, Green and Dorris proceeded to Dallas at less than breakneck speeds. Colonel Green was quoted as saying, "We did not put on full power on the country roads, [and] when we struck the asphalt streets [of Dallas], we dared not do so because the thoroughfare was so crowded it would have been dangerous to human life."

Thus it was that three Texas "firsts" happened in one day.

—Bill R. Cannon, Irving

A suicide in Austin spawned the Governor's Mansion's most famous ghost story.

It happened during the Civil War, when a nephew and a niece (not brother and sister to each other) visited Governor Pendleton Murrah and his wife in the Mansion. Legend has it that the young woman encouraged the young fellow's attentions, and he fell hopelessly in love with her. But when he proposed marriage one day, she laughingly scorned his offer.

Late the same night, he shot himself, choosing to die rather than live without his lady love. The household awoke to find the young man's body sprawled across the bed in a small upstairs bedroom and the wall splattered with blood.

After that, servants in the Mansion avoided the bedroom, particularly on Sunday afternoons, when the young man's ghost appeared. To this day, moaning sounds occasionally issue from the room late at night, and ghostly footsteps sometimes echo along the old halls.

—Janis Dulaney Russell, Austin



According to a 135-year-old tale, the Governor's Mansion in Austin shelters at least one ghost. Now that it's October, who knows? There may be more....

A treasure lost on Padre Island during the Civil War has never been found.

In 1847, John V. Singer, brother of Isaac Singer of sewing machine fame, and his wife, Johanna Shaw, arrived at the mouth of the Rio Grande. According to *The New Handbook of Texas*, the family came to Texas intending to set

up a shipping business at Point Isabel (today's Port Isabel). Another account says the Singers had started for California and were turned back by cholera. In any case, the family lived on Padre Island in tents for a few weeks and decided to remain.

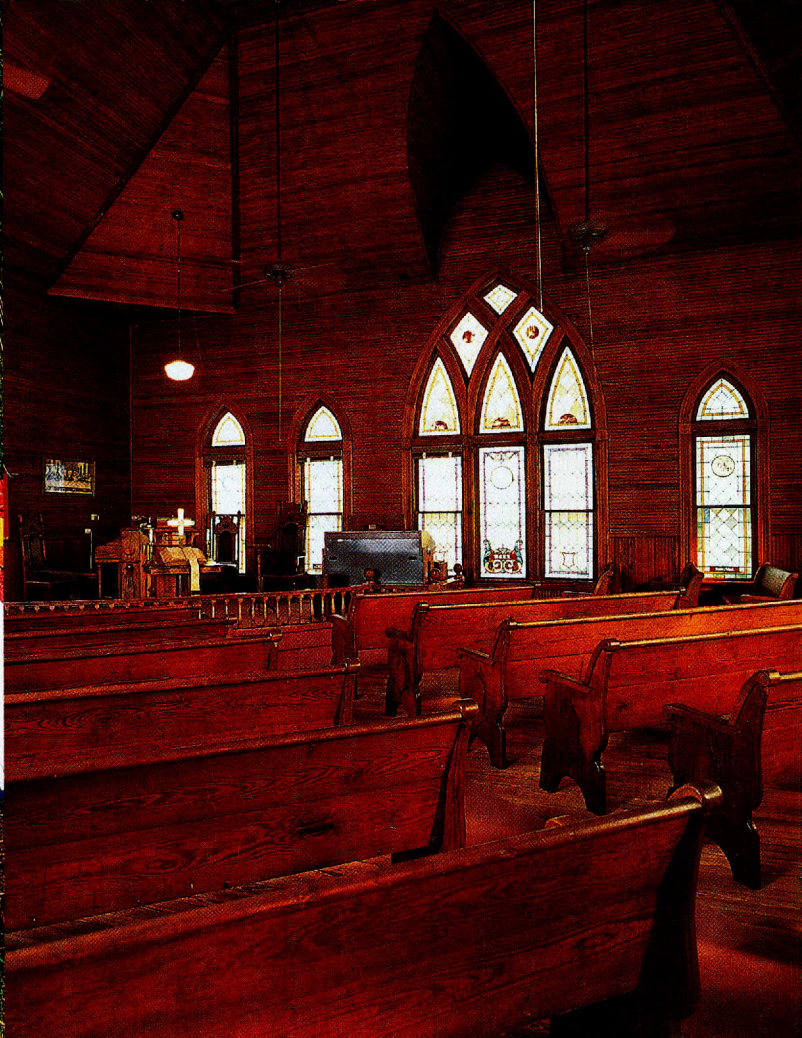
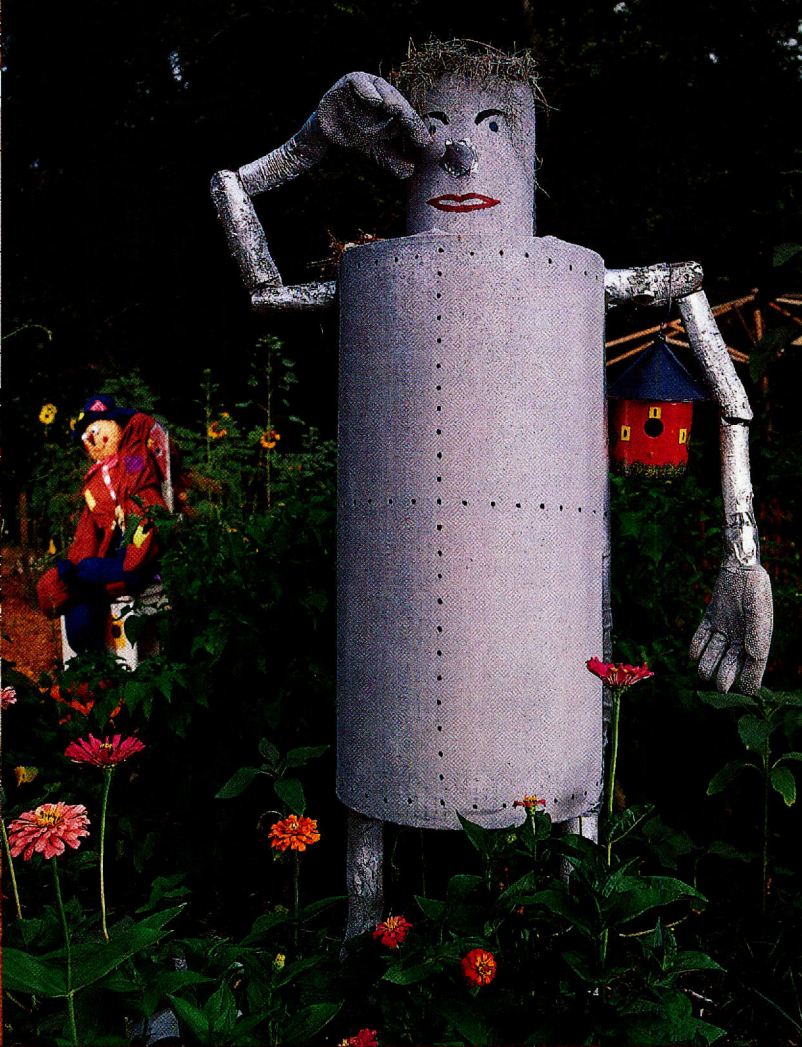
Until 1851, the Singers resided three miles above Padre's southern tip in a cabin built of driftwood. One day, farther north, they discovered the deserted Rancho Santa Cruz, built in the early 1800s by Padre Nicolás Ballí, the priest for whom the island is named. Johanna and John, individually wealthy, began acquiring land from Padre Ballí's heirs and eventually rebuilt the ranch into a prosperous cattle empire.

The Singers' seven children were given their own brands and, when old enough, helped the ranch hands with the horses. Johanna also helped with the outdoor work, though at times, when she tired of island life, she would row her skiff across Laguna Madre to Point Isabel and take a stagecoach into Brownsville for a few days.

The family's life changed drastically in 1861, when John's strong Union loyalties prompted the Confederates to force his departure from the island. The family packed up their possessions and left one night, but not before burying between \$60,000 and \$80,000 in silver, gold, old coins, and jewelry—including Johanna's emerald necklace—in the sand dunes.

After the war, the Singers returned and spent a year searching for their treasure, but the sands had shifted, and the markers they had left were no longer visible. Johanna died soon afterward, in 1866. John left for South America, and though he later returned to the United States, he never came back to Padre Island. In 1931, treasure hunters found the "Lost City," as the ranch came to be known, but the fortune presumably remains hidden beneath the sands.

—Janis Dulaney Russell, Austin



SINGING THE PRAISES OF CHAPPELL HILL

According to an old folk tale, scarecrows come alive on clear, moonlit nights to dance and frolic across the countryside. Just before sunup, the story goes, the straw figures return to their gardens, leaving their merriment and mischief behind.

It's the kind of yarn that appeals to folks in Chappell Hill, a quaint, historic town of between 150 and 500 residents (depending on whom you talk to) nestled in rich Brazos River farmland less than an hour's drive northwest of Houston. Each year, the area's most creative people compete to build the most imaginative scarecrow, then they invite visitors to a festival honoring the whimsical personalities. The two-day family event (October 10-11, 1998) attracts more than 30,000 fun-seekers of all ages.

"Everybody here gets into the spirit," says Mary Tom Middlebrook, president of the Chappell Hill Historical Society, which sponsors the annual festivities. "The scarecrows keep getting bigger and better. Children, especially, enjoy seeing them."

The 100 or more figures that lounge beside checkerboards, perch on tree limbs, and climb up haystacks share star billing at the Scarecrow Festival with lace-makers, basket-weavers, and



Contestants in the scarecrow competition keep their entries top-secret until judging begins.

other folklife artisans who ply crafts common a century or more ago; cloggers, gospel singers, and other entertainers; food vendors offering an array of tempting fare; and more than 120 arts and crafts booths. At a children's activity area, voices squeal with delight and imaginations soar as youngsters decorate pumpkins with buttons, pipe cleaners, and shiny baubles. Led by drivers

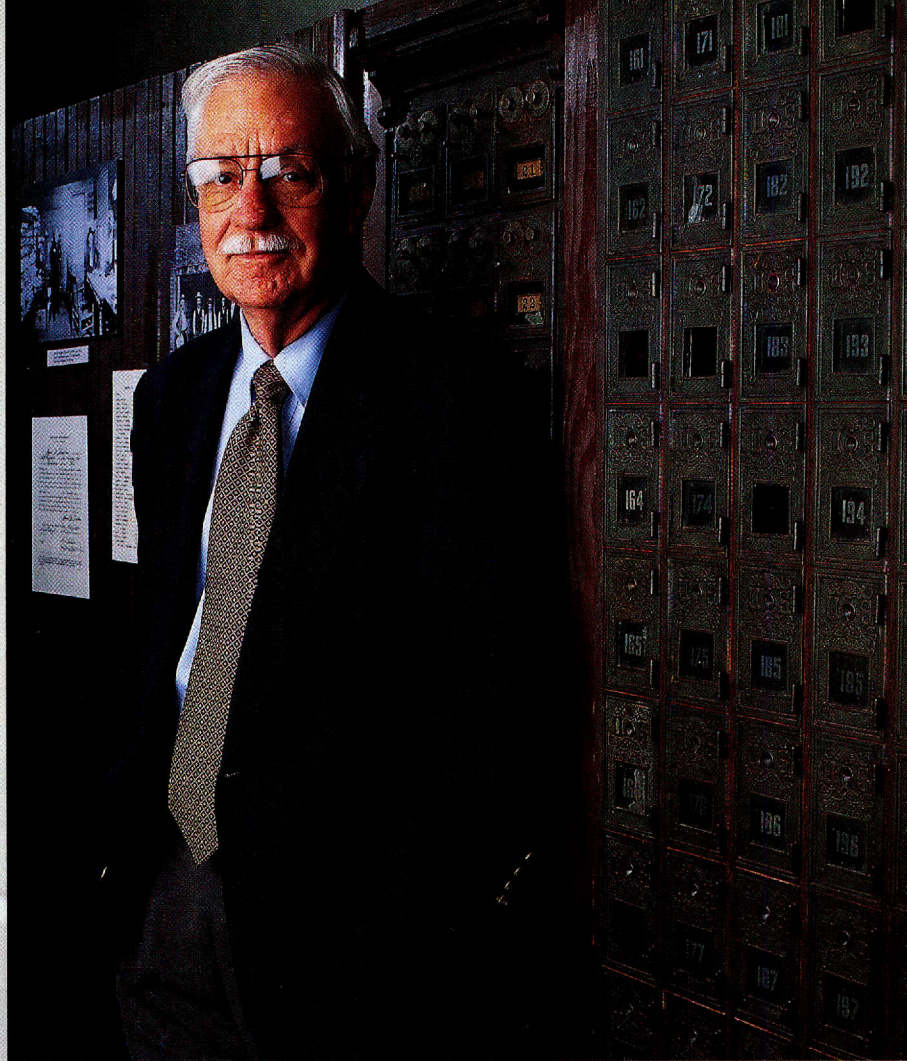
who regale passengers with the town's history and tales, hayrides wind through town, stopping to let folks disembark to join the festivities.

The National Historic District, a four-block stretch of houses, stores, and other structures along Main Street (FM 1155), together with the area's tree-studded side streets, provide the setting for the weekend of fun. Ten area buildings boast Registered Texas Historic Landmark status; 12 are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

One look inside the lobby of Chappell Hill Bank (in business since 1907) reveals unexpected turn-of-the-century grandeur. "We still have the bank's original oak-and-brass tellers' cages," says Edward A. Smith, chief executive officer. A General Land Office map, printed in 1899, fills a lobby wall. "Visitors from as far away as Maine come here to see where their ancestors were born... towns like Runnett that don't exist anymore," says Edward.

BY DIANE MOREY SITTON ■ PHOTOGRAPHS BY J. GRIFFIS SMITH

[FACING PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT] Founded in pre-Civil War days, Chappell Hill was known for many years as a religious, educational, and cotton-exporting center. The 1907 Chappell Hill Bank still boasts the original tellers' cages. In October, the town throws its annual Scarecrow Festival, during which local artisans craft figures from tin, hosiery, time-honored straw, and everything in between. The 1901 United Methodist Church's gorgeous stained-glass windows and wooden sanctuary draw admirers year round. Scarecrows aside, real-life friendly faces abound here.



[CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT] The Stagecoach Inn, with its antique hitching post, still welcomes guests, just as it did in 1850 when Jacob and Mary Hargrove Haller built it to serve the fledgling town. Local historian Nath Winfield shows off the town's original post office boxes, now displayed in the Chappell Hill Historical Society Museum. The Chappell Hill Circulating Library, built in 1911, holds a used-book sale during the Scarecrow Festival. A historical map decorates the lobby of the Chappell Hill Bank.

FOR CHAPPELL HILL'S ARTISANS,
THE ANNUAL SCARECROW CONTEST IS

THE LAST STRAW

Nearby, the Rock Store, a former general store now used as a community meeting hall, harks back to 1869, when carpenters framed the sandstone structure with hand-hewn, pegged pine timbers. Today, the interior walls sport panoramic folk-art stitcheries depicting local history.

Festival-goers who drop by can order a lemonade and sit a spell or browse through books and mementos available from members of the Chappell Hill Historical Society. A free map offered here describes 72 points of interest clustered downtown and scattered in the area.

Book-lovers should visit the Chappell Hill Circulating Library, constructed by townspeople in 1911 on the same sunny spot on Cedar Street that it occupies today. The tiny, white-columned building holds about 2,500 books.

"In the 1930s or so, people borrowed books on the honor system," says Nath Winfield, a fifth-generation resident and local historian. "I'd get the key from my grandmother—only 'interested' people had keys—and let myself into the library. It always smelled like old books and trapped sunshine." A used-book sale beckons bargain hunters during the festival.

Nearby, Eileen Evans Antiques occupies one of many historic houses moved to town, then renovated and used as places of business. Here, shoppers seeking American country antiques chat with proprietors Eileen and Steve Evans while examining wares from the 1700s and 1800s. "I like to think of this as the plastic of the 18th Century," says Eileen, as she holds up a drinking glass fashioned from a cow horn. "It was cheap, it was rock-hard, and the kids could use it."

The Evans live around the corner, in a restored, 145-year-old plantation dwelling that once stood on land owned by the family of William Barret Travis, the commander at the Battle of the Alamo. Hearsay has it that the friendly spirit of a Civil War infantry soldier stayed with the home in the early 1980s when movers trucked it several miles to its present site on Main Street.

Another early building, the Greek Revival-style Stagecoach Inn dominates

Folks in Chappell Hill take scarecrows seriously—so seriously, in fact, that a week before the annual Scarecrow Festival, 20 or more townspeople gather to share scarecrow-building tips at a hands-on workshop.

But amid the exchange of ideas and techniques, the participants at scarecrow school can only speculate about who's building what for the upcoming showdown.

"Entrants in the scarecrow contest engage

in friendly competition," says Mary Tom Middlebrook, president of the Chappell Hill Historical Society. "In Chappell Hill, that means the scarecrows are top-secret until the judging."

Last year, "The Crow's Nest," a folksy bed-and-breakfast scene featuring scarecrows lounging in a quilt-covered bed, garnered the first-place ribbon for George and Virdian Clouette.

"We kick ideas around all year," says George, a retired aerospace engineer whose creative team includes his wife, two grown sons, and a daughter-in-law. "But we try to stick to light-hearted country themes that everyone can relate to."

Like many scarecrow-builders, the Clouettes start with a wooden, cross-shaped frame. "Instead of stuffing scarecrows with newspaper, we fill the arms and legs with cylinders of screen wire," he says. "It's easy to flex."

Scarecrow-fashioners Donna and Rex Boyd won one of their first-place ribbons for the still-talked-about "Scarecrow Jamboree," a rag-tag band brandishing a fiddle, a wash-tub, and a whiskey jug. For this couple, finding something for the scarecrows to stand on presents the greatest challenge.

"The first year, I made legs out of pantyhose," says Donna. "They stretched six feet long." She salvaged the project

by knotting the nylons. "Visitors said the knots looked like kneecaps," she adds.

The crafters' meticulous attention to detail elevates many Chappell Hill scarecrows from the realm of field figure to folk art. Contestants crown their creations with braids woven from rope, shredded muslin, and raffia. They fashion eyes and other expressive features from yarn, felt, buttons, and paint. Most figures wear shoes and gloves; many carry watering cans, pails of corn, or baskets filled with sunflowers.

To the Clouettes, Boyds, and other inventive folks here, creating the scarecrows with their family and friends is almost as much fun as sharing the capricious results with the caravans of onlookers who come to admire them.

—Diane Morey Sitton

© RUDI HOLMSTEINER



On October 10-11 this year, kids and adults enjoy autumn festivities galore at the Scarecrow Festival.

the other side of the street, as it did in 1850 when Jacob and Mary Hargrove Haller built it as a stopover for weary stage-line passengers making the three-day trek from Houston to Austin and on to Waco. A pegged, mortise and tenon framework supports the two-story, cedar structure, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

In the 1970s, the late Harvin C. Moore and his wife, Elizabeth, purchased the inn, then in a state of disrepair, and began to restore it. In the early Eighties, they opened The Stagecoach Inn, a lodging that became known for its hearty breakfasts, rooms decorated with antiques, and rich history. Elizabeth captivated guests with tales of hotelier Mary Hargrove Haller, who also founded the town. “She bought the town’s original 100 acres, recorded the transaction, and laid out streets, alleys, and lots,” says Elizabeth. “Mary named Chappell Hill for her grandfather Robert Wooding Chappell.”

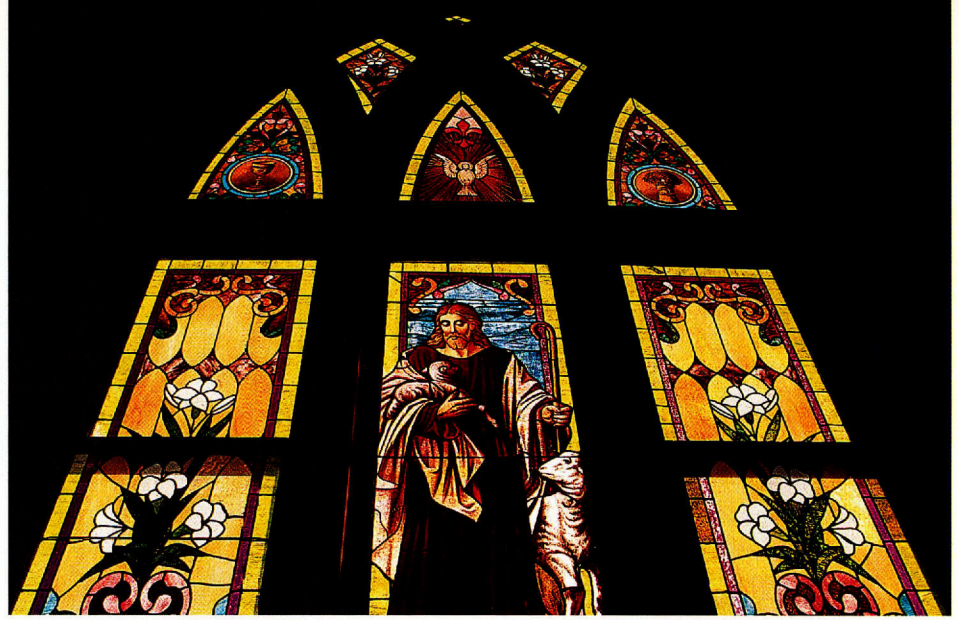
True to the young bride’s intuition, the town prospered. “The area’s fertile soil attracted settlers from the cotton states of the Old South,” says Nath Winfield. “Cotton fueled the economy.”

The Stagecoach Inn has recently changed hands, and new owners Donnie and Elaine Roberts continue to welcome visitors to the lovely old inn. “The garden areas are as picturesque as the home,” says Donnie. “There are huge oak trees covered with Spanish moss, and plenty of outdoor sitting areas. We think it’s a great place.”

The Chappell Hill Historical Society Museum, in a spacious old school building at the corner of Church and Poplar streets, exhibits artifacts and photographs from the years when Chappell Hill thrived as a religious and educational center with two colleges and five churches. The Civil War, along with a yellow fever epidemic in 1867, ended the era of growth.

Museum-goers can start their tour in the backstage theater by watching a 14-minute slide show, “a capsule of Chappell Hill history,” says Nath.

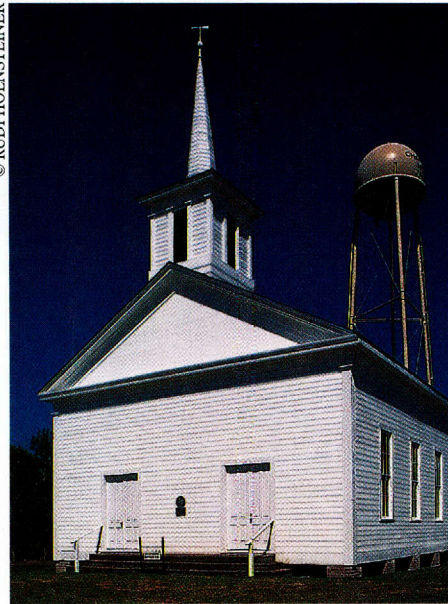
Next door to the museum, lofty white



[ABOVE] Stained-glass windows made in England illuminate the United Methodist Church, built in 1901. The original 1853 building was destroyed in the 1900 hurricane that ravaged the Texas coast and destroyed Galveston.

[BELOW] Visitors can take a guided tour of Chappell Hill’s National Historic District, which includes the Providence Baptist Church and other buildings, by appointment.

© RUDI HOLNSTEINER



steeple and stained-glass windows—and on festival weekends, a scarecrow-populated vignette—attract tourists to the United Methodist Church.

“Artisans in England made the windows from ‘jewel glass,’” says Fred Brandt, grandson of Henry C. Brandt, the German immigrant who built the church in 1901. The 1900 storm that ravaged Galveston destroyed the original 1853 building.

Today, the pine-board sanctuary envelops the 62-member congregation in the same soft sheen present nearly a century ago. “Brandt treated the interior walls with boiled linseed oil. The finish

is original,” says Nath. Visitors can inspect the sanctuary during town celebrations and on tours offered by the museum.

It is likely that Mary Hargrove Haller, the young, visionary town-founder, would approve of Chappell Hill’s ongoing roster of family events. Yuletide fun begins with the Teddy Bear Parade, starring kids and their fancifully dressed bears. An evening of caroling, shopping, entertainment, and visits with Santa follows.

The Bluebonnet Festival welcomes spring and the cobalt transformation that occurs as Texas’ state flower unfurls throughout the town and region. On July Fourth, an old-fashioned parade of homemade floats, school bands, kids on bikes, and the town’s “Famous Marching Kazoo Band” entertains local folks and out-of-towners as it makes its way through downtown.

In a setting as rich with heritage and charm as Chappell Hill, where the population is anyone’s guess and where scarecrows are commonplace, is it really so hard to imagine one of the lifelike sentries leaving his post to stroll the old streets and dance under moonlit skies? ★

DIANE MOREY SITTON of Colmesneil never met a scarecrow she didn’t like.

Staff photographer J. GRIFFIS SMITH grew up in Caldwell, just a stone’s throw from Chappell Hill.

Chappell Hill

Chappell Hill, in southeast Washington County, lies approximately 60 miles northwest of Houston on US 290. Write to the Chappell Hill Chamber of Commerce, Box 113, Chappell Hill 77426; 409/277-1122. **The area code is 409. The zip code is 77426.**

Scarecrow Festival

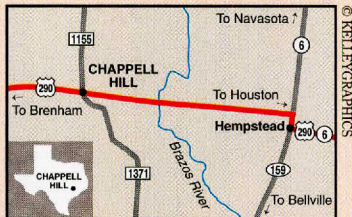
The **22nd Annual Scarecrow Festival** takes place Oct. 10-11, 1998, in historic downtown on FM 1155 (Main St.), just north of US 290. Festivities are scheduled from 10-6 on Sat., noon-6 on Sun. Admission: Free. Hayride (a mini-tour of the historic district) admission: \$1, 50¢ age 12 and younger. Handicapped parking at corner of Main and Chestnut (FM 2447). Write to the Chappell Hill Historical Society, Box 211; 836-6033.

