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MUSIC - ART - NEWS

November 2017
FREE

Ralph Stearns



Plus: Cindy Kahler Thomas
WFSO Honors Vets Nick Thornton

Hurricane Benefit
The Coo Room

Hellen Bach
Fox Hill Restaurant

THE HUB OF NORTH TEXAS

There are so many good things happening in Wichita Falls. Downtown is BOOMING. The art and music scene is better than ever, and local business owners are working together to build a thriving community that supports each other rather than competing and trying to put each other under. This city is wonderful.

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Sometimes life throws twists and turns at us. The Hub does not take any responsibility for information or schedule changes. We want to support local artists and businesses but we suggest that you verify the information before putting something on your calendar.

1 Corinthians 16:14

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November 18

PARADE FOOD SANTA

Entertainment Guide of Wichita Falls

November 2

Melissa Prigmore
art opening
@ The Maplewood

November 3

Texas Boneyard Band @ Lonesum Dove

Zach Cornell
@ Gypsy Uncorked

Annual Outlaw 94.9
Birthday Bash
Dirty River Boys
Zach Nytomt
@ Iron Horse Pub

November 4

Jeff Dunham
@ Memorial Auditorium

Ken Nelson
@Gypsy Uncorked

CJ Cody Band
@ The Corner Post

INTXS and
Electric Love Temple @
Iron Horse Pub

North Texas Rising final
show @ Wichita Theatre

November 9

Open Mic night
w/ Nick Dan
@ The Maplewood

November 10

Armadillo Flatts @ Lone-
sum Dove

Michael Hayes
@Gypsy Uncorked

Brandon Jenkins
Braden Southard
@ Iron Horse Pub

Fashion show fundraiser
for Texas Pit Crew
3:00-8:00
@ Whiskeyta Club

Lucky Southern
@ Fubar Saloon, Lawton

November 11

Rodney Johnson Band
@ Iron Horse Pub

Sej Miles
@Gypsy Uncorked

Whiskey Myers
@ CW Scooters, Lawton

Red River Roller Derby
last home game of the
season Vs. Assassina-
tion City Roller Derby
from Dallas 6:00pm
@ Maidens Madhouse,
4490 Old Iowa Park Rd

November 12

WF Youth Symphony
Orchestra
Suzuki Strings and
YSO's Strolling Strings
1:00
Symphonic Orchestra,
Philharmonic Orches-
tra, and Strolling Strings
4:00 @ MSU's Akin
Auditorium

November 14

Dead Horse Trauma
Ektomorf
Skinhook
Outwrite Legends
Thousand Pound South
@ Stick's Place

November 15

Karaoke night
w/ Tom Brillhart
@ The Maplewood

November 17

Luke Walker Band
CD release party w/
Ground Floor & Rising
@ Iron Horse Pub

Dillon Pirkle
@Gypsy Uncorked

8th St. Coffee House
expansion opens
@ 8th St. Coffee House

November 18

Shane Mercer
@ Stick's Place

Dru Gid
@Gypsy Uncorked

Nevalution/Big Find/
The Kept/Mouthbreath-
er @ The Deep End

Desperado w/
Under The Influence
@ Iron Horse Pub

November 22

Erick Willis w/
Blaine Gillespie Band @
Iron Horse Pub

November 23

Hannah Belle Lecter
and James Cook
@ Iron Horse Pub

November 24

Reckless Kelly
@ The Warehouse

Sej Miles
@Gypsy Uncorked

Flatland Cavalry
w/ Elaina Kay
@ Iron Horse Pub

Sylvia' opening night
Runs through Dec. 16
@ Backdoor Theatre

November 25

AA Bottom Friends
and Family Show
@ Iron Horse Pub

Anthony Castillo
@Gypsy Uncorked

Red Dog @ Stick's Place

Bruce Lyons Sidewalk
Jam/Concert
@ BW Lyons Guitars, 914
Scott St

November 29

Tuna Blues Band
@ Stick's Place

Karaoke night
@ The Maplewood

December 1

Throwback Acoustic
Show with
Joel Estes, Michael Hayes,
and Dru Gid
@ Mustang Bar

Milligan Vaughan Project
@ Iron Horse Pub

December 2

Back In Black
Black River
@ Iron Horse Pub

Ralph Stears Art Show
@ 9th St Studios

Ongoing events:

Vanity's Open Jam
every Monday @ 608
Lounge

Dru's Open Jam
every Tuesday
@ Old Town Saloon

\$2 Tuesdays With
Harvey and Tim
@ Stick's Place

Open Jam
first Wednesday,
open mic
third Wednesday
@ Iron Horse Pub

Open Blues Jam every
Wednesday @ Stick's
Place

C&W Dance Night every
Thursday & Friday with
Live Music TBA
@ Stick's Place

Open Mic every Friday
@ 8th St. Coffee House

Live music every Friday
@ Lonesum Dove

Live model painting
every Monday \$5
@Seventh St. Studio

Live music every Friday
@ Frank & Joes

Live music every Friday
Race Rutledge
every Saturday
@ Texas Nite Life

Open mic every Sunday
@ Mustang Bar

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NEW LOCATION
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9-11:00 AM Specials
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Pool Tables & Darts

