# E Bachse Murphy Community Magazine

Wylie Championship Rodeo - September 13th & 14th

Murphy Fall Celebration - September 27th

Sachse Fallfest - October 11th

## ARTS ISSUE

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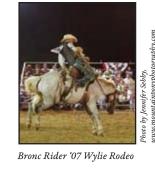
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**Resort Style Rehabilitation Center** 

#### A Wylie Chamber of Commerce Publication 108-A W. Marble | Wylie , TX 75098 Telephone: 972-442-2804 Fax: 972-429-0139 www.wyliechamber.org · info@wyliechamber.org CHAMBER PRESIDENT Mike Agnew ADVISORY BOARD Jeff Ellis Susan Dacus Lori Whitten Monica Vehige Scot Harrison Craig Kelly ADVERTISING DIRECTOR Becky Lindstrom ART DIRECTOR/GRAPHIC DESIGNER Anne Hiney CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Scot Harrison Janet Doleh Lori Whitten Kathleen Noble Jennifer Baylis Marcia Coker For information about advertising in The Connection Magazine please contact Becky Lindstrom at

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The Connection is published bimonthly by the Wylie Chamber of Commerce. The Connection is mailed free of charge to over 27,000 households in the Wylie/Sachse/Murphy area and more than 1,000 copies are distributed to local businesses. Contents of this magazine may not be reproduced without written permission from the publisher. Advertisers and advertising agencies assume liability for content of all advertisements. Information published in The Connection is the opinion of the sourced authors. The Wylie Chamber of Commerce does not necessarily share the editorial opinions expressed in The Connection magazine. Personal decisions regarding health, finance and other matters should be made after consultation with the reader's professional advisors

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## State-of-the-Art Rehabilitation Resort In Wylie, Texas

Recovering from injury or illness after a hospital stay is often challenging for patients and their families. The unanticipated need to locate a rehabilitation facility often forces families to make important health care decisions with little preparation and without adequate information.

The good news for the people of Wylie and surrounding areas is that Garnet Hill Rehabilitation and Skilled Care, a rehabilitation resort, recently opened. At Garnet Hill, residents and their families will find a health care facility of extraordinary character. This



recently opened 66,000 square foot property offers striking exterior architecture, exacting attention to interior design details, restaurant-style dining services, and physician-directed health care services.

For those times in life when an accident or medical condition necessitates therapy, Garnet Hill offers professional rehabilitation services in a setting that soothes the mind and pleases the senses. Residents benefit from exceptional service in three primary therapy disciplines: physical, occupational, and speech.

"Our goal is to provide superb clinical service and superb customer service," says, Garnet Hill Administrator Lori Lovelace. To achieve this, our therapists utilize a 'patient first' approach. This means that we focus on the individual's health care needs as well as their non-health care needs. We seek to understand the wants, needs and expectations of patients and families, and deliver services that cater to the individual."

#### **Rehabilitation, Resort Style**

The state-of-the-art rehabilitation center at Garnet Hill is equipped to meet the needs of virtually any patient. With ample space and the latest equipment to treat most therapy needs, Garnet Hill will help those who require short-term therapy, as well as individuals in need of more complex rehabilitation services. Garnet Hill's therapists deliver fulfilling and beneficial rehabilitation programs regardless of the resident's length of stay. Additionally, therapists constantly re-evaluate and modify programs according to individual abilities and limitations. Professional rehabilitation services provided in a sumptuous resort-like setting, with careful attention to the little details that make for a great customer experience add-up to an unparalleled level of specialized care and service. For example: Garnet Hill's rehabilitation center includes a func-

> tional apartment where residents can participate in therapy that helps improve their everyday living skills and speeds their recovery by incorporating real-life therapy into their treatment regime. Transitioning back to their home or an assisted living setting becomes easier once they become re-accustomed to the daily details of life and self-care.

Garnet Hill offers specialized care for:

- Strokes
- Knee replacements
- Hip replacements
- Heart surgeries
- Shoulder replacements
- Rotator cuff surgeries
- Brain injuries
- Early onset dementia
- Parkinson's disease

Garnet Hill Rehabilitation and Skilled Care is a rehabilitation resort that offers the creature comforts of home, a family friendly setting and a hospitality focus on customer service. With options and amenities such as: Nintendo Wii™, private suites, beauty salons, restaurant style dining, housekeeping and laundry services, as well as professionally landscaped grounds including a courtyard with a gazebo and a flowing waterfall. Along with the luxurious community areas for relaxing or visiting with friends, Garnet Hill is a place where each resident can live life to the fullest. ●

Stop by for a visit or call Garnet Hill Rehabilitation and Skilled Care at 972.442.6776 or visit www.garnethillrehab.com to get more information on resort-style rehabilitation in Wylie, Texas.

### September Events

Sept. 4th & 18th - Smith Public Library presents Wagging Tales at 6:30 p.m., 800 Thomas Street, Wylie, 972-442-7566 www.wylietexas.gov/Library/

Sept. 6th - CHECK OUT SCOUTING - a showcase of Girl Scout, Cub Scout and Boy Scout activities for children ages 5 – 17 interested in scouting or currently a member. These activities include an obstacle course, songs, race boats, rocket demonstrations, outdoor skills, flag etiquette, first aid, crafts and outdoor cooking methods. Registration information will be available for Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. WHO: Girl Scout Service Unit 148 serving Wylie, Farmersville and Community ISDs; Cub Scout Packs from Akin, Birmingham, Cox, Dodd, Groves, Hartman, Smith, Tibbals and Whitt Elementary schools; Boy Scout troops from Wylie, Sachse and Murphy. WHERE: Wylie United Methodist Church parking lot and fields, located at the intersection of FM 1378/Country Club Drive and McMillen Rd, across from Dodd Elementary COST: Free CONTACT: Debbie Brown at 972-442-3772, wyliegirlscouts@ yahoo.com or visit www.gssu148.com for Girl Scout registration and Jeanine Stevens at 972-442-6963 or tardam@aol.com for Cub Scout/Boy Scout registration.

Sept. 8th & 9th - Seniors Safe Driving Class from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sachse Library Meeting Room, 3815-C Sachse Road. Must attend both classes to receive discount on insurance

Sept. 10th - Smith Public Library Storytime Resumes! 9 & 11 a.m. Big Kid Storytime for ages 3-5, 10 a.m. Wee Read for babies and toddlers. 800 Thomas Street, Wylie, 972-442-7566, www.wylietexas.gov/Library/.

Sept. 11th - JOIN SCOUTING NIGHT Children and their parents/ quardians can register at 7 p.m. for scouting at all elementary school locations in Wylie. All schools register this night except Cox Elementary which registers Sept. 4th. In addition to registering, they can learn more about the scouting programs and what they can look forward to experiencing. Girl Scouts is open to girls age 5-17, Cub Scouts is for boys 6-10 and Boy Scouts is geared to boys 11-17. Adults are also welcome to register for volunteer positions, including leaders, assistant leaders, program volunteers and fundraiser coordinators. Please contact Debbie Brown at 972-442-3772, wyliegirlscouts@yahoo.com or visit www.gssu148.com for information on Girl Scout registration and Jeanine Stevens at 972-814-5997 or tardam@aol.com for Cub Scout and Boy Scout registration. Also visit www.joincubscouting.org for a fun video on what Cub Scouts is like.

