

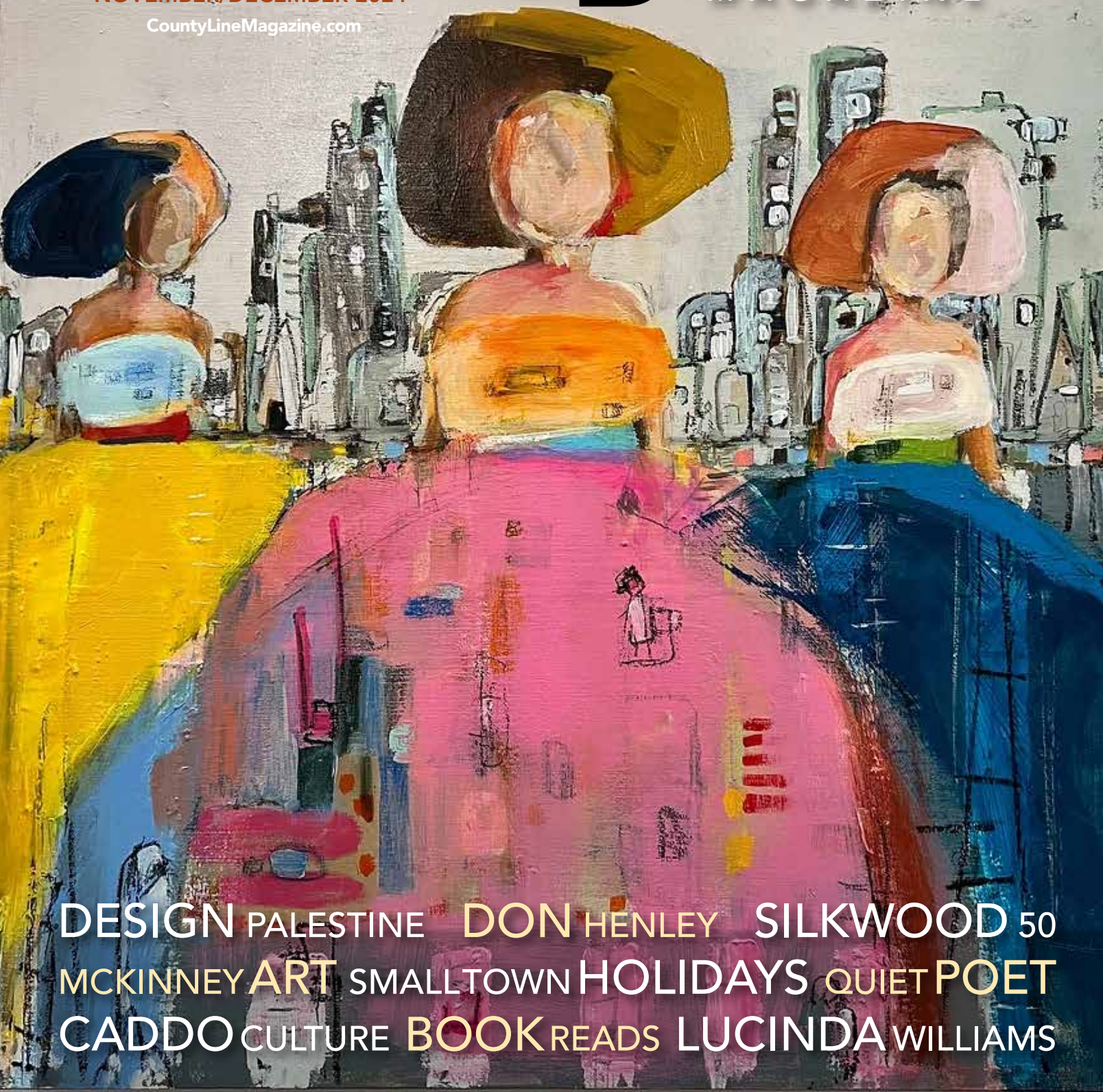
Upper East Side of Texas

county line

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

CountyLineMagazine.com

M A G A Z I N E



DESIGN PALESTINE DON HENLEY SILKWOOD 50
MCKINNEY ART SMALLTOWN HOLIDAYS QUIET POET
CADDO CULTURE BOOK READS LUCINDA WILLIAMS

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Dear Readers,

Here we are at the tail end of 2024 — what a ride!

I am most grateful for the good people, art, music, entertainment, and meaningful moments of this year that help balance the inevitable storms we must endure.

As Pablo Picasso is quoted, “The purpose of art is to cleanse our souls from the dust of everyday life.”

It sure does that for me.

The cover for this issue is “City Friends” by McKinney artist Odilia Iaccarino who is participating in the McKinney Art Studio Tour on November 9 and 10 along with more than 70 other artists. The painting reminds me of the relationship between town and country and why they need each other. We are all stronger economically and culturally when we shape our lives by shared experiences.

It's so refreshing to see the artworks by both city and rural people sitting side by side that may equally cleanse our souls. Those talents don't sit within a city limit or surrounding countryside, small town, or big town. Talent knows no boundaries.

Big cities have some advantages -- more cultural opportunities and diversity to name a couple of things. Rural towns generally have the advantage of nature and a slower pace. We can visit both areas from time to time to find needed inspiration.

Find art, music, books, and lots and lots of fun things to do in the Upper East Side of Texas as we enter the holiday season. We've selected just a handful to get you started filling in your calendars so you don't miss a moment of this magical time.

Also in this issue is an article about the art and architecture in Palestine, Texas. The town is second only to Galveston in the number of historic sites in the state.

Learn about Caddo Culture in an upcoming event and revisit the story of

Longview native Karen Silkwood who died 50 years ago in a suspicious car accident. The 1983 movie, *Silkwood*, about her life starring Meryl Streep, is now available to stream on Hulu for the first time.

I hope you've enjoyed the hundreds of fun things to do, interesting people, and pieces of art we've shared this year and that you heard tons of music in our region that helped erase any differences with others as you swayed to the same rhythm if only for a short while. And always keeping us real, are the poets.

I leave you with these words from one of Texas' most famous, Karle Wilson Baker. May the season's messages for peace surround us all. — P.A. Geddie

A Simple Song for America

Gather us to thy heart,

Lay us thy spirit bare:

Give us in thee our part,

O Mother young and fair!

Thou art so great, so great,

Thy children are so small,

We cannot guess thy state,

Nor compass thee at all.

Our spirits yearn and ache,

To forge, from these few years,

What soberer peoples make,

From centuries of tears:

Love, like a tempered sword,

Glittering forth at need!

We can but pray the Lord

Who knows nor church nor creed,

The Day-spring from above,

The Truth that maketh free:

Give us great hearts to love

A great land worthily!

CONTENTS



18



14



8



42



29

FEATURES

- 8 Small Town Holidays
- 14 McKinney Art Studio Tour
- 18 Palestine by Design

DEPARTMENTS

- 3 Editor's Note

LIFESTYLE & ENTERTAINMENT

- 29 Caddo Culture Day

LITERARY

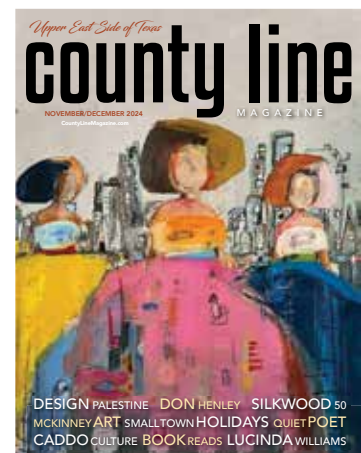
- 34 Bowery Book Club Picks
- 37 The Poet of Quiet Things

FILM

- 38 Silkwood: 50 Years Later

MUSIC

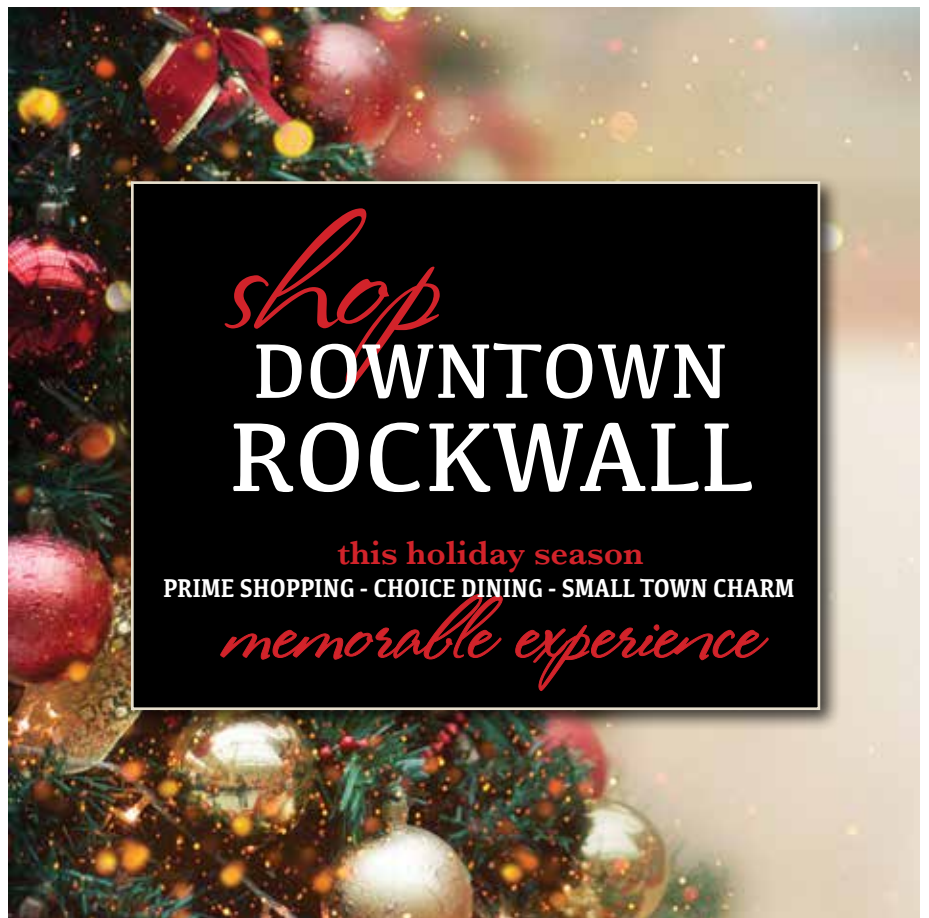
- 40 Lucinda Williams Sings The Beatles
- 42 Don Henley's Album Reissues



COVER: "City Friends," by Odilia Iaccarino

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Small Town Charm Illuminates the Holiday Season

Windows to Wonderland, Marshall, Texas by Nancy PASEL



A warm glow hangs in the air all over the Upper East Side of Texas this time of year as good cheer, nostalgia, compassion, and kindness take center stage. Community organizers explore new ways each year to share the magic of the holidays while keeping honored traditions close at heart. Here are a few ideas for making sweet memories in the final weeks of 2024.