Oct 6 - John Clifton Blues Band
Oct 7 - Local Legends Rock Festival see pg. 17
Oct 27 - Jake Odin And The Marching Band
Oct 28 - Romeo Whiskey &
Downtown Royalty Band
Oct 31 - Monster Bash w/ RIP

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Nov. 3 - Annual Outlaw 94.9
Birthday Bash w/ Dirty River
Boys and Zach Nytomt Band

Nov. 4 - INTXS "INXS Tribute",
Electric Love Temple "Cult
Tribute"

Nov. 10 - Brandon Jenkins,
Braden Southard

Nov. 11 - Rodney Johnson Band

Nov. 17 - Luke Walker Band

Nov. 18 - Desperado "Eagles
Tribute", Under the Influence

Nov. 22 - Erick Willis,
Blaine Gillespie Band

Nov. 23 - Co-Headline Show
with Hannah Belle Lecter
and James Cook

Nov. 24 - Flatland Cavalry,
Elaina Kay

Nov. 25 - AA Bottom
friends & family show



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SHEPPARD

AIR FORCE BASE

Upcoming Community Events

NOV. 4

*Wichita Falls Veterans Day Parade
11 a.m., Downtown*

NOV. 4

*Midwestern State University
Military Appreciation Football Game
2 p.m., Memorial Stadium*

NOV. 10

*Wichita Falls ISD
Veterans Day Celebration
11 a.m., Memorial Stadium*

NOV. 11

*Quiet Heroes
Salute to the Armed Forces
Wichita Falls Symphony
7:30 p.m., Memorial Auditorium*

NOV. 11-12

*Hangar Holiday
Sheppard Officers Spouses Club
Wichita Falls MPEC*

DEC. 13

*Air Force Band of the West
Spectrum Wind Ensemble
Free Holiday Concert
7:30 p.m., Akin Auditorium
Midwestern State University*



‘Maintenance Man’ unveiled

SHEPPARD AIR FORCE BASE, Texas -- A 6-foot tall, bronze statue, known to Airmen as the ‘Maintenance Man’, was unveiled on Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, Oct. 13, 2017, near the Main Gate.

The 82nd Training Wing graduates approximately 60,000 Airmen each year including all aircraft maintainers. The statue represents a lineage of exceptional maintainers that have received their training at Sheppard.

The statue is a larger version of the Leo Marquez Award that is given to Airmen in the maintenance career field for outstanding performance. Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics and Engineering in 1978 and is known throughout the Air Force as “the godfather of maintenance.”

“If you looked up the terms excellence, integrity, service and leadership, I wouldn’t be surprised if a picture of Leo Marquez was pulled up,” said Lt. Gen. John Cooper, Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection.

Marquez is known for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the maintenance career field including the creation of the specialty badge that maintainers wear on their uniform.

“Every maintainer in the Air Force relates to and understands this symbol,” said Brig. Gen. Ronald Jolly Sr., 82nd Training Wing commander. “His vision has brought us to where we are today.”

The statue was gifted to the base by the Logistics Officer Association and the unveiling ceremony culminated a three-day Logistics Strategy Summit hosted by the 82nd Training Wing. Directly behind the statue sits a newly positioned T-38 Talon static display.

“The T-38 was an avionics training aircraft for our Sheppard aircraft maintainers and it has the ‘ST’ tail flash, which symbolizes the history of Sheppard training,” Jolly said. “It symbolizes and honors the history of aircraft maintainers that have come before us and the future of the aircraft maintainers that we are training today.”

In addition to the unveiling of the statue and T-38 static display, Sheppard renamed avenues D and E in honor of Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez and his contributions to the Air Force maintenance community. The former avenues D and E will now be known as Lt. Gen. Leo Marquez Boulevard.

See for yourself



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APPRECIATION DAY**



**MSU-BURNS
FANTASY OF LIGHTS**



- Campus sculptures: Mustangs, Sunwatcher, HHH
- Hardin Building: Bell Tower and Liberty Bell
- Juanita Harvey Art Gallery
- Nolan A. Moore III Heritage of Print Collection in Moffett Library
- Sikes Lake and Trail
- Wichita Falls Museum of Art

**Speaker and Issues Series
Presents Jan Jarboe Russell**

7 p.m. Nov. 1 WFMA
Free Admission



Janboe Russell is author of *The New York Times* best-seller, *The Train to Crystal City*, the story of a secret American internment camp in South Texas during World War II. Japanese, German, and Italian immigrants and their American-born children were shipped to the camp and used in a government prisoner exchange program. The book received the Texas Institute of Letters Prize for Best Book of Nonfiction in 2015.

Military Appreciation Day

2 p.m. Nov. 4 Memorial Stadium
MSU Football takes on rival Tarleton State for the Mustangs last regular season home game while celebrating its annual Military Appreciation Day. A special halftime program will salute those who have served and are serving the country. All active or retired military with valid military ID cards will receive free admission.

**National Association of Teachers
of Singing Recital**

3 p.m. Nov. 5 Akin Auditorium
MSU music students will sing literature they have been preparing for the competition being held at Texas A&M-Commerce November 8-11. Admission is free.

