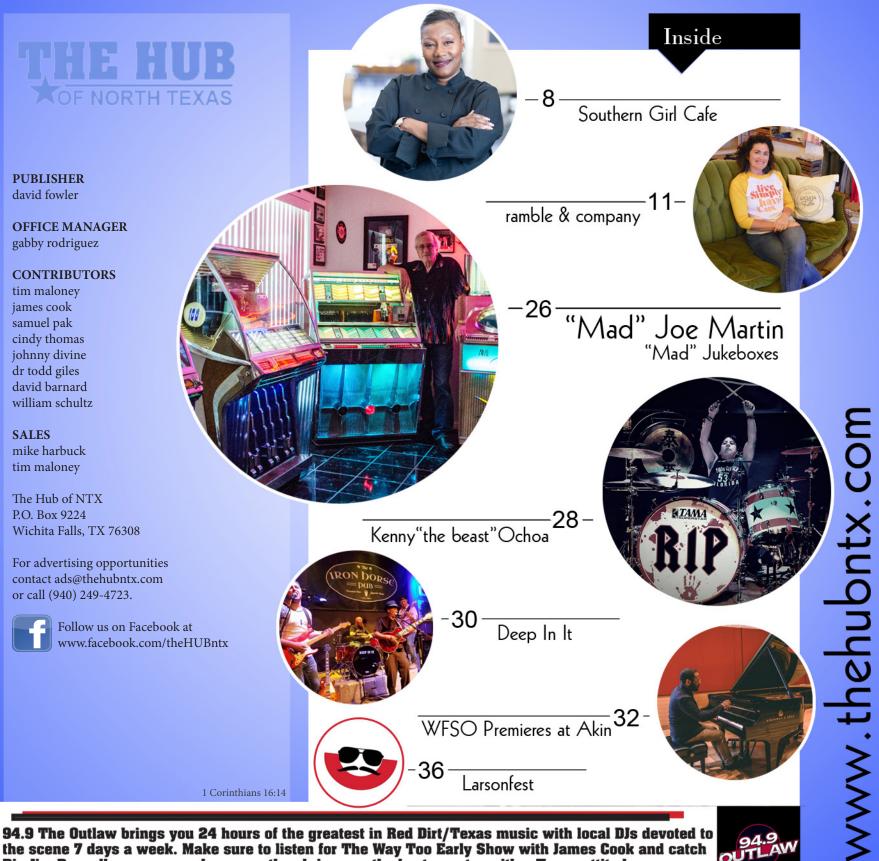


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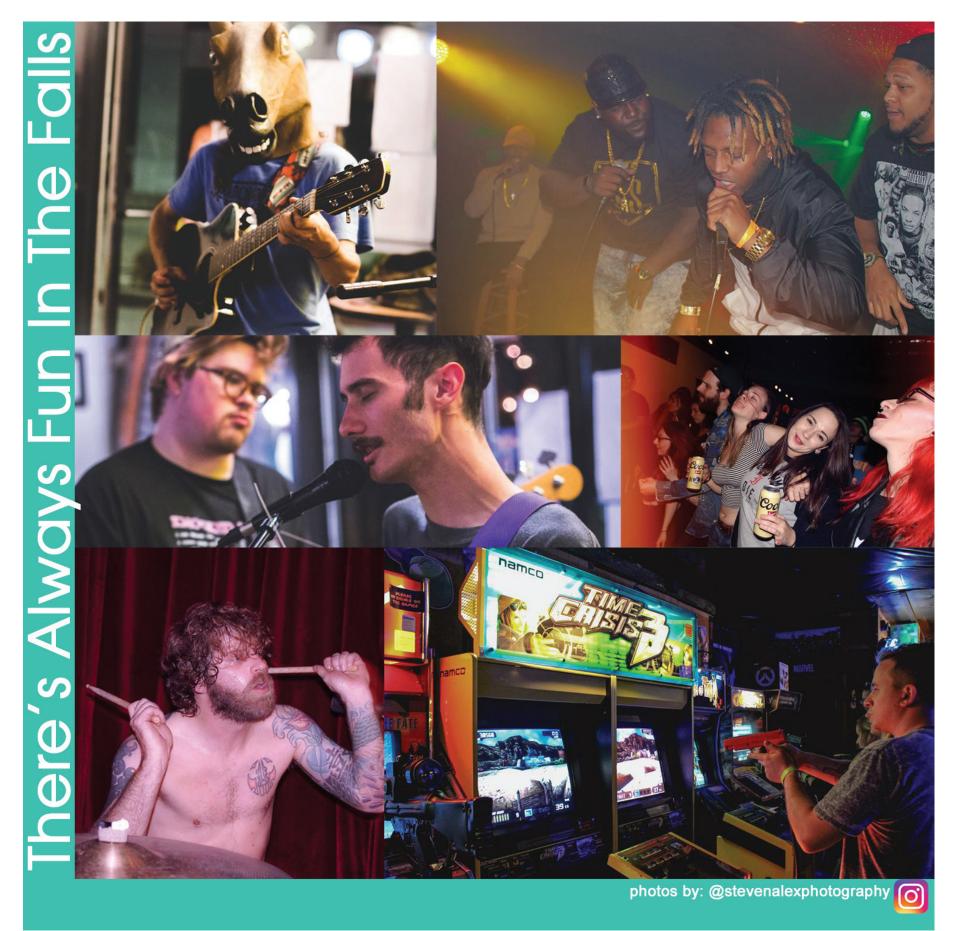
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SEPTEMBER 2018



TIPS AND TALES FRUM

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

A Star In The North Texas Sky

We're going to talk about a surprising achievement of an unassuming, hard-working, sometimes shy, handsome young man that was raised in Wilbarger County and graduated from Harrold Schools. Part of his career was teaching history classes at Burkburnett High School. And what a teacher he was! How do I know this? I was one of his students. This young man also possessed one of the finest singing voices I have ever heard. His talking voice was equally quite nice, I might add, for I had opportunities to listen to him talk to audiences hundreds of times and hear individuals tell him that they loved his singing, but could just as well listen to him talk all night long. He also helped build a church in Burkburnett, not just spiritually, but by hard physical work and by substantial financial contributions. This church truly was his home. He could also sell a car to someone in the middle of a boat race! He simply loved the car business.

This young man was Richard Cook. He was somewhat



trades, but I want to focus on one thing Richard did that very few people have done. whether here in North Texas or around the world. Richard had a song go to number one in our nation. That's right. Top of the charts.

a jack of all

Richard Cook