Attractions

The **Chappell Hill Historical Society Museum**, at the corner of Church and Poplar streets, houses relics and records of Chappell Hill's founding and development. Tours of the historic district, including the library, Providence Baptist Church, and United Methodist Church, scheduled by appt. A map with descriptions of points of interest (\$1); *All Our Yesterdays* by Nath and Judy Winfield (Texian Press, 1969; \$10); and other reference materials are available. Hours: Wed-Sat 10-4, Sun 1-4 (other hours by request). Admission: Free; donations accepted. Wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 211; 836-6033.

The **Masonic Cemetery**, at the northwest corner of town, was founded by the Hubert Masonic Lodge in 1853 at the death of Jacob Haller, a charter member. It is the resting place of the immediate family of Alamo hero Colonel William Barret Travis, 29 Confederate veterans, and other dignitaries.

At **Chappell Hill Sausage Co.**, on Hwy. 290 E., visitors can observe the making of smoked pork and beef sausage or browse the counters. Hours: Mon-Fri 7-5, Sat 8-4. Wheelchair accessible. Write to Rt. 1, Box 35E; 800/447-0568.



Shopping

For the best shopping, visit the town on weekends.

Eileen Evans Antiques, on Cedar St. one block east of Main St., offers handmade reproductions, as well as furniture, lighting, and accessories from the 1700s and 1800s. Hours: Sat 10:30-5, and by appt. Not wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 98; 830-8861.

Texana Cigar Co., in the old S&B Drugstore Building at 730 Main St., sells hand-rolled, private-label cigars (and coffee to go with them). Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5, Sat 10-4, Sun noon-4. Wheelchair accessible. Call 251-7500 or 888/4-CIGAR-4.

Antiques, candles, and handmade gifts are available at **The Bluebonnet House**, on Main St. Hours: Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5. Wheelchair accessible with assistance. Call 836-2554 or 713/932-8806. Similar items nearby at **The Brazos Star**. Hours: Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5. Not wheelchair accessible. Call 836-6829.

Bed & Breakfast Inns
The Stagecoach Inn, a 2-story, Greek Revival residence at the corner of Main and Chestnut, offers 4 bedrooms furnished with antiques. Two other structures on the shady 3-acre lot offer overnight lodging: The Coach House features a

living room, bedroom, and bath (wheelchair accessible), and the Weems House offers 2 bedrooms with kitchens and baths. Guided tours by appt. Write to Box 550; 836-9515.

The Mulberry House (ca. 1855), just east of the intersection of Main and Chestnut, is a Queen Anne house with an octagonal tower, second-floor gables and dormers, and a wraparound porch. It offers 3 bedrooms furnished with antiques. Also available on the park-like lot: guest quarters with a living room and 2 bedrooms, and a cottage with a living room and bedroom. Not wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 5; 830-1311.

The Browning Plantation, just off FM 1371 (south of US 290), is a 3-story Greek Revival plantation home (ca. 1850) on 200 acres. The house offers 4 bedrooms. Also on the grounds, a structure built to resemble a railroad depot has 2 wheelchair-accessible bedrooms.

Guided tours by appt. Write to Rt. 1, Box 8; 836-6144 or 888/912-6144.

Dining

Bever's Kitchen & Gifts, on Main St. across from the water tower, serves chicken and dumplings, sandwiches, soups, and salads, and specializes in homemade desserts, including fudge pecan pie. Hours: Mon-Sat 11-3. Not wheelchair accessible. Call 836-4178.

Chappell Hill Meat Market and Cafe, at the intersection of US 290 and FM 1155, serves country cooking, including traditional country breakfasts. Hours: Mon-Thu 6:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Fri-Sat 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Not wheelchair accessible. Call 836-5916.

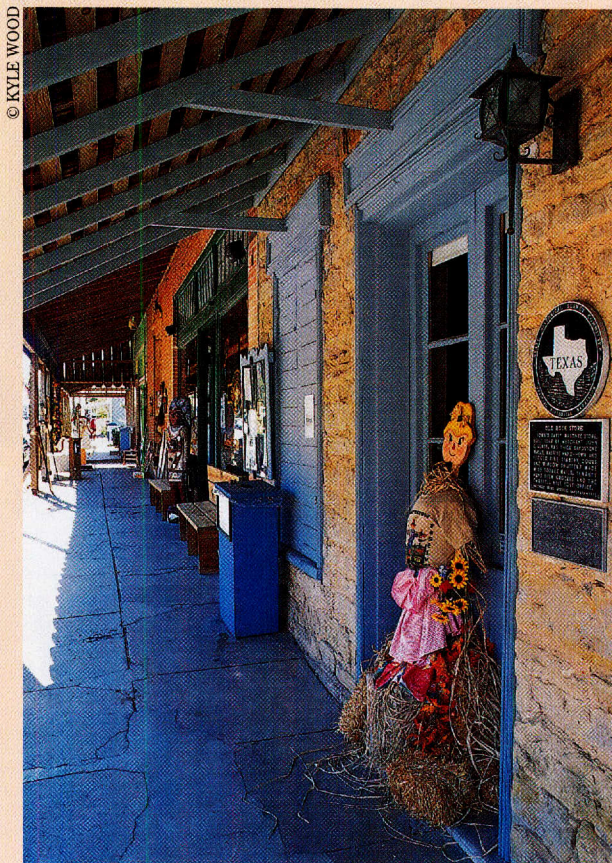
C&C II Restaurant, on the northeast corner of US 290 and FM 1155, offers pasta, steak, and seafood. Hours: Mon-Thu 11-9, Fri-Sat 11-10. Wheelchair accessible. Call 251-9299.

Events

Christmas in the Country enlivens historic downtown on Dec. 12, 1998, beginning with the Teddy Bear Parade at 4:30 p.m. Shopping and entertainment until 9 p.m. Contact the Chamber of Commerce.

The **35th Annual Bluebonnet Festival** occurs April 10-11, 1999. Features include arts and crafts, food, children's activities, entertainment, and hayrides. Hours: Sat 10-6, Sun noon-6. Admission: Free. Contact the Chappell Hill Historical Society (see column 1).

The **Independence Day Parade** marches through historic Chappell Hill on July 4. Refreshments available. Contact the Chamber of Commerce.



Shopping abounds on Main Street, though it's liveliest on weekends, when more stores are open. Merchandise ranges from antiques to hand-rolled cigars.



Collectors of rare titles live

By *the* Bo

Collectors in-the-know haunt the state's many rare- and used-book shops, looking for that one choice volume of Texana or other kind of treasure, but casual browsers will also find plenty to pique their interest. The titles above were photographed at Larry McNurtry's Booked Up in Archer City.

By Mike Cox

Photographs by
J. Griffis Smith



I am a stalker of rare and out-of-print Texas books, as serious in pursuit of my quarry as a buffalo hunter with an empty wagon two days' ride out of Fort Griffin.

In an antique mall on the outskirts of Abilene, I scan an assortment of old books—novels that failed to make the bestseller lists, anthologies of condensed books, cheaply printed book-club editions. None of the books I see slow me down as my gaze jumps from spine to spine. All are virtually worthless to any serious collector.

Then I spot something different, a slender volume protected by a yellowing paper dust jacket. On a hunch, I slide it from the shelf.

Its title—*Tom Bond*—offers no clue as to its contents. The author's name, Josie Baird, holds no meaning to me either. And yet my pulse picks up as I examine the book more closely.

In a small, cur-
sive font, the
subtitle on the
front cover reads *Bronc-buster, Cow-poke,
and Trail Driver*. Beneath it appears
an amateurish drawing of two cowboys
pushing a trail herd.

The less-than-skillful typography suggests to me that the privately published *Tom Bond* probably represented someone's failed attempt to write the Great American Novel about a cowboy. But leafing through the little book, I discover an index. Novels do not contain indexes.

Quickly flipping back to the beginning, I find a 19th-Century photograph of a raw-faced, mustachioed Tom Bond, a Texas cowboy. In the 1940s, Bond told his story to the author, who published it in 1960.

My collector's instincts aroused and my heart racing faster than a stampeding herd, I look in the upper right corner of the front flyleaf—the place where booksellers traditionally lightly pencil in a price. Seeing \$4, I try to resume normal breathing and maintain a poker face.

Yes, I'll pay \$4 for *Tom Bond*.

Back home later that day, I eagerly check my Texana price guides. *Tom Bond* lists at a value of 20 times the amount I paid. It's now in my personal library, augmenting my collection of books on the Texas cattle industry.

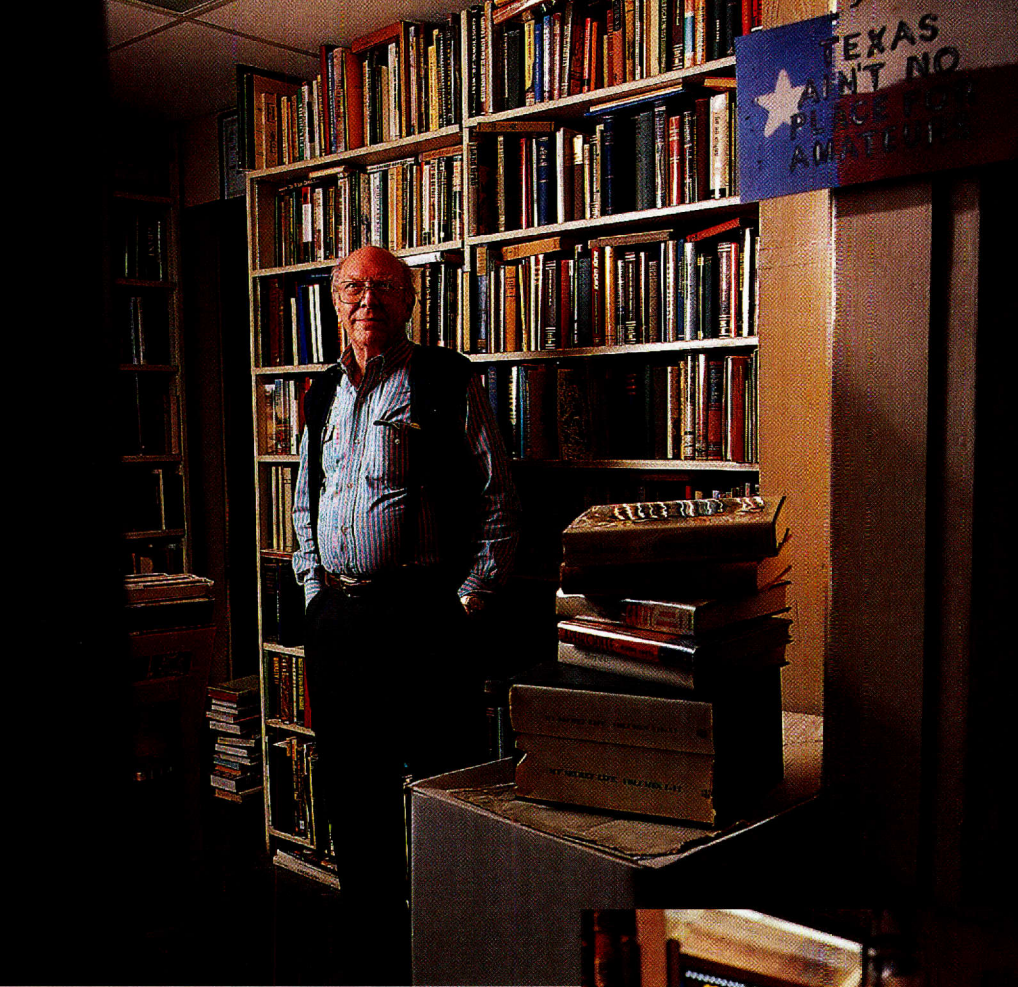
In most of us—buried deep in our genetic code under myriad layers of civ-

Bibliophiles from around the world have found the Lone Star State an attractive booking destination. From Amarillo to Beaumont and from El Paso to Tyler, book-lovers will find more than 250 used- and rare-book stores that cater to both serious collectors and browsers.

ilizing influences accumulated over hundreds of generations—lurks the joy of the hunt. What we seek, whether old books, antique glassware, or clothing bargains, is immaterial. Our distant ancestors stalked game—and sometimes each other—in order to survive. We descendants of the survivors no longer need to stalk our food, but sometimes we stalk recreationally.

One man knows the feeling especially well. Jack Matthews, a professor at Ohio University, has written several guides on hunting and collecting rare books. Matthews also claims the distinction of inventing a new meaning for an old word: booking. He defines it as “the covetous foraging for old and rare books.”

Bibliophiles from around the world have found the Lone Star State an attractive booking destination. From Amarillo to Beaumont and from El



remarried eight or nine years later and sold it to [legendary Texas bookman] Johnny Jenkins. Eventually, Jenkins sold it to me.”

Dick estimates an inventory of 12,000 books on his shelves, with another 4,000 stacked on the floor and tucked away in corners. Currently, the store occupies an old house near downtown Dallas, the third location in its 50-year history.

“The store is next to the Stoneleigh Hotel, where many theatrical people stay,” Dick says. “Our store gets a lot of customers from the Stoneleigh and from the Crescent and Mansion hotels.”

One day, for instance, Michael Jackson walked into the store with his mother, father, and bodyguard. “Michael collects books on photography and Walt Disney,” Dick says, “and his mother collects books on plantation life.”

Paso to Tyler, book-lovers will find more than 250 used- and rare-book stores that cater to both serious collectors and browsers.

Proprietors of bookstores present as eclectic a bunch of men and women as you are likely to encounter anywhere.

Consider Dick Bosse, owner of Aldredge Books in Dallas. Dick may be the last man on the planet using a manual typewriter. He compares himself to Rex Stout’s popular fictional detective, Nero Wolfe, in the way he follows clues leading to the “arrest” of a wanted title.

“I got in the book business as part-time work when I was in SMU. It was a hell of a lot more fun than writing a thesis, so I’m still doing it 40 years later,” Dick says with a laugh.

Sawnie Aldredge Jr., son of one of Dallas’ mayors, opened Aldredge Books in 1947. A decade later, Dick Bosse started working in the shop for a dollar an hour. In another 10 years, he moved up to manager.

“When Aldredge died in 1967,” Dick recalls, “his widow took it over. She



Texas writers A.C. Greene, Larry King, and Larry McMurtry also frequent Dick's store. "Before Larry McMurtry got famous, he was a book scout for me," Bosse says. "He was darn good, too."

One of Bosse's several business cards—all tongue in cheek—identifies him as "Sir Lee Geezer," seller of "Used Books at Antiquarian Prices," but despite his four decades in the trade, the owner of the venerable Aldredge Book Store doesn't rank as the first person in Texas to make a living by selling old books.

That distinction belongs to Karl Hans Peter Marius Neilsen Gammel—known

Neils decided to move on, H.P.N. formed a crude table by wedging a sturdy board between two trees at the corner of Eighth and Congress. Displaying his wares on his improvised counter, H.P.N. established himself as a used-book seller, buying titles for a nickel and reselling them for a dime.

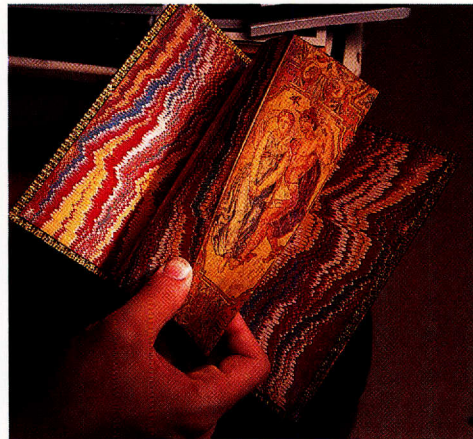
Gammel's thriving business—one of the first used- and rare-book stores west of the Mississippi—became one of the largest in Texas. Shortly after H.P.N. died in 1931, his store closed. Few people today know the story of Gammel, the pioneer bookseller, but later generations of Texans have successfully fol-

lowed his biblio-path in making a living by the age-old business principle he practiced: Buy low and sell high. Or, at least, higher.

Texas' oldest continuously operated used-book store, Fletcher's Books in Salado, stands as a micro-oasis of culture off Interstate 35, midway between Dallas and San Antonio. Fletcher's didn't start in Salado, though.

One day in 1927, New York-born Herbert Fletcher walked into a retail bookstore in San Antonio where a young woman named Thelma Rawls worked. Fletcher

had once headed the rare-book department of the venerable Wanamaker's department store in Philadelphia and then operated his own bookstore in Ohio before joining the Army during World War I. Since his discharge, he'd been in San Antonio running the medical library at Fort Sam Houston.



The Book on Texas' Used-Book Stores

The following trivia on booking in Texas comes from the 1996 *Used Book Lover's Guide to the Central States* by David S. and Susan Siegel (\$18.95 from Book Hunter Press; 914/245-6608), one of six such regional guides.

Oldest used-book store: Fletcher's Books, opened in 1928 in Houston and operating today in Salado

Most unusual name: Pea Picker Book Store in Athens

Runner-up: The Lancaster Bookie in Waxahachie

Cleverest name: Treasure Aisles in Denton

Runner-up: Red B4 Books in Beaumont

Cleverest name thought of by two people: Novel Ideas in Galveston, and Novel Ideas Bookstore in Nacogdoches

Smallest town with a used-book store: Archer City

Most unusual specialty: Tie: Ancient Egypt at Van Siclen Books in San Antonio, and books on reptiles and amphibians at Adrian Crane in Dallas

Tyler Fletcher displays the fore-edge painting on a volume of *The Poetical Works of Sir Thomas Wyatt*. Developed in Renaissance Italy, fore-edge painting is executed on a book's fanned-out pages. When the book is closed, the painting is concealed.



as H.P.N. to his friends. Born in Denmark in 1854, Gammel came to Texas in 1877 with his brother, Neils. After disembarking from a ship in the busy coastal port of Galveston, they kept walking until they reached Austin.

At first, the brothers supported themselves by selling trinkets. But when

[ABOVE] Colleen Urbanek oversees 100,000 volumes, including 5,000 on Texas, at Colleen's, near Hobby Airport in southeast Houston. She also runs a successful book-search service.

[FACING PAGE] Dick Bosse of Dallas (top, left) owns Aldredge Book Store, which opened in Big D more than a half-century ago. Dick began working at Aldredge's in the 1950s and eventually bought the shop from Texas bookman John Jenkins. In Salado, Tyler Fletcher (bottom photo) continues a book-selling tradition begun by his grandparents in Houston in the late 1920s.



[ABOVE AND RIGHT] Twenty-five miles south of Wichita Falls, Larry McMurtry is transforming his hometown of Archer City into a booking mecca. The author and bookman's four-building Booked Up carries some 200,000 volumes.

Fletcher liked bookstores, and before long, he realized he liked Thelma Rawls. They married in October of that year.

The couple moved to Houston in 1928 and soon opened their own bookstore, which specialized in used volumes, especially Texana. Fletcher's became the first used-book store in Houston.

"For years, their bookstore served as headquarters for much of the city's literary life," wrote A.C. Greene, *Dallas Morning News* columnist. "Virtually every Southwest writer in the 1930s and 1940s became their friend."

One of the Fletchers' regular customers, Andrew Jackson Houston, Sam Houston's only surviving son, graciously signed books for patrons. Many of them expressed surprise to learn that a direct descendant of the first president of the Republic of Texas was still living in the 20th Century.

In 1954, the Fletchers realized that in the booming Bayou City economy, the rising value of their choice downtown location made it too expensive for them to keep. The couple turned a nice profit



on the sale of their property and decided to move the shop to Salado.

After Herbert Fletcher's death in 1968, Thelma kept the store going and oversaw its move to the north end of

Main Street. Thelma died in 1995 at age 90—the unquestioned grande dame of Texas used- and rare-book sellers. Today, her grandson, Tyler Fletcher, operates the store. It still specializes in Texana.

Although Houston did not have a single used-book store until the Fletchers set up shop there in the late 1920s, today it can boast more than any other city in Texas. Among them is the shop at 6880 Telephone Road, run since 1971 by Colleen Urbanek.

Some 100,000 books—including an estimated 5,000 Texas-related books—fill the shelves of her shop, but walk-in

customers account for only a small percentage of her business. Colleen's skill at searching for and locating requested titles brings her phone calls from all over the country. "I have a pretty good batting

average," she says. "I usually find about a third of the titles people ask for."

So what are the most-sought categories of books?

"There isn't any perfectly salable book," Colleen admits. "Some people like religious books. Some buy any of Ernest Gann's [action-adventure novels, such as *Fate Is the Hunter* and *The Black Watch*]. Others want to buy all of my H. Allen Smith books, including *The Great Chili Confrontation* or *How to Write Without Knowing Nothing*."

One customer entered the store and asked for directions to the men's restroom. "To get there, he had to walk

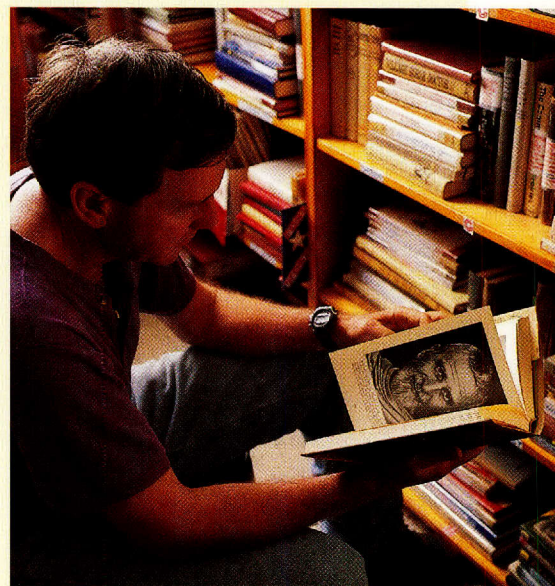


past the section on Mexico," Colleen recalls. "He came back to the counter with \$200 worth of books on Mexico he happened to notice on the shelves."

Colleen's daily book sales can range

Buy The Book: Some pointers on booking

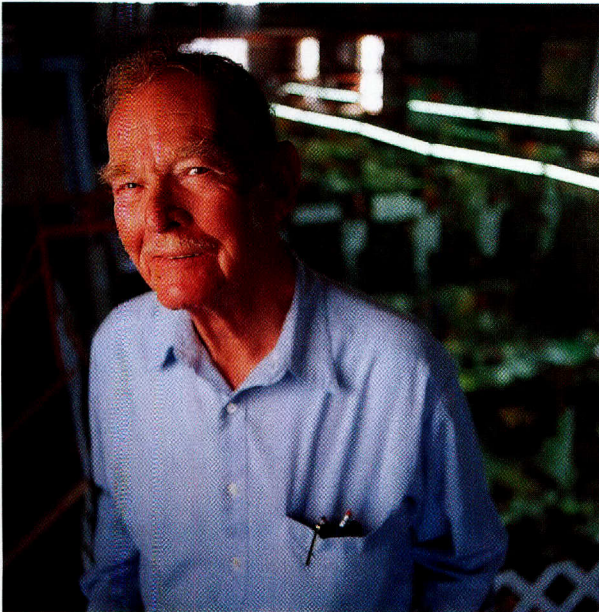
- Never buy a damaged book unless you are doing so solely for its content. Damaged books have no resale value.
- A nonfiction book with a dust jacket is worth at least a third more than the same book without a jacket.
- A novel without a dust jacket has no collectible value.
- First editions almost always are worth more than later editions—unless the later edition contains new material such as an essay by a recognized scholar or an index. Some first editions by famous authors can be extremely valuable. An example is Larry McMurtry's first novel, *Horseman, Pass By*, published in 1961 with only a small print-run.
- A hardback book is usually worth more than a paperback, unless the book—or booklet—was published in paper only. Early pocketbooks have become collectible.
- A book signed by the author is worth more than an unsigned copy. Books with personalized inscriptions, especially from noted authors, are worth even more. Written comments (called marginalia) by a famous reader also add value. On the other hand, a book with a gift inscription from someone who's not the author ("To Suzie with love, Joe") decreases the value of the book.
- Book-club editions, even if the copyright page proclaims it to be a "First Edition," are not considered collectible. Buy one only if you want to read the book and are not interested in its potential increase in value.
- A book does not become valuable because of age alone. Old Bibles, text-



For book-lovers like Andrew Dahlberg of Houston, computers will never replace the sound of turning pages and the smell of old leather and print.

books, encyclopedias, or dictionaries usually have little collectible or resale value unless they were owned and signed by a famous person.

- Pricing varies, depending on the experience and expertise of the bookseller. Sellers new to the trade may woeefully underprice or unrealistically overprice a book. Experienced dealers know that prices depend on condition, scarcity, and demand. In the final analysis, a book is worth what someone will pay for it.
- Haggling over price is okay at garage sales, junk shops, and flea markets, but most used- and rare-book sellers with shops or mail-order businesses price their books fairly and don't usually appreciate someone who tries to buy the book at a reduced price. Dealers do extend a reciprocal courtesy discount to fellow dealers.



small community. Now, McMurtry plans to transform it into another Hay-on-Wye, a village in Wales that supports 34 used-book stores and caters to international customers.

“My hope... is to get enough books here to bring customers from all over the world,” McMurtry wrote in 1996 in an open letter to the people published in the *Archer County News*. “Maybe while they’re here, they’ll

Gallery, where he has been selling used and rare books since 1964. In addition to 400,000 titles, Skanse’s store near downtown also carries a line of posters, art prints, and phonograph records.

In Alpine, those who prefer to do their booking by rail can get off the Amtrak train at the station and walk to Front Street Books. Owners Jean and Mike Hardy, immigrants from Houston, have 20,000 books in stock, including the largest selection of Big Bend-related books in the state. They opened a branch store in Marathon, just down from the historic Gage Hotel, last April.

from zero to \$3,000, so she gives a fair amount of thought to what people like and don’t like.

“You may think you have it all figured out,” she says, “but you haven’t got a clue. That’s why I often end up donating boxes of books to library sales. I’ve tried to give books away by putting them in a box marked ‘Free,’ but nobody looks at free books. They want to buy a \$500 book for \$35.”

Still, Colleen says, “I love this business. I enjoy finding books for people. I’d be lost without my store. I’d have to start doing housework.”

Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Larry McMurtry got his start in booking by working as a used- and rare-book scout—a person who practices booking for profit—in San Francisco. After working in a couple of Houston shops to finance his own reading, in 1971 he opened an antiquarian bookstore, called Booked Up, in Washington, D.C. (still operating). Later, he set up branches—since closed—in Houston and Dallas.