Sept. 11th - Smith Public Library presents The Digital TV Transition: David Boyd, WFAA representative, will be here to explain how after February 17, 2009 TV stations will only broadcast in a digital format. Join us to find out how this may affect you. 6:30 p.m. at 800 Thomas Street, Wylie, 972-442-7566 www.wylietexas.gov/Library/

Sept. 12th - Parent's Night Out - It's that time of year when the summer winds down, school starts up, and activities keep you busy throughout the week. Don't forget to take some time for Mom & Dad! Drop off your children (infants thru 5th grade) at 6 p.m. and pick them up at 10 p.m. Bring \$10 per child and dinner for the kids and enjoy an evening out. Please contact Jan to reserve your spot at janbeamer@verizon.net.

Sept. 12th & 13th - Wylie Championship Rodeo starting at 6:30 p.m. both nights in the Wylie Rodeo Arena next to the Birmingham Ag Complex behind Pirate Stadium. See info on page 28 for more details or visit www.wyliechamber.org.

Sept. 13th - 2008 Collin County YES! (Youth Explore Sports!) EXPO will take place at Collin Creek Mall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., www.youthexploresports.com. The YES! Expo is a free event for the public.

Sept. 13th - Celebrate the Grand Opening of Dinosaurs Alive! Dinosaurs are back from total extinction just for your family to experience and enjoy! Encounter 12 life-size animatronics dinosaurs along the Heard nature trails. For a complete listing of dinosaurs and details about the exhibit and this event, visit www.heardmuseum.org.

Sept. 13th - The Trinity Trail Preservation Association (TTPA) will sponsor a trail ride at the Brockdale Park trailhead in Lucas, Texas, weather permitting. Arrive 9:30 a.m., ride out at 10 a.m. Bring lunch, beverages, and lawn chair. Share lunch time and great conversation with other riders. You can adjust your ride to your own schedule. The ride will be automatically cancelled if it is raining or if there has been so much rain as to make the trail extremely wet, muddy and dangerous. To check on trail conditions call Trail Steward Charlie Gaines at 972-824-3369. Don't forget your current negative Coggins Certificate for each horse, as state law requires us to check. You can't enter the park without one. For safety reasons, dogs will not be permitted on the trail. They must remain tied at your trailer in camp. For more information, see the Trinity Trail Preservation Association's website at www.trinitytrailriders.org.

Sept. 16th - Murphy Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m., Woodbridge Golf Club Pavilion, for more info visit www.murphychamber.org.

Sept. 20th - Friends of the Smith Public Library First Annual Book Sale at Wylie's American National Bank: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Come check out the selection of new and used books and get some fabulous deals! All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Smith Public Library.

Sept. 20th - 5th Annual Wylie UMC Music Fest - You are invited to attend three hours of great musical talent and tasty BBQ from 6 - 9 p.m. The music is free but there is a cost for the dinner. To reserve dinner call the church office at 972-442-5835. Our church is located at 1401 FM 1378, Wylie.

Sept. 20th - Plano Symphony Orchestra opens their sensational 2008-2009 Season with "Melodic Fireworks!" featuring pianist Sa Chen at the Eisemann Center, at 8:15 p.m. Rarely performed together, Sa Chen will perform two of Chopin's concertos filled with both his famous technical demands and sublime melodies. Sa Chen's performance with the Plano Symphony comes fresh on the heels of her summer recording of both concertos in Europe. She was the Crystal Award recipient of the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and won the International Chopin Competition in 2000. Sa Chen is considered the most musically sensuous pianist to emerge from China in recent memory. The Charles Eisemann Center for Performing Arts is located at 2351 Performance Dr., Richardson, TX 75082. To order tickets, call the Plano Symphony Orchestra Ticket Office at 972-473-7262 or order tickets online at www.planosymphony.org. Reserved seating is \$9 - \$75 ~ Add \$2 for tickets bought at the door.

Sept. 20th - St. Anthony Catholic Church Fall Festival and 150+ Year Celebration. It is a big year for us as we celebrate our long history in the Wylie/St. Paul area. Primary festivities will occur between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. There will be a 5K run that will begin earlier that morning. Other festivities include: vendor and food booths, silent auction, old time games and contests including pie-eating contest, cake walk, dunking booth, sunflower seed spitting contest, horse and buggy rides, other adult and children's games including basketball, football and baseball throws, bounce houses, darts, bean bag toss, and more. For more info call 972-442 2765.

Sept. 22nd - Smith Public Library presents Fourth Monday Book Club (ages 18 and up) 800 Thomas Street, Wylie, 972-442-7566, www.wylietexas.gov/Library/.

Sept. 24th - Murphy Chamber Come & Go Lunch. 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Please check the Chamber website for location and speaker. www.murphychamber.org.

Sept. 24th - Richardson Regional Medical Center presents seminar on Cancer Awareness at Laurie Schwenk Senior Center starting at 12 noon, 3815 Sachse Road. Suite B, 972-495-6282.

Sept. 27th - Wylie UMC Bike-A-Thon. Bring your children 2nd grade and younger to ride the bike course. Please bring non perishable food items. All food donated will support the Wylie Christian Care Center. You can also enjoy the bounce houses and register your bike with the Wylie Police Department. If you are interested in participating or making a cash donation, please contact Lezlie Wiederhold 972-442-5835.

Sept. 27th - Fall Celebration commemorating Murphy's Golden Anniversary. Noon - 9:30 p.m. at the Murphy Municipal Complex. See page 21 for complete event details!

Sept. 27th - Merchant Market at the City of Murphy's 50th Anniversary Celebration. The Murphy Chamber is hosting a Merchant Market from 12 noon until 6 p.m. during the celebration at the City Complex. Merchants, artists, crafters, etc. may rent a space to display and sell their wares. All spaces are located outside around the pond in front of City Hall. To rent a space please contact Deb Proctor at 972-235-9872 or debprint@sbcglobal.net or Rhonda Ptak at 972-429-5384 or prolandsd@aol.com.

#### Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary:

One Nature Place, McKinney, TX 75069. General Admission: \$8 adults; \$5 kids 3-12 & seniors; Members are free. For more info visit www.heardmuseum.org or call (972)562-5566

Thru Sept. 28th - Native Texas Butterflies - Experience the splendor of Native Texas butterflies! Be immersed among hundreds of butterflies in an 800+ square foot butterfly house. The exhibit also creates a beautiful place for pictures.

Ongoing - Live Animals of the World - A Conservation Exhibit

Thru Dec. 31st - Dinosaurs Alive! Life-Size Animatronic Dinosaurs -There will be 12 life-size animatronic dinosaurs including 9 new dinosaurs as well as the return of the T-Rex and the Dilophosaurus which spits water. It was extremely popular with the kids! Watch our website for updates about this exciting event at www.heardmuseum.org or call (972)562-5566.

Continued ~



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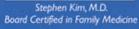
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#### HOURS OF OPERATION:

Saturday...... 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



### **October Events**

Oct. 2nd & 16th - Smith Public Library presents Wagging Tales at 6:30 p.m., 800 Thomas Street, Wylie, 972-442-7566, www.wylietexas.gov/Library/.