Sulphur Springs

Located just off Interstate 30 between Dallas and Texarkana, Sulphur Springs is a great weekend destination year-round and a magical setting during the holidays. The town has something going on every Saturday in its Celebration District, from shopping and dining to family-friendly events.

See *White Christmas* November 22-

24 by Shining Star Productions at the Sulphur Springs ISD Auditorium.

On Thanksgiving morning, November 28, join others in a Kid's Run, 5K, and 10K at the **14th Annual Hopkins County Turkey Trot** in Sulphur Springs.

The Heritage Park & Museum in Sulphur Springs is hosting **Christmas in the Park** from 5-9 p.m. on November 30 and December 7. The village is decorated with natural greenery as well as lighted Christmas trees along the center of the park. The park serves a variety of punches and cookies and marshmallows are roasted over an open hearth in a log house. Carolers and ensembles perform.

At 7 p.m. December 6 is the 18th annual **Sulphur Springs Lighted Christmas Parade**.

On December 7, the **Christmas Market on Main Street** takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a mix of vendors and downtown shops offering unique gifts and local crafts.

See *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by the Community Players at Main Street Theater in Sulphur Springs December 5-8 and 12-15.

For more ideas to spend time in Sulphur Springs visit their tourism website.

Greenville

Greenville is a colorful town full of surprises. Its attention on entertainment and the arts is clear at every turn. The downtown area has a dynamic public art program that includes galleries, sculptures, interactive installations, and many big, beautiful murals created by local and vis-

iting artists. Several venues feature shows weekly and special events are embraced by the whole town.

Bob Wills Fiddle Festival & Contest takes place November 1 and 2 honoring the life and music of Bob Wills with fiddling contest, concerts, dance, and more. At the Greenville Municipal Auditorium (GMA) on November 2, see **Gary P. Nunn, Bob Wills Texas Playboys, and Pauline Reese.**

Greenville Theatre Works features **Arse-nic & Old Lace** on November 8 - 10 and 15-17 at GMA.

The **Bellamy Brothers** take center stage at GMA on November 21.

December at GMA kicks off with **Sacred Christmas Sing Along** at 3 p.m. on December 1. Guests are invited to join the Greenville Harmony Chorus and Greenville Community Band as they feature excerpts from Handel's *Messiah*. Admission is free but donations are accepted.

The **Greenville Christmas Parade**

of Lights 2024 takes place at 6 p.m. December 6.

Season of Lights is presented at 7 p.m. December 13 and 14 at GMA with holiday music performed by the Greenville Harmony Chorus.

December 14 and 21 features a **Park Street Christmas**, celebrating an old fashioned Christmas with horse drawn buggy rides down beautiful historic Park Street. Holiday beverages and goodies in the parking lot of Park Street Baptist Church are available and special holiday entertainment. Many of the homes on Park Street are decked out with lights and the sidewalks are lit with luminaries.

Also on December 14 is **Greenville's Holiday Market** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Market Square with holiday cheer, unique gifts, and delicious seasonal treats. Guests enjoy browsing through a variety of handcrafted goods from local artisans and vendors including beautiful ornaments, cozy winter wear, or sweet treats while enjoying music, warm beverages, and holiday treats.

Asleep at the Wheel is in town for two concerts December 20 and 21 at GMA.

Mount Vernon

This small-town treasure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The downtown plaza is often the location for special events throughout the year and is located on the Bankhead Highway — one of the nation's earliest transcontinental roads going from Washington D.C. to San Diego — visitors quickly notice the many historic homes and carefully preserved buildings. Housed in a 1940 structure, the Fire Station Museum features permanent and changing exhibits, including one about its famous native son, Dallas Cowboys quarterback, sports commentator, and actor Don Meredith. The Bankhead Highway Visitors Center is in the restored home of the tallest Civil War soldier.

The town is home to **Mount Vernon Music Association** with a performance hall located in a refurbished for-

continued page 10

Día de los Muertos, Nacogdoches. COURTESY PHOTO



SMALL TOWN *cont from page 9*

mer church at 402 Leftwich Street. Led by founders Mark and Ute Miller, a talented group of musicians bring refined music through concerts and outreach programs in Mount Vernon, Dallas, Tyler, and throughout Northeast Texas.

Mount Vernon Music Association presents **Smiles Included** from 2:30-4:30 November 24 at the performance hall promising music to warm hearts by Mark Miller and Andres Bravo, violins; Ute Miller, viola; and Laura Ospina, cello. Visit their website for tickets and more information.

Longview

Longview is celebrating in Vintage Christmas style this year in remembrance of all things Norman Rockwell to Rudolph to 1920s Americana charm. Some of the highlights visitors find in “The View” include a dazzling drive through **Carmela’s Magical Santa Land**, shopping markets, entertainment, and a Holiday Art Walk among many other opportunities for fun.

On November 9, **Sara Evans** performs at 7 p.m. at the Belcher Center as part of her *Unbroke Tour*. The multi-platinum

entertainer is the fifth most-played female artist in country radio in nearly the last two decades — she’s notched more than 20 top 15 singles, including her five No. 1 singles “No Place That Far,” “A Real Fine Place To Start,” “Born to Fly,” and “Suds In The Bucket & A Little Bit Stronger,” both which spent two weeks in the top spot and were certified platinum.

Singer songwriter **Pierce Pettis** is in concert at 6:30 p.m. November 16 at the Longview Museum of Art (LMFA). Now in two locations, the museum is showcasing several events through the end of the year including George Rodrigue: Painting for Myself, Cultural Connect, and Glimpsing Through and Komorebi Scattered Light.

The **Nutcracker! Magical Christmas Ballet** kicks off the holiday season in Longview on November 21 and 22 at the Belcher Center with an international all-star cast. The 2024 tour unveils reimagined scenes crafted by acclaimed choreographer Viktor Davydiuk blending classical ballet with jaw-dropping acrobatics, larger than life puppets, and stunning hand-crafted sets and costumes. Share the tradition of pure holiday magic and Tchaikovsky’s timeless score with friends and family of all ages.

Christmas in the Pineywoods takes place November 21-23 with a three days of shopping at Maude Cobb convention center. This event features more than 80 specialty boutiques and merchants from all over the state and country showcasing season decorations, housewares, artwork, gourmet foods, gifts and so much more.

Another **Christmas Market** takes place on November 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in a multi-block collaborative event in The Junction District on East Methvin Street.

Other activities that Saturday, November 23 include the **Downtown Longview Christmas Tree Lighting** from 4-7 p.m. The lighting of the 23.5-foot Christmas tree at Heritage Plaza is an annual tradition featuring pictures with Santa, music, carriage rides, petting zoo, Ollie’s Faux Snow Hill, food trucks, and vendors.

On November 29 find **“Get Lit” Holiday Pop-Up** from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Methvin Event Venue in Longview where vendors from East Texas share their crafts, jewelry, snacks, cotton candy, clothing, and more. They’ll have a hot chocolate bar, gift wrapping, music, and door prizes.





In December, the **Downtown Longview Christmas Parade** takes place December 5 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. that includes marching bands, floats, and an appearance by Santa.

The Longview Symphony Orchestra presents **Home for the Holidays** from 7-8:30 p.m. on December 6 featuring favorite carols and carolers.

On December 7, see **Living History Christmas** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Gregg County Historical Museum. It's a free day at the museum with exhibits coming to life. Guests begin the journey with a greeting and learning about the Kilgore Rangerettes, then hear a tale from "Bill Dalton" of the infamous Dalton Gang and see a 1930s oil field worker. Visitors experience authentic Caddo Indian face painting and learn to crochet in the Victorian Parlor as well as see a working blacksmith.

December 12 features **ArtWalk** and the **Longview Museum of Fine Arts Market** in the Arts Longview Cultural District. The self-guided tour features downtown business venues exhibiting and selling art.

The ArtsView Children's Theatre pres-

ents an exhilarating challenge with its annual **24 Hour Musical** at 7 p.m. on December 14 at the Belcher Center. The night before, a cast of eager performers will gather and be locked in, only then to discover which musical they will perform. With the clock ticking, they have exactly 24 hours to learn their lines, music, and choreography. The culmination of their hard work and dedication is showcased in a public performance the following day. Adding to the excitement, the audience is kept in suspense, as the title of the musical remains a secret until the overture begins. This unique event promises a thrilling and unpredictable theatrical experience, both for the performers and their audience.

Terrell

Terrell Downtown Historic District keeps the charm of yesteryear with vintage lighting, wide brick sidewalks, and updated historic buildings. Unique storefronts are repurposed for retail, restaurants, offices, lofts, museums, and specialty services.

Visitors find an endless array of impressive historic businesses and homes with distinctive architectural features, opulent interior designs, and exquisite landscap-

ing. Beyond history, downtown Terrell offers many attractions and activities. A state-of-the-art performance center presents world-class entertainment. Other things to do in Terrell include bowling, arcades, movies, country music dancing, beautiful parks, and museums. Plenty of unique shops are downtown and at the nearby outlet mall.

The British are coming to Terrell on November 9 for the annual **British Bash** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Downtown Terrell transforms into a British Christmas Market with music, entertainment, shopping, food, adult beverages, and fun. Terrell has a long and storied history with England and the British people dating back to World War II.

Jessie Dowel, His Majesty's Deputy Consul General in Houston kicks off the celebration featuring local shops, arts and crafts vendors, food, mini Cooper car show, Children's Entrepreneur Market, and live music by Hard Night's Day, a Beatles tribute band.

On December 7, the Social Science Club of Terrell is holding a **Christmas Tour**

continued page 12

SMALL TOWN *cont from page 11*

of Homes from 2-7 p.m. Guests enjoy beautifully decorated homes in historic Terrell.

Terrell's Christmas Tree Lighting takes place at 6 p.m. on December 13 and at 10 a.m. December 14 is their **Christmas Parade** with the theme "A Dickens Christmas." After the parade features activities for all ages and the **Holly Jolly Downtown Party** at Rockwall Street and Moore Avenue.

Edgewood

The 47th annual **Edgewood Heritage Festival** takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. November 9 at the outdoor Heritage Park Museum of East Texas in downtown Edgewood. In a backdrop of 19th century buildings, the festival celebrates regional heritage with an artisan village, classic cars, antique tractors, model train, blacksmithing, print shop, barber shop, bake sale, jams and jellies, and live music.