Today, he concentrates on turning his West Texas hometown of Archer City (population 1,700) into a topnotch destination for book-lovers. Booked Up in Archer City sprawls through four buildings and houses 200,000 books. Two of Larry’s novels, *The Last Picture Show* and *Texasville*, have already brought a measure of fame to Archer County’s



George Skanse (top photo) owns what may be the largest bookstore in the state, the 12,000-square-foot Book Gallery in El Paso (bottom photo), which carries some 400,000 volumes. George says he sometimes gets in 6,000 to 7,000 books at a time. At press time, he was hoping to find the time to shelve 36,000 books still sitting in bales.

spend a little money on something in addition to books.”

The author of *Lonesome Dove* is not the lone bookseller in West Texas. In El Paso, George Skanse owns the Book

On the High Plains, retired construction contractor E.P. Taylor and his wife, Mike, operate One More Time in Amarillo. The store offers a large selection of Texas and Southwestern books,

Used- and Rare-Book Stores

an assortment of general books, and some Western art, from sculptures to paintings. Taylor sells his books, but his jokes—including the latest political jabs—are free, as are photocopies of newspaper and magazine cartoons that measure up to his sense of humor.

It's hard to get to Amarillo from most places in Texas without going through Lubbock. The Book Alley, despite its name, enjoys a prime location on one of Lubbock's major thoroughfares. The store stocks 50,000 books but adheres to eccentric business hours: It doesn't open until noon (one o'clock on Sunday).

In San Angelo, owner Felton Cochran opens his Cactus Book Shop—and puts the coffee on—every day (except Sunday) at 10 a.m. His friends, including nationally known Western novelist Elmer Kelton, drop by regularly for a fresh cup and good conversation. Named for the old Cactus Hotel just up Oakes Street from the shop, the store has a large stock of Kelton's books, including first editions and his early, now-out-of-print paperbacks. When he's in the shop, Kelton's always happy to autograph his books for customers.

Downstate, in San Antonio, visitors can take their choice of several good-size used- and rare-book stores. Donaldson's Bookstore ranks second in size only to George Skanse's Book Gallery in El Paso. Fittingly for a city with one of the nation's largest Army posts and three Air Force bases, many of Donaldson's 250,000 books deal with military history, especially the Civil War and both world wars. The big store also carries Texana (including a "huge selection" of books on the Texas Rangers) and Western Americana. (Co-owner "Don" Donaldson believes the store has the largest collection of Texana and Western Americana in the nation.)

Cheever Books, just off Broadway near the Alamo City's Witte Museum, stocks 70,000 volumes.

In Austin, the used-book business has come a long way since H.P.N. Gammel began selling books in the

Texas has dozens of stores selling used and rare books. The following are those mentioned in the article. They are wheelchair accessible unless otherwise noted.

Alpine: Front Street Books, 121 E. Holland (79830); 915/837-3360. Hours: Mon-Sat 9-6, Sun 1-6. Jean and Mike Hardy, owners. (The Hardys also own Front Street Books, at 105 Hwy. 90W, in Marathon; 915/386-4249.)

Amarillo: One More Time, 112 Western (79106); 806/355-5052. Hours: Wed-Sat 10-5. E.P. and Mike Taylor, owners

Archer City: Booked Up, 216 S. Center St. (76351); 940/574-2511. Hours: Mon-Sat 10-5. "Mostly" wheelchair accessible. Larry McMurtry, owner

Austin: 12th Street Books, 827 W. 12th St. (78701); 512/499-8828. Hours: Mon-Fri 8-7, Sat 10-6. Mike Hale, owner

Dallas: Aldredge Book Store, 2909 Maple Ave. (75201); 214/871-3333. Hours: Mon-Sat 10-6. Not wheelchair accessible. Dick Bosse, owner

El Paso: Book Gallery, 2706 E. Yandell Dr. (79903); 915/562-7818. Hours: Mon-Sat 9-6:30. George Skanse, owner

Houston: Colleen's, 6880-C Telephone Rd. (77061); 713/641-1753. Hours: Mon-

Wed and Fri-Sat 10-4 (closed Thu. and Sun.). Call ahead regarding wheelchair accessibility. Colleen Urbanek, owner

Lubbock: The Book Alley, 3424 34th St. (79410); 806/795-8744. Hours: Mon-Sat noon-5:45, Sun 1-5. Wayne and Dorothy Ford, owners

Salado: Fletcher's, 945 N. Main St. (mailing address: Box 65, 76571); 254/947-5414. Hours: Mon-Sat 8:30-6, Sun 12:30-5. Tyler Fletcher, owner

San Angelo: Cactus Book Shop, 208 S. Oakes St. (76903); 915/659-3788. Hours: Mon-Sat 10-5:30. Partially wheelchair accessible. Felton Cochran, owner

San Antonio: Donaldson's Bookstore, 2421 N. St. Mary's St. (78212); 210/732-0496. Hours: Tue-Sat 9-2. Partially wheelchair accessible. "Don" and Elaine Donaldson, owners

Cheever Books, 3940 Broadway (78209); 210/824-2665. Hours: Mon-Sat 10-8, Sun noon-8. John Peace, manager

Books on Booking

Two good books on booking are Jack Matthews' *Booking Pleasures* (Ohio Univ. Press, 1996) and *Collecting Rare Books for Pleasure and Profit* (Ohio Univ. Press, 1981). The latter book is out of print; look for it while you're booking across Texas.

1870s. At Mike Hale's 12th Street Books, a book-lover can peruse a varied stock that includes Texana, science fiction, and vintage mystery novels, and then venture through an interior door marked "Massage Therapy" for a relaxing backrub.

"After your massage," says Mike, "you can come back in and jolt yourself to reality with a cup of our fresh-brewed coffee."

Operating 12th Street Books occupies Mike's weekends. An employee runs the shop Monday through Friday while Mike runs an architectural firm.

Although he does not stock high-tech books in a very high-tech city, Mike and several other Austin booksellers are doing a brisk business selling books in

cyberspace on the Internet. Mike sees the day when he may well sell more books over the Internet than he does from his store.

"My bookstore is here in Austin," Hale observes, "but my customers are all over the world."

Booking on the Internet may be more efficient, but I doubt if it will ever prove as satisfying as searching for old books in person. I never would have found *Tom Bond* on the Internet for four dollars. ★

MIKE COX writes the "Texana" column for the *Austin American-Statesman*.

Staff photographer GRIFF SMITH shot the story on historic movie houses that appeared in last month's special issue on Texas architecture.



TEXAS QUILTS

S T I T C H E S



in



Time

By Nelson England
Photographs by Stan Williams



taly has its sculptures. France has its paintings.
Texas has its quilts.

NOW THERE'S AN ANALOGY THAT might draw a few chuckles from art connoisseurs. But it's a good bet that folks who have attended the annual International Quilt Festival in Houston aren't laughing. Intrigued by the intricate handiwork and stunningly original designs of some of the quilts on display, many people leave the October show convinced that the humble quilt has indeed come into its own as an art form.

Of course, Texans can't take all the credit for quilting's renaissance. The Houston event features quilts from all over the United States and dozens of other countries around the world. Still, Texas' long quilting tradition, combined with its role as host of the world's largest quilt show, gives the Lone Star State a reputation as the international heart of this once-homespun craft.

"Texas is a mecca for people from all over the world who are interested in quilts," says Nancy O'Bryant of Austin, cofounder in 1979 of the Houston-based International Quilt Association, which holds its annual meeting in conjunction with the festival.

In its simplest form, quilting is the stitching together of two layers of fabric, with a third layer of batting material, such as cotton or wool, sewn in between to serve as insulation. Quilted garments were worn as far back as ancient Egypt's First Dynasty, around 3100 B.C., but quilting really began to flourish as a folk art in colonial America. Separated by an ocean from Europe's textile mills, women of early America learned to make every precious piece of fabric last. They saved scraps from worn-out cloth-

ing and from flour, sugar, and tobacco sacks, and sewed even the smallest pieces together into complex patterns to form the top layers of their bedcovers. The resulting "patchwork quilt" became a symbol of American resourcefulness around the world.

Even after America developed its own textile industry, quilting continued to flourish with the nation's westward expansion. In frontier Texas, quilting played a major role in the lives of women. With no

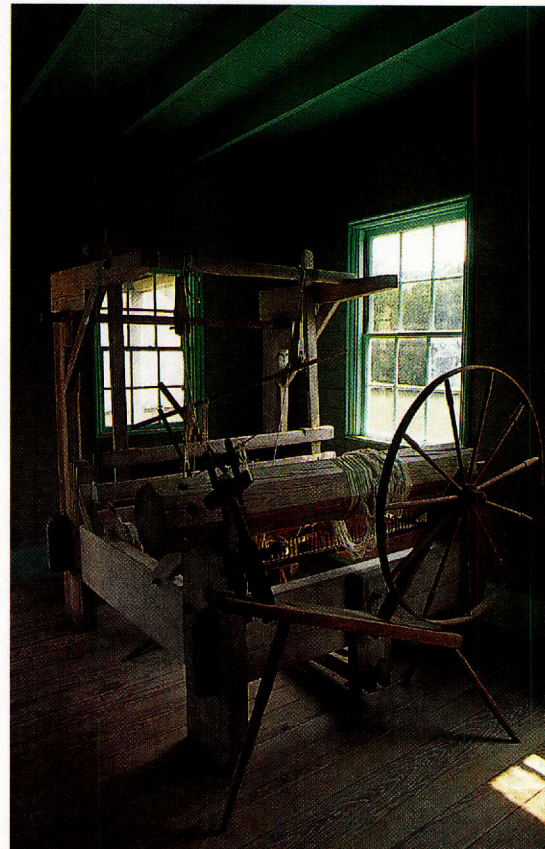
In earlier times, quilts not only warmed the body, they pieced together family and community.

central heating, warm bedding was a necessity, and young girls began making quilts for their hope chests long before marriage and continued doing so throughout their lives. They invented their own designs, often choosing themes inspired by their surroundings: bluebonnets, windmills, flower gardens, even rattlesnakes.

Nowadays, descendants of those pioneers continue the tradition. Betty Royal of Plainview began quilting when she was five years old, standing next to her mother. "My stitches weren't very good, so Mother would stitch over them," recalls Betty. "Mother always had a quilt in the frame—they hung with ropes from hooks in the ceiling. You could raise them [to the ceiling] so that they were out of the way when you weren't quilting.

[FACING PAGE] Along with antiques, old photographs, and other artifacts, vintage quilts help provide a picture of the past. A number of Texas museums display some fine examples, like this silk-and-velvet crazy quilt with feather stitching at the Winedale Historical Center near Round Top.

[RIGHT] For pioneers, cloth was a precious commodity. They first had to spin thread before they could weave it into fabric. Even tiny scraps were recycled into quilts. The Henkel Square museum village in Round Top displays many items used by 19th-Century settlers, including a number of quilts.





“Each time Daddy went to the gin,” Betty continues, “he’d pull some handfuls of cotton from a bale to bring to Mother for her to card for the batting. She would comb it and comb it until it was nice and fluffy.”

Quilts not only warmed the body, they pieced together family and community. Texans who remember their childhood beds piled high with quilts made lovingly by mothers, grandmothers, and aunts know that the comfort of a quilt extends far beyond its thermal value. Quilts helped preserve family history. “Scrap bags” were passed from mother to daughter because fabric was precious, and because each piece of material evoked family memories.

Seventy-four-year-old Wilma Breen of San Angelo, who made her first quilt in 1937 from cotton she had picked herself, still uses material from the scrap bag she inherited from her mother. “I have some string quilts made out of remnants from my seven sisters’ dresses and my three brothers’ shirts,” says Wilma. (In a string quilt, each patch is made of tiny pieces of fabric stitched together on a foundation of paper or cloth.) “When I see the quilts, I can remember who wore each fabric. We ordered the material out of the Sears catalog for eight cents a yard to make our school clothing, and we sisters would sit and sew and quilt together.”

Women in the community also bonded by exchanging bits of quilt fabrics. The quilting bee, where women would spend hours working together on the same quilt, became a primary occasion for socializing. The gatherings extended the women’s ties to the rest of the community when they donated quilts to needy families or new brides, or raffled them off to raise money for charities.

During World War II and afterward, quilting’s popularity began to diminish.

[TOP] On display at Boerne’s 1998 quilt festival, *Texas 2-Step* (by Pat Bowers of 2 S.A. Broads, a Boerne-based quilting partnership) includes a tiny Longhorn steer and bluebonnets.

[LEFT] International Quilt Festival visitors will have a chance to win *Bluebonnets and Goldenrod—Texas Meets Nebraska*, pieced by Paulette Peters and Fay Kliever of the Cornhusker State.



COURTESY INTERNATIONAL QUILT FESTIVAL



The Boerne Public Library becomes a “house of quilts” the first Saturday in May, when it joins other downtown sites in providing display space for the colorful Boerne Hauptstrasse Quiltfest. Stiff breezes at this year’s festival made displaying (and photographing) the quilts a challenge.

Store-bought blankets became cheap and readily available, and many women traded life on farms and ranches for city life and careers. Still, the quilting tradition lived on in small towns and rural areas. “Quilting skills lasted much longer in Texas than they did in other parts of the country,” says Nancy O’Byrant. “People are always amazed when they see relatively recent Texas quilts—some pieced as late as the 1930s—made with hand-carded cotton and home-dyed fabric.”

The American Bicentennial in 1976 saw a revival of interest in quilting across the United States, a phenomenon that began as a rediscovery of women’s roots. Across the nation, spearheaded by statewide projects in Kentucky and Texas, a quilt-documentation movement began in which women started seeking out the finest heirloom quilts in their states so that their history would not be lost.

Sponsored by the nonprofit Texas Sesquicentennial Quilt Association (TSQA), the Texas project relied on grassroots volunteers. Nancy and her cousin Karey Bresenhan of Houston, both fifth-generation Texas quilters,

conducted the search and photographed some 5,000 fine old quilts. They also identified patterns, wrote descriptions, and gathered as much information as they could about the quilts’ provenances. The Texas Quilt Archives are, for now, housed in the International Quilt Festival office in Houston, but Nancy and Karey featured many of the quilts they found in their two-volume publication, *Lone Stars: A Legacy of Texas Quilts* (see page 23).

Though the quilting revival was rooted in nostalgia, it soon developed into a full-blown renaissance. Much of the renewed interest centered in urban areas, where quilting-supply shops and quilting guilds began holding classes to teach the art to a new generation. “There is less opportunity for transmission of skills from mother to daughter now because we all live such busy lives,” says

Quilting enthusiasts Karey Bresenhan (left) and Nancy O’Byrant display the four quilting books they have written between them and some of the quilts in their collection.

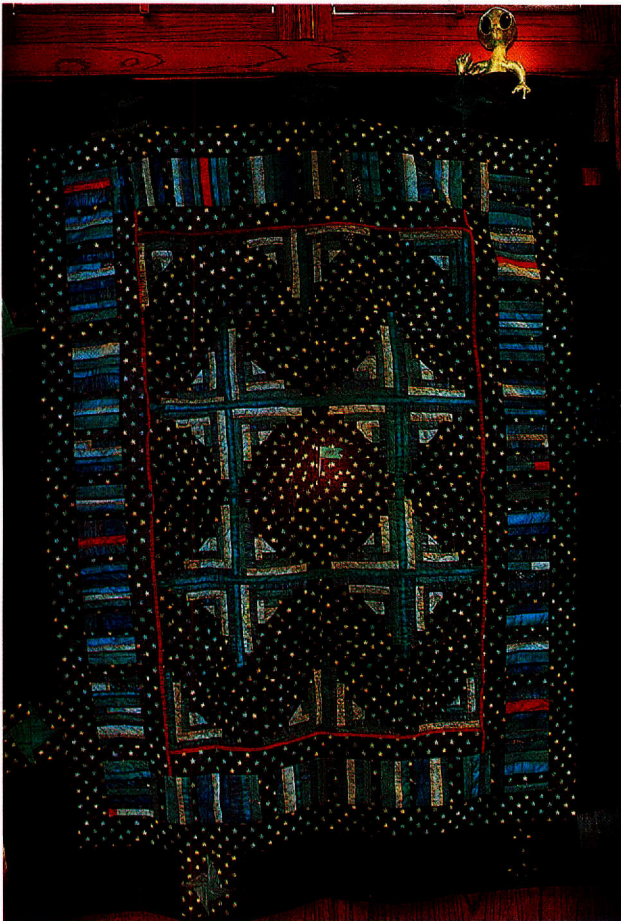


Nancy. “Sometimes, daughters actually teach quilting to their mothers.”

Not untypical of the new generation of quilters is Marcia Kaylakie of Austin. Though Marcia knows of no history of quilting in her family, a friend got her interested in the art five years ago. Now Marcia makes about three quilts a year. She corresponds with quilters in seven countries on the Internet, exchanging patterns and techniques. Recently, she traded some bluebonnet-design fabric for fabric with Aborigine designs, sent by an Internet friend in Australia.

Marcia also participates with her Internet pals in international quilting bees, which can involve as many as 13 women in different parts of the United States and Canada. “You sew a center block and mail it to the first partner on your list, who adds a border and sends it on to the next person,” explains Marcia. “Each person adds her own touches, using your fabrics and a couple of hers. At the end of a year, each participant has an exquisite sampler quilt top. It’s the electronic-age version of pioneer women exchanging fabrics from their scrap bags.” The pioneer community has become the global community.

The wonders of technology aside, local quilting bees are still alive and well in Texas, too. Boerne, in the Hill Country northwest of San Antonio, is typical of Lone Star towns where folks take their quilting seriously. A bee meets every month at St. John Lutheran Church to make quilts for the Lutheran



Another entry in the 1998 Boerne show, *Going Home* by Peggy Raley of 2 S.A. Broads, features a three-dimensional, quilted extraterrestrial peering over the top. The flag in the center denotes "home."

Though quilting has traditionally been a woman's art, more and more men are trying their hand at it. Larry Beauchamp, president of the Greater San Antonio Quilt Guild, curated an exhibition of men's quilts at the guild's biannual show last September.

"I grew up with a quilting mother," says Larry, "but I didn't start quilting until about 15 years ago when my wife renewed her interest." Larry makes quilts with patterns ranging from American Indian and traditional to his own computer-composed abstract designs.

San Antonio's guild members are also passing their skills along to a new generation of quilters in Girl Scout and 4-H groups. An exhibit of children's quilts at the guild's 1995 show caught the attention of visiting quilters from San Antonio's sister city of Kumamoto, Japan. The Japanese paid to have the youngsters' quilts sent overseas for a special exhibit in Kumamoto.

Though many of the new converts to quilting are city-dwellers, the small-town atmosphere associated with quilting dominates even Houston's International Quilt Festival. It's truly an incarnation of the global village in the enormous George R. Brown Convention Center, where visitors from Korea, New Zealand, Japan, France,

Larry Beauchamp, president of the Greater San Antonio Quilt Guild, began quilting some 15 years ago.

World Relief Drive. In 1996, the group sent 23 quilts to needy families in Asia, Africa, and South America. "We don't try to make them fancy, just practical," says Leona Meckel. "We have fun and get together to visit and chat, just like in the old-time quilting bees." Another group, the Boerne Bee, donated nine children's quilts last year to the Battered Women's Center in San Antonio. Boerne Bee members sometimes stay after their bimonthly meetings to help out youngsters from the local 4-H Club, who have their own quilting bee.

Quilts from all three groups, as well as others from across the state, go on display each May, when the whole town turns out to celebrate the Boerne Hauptstrasse Quiltfest, sponsored by the Boerne Public Library. Downtown stores display quilts in their windows, and dozens of quilts draped on ropes decorate the Main Plaza. Bands play polkas and other tunes in the plaza's gazebo while folks munch hot dogs and stroll around admiring the fanciwork.

and Germany brush shoulders with quilters from Texas and Kansas. You are as likely to see a pieced reproduction of a Renoir painting by a quilter from Kingwood, Texas, as you are a traditional American patchwork design sewn in Denmark or England. In the vendors' section, crowds gather around computers that display a dizzying swirl of shifting patterns as salespeople demonstrate the latest programs for experimenting with color and design. Nearby, visitors check out the latest fabric-cutting and sewing devices, which can reduce the time for making a quilt to only a few days.

Upstairs, some 250 classes and lectures teach participants how to create everything from "crazy-quilt landscapes" to "3-D quilts of illusion"—making the festival the world's largest quilt-making academy. In the exhibit area, the "Learn to Quilt" booth offers instruction in the basics in free, hands-on mini-classes, while the "Come Quilt with Me" booth invites strangers from around the world to pick up a needle, stitch at a quilting frame, visit informally, and get a taste of the bonding power of a bee.

Quilting has come a long way from the scrap bags of pioneer women. But as Melvin Mason notes in a chapter on quilting in *Folk Art in Texas*, Lone Star quilters are simply continuing what they've been doing for years: "stitching their time, their skill, their patience and love into something of themselves they can pass along to others." ★

Austin freelancer NELSON ENGLAND says he didn't fully appreciate the art of quilting until his French wife, Catherine, expressed admiration for the beautiful quilts in his family.

Staff photographer STAN WILLIAMS regrets not having any of his grandmother's quilts.



Texas Quilts

From homespun 19th-Century bedcovers to elaborate, computer-inspired creations, Texas has a long quilting tradition. If you'd like to learn more about quilting, check out the following resources.

International Quilt Festival

Billed as the world's largest quilt show, quilt sale, and quilt-making academy, the **24th annual International Quilt Festival** will take place in Houston Oct. 29-Nov. 1 at the George R. Brown Convention Center, 1001 Avenida de las Americas (on the east side of downtown, between Dallas and McKinney streets). More than 1,000 quilts will be on display in 37 exhibits, with \$67,500 in prizes to be awarded for the best quilts in each category. Some 700 vendors' booths will offer the latest in fabrics, tools, and computer software for quilt design. More than 250 classes, lectures, and seminars on all aspects of quilting begin Oct. 27 and last throughout the show. Exhibit hours: Thu-Sat 10-7, Sun 11-5. Admission: \$9 per day, \$5 age 65 and older, free age 10 and younger. A 4-day pass (includes a special preview on Oct. 28) costs \$30. Wheelchair accessible. Write to 7660 Woodway, Ste. 550, Houston 77063; 713/781-6882. Web site: www.quilts.com.

Other Quilt Shows

Texas quilt guilds host dozens of shows every year across the state. Check *Quilter's Newsletter Magazine*, available at many newsstands, for a nationwide listing of quilt shows. Or consult your local quilt shop, fabric store, or chamber of commerce for information about quilt guilds and shows in your area. Following is a list of some of the state's larger shows. The first 2 shows take place this month.

Corsicana's 18th annual Quilt Show takes place Oct. 1-30 at the Warehouse Living Arts Center, 119 W. 6th Ave. Exhibit hours: Mon-Fri 9-5. (Local quilt guild members will give quilting demonstrations Mon-Fri 9-4.) Admission: Free. Wheelchair accessible. Call 903/872-5411.

The **Austin Area Quilt Guild's biannual show** is held the first weekend in Oct. of even-numbered years. This year's show, *Quilts: Our Legacy for the Future*, takes place Oct. 2-4 in Palmer Auditorium, 400 S. First St. About 350 quilts made by the guild's 550 members will be on display. Quilting-supply vendors also have booths at the show. Hours: Fri-Sat 10-6. Admission: \$5, \$4 age 65 and older, free age 11 and younger. Wheelchair accessible. Call 512/448-5152. Web site: www.io.com/~aaqg/.

The **Dallas Quilt Celebration—'99** takes place Mar. 26-28 at the World Trade Center, 2050 Stemmons Fwy. The event includes lectures, vendors, exhibitions of more than 400 quilts, and a quilted-garment show. Admission: \$6 (pre-admission \$5). Wheelchair accessible. Call 972/480-5939, or for information, send a self-addressed envelope with two 32¢ stamps to 4517 Lakepoint Ave., Rowlett 75088-6860.

The **Boerne Hauptstrasse Quiltfest** takes place the first Sat. in May (May 1, 1999). Quilts are on display in store windows on N. Main St., on the Main Plaza, and in the library. Food and live music are part of the festivities. Admission: Free. Wheelchair accessible. Call 830/249-3053 (Boerne Public Library).

The Concho Valley Quilt Guild sponsors the **San Angelo Quilt Show** each June during Father's Day weekend in conjunction with the city-wide Fiesta del Concho. About 100 quilts are displayed in the ballroom of the restored Cactus Hotel, at 36 E. Twohig in downtown San Angelo. Wheelchair accessible. Call 915/949-4054.

The **Greater San Antonio Quilt Guild Quilt Show** takes place the 3rd weekend in Sep. of odd-numbered years (Sep. 17-19, 1999) at the Live Oak Civic Center (corner of Pat Booker Rd. and Loop 1604). Some 300 quilts are usually displayed. Quilting-supply vendors also show their wares. Wheelchair accessible. Call 210/490-2237.

Museums

Some 40 museums around the state have quilts in their collections. In most of them, the quilts are not on permanent display, but may be viewed by special appt. or at periodic showings. (The appendix in *Texas Quilts, Texas Women*, listed under Books below, contains an extensive listing that was current in the early 1980s.) Following is a list of some of the more important collections. *Call ahead to confirm details.*

The Republic of Texas Museum, 510 E. Anderson Lane, Austin (78752), has 9 quilts dating from the Texas colonization period and the days of the Republic of Texas. Hours: Mon-Fri 10-4, Sat 11-4. Admission: \$2, \$1.50 age 55 and older, 50¢ students any age, free age 4 and younger. Wheelchair accessible. Call 512/339-1997.

Texas Memorial Museum, 2400 Trinity, Austin (78705), has more than 50 quilts that range in age from the early 19th Century to the 20th Century. Although not currently on display, the quilts will be shown to small groups (10 or less) by appt. Mon-Fri. Museum hours: Mon-Fri 9-5, Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5. Admission: Free. Wheelchair accessible. Call 471-1604.

Witte Museum, 3801 Broadway (Brackenridge Park), San Antonio (78209), has a 165-quilt collection that features a wide variety of types and textiles and dates from the early 19th Century to the present. Currently, the collection is available for viewing by appt. only. Hours: Mon-Wed 10-5, Tue 10-9, Sun noon-5. Admission: \$5.95, \$4.95 age 66 and older, \$3.95 ages 4-11, free age 3 and younger. Wheelchair accessible. Call 210/357-1898.