Experimenting on a Small Planet

5 p.m. Nov. 9 Bolin Science Hall
The Geoscience and Environmental Science Colloquium Series will present Dr. Scott Meddaugh at 5 p.m. in Bolin 100. Meddaugh is the Robert L. Bolin Distinguished Professor of Petroleum Geology at MSU's Kimbell School of Geosciences. His topic will be "Experimenting on a Small Planet."

Woodwind Chamber Ensembles

7:30 p.m. Nov. 14 Akin Auditorium
Free Admission

Guest Recital by Tenor Alan Bowers

7:30 p.m. Nov. 16 Fain Fine Arts Center
Free Admission

**MSU Theatre:
The God of Hell by Sam Shepard**

7:30 p.m. Nov. 16-18 Fain Fine Arts Center
2:30 p.m. Nov. 19 Fain Fine Arts Center

General Admission: \$10
Reduced Admission: \$8
For more information or for season ticket or group ticket information, call the box office at 940-397-4393 or the Department of Theatre at 940-397-4670.

A Wisconsin dairy farmer and his wife provide shelter to an old friend. When another man comes to the farm in pursuit, the couple's idyllic farm life is shattered.

Fantasy of Lights Opening Ceremony

November 20
5:30 p.m. Carillon Christmas Recital
by Jim Quashnock
6 p.m. Lighting of the Displays
6:30 p.m. Ben Franklin Elementary Choir
7 p.m. Annual University Wind Ensemble
in Akin Auditorium

After the opening ceremony, the displays will be turned on daily through Monday, Dec. 25. Hours are from dusk to 10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and dusk to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Special daytime hours for school groups are 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Admission is free; donations to help with maintenance of the display are welcome. Visit msuburnsfantasyoflights.com or call 940-397-4352 for more information.

**University Wind Ensemble
and University Orchestra in Concert**

7:30 p.m. Nov. 28 Akin Auditorium
Free Admission

University Jazz Ensemble in Concert

7:30 p.m. Nov. 30 Akin Auditorium
Free Admission

Cindy Kahler Thomas

Cindy Kahler Thomas began writing for The Hub in January of 2017 and has become one of the top content contributors. As with every Hub contributor, she is first an artist. Although Cindy has never received any formal artistic training after high school, she has developed a very colorful style that is uniquely hers. She describes her art as “bright and happy”. “I like to make people smile with my art”, Cindy explained.

Using bright inks on glass or yupo paper, a synthetic paper made not from trees, Cindy manipulates the liquid’s movements to create abstract florals and sun rises. She has been working with this medium for 3 years, but she’s been doing stained glass mosaics for 16

year. She recalls that, while in a low point of her life, her best friend Marsha came to her and said “we are doing art” and that helped her to cope and she has been doing it ever since.

Cindy stays very active in the Wichita Falls art community. Not only does she participate in almost every art event in the area, she also plays a crucial role at the Wichita Falls Art Association. In 2011 the gallery, at that time under a different name, was in danger of closing it’s doors. Cindy and Marsha Wright Reeves took the helm and made the decision to renew the lease and change the name to Wichita Falls Art Association. The association allows members of

all artistic levels for a low fee of only \$35 per year, plus an additional fee to hang in the gallery.

Cindy has some shows coming up, including a solo show in the West End Gallery at The Kemp Center For The Arts on Thursday, November 2nd from 5:30-7:30pm. She will be displaying over 25 pieces, the majority being never before seen, and they are will remain up for 6 weeks. She will also have a couple pieces on display in the North Light gallery in the Kemp Center at the same time and then again in January when the Art Association has a show there.

The artist counts her faith and family among her greatest assets. She describes her husband as being very supportive. “He’s not artsy at all, but he’s real supportive and doesn’t fuss at all when I lock myself in the studio.”



WFAA

WICHITA FALLS ART ASSOCIATION GALLERY

Established in 2012, The Wichita Falls Art Association Gallery is a part of the burgeoning downtown art district.

**Join us for Gallery Night.
The first Thursday of November through March.
5:30 PM — 7:30 PM**

Take in the exhibit opening, meet with local artists, and enjoy some refreshments.

WFAA Art Gallery at 600 8th Street in the Historic Holt Hotel
www.fallsart.org • Wichita Falls Art Association on Facebook



The MAPLE WOOD



Wednesday, November 1st
Karaoke Night

Thursday, November 2nd
Melissa Prigmore
Art Opening


Thursday, November 9th
Painting Party
w/ Vickie Milam & Open Mic Night

Wednesday, November 15th
Painting Party
w/ Vickie Milam
& Karaoke Night

Wednesday, November 29th
Karaoke Night



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Hurricane Relief Benefit At Iron Horse Pub

On September 30, the Iron Horse Pub hosted a benefit for victims of Hurricane Harvey. Many local musicians and bands performed and raised money for the event. Jimmy Cooper, Director of Operations for The Iron Horse Pub and Iron Horse Pub Catering Events says, "This goes to show that musicians in Wichita Falls do have a voice when working for a good and common cause."

The musicians and bands that perform for benefits like this volunteer their time and talents to help others in need. The performers for this benefit were Michael Hayes, CJ Cody Band, Jason Brown, Downtown Royalty Band, The Indications, Deep In It, Randy Summers Band, and The Tuna Blues Band, as well as the supporting members including Aaron Epp running sound, the staff at Iron Horse Pub, and Sawyer Printing for donating posters and flyers for the event.