Oct. 4th - A Fall Festival sponsored by the Wylie Women's League is being held at the Wylie East Fork Masonic Lodge, 508 Parker Road from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The festival will feature 30 craft booths and a pumpkin patch. For info on reserving a booth contact Stacey Daniel at sdanie28@jcpenny.com or 469-964-7425.

Oct. 4th - Wylie United Methodist Church will hold their Fall Fest 2008 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission for shopping! Kids fun include hayrides, horse rides, and bouncy slide all day just \$2! 1401 FM 1378, Wylie. For more information email Lezlie. wiederhold@wylieumc.org, call 972-442-5835, or e-mail us at info@wylieumc.org.

Oct. 5th - Blessing of the Animals - Bring your pet to Wylie United Methodist church to receive a blessing. We will gather in front of the building at 4:00 p.m. and have a service of blessing. All animals need to be on a leash or in a carrier. For more information contact Lezlie at Lezlie.wiederhold@wylieumc.org or call 972-442-5835.

#### Oct. 7th - National Night Out

Sachse: from 7 - 10 p.m. Contact Lt. Marty Cassidy at Sachse PD at 972-495-2271, ext. 204 for info on block parties and other neighborhood events.



Wylie: Celebrate from 6 - 8 p.m. in Olde City Park as a community with hot dogs, drinks, bounce house and music; then return home, turn on your porch light and meet with your neighbors.

Murphy: from 6 - 9 p.m. citizens throughout Murphy and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and Police. Help us "Give Neighborhood Crime & Drugs A Going Away Party" If you are interested in holding a party or want to check for a party in your neighborhood please contact the Murphy Police Department Community Services at 972-468-4200 or email us at btaylor@murphytx.org.

Oct. 10th - The No Limit Network, a business and social networking organization, will be hosting the 1st annual The No Limit Network Charity Golf Tournament at The Golf Club at Twin Creeks, 501 Twin Creeks Dr. in Allen, TX. This is an opportunity to network with some of the area's top business professionals, meet new friends, promote yourself as well as your company, and make a difference in the lives of those in need, all while enjoying a fabulous day of golf, food, and fun. What more could you ask for? Net proceeds from this great one-day tournament benefit The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (www.ccfa.org). Cost: \$125 per player or \$400 per team, Format: 4-man scramble, Tee Off: 1 p.m. shotgun start, Registration: Noon. Sponsorship packages are available. For information and registration, visit www. TheNoLimitNetwork.com or call Sylvia at 972-898-5882.

Oct. 10th - Parent's Night Out - Don't forget to take some time for Mom and Dad! Drop off your children (infants thru 5th grade) at 6 p.m. and pick them up at 10 p.m. Bring \$10 per child and dinner for the kids and enjoy an evening out. Please contact Jan to reserve your spot at janbeamer@verizon.net.

Oct. 11th - Sachse Fallfest at Heritage Park from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 4408 Heritage Parkway behind Sewell Elementary just off Miles Road. See info on page 30 for more details or visit www.sachsechamber.com.

Oct. 13th - 18th - Wylie's Clean Up - Green Up. Visit www.wylietexas. gov/Programs/clean.htm for details.



Oct. 11th - The Wylie View 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off in Olde City Park, Downtown Wylie from 1 - 4 p.m. Stop by The Wylie View's 3rd Annual Chili Cook Off and cast your vote for the best tasting chili in all of Wylie. Mayor Hogue, a Wylie police officer and a Wylie firefighter will be on hand to determine who makes the best chili! This year all donations will be presented to the Wylie Women's League to help with Wylie student scholarship funding. A box will also be provided for packaged and canned food donations to benefit the Wylie Christian Care Center. To enter your chili or to set up a vendor booth, please visit www.wylieview.com for more information or email info@wylieview.com

Oct. 18th - The Plano Symphony Orchestra presents The Essential Canadian Brass who are known for their dazzling technique, varied repertory, and great humor on stage, as well as their unique performance attire, often consisting of black suits coupled with white athletic shoes. Their varied program of pops and classical favorites is sure to leave you smiling! Don't miss this virtuosic group in performance sure to inspire you to "Have Some Fun!" Concert starts at 8:15 p.m. at the Charles W. Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Dr., Richardson. Ticket info at www.planosymphony ora

Oct. 18th - "Paw" Parade Costume Contest. Sponsored by A & B Kennel Club, Lowe's and the Murphy Messenger. Bring your pet to Lowe's at 3 p.m. and parade your costumed pet in front of a panel of judges for a chance to win prizes! There's also a category for pet/owner look alike - so come in matching costumes!

Oct. 18th - Pumpkin Prowl at Sachse's Salmon Park starting at 6 p.m.; the kids hunt miniature pumpkins, everyone enjoys hayrides and refreshments - there is no charge for this event. Off Highway 78 on Williford Road.

Oct. 25th - The "Classic" Halloween Pumpkin Carving & Costume Contest at Classic Gardens & Landscape, 401 W. FM 544, Murphy, 10 a.m. Pumpkin Carving 11 a.m. Costume Contest. Co-sponsored by the Murphy Messenger.

Oct. 25th - Fishing Derby at Sachse's Joe and Patricia Stone Park from 9 a.m. to 12 noon - there is no charge for this event. Located on Laurelcrest Drive in the Woodbridge Subdivision.

Oct. 25th - Sachse Chamber of Commerce Trick or Treat Casino Night from 6:30 to 11 p.m. at Swinging D Ranch in Parker.

Oct. 26th - Trunk or Treat Fun! Bring your little angels and goblins to a safe environment for some trick or treating. Bring your car to the church and decorate the trunk and fill them full of yummy treats and fun toys to pass out. Everyone is invited! 4 - 6 p.m. in the parking lot at Wylie United Methodist Church 1401 FM 1378, Wylie.

Oct. 26th - The Plano Symphony's Family Symphony Sundays Series is a fun, interactive series of five concerts guaranteed to be a blast for children and adults alike! The Season Opener, Spooky Symphony, kicks off the 2009 season and features the entire Plano Symphony! A fun-filled afternoon with a "monster motif" awaits you and your child, and costumes are encouraged! Special pre-concert lobby activities unique to this concert begin at 5 p.m., concert at 6:30 p.m., Charles W. Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Dr., Richardson. Ticket info at www.planosymphony.org.

Oct. 27th - Smith Public Library presents Fourth Monday Book Club (ages 18 and up) 800 Thomas Street, Wylie, 972-442-7566 www.wylietexas.gov/Library/

Oct. 30th - Wylie Downtown Merchants Association Trick-or-Treating on Ballard St. from 6 - 8 p.m. Put on your costumes and bring the whole family downtown to enjoy this annual Halloween celebration.

Oct. 30th - First Baptist Church Wylie Halloween Trunk-or-Treat, 6 - 8 p.m. in the parking lot off Marble St. Behind the church. Bring the kids to collect some candy!

Every Wednesday - Wylie Chamber of Commerce Business Card Exchange is held at the Woodbridge Golf Course club house, 7400 Country Club Dr., Wylie. Join us to network and promote your business from 8 - 9 a.m. For more info call (972)442-2804 or visit www.wyliechamber.org.