Museum of Texas Tech University, 4th St. and Indiana, Lubbock (79409), has some 160 quilts ranging in age from the 1830s to the 1960s (a third are pre-1900). Hours: Tue-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5. Admission: Free. Wheelchair accessible. Call 806/742-2442.

Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, on the campus of West Texas A&M University, 2401 Fourth Ave., Canyon (79016), has

more than 150 quilts and quilt tops from the 19th and 20th centuries. The collection includes one of the oldest quilts in Texas (1809), and a satin autograph quilt that has the signatures of former cowboys from the XIT Ranch. Hours: Mon-Sat 9-5 (Memorial Day-Labor Day, open until 6), Sun 1-6. Admission: Free. Wheelchair accessible. Call 806/651-2244.

Two museums at Round Top house more than 30 quilts, some dating to the early 19th Century. Some quilts are on permanent display. The **Henkel Square museum village**, an assemblage of restored 19th-Century buildings, houses one collection. Hours: Thu-Sun noon-5. Admission: \$3 (escorted tour, \$4), \$1 ages 8-18 (escorted tour, \$1.50), free age 7 and younger. Not wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 82, Round Top 78954; 409/249-3308. A few miles away, the **Winedale Historical Center** holds the other collection. Hours: Sat-Sun noon-5. Quilts may also be viewed weekdays by appt. Admission: \$3, \$1 students any age, free age 4 and younger. Some buildings are wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 11, Round Top 78954; 409/278-3530.

Books

Look in your library or bookstore for *Folk Art in Texas*, ed. by Francis E. Abernethy (Southern Methodist Univ. Press, 1985); *Quilts in America* by Patsy and Myron Orlofsky (Abbeville Press, Inc., 1992); *Texas Quilts, Texas Women* by Suzanne Yabsley (Texas A&M Univ. Press, 1984); *Quilters: Women and Domestic Art* by Patricia Cooper and Norma Bradley Buford (Doubleday and Co., 1977); and the two-volume *Lone Stars: A Legacy of Texas Quilts* by Karoline Patterson Bresenhan and Nancy O'Bryant Puentes (Univ. of Texas Press, 1986 and 1990). To order *Lone Stars* (\$27.95 per volume, plus \$4 shipping and handling), call 800/252-3206.

Organizations

Membership in the **International Quilt Association** is open to anyone, anywhere, who loves quilts. Write to 7660 Woodway, Ste. 550, Houston 77063; 713/781-6864. Web site: www.quilts.org.



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Within earshot of freeways and flight paths, a stone's throw from shopping centers and neighborhoods,

Wild in the City

By Randy Mallory

As you walk from the parking lot to the trail, city sounds take a backseat to nature sounds. Caws from crows and shrieks from hawks overtake honking horns. Wind rustles the leaves, outdoing the drone of traffic. You begin to relax and slow down the pace as your path turns deeper into the woods.

On the trail, a platoon of hikers in boots and khakis strides past a slow-strolling couple in cowboy duds. A covey

of binocular-wielding birdwatchers focuses on a particular treetop. A cluster of students discusses an ecology question. And several sneaker-clad commuters break into a jog. At a fork in the trail, two kids and their parents watch something slither under golden brown leaves.

Welcome to life in the slow lane.

In cities across Texas, cooperative efforts of environmental groups and governmental agencies have set aside trail-laden



urban trails put you **in touch with nature** in some of the fastest-growing areas of metropolitan Texas.

parks, preserves, and refuges as protected pockets of nature that remain relatively wild. A rising tide of public interest seems to support their goals: nature conservation, education, research, and recreation.

“People who live in urban settings still want to enjoy nature,” says John Herron, director of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department’s Non-Game and Urban Wildlife Program. As evidence, he points to a recent U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service survey, which shows that 3.8 million adult Texans

“actively” observe wildlife, twice the number of hunters statewide. “With today’s busy lifestyles, people who used to take far-off wilderness trips are now looking for nature experiences closer to home,” says John.

The following big-city trails offer such walks on the wild side. Most also provide guided hikes led by trained naturalists and volunteers. By spotlighting nature’s intricate web of life, these ecological oases hope to prove that wildlife and city life can exist side by side.

[BOTH PAGES, LEFT TO RIGHT] In Austin, Ric McLaughlin pulls a steep grade along Forest Ridge Preserve's challenging bike trails. Tall grasses thrive in the prairie environment of the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge. The Marsh Boardwalk, part of the Fort Worth center's extensive trail system, provides a pleasant outdoor escape. A flowering yucca towers over the desert terrain at McKelligon Canyon Park in El Paso.



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River Legacy ARLINGTON

October is a perfect time for “cigar-hunting” in Arlington’s city-owned River Legacy Parks, a 958-acre forest flood plain on the West Fork of the Trinity River. A brown fungus called the Devil’s Cigar emerges in autumn at the base of cedar elm stumps and matures in the shape of a fat cigar up to four inches long. Amazingly, the rare plant (found only in Texas and Japan) then releases a smoke-like cloud of spores with a hiss that’s audible several feet away, says Dr. Harold W. Keller, research administrator at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth. Dr. Keller guides visitors to see the famous fungus as part of his volunteer work at River Legacy Living Science Center, an educational facility in the park.

On crisp fall days, nature-lovers of all ages swarm into the center for activities that include a simulated river-raft ride—you feel like you’re floating, thanks to hydraulics and high-tech audiovisuals. A children’s area offers videotaped, larger-than-life critters, an interactive exhibit on river flooding, plus close-up views of live reptiles, fish, and turtles.

Visitors also meander along 26 miles of trails that follow the Trinity’s steep southern banks. On interpretive hikes, guides point out the fecundity of nature. For example, trekkers might see how wasps lay their eggs in the tissue of red oak trees, which

grow a covering, called a gall, around the eggs that protects and nourishes them until the larvae hatch and eat their way out. Or hikers may learn that the swallowtail butterfly lays its eggs only on prickly ash trees... and that its caterpillars look exactly like bird droppings, a graphic example of mimicry in nature.

Dallas Nature Center

Southwest of downtown Dallas, Interstate 20 crosses what’s left of an ancient Austin Chalk cliff, now known as the Mountain Creek Escarpment. A critical 633 acres of this geologic rift lies undisturbed at the Dallas Nature Center.

The pristine property—jointly owned by the nature center, the city, and Dallas County—scrambles across three ridges that taper down the escarpment’s rocky western slope. Topping out at 755 feet (one of the highest points locally), the place offers spectacular sunset vistas as the lights of the Metroplex come up below.

When stars begin to twinkle, so do the eyes of director Kevin Duvel, who loves night hikes on the center’s seven miles of trails. With his flashlight covered by red cellophane to keep from disturbing wildlife, Kevin asks trail mates to engage their senses. “Some people are afraid of nature at night, but that’s based on a lack of experience,” he says. “When they learn about night sounds, they want to see what they’re hearing. That’s when



[LEFT TO RIGHT] Raccoons and hundreds of other species call Houston's Armand Bayou Nature Center home. The Devil's Cigar, a rare brown fungus found at Arlington's River Legacy Parks, is shown here emitting its smoke-like cloud of spores. Seven miles of trails encourage outdoors enthusiasts to enjoy the Dallas Nature Center.

they begin appreciating the complexity and beauty of nature.”

In autumn, that beauty flutters on gossamer wings as monarchs migrating to Mexico stop at the center's butterfly garden to feed on milkweed and sleep in the hackberry trees.

The Dallas Nature Center began in 1975 as the Greenhills Environmental Center, founded to preserve an untouched portion of what's often called Dallas Hill Country. Today, the center offers extensive educational programs, many of them for children. It also promotes sustainable landscaping by way of a native plant nursery that sells hardy, indigenous flora such as Mexican buckeye and prairie grasses.

Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge

The 3,500-acre Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge claims the title of largest city-owned park in Texas. Set aside in 1964 on Lake Worth, a reservoir on the West Fork of the Trinity, to protect the city's water supply, the refuge also protects wildlife habitat—1,700 acres of post-oak savannah, 1,000 acres of wetland, and 800 acres of prairie.

In 1980, the National Park Service recognized the place as a National Natural Heritage Landmark, particularly for its post-oak savannah. A remnant of ancestral Western Crosstimbers, this dense belt of oak groves interspersed with tallgrass prairies once stretched from Texas to Kansas. Indians and settlers knew it as the forested fringe of the Great Plains and as home to black bears, wild hogs, and turkeys. The woods provided cover thick enough for buffalo to escape hunters.

Part of that legacy survives in the center's small buffalo herd, which cohabitates with a prairie dog colony on a 55-acre range. The Wild Plum Trail leads to the range through crosstimbers that boast post-oaks up to 400 years old. Similarly venerable trees also grow along two other hiking paths, the Riverbottom and Todd Island trails.

Trail hounds (and scouts working on merit badges) frequent another path, the Canyon Ridge Trail, for its shady canyons and views 100 feet above the lake. Wildflower fans like the Oak Motte Trail, especially in spring. Birders scour the Prairie Trail for the Harris' sparrow, and the Marsh Boardwalk for the prothonotary warbler, two of 170 bird species seen here regularly.

[BELOW] The trail from El Paso's McKelligon Canyon Park leads to Smuggler's Pass and a network of trails in the Franklin Mountains. [FACING PAGE] At the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, a great egret looks for lunch on Lake Worth, and on dry land, a spider tracks across a Maximilian sunflower.



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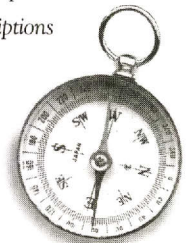
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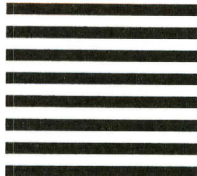
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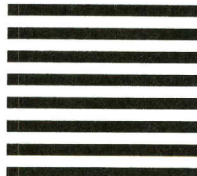
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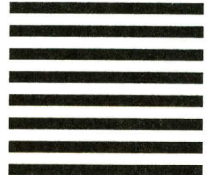
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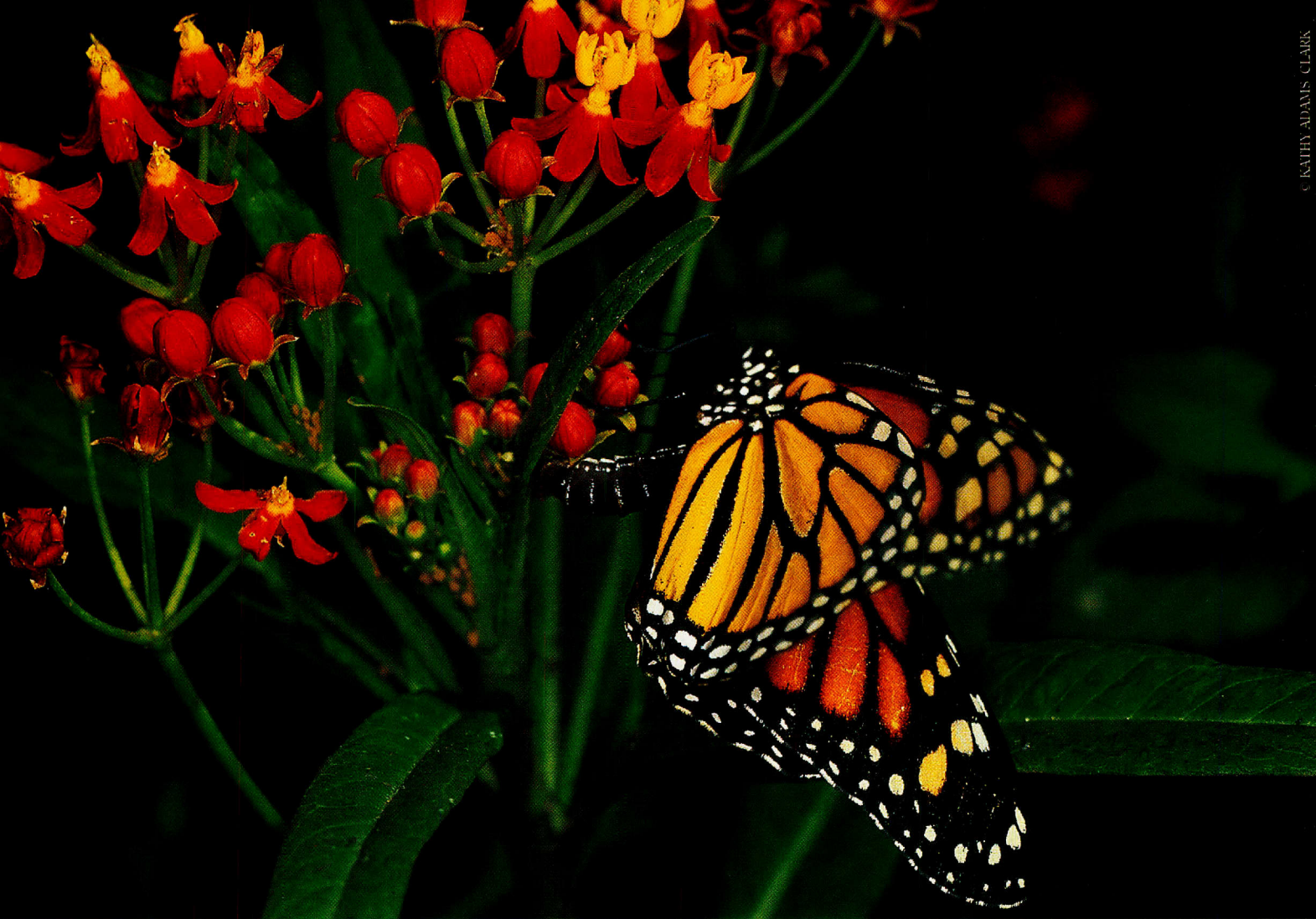
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McKelligon Canyon Park EL PASO

Actually a cluster of five small canyons—Rainbow, Red Rock, Granite, Ancon, and Falls—El Paso’s McKelligon Canyon Park encompasses 90 acres of canyon floor surrounded by Franklin Mountains State Park. Donated in the 1920s by El Paso businessman and landowner Maurice J. McKelligon as a city park, the enclave sports a high-tech amphitheater for musical spectacles like the annual *Viva El Paso!*

For “low-tech” adventure, you can explore foot trails that veer past plants cleverly adapted to the dry Chihuahan Desert. After a rain, for example, the spindly ocotillo dons a fresh coat of green leaves; when dry, it jettisons them to reduce its need for water. The prolific creosote bush has its own adaptations in this dry climate: In its search for water, it can put down roots as deep as nine feet and even excrete a toxin into the soil to deter competing plants. After a rain, the plants give off a pungent, spicy smell.

To see these and other plants, explore the spectacular trail that begins at the end of McKelligon Canyon Road and climbs a steep slope past 6,764-foot South Mount Franklin to Smuggler’s Pass, a grueling three-and-a-half miles in all.

Rock climbers with moxie follow unmarked trails into the park’s scenic Rainbow Canyon. “There are 15 established climbing routes, some dating from the Forties,” says Dave Hunt, a

member of The Circle, a local climbing group, and owner of a climb shop. “We’ve got 30- to 40-foot climbs in McKelligon from easy to expert—very unusual for the middle of a city.”

Forest Ridge Preserve AUSTIN

Earth Healing” reads a sign blocking an eroded gully in Austin’s Forest Ridge Preserve. That means: Don’t walk here—let the soil build up, so trees can grow. In this 1,000-acre portion of the much larger Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, nature comes first. In particular, the endangered golden-cheeked warbler—which lives here from mid-March to mid-August before wintering in Mexico and Central America—gets top billing at the nation’s first urban preserve for endangered species.

These tiny songbirds raise their young only in Central Texas and only in nests made mostly of strips of bark from mature Ashe junipers (also called mountain cedars). Since the birds require a closed forest canopy of junipers and oaks, their numbers are shrinking as urban sprawl encroaches on their habitat.

The city of Austin purchased Forest Ridge in 1993 and, with assistance from other governmental and private groups, hopes to turn back the hands of time. “We want to restore the closed canopy, but that’s a slow and complicated process,” says city biologist Carlo Abbruzzese. “We haven’t had



[LEFT TO RIGHT] The monarchs' migration is a long one—time for a milkweed break at the Armand Bayou Nature Center. In San Antonio's Friedrich Wilderness Park, naturalist Vickie Marshall-Silvas assists birdwatchers Neil Collins of Basking Ridge, New Jersey, and Ed Collins of Boston. The endangered golden-cheeked warbler calls Austin's Forest Ridge Preserve home.

enough time to tell if the warbler populations are stabilizing.”

But chief conservation officer Mike Von Wupperfeld remains hopeful the city can protect the warblers' habitat while letting visitors enjoy it. Hikers, mountain bikers, and birders who frequent the preserve's eight miles of trails hope so, too. They enjoy the broad upland vistas and deep canyons, replete with a picturesque waterfall on Bull Creek.

“Law requires protection of the warbler,” Mike notes. “Visitors can help by staying on designated trails. If we minimize human disturbance here, we can improve quality of life for birds and people, too.”

Armand Bayou Nature Center

HOUSTON/PASADENA

Orbits and egrets, astronauts and alligators. Space and earth cohabit on the southeastern edge of Texas' largest metropolis. While Space Center Houston and NASA's Johnson Space Center shoot for the stars, neighboring Armand Bayou Nature Center digs its heels into a 2,500-acre remnant of ancient

bottomland forest, tallgrass prairie, and bayou that serves as a haven for wildlife.

Once known as Middle Bayou, it was renamed for Armand Yramategui, a Gulf Coast conservationist who inspired the center's establishment in 1975. This wetland—never logged or heavily farmed—has long served as a tidal tributary supplying fresh water and young finfish and shellfish to Galveston Bay. In 1991, the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and the General Land Office recognized it as one of four Texas State Coastal Preserves. The preserve supports 220 species of birds and 150 species of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians—from prehistoric-looking armadillos and brilliant painted buntings to elusive bobcats, owls, and alligators.

You can look for them yourself or join a guided hike along almost five miles of trails that wander through 300 acres of dense forest and alongside a tallgrass prairie. Canoeists can explore miles of the bayou on their own or hop aboard guided boat tours.

“We have such concentrations of wildlife here that it's easy to bridge the gap between people and nature,” says George Regmund, the center's director. “I've seen 17 different species of

Urban Nature Trails

For a relaxing break from city hustle, venture down the following urban trails... and learn about nature along the way.

Regulations vary, but everywhere, follow the hiker's credo: Take only photographs and leave only footprints. Stay on marked trails to prevent erosion. Wear sturdy walking or hiking shoes. Carry insect repellent, sunscreen, and plenty of water, plus a camera and binoculars.

Arlington

River Legacy Living Science Center is at 703 NW Green Oaks Blvd., Arlington 76006; 817/860-6752. Web site: www.riverlegacy.com. Take Interstate 30 to Cooper St., and go north to the center's entrance.

The center's exhibit hall features a simulated river-raft ride, live animals, interactive displays, and a gift shop. Hours: Tue-Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5. Admission: \$3, \$2 ages 2-18. Wheelchair accessible. A guided hike takes place Sat. at 10 a.m., and an animal presentation at 2 p.m. (both free with exhibit hall admission). Oct-Dec hikes include searches for the rare Devil's Cigar fungus. Family activities such as

night hikes, nature programs, kite-making, and magic shows occur one Sat. each month. Educational programs include nature school for preschoolers, school field trips, and teacher workshops.

"Bat World," a presentation on bats by Amanda Lollar, takes place **Oct. 3, 1998**, from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. On **Oct. 23-25** (Fri-Sat 6 p.m.-10 p.m., Sun 6 p.m.-9 p.m.), celebrate **After Dark in the Park** with night hikes, storytelling, animal presentations, hayrides, and a pumpkin patch. Fee: \$3. The Cardboard Boat Regatta floats on Apr. 17, 1999. Other activities include an Earth Day celebration (Apr. 10, 1999) and summer day-camps for ages 3-12.

River Legacy Parks is next to the Living Science Center, at 701 NW Green Oaks Blvd. Hours: Daily 5 a.m.-10 p.m. Admission: Free. Wheelchair accessible. Write to the Arlington Parks & Recreation Dept., Box 231, Arlington 76004-0231; 817/459-5474 (information) and 817/459-5473 (facility reservations). The park features pavilions, picnic areas, playgrounds, and nature trails. Call 10 days in advance for pavilion reservations.

Austin

Forest Ridge Preserve is at 8000 Capitol of Texas Hwy. North (Loop 360 N.) in Austin. Hours: Daily dawn to dusk. Admission: Free. The preserve primarily protects endangered species and, secondarily, offers hiking and mountain biking. *Admittance allowed only on the 8 miles of designated trails. Some trails are rated moderate, but most are difficult to very difficult; none are wheelchair accessible.* Write to the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve System, 200 S. Lamar Blvd., Austin 78704; 512/480-3060.

Dallas

The **Dallas Nature Center** is in southwest Dallas County, near Joe Pool Lake, at 7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy., Dallas 75249; 972/296-1955. From I-20, take exit 458 at Mountain Creek Pkwy., and go south about 2.5 miles. Hours: Tue-Sun 7 a.m.-sunset. Suggested donations: \$3 per vehicle, or \$1 per visitor if 10 or more. One walking trail and the butterfly garden trail are graveled and accessible to wheelchairs and strollers. Other trails are rated easy to difficult.

The center's outdoor stage, amphitheater, and pavilion host nature

workshops, morning bird hikes, night hikes, hayrides, campouts, flower identification outings, weekend kids' programs, and orienteering. Call for fall schedule. Customized group tours for 10 or more cost \$2-\$4 per person. Summer Adventure Program for ages 6-11. Center also has a native plant nursery and facilities for private functions (including air-conditioned meeting room and swimming pool).

El Paso

McKelligon Canyon Park is on the east side of the Franklin Mountains, at #1 McKelligon Canyon Rd. From I-10, take US 54 (Patriot Fwy.) north to Fred Wilson Rd., turn left, proceed to McKelligon Canyon Rd., then turn right, and go to the park entrance. Hours: 8:30-5:30 Oct-Apr, 8:30-8:30 May-Sep. Admission: Free. McKelligon Canyon Rd. ends in a loop fronted by parking lots and covered picnic areas. Unmarked trails lead from the picnic areas. (Once you leave the picnic areas, you enter Franklin Mountains State Park.) *Trails are rated difficult; none are wheelchair accessible. The area is primitive, so hike in pairs or more; cell phones are advisable.*

warblers within one hour. One hiking group even got to witness a deer giving birth to twins.

"But we have to realize," he adds, "that the outdoor experience at Armand Bayou is not like television, where everything is condensed. Nature is more subtle, so we try to teach the intricacies of natural cycles."

Friedrich Wilderness Park

SAN ANTONIO

Hikes led by Friedrich Wilderness Park director Eric Lautzenheiser seem like rousing rounds of some nature trivia game. The white berries of poison ivy feed 100 animal species, he observes, more than any other plant in the park. The sapsucker pecks small holes in trees, he continues, and returns later for a buffet of insects stuck in the oozing sap. Texas supports more native grape varieties than anywhere else on earth, he adds, then he explains how people once boiled greenbrier tubers with sassafras roots to make the first root beer.

Tucked in the Hill Country of northwest San Antonio, Friedrich Park's 232 acres (named for the Friedrich family of air-conditioning and Buckhorn Hall of Horns museum fame, who donated most of the land) provide a nice stroll in the woods. But look closer, and you'll discover the diverse wonders of the Edwards Plateau.

"This is a fabulous place to observe plants and animals," says Eric, "because we're in the transition zone where eastern and western North American species mix." Five miles of trails wander among diverse flora and fauna—from eastern meadowlark to western kingfisher, from cottontail rabbit to armadillo, from Virginia creeper to Texas persimmon. On terraced limestone hillsides, varying shades of green divulge the underlying geology: Dark green junipers grow in steep, thinly-topsoiled slopes, while light green deciduous trees thrive on flat ledges where topsoil accumulates.

The Main Loop Trail climbs 300 feet to the park's pinnacle. From there, you can see San Antonio's skyline in the distance, as well as a nearby habitat-restoration project within the park for the endangered black-capped vireo. Through selective clear-

McKelligon offers volleyball courts, private rental of a 450-seat rock pavilion, and the popular McKelligon Canyon Amphitheater, home to concerts, the summer pageant *Viva El Paso!*, and the Shakespeare on the Rocks Festival. Write to McKelligon Canyon Park, Box 31340, El Paso 79931-0340; 915/565-6900 or 800/915-8482. For state park information, write to Franklin Mountains State Park, Box 200, Canutillo 79835; 915/566-6441. Web site: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/franklin/franklin.htm.

Rock climbers enjoy the established climbing routes along unmarked trails in a box canyon behind the amphitheater. Contact the state park to register and get a required backcountry permit. Fee: \$2 per person per day. For climbing maps or a copy of the useful guidebook *The Franklins* by Lowell Stevenson (\$5.95), write to W.A.R.T.S. Army Surplus and Climbing, 4019 Van Buren Ave., El Paso 79930; 915/562-7515.

Fort Worth

The **Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge** is at 9601 Fossil Ridge

Rd., Fort Worth 76135; 817/237-1111. Take Loop 820 to Texas 199 (Jacksboro Hwy.), go west 4 miles, and look for signs. Refuge and trail hours: Daily 9-5. The Hardwicke Interpretive Center offers trail maps, a gift shop, nature library, herbarium, and exhibits. Center hours: Tue-Sat 9-5, Sun noon-5. Admission: Free. Dogs on leashes only; no bikes or jogging on trails. The interpretive center, an adjacent short trail, a boardwalk to the marsh, and one picnic area are wheelchair accessible. Call for details on a variety of nature tours and programs.

Nature Center Field Day,

Oct. 17, 1998, includes nature programs, guided hikes, canoe tours (\$2 per person), food, and live animal programs from 10-4. April brings the annual Buffalo Boogie 10-K run and 2-mile walk.