Shown here is the presentation of a \$1500 check going to the Red Cross Of Wichita Falls to help the people affected by Hurricane Harvey. Those pictured here are (l to r) Walter Lambert, Jason Brown, Ronny Berry, and Katrina Farmer.

-Tim Maloney



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Hellen Bach

I was downtown on October 14 for the Falls Town Food Truck Challenge, and on the main entertainment stage Hellen Bach was the first band on the bill. It was about 15 minutes to show time but they were kind enough to give me a five minute interview to get to know who they are.

Hellen Bach was established in 2005 by Chris Hunt, the drummer, and Larissa Brown, lead vocals and tambourine. Kelly Jackson, bassist, and Kris Mask, lead guitarist, have both been with the band for more than two years.

Larissa is a speech language pathologist for the Wichita Falls ISD. Chris is the operations, fleet, warehouse and safety manager for Brian's Plumbing. He also gives drum lessons through Tracey Music at his studio located at 708 10th St. Kelly is a music teacher at Hayley's Music located at 1907 Kemp and has a studio at Alley Cats downtown. And Kris is a gypsy music teacher, having studios in Graham and Jacksboro and teaches at Haley's as well.

Hellen Bach isn't your ordinary bar band. They only play about one show a month to keep the show fresh, and they pride themselves on being a family-friendly act. They play every year at Halloween, and play family oriented shows around town such as at the Museum and Arts Center Carnivale, Live At The Lake, Concert In The Park, and even at



L-R: Kelly Jackson, Larissa Brown, Kristin Mask, Chris Hunt

the public library.

With the selection of songs that they perform, Larissa says that the band enjoys watching people dance and sing to their set, and laughing at her jokes.

Hellen Bach has a show coming up in December at the Iron Horse Pub. I have caught their act a couple of times this past year, and every time I can't resist the urge to tap my toes or to get up and dance. So when I tell you I've been to Hellen Bach, that's a good thing.

~Tim Maloney

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Ralph Stearns

Muralist, Photorealist, and... Sculpture?

Ralph Stearns' love affair with art has taken many twists and turns. He has painted in many styles and worked with several mediums, and now some of his best work will be shown at 9th Street Studios on December 2nd starting at 7:00 p.m.

"This is big to me and I am throwing everything I have into it. The show features two diverse types of art—photorealism, and action pop art performances," Ralph explained, "Performance art deemphasizes the art and emphasizes the artist's actions. Pop art draws its subject matter from American mass media and American consumerism. So it is in that genre that the performance pieces will be created."

Ralph says that performance art is in the developmental stages. "I hope performance art takes off," he said, "Performance art will progressively move the art culture forward in Wichita Falls. I hope my performances at the art show will inspire other artists to do the same. It is going to be like Saturday Night Live with a fine art content," Ralph added, "It is like the theater, and I paint a

picture before your very eyes. Performance art focuses on the artist's body in real time and space. It is live. It is going to be so different than anything you have ever seen before."

There will be 4 performance art pieces at the art show. While he depicts the various artists he will be speed painting a piece of art. He does it in such a fashion that the audience is surprised by the subject of the painting when he is finished. Even though they are watching, he will astonish those in attendance. The paintings will compliment the performances. In one of the shows he will depict Elvis Presley while painting. Ralph is planning on having a live band to back Elvis up. He will be portraying La Tonka with authentic Native American dancers in full regalia as well. He would also like to have flute players and possibly a drum. The live band will rock and roll when he portrays Jimmy Hendricks while painting, and as his final performance he will draw a caricature of one the guest while explaining how it is done. It will be the first art show of its kind in Wichita Falls, and it will be memorable.

The show will also highlight Ralph's talent in painting photorealism.

This type of art is so precise that it appears to be a photo instead of a painting. "The photorealism paintings are tight. I have got 10 pieces and most of them have

never been seen before. I spent up to a month, eight hours a day, painting just one," Ralph said, "The photorealism is awesome and mind boggling. They have an 'I can't believe it is a painting' feel." He will also be showcasing new sculptures. "That sparked something in me. I enjoy sculpture. Wildlife sculptor Ralph Stearns—who would have thought," he said with a grin.

Now if the name Ralph Stearns sounds familiar, it could be because



of his many murals painted in the downtown area. Or it could be because of the recent press he has gotten that all started with an illegal painting of a blue egret on the spillway at Lake Wichita. Ralph was actually testing the site to see if a mural could be painted there at the request of a friend interested in one of Ralph's murals at that location. "I wanted to test the surface and see how it would take the paint," he said, "This is how I was able to decide what was going to be needed and what it would cost to complete a large mural. The media has brought a lot of attention to the Lake Wichita and has brought a lot of attention to the lake revitalization project; and it all started by painting that illegal egret." It was unsigned, and there was some question over who painted it until Ralph came forward. The test painting was a success and the Wichita Falls Lake Revitalization (WFLR) committee loved it, along with the citizens of Wichita Falls. After a presentation from Ralph, fleshing out the specifics of the proposed mural, the committee was onboard with the idea. He then

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made a presentation to the city council and the mural was approved pending the ability of the WFLR committee's ability to raise the funds needed. If the project is funded, the blue egret would be painted over with a big mouth bass jumping up in the air, and would have 2 white egrets flanking it on either side.