## **Looking Ahead**

**Nov. 1st** - The Cemetery Association of Murphy, Inc. and the Murphy Garden Club will host "History Blooms in the Decatur-Maxwell-Murphy Cemetery." This is a bulb planting event and everyone is invited to bring bulbs to plant at the base of markers for spring blooming or to just come and help with the planting. The cemetery is located on a gravel road where Tom Clevenger and N. Maxwell Creek Road meets. Come anytime between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. •



The Wylie Art Gallery was born in November of 2007 with an idea of sharing art with the Wylie community and surrounding areas. The world of art opens the doors to our imagination and our cultural refinement. We invite you to stroll through the hallways of the Wylie Art Gallery and take in the ambiance of the Art World. The Wylie Art Gallery is open free to the public.

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. 250 South U.S. Highway 78 - Wylie, TX 75098

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## Local Organizations

**Dyslexia Advocates of Wylie** (formerly PIRATES Dyslexia) is a Parent Support Group for parents of dyslexic children that meets bi-monthly at 7 - 8 p.m. at McMillan Jr. High, 1050 Park Blvd., Wylie, TX, 75098 Go to www.dyslexiaadvocatesofwylie.com for dates and more info.

**Exchange Club of Murphy** is a volunteer service organization for people who want to serve their community, develop leadership skills and enjoy new friendships. Programs include: Child Abuse Prevention, Americanism, Community Service and Youth Activities. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month from noon to 1 p.m., Pecan Hollow Golf Course Grill, 4501 East 14th Street, Plano. Contact: Debra Chiarello 214-641-9970.

Friends of the Sachse Library meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Sachse Library, 3815 Sachse Road. Contact the Sachse Public Library for more details, 972-530-8966.

**Garland Quilt Guild** meets the first Tuesday of each month at First Presbyterian Church, 930 West Avenue B, in Garland at 7:00 p.m. (except December) Located at the corner of 9th and Avenue B in Garland Texas. For more info visit www.garlandquiltguild.org or contact Allison Ray at 972-941-0860 or allisonray@gmail.com.

**Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc.** presents a Free Genealogy Seminar on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the W.O. Haggard Library Program Room, 2501 Coit Road, Plano. Public is welcome. For info visit GenFriends@ GenealogyFriends.org, e-mail: www.GenealogyFriends.org, or call Jean Funk at 972-618-1580.

#### Interested in Scouting? Visit www.greatplainsbsa.org or www.girlscoutsofnortheasttexas.org for info.

In-Sync Exotics Wildlife Rescue & Educational Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue of exotic

felines. Visit www.insyncexotics.com for more info. Open Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. 972-442-6888.

**MOMS Club of Murphy/Sachse** is a non-profit support group for stay-at-home moms and their children. Activities include monthly meetings with guest speakers, play groups, park days, MOMS Night Out, field trips and more. We participate in service projects to benefit children in the community. Please contact Murphy\_sachse\_moms@yahoo.com for further information.

**Moms & More** All caretakers, whether you are a Mom, Dad, Aunt, Uncle, Grandparent or Nanny are welcome. We accept members from Wylie and the surrounding communities and have many activities for children and their caretakers. We meet the 1st Thursday of the month. Contact Membership Chair, Shannon Morris: (972)461-0995 for info. www.wyliemomsandmore.org.

**MOPs** of Sachse/Wylie/Murphy - Mothers of Preschoolers meet at Park Lake Church in Sachse Texas on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Childcare is provided. To reserve your spot in childcare or for more info please contact Lavonne Hernandez at 972-575-8222 or mops@parklakechurch.com.

**Sachse Historical Society** meets the 3rd Saturday of the month, 9:30 a.m., Sachse Historical Museum, 3033 6th St. Museum is open for visitors every 2nd & 4th Saturday from 1 - 4 p.m., every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and by appointment for visitors and tours, 972-495-1231.

**Sachse Lion's Club** meets the 3rd Monday of the month at Steak Kountry, 7010 Highway 78 at 6:30 p.m. We participate in fund raisers throughout the year that benefit several organizations including the Blind Leader Dog program and Air Challenge, a program that takes disabled children for airplane rides. We also support the Vision Impaired Olympics summer camp for kids. The Sachse Lions also assist with building Habitat for Humanity homes.

**Sachse Pet Pals** is a volunteer organization working with Sachse Animal Control to enhance adoption rates and help with pet medical expenses on a financial need basis. Contact Peggy Strong at 972-495-9645 for more info.

**Trinity Trail Preservation Association (TTPA)** is an all-volunteer equestrian organization that maintains the 9-mile long trail on the Corps of Engineers land along Lavon Lake. TTPA networks with other trail riders, sponsors trail rides and cookouts, hosts quarterly meetings with speakers on horse-related issues, holds family type activities such as scavenger hunts on horseback, fun poker rides and educational clinics. For info call Betty Van Houten at 214-864-4066, www.trinitytrailriders.org.

Wylie Friends of the Library meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, 6 p.m. at the Rita and Truett Smith Public Library, 800 Thomas, in the Bluebonnet Room, 972-442-7566.

**Wylie Lions Club** meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at Napoli's Pizza & Restaurant at 701 N. Hwy. 78 at noon. Anyone interested in becoming a Lion is welcome to join the group for lunch. Call Ada Mooney for more info at 972-771-5551.







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www.wylieprinting.com email: graphics@wylieprinting.com Wylie Lions Club - Evening Branch meets the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month at Steak Country in Sachse at 6:30 p.m. Contact Carl Bodine at 469-951-4344 for info.

Wylie Rotary Club meets weekly on Thursday at 12 noon at Woodbridge Country Club. Contact Joe Helmberger at joehelmberger@verizon.net for additional info.

Wylie Wisecrackers, a Toastmasters club serving Wylie, Sachse, Murphy, and Lavon, meets every Wednesday from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Napoli's Pizza & Restaurant, 701 N. Hwy 78. All are welcome. Members practice effective public speaking techniques, gain valuable leadership experience, and, thus, gain personal confidence. Contact Katie Shockley at katieshockleydtm@yahoo.com or 469-757-0952. www.wylie.freetoasthost.com

Wylie Women's League Meets the 1st Thursday of each month. Contact Stacey Daniel at 469-964-7425 or daniel21@verizon.net for more info.

#### Got something going on?

To submit your special event to the **Nov/Dec** community calendar send an e-mail to **theconnection.anne@mac.com no later** 

**than October 15th.** Please include contact name, date(s), time(s), location, a publishable phone number, e-mail and/or web site for information. Only events that are open to the public (no "members only" events) are eligible, as space permits. THANKS!



## **Kinetics in a Can**

Local art teacher brings home the bronze from the Red Bull Art of Can contest

by Art Lover of Wylie



Artist, Susan West, with her award winning piece "Kinetics in a Can."

nternational honors were brought to Wylie by high school teacher Susan West when she placed 3rd out of more than 500 entries in the Red Bull "Art of Can" contest. The Red Bull corporation created the contest years ago as an avenue to showcase artists. The contest is open to anyone worldwide, with the only requirement being that the art piece be made from, or inspired by, the Red Bull can.