Here's a technical breakdown of that hit record: The song was called Peanuts and was written by a T. Cook that was no relation to Richard. The group was Rick and The Keens, Richard being the lead singer and leader. The Keens at the time of the recording were John Bland, Max Ray Evans, Hugh Alexander, and on piano, Rick's sister, Glenda Cook (I hope my information is correct here-I researched and found what I think to be pretty accurate). Other members over the years included Harold Green, Stevie Slusher, Jerry Bob Tuck, Bobby Peters, Richard Cook, Phillip Casillas, Ward Yorston, Billy Musgrove, and myself. There were many others and I apologize for not including everyone.

The year was 1961 and the record label was Mercury, a major label. The song had originally been released by a group called Little Joe and The Thrillers in 1957, but Rick gave the song a new life. It quickly went to number one in New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago and spread across our country and stayed in the Top 100 for sixteen Rick and The Keens SEPTEMBER 2018

weeks. That's four months!! It also garnered an invite to be on American Bandstand with Dick Clark. As the dust cleared, Richard's popularity set him up for many years of performing in our area as well as points as far away as Montgomery, Alabama, and Tucson, Arizona, and dozens of venues so far to the north of Texas that I shiver to mention them. I don't know how many times I travelled to these far away places with Rick and The Keens, but I do know it was always fun to hear him sing, and yes, tell stories with that wonderful voice of his.