After Ralph graduated from Midwestern State University 30 years ago he began to paint billboards. "You would paint one and they would break it up into pieces so that it could be installed," he explained. He painted advertisements for 15 years until "technology took his job," and billboards

started being produced by machines. Of course, this experience has led to the expert quality of his murals. They are colorful eyes, trains, giant birds, large horny toads and even a cat and a light switch.

Ralph's murals are just one way that his talent has shown itself. His range of talent is remarkable from the copies of great masters in his house, to the gentle brush strokes of his expressionistic work, to the precise photorealism he will be showing in December.

Whether it is a beautiful mural, or a show stopping performance, you can be guaranteed that you will be seeing more of Ralph Stearns in the future. 9th Street Studio is located at 920 9th Street, at the corner of 9th and Travis.

-Cindy Kahler Thomas



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Geeks Who Drink Trivia Thursdays
(starting Sept. 14th)



WF Symphony Orchestra Honors Veterans

If the season opener of the Wichita Falls Symphony Orchestra on October 14th was any indication of the caliber of musicianship and audience excitement for the rest of the 2017-2018 season, then the Veteran's Day concert on November 11th is sure to be a show-stopper.

Maestro Fakhouri, the WFSO's new Music Director-Conductor, lived up to the buzz surrounding his first official concert in Wichita Falls last month with two standing ovations, one before intermission and one closing out the concert. Had he been a guest soloist rather than the conductor, he surely would have been called upon to perform several encores.

Whereas last month's concert presented music from Austria, Mexico, Russia and Germany, this month's concert, which is titled "Quiet Heroes: A Salute to the Armed Forces," highlights a variety of homegrown composers. This all American concert gets its title from the featured work on the program, Chris Brubeck's *Quiet Heroes: A Symphonic Salute to the Flagraisers at Iwo Jima*. Known primarily as a jazz musician and composer like his famous father, Dave Brubeck, the younger Brubeck's background is equally as fun and eclectic. Chris, who heads up the band Triple Play, performs on the electric bass, bass trombone, and piano.

Not only will this be the first time the WFSO has performed *Quiet Heroes*, the maestro has arranged for a special Marine to narrate the piece, beloved actor Wilford Brimley. As Fakhouri puts it, "I can't wait to perform *Quiet Heroes*, once again, with Wilford Brimley. A few years ago, in North Carolina, we performed it together and I still remember that concert very fondly.

Chris Brubeck's score along with Brimley's narration is truly an inspirational testament and salute to our armed forces."

Quiet Heroes has its genesis in James Bradley's book *Flags of Our Fathers*, which Brubeck read prior to a meeting with the conductor of the Fox Valley Symphony of Appleton, Wisconsin. Both men agreed that the story of the flag raisers at Iwo Jima would make an ideal work for orchestra and narrator.

According to Brubeck, "*Quiet Heroes* tells the story of the five Marines and one Navy Corpsman who enlisted from various parts of this country and in a strange combination of luck and fate, were the six men who were captured in the iconic Joe Rosenthal photograph raising the American flag on the hellhole of Iwo Jima's Mt. Suribachi."

Brubeck met Wilford Brimley at the Monterey Jazz Festival and told him about the project; as Brubeck relates it, Brimley said, "Why, I'd crawl

over hot coals to be the narrator." Since their initial conversation, Brimley has narrated the work numerous times, including with the President's Own US Marine Band.

Also on the program is the American Salute by Morton Gould, Robert Jager's *Esprit de Corps*, Robert Lowden's *Armed Forces Salute*, and two works by cinematic composer John Williams.

Nominated for more Oscars than anyone else in any category, Williams' *Liberty Fanfare* and *Midway March* will surely remind listeners why he is one of our nation's most well-known and respected composers. His fanfare was written to commemorate the centennial of the Statue of Liberty on July 4, 1986.

The remainder of the 70th Anniversary season includes a holiday concert featuring the world-famous Canadian Brass on December 16th. On February 24th, the WFSO will be accompanied by Midwestern State University's Dr. Martin Camacho, who will perform Grieg's *Piano Concerto in A Minor*. The final concert of the season will be the digitally stunning, family-friendly *Pixar in Concert* on April 14th, featuring images from all of the Pixar films



pictured: Chris Brubeck and Wilford Brimley

paired with live orchestral music.

WFSO tickets are available in a variety of packages and at a variety of prices. To learn more about the current season, check out wfsso.org or follow the Symphony on Facebook (Wichita Falls Symphony), Twitter (@WFSO), Instagram (wf_so), or Snapchat (wfsymphony).

-Dr. Todd Giles

TIPS AND TALES FROM OUTBACK

with Johnny Divine (Outback Studios 940-613-8436)

It sounded like a good idea at first. It came from the heart. Even came from your soul. In fact, it was kind of clever, if not down right catchy! And your friends and family loved it! Even Grandma thought you might be the next Hank Williams! But it's illegal. Illegal??