Susan studied the winning contest pieces from previous years and noticed that most were static. Since Red Bull is known for producing an energy drink, Susan felt the work needed to involve movement to reflect that energy. She shared her "energy in a can" design with a Wylie "Think Tank" team to which she belongs and asked for technical assistance. The team advised her on the electrical, mechanical and computerized manufacturing necessary for creating her interactive-active art piece. She named it "Kinetics in a Can."

Susan was pushing her limits as she ventured from her normal 2D art work into a 3D piece. Her idea seemed to exceed her capabilities; with a tight deadline and a full schedule as a teacher and a mom of three, the project seemed overwhelming; however, this kind of challenge is what appeals to the team and all were eager to support Susan's dream. The project was completed at 4 AM and a few hours later. Susan delivered it to an art gallery in Houston, where it was judged by a panel of gallery owners and art curators.

At first glance, "Kinetics in a Can" appears to be a giant can of Red Bull that has exploded, exposing the mechanics within. As the viewer approaches, a plaque explains that some Red Bull has leaked from the can and the viewer is asked to return the drops, which are really steel balls, via a straw on top of the



Susan with her daughters, Jennifer and Jessica at the Red Bull Art of Can Gala at the Houston Galleria.

can. When the steel ball passes through the straw, it hits a copper track inside, which connects the electrical circuit. The can comes alive with sounds, lights and chaos as gravity pulls the ball through a series of tracks. The ball's final plunge, in this Rube Goldberg-like machine, rings a bell to signal that it's over; however, the experience is never really over. Soon after a person encounters "Kinetics in a Can", he must show it off and the process continues.

Susan and 46 other artists selected from this year's Red Bull entries were honored at a private reception at the Houston Galleria, where "Kinetics in a Can" was on public display. Her piece is now touring the United States and will remain a part of the Red Bull collection.

To see this award winning mechanical wonder in action visit www.gerstrom.se/kincan.wmv •

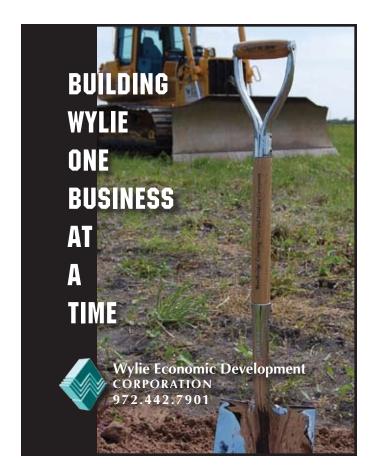


Gordy Treichler, Susan West, Tim Lawson, Mark Cooper, and Allen Morris

The think tank team to which Susan belongs is an outgrowth of Wylie ISD's community education program and the support of the Birmingham Land Trust. The team has been actively engaged in similar disruptive and revolutionary projects through the years that include Wylie's Robotic Team, Wylie High's Research and Development classes, The Pioneer Days Project, Teacher Education Programs, Wylie High's foundry program, and The Log Cabin Project on Ballard Ave. Team members include: Allen Morris, Chuck Trimble, Mark Cooper, Gordy Treichler, Bill Lewis, Tom Noe, Harry "Fred" Tibbals, Tim Lawson, Brant Lawson, and Marcus Lawson as the core group. If you would like information about this eclectic group, contact Allenmorris@Yahoo.com. •

Photo courtesy of Red Bull.

..................





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## FULBRIGHT AND HAWKES SPECIALISTS IN NIGHTMARES, SHIVERS, AND SCREAMS

Voodoo. Vampires. Violence. Demons. Darkness. Danger.

The fiction of award-winning Wylie writers Angeline Hawkes and Christopher Fulbright contains all of the above terrors. Specializing in the genres of horror, thriller, and fantasy, they are a most unusual married couple who often co-author stories as well as write independently.

Their work has garnered recognition and accolades. Angeline's horror collection, The Commandments, was nomi-

nated for the 2006 Bram Stoker Award. Their collaboration, Then Comes the Child, published in 2006, received kudos from fellow writers such as Gary Braunbeck, who called it "a nasty piece of work - in the best sense. Disturbing; extreme horror with a high I.Q. and a compassionate heart."

Although their spine-tingling stories might send shivers down readers' spines, Angeline and Christopher lead mostly normal lives in Wylie. "I'm a small town American girl pursuing her dream," Angeline said. "I'm a wife; I clean and sew. I'm like a soccer mom." Of all her accomplishments, she is most proud of her children, Ian, eleven, and Katie-Beth, seven. Besides being an author and a mom, Angeline sews doll clothes for Bleuette, a doll that was produced from 1905 to 1960 in France. Appropriately for a horror writer, she also sews clothes for and markets demon, alien and satyr baby dolls.

When he's not creating fantasy stories, Christopher works as a technical writer and takes college courses that will help him realize his future dream of being a teacher.

They enjoy living in Wylie because of its wholesomeness. "With its downtown square, Wylie still has a small town Norman Rockwell feeling," Angeline said

"It's a nurturing place for a writer to be," Christopher said. "We appreciate Wylie. There's magic in the small towns of America. Big cities can eat people alive."

Their journeys did not begin in Texas. Angeline grew up in Indiana, where her father was a Methodist minister. She also had Mormon and Catholic influences as a child. She was reading at age 2, and by age 11, she was publishing Christian poetry. Her relatives include writer Edward Everett Hale and novelist G. W. Hawkes.

"With writers, artists, and musicians on both sides of the family, I was encouraged to write," she said. "I was always interested in religion and the mythology of all cultures. I see the struggle of good versus evil. It shapes how I tell my stories."

When she was 12, her family moved to Texas. Because she needed surgery for scoliosis, Angeline faced serious health issues for awhile, causing her to confront her own mortality at an early age.

In high school in Rockwall, Angeline found her place as the editor of the school paper. She won college scholarships, which enabled her to earn a degree and teach literature for three years before she became a full-time author.



Christopher & Angeline

scenes, and inspirations for his later work. His publishing credits include many short stories and novels for adults and young adults.

When Christopher was 26, he moved to Texas. In 2002, while organizing a local chapter of the Horror Writers Association, he met Angeline. She was dressed in a witch's costume, signing books. It was, of course, Halloween.

Their commitment to their craft and their creative energy make this husband-wife team a major force in our local community of artists. To learn more, visit their websites: http://www.fulbrightandhawkes.com/

http://www.christopherfulbright.com/

http://www.angelinehawkes.com/ •

Like Angeline, Christopher took awhile to get to Texas. His family moved around the country, settling in Colorado when he was eleven. Reading and writing became his ways of entertaining himself. "I loved fantasy -H. G. Wells, Jules Verne, Ray Bradbury," he said. "After I read Stephen King's novel Christine, the lights went on for me." He had one story published while still in high school.

After high school, he worked as a writer at the local newspaper. Then he became a wanderer, doing odd jobs while he traveled around the country in his 1974 Dodge. "Small towns show you the real America, real people, real life, the deep divides in communities," he said. All the while, he was collecting characters,

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Why did I wait so long to "SMILE"?