Henderson

Also on November 9 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. is the **Heritage Syrup Festival** in Henderson. Ribbon cane syrup making takes center stage with other activities including folk art and sawmill demonstrations, carousel rides, antique tractors, storytelling, live music, square dancing, pony rides, chili cook-off, and children's section. Henderson. Depot Museum, Downtown Square.

Nacogdoches

Dia de los Muertos kicks off November celebrations from 4-8 p.m. November 2 in Heritage Plaza in downtown Nacogdoches. Guests enjoy a fiesta atmosphere with music, dance, food, drinks, and artisans.

Holiday in the Pines takes place November 21-23 at the Nacogdoches County Exposition & Civic Center. The three-day event features a vendor market with holiday treats, boutique shopping, raffles, and more.

Wassail Fest is November 30 where visitors enjoy tasting delicious spiced wassail while shopping with participating merchants in downtown Nacogdoches.

The **Nine Flags Christmas Parade** takes place December 7 with holiday displays in shop windows and luminous light displays. This year's theme is Home for the Holidays honoring veterans and remembering those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

On December 14 is the **Christmas Tour of Homes** from 1-5 p.m.

And **An Old Fashioned Christmas** takes place at Millard's Crossing Historic Village from 3-9 p.m. featuring carolers, Santa photo ops, a petting zoo, hayrides, tree lighting, face painting, car show hot cocoa bars, food, and "A Christmas Carol" production by Lamp-Lite Theatre.

Marshall

Wonderland of Lights in Marshall is a magical site with millions of white lights and activities that include an outdoor ice-skating rink, vintage carousel, train, and a collection of tiny houses making up Santa's village with the backdrop of the 1901 historic Harrison County Courthouse. Activities take place Thursdays-Sundays November 27 through December 29.

Shows take place throughout the year at Memorial City Hall Performance Center (MCH) in Marshall. On November 2 **Deana Carter** performs and **John Conlee** is there on November 9. MCH presents **Pirate School: The Science of Pirates** as part of its School-Time Series of educational programming for kids from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on November 15.

In December, MCH shows the classic Christmas movie, **It's a Wonderful Life** from 7-9 p.m. December 5 followed by the **Dallas String Quartet** at 7:30 p.m. on December 6. The international music sensation referred to as "Bach meets Bon Jovi" and compared to artists like Lindsey Stirling, Vitamin String Quartet, Brooklyn Duo and 2Cellos. They use both traditional and electric strings performing as a quartet with the full accompaniment of drums and guitar and are known for their eclectic renditions of everything from Guns N' Roses "Sweet Child O' Mine" to Taylor Swift's "Anti-Hero" to their collaboration, "You Are The Reason," with The Piano Guys. DSQ has performed for

Presidents Obama and Bush, with superstars like Ed Sheeran, Luke Combs and Ashley McBryde, and at the Academy of Country Music Awards. Tickets are \$46-\$56 and available on the MCH website.

The Marshall Ballet Theatre presents its annual production of **The Nutcracker** December 13-15 at MCH.

MCH rounds out the year with the movie **Home Alone** at 3:30 p.m. December 22.

Winnsboro

Nestled among lakes and forest-filled country backroads, Winnsboro's focus on the arts and history garners it a seat at the table with much larger towns as an official Texas Cultural District. With a very active art center anchoring the community, guests find creativity at every turn.

Winnsboro's activities taking place this time of year includes the **Winnsboro Art & Wine Festival** happening November 1-2 downtown with talented artists and winemakers sharing their creative gifts.

A **Dia de Muertos Art Exhibition** also takes place during the festival on Market Street.

Christmas in the Park is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on November 9 at the civic center. The Farmers' Winter Market is also that day.

A **Christmas Wreath Workshop** is from 10 a.m. to noon at November 16 at Winnsboro Center for the Arts and the art center presents **Walt Wilkins** in concert at 7:30 p.m. November 30.

The **Winnsboro Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting** takes place from 6-8 p.m. on December 12.

Scrooge the Musical, directed by Dr. John A. Price, has matinee and evening performances December 13-15 and 20-22 at Winnsboro Center for the Arts.

A **Country Christmas Market** is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. December 21 at the Farmers' Market Pavilions.

The Winnsboro Center for the Arts features art exhibitions including **Cowboy Tales** through November 23



and **Poetic Vision** from November 27 through January 20 and a concert by Adler & Hearne at 2:30 p.m. December 31.

Palestine

A Texan Top Travel Destination, Palestine flourishes with holiday cheer throughout the town. Home to the Texas State Railroad, visitors enjoy nostalgic excursions through scenic woods and continue their explorations in an authentic community filled with friendly small-town hospitality.

Palestine's downtown district is 44 blocks, including Old Town and the Courthouse Square featuring beautiful architecture, shopping adventures and an outstanding array of holiday activities.

"Unwrap a Small Town Christmas" is the theme this year as twinkling lights adorn the city and numerous events and activities promise enchanting holiday experiences.

The **Polar Express Train Ride** takes place in November and December bringing to life a train journey to the North Pole. Families and friends show up in pajamas and relive the magic of the tale

with hot chocolate, narration, and Santa and his elves.

Visit the **Grinch's Lair at the Texas Jailhouse** on select dates in November and December where the grumpy and endearing character learns the joy of giving back during interactive, live productions.

Christmas on Main features a full day of holiday festivities on December 7 including an open house in the Palestine Carnegie Library, Holiday Brunch at the Queen Street Grille, Christmas Farmers' Market, Art Walk, Parade of Lights, Santa, Christmas Movie in the Park, and Walk of Lights.

A Walk Through Bethlehem on December 13-15 in Montalba is an immersive experience that starts with a hay ride followed by a stroll through the lively streets with live animals and local Bethlehem vendors.

The **Railroad Heritage Center** is open from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. November 15 through December 28.

Dogwood Garden Club's **13th Annual Festival of Trees** displays decorated trees at the Carnegie Library and Pales-

tine Visitor Center from November 21 through January 2, 2025.

Walk of Lights is a self-guided, lighted wonderland featuring hot chocolate and festive vendors with holiday gifts and treats. Takes place on select dates in November and December.

A Very Merry Christmas at the Redlands Hotel invites visitors into the magic of this downtown destination from November 15 to December 31. Guests find the beautifully decorated lobby as well as rooms throughout with plenty of photo opportunities. Special activities include the Grinch's Library, a fun hotel scavenger hunt, and visits with Santa Claus and his Toy Soldier.

A Seussified Christmas Carol is performed at the Historic Texas Theatre December 13-15.

The Dogwood Jamboree — A Christmas Celebration is a Branson-style country music show at 7 p.m. December 14 at the Palestine High School Auditorium.

Go to the Visit Palestine website to find many other opportunities to experience the joys of the holiday.



"Peek A Boo Giraffe," by Kim Guthrie

McKinney Art Studio Tour Scheduled

McKinney Art Studio Tour (MAST) is a free, self-guided tour with 75 artists participating in 28 locations across McKinney on November 9-10. Mediums include paintings, paper art, photography, pottery/ceramics, print-making, art dolls, digital art, fiber art, jewelry, leather, milliner, sculpture,

weaving, mosaic, and mixed media. Numerous participants are Juried Artists of Distinction who have achieved a commendable level of professionalism, marked by originality in their work and dedication to the growth of the arts in McKinney.

MAST is a program of the Arts and Music Guild, a 501c3 nonprofit organization funded in part by a grant from the McKinney Arts Commission. Studios are open Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. A tour map and information on each artist is available on mastmckinney.org.



"She's in the Driver's Seat" by Jeni Tomlinson



"Broken Moon," by Daniele Jones



"Emerging," by Madhupriya Srinivasan

Architects and Artists Design Palestine, Texas



By P.A. Geddie

First time visitors to Palestine, Texas, are often surprised by the intriguing architecture, art sculptures, and murals found at every turn. Second only to Galveston in the number of historic sites in the state, Palestine has more than 1,800 noteworthy sites including buildings, homes, monuments, churches, cemeteries, and museums.

The town's active visitor center has a lengthy list of tours and other things to do sure to please anyone interested in architecture and visual arts. Guests can follow detailed descriptions on their website or download an app for self-guided driving and walking tours.

Anderson County Courthouse

The Anderson County Courthouse was built of brick and limestone in the Classical Revival style and completed

in 1914 for \$150,000. It appears to be square, but this is an optical illusion. The east and west faces are longer. It features Beaux-Arts architecture with a double-spiral staircase and a beautiful stained glass montage in the dome as well as a special beautiful design in the marble basement floor. It underwent restoration in 1986 and is a National Historical Landmark.

Bralys Ace Hardware

Named the "Coolest Store on the Planet" by Ace Hardware in 2014, Bralys is family owned and operated in the old Rusk Elementary school building. The family — in business since 1932 — moved their store to this location after careful renovations in 2013. They kept the old feel of the school house, preserving the historical character of the building. Each classroom was turned into a department. The principal, vice principal, and the nurse's

Historic Texas Theatre in Downtown Palestine, Texas (above). Art sculptures like this one by Jeffie Brewer adorn the downtown streets. COURTESY PHOTOS

offices became the store offices. The Bralys chose an older movie-style sign to hang on the outside of the building.

Other preservation efforts including using as much of what was in the school house as possible. Chalkboards were cut down to make aisle signs, easels, and other signage throughout the store. Teachers' supply cabinets display products through the store and lockers, in original condition, house rain gear and other items for sale.

The school's old cafeteria serves as the back-stock area while the former stage serves as the "man cave" showcasing

continued page 12





PALESTINE DESIGN *cont from page 18*

sporting good items.

Historic Churches

About 30 churches in Palestine have earned Texas State Historical markers that outline their formations in the 1800s or so and contributions to the city. One of the most frequently visited locations is the Sacred Heart Catholic Church located downtown on North Queen Street. Built in 1893 from bricks moulded and baked on site, the church is now more than 130 years old. Architect Nicholas J. Clayton designed the church in the Victorian Gothic style.

Decorative features include stained glass from Italy and France, a painted interior dome resembling Noah's ark, and a Pilcher pipe organ. The interior features

plastered walls and fixtures built of oak, pine, and marble.

The church was a key structure in Palestine's history, providing a place of worship, ceremony, and celebration for the town's working class immigrants. It still plays a vibrant role in the community and offers daily services in English and Spanish, which are free and open to the public.