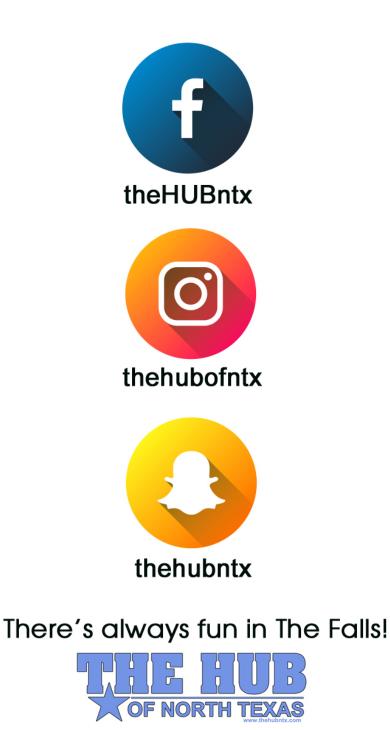
Not bad for a young boy from a North Texas farming community that never had visions of stardom or self-promotion. Rick simply loved being diversified in his career and trying new directions when opportunities came up. To Rick's benefit, he was quite successful at every direction he took.

We lost Rick in 2008. I know many folks in this area remember this unique man among us and recall going to see him perform. He was special. He made an impact on my life that I have happily carried for fifty years. I must have meant something to him as well. When I moved back from Los Angeles to our area, I arrived at 1:00 A. M. on a cold December morning on a Saturday and at about eleven that morning there was Richard at my door, welcoming me home. As Richard was laid to rest seven years ago, I stayed at the graveyard in Burkburnett after friends and family had left and put the first shovel load of earth on Richard's coffin. It was my turn to welcome him home.





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Southern Girl Café at Wichita Falls Regional Airport

with Tamitha Holloway

If you like southern style food and good home cooked meals Tamitha Holloway will get you fixed right up. She is the new proprietor of Southern Girl Café at the Wichita Falls Regional Airport.

A small town girl, Tamitha graduated from Graham High School in 1989, went to college at TWU in Denton, continued her studies at Midwestern State University, and then moved to the DFW mea lot to do for one person. There were a lot of requirements by the city, and trying to compete with other restaurants and catering businesses made it difficult in the beginning. I've always been a baker and I've always catered. When I moved here it took a lot longer to get started. So I worked as a legal assistant for Monte J. White for ten years, and on the side I started a bartending and event staffing



troplex where she worked for a financial company and had a catering business for 20 years. When she divorced ten years ago she and her son moved back to Wichita Falls to be close to her family. She landed a good job in an attorney's office, and her son liked it here, she met her fiancé, and it seemed like the opportunities just kept coming to do other things, so she ended up staying.

"I didn't start off catering when I moved back," Tamitha says. "It was business where I would provide service people for weddings and events. As that grew I started doing a little catering here and there, and a few years later I went to a city approved kitchen downtown. And when the opportunity came at the airport I quit my job and started doing this full-time."

Although she has extensive catering and business experience, Tamitha admits that owning a restaurant is a whole different ballgame. "It's been a big adventure so WWW.THEHUBNTX.COM

far. I'm learning a lot. Food costs, labor, sales- restaurants are totally different. In catering you know what you're cooking, how many you're cooking for, and you know when you're cooking for them. In a restaurant you don't know who is going to show up, if they're going to show up, and what they will want to order. It's the hardest thing I've ever done in my life. But anything is what you make of it. I've always been a go-getter so I'm taking advantage of every opportunity the city has given me to be successful."

The southern home-cooked style food she prepares are family recipes. "I grew up learning to cook with my grandmothers, aunts, and people in my family. Everything I did with my family was always around food- family

reunions, fish frys, barbeques- but that's how I started learning how to cook. Southern Girl came from that. All the recipes are family recipes, things I had when I was growing up. I cook what I like to eat- fried chicken, chicken fried steak, catfish, and things like that, and that's how it all came together. The fried chicken is my mother's recipe, the collard greens is from my aunt. Different things I took from my family and I put it all together to make it work. I thought, we do this all the time for family, why not do it all the time and make some money doing it.