What am I talking about here? Well, I was reading an article a few days ago about old timey hymns verses the current flood of Contemporary Christian music. Don't we already have enough divide when it comes to the different styles of rock and country-even jazz! There's classic rock, light rock, country rock, folk rock, screamo and emo, bubblegum, and the two hundred levels of heavy metal. And there's only supposed to be two kinds of music: country and western! But some fool somewhere took a chainsaw to the whole mess and now we have classic country, red dirt country, Nashville country, Texas country, Bakersfield coun-

try, and every now and then you might hear some country country! And don't get me started on jazz verses light jazz!

But I digress. The article about hymns and Contemporary Christian music showed a broad range of opinions about both. From hymns putting people to sleep to Contemporary Christian rock bands chasing church members away, the arguments showed lots of opinions and very few bridges.

I need a bridge to get me back to my original message and the legality of a certain practice! Over the years, many Christian artists have found it fun and convenient to take songs by other artists and write new lyrics to the song in the style of Christian lyrics. To the artists this can be fun and sometimes creative. I've had many artists come into my studio and do this and I've seen a fair amount of this process performed live-often being pretty corny, sometimes almost em-



barrasing, sometimes touching, but no matter what the results are, it's illegal.

Let me verify a simple detail about the legality of this practice. You can re-write lyrics all day long, you can record your "new song", you can practice these songs til you're blue in the face, but once they have gone public and any amount of money is involved, from performance pay, to CD sales, to radio play, to offerings, etc., it is necessary to have permission from the

owner of the copyright to whatever song you have changed. You might partake in this "art form" your whole life and never see any repercussions from your endeavors, but one day when the lawyers from Merle Haggard's estate come calling, don't say you didn't read it here.

Until next time, Everybody's Got Something To Hide Except For Me And My Jesus! Hey, Lennon and McCartney's lawyers are calling. Gotta run!

-Johnny Divine

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IT HURTS TO BE NICK

You may know him as the bassist for the local punk group It Hurts To Be Dead, but Nick Thornton is also an artist, a body artist.

After graduating from Iowa Park High School in 1998 he attended MSU and began working as a scrub tech for a neurosurgeon. He worked his way up to assistant in the operating room. Although he enjoyed his work, and embraced the experience, but with long hours and an on-call schedule he longed to get more out of his life. He said the money at the hospital was good, but he didn't have time to enjoy it. He had always wanted to be a hot rod and bike mechanic, but couldn't find a job for that anywhere around here. Having always been an artist, the hospital job had basically put his drawing on the back burner, but the desire to draw never escaped him. He began to draw more, and woke up one morning about four years ago and the inspiration to try tattooing hit him.

He bought some cheap equipment and his first tattoo was a little monster that a friend of his had drawn and wanted it on him. Nick says with a chuckle that it didn't turn out too terribly, and after about a year of tatting friends he decided to take it a bit more seriously. He notes that doing tattoos



out of your house is frowned upon by the industry, so he looked for a place to earn his apprenticeship and to learn how to tattoo someone correctly. He

landed a spot at Avenue Tattoo that used to be on Kemp Blvd, and after a year he moved to Lawton with the owner to open a new shop there. He eventually moved back home to Wichita Falls. He said he waited about a month to get the call back from his current location at Human Canvas WF, the one place he desired to be.

Doing tattoos has been a learning process and Nick says you can never stop learning. The other artists at the shop all have 20-plus years experience in tattooing and have been great mentors for him, teaching him things about shading, color,

background, light sources, and of course substance.

I asked him what was the average age of his clientele and he explained that the location of the shop being in close proximity to the MSU campus, and with the Sheppard AFB students looking for something to do, mostly the 20-somethings, but he has a few older clients.



Other states have different licensing requirements for tattoo artists. You need not be licensed to be a tattoo artist in the state of Texas but you must still operate in a licensed shop. Wichita Falls has city licensing standards for tattoo artists. You must spend one year in apprenticeship which would require you to do a certain number of tattoos and of different sizes, for example. After your year of apprenticeship you must pass a blood borne pathogen test, pay your license fee and be licensed in the city.

I asked him about the inks he uses for his tattoos. He says that inks have evolved tremendously over the last 20 years, according to the veteran artists in his shop. Today a lot of the inks they use are organic inks which reduce the chance of someone having a reaction to them. And they only use top

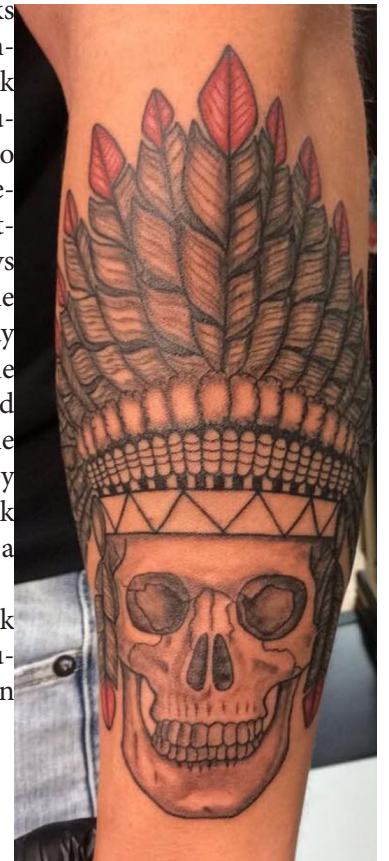
of the line inks at Human Canvas. Also, Nick adds, the evolution of the tattoo machine has become more artist-friendly. He says that back in the day an artist may

have as many as 15 machines laid out for one tattoo, all set up and tuned differently, and they could be big and bulky. Today only one device is needed for all applications and they can be as compact as to the size of (for lack of a better reference) half of the handle of a hammer.