## Madeline Aguilar

A passion for art

by Kathleen Noble of Wylie

ncoming Wylie High School sophomore, Madeline Aguilar of Murphy, has been announced as the Texas winner in her grade level for the 2008 State Fish Art Contest.

Winning entries from each state were selected by a prestigious panel of judges in grade categories 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12.

Representatives of Wildlife Forever honored young talented artists from across the United States.

"Together, we are using art to empower a new generation of conservationists. By sharing their fish art with family, friends and the general public, our young people are becoming ambassadors for fish and wild-



Maddy with mom Irene and dad Miguel.

life habitat," said Douglas H. Grann, President and CEO of Wildlife Forever.

Madeline, the daughter of Irene and Miguel Aguilar, has been drawing in a variety of mediums since preschool.

Miguel Aguilar, his wife, fifteen year old Madeline and a twenty one year old son Michael, relocated to Murphy from Eden Prairie, Minnesota in August 2007 following a career transfer through Neiman Marcus where Mr. Aguilar works as a tailor.



became interested in the State Fish Art competition, while surfing the web and still living in Eden

> Prairie. She won first place in the Minnesota competition in her age group for her illustration of the Walleye, Minnesota's state fish.

"Art is a form of

relaxation for me

and drawing animals,

wildlife and portrait art is my passion,"

stated the shy but

first

mature Madeline.

Madeline

A very talented young artist.

Once settled in Texas she entered the same competition representing Texas and won first place in her age group for a second year. Her contribution was a beautiful colored pencil likeness of a large mouth bass.

The effort garnered young Madeline a chance to compete on a national level July 22.

She took third place in the nation for artists in the 7-9 grade level category.

> "Madeline does really beautiful work. It's a joy to see what she'll be creating next," said Madeline's former Wylie East Art teacher Jennifer Thompson.

Ultimately Madeline would like to extend her talent to include sculpture while continuing to pursue working with colored pencil, pastel, and pencil.

She entertains thoughts of a career in interior design, using her art as a focal point in home décor, or designing movie sets for cinema

Madeline's talent also gained her a superior rating in the Texas State Junior Visual Arts Scholastic Event (VASE), sponsored by The Texas Art Education Association for a scratchboard portrait of her father. Scratchboard drawings are done on a heavy paper that

The Minnesota State Fish Contest

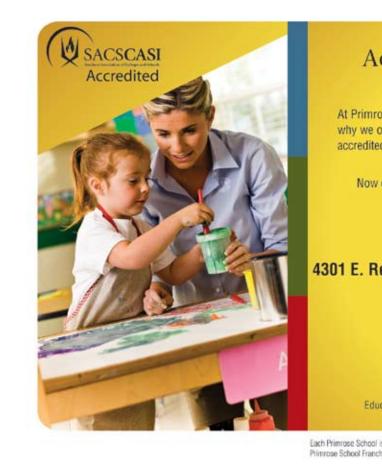
Winner - a walleye.



Scratchboard portrait of Miguel Aguilar.

has been coated with a chalky clay material then covered with black ink. The artist uses a specialized tool to scrape the image into the ink revealing the lighter surface below.

Out of 18,000 artworks entered across Texas, only 1,756 qualified for the state event that was held April 12 at the University of Houston Clear Lake. Just 1,072 gualifiers earned a superior rating.





The 2008 Texas State Fish Contest Winner - a large

Jurors judge the entries on originality of concept, technical expertise, understanding of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Sills (TEKS) and the interpretation of the student's stated intent.

Students compete on four experience levels depending on the credits in art that the student has received at the time of the regional event.

Madeline displays an expressive talent and maturity far beyond her years and exhibits a creative flair that is sure to open doors to a very bright artistic future. •



Photos by Kathleen Noble

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## SPORT IN CELION

## Josh Peprah of Plano East Senior High

Football runs in his family

by Scot Harrison the Voice of the Wylie Pirates

ays playing catch in the yard durng football season always had a different feel for the brothers Peprah. The east Plano clan is one of those rare bloodlines that can boast an incredibly talented brood; three brothers who have earned the opportunity to play major college football. The latest in that line is Josh, a senior at Plano East High School.

"At first it was football, the first sport that I really liked. I actually loved it," says Josh. "Later, it became, 'I don't want to mess up the tradition'. Now it's what I want to do; play in college and in the N.F.L."

The tradition started with the eldest Peprah, Richard, who earned a scholarship to play football at Wyoming. He has since graduated and now works for Learfield Sports, a sports marketing company that specializes in college sports broadcasting.

Middle brother Charlie enjoyed a stellar high school career at Plano East helping keep alive a ten year streak of playoff trips. He continthe tradiued tion of collegiate Peprahs signing with Alabama. As a defensive back for the Crimson Tide he was a four-year starter in the secondary, finishing his career with 210 tackles

and nine interceptions. He ranks second in Alabama history with two interception returns for touchdowns.

Originally drafted in the fifth round in 2006 by the New York Giants, Charlie was released in the final roster reduction and claimed off waivers by the Packers just before the start of the 2006 sea-





Josh with his grandmother Adwoa Saah and mom Elizabeth Peprah.

son. He ended up playing in eight games as a rookie and all 16 games in 2007 on special teams and at safety. That's the dream Josh is trying to live.

"I really thought, after my sophomore year, that I could play," he says. The coaches in District 9-5A agreed making Josh a first team all district selection at safety after the 2006 season.

Heading into the 2008 season, the Plano East Panthers are stinging from a 2007 season that saw them miss the playoffs for the first time since 1995. After a 6-0 start, the Panthers lost four straight. Josh says that experience has inspired him.

"My personal goal is to help the team become more like a family," says Josh.

To help keep focused on the goal of returning to the playoffs, Josh committed early to the University of Wisconsin in August. The Gophers plan to play him at safety, just like Charlie who has spent the last two years on the Packers roster not far from the University of Wisconsin campus.

"It is a plus that Green Bay is 2 hours away but

that wasn't the reason I wanted to go there. Wisconsin was the best school for me," he says.

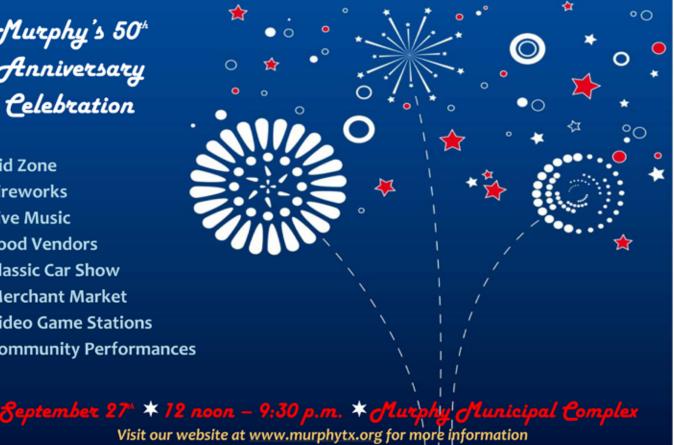
What lies beyond the college experience who knows; the football gods are a fickle bunch but Josh says his brothers' experiences have been a huge help.

"They've been there before. They know what it takes. They help me all the time to try to be better than they were. They tell me the stuff they wish they would have done and I do that."