Historic Homes with Markers

The Visit Palestine website notes 11 historic homes with state historic markers commemorating stories of original owners, history, and architecture. The John Starr House for instance was built in 1848 for Starr and his wife Susannah who was the aunt of famed Indian captive Cynthia Ann Park. Another popular home is what some call the

Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Downtown Palestine, Texas (above). PHOTO BY P.A. GEDDIE. Steamboat house (opposite page, top) is one of many examples of beautiful architecture in Palestine. PHOTO BY P.A. GEDDIE. The Palestine Carnegie Library. COURTESY PHOTO

"Steamboat House." Located at 412 South Royall Street — near many other historic homes — it features sloped mansard roofs, dormer windows, and octagonal pavilions making it a rare example of French Second Empire architecture. The home was built for merchant, pioneer, and local banker Nathaniel Royster Royall and his wife Annie Richardson, and much of its stylings were likely inspired by homes Royall saw in Galveston. Remarkably,

continued page 22





PALESTINE DESIGN *cont from page 21*

the home is still in the Royall family to this day.

Historic Downtown Walking Tour

Twelve historic buildings are well documented in the downtown area including the Texas Theatre, the Carnegie Library, and Redlands Hotel.

The Texas theater opened in 1917 for the purpose of Vaudeville performances before becoming a movie theater in 1923. The current structure is a prime example of Spanish colonial architecture and was designed as an atmospheric movie palace. In its earliest days, it had an organ which played background music for silent movies.

The Texas Theatre is now home of Palestine Community Theatre troupe presenting live performances throughout the year including *Guy's and Dolls*, *Harvey*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Clue: The Musical* and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*.

The Palestine Carnegie Library was recently renovated and is one of only five Carnegie buildings that serves as a public library in Texas. Carnegie libraries

were built with donations from Andrew Carnegie, a New York industrialist and philanthropist, between 1886 and 1919. Carnegie believed that education was a way to improve people's lives, and libraries were one of the main tools he used to help Americans.

In March of 1915, The Redlands Hotel opened in Palestine with fanfare and excitement as the finest Texas hotel outside Galveston. The building features tile floors by Italian artisans, a magnificent stained glass skylight, a spacious outdoor balcony, and an ornate dining room.

The Redlands entertained guests and gatherings for just four years before the International & Great Northern Railway purchased it to house the company's headquarters from 1919 until 1956, when the company moved to a new building at 300 Bowers Street, owned today by Union Pacific Railroad.

The former office building sat vacant until 1976, when investors purchased it and began a 35-year process of restoring its original purpose as the region's prime hotel. Today, The Redlands Hotel is a destination all its own with attractive suites for a few days and extended stays. On site is the Queen St. Grille for fine

dining, a bar, a gift shop, and an art gallery. .

Historic Northside Driving Tour

Historical buildings in the Northside Driving Tour include 43 stops, most of them renovated homes. It also includes the Texas Jailhouse and sites in Old Town Palestine.

The Howard House at 1011 North Perry was built in 1851 for George and Cornelia Howard. It is a classic example of a center passage dwelling with Greek Revival style features. Colonel George Robert Howard (1818-1900) was a North Carolina native and arrived in Palestine in 1848 and moved into this house in 1851 following his marriage to Cornelia Ann Cox (1829-1909). After purchasing the house, the couple made several small additions to the house and applied the architectural detailing that is classic for a Greek Revival vernacular house. Colonel Howard held several elected offices including county treasurer, county clerk, district clerk, representative to the Texas Legislature and mayor of Palestine. After his death in 1900, his son Thomas Howard (1870-1927) and his wife Gertrude Pugh Howard moved into the dwelling. Thomas was a manager for



the *Houston Chronicle*. After her husband's death in 1927, "Miss Gertie" continued as the principal of the Alamo School for many years. After her death in the 1960's the house was sold to the city and operates as a historical museum.

The Texas Jailhouse was built in 1931 in Art Deco style and served as the county jail for almost 55 years. Today the historic facility is home to events as the Haunted Little Jail in October and the Grinch's Lair during November and December.

Located in Old Town Palestine is the Shelton Gin Company with a two-story industrial sheet metal building built in 1920. It formerly housed a cotton gin which operated into the 1940s. The Shelton Gin is now a bar and night club. It sits among other quaint businesses in this vibrant little popular historic district including unique boutiques, the Oxbow Pie Company, and Pint & Barrel Drafthouse.

Historic Southside Driving Tour

This tour featured 61 stops including Reagan Park, numerous renovated homes, and the site of the Dilley Foundry built in 1873.

Reagan Park is named for Palestine

resident John Henninger Reagan (1818-1905). He was a Texas pioneer, Postmaster General of the Confederacy, first chairman of the Texas Railroad commission, a U.S. Senator and the principal author of the Interstate Commerce bill.

The statue of John H. Reagan in the southeast corner of the park, was sculpted by Italian-Texas artist Pompeo Coppini in 1908, and cast in Rome, Italy. Reagan was called "The Old Roman." The monument, considered one of Coppini's best works, was dedicated in the park on July 6, 1911.

The monument is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It features Reagan standing in front of a chair with his arm thrown outward in an oratorical pose. Seated below him and deep in thought is a Roman soldier who symbolizes the "Lost Cause of the Confederacy."

Reagan encouraged the people of Texas to recognize the war's outcome, emancipation and suffrage of their former slaves and the terms of the federal government. This act of sacrificing his personal popularity for the good of the people of Texas acquired him the honored nickname. An inscription

on the statue reads "The Old Roman's highest ambition was to do his full duty; consciousness of having done it was his ample reward."

The remains of G.M. Dilley & Sons Foundry is at 801 May Street. It originally included more than 10 buildings. The foundry manufactured gray iron castings for Texas railroads. Raw pig iron was shipped to the foundry from India, Rotterdam, and Birmingham. The Dilley's ceased plant operation in 1945. The Victorian frame office building and brick brass furnace building are all that are left standing, along with the iron fence fronting the property. After the foundry closed, renowned local artist Ancel E. Nunn utilized this location for his workspace. The Bright and Early Coffee mural is located at this site.

Black History & Heritage Tour

History and untold stories of former enslaved African Americans and their descendents is depicted in this tour with 15 stops including McKnight Plaza, which was an incubator for Black entrepreneurial spirit in the early part of the century. The plaza was located downtown in the heart of New Town where the First National Bank Building

continued page 25





PALESTINE DESIGN *cont from page 23*

now stands on Avenue A and Spring Street. The social and business center for the Black community, the two story brick building held all-Black businesses, and was anchored by the Farmers and Citizens Savings Bank organized in 1906 by Henry L. Price, born a slave. The bank operated under the umbrella of the Royall National Bank until 1926, when the building was razed. Three physicians had offices here. Other known businesses were two cab companies, a millinery shop, a dry goods store, an insurance agents, an undertaker, Mo-Pac Colored Booster Club, a dentist and barber shop. Close by on Avenue A was the Tatum Café. The Ritz Theater on Main Street, allowed Black people to sit in the balcony.

Art Sculptures & Murals

The historical and architectural aspects of Palestine are balanced well with colorful art seen along the downtown streets. Art Tracks, a juried exhibit, features a dozen or so outdoor sculptures.

Also throughout the city are 28 murals depicting the town's history and fun signs of today.

Artist Diego Baracaldo designed the "History of Palestine" mural on the *Herald Press* building to depict a chronological sequence for the development of the City of Palestine, Texas, since its founding in 1846. The sequence is meant to read from right to left. The main idea circles around the city's most important aspect and the cause of its rapid growth: transportation. The first panel shows navigation through the Trinity River and the Anderson County Courthouse. The second panel depicts early settlers and railroad workers.

The wall is divided by the popular dogwood blooms creating a rest in the composition. Third panel points to the cultural aspect of Palestine with the Texas Theater and the beautiful Victorian architecture. Baracaldo chose the Lucas-Davey Home because Martin A. Davey, one of its owners, discovered several oil fields in the region which why

The Anderson County Courthouse (opposite) and the spiral staircase inside (above). COURTESY PHOTOS

there are several oil derricks behind the house. Finally, the fourth panel depicts the spinal cord of Palestine, the Texas State Railroad. The steam locomotive joins the Lone Star to represent the State's flag while the woman on her horse gallops towards her bright future.

Diego Baracaldo used an impressionist style, meaning the use of shapes and colors to represent realism. The colors are vivid and bleed into each other allowing for the eyes to blend them. All colors and shapes are arranged so the design can be appreciated better from a distance and at the same time be a pleasant backdrop for visitors' pictures.

Palestine offers a variety of dining, shopping, lodging, and other things to do throughout the year to round out a fulfilling destination experience. Go to VisitPalestine.com for more details.

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United Way of Grayson County
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literacy@unitedwaygrayson.org
PO Box 1112, Sherman, TX 75091

HUNT COUNTY

United Way of Hunt County
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info@unitedwayofhuntcounty.org
PO Box 224, Greenville, TX 75403

DELTA COUNTY

Friends of the Delta County Public Library
Contact: Lisa Carter, (903) 395-4575
deltacountylibrary@gmail.com
300 W Dallas Ave, Cooper, TX 75432

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Contact: Dr. Evan Dolive, (903) 758-0191
edolive@longviewunitedway.org
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MARION COUNTY

The Rotary Club of Jefferson TX
Contact: Toni Woods, (903) 407-2231
tonilwoods@aol.com
PO Box 5, Jefferson, TX 75657

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Mission Marshall
Contact: Misty Scott, (903) 472-4944
mscott@missionmarshall.org
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Westminster Presbyterian Church
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imaginationlibraryWPC@gmail.com
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New Summerfield Education Foundation
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cmck126@gmail.com
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wendy.byrd@co.rains.tx.us
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RUSK COUNTY

Little Ones Literacy Program
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brian.ballard49@gmail.com
PO Box 1762, Henderson, TX 75653

SULPHUR SPRINGS

Sulphur Springs Independent School District
Contact: Amanda Ridner, (903) 885-4576
aridner@ssisd.net
600 Calvert St, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

WOOD COUNTY

Pilot Club of Quitman
Contact: Susan Ukleja, (903) 243-9384
quitmanpilot@gmail.com
PO Box 1265, Quitman, TX 75783

Winnsboro Center for the Arts

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Celebration Scheduled for Caddo Culture

Caddo Culture Day takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. November 2 at Caddo Mounds State Historic Site, Alto, Texas.

In celebration of Caddo history and contemporary culture the event offers entertainment for the whole family. Activities include traditional cooking, story-telling, cultural demonstrations, Caddo artist and vendor booths, cultural demonstrations, and ancestral technology.

Cameras are permitted and lawn chairs and/or blankets are encouraged.