"And I make a lot of desserts, too," she adds. "Peach cobbler, 7-up pound cake, and I have a new dessert I call Big Bear Pecan Bread. It is named after my fatherin-law, Big Bear, and he loved pecans so I named it after him."

I asked Tamitha what her top seller is, and not surprisingly she said, "Chicken fried steak. And the crazy part about that is I wasn't even going to put it on the menu. I was thinking that you can get chicken fried steak anywhere, why bother. But my fiancé (who is a cattle rancher in Loving, Texas) told me that I have to. I will be married to a cattle rancher and we sell cattle. I get my steak from Red Barn Butcher, and as it turns out it is the biggest seller.

"And my catfish- people love my catfish. I'm a fried chicken person so that's one of my favorites."

Southern Girl also has a special Sunday brunch menu, too. "We have a Sunday special where I highlight a southern dish or cuisine that is not on our everyday

their feedback is, and it's been really good- especially the desserts. People love the desserts!" The kitchen is where Tamitha feels most comfortable. With a great wait staff to take care of the customers she rarely sees how many people are in the dining room. "When my fiancé comes in on Sundays he tells me that the dining room is full and to come out and talk to the people, but I stay in the kitchen. That's where I like to be. As long as the food is good and the service is good I'm fine."

menu. Of course we have burgers

and fries, fish, salads, pasta, things

like that. But on Sundays I get to

play. I get to do things I really like

to do that aren't on our regular

Tamitha keep eight items on the

menu and changes it up on occa-

sion. She started with the basic

things and as she got into it more

started adding new items to see

what sells. "And everything sells,"

she exclaims. "I will put a new

item on for a time to see what the

public is going to like and see what

menu."

Although she misses DFW, being here is good. "I appreciate the opportunity the city has given me. When they first came to me I wasn't sure I would be able to do this. But the city has been great and it's an opportunity I am taking full advantage of. There's a lot I can do here and I'm going to do all that I can. So far, so good!"

So if you get a hankerin' for some great home cooked southern style food come on out to the Southern Girl Café in the Wichita Falls Regional Airport. Maybe you can draw Tamitha out of the kitchen long enough to say hello.

~Tim Maloney



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ramble & company

Ramble & Company began 10 years ago when a boy and a girl took a simple spring break camping trip to wander and have fun. That is where the dreaming together began. That dream started out as a way to pay for the last year of college for Kathryn Hagar and has grown into a thriving business that she and her husband, Ryan, co-own.

And the business has had a recent overhaul. Little H Creative was the name of that business, but now it has been renamed Ramble & Company and is now located in a large renovated building at 822 Indiana Avenue in the downtown area.

"We originally sold kids apparel, but we grew out of that; and we grew out of the name. One of the reasons we wanted to rebrand was to expand our apparel line outside of Wichita Falls," Kathryn explained.

"Since we changed our

brand in May we are now in 55 locations. We hope to have 100 before the end of the year. Shockingly not many of them are in Texas," she said. The business now sells graphic tees for adults, apparel, tea towels, mugs, stationary, tote bags, clutches and pencil bags.

They had a humble beginning. To pay for the last year of college, she bought the business from her uncle. He hadn't screen printed in years and the equipment was sitting in his garage. Since then they have replaced all the equipment.

"It is hands on and fun," she said with a smile. "I grew up on a farm, and working and entrepreneurship is always something I have been around. After I graduated from college, I had a full-time job, but when I left it in 2015, I screen printed, did graphic design work and photography from home, and I had a booth at the Alley Cat.



In 2016 we rented from LaSalle Apartments and opened a small retail store and continued to screen print from home. In 2017 we purchased this building, renovated it and moved all our services here. We also rent vendor space."