With a lot of hard work and a little luck, the next Peprah to step onto an N.F.L. field just might be Josh.

#### Look for Josh to be wearing #31 this season.

Murphy's 50<sup>™</sup> Anniversary Celebration



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Save the Date to Celebrate!

The City of Murphy invites you to help us celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 27<sup>th</sup> from 12 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. at the Murphy Municipal Complex, 206 North Murphy Rd. The celebration will include activities for the whole family!

- + Kid Zone sponsored by Murphy Road Baptist Church
- Video Gaming sponsored by Twisted Zen
- + Classic Car Show sponsored by Gasoline Alley Car Shows
- Live Music, Food and Beverages sponsored by Love and War in Texas
- Dunk Booth and Bicycle Rodeo sponsored by Jon Lashbrook State Farm Insurance
- + Fireworks show sponsored by the Murphy Community Development Corporation

Other activities include a Merchant Market sponsored by the Murphy Chamber of Commerce, a "Fifties Dress" Contest, Hula Hoop Contest, Cake Walk, Pie Baking Contest, and much much more!

A time capsule will also be installed as part of the opening ceremony. The capsule will be sealed until the year 2058. If you have items of interest that you would like to see included in the capsule, please contact the City at 972/468-4000. The City is also accepting historical memorabilia and photographs that will be displayed during the event.

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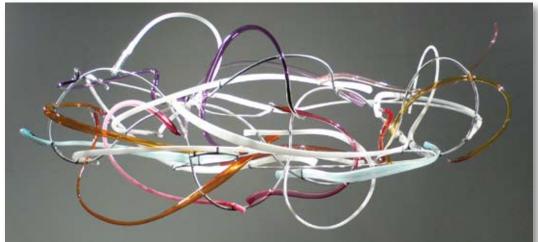
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## HEALTH MECTION

## The Art of Healing

New cancer center nurtures mind, body, and spirit.

By Jennifer Baylis of Richardson Regional Medical Center



atients and visitors of the new Richardson Regional Cancer Center, an affiliate of UT Southwestern Medical Center, will be soothed and uplifted by the healing environment.

"The overlying message is survivorship," said Maria MacMullin, Richardson Regional Medical Center Foundation's director of development. "The treatment approach is holistic – combining advanced technology with alternative therapies that nurture body and soul."

Thanks to several donors of the Foundation's "Cancer Should Not Have the Last Word" capital campaign, art work and other aesthetic features displayed throughout the center embody that theme of survivorship.

"We selected art pieces that would promote survivorship through messages of inspiration, comfort and beauty," said MacMullin. "By engaging body, mind and spirit we hope to encourage patients to stay strong in their fight against cancer."

Jerry Owens of Owens Country Sausage, a long-time benefactor and former Board member of Richardson Regional who passed away earlier this year, made a generous gift for one of the signature pieces. It's a sculpture of clouds by Dallas artist Jim Bowman suspended from the 40-foot ceiling in the

main entrance. The clouds, sculpted from blown glass, will be enhanced by natural light in an open, airy space.

Cloud Sculpture by Dallas artist Jim Bowman

A meditation room, made possible by donors Max and Judy Martin, will give patients and their families a place to relax, reflect and share quiet time together. Judy Martin serves as the "Cancer Should Not Have the Last Word" chair, and as a cancer survivor herself, she wanted to do something especially meaningful for those facing the same battle.

"I chose this gift because of my faith and because of the faith other patients and families will be demonstrating when they go to the meditation room," said Martin.

Utilizing color in abstract style, Rhode Island artist Paul Houseberg custom designed the art glass windows for the meditation room. The mixture of blues, greens, and yellow will radiate a healing light within the room.

A water wall near the first floor waiting area also will create a healing environment.

Funded by donors James and Gayle Von Ehr, the wall is made of textured copper and etched with the "Cancer Should Not Have the Last Word" logo. It was designed by Water Studio, a

California studio specializing in contemporary water features and fountains.

"The piece is set within the limestone-finished walls and deeply colored brick that enhance the bronze patina of the copper," said MacMullin.

Art is known to lift the spirits of people facing illnesses, and some studies even suggest that it can improve recovery times.

"Art can be therapeutic by reducing stress levels and improving a patient's overall outlook," said Sam Bibawi, M.D., a medical oncologist at

the Cancer Center said. "Creating a tranquil setting will hopefully soothe their fears and anxiety and put them in a relaxed state - that in itself can play an important part in the healing process." •

#### **Richardson Regional Medical Center Bush/Renner Campus Community Open House**

Saturday, October 11 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2821 E. President G. Bush Turnpike Richardson, TX 75082

Come celebrate the opening of the new cancer center and outpatient hospital at Richardson Regional's Bush/Renner Campus. Meet the physicians serving your neighborhood and enjoy a day of FREE health screenings and fun for the entire family. The event will feature door prizes, food and festivities galore. T-shirts will be given to the first 250 guests. For more information, call (972) 4 DR LINE.



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by Marcia Coker of Wylie ISD

rt isn't simply art anymore. Today's budding Picassos, Matisses or Rembrandts may also be tomorrow's innovators in the workplace. Recent studies show that the jobs of the future will require more creativity in problem solving and making abstract concepts real and tangible.

Wylie ISD promotes this shift in thinking by offering a comprehensive curriculum in arts education, more specifically, visual arts. "Of the 3,611 students enrolled in fine arts during the 2007-2008 school year,



"Of the 3,611 students *Award winning students recognized: Maddy Aguilar*, enrolled in fine arts during *Ericka Wickett and Narong Tintamusik* 

1,053 participated in courses pertaining to the visual arts," said WISD Fine Arts Director Mike Lipe. "We anticipate the enrollment to increase for the 2008-2009 school year."

Macklyn Stripling, of the Wylie High School Art Department, knows that art not only enhances knowledge in core courses, like math and science. It also reinforces them because of the complex processes students go through in creating an art piece. "Allowing students to study art at all levels in school fosters higher level thinking skills and creative problem solving," adds Stripling.

Beginning in kindergarten, students receive instruction in both music and art. In fifth grade, all students receive art and music in rotation per six week period. Sixth grade students may chose art as an elective that is taught daily for 35 minutes. It is the same for grades seven and eight; however, students can choose to participate for a semester or a whole year.

At the high school levels, students are required to complete one year of fine arts for graduation. The fine arts requirement can be fulfilled through dance, band, choir, theater or visual arts, depending on the student's gift or interest. Students electing to pursue visual arts must complete Art I then select a more specialized art form including photography, two and three dimensional art, drawing or ceramics; all considered higher level courses. More talented or focused students may express themselves in Advanced Placement Art, a year-long class that challenges students to produce a presentation portfolio of various types of art that is submitted to the College Board for judging. Visual arts students study the historical and cultural influences on art and the human experience that created it. They apply concepts learned in chemistry to mix paint or acrylics and know what type of canvas or surface will produce the best shades. Students learn what light is needed to enhance the



Celebrate the Arts display

mood of the subject or what temperature to heat the kiln that will bring out the desired glaze finish of a ceramic.