Guests are expected to observe rules of etiquette including not touching a Native American dancer's regalia without asking permission and respecting the personal space of dancers.

Caddo Mounds SHS is located six miles west of Alto, and approximately 30 minutes from Lufkin, Nacogdoches, Jacksonville, and Crockett, Texas. More than 1,200 years ago, a group of ancestral Caddo built a village and ceremonial center here. The alluvial prairie possessed ideal qualities for the establishment of a village and ceremonial center: good sandy loam soil for agriculture, abundant natural food resources in the surrounding forest, and a permanent water source of springs that flowed into the nearby Neches River.

From here, the Caddo influenced life in the region for approximately 500 years. They drew local native groups into economic and social dependence through trade and a sophisticated ceremonial/political system. They traded with other native groups in Central Texas and as far away as present-day Illinois and Florida. Caddo Mounds' sphere of influence was only a small portion of the broader Caddo cultural landscape encompassing northeast Texas, northwest Louisiana, western Arkansas, and eastern Oklahoma. The Caddo culture, in turn, had trade connections, and perhaps religious and political ties, with similar cultures farther east in the Mississippi Valley, South in Mexico and beyond.

The settlement at Caddo Mounds flourished until the 13th century, when the site was vacated. Archeologists observe that the prominent cultural leaders moved away from Caddo Mounds after a decrease in their regional influence, as outlying hamlets and trade groups became self-sufficient and grew less dependent on the cultural center in religious and political matters. There is no evidence that war played a major role at Caddo Mounds, either in the maintenance of local influence or as a cause of abandonment. The Caddo culture that remained in the area was like the earlier culture in

many ways, but varied in practices of ceremonialism and material wealth.

The Hasinai Caddo groups continued to live through the 1830s in their traditional East Texas homeland in the Neches and Angelina River valleys, but by the early 1840s, all Caddo groups had been forced to move to the Brazos River area as a result of Anglo-American oppressive measures and colonization efforts. They remained there until the U.S. government placed them on the Brazos Indian Reservation in 1855, and then in 1859 the Caddo (about 1,050 people) were forced to flee to the Washita River in Indian Territory, now western Oklahoma.

The Caddo continue to live in western Oklahoma, primarily near the Caddo Nation Headquarters outside Binger, Oklahoma. They visit the land of their ancestors in East Texas and the three earthen mounds, still considered sacred to Caddo people, that rise from the lush Piney Woods landscape and help educate on how the Caddo lived on the land through exhibits and programs.

Admission to Caddo Culture Day is free, but donations to the Friends of Caddo Mounds, Inc. are appreciated. Call (936) 858-3218 for directions or additional information and visit their website.



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WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN TEXAS



NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

FOR-PROFIT & NON-PROFIT ARTS & CULTURE SECTORS REPRESENT

4.31% Nation's GDP **5.2 M** Jobs



\$1.102 TRILLION Arts & Culture



\$920.5 B Transportation



\$438.2 B Utilities

The national arts and culture sector was a **\$1.102 trillion industry** in **2022** (**4.31%** of the nation's GDP), representing **5.2 million jobs** (**3.28%** of nation's workforce), and total compensation of **\$540.9 billion**.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts (2024). Data collected for 2022.

TEXAS ARTS FACTS

FOR-PROFIT & NON-PROFIT ARTS & CULTURE SECTORS REPRESENT

2.47% State's GDP **383,066** Jobs



\$59.3 BILLION Arts & Culture



\$93.6 B Transportation



\$41.4 B Utilities

The Texas arts and culture sector was a **\$59.3 billion industry** in **2022** (**2.47%** of the state's GDP), representing **383,066 jobs** (**2.76%** of Texas' workforce), and total compensation of **\$30.2 billion**.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (2024). Data collected for 2022.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS & CULTURE INDUSTRY AND AUDIENCES

National

\$151.7 B Economic activity annually

2.6 M Jobs supported by economic activity

In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **\$29.1 billion** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

88.5% of audiences agreed with the statement "This arts activity/venue is inspiring a sense of pride in this neighborhood or community"

87% of audiences agreed with the statement "My attendance is my way of ensuring that this activity/venue is preserved for future generations"

Source: Americans for the Arts, 2023. Arts & Economic Prosperity 6.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS & CULTURE INDUSTRY AND AUDIENCES

Regional Snapshot: Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA, TX

\$1.5 B Economic activity annually

25,174 Jobs supported by economic activity

In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **\$313.5 million** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

89.4% of audiences agreed with the statement "This arts activity/venue is inspiring a sense of pride in this neighborhood or community"

87.3% of audiences agreed with the statement "My attendance is my way of ensuring that this activity/venue is preserved for future generations"

Source: Americans for the Arts (2023). Arts & Economic Prosperity 6. 2022 data collected for the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA, TX.

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Federal Appropriation FY24 **\$207 Million**

Congress allocated **\$207 million** to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in **FY24**. This amounts to just **62 cents per capita**. Ideally, Congress should index \$1 per capita funding to the NEA.

Source: Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2024.

PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR TEXAS ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY24 **\$14,309,718**

NEA State Grant FY24 **\$1,372,000**

119 NEA Direct Grants FY23 **\$4,443,250**

Source: Texas Commission on the Arts & NEA, 2024

3/6/2024

TEXAS ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

IN THE LONESTAR STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US



The **Texas Touring Arts Program** serves the nation's largest rural population with outstanding Texas-based companies and artists in their own communities.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

was established by the Texas Legislature in 1965 to advance the state economically and culturally by investing in a creative Texas. By providing resources to enhance economic development, arts education, cultural tourism, and artist sustainability initiatives, the Texas Commission on the Arts supports a diverse and innovative arts community statewide.

Executive Director: Gary Gibbs

Chair: Dale Brock



[Learn more here.](#)

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

Arts and Culture Texas is a state-wide magazine focused on the contemporary visual and performing arts across Texas.

Texans for the Arts

Texas Cultural Trust

Texas Music Educators Association

Texas Folklife

Texas Association for Symphony

Orchestras

Art Spark Texas

Texas Hotel & Lodging Association

Texas Dance Educators Association

Texas Educational Theatre Association

Texas Downtown Association

Texas Association of Museums

Humanities Texas

Theatre Network of Texas

Texas Creative Placemaking Initiative

TEXANS FOR THE ARTS is a highly effective, non-partisan statewide arts advocacy organization whose mission is to secure, protect and grow the public investment in the arts and to advocate for the development and implementation of public policy that supports a strong and vibrant arts and cultural industry.

Executive Director: Ann S. Graham

Chair: Fiona Bond



TEXANS FOR THE ARTS

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Music Friendly Communities

Corsicana, Denison, Dallas, Lindale, Linden, Lufkin, Nacogdoches, McKinney, Waxahachie, Frisco, Tyler, and Chandler. In process are Carthage, Texarkana, Sherman, Rockwall, Crockett, and Kilgore.

Programs for Rural Communities

Texas has the nation's largest rural population, with more than 3.8 million rural residents. Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) recognizes that arts and cultural activity is thriving all across the state. They also know there are challenges in getting their services to rural communities. TCA has opportunities designed to serve these communities and are interested in ways to better serve rural Texans.

Texas Touring Roster

The Texas Commission on the Arts has accepted and is promoting 139 Texas artists and arts companies for the TCA Texas Touring Roster for 2024-2026. The Texas Touring Roster features some of the state's best artistic talent and is designed to ensure that all Texans may enjoy events and performances by these artists in their local communities. They represent artistic disciplines including music, visual art, dance, theater, storytelling, literary art and folk art.

As of 2/6/2023



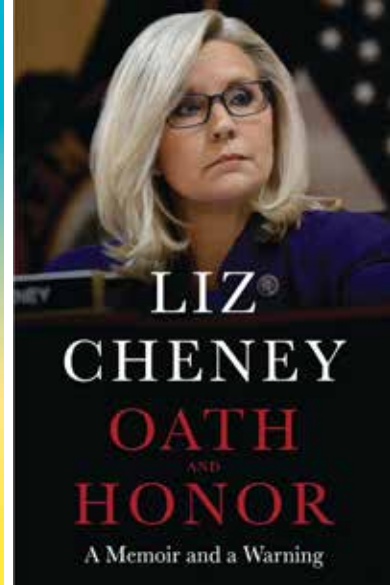
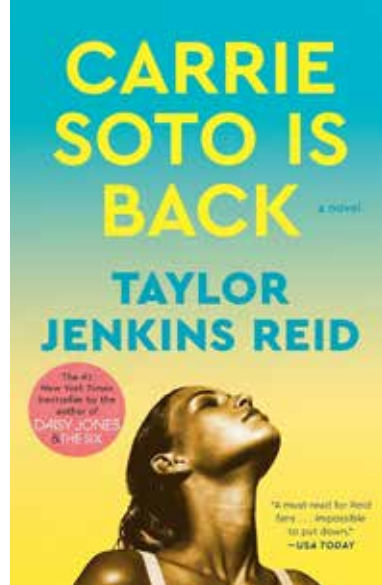
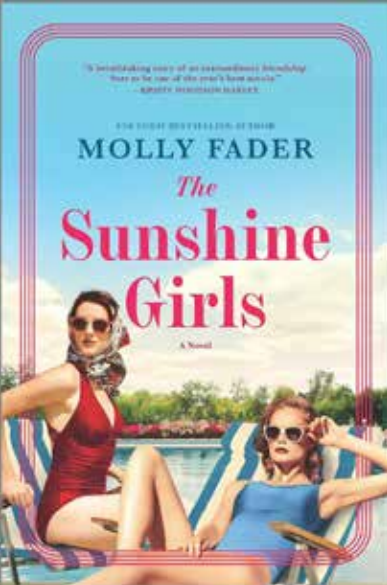
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Bowery Book Club 2024 Recommended Reads

The Bowery Book Club formed in 2007 in Winnsboro, Texas. The all-women group with 30+ members meet once a month for lively conversations about fun and meaningful stories. Here are their 2024 collective recommendations for good reads.