Tattoo artist by day, local legend punk rocker by night, you can find Nick at Human Canvas WF located at 3002 Midwestern Parkway, across from Sikes Mall.

You can follow Nick online via @ItHurtsToBeNick

~Tim Maloney



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The Highlander Public House is still located at 726 Scott Avenue. However, the restaurant is growing and changing by adding a tea room and sandwich shop called The Coo Room.

Why the strange name? Well, a coo is the mascot of the Highlander. A coo is the largest cow and it looks like a big hairy buffalo, according to Jan Phipps, one of the owners of the restaurant. “We wanted this room to be known as an extension of the HPH,” Jan said. While it is an extension, it is not located in the HPH location, but it is in the same large building with access from the 8th Street and not from Scott Avenue. If this all sounds confusing, once you get there it will all make sense and you won’t want to leave.



Owners, Jan Phipps & Amy Scott with chef Rachel Sanchez

They will be opening November 1st for breakfast and lunch Monday through Friday 7:00 to 3:00 for walk-ins, and will have extended hours for special events. The location would be great for corporate events or even a Super Bowl party. It has a projector and large



screen, internet, and cable along with audio visual equipment. Once a month the owners are planning a high tea by reservation also. “We are hoping to do events,” co-owner, Amy Scott said. “We just did a whiskey class in here.” “We would love to do receptions, birthday parties, bridal showers and more. We are pretty flexible, and we can do liquor, beer and wine, too”, Amy added.

“The room can hold up to 40 people, and for larger events we have access to Big Blue and can accommodate up to 300 people. We have a huge kitchen,” Rachel said. Rachel Sanchez is the chef of The Coo Room. She started out at HPH as a sous chef, but will now be the head chef of The Coo Room. “She makes killer homemade breads and eventually we will be able to sell them by the loaf,” Jan said. There will be homemade sandwiches such as pimento cheese and chicken salad on homemade

bread. The chef is remaking the traditional Reuben sandwich and calling it The Rachel. Its ingredients are top secret, but it is rumored that bacon jam will be involved.

There will also be breakfast quiche and a daily quiche. “You can’t find a quiche anywhere in town except The Coo Room,” Jan said with a smile. “The big thing is that we will have delicious sweets,” Jan added. “We will focus on pies, cookies and scones. At the Highlander we do traditional with a twist. The pies will vary, but some that are planned are pumpkin, coconut crème, lemon meringue, and pecan. Her pecan pie is as good as my grandmother’s. I shut my eyes and it was like my grandmother was standing in the room”, Jan said nostalgically.

They will be open for Thanksgiving, and one of Rachel’s specialties is pumpkin log roll. Pies and log rolls can be pre-ordered to brighten anyone’s Thanksgiving meal. For business meetings off site, a lunch can be pre-ordered and the gang at The Coo Room will deliver. At the restaurant you can grab and go, or have a relaxing cup of

gourmet tea. The brand of tea that they will be serving is Teapigs. In fact, they will be serving all kinds of specialty drinks, and they even have a Starbucks machine. Some of the specialty drinks are called Stubborn Sodas and are made with all-natural flavors and no high fructose corn syrup or artificial sweeteners. The flavors have fun names, and Stubborn Soda will be exclusive to The Coo Room. Some of the names are Lemon Berry Acai, Orange Hibiscus and Black Cherry with Tarragon. There will be diet sodas that have been sweetened with agave or stevia.

They want to collaborate with other downtown businesses to help compliment these other businesses;



for example, a fashion show. “We have all these beautiful ideas of things to do at The Coo Room,” Jan said. “We want to have kid’s crafts and a downtown scavenger hunt eventually.”

“It is going to be so fun,” Amy added.

-Cindy Kahler Thomas

John Hirschi has always been attracted to the big house on the hill at 800 Kemp Boulevard. In fact, 20 years ago, he considered buying it to live in. Flash forward 20 years and he now owns it and it is becoming the much anticipated Fox Hill Restaurant and Gardens. "I tried to get some restaurateurs to buy it and open a restaurant here, and they wouldn't do it. So, I bought it myself about 2 years ago," Mr. Hirschi said with a smile.

Construction began a year ago, and he is 'guessing' it will open sometime in November. "This is my baby. When I couldn't get anyone else to do it, I took the bull by the horns. I have been an organic gardener for years. We will recycle everything that we can, and create a really nice sustainable operation," he said.

"This house was built in 1922 and was structurally sound," he said. "But the kitchen was too small, so we doubled the size of it. We left the bones of the house as it was and are bringing it back up to first quality standards."

"The largest part was putting in the parking lot," he said. "Then we successfully took the pool and turned it into a fish pond." The restaurant will be a farm to table restaurant, and Mr. Hirschi said that it is the only one in Wichita Falls. "I don't believe that there is one in Dallas or Fort Worth either," he added.

The restaurant sits on 8 acres of land

FOX HILL



FARM TO FORK

with rainwater collection as the major source of water.