Statistics show that students who study the arts in school do better at standardized tests. Nationally, according to the College Examination Board, students enrolled in fine arts courses score from 6 to 11 percent higher on the SAT than students not enrolled in any fine arts courses. In addition, the average stu-

dent enrollment in fine arts is 17 percentage points greater in high schools that are rated "Exemplary" than in those rated "Low Performing," based on data from the Texas Education Agency on 951 high schools.

Each year Wylie ISD showcases its Fine Arts programs with a weekend event, called Celebrate the Arts, where students in performing and visual arts display their work. Students also submit their work for judging by competing in events like the University Interscholastic League and the Visual Arts Scholastic Event. Last year, WISD students received regional and state recognition for their artwork including two Pre-AP Art I students at Wylie East High school. They accepted gold medals for extending the standards of what good art is. Unlike most competitions, students aren't awarded places for their work. Rather, the work they submit is judged and scored according to specific criteria and against other work submitted. Subsequently, the highest scores at state receive the gold medals. In addition, Wylie High School 2008 graduate, Gretchen Vickers, was twice named to the top 100 artists in the state.

Whether the remaining 1,050 art students earn medals or not, they are all winners. Through the comprehensive visual arts program that WISD provides, they learn a new way of thinking and appreciate the historical relevance art has in society. More importantly, students acquire skills and problem solving techniques that will help equip them to face the future. •



## DINING MACTION

## Ladies Do Lunch

Actually we did Happy Hour at Love & War in Texas

By Lori Whitten of Poetry & Wylie

ur visit to Love & War in Texas for a Friday Happy Hour was an absolute treat. Not only did we get to try a new "time" for lunch, we welcomed Becky into our group.

Circa 1900 is how I would describe Love & War's bar. It includes a beautiful color blocked glass wall; a warm mix of colored dimpled and frosted glass - much like the stained glass that adorns many turn of the century buildings. A beautiful natural cedar ceiling, authentic rock fireplace, prerequisite deer antler chandelier, and fluorescent beer signs round out the truly Texas décor. The lighting was perfectly soft and diffused and it made us ladies look warm and lovely. We took our cue from the peaceful surroundings and started the evening with a selection of robust cocktails. I enjoyed a delight-

fully salmon colored Cosmo, I enjoyed this slightly stouter then normal version - it was just what I needed to top off my hectic week. Anne savored the traditional Gold Margarita; Stacie's tastes went for the more tropical, a Malibu Rum and Pineapple Juice, while Becky daintily sipped a Dirty Martini.



With the easy choice Texas Blue Crab Stuffed Portabella

of what to drink out of the way we went about studying the well thought out and organized menu. Anne selected the Waltz Across Texas platter. The Waltz includes: wild boar quesadillas, which where very tasty; smoked chicken flautas that where yummy, moist and crunchy – as a flauta should be; we skipped the "Beaumont Bugs" (Crawfish) in favor of the fried dill pickles, which I am sorry to say I did not try and finally - my absolute favorite even though I was a bit skeptical – Barbara Bush's fried, fresh and crunchy green beans. Oh my gosh! - I could have made a meal out of those wonderfully green and crunchy beans (I almost did). As we perused the menu we discovered it was grouped by the regions of Texas - from The Border to the Texas Gulf Coast and all points in-between. Our first thought was we could have a culinary excursion and never leave our most comfy booth. Of course, as we read through the menu we soon discovered if we tried every region – we would not be able to walk through the front door. After much debate, we agreed on the Texas Blue Crab Stuffed Portabella from The Texas Gulf Coast, which was most delicious. We moved on to Chicken Fried Chicken from the East Texas Piney Woods – this chicken had the best breading and most tender inside – it was yumilicious. By the time the Tejas Platter from the Border showed up – the main course

section of my stomach was totally full and I could not fit in another thing. I did hear some appreciative sounds coming from Anne and Becky – so I'm sure it was wonderful as well.

After such a huge meal, Becky and I needed to stretch our legs so we took about a five-minute walk to check out the out door patio and stage



Owner - Ty Phelps

coffee. I must say the coffee was the perfect ending to a most enjoyable "happy hour".

My workweek had been condensed and stressful, so was not looking forward to "happy hour" as much as I should have. I am incredibly



Shoe Coffees

love you when they do not have to, make you laugh when you thought you only wanted to cry and they lift you up and make it seem effortless. Thanks my dear girlfriends - I needed you this week. Did I mention, I highly recommend Barbara Bush's Fried Green Beans"?

If you need to unwind and let your hair down, we highly recommend Love & War in Texas at the corner of Central Expressway and Plano Pkwy. in Plano. Their incredibly friendly, fun and attentive staff will be more then happy to help you loosen up. Be sure to tell them the lunch ladies sent you.

Visit www.loveandwarintexas.com for details on live music performances that can be enjoyed year round.







## Wylie Championship Rodeo

September 12th & 13th, 6:30 p.m. - 'til the cows come home!

he Wylie Rodeo is a community event that has something for everyone. Adding to the Pro Rodeo action, there will be western themed craft and vendor booths for your early Christmas shopping, food from a variety of concessionaires and a Kiddie Corral that just keeps getting better every year. In addition to the games and bounce houses, there will be mechanical bull rides and other surprises for the more adventurous in attendance.

Get your boots on and make plans to attend the 16th Annual Wylie Championship Rodeo to be held on Friday & Saturday, September 12 & 13, 2008 from 6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. at the Rodeo Arena in Wylie, located adjacent to the Birmingham Agricultural facility on Hensley Ln. The schedule and ticket prices are as follows:

#### **Tickets:**

Adults - \$10 per night

- Children (12 & under) & Seniors- \$5 per night
- Children 3 & Under FREE
- Family Pack\* \$25 per night
- \*(Family Pack Includes 2-Adult Tickets, 2-Children Tickets

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#### Schedule of Events:

#### FRIDAY

6:30 p.m.	Mutton Bustin'
8:00 p.m.	Grand Entry/Rodeo Begins
10:30 p.m.	Slack (Extra cowboys to compete)
SATURDAY	
6:30 p.m.	Team Penning/Cutting Exhibition

0.50 p.m.	really Perining/Culling Exhibition
8:00 p.m.	Grand Entry/Rodeo Begins
10:30 p.m.	Slack (Extra cowboys to compete)

The Wylie Championship Rodeo is a signature event for the City of Wylie bringing Wylie and the surrounding communities together for an evening of fun and excitement. For more details, contact the Wylie chamber of Commerce at 972-442-2804 or online at www.wyliechamber.org. •









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Friday And Sunday

he Sachse Chamber of Commerce with Title Sponsor, Verizon, is proud to present the 23rd Annual Sachse Fallfest on Saturday, October 11, 2008 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Heritage Park, 4408 Heritage Parkway, Sachse behind Sewell Elementary just off Miles Road..

Sachse's Fallfest has grown through the years and has become a favorite fair for vendors, crafters and fairgoers from all over the area. The event includes a classic car show, a children's pageant, and 100+ vendor booths for crafters, business vendors and local organizations. The event is highlighted by the free entertainment, games for kids of all ages and great food. Plan to attend this year's event to see what all the fun is about at the Sachse Fallfest. Admission is free. www.sachsechamber.com•





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Tina & Michelle of the Sachse Chamber

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