A Woman of No Importance by Sonia Purnell

An Echo in Time by Boo Walker

An Unfinished Love Story: A Personal History of the 1960s by Doris Kearns Goodwin

Black Cross by Greg Iles

Book Lovers by Emily Henry

Braiding Sweet Grass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and The Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Brooklyn by Colm Toibin

Button Man by Andrew Gross

Carrie Soto is Back by Taylor Jenkins Reid

Caste by Isabel Wilkerson

Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese

Cradles of the Reich by Jennifer Coburn

Dinners with Ruth by Nina Totenberg

Erasure by Percival Everett

Guncle Abroad by Steven Rowley

If Cats Disappeared from the World by Genki Kawamura

Imminent: Inside the Pentagon's Hunt for UFOs by Luis Elizondo

It Ends with Us by Colleen Hoover

Just One Damn Thing After Another: The Chronicles of St. Mary's, Book One by Jodi Taylor

Labyrinth by Mark Sullivan

Lily and the Octopus by Steven Rowley

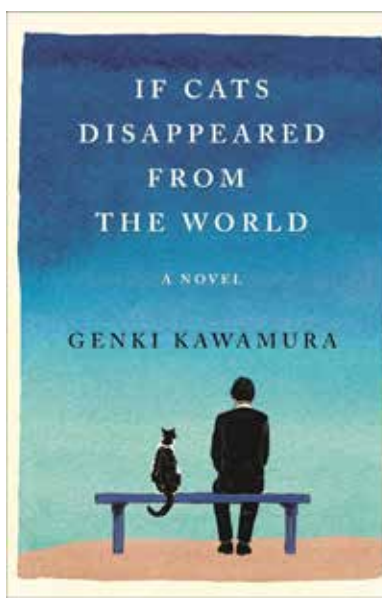
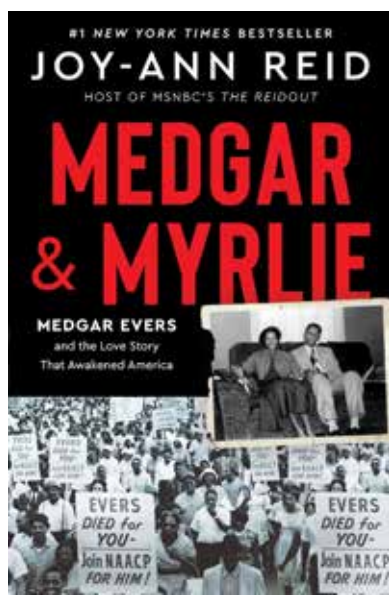
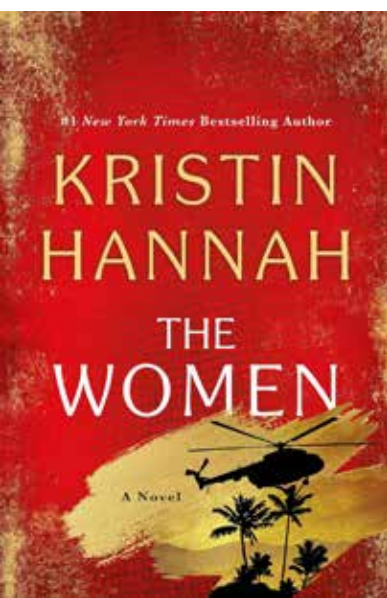
Local Woman Missing by Mary Kubica

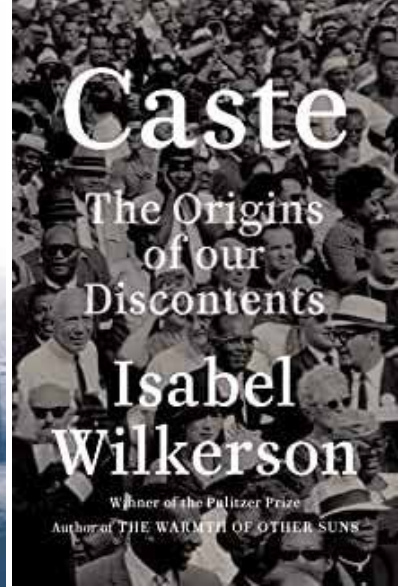
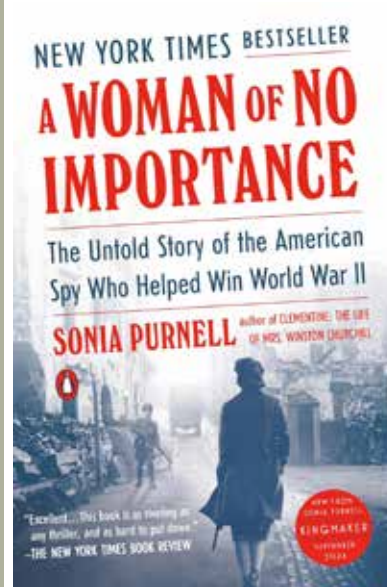
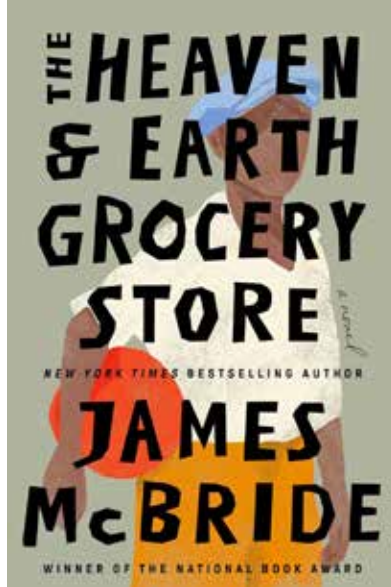
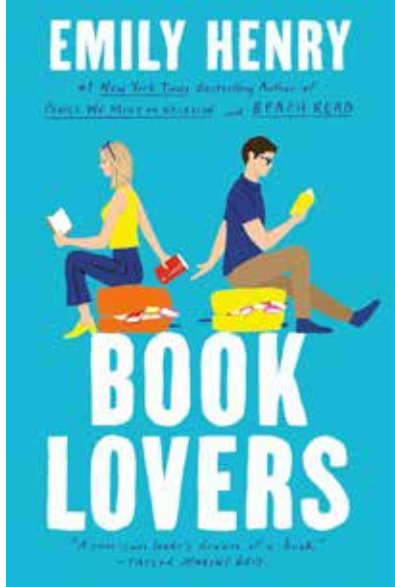
Long Island by Colm Toibin

Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books by Kristen Miller

March by Geraldine Brooks

Medgar and Myrlie: Medgar Evers and the Love Story that Awakened America by Joy-Ann Reid





My Beloved Monster by Caleb Carr

Never Tell by Selena Montgomery

None of This is True by Lisa Jewell

Oath & Honor by Liz Cheney

Remarkably Bright Creatures
by Shelby Van Pelt

Run Baby Run by Melissa Lenhardt

Summers Sisters by Judy Blume

Surviving Savannah by Patti Callahan

The Briar Club by Kate Quinn

The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride
by Joe Siple

The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon

The Gift of Rain by Tang Eng

The Guest List by Lucy Foley

The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by
James McBride

The House of Hidden Meaning by RuPaul

The Incident of the Coconut Cake
by Amy Reichert

The Judge's List by John Grisham

The King of Diamonds by Rena Pederson

The Last Letter by Karen Baum Gordon

The Librarian Spy by Madeline Martin

The London Séance Society by Sarah Penner

The Measure by Nikki Erlick

The Observer by Robert Lanza
and Nancy Kress

The Reformatory by Tananarive Due

The Resistance by Anita Shreve

The River of Doubt by Candice Millard

The Rules of Magic by Alice Hoffman

The Spy who Went Dancing by Aline Griffith

The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry
by Gabrielle Zevin

The Sunshine Girls by Molly Fader

The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See

The Which Way Tree by Elizabeth Crook

The Whispering Room by Dean Koontz

The Women by Kristen Hannah

True Grit by Charles Portis

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Verity by Colleen Hoover

West With Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge

Weyward by Amelia Hart

Yellow Face by R. F. Kuang

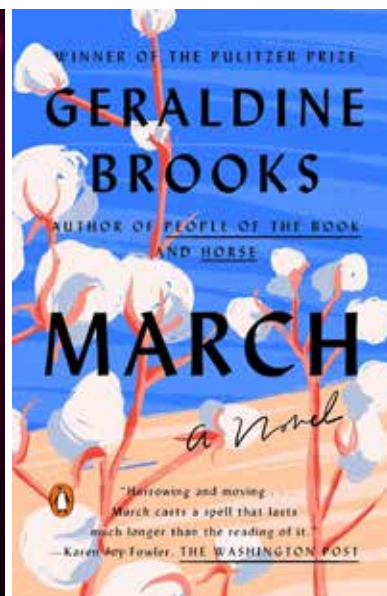
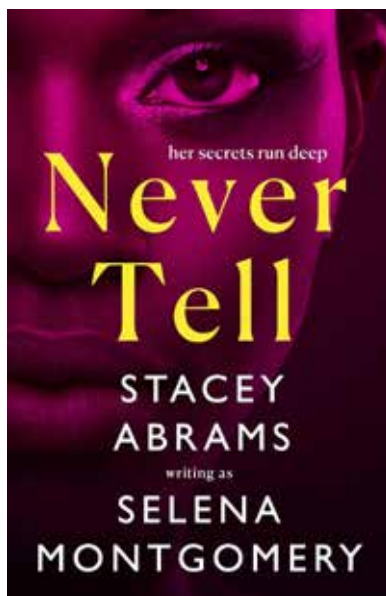
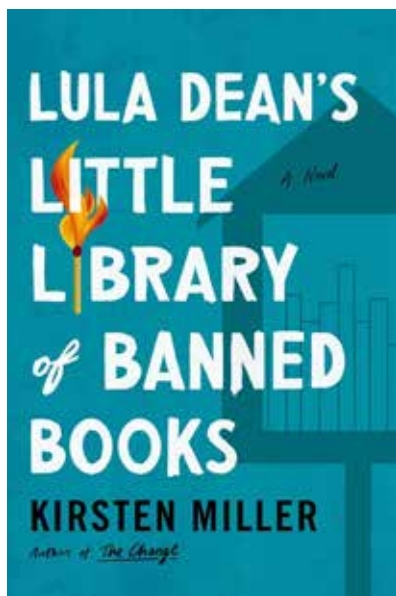




PHOTO BY WENDY FLOYD

The Poet of Quiet Things

Karle Wilson Baker — A Celebrated Texas Poet

In the early and mid-20th century, Nacogdoches was the home of a notable poet, writer and woman of letters. Karle Wilson, daughter of William and Kate (Montgomery) Wilson, was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, in October 1878. Her parents moved to Nacogdoches by 1900, and after attending college and teaching, Karle moved to Nacogdoches in 1905.

In August 1907, she married local banker Thomas E. Baker, and the couple had two children.

Karle Wilson Baker first published in 1903 with a poem in *Harper's* magazine. In the 1910s, she became the most frequently published poet in the *Yale Review*. Yale University Press published her first collections of poems, *Blue Smoke and Burning Bush*, and *Old Coins*, a book of fables. These publications established her national reputation.