Houston

Armand Bayou Nature Center is at 8500 Bay Area Blvd. (Box 58828), Houston 77258; 281/474-2551. Have big fun on the bayou, 20 miles southeast of downtown Houston. Take I-45 south to the Bay Area Blvd. exit, and go 6 miles northeast on Bay Area Blvd. Web

site: www.ghgcorp.com/abnc/. Hours: Wed-Sat 9-5, Sun noon-dusk. Admission: \$2.50, \$1 age 60 and older and ages 5-17, free age 4 and younger and Armand Bayou members. The center includes a gift shop and an interpretive building that features exhibits, a bird blind, and a pond. Wheelchair accessible (as is a new viewing platform overlooking a prairie environment). Some paths are primitive, though rated as "easy walking" (not wheelchair accessible). No bikes or dogs allowed on trails. Maps and binoculars available. Call for information regarding guided hikes and pontoon boat tours.

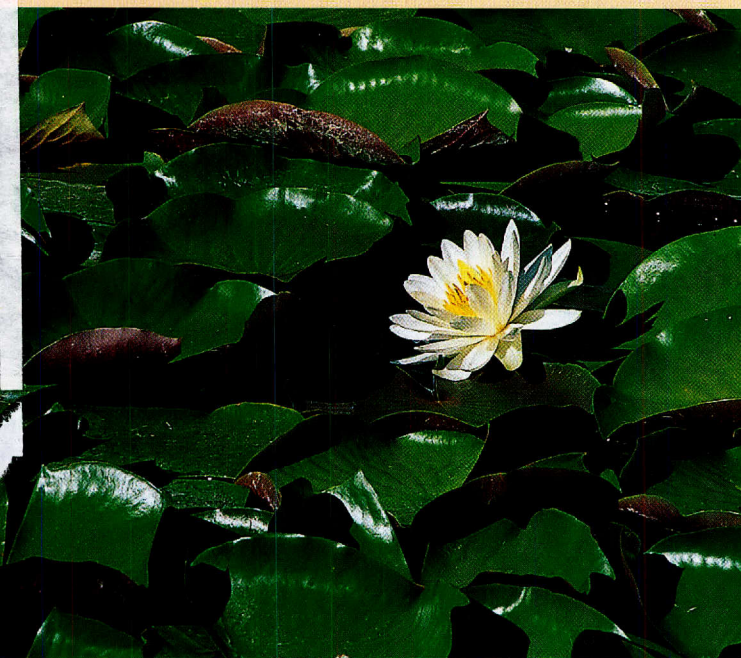
At the center's Jimmy Martyn Farm, a replicated turn-of-the-century farm, buildings open Sat 1-4 and Sun 1-4, with guided tours and farm-life demonstrations.

Oct. 23-24, 1998, enjoy the annual **Creepy Crawlers Halloween**, including night walks in the woods. Fees: \$8-\$10; *reservations required*. Nov. 14-15 brings the Martyn Farm Fall Festival, with music, crafts, demonstrations, wagon rides, and food. Dec. 5 offers the Yuletide Gather-

ing & Market, a family event with crafts, hayrides, music, and a gift market. Admission: \$3-\$5.

San Antonio

Friedrich Wilderness Park is at 21395 Milsa, San Antonio 78256; 210/698-1057. Take I-10 west past Loop 1604, exit on Camp Bullis Rd., and watch for signs. Hours: Tue-Sun 8-5 Oct-Mar, 8-8 Apr-Sep. Arrive at least an hour before closing. Admission: Free. Forest Range Trail is wheelchair accessible; other trails rated easy to very difficult. No pets allowed. School and other group tours available with 60-day notice (\$15 donation per group of 30). Guided hikes offered the first Sat. of each month (no fee), and public education programs take place the second Sat. of each month (\$2 donation). Master Naturalist classes meet once a week for 10 weeks (next session begins in Mar.). Plan for **A Night in the Park, Oct. 24, 1998**, with programs on snakes, owls, and bats, plus stargazing and a night hike (\$2 donation). Call for details on spring events and a week-long summer youth camp. *Reservations required for all programs.*



© LE VAN LANDINGHAM

Need a reason to stroll on one of Texas' urban nature trails? How about a chance to view such delicate flowers as this water lily, photographed at Arlington's River Legacy Parks.

ing and controlled burns, park researchers hope to bring back the small songbird, now all but vanished from the preserve.

"Humans are part of nature just like animals, and we'll inevitably change things," says Eric. "But we've got to try to make changes that are healthy for people and wildlife."

as you head back to the parking lot, you notice two red-winged blackbirds dive-bombing a threatening red-tailed hawk. Higher up, a jumbo jet makes its landing approach. Out of the corner of your eye, you spy something on the trail a dozen yards ahead: a white-tailed doe frozen in place. Her grazing interrupted, the creature and you eye each other for what seems like an eternity. Finally, after one last nibble, the animal bolts into the bushes, concealed by the golden glare of the setting sun.

Back at the car, you hear traffic sounds swell in the distance. Unlocking the door, you hope that maybe, just maybe, cities and wild things can coexist after all. ★

RANDY MALLORY of Tyler visited churches and historic house-museums throughout the state for last month's special issue on Texas architecture.

This year, the oldest state law-enforcement agency
in the nation marks its 175th anniversary.

"NO MAN IN THE WRONG can stand up against a fellow that's in the right and keeps on a-comin'."

Texas Ranger Captain William Jesse McDonald often used that adage to encourage his company of men stationed in Amarillo at the turn of the century. And he practiced what he preached.

With nerves of steel and wits to match, McDonald survived several riots and shootouts, including an ambush at Quanah by three assailants in 1895. Though wounded four times in that fray, the captain killed one hombre and routed the other two, thus furthering the mystique that has ridden with the Rangers for more than a century.

Like legendary Bill McDonald, the Texas Rangers have kept a-comin' in the face of danger. Since the 1820s, they've wrangled with marauders, bandits, cattle rustlers, bootleggers, and outlaws of every other stripe. The epitome of Texas-tough, with their wide-brimmed hats and Colt revolvers, the Rangers—then and now—embody one of the Old West's most vivid images.

"Recognition of the Texas Rangers is second only to the Alamo in the state," says Byron Johnson, director of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum in Waco. "They're a part of Texas history that still exists, and Texans are very proud of that."

This year, the Rangers mark their 175th anniversary. The reputation of what is the nation's oldest state law-enforcement agency reaches far beyond Texas' boundaries. "They're more familiar to people than Scotland Yard, Interpol, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police," says historian Mike Cox, chief of media relations for the Texas Department of Public Safety and the author of 1997's *Texas Ranger Tales: Stories That Need Telling*.

Their worldwide fame has inspired scores of books (like

T E X A S RANGERS



L O N E ★ S T A R LEGENDS

By Sheryl Smith-Rodgers

Walter Prescott Webb's 1935 classic, *The Texas Rangers*), as well as radio and television shows, such as *The Lone Ranger*. That long-running series, which first aired on Detroit radio station WXYZ in 1933 and debuted on television in 1949, chronicled the adventures of a Texas Ranger who had survived an ambush that killed five of his comrades. Rescued by Tonto the Indian, the Ranger donned a black mask and sought justice astride a white stallion named Silver. In Hollywood, the Rangers also found their way into movies, such as the 1961 Western *The Comancheros*, starring John Wayne as the fictional Ranger Captain Jack Cutter.

Nowadays, the popular television series *Walker, Texas Ranger* enralls viewers around the globe. "Cordell Walker [portrayed by Chuck Norris] is so popular here and overseas that he's increased our visitation to the museum sub-

stantially," says Byron Johnson. "He's doing the same for us as *Gunslinger* did for Dodge City."

More than 80,000 visitors each year tour the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, the official state museum repository for the Rangers. Housed in seven galleries, the collections feature the earliest surviving Ranger badges, historic firearms, knives, photographs, bronzes of old-time Rangers, and a small collection of Western oil paintings.

Here, you'll learn of the Rangers' beginnings. In May 1823, empresario Stephen F. Austin hired 10 frontiersmen to patrol the valleys of the Brazos, Trinity, and Colorado rivers to protect settlers from raiding Indians. A few months later, Austin called another 10 men to duty. These makeshift soldiers, armed with long rifles, pistols, and heavy sheath knives, would serve when needed and disband once the turmoil dissipated.

[FACING PAGE] Five active and former Texas Ranger captains (top photo) were photographed on the porch of an Austin boardinghouse in 1931. Seated is Captain Dan Roberts. Standing, from left, are Captain J.A. Brooks, Adjutant General W.W. Sterling, Captain Frank A. Hamer, and Captain John R. Hughes. Collectively, the men served between 1876 and 1933. Company A (bottom photo) in 1903 included, front row: Jesse Miller, Sergeant Winfred Bates, Captain J.A. Brooks, and Lonnie Livingston; standing: Tom Franks, A.Y. Baker, John Puckett, and George Wallis.



ALL BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY INEZ STERLING ADAMS





[TOP] Part of Captain Sam McMurray's company of Rangers was dispatched to Thurber in 1889 to quell rioting that resulted from a repressive working environment and restore law and order. From left are J.W. Bracken, Arthur Terrell, Tom Mayberet, Tom Platt, Sam Platt, Sterling Price, Tom Hickman, Mrs. Sam Platt, W.J.L. Sullivan, Ed Britton, Lon Lewis, Rada Platt, and Phil Best.

[ABOVE] Members of Company B camp on the San Saba River in September 1896. From left, are Edgar T. Neal, Allan R. Maddox, Tom Johnson (the cook), Dudley S. Barker, and John L. Sullivan.

IN NOVEMBER 1835, Texas' provisional government approved the first *official* corps of Texas Rangers. Enlistees signed on for one year and earned \$1.25 a day. The Rangers provided their own firearms, ammunition, clothing, and horses, as well as staples of dried corn, coffee, sugar, jerked beef, and hardtack.

Although they might have been better organized than the Indians, the Rangers remained at a tactical disadvantage. While the Comanches could shoot bows and arrows with deadly accuracy from

astride galloping horses, the Rangers had to dismount to reload their cumbersome, single-shot weapons. But they gained the upper hand when Captain Jack Hays supplied his men with revolvers manufactured by firearms innovator Samuel Colt in Paterson, New Jersey. The five-shot firearms allowed the Rangers to remain on horseback during battle. In July 1844, Hays and 14 Rangers, armed with the so-called Texas Paterson revolvers, defeated nearly 80 Comanche warriors along the Pedernales River northwest of San Antonio.

At the Waco museum, you'll see several Colt Patersons, as well as improved models that followed, and Captain Hays' 1851 Colt pistol, given to the captain by a grateful Samuel Colt himself. Among other treasures are silver Ranger badges fashioned from Mexican pesos, a scarred and dented 1873 Winchester carbine (one of only two remaining issued to Rangers during that era), and Billy the Kid's 1873 Winchester carbine, confiscated by famed lawman Pat Garrett (a Ranger for a few weeks) after he killed the gunslinger in New Mexico in 1881.

Following the Civil War, widespread disorder created a climate in which outlaws like Billy the Kid flourished. To combat them and the lingering threat from Indians, the Texas Legislature in 1874 established the Frontier Battalion, six companies of 75 Rangers each. These troops arrested and killed more than 3,000 desperadoes. Bank robber Sam Bass and gunslinger John Wesley Hardin, who had murdered a deputy sheriff and fled the state, numbered among those whose careers the battalion ended. In 1877, Ranger John B. Armstrong tracked Hardin to Pensacola, Florida, where he cornered the dangerous fugitive on a train. In the ensuing clash, Armstrong killed one of Hardin's men, knocked Hardin unconscious with the barrel of his Colt, then apprehended the entire gang.

On the plains, meanwhile, the Rangers were settling the "war of the wire," ongoing disputes between farmers who fenced their land with barbed wire and the enraged ranchers who cut down the barriers so their thirsty cattle could reach water. Ranger Ira Aten, a no-nonsense man who despised the fence-cutters, once commented, "If such a thing is possible, I want to take the villains without killing them, but I think a little more of my life than theirs, and I will stand a trial for murder."

By 1900, the Frontier Battalion had faded with the Old West. However, political instability in Mexico during the decade following 1910 triggered border raids by *bandidos* and *revolucionarios*, such as Mexican revolutionary Pancho

Villa. As fears of attacks increased, Texas governors Oscar B. Colquitt and James E. Ferguson haphazardly inducted hundreds of Special Rangers, who worked in conjunction with the regular Rangers. Because the Special Rangers were men of questionable character with lesser frontier skills, several thousand innocent people died on both sides of the border, and the Rangers' once-esteemed reputation ebbed.

The outfit suffered another setback in 1932 when the Rangers publicly supported Governor Ross Sterling against Miriam A. "Ma" Ferguson in the Democratic primary. After Ma Ferguson won both the primary and the general election, she got her revenge by firing all 44 Rangers. The rift widened when the Legislature slashed the lawmen's salaries and reduced the Ranger force from 45 to 32. As a result, lawlessness intensified, and Texas became a haven for such gangsters as George "Machine Gun" Kelly and Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow.

If Bonnie and Clyde stories intrigue you, check out the museum's Joe Troy Brownfield Memorial Room (named for



William J. McDonald (1852-1918) was selected in 1891 by Governor James Hogg to be captain of the Frontier Battalion's Company B. During his career, "Captain Bill" tracked outlaws, investigated murders, and stood off mobs.

SAN ANTONIO'S TEXAS PIONEER, TRAIL DRIVER
AND TEXAS RANGER'S MUSEUM

PIONEER HALL



Norman Slaughter and Emma Lee Tumlinson of Somerset view weapons, saddles, badges, clothing, and other memorabilia at the Texas Ranger's Museum in San Antonio.

To learn even more about the Texas Rangers, head to the Texas Pioneer, Trail Driver and Texas Ranger's Museum in San Antonio, where one of three galleries pays tribute to the storied officers.

Here, you can peer at weapons, hats, boots, clothing, saddles, spurs, handcuffs, badges, and dozens of other Ranger artifacts in display cases lined up on the plank floor. Hundreds of old black-and-white photographs of Rangers cover the walls. Among them is the image of Thalix T. Cook, who, by enlisting in the Frontier Battalion in 1874 when he was only 16, became the youngest Ranger ever.

A .351 semiautomatic Winchester with a crooked stock may catch your eye. The specially constructed rifle sits alongside a Bible, a shaving mug, spurs, a derringer, keys, and a belt with bullets that belonged to Captain John H. Rogers. In 1899, Rogers and a small detachment of Rangers helped medical teams vaccinate people house-to-house during a smallpox epidemic in Laredo. Townsfolk protested the intrusion, though, and one encounter

turned violent. When a gun battle broke out, a bullet blew away Rogers' right shoulder. Outfitted with the angled firearm, which he could brace against his elbow rather than his shoulder, Rogers served as a Ranger until his death in 1930.

Another display case here contains the boots, khaki suit, cowboy hat, and rifle of Captain R.A. "Bob" Crowder, who single-handedly calmed a mob of rioting inmates at the Rusk State Hospital in 1955. "I'm not comin' in unarmed, because you've already got three people over there as hostages, and I don't want to be the fourth one—and I'm not going to be," Crowder resolutely told the prisoners' leader, Ben Riley. Following a 20-minute conversation, Riley threw down his makeshift weapons (an ice pick and scissors) and signaled the other inmates to do the same.

Before you go, stop a moment at the bronze Ranger statue outside the front entrance. Sculptor Richard O. Cook engraved these words on the statue's base—"As long as there is a Texas, there will be Texas Rangers."

—Sheryl Smith-Rodgers

a Waco man who collected Texas memorabilia and died at the age of 18), where photographs and newspaper clippings from the early 1930s chronicle the cold-blooded criminals' sprees as they robbed grocery stores, filling stations, and small banks across Texas. During their two-year escapade through the Southwest and Midwest, Parker and Barrow murdered numerous citizens and law-enforcement officers. Finally, in May 1934, after pursuing the couple for 102 days, ex-Ranger Captain Frank Hamer and other law officers trapped and shot the "mad-dog killers" in Louisiana.

Hamer represents the first of the modern Rangers. As a private in 1906, he had ridden horseback and chased horse thieves and train robbers 50 miles a day. In later years, he tailed criminals by car, sometimes covering a thousand miles in a day. As a captain (from 1922 to his retirement in 1932), he helped rid the oil boom towns of Mexia, Ranger, and Borger of gambling halls, saloons, and houses of ill repute. In 1928, he exposed a banking "reward ring" that offered "five thousand dollars for dead bank robbers, not one cent for live ones." Hamer discovered that people involved in the scheme would shoot small-time hoods, claim that they had been involved in bank robberies, and then claim the reward money, provided by the Texas Bankers' Association.

The Rangers' stature revived in 1935 when newly elected Governor James V. Allred revoked all Special Ranger commissions. That same year, the Texas Legislature, seeking to reform the state's troubled law-enforcement system, created the Department of Public Safety (DPS). The new agency incorporated the State Highway Patrol and the Rangers and added a modern crime lab.

From 1935 to 1940, Manuel T. "Lone Wolf" Gonzauillas (another legendary Ranger and the first captain of Hispanic descent) headed the crime lab. Using state-of-the-art techniques of criminal investigation, Gonzauillas' lab gained a reputation second only to that of the renowned FBI lab. From 1940 to 1951, Lone Wolf commanded a company of



"The Texas Rangers are more familiar to people than Scotland Yard, Interpol, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police," says historian Mike Cox, DPS chief of media relations.

Rangers headquartered in Dallas. His most publicized case, a string of murders by a so-called "Phantom Killer" in Texarkana in 1946, later spawned the 1977 movie *The Town That Dreaded Sundown*.

Portraits and biographies of both Hamer and Gonzauillas hang among those of 30 other outstanding Rangers in the museum's Hall of Fame. You'll find dis-

plays on outspoken Bill McDonald, who coined the famous "One Ranger—one riot" phrase. The story goes that McDonald arrived in Dallas alone to halt an illegal boxing match that threatened to turn into a riot. When the nervous mayor asked where the rest of the men were, McDonald replied, "Hell, ain't I enough? There's only one prizefight!"

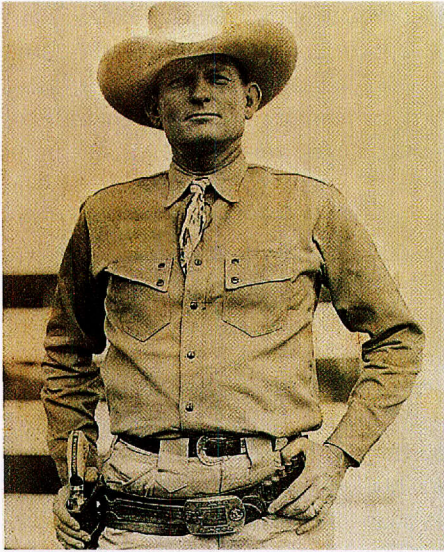
The Hall of Fame, built in the round, also spotlights Captain John R. Hughes (who spent his career tracking desperadoes, and to whom Zane Grey dedicated his novel *The Lone Star Ranger*), Captain John S. "Rip" Ford (an accomplished explorer, journalist, Texas legislator, and historian), and Lawrence Sullivan "Sul" Ross (who also served as a soldier, state senator, governor, and president of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, now Texas A&M University).

Life-size wax figures here portray Rangers and their dress from frontier times to the present. For example, a frontier Ranger wore a wide-brimmed hat, button-down vest, leather boots, and a wide gun belt around his hips. As was the style of the day, he also sported a thick, bushy mustache. Because jails were rare, a Ranger often carried handcuffs



From left, Texas Rangers H.A. Carnes, Sam McKensie, Bud Beach, Tom Ross, Albert R. Mace, and Captain John R. Hughes strike their poses toting firearms and attired in trademark vests and wide-brimmed hats. The photograph was taken in Alice around 1904 and later published as a postcard.

Texas Rangers Museums



Famed lawman W.W. Sterling served as state adjutant general (commander of the Texas Rangers and the Texas National Guard) during his final years as a Ranger (1931-33). He is pictured here as a judge at the 1936 Texas Centennial Rodeo in Dallas.

and leg irons in case he had to shackle a prisoner to a tree or fence post.

These days, handcuffs remain part of the Rangers' standard equipment. They still don the wide-brimmed hat, Wrangler-style pants, and cowboy boots, too. But as highly specialized criminal investigators of the 1990s, the Rangers also use up-to-date computers, sophisticated surveillance equipment and weapons (high-powered sniper rifles, night-vision scopes, tear-gas guns, and grenades), and the latest in DNA-gathering and -testing techniques. Each carries a handgun, a 12-gauge shotgun, a Ruger Mini-14 semiautomatic rifle, and a crime-scene kit.

As the Rangers' crime-fighting tactics and weaponry have evolved, so have their ranks. Selected from the state's DPS troopers, Ranger candidates must have earned at least 60 hours of college credit, must have at least eight years of commissioned law-enforcement experience, and must undergo competitive examinations and oral interviews. The ethnic makeup of the current 107 Rangers (now divided into six companies and headquartered in Houston, Garland, Lubbock, New Braunfels, Midland, and Waco) has broadened to

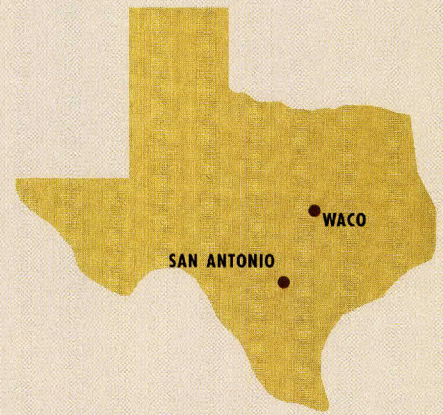
The Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum is in Fort Fisher Park, on the south bank of the Brazos River in Waco. Take Exit 335B from Interstate 35.

In addition to its galleries, the museum includes a banquet hall, called the John Knox Ranger Memorial Center, and the Moody Texas Ranger Memorial Library, which contains service records, historical photographs and documents, and an extensive collection of Ranger-related books. A 20-minute slide show that encapsulates the Rangers' history airs hourly beneath the Hall of Fame's towering ceiling (designed to resemble a Ranger's star-crested badge).

Hours: Daily 9-5. Admission: \$4, \$2 ages 6-12, free age 5 and younger. Group rates available for 10 or more. Wheelchair accessible. The museum store (same hours as museum) offers books and gifts. Write to Box 2570, Waco 76702-2570; 254/750-8631. Web site: www.texasranger.org.

The Texas Pioneer, Trail Driver and Texas Ranger's Museum at Pioneer Hall in San Antonio, was built in 1936 in honor of the Texas Centennial. Constructed of limestone blocks, the stately, two-story hall maintains three large rooms, dedicated to three groups of early Texas settlers.

Pioneer Hall is at 3805 Broadway, next to the Witte Museum and Brackenridge



Park. Hours: Daily 11-4, Sep. 1-Mar. 31; daily 10-5, Apr. 1-Aug. 31. Admission: \$2, \$1.50 age 55 and older and military with ID, 50¢ ages 6-12, free age 5 and younger. Group rates available. Not wheelchair accessible. Small gift shop with Texas books, T-shirts, and jewelry. Write to 3805 Broadway, San Antonio 78209; 210/822-9011.

Texas Ranger Tales: Stories That Need Telling by Mike Cox sells at bookstores for \$16.95. You may also order the book through Wordware Publishing; call 972/423-0090. Mike Cox's *Stand-Off in Texas: Just Call Me a Spokesman for DPS*, the author's insights into recent incidents involving the Texas Rangers, also sells for \$16.95. You may order it from Eakin Press by calling 512/288-1771.

include blacks, Hispanics, and Asians. The first woman to become a Ranger, Marrie Garcia, joined in 1993 and is stationed in San Antonio.

The Rangers' cases have changed significantly, as well. "Their most complicated recent operation was investigating the fire and aftermath of the Branch Davidian standoff in McLennan County near Waco in April 1993," says author and DPS spokesman Mike Cox. "They also assisted in the investigation of the Luby's cafeteria shooting, which left 23 people dead in Killeen in 1991, and the Republic of Texas standoff near Fort Davis last year."

As Colonel James B. Adams, director

of the DPS from 1980 to 1987, once said, "The Texas Rangers will always be an integral part of the DPS, because they get better every year from the standpoint of training, better weaponry, better technology; and they retain what they've always had.... A Texas Ranger is a highly motivated individual—courageous, well-trained, and self-disciplined."

From handling high-profile murder cases to nabbing cattle rustlers like their predecessors, today's Texas Rangers keep on a-comin'. ★

SHERYL SMITH-RODGERS of Blanco has a wide range of interests. She has written about people, travel, spiders, and cattle for regional and national publications.



THE LATE JOHN H. REAGAN, postmaster general of the Confederacy, is Palestine's most famous native son, but the contributions of German immigrant Frederick Herman "F.H." Eilenberger (1878-1959) are what make the East Texas community's history sweet. Thanks to Eilenberger's Bakery, the business F.H. founded, generations of Palestinians have received their just desserts. But not *just* desserts.

When F.H. opened his wholesome business at the corner of Oak and John streets in May 1898, bread-making was its sole activity. Realizing that man cannot live by bread alone, the young confectioner began baking tasty cakes, pies, and pastries, too, and at Christmastime, Old World-style fruitcakes. The original establishment, called the American Home Bakery, burned in 1915. F.H. continued to operate at a temporary site and rebuilt at the present location—512 North John—in 1918.

Until 1920, the bakery delivered bread by horse-drawn wagon. Later, the business evolved into a wholesale operation, boasting a fleet of 15 to 20 delivery trucks during its heyday in the 1930s and early '40s. "Eilenberger's Butter Nut Bread" quickly rose to fame, with advertisements of the time touting it as "the choice of all East Texas."

For some 50 years, the wonderful aroma of warm bread permeated the city, luring local citizens to the bakery for their daily provisions. In 1949, F.H. sold the business to his sons, Fred and Herman, and his son-in-law, Claude Westerman. Under increasing pressure from automated competitors, Eilenberger's ceased baking bread in 1968 (resumed 15 years later) and began concentrating on fruitcakes. In the years since, elegant gourmet cakes have become the bakery's bread and butter.

It's not just sweet-talk. At Eilenberger's Bakery in Palestine, treat-seekers can have their cake ...and their cookies, pies, and breads, too. Folks from afar can also partake, through Eilenberger's mail-order catalog, which reaches about a million people worldwide.

Eilenberger's

Just Desserts

BY LANA ROBINSON • PHOTOGRAPHS BY J. GRIFFIS SMITH

Today, Eilenberger's Bakery endures as an East Texas treasure, its sweet presence delighting denizens and tourists who have a hankering for cakes, pastries, and confections. The bakery—the state's oldest operating in the same location—celebrates its centennial this year, a milestone made possible in part by the loyal people of Palestine. Charles Calhoun of Augusta, Georgia, president and CEO of Centennial Foods, Inc.—

tries survey an array of picture-perfect pies—apple, apricot, chocolate cream, coconut cream, peach, pecan, and chess.