"We are building gardens and growing foods with no pesticides or herbicides for our menu, and what we can't raise, we will be picking up from a local farmer in Thornberry," he said. Of course, the meat will be grass fed without hormones. Unfortunately, that will not come

and the grounds as well. There is a lot

from Wichita Falls, but from Dallas.

"The food is eclectic and is more interesting than any other food in

Wichita Falls. It will be healthy and not fast food," Mr. Hirschi said. "There is a whole movement towards 'slow food,' where you take your time and enjoy the meal. You can enjoy the food and the grounds as well. There is a lot

to see." The gardening activity will be visible on the north and south side, and the plan is to do a grape vineyard on either side of the driveway. "The first thing you will see will be the grapes growing on a wooden fence," he said. There will be full bar and the rooms upstairs can be reserved for private parties.

They anticipate weddings and receptions in this idyllic setting. The views are great, and the grand staircase would look lovely with a bride coming down it. There is also a show stopping fireplace in one of the downstairs rooms. Designer Pam Moller and the ceramic studio at Midwestern State University worked together to create Moller's vision. The fireplace is covered with ceramic leaves with a vintage look. If you didn't know that it was recently installed, you would think that it was a gem from the past.

The restaurant has been showing off the skills of its chef with "pop up" dinners at The Forum since last year. "Well, we wanted to expose the public to our kind of cooking," Mr. Hirschi said. "The chef designed the set menu each night. Once we open, we will have an extended menu, but we will have monthly prefixed dinners where wines will be selected to go with each dish." The restaurant is located at 800 Kemp Boulevard.

-Cindy Kahler Thomas





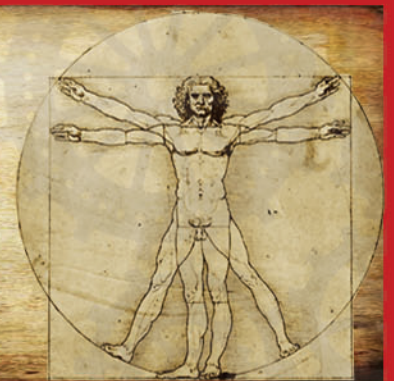
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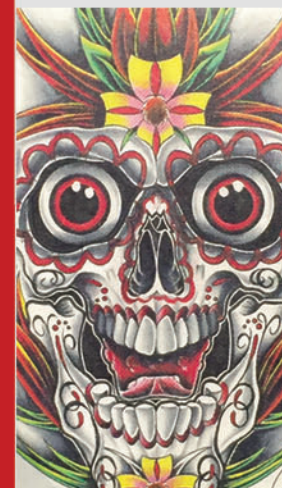
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NAMI Wichita Falls' "Gray Matters: the colors of mental illness" art exhibit

There is something very powerful about art. It is therapeutic and expressive. It is individualized. It has the power to make an impact and tell a story. Those affected by mental illness use art to help in their journey with coping and recovery. That was the thought process behind NAMI Wichita Falls' "Gray Matters: the colors of mental illness" art exhibit that was held on Saturday, October 7th at 9th Street Studios. 17 local artists came together to bring awareness and fight the stigmas associated with mental illness.

"Mental illness affects almost everyone," says NAMI Wichita Falls Executive Director, Jessica Cartwright. "Either individually or as a caregiver, friend, or family member of someone affected by mental illness." According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), one in four adults are affected by mental illness each year.

Each artist was invited to contribute art pieces and narratives that reflected their experiences with mental illness. Some had stories and pieces about themselves, while others that attended had experienced mental illness through a family member. The different mental illnesses represented during the event included depression, anxiety, bipolar, self-harm OCD, schizoaffective, and more.

Artists included current MSU students, MSU alumni, behavioral health professionals, an art teacher, a nurse, local business owners, and professional artists. "We are beyond honored to have these artists be a part of this project and to help

bring awareness to such a misunderstood and taboo subject," says Cartwright.

The different media showcased included paintings, drawings, photography, embroidery, mixed media, digital, printmaking, and crocheted. There was an interactive piece, "Lost" by artist Teresa Lopez, where had you put back together a piece of her work. There were some pieces that were missing, small pieces of paper, larger pieces, and extra pieces.

Throughout the event, the room stayed full with guests (about 75 total) and stories. Looking around 9th Street Studios, artists and patrons chatted, sharing stories, and gaining understanding. Dru Grid provided the perfect music for the event as a solo artist, and Savor It Catering provided the food. Two art pieces were sold during the event as well.

The event was well organized, impactful, and left people talking about mental illness. Darlene Hankins, who attended the event, said, "The artists displayed the best in humanity - giftedness, passion, compassion, and best of all, hope. The art was so profound, unique, and beautiful in expressing mental illness." Another attendee said, "Experiencing Gray Matters was emotionally impactful. It opened up conversations and allowed people to acknowledge the impact mental illness has had."

Cartwright says they are gearing up for making this an annual public awareness event. "I cannot wait until next year. I really think this event is going to grow, and


it needs to. As a community, we need to talk about mental illness, and know that it is always okay to ask for help."

For more information on NAMI Wichita Falls, you can visit their website www.namiwichitafalls.org

-Jessica Cartwright



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