In 1924, the *Dallas News* labeled Baker “The Poet of Quiet Things,” and Southern Methodist University awarded her an honorary doctorate of letters.

Karle showed versatility, writing poems, essays and novels. The State Textbook Commission adopted her children's history reader, *The Texas Flag Primer*.

Her 1931 collection of poems, *Dreamers on Horseback*, was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. Two of her successful historical novels, *Family Style* (1937) and *Star of the Wilderness* (1942), were set in East Texas.

When the State Board of Regents dedicated Stephen F. Austin State Teachers College on April 30, 1924, Karle read two poems, “Within the Alamo” and “The Pine Tree Hymn,” and the latter became the college's first school song. She began teaching at the college in 1924 and taught there 10 years. Stephen F. Austin State University houses the majority of her papers.

In 1958 Karle was designated an honorary vice president of the Poetry Society of Texas, of which she was a charter member. She had served in



1938–39 as president of the Texas Institute of Letters, of which she was a charter member and the first woman fellow. Still other recognition was given her by the Authors League of America, the Philosophical Society of Texas, and the Poetry Society of America.

Karle wrote in her diary that “writing my poems is seldom more laborious than skimming the cream from my thoughts. It just needs time and quiet to rise.”

Author Sarah Ragland Jackson wrote a biography on Karle called *Texas Woman of Letters* in 2005 describing her as a remarkable Texas poet whose important contributions to Texas literature were overshadowed by her male contemporaries. The book gives readers more of an insight into her challenge to make her way into the mainly male-dominated literary world of that time.

A statue honors Karle Wilson Baker on the west side of Mound Street in Nacogdoches where her former home was located. She died at the age of 82 on November 9, 1960, and is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery in Nacogdoches.

Let Me Grow Lovely

Let me grow lovely, growing old —
So many fine things do:
Laces, and ivory, and gold,
And silks need not be new;
And there is healing in old trees,
Old streets a glamour hold;
Why may not I, as well as these,
Grow lovely, growing old?

I Shall Be Loved As Quiet Things

I shall be loved as quiet things
Are loved — white pigeons in the sun,
Curled yellow leaves that whisper down
One after one;

The silver reticence of smoke
That tells no secret of its birth
Among the fiery agonies
That turn the earth;

Cloud-islands; reaching arms of trees;
The frayed and eager little moon
That strays unheeded through a high
Blue afternoon.

The thunder of my heart must go
Under the muffling of the dust —
As my gray dress has guarded it
The grasses must;

For it has hammered loud enough,
Clamored enough, when all is said:
Only its quiet part shall live
When I am dead.

Days

Some days my thoughts are just cocoons
— all cold, and dull and blind,
They hang from dripping branches in
the grey woods of my mind;

And other days they drift and shine —
such free and flying things!
I find the gold-dust in my hair,
left by their brushing wings.



MERYL STREEP KURT RUSSELL CHER

SILKWOOD

A MIKE NICHOLS FILM

SILKWOOD: 50 Years Later



By P.A. Geddie

Longview native and whistle blower Karen Silkwood died in a car crash on November 13, 1974. She was on her way to meet investigative reporter David Burnham to discuss unsafe practices at a nuclear power plant.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of her suspicious death.

Silkwood gained national attention after voicing concerns of health and safety issues at the Kerr-McGee nuclear facility in Crescent, Oklahoma. Her life was the subject of a motion picture titled *Silkwood*, released in 1983.

Meryl Streep portrays Silkwood in the movie with a supportive cast that includes Kurt Russell and Cher.

Until recently, the movie was only viewable on a rare physical copy. In honor of the 50th anniversary of her death it is now streaming on Hulu.

Michael Meadows is one of Silkwood's three children. He is keeping his mother's story alive on a Facebook page and fought for the movie to be available for people to see, although he admits the film is just a piece of the story.

"(Her death) wasn't the end of the story," he says. "The plant shut down. The people who worked at the plant have gotten ill and passed. So, there's so much more that happened."

In April 2014, Anadarko Petroleum Cor-

poration that then owned Kerr-McGee agreed on a settlement of \$5.15 billion, the largest pollution cleanup settlement in history, to clean up their toxic waste pollution at sites all over the country. Two percent of that settlement was to go to the Crescent plant, where soil and groundwater are polluted with uranium.

Silkwood was the first to draw national attention on the health violations by Kerr-McGee. She became the first Kerr-McGee female employee to hold a position on the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers' Union's negotiating team.

Noting that he has little to no memory of his mother in an interview with *County Line Magazine* in 2014, Meadows said there is one thing that he thinks would be of surprise to people that follow her story.

"Mom wasn't an activist of any kind. She wasn't anti-nuke or anything like that. In fact, she loved all things science related," Meadows said. "I believe she did what she did not because she was anti-nuclear energy, but because she knew the way things were being handled and the danger her coworkers were being exposed to, among other things, was wrong. Plain and simple."

Silkwood ultimately testified to the Atomic Energy Commission on those safety hazards. Her voice was heard and sparked the interest of many, including David Burnham of the *New York Times*.

In agreement to reveal her findings on

the safety of her workplace to Burnham, Silkwood left a union meeting at the Hub Café in Crescent to meet the reporter and union official Steve Wodka in Oklahoma City.

Silkwood never joined the two. Her body was found in her 1974 Honda Civic, which struck a culvert. Officials deemed the situation a one-car accident as a result of falling asleep at the wheel and many disagree with that determination.

Reports indicate that there was a dent in the rear bumper of Silkwood's vehicle that showed metal and rubber fragments, indicating that another car rammed into it. Silkwood's documents she was taking to Burnham were missing from the vehicle, which stirs strong speculation.

"Having only the information that I have read over the years to draw from, I personally believe that mom's death was a murder," Meadows said. "It is my opinion that whoever forced her off the road was trying to scare her, or even trying to convince her to surrender the documents she was carrying, and then the worst possible outcome that could have occurred, just happened."

David Burnham passed away just weeks before the 50th anniversary of the fateful night. On October 1, at the age of 91, he passed away after choking during a meal.

Search *Silkwood* on Hulu to watch the movie and follow Karen G Silkwood on Facebook for discussion and continued interest in this story.



Lucinda Williams Sings The Beatles From Abbey Road

Three-time Grammy Award winning artist Lucinda Williams has announced the December 6 release of *Lucinda Williams Sings The Beatles From Abbey Road*. Recorded at The Beatles legendary studio in London, the new collection serves as Vol. 7 of her celebrated *Lu's Jukebox* series and is the first new volume in almost four years. Listen to Williams' entrancing version of "While My Guitar Gently Weeps."

Lucinda Williams Sings The Beatles From Abbey Road features 12 Beatles songs that include classic hits such as "Can't Buy Me Love," "With A Little Help From My Friends," and "Something." Williams and her band also take on beloved deeper tracks such as "I'm So Tired," "I've Got A Feeling," and "Yer Blues." Being raised on the blues in the South, the latter is a song Williams was clearly meant to sing. See the full track listing below.

While many great artists have recorded in the hallowed Abbey Road Studios, as it turns out, Williams is the first major artist to actually record Beatles' songs there — aside from the Fab Four themselves.

As an acclaimed, award-winning singer/songwriter for more than four decades, Williams' music has been highly influential and covered by a multitude of artists. Williams is also an extraordinary interpreter who, like all great interpreters, has the ability to inhabit a song and make it her own. She does just that throughout this selection of Beatles tracks, as she has done on each *Lu's Jukebox* volume.

Lu's Jukebox originally began during the pandemic in 2020 as a way to help independent music venues when there were no live performances. Scheduled as a six-episode series of mostly full-band, HD video performances in-studio, the series featured themed sets of cover songs curated by Williams and streamed for a fee with proceeds going to designated venues. The series became a fan favorite and each has been released on vinyl, CD and on streaming services. The original six in *Lu's Jukebox* are: Vol 1, *Runnin' Down A Dream (A Tribute To Tom Petty)*; Vol 2, *Southern Soul: From Memphis To Muscle Shoals & More*; Vol 3, *Bob's Back Pages: A Night Of Bob Dylan Songs*; Vol 4, *Funny How Time Slips Away: A Night Of '60's Country Classics*; Vol 5, *Lucinda Williams –*

Have Yourself A Rockin' Little Christmas; and Vol 6, *It's Only Rock And Roll: A Tribute To The Rolling Stones*. You can find them all at LucindaWilliams.com.

Lucinda Williams Sings The Beatles From Abbey Road is an inspirational example of an artist who, at 71 years old and following a stroke in 2020, continues to write, perform and find new ways to fuel her creative fire that continues to burn as brightly as ever.

Lucinda Williams Sings The Beatles From Abbey Road Track List

Don't Let Me Down
I'm Looking Through You
Can't Buy Me Love
Rain
While My Guitar Gently Weeps
Let It Be
Yer Blues
I've Got A Feeling
I'm So Tired
Something
With A Little Help From My Friends
The Long And Winding Road



Growin' Up Holiday EP Released

A new compilation EP features Jordin Sparks, Walk Off the Earth, Jaden Michaels, and Waxahachie natives Smithfield.

Grown' Up Holiday, a festive compilation featuring some of today's hottest artists, was released by Platoon a few weeks ago. The family-friendly EP includes Grammy-nominated superstar Jordin Sparks, Multi-platinum Walk Off the Earth, country duo Smithfield and singer/songwriter Jaden Michaels, who also executive produced the project.

The four-track EP is an extension of Platoon's ongoing family-friendly music series that began with *Growin' Up Country Vol. 1 & 2*.

"I am so excited to expand the 'Growin' Up' collection and release our first ever holiday project," Michaels said. "There's nothing quite as magical as the holiday season when you're a kid, so I wanted to capture that child-like magic with *Growin' Up Holiday*."

“It was an easy ‘yes’ to join this project when I heard the song ‘S-N-O-W,” Sparks said. “It’s such a fun song and catchy song. And as a parent, I loved the idea of being a part of kids’ holiday wonder and memories as they grow.”

Country duo SmithField is composed of lifelong friends Jenn Fielder and Trey Smith of Waxahachie, Texas. They sing “Hey Rudolph” on the EP. Earlier this year, they released their debut album, *Country With Heart*. Read more about them in the County Line eMagazine.

The multi-award-winning and GRAMMY nominated label Platoon was founded by music industry legend and CEO Denzyl Feigelson in 2016. Platoon landed its first success shortly after their inception when they signed the then-unknown Billie Eilish, laying the groundwork for her ascent to global stardom. Their visionary spaces in London, Los Angeles and Africa boast recording studios and also provide inspiring ecosystems for artists to openly collaborate, have access to educational classes, and find guidance across music and marketing.