"We also offer pumpkin pies," says Shirley Wells, bake shop manager. "We sell a lot of those at Thanksgiving. And we do dinner rolls by special order two days a week throughout the year, as well as for the holidays." But be warned, for, as Shirley cautions, "If you place an order for rolls, you have to be here on

When Eilenberger's opened a century ago, bread-making was its sole activity. Today, elegant gourmet cakes have become the bakery's bread and butter.

Eilenberger's owner since August 1997—believes the townsfolk's allegiance is due to deeds of the bakery's founder.

"When you think of how Mr. Eilenberger gave bread to people during the Depression, and the number of jobs the bakery has provided over the years, is it any wonder people here have such a deep love for it?" asks Charles. "Eilenberger's history is special."

Finding the historic bakery is easy as pie. Drive into town from any direction, and follow your nose 'til you spot the emerald-green awning with the Eilenberger's logo. Inside, nostalgic photos reflecting different periods of the bakery's development adorn rich woodwork. Old-timey ceiling fans gently waft the intoxicating fragrance of just-baked goodies. Patrons seated at quaint, tea-size tables while savoring a warm Danish or an apple turnover with their morning coffee hardly seem to notice as the trickle of customers becomes a steady stream.

Some come seeking Eilenberger's wonderful cinnamon rolls smothered in creamy icing. Others, their fervent sweet teeth at full rev, yearn for a scrumptious brownie. Anxious children press against the antique display case to view neat rows of cookies: Apricot Angels, Chocolate Pecan Clusters, Pecan Nuggets, Russian Rocks, and in the spring, Dogwood Blossoms. Exquisite cakes, piled high with creamy frostings, tantalize perusers, while patrons with a yen for pas-

time to get them, because there are plenty of takers if you aren't!"

If you loaf around, you could also miss out on your daily bread, which typically includes wheat, white, jalapeño, apricot, apple, and savory focaccia. A round, flat Italian bread made from high-gluten and whole-wheat flours, olive oil, lemon juice, oregano, rosemary, pepper, and black olives, focaccia perks up pasta perfectly. Sandwiches made from the bakery's breads and croissants are available, too.



On display at today's bakery, this early-1900s photograph shows one of F.H. Eilenberger's employees, ready to deliver bread by horse-drawn wagon. By the 1930s, the business had a fleet of 15 to 20 delivery trucks.



Happy birthdays are assured with colorful cakes like these. Such personal touches—and downright deliciousness—have kept the bakery in business for 100 years.

and raisins—remains the centerpiece of the catalog's offerings. Australian Apricot and Tropical Pineapple cakes are also quite popular. The bakery also offers robust

Retired schoolteacher Shirley Stilwell of Palestine relies on Eilenberger's for customized party cakes, and she also stops by frequently to pick up Snickerdoodles and Pecan-Praline Cookies for her grandchildren. Shirley loves the bakery's cozy atmosphere and friendly staff.

"When my husband, Tom, was still a city judge, we used to enjoy going down and having a pastry or a cookie about four o'clock in the afternoon," she recalls. Shirley and Tom participated in the bakery's product taste-tests this past spring. "We took several cakes home with us and judged them for flavor and shelf life," she says. "They were all delicious, but the Texas Pecan Cake—chock-full of pecans, pineapple, dates, and cherries—is still our pick. I like to serve it with a dollop of whipped cream."

EILENBERGER'S century-old success story is due not only to hometown fans like Tom and Shirley, but customers worldwide who depend on the bakery's mail-order service to satisfy their cravings. To make shopping easy for their loyal out-of-towners, Eilenberger's 1998 holiday catalog is filled with all sorts of dreamy desserts.

The bakery's buttery World Famous Fruitcake—made from a secret family recipe with pecans, cherries, pineapple,

Butter Rum and tongue-tingling Lemon Pound cakes—baked in pans lined with nutty-sweet biscotti (cookie) crumbs and hand-dipped in yummy sauces.

Then, of course, there's chocolate. Back by popular demand in the decadent-dessert division is the Triple Chocolate Fudge Cake, doused in thick fudge and topped with white-chocolate morsels. This generously drenched

classic's close rival, super-rich Chocolate Amaretto Cake (a cross between a Black Forest Cake and a gooey brownie steeped in amaretto), and the cool Chocolate Mint Cake round out the chocolate-lover's category.

Along with the collection of cakes, "We have six kinds of cookies in our catalog this year, as well as Traditional Pecan Pie and Bake Shop Brownies," says Pat Skidmore, Eilenberger's director of operations. "We have just introduced Nutcracker Sweets, our assorted candy-coated pecans. Also, for the first time, cheese-cakes and boxed fruit—fancy apples, navel oranges, and Ruby Red grapefruit—will be available by mail order."

To handle the influx of holiday orders, Eilenberger's adds up to 100 people to its crew. Temporaries learn the ropes from Pat Skidmore, Shirley Wells, Bill Lanning, Sandy Harris, and Betty Boedeker (Betty is F.H.'s granddaughter), full-time employees with a total of 86 years of experience.

The holiday pace is no cakewalk. Some years, the bakery produces as much as 350,000 pounds of cake. A modified cement mixer blends the stiff batter, and three 60-year-old commercial

Picking your pastry is half the fun. Here, Mary Ferguson (far left, behind the counter) waits on bakery patrons from the Palestine Christian School, who eyeball the antique display case's tempting assortment of cookies, as well as pies from apple to pecan.





Company president Charles Calhoun (left) and vice president of sales and marketing Nick Greene of Centennial Foods, which has owned Eilenberger's since 1997, plan to nurture the bakery's sweet history and small-town charm.

ovens together bake some 2,000 cakes at a time. The entire production cycle takes 10 hours. The fruitcakes, which are 40 percent sweet, buttery batter and 60 percent candied fruit and nuts, will keep about two months at room temperature and even longer (up to several years) in the freezer.

Though food-safety regulations bar visitors from the kitchen during actual production, simulated production is a feature of the tours offered during Palestine's Dogwood Trails Festival (see When... Where... How for details). Also featured: A single iron ring, once used for tying horses that pulled the bread wagons, can still be found behind the bakeshop. The so-called "Molasses Board" still drips, even though it's been 50 years since the board was nailed to the ceiling to prevent leaks after someone upstairs accidentally spilled a 55-gallon drum of the sticky syrup.

According to Eleanor Eilenberger, her husband, Fred (son of F.H. and a certified master baker), hung up his apron last September after 56 years. At one time, Fred's family lived above the bakery. "Fred's earliest memories are of his

father rising in the dark to bake breads, and the unforgettable perfumes of sweet bakery smells," says Eleanor.

That heavenly aroma has also stuck with Palestine native Tom Broyles since childhood. "The old Texas Theatre is next door to the bakery. When I was a kid, we would go to the matinee on Saturday and drop by afterwards for a treat," says Tom. "The smell of spices and warm pastries was overwhelming. There was no way you could pass by without going in." In earlier years, Tom's parents' generation engaged in a Saturday-night ritual of knocking on the bakery's door when the movie was over to get slices of warm bread.

A fifth-generation Texan and the great-grandson of Texas Governor Thomas Mitchell Campbell, Tom saved the bakery from closure in 1978, when he bought it with the help of Dallas businessman Lloyd Birdwell. Tom owned the bakery through 1993; from 1993 to 1995, he managed it for Silverado Foods of Tulsa, Oklahoma, the owner until Centennial Foods took over last year. During Tom's tenure, two new cakes, the Texas Pecan and the World Famous Fruitcake, earned Monde International Gold Medal Awards at the World Food Selection in Brussels in 1980. By 1994, the number of mail-order customers had increased to more than 200,000 worldwide from several thousand.

Taking Eilenberger's to yet another level is now the goal of Nick Greene, Centennial's vice president of sales and marketing. Nick has introduced the bakery's products at

fancy food shows in New York and has presented the Nutcracker Sweets line to a national audience on the Home Shopping Network. Eilenberger's wholesale customers currently include Neiman Marcus, the New Braunfels Smokehouse, and Pittman-Davis in Harlingen. Most recently, Universal Studios chose Eilenberger's to make cookies for its Hollywood and Orlando theme parks.

Meanwhile, back in Palestine, Eilenberger's experienced kitchen crew is gearing up for the bakery's 100th holiday season. When asked if they are up to the task, they wholeheartedly agree: "It's a piece of cake!" ★

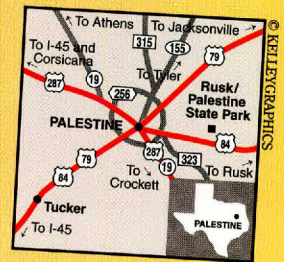
Frequent contributor LANA ROBINSON of Waco says Eilenberger's Australian Apricot Cake is divine. Look for her story on Fort Worth's Weston Gardens in a 1999 issue.

Our favorite food photographer GRIFF SMITH says he ate way too many butterscotch-coated pecans on this shoot last spring.

WHEN... WHERE... HOW

How Sweet It Is

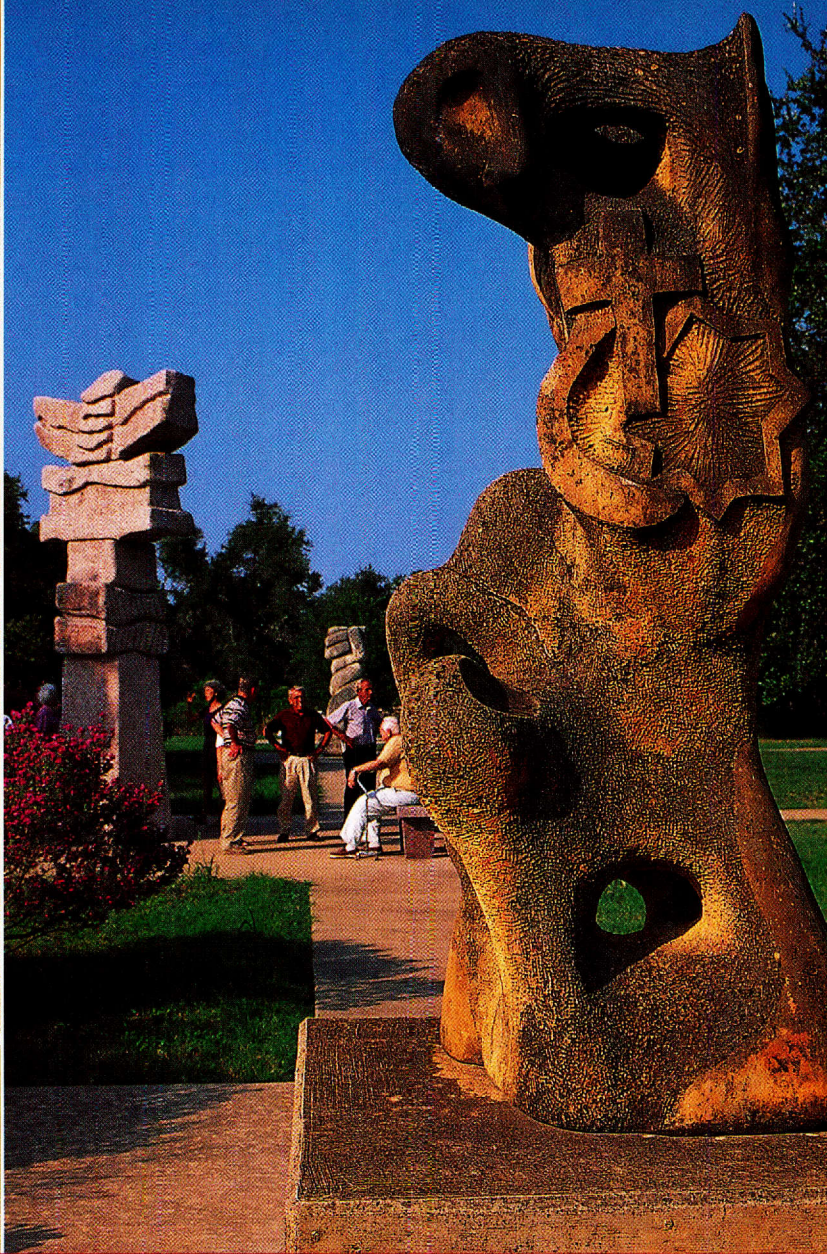
Eilenberger's Bakery is at 512 N. John St. in Palestine. Take US 287 into downtown Palestine, and go north on John Street; the bakery is 3 blocks up on the right. Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30-5:30, Sat 8-4. Tours of the bakery are given during Palestine's Dogwood Trails,



observed each year during the last two weeks of March and the first week of April; ask about other tour times during the year. Wheelchair accessible. For a 1998 holiday catalog or more information, write to Box 710, Palestine 75802; 903/SAY-CAKE (903/729-2253). Web site: www.eilenberger.com.

As a lasting reminder of Eilenberger's century of business in East Texas, cakes this season come in commemorative tins bearing images of yesteryear—horse-drawn delivery wagons, cobblestone streets, and the bakery's familiar dogwood emblem.

The Eilenberger's/Nutcracker Sweets 24-hour order line is available daily Oct. 1-Dec. 23. Call 800/831-2544, or fax 903/723-2915. The deadline for Thanksgiving orders is Nov. 12; for Hanukkah, Nov. 27; and for Christmas, Dec. 9. (Orders beyond deadlines are accepted, but require special shipping arrangements to ensure timely arrival.) At other times of the year, call 903/SAY-CAKE.



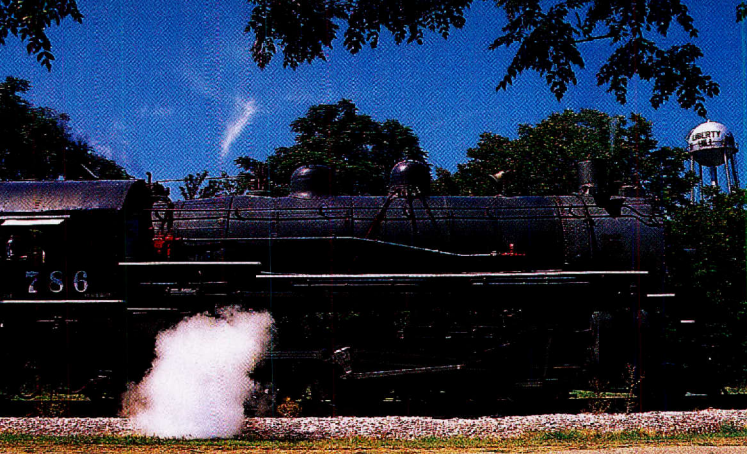
From an international sculpture garden to eclectic shops, crea

A SIGNER OF TEXAS' DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE and a veteran of the Battle of San Jacinto, Thomas Jefferson Rusk was a United States senator when he stopped for the night at the Reverend W.O. Spencer's Williamson County cabin in 1853. The reverend lamented the absence of a post office between Austin and what was then Hamilton (renamed Burnet in 1857), so Senator Rusk, chairman of the Committee of Post Offices and Post Roads, authorized a facility on the spot. "What shall its name be?" the senator asked the reverend.

"These people around here are a peaceful, liberty-loving folk," replied Reverend Spencer. "I live upon a hill. I am fond of hills. Let's call it Liberty Hill."

[ABOVE, CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT] A stagecoach stop in the 1850s, tiny Liberty Hill boasts a block and a half of historic buildings. The studio of sculptor John Van Camp (top left) anchors the main street's southeast end. In 1976, another sculptor, the late Mel Fowler, organized a sculpture symposium that produced the striking creations in the International Sculpture Garden, on the grounds of Liberty Hill High School.

[FACING PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT] Liberty Hill Feed & Seed offers a variety of merchandise, including gifts and crafts, saddles, and tack. Local historian James Vaughan co-owns one car of the Hill Country Flyer, which passes through Liberty Hill on its weekend round-trip runs between Cedar Park and Burnet.



ive freedom rings in

LIBERTY HILL

That's how Dr. J. Gordon Bryson, writing under the pen name of Pete Shady, told the story of Liberty Hill's naming in his 1964 book, *Culture of the Shin Oak Ridge Folk*. Dr. Bryson's ancestors, John T. and Amelia Bryson, built a stagecoach stop at the original town site in the 1850s. The building still stands, but the community made three short moves to the east before settling in 1882 in its current spot, about 30 miles northwest of downtown Austin.

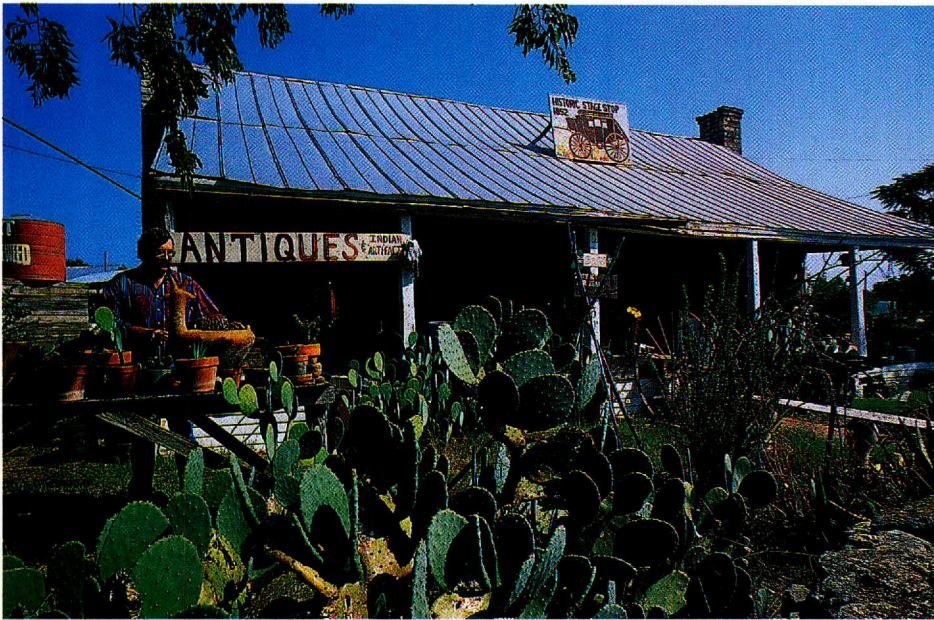
Today, residents of this idyllic village preserve the independent spirit of those liberty-loving Hill Country pioneers. "It's the largest unincorporated town in Williamson County," says local historian James Vaughan. "Everything runs on a volunteer basis."

Taking in the surrounding area, the Liberty Hill Independent School District claims some 1,000 students, while Liberty Hill itself is home to about 1,800 folks. Nora Holleway, of Liberty Hill

Feed & Seed, says she "had to leave town to find a husband, because everybody in Liberty Hill was related to me." Though the town may incorporate, many residents join Nora in hoping Austin's urban sprawl won't spoil Liberty Hill's "laid-back community identity." Too much growth, they feel, might endanger the creative spark that has historically thrived here.

Legendary black cowboy Bill Pickett (1870-1932), for example, was born near enough to Liberty Hill that James Vaughan claims him as a native son. Historians credit Pickett with adding

BY GENE FOWLER • PHOTOGRAPHS BY J. GRIFFIS SMITH



The original stagecoach stop on the western edge of town forms the centerpiece of Fort Tumbleweed, an array of 19th-Century buildings where owner Len Kubiak sells an eclectic assortment of goods.

steer-wrestling to the rodeo repertoire, but he's also famous for the method he used. Unlike later bulldoggers, Pickett often brought down the powerful animal with his teeth, biting it tightly on its lower lip and then pulling it to the ground.

Clara Stearns Scarbrough mentioned another innovative Liberty Hill dweller in her 1973 book, *Land of Good Water: A Williamson County History*. "About 1920," she writes, "ingenious Arnold Evansted [a local handyman]... improvised a camera from a five-gallon lard can and took many pictures in the community with it."

The late Mel Fowler continued that creative tradition in 1971, when he retired from a distinguished, 30-year career as an Air Force pilot, settled in Liberty Hill, and became an internationally recognized sculptor. Mel bought and restored the 1871 limestone Stubblefield Building to use as a studio, gallery, and living quarters. One day in 1976, he mentioned to James Vaughan that he planned to organize an international sculpture symposium in Austin. "Heck," said James, "why don't you just have it in Liberty Hill?"

In October of that festive Bicentennial year, about two dozen artists from seven countries showed up on the

town's main thoroughfare and commenced sculpting monumental creations from locally quarried limestone and granite, car bumpers, and other materials. Liberty Hill folks housed and

fed the sculptors and gathered to watch them work. Within two months, an outdoor gallery of abstract sculpture stood in the small Veterans Square Park downtown. In 1977, the project earned Liberty Hill the first Texas Arts Award (given by the now-defunct Texas Arts Alliance annually from 1977 to 1987).

Ten years later, a more spacious, permanent home for the works opened up with the construction of a new Liberty Hill High School near Texas 29. School administrator Don Cunningham, who'd moved to Liberty Hill a year after the symposium, approached Mel about putting "some of those rocks" at the new campus. With a good-natured chuckle, Don remembers the sculptor's passionate response. "He let me know they were not just 'rocks' right away," says Don, "but then he offered the entire collection for a sculpture park."

Administrators reserved five acres adjacent to the school for the park, and the community pitched in again to help Mel move the massive artworks. "We tried to get Lloyd's of London to insure



COURTESY JAMES VAUGHAN

Once the site of Stubblefield & Griffith Groceries, shown here in 1902, the 1871 Stubblefield Building in downtown Liberty Hill also served in more recent years as the studio, gallery, and living quarters of the late Mel Fowler.

Today, residents of this idyllic village preserve the independent spirit of those liberty-loving Hill Country pioneers.

us for one day," says Don, "but it was too expensive." In his speech at the dedication ceremony on May 5, 1987, Mel called the installation "the only international sculpture garden on a high school campus in the world."

Shortly after the dedication, Mel traveled to a second home in Italy, where an accident claimed his life. The family later scattered his ashes over the Liberty Hill International Sculpture Garden from a vintage biplane.

Students and visitors alike continue to stroll the unusual park and reflect upon the artists' abstractions. Most make their own interpretations of such pieces as the totem-like *Guardian* by Brad Goldberg and *Lovers' Seats*, sculpted from four kinds of Texas granite by Masayuki Nagase of Japan. Texan Dana Smith named her piece *Verdie Vaughn* after her grandmother, a longtime Liberty Hill resident. James Vaughan (no relation to Verdie) says that *Libertarian*, by Mel Fowler, represents freedom of speech and other liberties that the sculptor flew combat missions to preserve.

John Van Camp, current sculptor-in-residence in downtown Liberty Hill, hopes to add a large panther (the high school mascot) to the sculpture garden. But with clients across the country, he's usually so busy carving stone for fountains, fireplaces, and other architectural ornamentations that his own projects have to wait. A former geologist and a Liberty Hill resident for more than 20 years, John got a taste of community spirit last October when the former lumberyard that housed his workspace burned to the ground, leaving him with uninsured losses. Only the distinctive brick archway remains of the old build-

ing, but volunteers held benefits and helped John build a smaller temporary structure and buy a temperamental 1966 forklift to move his stones.

At the other end of Liberty Hill's block and a half of historic downtown buildings, Five Points Western Art and Jewelry sells John's smaller sculptures. Proprietor Nancy Crook says that she and husband Fred moved to Liberty Hill from "up north" after Fred passed through Central Texas on tour with his blues band, Fred Crook and the Outlaws. The store carries a selection of Native American arts and crafts, including jewelry by John Falcon, an artist of Cherokee heritage who lives near Leander (and who appeared in the 1998 made-for-TV movie *Two For Texas*). Five

Points' eclectic offerings also include recycled cowboy boots, pottery by the Navajo artist Hilda Whitegoat, kachina dolls, crystal pendulums, and various animal hides, as well as a selection of unusual greeting cards, prints, books, and music. A leather shop in the back of Five Points will even repair old saddles.

A few doors down, the Carpenter's Frame offers original oil paintings by Joseph "Chip" Malec of Round Rock that include vivid depictions of prickly pear. Antique bank-teller windows line one wall of the shop. Owner Angela Nicholson says they came from the 1906 bank across the street, which now houses the offices of two chiropractors.

Back at the original site of Liberty Hill, Len Kubiak also sells John Falcon's jewelry and other Native American jewelry and crafts. Len's shop is in the old Bryson place, which served as a stage-



Not your garden-variety antique shop, Fort Tumbleweed offers everything from Old West artifacts to farm implements. Call to confirm hours before you go, and take along a spirit of adventure.

Liberty Hill

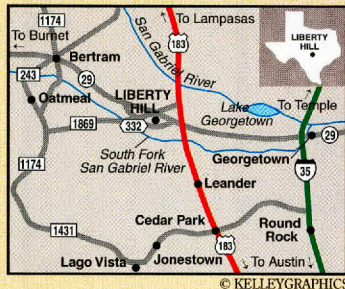
The hamlet of Liberty Hill (pop. 1,800) is about 30 miles northwest of Austin, on Texas 29, about 2 miles west of the junction of Texas 29 and US 183. The main street through town, Loop 332, intersects with Texas 29 at both ends of the loop. There are no overnight accommodations in Liberty Hill. Write to the Liberty Hill Community Chamber of Commerce, Box 586, Liberty Hill 78642 (512/515-5185), or to the Greater Liberty Hill Chamber of Commerce, Box 905, Liberty Hill 78642 (512/515-6878). **Liberty Hill's area code is 512; the zip code is 78642.**

Attractions

The **Liberty Hill International Sculpture Garden** is on the grounds of Liberty Hill High School, at the eastern intersection of Loop 332 and Texas 29. Always open, but check in at the office on schooldays. Wheelchair accessible. Write to the Liberty Hill ISD, Box 68; 515-6088.

Sculptor **John Van Camp's studio** is at 918 Loop 332 in downtown Liberty Hill. He welcomes visitors but keeps flexible hours; *call ahead*. Wheelchair accessible. Write to JVC Stoneworks, Box 333; 778-6033.

Five Points Western Art and Jewelry is downtown, at 1012 Loop 332. Hours: Mon-Sat 9-5. Wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 738; 778-6592.