Rhino Reissues Don Henley Solo Albums

As the Eagles' acclaimed Sphere residency continues in Las Vegas, Nevada, Rhino is reissuing two of Don Henley's solo albums this fall — his first, *I Can't Stand Still* (1982), and his most recent, *Cass County* (2015).

Both albums are releasing on November 22, with pre-orders available now at donhenley.com and Rhino.com. *I Can't Stand Still* was remastered from the original analog tapes and is available on CD, 180-gram vinyl LP, and digitally. *Cass County* is available as a deluxe, 16-track version on CD and as a double 180-gram vinyl set.

When the Eagles were on hiatus, Henley released his first solo album in 1982, the gold-certified *I Can't Stand Still*. The record included the smash hit "Dirty Laundry," a sharp critique of the media that launched his solo career and established his voice as a singer-songwriter.

More than 30 years later, Henley returned to his country roots with *Cass County*. Named after the Texas county where he grew up, the album features collaborations with legends Vince Gill, Merle Haggard, Mick Jagger, Alison Krauss, Martina McBride, Dolly Parton, Jamey Johnson, Lee Ann Womack, Molly Felder, Ashley Monroe, Lucinda Williams, and Trisha Yearwood. *Cass County* debuted at #1 on the Billboard Top Country Albums chart, earning praise for its authenticity and heartfelt songwriting.

Best known as co-founder of the legendary rock band the Eagles, as well as an influential solo artist, Don Henley has maintained an extraordinary commitment to music and various philanthropic efforts throughout his career, including a dedication to environmental issues and artists' rights.

Raised in a small East Texas town, Henley was drawn to the sounds of

exotic music broadcast from distant radio stations in New Orleans, Nashville, and Ciudad Acuna, Mexico. These stations introduced him to the blues, bluegrass, gospel, jazz, and rock and roll, paving the way for his future as an artist.

Read more about his East Texas roots in this *County Line* archive article.

As a solo artist and member of the Eagles, Henley has received countless accolades, numerous gold and platinum records, and performed sold-out concert tours worldwide. A highly-respected musical artist, Henley launched his solo career in 1982 with his debut album, *I Can't Stand Still*. *Building The Perfect Beast* followed in 1984 with four hit singles, including "The Boys of Summer," which earned Henley a Best Rock Vocal GRAMMY Award. The artist's track record continued unabated with 1989's *The End Of The Innocence*, which yielded three more hits, including

the title track, and brought Henley another Best Rock Vocal GRAMMY Award.

Henley is a founding member, drummer, vocalist, and songwriter of the Eagles. The group was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1998 and continues to perform sold-out concerts all over the world.

Formed in 1971, the Eagles pioneered a uniquely American musical style, blending elements of country, folk, R&B, rock, and pop. Since then, it has become one of the most creative and commercially successful bands of all time. Despite today's fractured rock 'n' roll landscape, the Eagles retain a timeless appeal that transcends both generations and genres, solidifying the band's status as a musical icon.

The Eagles have sold more than 150 million albums worldwide, scoring six #1 albums and five chart-topping singles. They have earned six GRAMMY Awards, were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1998, and received the Kennedy Center Honors in 2016. Their *Greatest Hits* 1971-1975 stands as the best-selling album in history (certified 38x platinum), while *Hotel California* ranks as the third best-selling U.S. album in history (certified 26x platinum).

Check [Eagles.com](https://www.eagles.com) for more information.

CASS COUNTY

2-LP Track Listing

LP One

Side One

1. Bramble Rose (featuring Mick Jagger and Miranda Lambert)
2. The Cost Of Living (featuring Merle Haggard)
3. No, Thank You (featuring Vince Gill)
4. Waiting Tables (featuring Jamey Johnson and Lee Ann Womack)

Side Two

1. Take A Picture Of This
2. Too Far Gone (featuring Alison Krauss and Jamey Johnson)
3. That Old Flame (featuring Martina McBride)
4. The Brand New Tennessee Waltz (featuring Alison Krauss)



LP Two

Side One

1. Words Can Break Your Heart (featuring Trisha Yearwood)
2. When I Stop Dreaming (featuring Dolly Parton)
3. Praying For Rain (featuring Molly Felder, Vince Gill, Alison Krauss, Ashley Monroe and Trisha Yearwood)
4. Too Much Pride

Side Two

1. She Sang Hymns Out Of Tune (Court Yard Hounds and Ashley Monroe)
2. Train In The Distance (featuring Lucinda Williams)
3. A Younger Man
4. Where I Am Now (featuring Trisha Yearwood)

I CAN'T STAND STILL

LP Track Listing

Side One

1. I Can't Stand Still
2. You Better Hang Up
3. Long Way Home
4. Nobody's Business
5. Talking To The Moon

Side Two

1. Dirty Laundry
2. Johnny Can't Read
3. Them And Us
4. La Eile
5. Lilah
6. The Unclouded Day

Read our interview
with Don Henley in the
County Line archives.

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SMILES INCLUDED

Saturday, November 23, 2024, 7:30 pm

St. Rita Catholic Church, 12521 Inwood Rd., Dallas

AND

Sunday, November 24, 2024 at 2:30 pm, Mount Vernon Music Hall

Enjoy music from the lighter side, with string quartets by Joseph Haydn,

Florence Price, Paul Hindemith and more. Featuring Mark Miller and Andres Bravo, violins; Ute Miller, viola; and Laura Ospina, cello.

UNEXPECTED TREASURES

Saturday, January 11, 2025 at 7:30 pm, Mount Vernon Music Hall

AND

Sunday, January 12, 2025 at 2:30 pm

Steinway Piano Gallery of Fort Worth

Includes piano quartets by Joaquín Turina and Louise Adolpha Le Beau, Arnold Bax's Quintet for oboe and strings, and "Calvary" by Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson. With pianist Evan Mitchell and oboist Sharon Lacey.

PIANO SUPERLATIVES

Saturday, February 15, 2025, 7:30 pm

Steinway Piano Gallery of Plano

AND

Sunday, February 16, 2025, 2:30 pm, Mount Vernon Music Hall

Saluting Johannes Brahms and Edvard Grieg. With Evan Mitchell, piano.

Edward Grieg Piano Concerto, and Johannes Brahms Piano Quintet.

ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS

Saturday, March 22, 2025, 7:30 pm

St. Mark's Anglican Church, Arlington

AND

Sunday, March 23, 2025, 2:30 pm, Mount Vernon Music Hall

Richard Strauss' creation of Metamorphosen with an arrangement of the beloved Pastoral Symphony by Beethoven's contemporary Michael Gotthard Fischer. Featuring Mark Miller and Andres Bravo, violins; Ute Miller and Matt Sinno, viola; Marie-Thais Oliver and Noemie Golubovic, cello; Jack Unzicker, bass. With MVM Scholarship Award winners.

FAMILY CONCERT

Saturday, April 26, 2025 at 11:00 am, Mount Vernon Music Hall

The Tortoise and the Hare, Camille Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals, and Rumpelstiltskin gets a musical update from Mozart.

With MVM Scholarship Award winners.

FROM SORROW TO JOY: MUSICAL MESSAGES

Saturday, May 24, 2025, 6:30 pm

Daphne Prairie, 4020 FM 1896, Mount Vernon

AND

Sunday, May 25, 2025, 2:30 pm

The Old Frankford Church, 17400 Muirfield Dr., Dallas

Composers include Sally Beamish, Jesse Montgomery, Svante Henryson and more. With MVM Scholarship Award winners.

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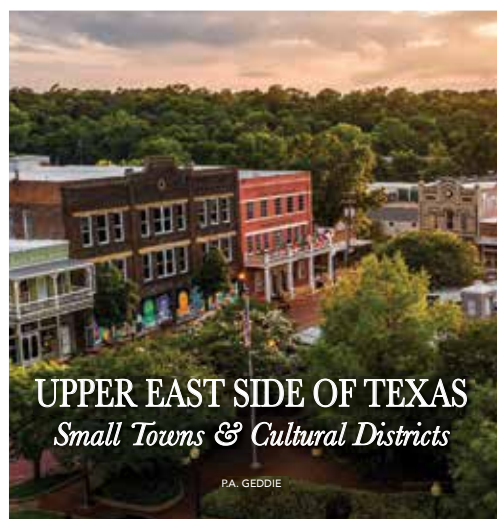
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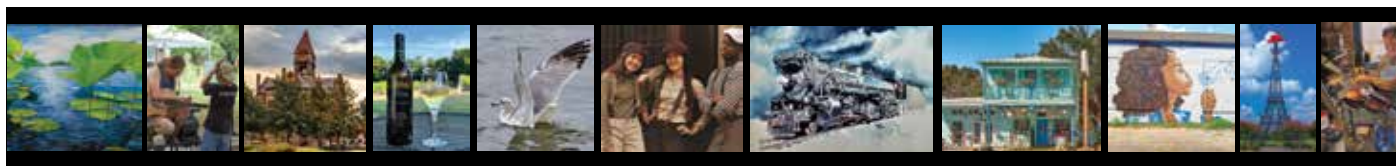
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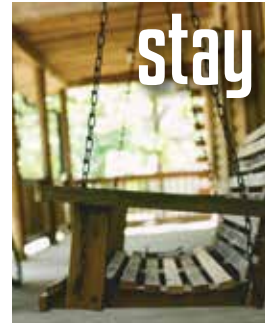
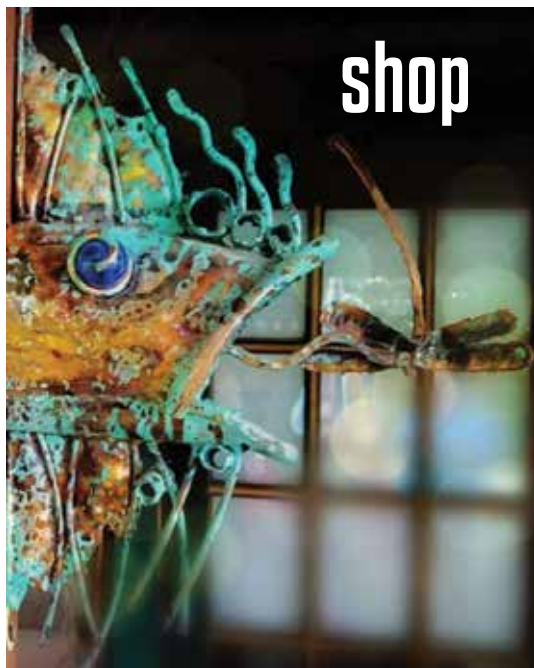


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