The **Carpenter's Frame** is downtown, at 1002 Loop 332. Hours: Summer, Tue-Fri 8-3, Sat 8-2; other seasons, Tue-Fri 10-5:30, Sat 10-4:30. Wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 305; 778-6510.

Liberty Hill Feed & Seed is downtown, at 925 Loop 332. Hours: Mon-Sat 8-6, Sun 1-5. Wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 364; 778-6400.

Flowerbeds and Watergardens, at 13750 Texas 29, sells pond plants and water-garden accessories. Hours: Mon-Sat 9-6, Sun noon-5. Wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 35; 515-6700.

Fort Tumbleweed is on Texas 29, on the western edge of Liberty Hill. Hours: Variable, but usually Sat-Sun 10-6. *Call ahead to confirm hours*. Not wheelchair accessible. Write to 107 Champions Dr., Rockdale 76567; 512/778-6211 or 446-6270. Web site: www.majik-net.com/~len_kubiak/.

Events

Liberty Hill Street Scenes, a "street fair of art, gardens, and fun," will take place Oct. 10. Activities, most of which take place on Loop 332, include a sidewalk art sale and a farmers' market. John Van Camp will conduct special tours of the International Sculpture Garden. The celebration also features a **Water Gardens Festival**, which includes tours of area homes with water gardens and a visit to Watercolor Gardens, a wholesale aquatic plants nursery east of town on US 183. Street fair hours: 9 a.m.-dark. Admission: Free. Wheelchair accessible. Contact the Greater Liberty Hill Chamber of Commerce at the address or phone number listed previously.

The **Liberty Hill Festival** takes place the last weekend in April (Apr. 24-27, 1999). The celebration includes a barbecue cookoff, live music, dancing, Miss Liberty Hill and "cutest baby" contests, a pet parade, arts and crafts, an auction, and tournaments for horseshoes, disc golf, and washers. Contact the Liberty Hill Community Chamber of Commerce at the address or phone number listed previously.

Restaurants

Hobo Depot is 3 blocks from downtown Liberty Hill. From the four-way stop at the intersection of Loop 332 and Farm-to-Market

Rd. 1869, turn east on FM 1869, and go 3 blocks to the railroad tracks. The restaurant is on the left. Hours: Daily 6 a.m.-2 p.m., plus Fri 5 p.m.-9 p.m. The lunch menu includes specialty hamburgers, chicken-fried steak, and enchiladas. The Friday-night lineup features all-you-can-eat catfish (\$6.95 per person). Wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 623; 515-5021.

Boot Hill Cafe, also on FM 1869, is 1 block past Hobo Depot, at Carl Shipp Dr. The menu includes burgers, chicken-fried steak, and home-style pies. Hours: Mon-Fri 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Wheelchair accessible. Write to Box 654; 515-6188.

Donn's Pit Stop BBQ is about 2 miles east of Liberty Hill, at the junction of US 183 and Texas 29. Besides barbecue, the menu features scrumptious banana pudding, peach cobbler, and other desserts. Hours: Mon-Sat 11-8, Sun 11-7. Not wheelchair accessible. Write to 5706 Penny Creek, Austin 78759; 512/778-6075.

The **Hi-Way Cafe**, also at the intersection of US 183 and Texas 29, serves inexpensive Mexican food and other dishes. Hours: Mon-Sat 10-9:45, Sun 10-7:45. Not wheelchair accessible. Write to 1604 Glass Dr., Leander 78641; 512/515-6510.

coach stop between Austin and Fort Croghan (in present-day Burnet). Len bought the 10-acre site in 1978, moved in several other 19th-Century buildings, and named the whole spread Fort Tumbleweed. Shoppers who like a tidy presentation might best avoid Fort Tumbleweed, but more adventurous souls will find intriguing its hodgepodge of Indian and Old West artifacts, rocks and minerals, fossils, old bottles, and other neat stuff. Civil War memorabilia, old farm implements, antique knives, rattle-

snake skins, pottery, pipes, buffalo robes, beaver pelts, even a 1962 poster from Georgetown's Palace Theatre advertising a Patsy Cline concert—you name it, it has blown into the Tumbleweed.

Len points out an 1894 photo of the Bryson stage stop and a painting of the building. "This little girl in the photograph, Fay Bryson Richardson, painted the picture at age 88," he says. "Before she died, she gave me a mantel that came out of this building. It had been in her attic for years."

Len has listed Fort Tumbleweed with the Texas Film Commission as a potential setting for Western movies. If filmmakers ever do trek to Liberty Hill, they'll find a village still full of "peaceful, liberty-loving folk." ★

Like the Reverend W.O. Spencer, Austin freelancer GENE FOWLER says he likes hills, and he likes liberty. After writing this story, he likes Liberty Hill, too.

Staff photographer GRIFF SMITH also shot the stories on Chappell Hill, rare-book stores, and Eilenberger's Bakery in this issue.

Now Available!



Texas Highways 1999 Calendar



The 1999 *Texas Highways* calendar is here! Featuring 13 dazzling images, including Central Texas wildflowers, Big Bend National Park, Gulf Coast beaches, and other delightful Texas destinations. It's the perfect gift for Texans and those who wish they were.

Calendar measures 11 1/4" x 9 1/2"
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To order by mail, use the form attached, or send your request with payment to: *Texas Highways*, P.O. Box 149233, Austin, Texas 78714-9233.

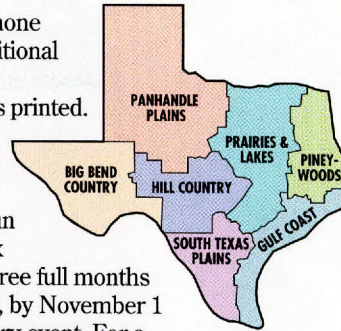
Fun Forecast

November 1998						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

In Fun Forecast, we provide events and telephone numbers for next month, so that you'll have additional time to plan your outings.

Sometimes dates change after the magazine is printed.

Before you drive miles to an event, confirm the date by calling the number listed next to the festivity or by contacting the local chamber of commerce. If you wish to submit an event for Fun



Forecast, please send the information to Fun Forecast, *Texas Highways*, Box 141009, Austin 78714-1009; fax 512/486-5879. Submit information at least three full months before the first of the month in which the event will take place (for example, by November 1 for February festivities). Space is limited, so we may not be able to print every event. For a quarterly, more detailed schedule of events, write for a free *Texas Events Calendar*, Box 149249, Austin 78714-9249, or fax 512/486-5944.

Texas Highways' Web site (www.texashighways.com) includes an expanded Fun Forecast that gives descriptions of the events.

For free routing assistance or details on any destination in Texas, call 800/452-9292 toll-free from anywhere in the United States and Canada, any day between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Central Time. A travel counselor at one of the state's travel information centers will be on the line to provide travel information, send brochures, and advise you of any emergency road conditions.

Panhandle Plains

1 POST (began Oct 30) Old Mill Trade Days 806/495-3529
5, 12 ABILENE "Understanding Russia" Lecture Series 915/673-4587
6-8 WICHITA FALLS Christmas Magic Holiday Market 940/692-9797
7 ALBANY Old Jail Art Center Auction 915/762-2269
BIG SPRING Seafood Fest 915/263-2922
SAN ANGELO 50th Anniversary Symphony Concert 915/658-5877
SILVERTON Caprock Jamboree 806/823-2524
7-8 LEVELLAND Marigold's Holiday Bazaar 806/894-3768
SAN ANGELO Roping Fiesta 915/653-7785

11 SAN ANGELO Veterans Day at Fort Concho 915/481-2646
12 ABILENE Artwalk 915/677-8389
12-15 AMARILLO World Championship Ranch Rodeo 806/487-9722
13-15 ABILENE Arts & Crafts Show 915/676-6211
Trade Days 915/677-5252
14 CLARENDON Saints' Roost Jamboree 806/874-3942
MEADOW Meadow Musical 806/539-2266
PAMPA Bazaar 806/669-3241
WINTERS Arts & Crafts Show 915/754-5210
14-15 JACKSBORO Fort Richardson Days 940/567-3506
WICHITA FALLS Team Roping 817/246-8825

19 DIMMITT Santa's Open House 806/642-2524
20 JACKSBORO Arts & Crafts Fair 940/567-5811
SNYDER 50th Oil Appreciation Celebration 915/573-3558
20-21 WICHITA FALLS Bull Riding 940/855-0715
20-Dec 31 PAMPA Celebration of Lights 806/669-3241
21-22 COLORADO CITY Trade Days 915/728-3403
26-28 PLAINVIEW Queens' Classic Basketball Tournament 806/296-7431
27 CHILDRESS Treasure Hunt 940/937-2567
DUMAS Sidewalk Festival 806/435-2123
27-Dec 31 SWEETWATER Trail of Lights 800/658-6757

27-Jan 5 CHILDRESS Christmas in Fair Park 940/937-2567
28 BALLINGER Christmas in Olde Ballinger 915/365-2333
OLTON Arts & Crafts Fair 806/938-2806
SLATON Opry 806/828-6238
28-29 ABILENE Arts & Crafts Festival 915/263-7690
WICHITA FALLS Arts & Crafts Show 972/772-3816
Prairies and Lakes
1 CANTON (began Oct 29) Trade Days 903/567-6556
(began Oct 30) Old Mill Marketplace 913/567-5445
CLEBURNE (began Oct 31) Elegant Glass Show 972/780-0193

1 DALLAS (began Oct 3) Autumn at the Arboretum 214/327-4901
(began Oct 31) Boo at the Zoo 214/942-3678
GRANBURY (began Oct 9) Wait Until Dark 817/573-9191
LA GRANGE Arts & Crafts Show 800/524-7264
SEGUIN (began Oct 29) Quarter Horse Show 800/580-7322
SOUTHLAKE Masterworks Series 817/283-3406
WEATHERFORD (began Oct 30) Trade Days 817/594-3801
1-2 GLEN ROSE Woodcarving Show 254/897-2321
1, 4, 7 DALLAS (began Oct 28) <i>A Masked Ball</i> 214/565-1116
1-7 FORT WORTH (began Oct 30) Horse Show 817/871-8150

1-15 DALLAS (began Oct 21) <i>How I Learned to Drive</i> 214/522-8499
PLANTERSVILLE (began Oct 3) Texas Renaissance Festival 800/458-3435
1-Jan 3 VAN Wonderland by Night 903/963-8828
2 DALLAS Nati Acrobats of China 214/692-0203
3 NORTH RICHLAND HILLS Masterworks Series 817/283-3406
4 SOUTHLAKE Chili Cookoff 817/481-8200
4-6 STEPHENVILLE Youth Rodeo Finals 817/279-1813
6-7 GLEN ROSE Bluegrass Jam 254/897-2321

6-8 BONHAM Trade Days 903/583-2367
BOWIE Trade Days 817/872-1680
BRENHAM Fall Festival of Roses 409/836-5548
CLEBURNE Arts & Crafts Show 817/641-5836
FENTRESS Bluegrass Camp 512/488-2563
FORT HOOD Holiday Bazaar 512/287-0957
SALADO Gathering of Scottish Clans 254/947-5232
STEPHENVILLE Arts & Crafts Show 254/918-1216
TEMPLE Holly Day Express 512/773-2105
6-29 GRANBURY <i>Steel Magnolias</i> 817/573-9191
7 BELLVILLE Market Day 409/865-3407
CYCLONE Cookoff 254/583-2335
DALLAS Oak Cliff Tour 214/421-4500

7 DECATUR Antique Car Show 940/627-5185
Toy Tractor Show 940/627-3107
DENTON Arts & Crafts Show 940/382-1658
GARLAND Veterans Day Parade 972/553-2150
IRVING 10-K Walk 972/579-7384
KAUFMAN Scarecrow Festival 972/932-6097
LA GRANGE Banjo Pickin' 800/524-7264
7-8 BEDFORD Art Market 817/952-2290
DALLAS American Indian Art Festival & Market 214/891-9640
FORT WORTH Train Show 817/249-4965
LEWISVILLE Arts & Crafts Fair 972/219-3550
ROUND TOP Arts Festival 409/249-3308
Festival-Institute Theater Forum 409/249-3129
WAXAHACHIE Art Show & Book Review 972/938-0231
7, 14, 21, 28 ARLINGTON Nature Hikes at River Legacy Parks 817/860-6752
STEPHENVILLE Cross Timbers Country Opry 254/965-4132
8 CLEBURNE Doll & Toy Show 817/641-8600
PRAHA Veterans Day Observance 512/596-7431
11-12 CLIFTON Norse Smorgasbord 254/675-8720

11-15 FORT WORTH Book Sale 817/871-7703
12-15 WACO Book Sale 254/750-5044
12-21 FORT WORTH Shrine Circus 817/871-8150
12-14, 26-28 RICHARDSON <i>Mame</i> 972/699-1130
12-Dec 12 RICHARDSON <i>Lend Me a Tenor</i> 972/699-1130
13 PLANO Antique Show 972/424-7547
13-14 GAINESVILLE Arts & Crafts Show 940/668-5412
13-15 ARLINGTON Holiday Magic 817/277-9561 or 459-5000
MCKINNEY Trade Days 972/562-5466
NAVASOTA Trade Days 409/825-8490
13-16 GREENVILLE Trade Days 903/450-0551
13-Jan 3 FORT HOOD Nature in Lights 254/287-4907 or 287-2523
14 ATHENS Christmas Extravaganza 903/675-5181
BRYAN Cooking School 409/778-9463
COMANCHE Trade Day 915/356-3233
DALLAS Golden Years Life Fair 972/241-3006
Texas Recycles Day 214/821-9000

14 DECATUR Arts & Crafts Bazaar 940/627-3107 Wise Co Heritage Museum Fall Show 940/627-5586 EDGEWOOD Log Cabin Christmas Bazaar 903/896-1940 FORT WORTH Park Glen 10-K Walk 817/232-2878 Rodeo 817/625-1025 LANCASTER Second Saturday on the Square 972/218-1101 ROUND TOP Bicycle Tour 713/622-8709 or 800/366-6681 San Antonio Children's Choir 409/249-3129	20-22 GROESBECK Trade Days 254/729-3616 PLANO Crafts Show 972/461-7295 20, 22, 24, 28 DALLAS <i>Ariodante</i> 214/443-1000 21 CLIFTON Trades Day 254/675-3720 COLUMBUS <i>Daddy's Dyin'</i> <i>Who's Got the Will?</i> 409/732-5135 DENISON Texoma Fine Art Tour 903/465-1551 21-22 BRENNHAM Poinsettia Celebration 409/836-0084 DALLAS Gem & Mineral Show 972/495-1789 HILLSBORO Bond's Alley Holiday Bazaar 254/582-2481 TEMPLE Arts & Crafts Show 254/298-5720 or 888/441-7193 WHITEWRIGHT Trade Days 903/364-2994	26-29 WACO Evergreen Acres Christmas Tree Farm Celebration 254/829-0090 27 DALLAS Tree Lighting Festival 214/748-4801 FORT WORTH Parade of Lights 817/870-1692 Tree Lighting Ceremony 817/934-8822 GRANBURY Country Christmas Celebration 817/573-5299 27-28 BASTROP Arts & Crafts Fair 512/303-6283 27-29 ARLINGTON Holiday Market 972/647-2331 BONHAM Christmas Tree Farm Tour 214/908-7552 DALLAS Make-a-Wish Fine Arts Show 972/436-5222 FORT WORTH Santa in the Stockyards 817/625-9715 GRAND PRAIRIE Holiday Market 972/647-2331 QUINLAN Choose and Cut Christmas Tree Opening 903/356-2195 or 214/327-7290 RICHARDSON Crafts Show 972/238-9434 WACO Homestead Heritage Craft & Children's Fair 254/829-0417 WAXAHACHIE Candlelight Homes Tour 972/937-0681 WEATHERFORD Greenwood Farm Horse Trials 940/599-8159 27-Dec 13 FORT WORTH Natl Cutting Horse Futurity 817/871-8150	27-Dec 31 DALLAS Holiday at the Arboretum 214/327-8263 27-Jan 1 ARLINGTON Holiday in the Park 817/640-8900 GRANBURY Holiday Lights Tour 817/573-5548 or 800/950-2212 28 FORT WORTH Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show 817/625-1025 Stockyards Christmas Parade 817/626-7921 GONZALES Trade Days 830/672-6532 HICO Christmas Arts & Crafts Market 800/361-HICO LEXINGTON Christmas Bazaar 512/273-2551 LULING Christmas Arts & Crafts Show 210/875-3214 28-29 CLEBURNE Arts & Crafts Show 817/558-9788	28-29 WAXAHACHIE Bethlehem Revisited 972/938-9617 28-Dec 21 DECATUR Tour of Lights 940/627-3107 29 MOULTON Christmas Program 512/596-7205 or 596-7323 30 KELLER Holiday in the Park 817/431-6044 Pineywoods 1-Dec 31 HUNTSVILLE Trail of Lights 409/295-8113 1-Jan 4 TYLER Santa Land 903/882-1518 5-7, 13-15 TYLER Mistletoe & Magic Holiday Market 903/593-1080 or 561-6622 6-7 COLMESNEIL Craft Fair 409/283-2021	6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28 LIBERTY Opry on the Square 800/248-8918 7 BLOOMBURG Cullen Baker Fair 903/728-5343 FRIDAY Bluegrass Festival 409/642-1270 7-8 THE WOODLANDS Celebrity Golf Tournament 409/756-8682 7, 21 HENDERSON Youth Rodeo 903/657-2161 13 CONROE Expo '98 409/538-7110 or 756-6644 13-14 TYLER Wooden Wonderland Woodcarving Show 903/839-7042 14 HENDERSON Heritage Syrup Festival 903/657-4303	14 KIRBYVILLE Country Music Show 409/423-5744 PINELAND Church Bazaar 409/584-2171 SILSBEE Bazaar 409/385-6526 TEXARKANA The Light Crust Doughboys 903/792-4992 20-21 NACOGDOCHES Holiday in the Pines 409/564-7671 or 560-0252 20-22 NACOGDOCHES Trade Days 409/564-2150 TYLER Trade Days 903/595-2223 21 MILAM Settler Day 409/625-3155 24-Dec 31 LONGVIEW Light Up Longview 903/753-3281 25-Dec 30 MARSHALL Wonderland of Lights 903/935-7868	27-28 HEMPHILL Crafts Show 409/787-3027 HUGHES SPRINGS Hometown Holidays 903/693-2351 27-29 GLADEWATER Christmas Tyme in Gusherville 903/845-5601 28 COLDSPRING Trades Day 409/653-2009 HEMPHILL Lighting of the Square 409/787-2732 KIRBYVILLE Christmas on Main 409/423-4633 LUFKIN Holiday on the Square 409/634-6644 MINEOLA Holiday Open House 903/569-2087 MOUNT PLEASANT Arts & Crafts Bazaar 903/572-8567 TEXARKANA Scott Joplin Birthday Celebration 903/798-1004	Gulf Coast 1 ANGLETON (began Oct 31) Austin Town Festival 409/864-1208 BEAUMONT (began Oct 30) Arabian Horse Show 409/880-8151 CLEAR LAKE (began Oct 30) <i>Dracula</i> 281/480-1617 CORPUS CHRISTI (began Oct 31) Arts & Crafts Market 512/767-8333 GALVESTON <i>Cantos y Cuentos/Songs and Stories</i> 409/763-1894 HOUSTON (began Oct 29) International Quilt Market & Festival 713/781-6864 1, 4, 7, 10, 13-15 HOUSTON (began Oct 30) <i>Tales of Hoffmann</i> 713/227-ARTS 3, 6, 8 HOUSTON <i>The Flying Dutchman</i> 713/227-ARTS
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Spinning wheels fascinate young and old at the Homestead Heritage Craft & Children's Fair, at Elm Mott, near Waco, November 27-29.

3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27
HARLINGEN
 Birding Tour
 956/519-6448
 or 585-1107

4, 11, 18, 25
PORT ARANSAS
 Birding on
 the Boardwalk
 512/749-4158

6
HOUSTON
 McCoy Tyner
 713/524-5050

6-8
SUGAR LAND
 The Sugar Festival
 281/275-2887

7
ANGLETON
 Birding Tour
 281/445-1187

CORPUS CHRISTI
 Family Festival & Chili Cookoff
 512/882-1686

Symphony
 512/883-NOTE

GALVESTON
 Fly Day
 409/740-7722

*Once Upon
 a Midnight*
 409/765-1894

HOUSTON
 Menonite Auction
 713/464-4865

7-8
BAY CITY
 Holiday Bazaar
 409/245-4100

CORPUS CHRISTI
 YWCA Carousel
 of Arts & Crafts
 512/857-5661

HARLINGEN
 Arts & Crafts
 Market
 956/428-1243

Tennis
 Tournament
 956/425-8020

HOUSTON
 Arboretum &
 Nature Center
 10-K Walk
 713/665-4663

PORT LAVACA
 Arts & Crafts
 Festival by the Bay
 512/552-2565

**SOUTH PADRE
 ISLAND**
 Kite Festival
 956/761-7484

8
PORT ARTHUR
 Lamar University
 Dance
 Performance
 409/983-4881

11
BAY CITY
 Veterans Day
 Remembrance
 409/245-8333

11-15
HARLINGEN
 Tropical Birds
 of the Border
 Festival
 956/423-5440

12
BEAUMONT
 St. Mark's
 Episcopal Church
 Chili/Bazaar
 409/832-3405

12-14
CLEAR LAKE
 Sugar Plum
 Festival
 281/480-1617

KINGSVILLE
 College Rodeo
 800/333-5032

18
CORPUS CHRISTI
 Basil & Bordeaux
 512/852-2100

13-15
HOUSTON
*A Tribute to
 Gershwin*
 713/227-ARTS

13-15, 27-29
SPRING
 Home for
 the Holidays
 281/288-4933

14
EDNA
 Texana Outback
 Bicycle Tour
 512/782-7146

HARLINGEN
 Freddy Fender
 Homefest
 956/399-5645

HOUSTON
 Hot Rod Finals
 630/936-4810

RIO HONDO
 Texas Air Museum
 Fly-In
 956/748-2112

TEXAS CITY
 Arts & Crafts Show
 409/945-2441

14-15
GALVESTON
 Tap Dogs
 409/765-1894

PASADENA
 Martyn Farm
 Fall Festival
 281/474-2511

PORT ARTHUR
 Arts &
 Crafts Show
 409/962-0296

14-15
ROCKPORT
 Zachary Taylor
 Days
 512/729-6100 or
 800/242-0071

ROSENBERG
 Fort Bend Co
 Antique &
 Collectible Fair
 512/441-2828 or
 888/441-7133

SEABROOK
 Back Bay Market
 281/474-3869

VICTORIA
 Arts & Crafts Show
 512/992-2438

15
BEAUMONT
 Interfaith
 Choral Concert
 409/898-1634
 or 962-4040

GROVES
 Christmas Tree
 Trail to Groves
 800/876-3631

TEXAS CITY
 Taste of the Town
 409/935-1408

15-Jan 15
KINGSVILLE
 Texas Lights
 512/595-8151 or
 800/333-5032

17
HOUSTON
 Schoenbrunn
 Ensemble of
 Amsterdam
 713/524-5050

19
HARLINGEN
 Covenant Players
 Theater
 956/423-0632

19-Dec 19
HOUSTON
*Driving
 Miss Daisy*
 281/397-9067

20
HARLINGEN
 Santa's Arrival
 956/425-8392

VICTORIA
 Country Opry
 512/552-5511

20-21
LAKE JACKSON
 Craft Show
 409/297-3454

20-22
PORT LAVACA
*Mornings
 at Seven*
 512/552-4082

TEXAS CITY
 Trade Days
 409/948-3111
 or 948-9570

21
BAY CITY
 Market Day
 409/245-8333

BEAUMONT
 Charlie Pruitt's
 Country Music
 Show
 409/727-2955

BRIDGE CITY
 Holiday Showcase
 409/735-5671

GALVESTON
 Marilyn Maye
 409/765-1894

KINGSVILLE
 Ranch Hand
 Breakfast
 512/592-8516 or
 800/333-5032

LAKE JACKSON
 Festival of Lights
 409/297-4533

LEAGUE CITY
 Bluegrass Show
 281/893-9541
 or 990-5171

PALACIOS
 Lighting of
 the Palms
 800/611-4567

TOMBALL
 Holiday Parade
 281/351-7222

21-22
HOUSTON
 Art in the Heights
 713/880-4902
 or 869-0441

PORT ARTHUR
 Trade Days
 409/982-4950

21-22, 27-29
CORPUS CHRISTI
 Arts & Crafts Show
 512/767-9333

21-23, 28-30
HOUSTON
 Houston Symphony
 713/224-7575

22
EL CAMPO
 Polka Expo
 409/543-2713

GALVESTON
 Symphony
 409/763-7173

23
KINGSVILLE
 Jazz Bash
 512/593-2803

24
WHARTON
 Lighted Parade
 409/532-3881

26
HOUSTON
 Bank United
 Thanksgiving Day
 Parade
 713/654-8900

26
HOUSTON
 Uptown
 Tree
 Lighting
 Ceremony
 713/621-2011

26-29
HOUSTON
 Autorama
 713/799-9500

27
PORT ARANSAS
 Beachwalk
 Adventure
 512/749-4158

**SOUTH PADRE
 ISLAND**
 Lighting of
 the Island
 956/761-3000
 or 761-6433

27-28
GALVESTON
*Idols of
 the King*
 409/765-1894

27-29
**SOUTH PADRE
 ISLAND**
 Arts &
 Crafts Show
 956/761-3003

WHARTON
*Anahl and the
 Night Visitors*
 409/282-2970

27-Dec 27
HOUSTON
The Nutcracker
 713/523-6300
 or 227-ARTS

28
GALVESTON
 Art Walk
 409/763-2403

ROSENBERG
 Christmas Magic
 281/342-6969

28-29
NURSERY
 Historic Home
 Trader Days
 512/578-8484

29-30
ALVIN
 Christmas of Olde
 281/331-1258

**South Texas
 Plains**

1
SAN ANTONIO
 Mission San José
 Fall Festival
 210/922-0534

(began Oct 30)
 UTSA Balloon Fest
 210/458-4550

2
SAN ANTONIO
 Day of the Dead
 210/434-6711

Diá de los Muertos
 210/432-1896

2-8
BEEVILLE
 Bee Co
 Western Week
 512/358-3267
 or 358-8386

4-7
SAN ANTONIO
London Suite
 210/222-9694

6-8
POTEET
 Atascosa Co Fair
 830/769-3228
 or 769-3066

7
BEEVILLE
 Parade
 512/358-3267

EAGLE PASS
 Veterans Parade
 830/773-2528

GEORGE WEST
 Storyfest
 512/449-2481

SAN ANTONIO
 Doll & Miniature
 Show
 210/696-5563

8
BIGFOOT
 Market Trail Day
 830/665-5054

9
SAN ANTONIO
 San Antonio
 Marathon
 210/246-9652

11
SAN ANTONIO
 Veterans Day
 Ceremonies
 210/675-1799

14
BEEVILLE
 Autumn Festival
 Dance
 512/358-3267

GOLIAD
 Market Day
 512/645-3563 or
 800/848-8674

14-15
MISSION
 90th Anniversary
 Celebration
 956/535-2727

SAN ANTONIO
 Artesanos
 del Pueblo
 210/922-3218

15
ATASCOSA
 Bull Riding
 210/622-9107

19
WESLACO
 Return to the Rio
 Winter Texan
 Extravaganza
 956/968-2102

19-22
SAN ANTONIO
 Mariachi Vargas
 Extravaganza
 210/225-3353

21
CHINA GROVE
 Craft Fair
 210/648-0505

COLUMBUS
*Daddy's Dgim'
 Who's Got the
 Will?*
 409/732-5135

GOLIAD
 Twilight
 Christmas Concert
 512/645-3405

SAN ANTONIO
 Santa's Arrival
 210/270-8700

21-22
SAN ANTONIO
 Arts & Crafts Show
 210/226-1177

26
LAREDO
 Guajalote
 10-K Run
 956/722-9015

27
SAN ANTONIO
 River Walk
 Parade & Lighting
 Ceremony
 210/227-4262

27-Dec 20
SAN ANTONIO
 Feria de
 Santa Cecilia &
 Fiestas Navidenas
 210/207-8600

Hill Country

1
KERRVILLE
 (began Oct 30)
 Fine Art Show
 830/895-2777

NEW BRAUNFELS
 (began Oct 31)
 International
 Walkfest
 830/625-6330

1-8
NEW BRAUNFELS
 (began Oct 30)
 Wurstfest
 830/625-9167 or
 800/221-4369

5-6
AUSTIN
 Austin Symphony
 512/476-6064

5-7
AUSTIN
 Arts & Crafts Show
 512/258-2787

6
BANDERA
 Hunters Barbecue
 & Outdoor Expo
 830/796-3045 or
 800/364-3833

6-8
PFLUGERVILLE
 Holidays at
 Heritage Park
 512/252-2821

7
AUSTIN
 Travis Co
 Extension
 Homemakers
 Bazaar
 512/473-9600

BARTLETT
 Market Day
 254/527-3933

BOERNE
 Bazaar
 210/698-1821

BRADY
 Bazaar
 915/597-2264

GEORGETOWN
 Bazaar
 512/863-6160

Wurstbraten
 512/863-3056

GOLDTHWAITE
 Arts & Crafts
 Festival
 915/648-3619

HONDO
 Hootenanny
 830/426-3438

KENDALIA
 VFD
 Mexican Supper
 830/336-2403

KERRVILLE
 Bazaar
 830/367-5121

OZONA
 Arts & Crafts Fair
 915/392-3737

WIMBERLEY
 Market Day
 512/847-8653
 or 847-2201

7-8
AUSTIN
 Bead & Jewelry
 Bazaar
 512/247-5616

10-K Walk
 512/495-6294

BOERNE
 Market Days
 830/249-8095

GEORGETOWN
 Wesley Fest
 512/863-2528

GRUENE
 Tour de Gruene
 830/625-2385

7-8
LLANO
 Highland Lakes
 Arts & Crafts Show
 915/247-5954

7-9
FREDERICKSBURG
 Die Künstler von
 Fredericksburg
 940/997-0874

7, 14
UTOPIA
 Arts & Crafts Fair
 830/966-3498

11
SAN MARCOS
 Veterans Day
 Parade
 512/393-5900

13-15
AUSTIN
 Gem & Mineral
 Show
 512/458-9546

Texas Book
 Festival
 512/477-4055

JOHNSON CITY
 Kid 'n Ewe
 Wool Market
 512/288-9845

13-16
AUSTIN
 Lyric Opera's
Otello
 512/472-5992 or
 800/316-7372

13-Jan 1
NEW BRAUNFELS
 Holiday
 River of Lights
 830/608-2100

14
CASTROVILLE
 Market Trail Day
 830/931-2331

GEORGETOWN
 Grand Ole Opry
 512/869-7469

Market Day
 512/930-5302

JOHNSON CITY
 Thanksgiving
 on the Frontier
 830/868-7128

KERRVILLE
 Dance
 Kaleidoscope
 830/896-KPAS

RIOMEDINA
 Market Trail Day
 210/538-2441

14-15
FREDERICKSBURG
 Antique Show
 940/995-2884 or
 830/995-3750




MARBLE FALLS
 Art Show & Bazaar
 830/693-7324

20-22 NEW BRAUNFELS Balloon Glowfest 830/625-2385 or 800/572-2626 Weihnachtsmarkt 830/629-1572	21 PFLUGERVILLE Pfall Pfest 512/251-5082 WIMBERLEY Celebration of the Arts 512/847-2201 or 847-8975	26-Jan 1 BOERNE Follow the Star Christmas Drive-Through 210/249-8000	27-Dec 31 FREDERICKSBURG Christmas Lighting Tour 940/997-6523 LLANO Courthouse Lighting/ Hill Country Tour 915/247-5354	28-29 NEW BRAUNFELS Arts & Crafts Show 830/698-0811 28-Jan 1 FREDERICKSBURG Christmas Lighting Tour 830/997-8515	1 ODESSA (began Oct 31) Harvest Fair 915/366-3541 or 337-5353	6-22 MIDLAND <i>Das Barbecu</i> 915/682-4111 7 FORT DAVIS Hanging of the Greens 915/426-3015 or 800/524-3015 FORT STOCKTON Health Fair 915/336-2241	15 EL PASO Barroco Andino 915/541-4481 20-21 EL PASO Eric Ruske, French Horn 915/523-3776 <i>Revolución</i> 915/591-5006	27 MIDLAND Tree Lighting & Caroling 915/683-2882 27-28 EL PASO Ballet Folklorico 915/857-0415
20-Jan 3 MARBLE FALLS Walkway of Lights 830/693-4449	21-22 GRUENE Old Gruene Market Days 830/629-6441	27 BLANCO Lighting of Old Courthouse Square 830/833-2201	27-Jan 1 JOHNSON CITY Lights Spectacular Hill Country Style 830/868-7684	29 SABINAL Country Jam Session 830/988-2761	6-7 FORT STOCKTON Living History Days 915/336-2400	FORT STOCKTON Health Fair 915/336-2241	21 FORT STOCKTON Arts & Crafts Fair 800/336-2166	27-Jan 3 MIDLAND Christmas at the Mansion 915/683-2882
21 AUSTIN Wild Turkey Regatta 512/244-9768	24 NEW BRAUNFELS Christmas Tree Lighting 830/609-3117	LLANO Santa's Big Night 915/247-5354	28 BIG LAKE Wild Game Supper 915/884-2649	28 TERLINGUA International Tolbert/Fowler Chili Cookoff 903/874-5601	7-8 ODESSA Brand New Opree 915/332-1586	7-8 MIDLAND Gem & Mineral Show 915/694-8609	21-22 MIDLAND Arts & Crafts Show 915/263-7690	28 EL PASO Symphony Guild Treble Clef Ball 915/532-3776
BLANCO Olde Blanco Market Day 830/833-2201	24-Jan 1 TAYLOR Christmas Lights at Heritage Square 512/365-8485	UVALDE City of Lights Night Parade 830/278-3361	MASON Arts & Crafts Show 915/347-6472	1 EL PASO (began Oct 30) <i>Diario de un Loco</i> 915/779-6986	6-8 EL PASO Ballet Folklorico 915/599-1803	7, 14, 21, 28 BALMORHEA Birding Tour 915/375-2370	ODESSA Tejano Low Rider Show 915/337-2189	FORT DAVIS Arts & Crafts Fair 800/524-3015
DEVINE The Chordsmen 830/665-4310	25 KERRVILLE Kerr Co Courthouse Christmas Lighting 830/792-2275	27-Dec 26 WIMBERLEY Christmas on the Square 512/847-2237	SAN SABA Christmas on the Square 915/372-5146	(began Oct 28) Disney on Ice 915/534-4229	ODESSA Merry Marketplace 915/332-0095	13-14 EL PASO Barbershop Concert 915/584-9382	26-28 LAJITAS Rockhound Rendezvous 817/453-4468 or 915/424-3471	28-29 ODESSA Ye Olde Christmas Fair 915/366-3541
HONDO Outdoor Fair 830/741-8337 or 426-3037			UVALDE Arts & Crafts Show 830/278-3361	FORT STOCKTON (began Oct 30) Chili Cookoff 915/336-3708 or 800/334-8525	6-8, 13-15 ODESSA <i>Two from Galilee</i> 915/332-1586	14 PECOS Bazaar 915/445-2406		
KERRVILLE Wild Game Dinner 830/367-4700								

**Big Bend
Country**

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Another Role for Rockefeller

Since its opening in 1981, the San Antonio Museum of Art has become home to some of the Southwest's finest collections of Greek and Roman antiquities, Asian art, European and American paintings, and now, artwork from Latin America. In 1985, Ann Rockefeller Roberts gifted the museum with some 2,500 pieces collected by her father, the late Nelson A. Rockefeller. The former Vice President of the United States and founder of New York's Museum of Primitive Art was an enthusiastic collector of Latin American folk art.

With the opening on October 24 of the San Antonio Museum of Art's 30,000-square-foot Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Latin American Art, the public can view Rockefeller's collection in its entirety for the first time, as well as Latin American collections donated by other museum benefactors.

In a new, three-story wing of limestone and brick that melds architecturally with the 1884 brewery building that houses the rest of the museum, the center has five main galleries, each of which presents a different aspect of the Latin American artistic experience. An Orientation Gallery uses computer and CD-ROM stations to provide visitors with an overview of Latin American culture; topographical, historical, and political maps; and images and descriptions of artwork found throughout the center.

The other four galleries, arranged thematically, include masks and other items found in the tombs of pre-Columbian kings; Spanish Colonial works; folk art ranging from toys to decorative items; and paintings by such 20th-Century masters as Diego Rivera and Rufino Tamayo, who often explored political themes and questions of personal identity. All in all, the galleries cover some 3,000 years, from 1000 B.C. to the present.

The Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Latin American Art, in the San Antonio Museum of Art, is at 200 W. Jones (78215). The museum opens Tue 10-9, Wed-Sat 10-5, and Sun noon-5. Admission: \$4, \$2 age 65 and older and students with ID, \$1.75 ages 4-11, free age 3 and younger. Admission is free for everyone Tue 3-9. Call 210/978-8100, or check the museum's Web site at www.samuseum.org.

Ghosts, Goblins, and Galveston

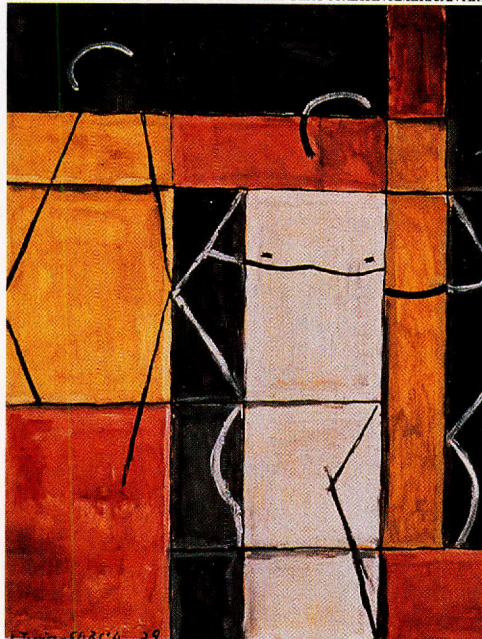
In one of Texas' oldest cities, where dozens of buildings boast creaky floors and historical markers, it's easy to get spooked—or thrilled—come All Hallows Eve. In a city as rich with history as Galveston, you *know* spirits are stirring.

So show 'em a good time. Don your best costume, and head for the first annual Ghosts of Galveston festival, to be held at Kempner Park on October 31 and November 1. Kids and adults alike can stuff scarecrows, carve jack-o'-lanterns, bob for apples, enjoy a craft show, and, above all, people-watch. Strolling entertainers, ghost-story tellers, and live music fill out the bill.

On Halloween night beginning at 8, adults can celebrate with a Ghosts of Galveston Costume Ball and Dinner at the 1880 Garten Verein Dancing Pavilion. Ghost stories will accompany your meal, then you can dance until 1 a.m. to live swing music. It's enough to lift anyone's spirits.

Admission to the festival (10-4 on Sat and 11-5 on Sun) costs \$2, \$1 age 12 and younger. Tickets to the dinner and ball

COURTESY NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN ART



Joaquín Torres-García's colorful *Dos Figuras* (1929) numbers among the thousands of works available for public viewing at the new Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Latin American Art in San Antonio.

1852, after London's Great Exhibition of 1851. Under the patronage of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, the exhibition had served as an international showcase for design and craftsmanship, and the royal couple hoped the museum would follow suit. Most museums of the time tailored their collections to appeal to aristocrats and scholars, but the Victoria and Albert Museum aimed to promote artistic excellence for working artisans and the general public. Museums would never be the same.

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, at 1001 Bissonnet, opens Tue-Sat 10-5 (Thu until 9), Sun 12:15-6. Tickets to *A Grand Design* cost \$10, \$9 age 65 and older, \$5 ages 6-18, free age 5 and younger. For information about tickets, write to Box 6826, Houston 77265-6826, call 713/639-7300, or visit the museum's Web site at www.mfah.org.

By the Way...

Perhaps best known for his colorful, nine-story mural on the south side of downtown San Antonio's Santa Rosa Children's Hospital, Jesse Treviño receives a showcase at

cost \$50 per couple, \$30 for individuals. Call the Galveston Island Convention and Visitors Bureau at 888/GAL-ISLE. Web site: www.galvestontourism.com.

A Grand Design

On October 18, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, shines light on one of the largest and most varied collections of art in the world. *A Grand Design: The Art of the Victoria and Albert Museum* presents some 250 treasures from London's Victoria and Albert Museum. From blue platform shoes dreamed up by contemporary British designer Vivienne Westwood to one of Leonardo da Vinci's visionary notebooks, the exhibit's paintings, sculptures, fashions, and other museum pieces span 2,000 years and represent many of the world's cultures. The show closes January 10.

The Victoria and Albert Museum was founded (with another name) in

Talk about walking tall! From post-modern garb to priceless antiquities, London's Victoria and Albert Museum has it all. A selection from the museum travels to Houston October 18.



COURTESY VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, LONDON

Harlingen's **Rio Grande Valley Museum** through November 1. **Jesse Treviño: Mi Mundo, Mi Vida, Mi Arte** includes 16 of the artist's trademark over-size paintings, in which the dignity and beauty of everyday people, places, and events always take center stage. Associate curator Andrew Connors of the National Museum of American Art at the Smithsonian has said, "It's hard to think of an artist more American than Jesse Treviño." Come see what he means....call 956/430-8500.

artists ranging from Eugène Delacroix to Jasper Johns offer a broad historical and artistic survey....call 512/471-7324.

If you're interested in Texana, Western Americana, and/or railroad history, make a point to visit Southern Methodist University's **DeGolyer Library** the next time you're in the Dallas area. From October 2 through December 4, the DeGolyer features **The Fur Trade in the American West**, an exhibit that explores the history of the post-Louisiana

Purchase fur trade, as revealed by rare books and photographs, vintage rifles and traps, Spanish silver, and Indian beadwork. Photos of mountain man-turned-Army scout Kit Carson, as well as lithographs by German explorer Karl Bodmer, help bring this period of expansion to life....call 214/768-3231.

On the weekend of October 17-18, the second annual **Open Door Arts Fest** kicks

off on the grounds of McLennan Community College in **Waco**. Dozens of artisans will sell their wares, demonstrate their skills, lead workshops, and lend helpful tips. Fest-goers can also enjoy (and participate in) a non-stop program of dance, theater, poetry readings, and music.... call 254/752-4371.

For 20-odd years now, retired *San Antonio Express-News* political cartoonist Bob Dale has been collecting antique coffins, as well as guns, Western paraphernalia, and undertakers' accouterments. Thus far, he keeps his collection private. On October 30-31, though, revelers on the **San Antonio River** for the city's annual Halloween and El Día de los Muertos celebrations can enjoy an inside look. Ten or so of Bob's

coffins will decorate river cruisers outfitted with other scary decorations as part of **Coffins on Parade**. The procession begins at 7 each night, starting from the Rivercenter Mall Lagoon....call 210/227-4262, and ask for "special events."

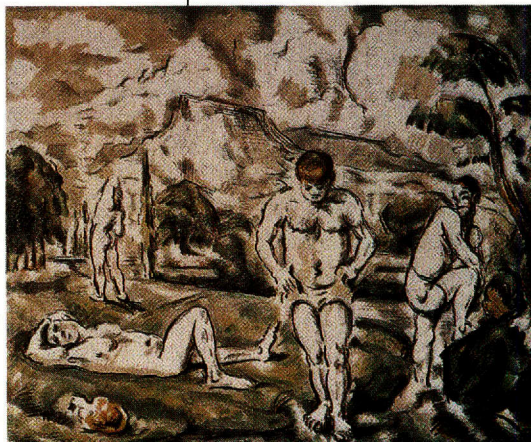
October is a wonderful time to visit the **Fort Worth Botanic Garden**, where 114 acres of lush foliage, fountains, a Japanese garden, and a conservatory

nourish plant life year round. On October 24-25, the garden throws its annual **Fall Festival** in the Japanese Garden. You can enjoy harpists, drummers, and dancers; participate in tea and sword ceremonies; cheer on sumo wrestlers; and admire the creations of Japanese gardeners. The annual meeting of the National Chrysanthemum Society takes place here this weekend, too, so you're sure to see vibrant swaths of prize-winning mums....call 817/871-7686.

It's been decades since folks flocked to **Mineral Wells** to take the waters, but for a half-century (between 1880 and 1930 or so), the town was the hottest cure-all destination this side of Hot Springs, Arkansas. On October 10-11, Mineral Wells remembers its history with the annual **Crazy Water Festival**. Participants can try the town's famed mineral water and enjoy an antique car show, a fun run, a dance, a health festival, and more....call 940/325-2337 or 800/252-6989.

Despite the drought this past summer, folks in **Greenville** still say cotton is king. On the grounds of the American Cotton Museum, the 14th annual **Cotton Jubilee**,

Visit our Web site at <http://www.texashighways.com>

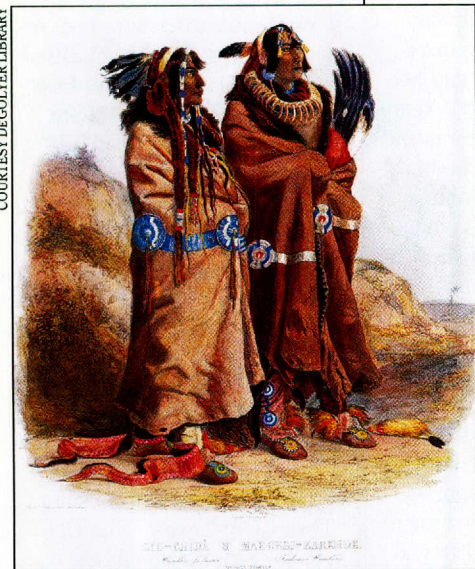


COURTESY JACK S. BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART

The art of lithography receives the spotlight at the Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art in Austin through October 18. See Cézanne's **The Large Bathers (1896-97)**, among other examples.

October 16-18, guarantees you'll have a ball. Visitors can enjoy a fashion show, displays of vintage clothing, and exhibits on the growing, processing, and use of the fluffy fiber. Also, arts and crafts booths, games, puppet shows, a health fair, fun runs and a bike rally (and even a bed race), food galore, and a stocked fishing aquarium promise excitement for all ages....call 903/455-1510.

In the 1930s and '40s, the Northeast Texas town of **Mineola** rose to prominence as a railroad hub. On October 10-11, Mineola pays homage to its railroading past during the annual **Iron Horse Days**, which features tours of antique cabooses and other train cars, displays of model trains and train memorabilia, a parade, motorcycle and antique-car shows, horseshoe tournaments, arts and crafts, live entertainment, and more. For kids, the festival offers a carnival with a petting zoo, an art area, and a treasure hunt....call 903/569-6944 or 800/MINEOLA.



This 1843 lithograph by Karl Bodmer, who spent two months with the Blackfoot Indians in 1833, is included in the rare-book collections at SMU's DeGolyer Library.

In 1798, German actor and playwright Alois Senefelder perfected a technique that allowed him to "draw on stone" and reproduce the design (text and musical scores in his case) in multiples. Lithography, as the technique came to be known, revolutionized the realm of artistic possibility. At the **Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art** on the campus of The University of Texas at Austin through October 18, **Lithography: The Modern Art and Its Traditions** celebrates the 200th anniversary of the invention. Some 180 works by

TEXCETERA brings you readers' tips and timely travel tidbits. Because we're unable to check out every item in "Readers Recommend," and because details can change, we encourage you to call ahead for more information. When we mention new places, products, or publications, we try to include only those with promise; keep in mind, however, that problems can occur with start-up businesses.

If you run across a noteworthy Lone Star attraction, restaurant, event, or product, we'd love to hear about it. Write to Readers Recommend, *Texas Highways*, Box 141009, Austin 78714-1009. Email: editors@texashighways.com. Remember that space constraints prevent us from running every suggestion we receive. We reserve the right to edit items.

READERS RECOMMEND...

We were in **Lubbock** this summer and came across a terrific and different burrito place just south of the Texas Tech campus called **Hub City Burrito**. Owner Mike Watkins served up the largest flour tortillas—it took at least two hands to handle them—filled with oversized stuffings and Southwest flavors.

David Thornhill, via email
Hub City Burrito is at 2102 Broadway in Lubbock; 806/741-1033. Mike Watkins says each burrito weighs in at one-and-a-half pounds.

I ran across a great gift idea. The **Texas Ornament Company** in **Houston** has glass Texas-shaped Christmas ornaments. They are hand-blown in Germany and made exclusively for the company. The ornaments—

they really look like Texas!—are individually gift boxed and come in red, gold, blue, and burgundy.

Beckie R. Bailey, Katy
You can purchase these ornaments (\$15.95 each) only through mail-order; for information, call 281/492-3423.

I recently attended an open house at a beautiful place in **Aquilla** called **Spring Lakes Inn and Ranch**. This quaint and secluded country inn has many great things to offer for both business and pleasure. There are several spring-fed lakes for fishing, a 9-hole golf course, and a game room with shuffleboard and a pool table. The inn has 12 beautifully decorated bedrooms, a private meeting room, and a restaurant. I especially enjoyed the evening breeze on the back-porch swing, watching

other guests play volleyball and throw washers.

Barbara Mashburn, Harker Heights, via email
Spring Lakes Inn and Ranch is 9 miles northwest of Waco off of FM 933. Reservations required; 254/826-4300.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

The **Museum of Southern History** (formerly the Confederate Museum) has moved from Richmond to **Sugar Land**. A library with rare and historical books, as well as displays of handguns from the Civil War, furnishings and clothing from the Antebellum period, and artifacts from Frank Terry's Texas Rangers, fills a portion of the new, expanded space. The museum's old Fort Bend County sharecropper's cabin also made the move. Write to 14070 Southwest Freeway, Sugar Land 77478; 281/269-7171.

In **San Antonio**, the new **Texas Highway Patrol Museum**, at 812 South Alamo Street, chronicles the history of our state troopers as well as their role today. The Hall of Honor commemorates the 73 highway patrolmen (including Texas Rangers) who have lost their lives in the line of duty. The museum's main mission is to teach children about public safety (simulators and hands-on exhibits are in the works). Write to 812 South Alamo Street, San Antonio 78205; 210/231-6030 or 800/795-THPA. Web site: www.thpa.org.

The wheels are spinning at **Lubbock's** new **American Wind Power Center**, one of the world's largest collections of windmills, according to executive director Coy Harris. As of this month, between 10 and 20 of the whirling wind machines should be up and running on the 28-acre grounds (at East Broadway and Canyon Lake Drive); another 45 (from the 19th Century) will be displayed inside. Eventually, the center will house hundreds

of working windmills. Write to Box 94014, Lubbock 79493; 806/747-8734. Call for hours.

FOND FAREWELL

Route 66 Antiques at **Landergin** (west of Amarillo) has **closed**. We featured the shop and its owner, the late George Rook, who died in May, in our September 1997 story on the Mother Road. George also graced the back cover of that special issue on nostalgia.

LONE STAR SONGS

Longtime subscribers may remember the songbook titled **Texas, Our Texas, and Other Favorite Songs of the Lone Star State**, featured in *For the Road* in March 1993. The collection of traditional Texas tunes, compiled by Jeanette Stearns Keim, is now available on CD. Produced by Fort Worth's Cowtown Opry and performed by the Cowtown Opry Cowboys, the recording includes Western Swing numbers like "San Antonio Rose," cowboy songs such as "Red River Valley," and, of course, the official state song, "Texas, Our Texas." The CD sells for \$15; the songbook costs \$13; and the songbook with CD is \$20. Look for both in Fort Worth's Stockyards, at the Ernest Tubb Record Shop. To order, send your request and a check to Cowtown Opry, Box 10344, Fort Worth 76114 (add \$4 per order for shipping). Call 817/366-9675 for information.

Down the Road

High notes for November include a trip to Texas operas and a spread on the state's best scenic destinations, as determined by our Readers' Choice poll. On the 35th anniversary of JFK's death, we'll remember him with a trip to Dallas' Sixth Floor Museum.

TX.DOT PHOTO LIBRARY



If images like this stir warm memories, then wheel over to Lubbock's new American Wind Power Center, which already houses one of the world's largest collections of the bladed beacons.

WINDOW ON TEXAS

© MICHAEL A. MURPHY



Late-afternoon sun casts a warm glow over two horseback riders exploring trails that meander through wooded fields in Harrison County near Marshall.