The store is very welcoming with a mural on one wall painted by a local artist, and comfortable antique couch to comfortably mull over your purchases. Ramble & Company has around 25 local vendors and 10 curated vendors from around the country. All the goods are handmade by artisans, with offerings such as skirts from Guatemala, hand crafted leather, candles, ear rings, cut flowers, cutting boards, art, stained glass and even cookies that are fresh baked in Wichita Falls. Ramble & Company also retail their items, selling graphic tees for adults, apparel, tea towels, mugs, stationary, tote bags, clutches and pencil bags.

Kathryn and Ryan have 3 girls and are very community orientated. In fact, they spend money to create activities for people to do during the After Hours Art Walks. Their website states that they find joy in playing outside with their children, planting flowers in their fairy garden, and hosting events at their store. They love their time together as a family and with the community they are building around their business. They encourage people to be an example for every age and to believe in something bigger and better than themselves.

-Cindy Thomas



SEPTEMBER 2018



River Bend Nature Center connects people to the natural environment of Texas. Now they challenge you to face your fears, catch your breath, step up to the edge and rappel down 12 stories of Big Blue in Downtown Wichita Falls. The first 90 individuals to raise a minimum of \$1,000 by September 22nd will earn a spot to go Over The Edge for River Bend Nature Center! No climbing or rappelling experience is necessary, anyone can participate! Last year we connected 35,000 people with nature. Help us inspire more people to treasure the world around them! Over The Edge will take place September 23rd from 9-5 pm at Big Blue in Downtown Wichita Falls.

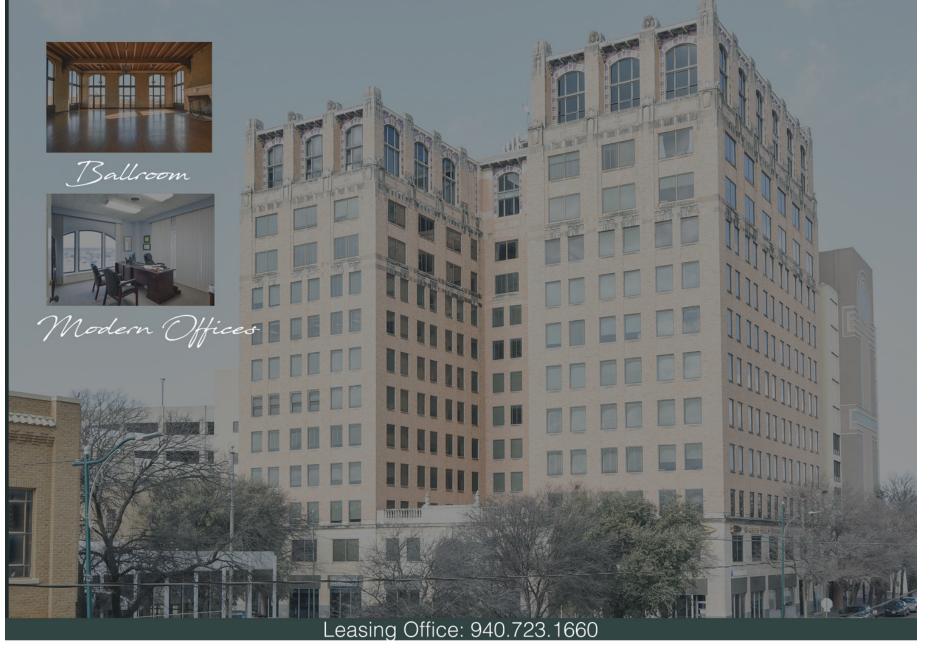
There is \$25.00 registration fee which goes toward your overall fundraising goal. This is considered a donation to RBNC and is tax-deductible. After you register you will receive all the tools you need in order to go Over The Edge! All donations raised by rappellers are tax-deductible and will go to furthering the educational mission of River Bend Nature Center. Note: Participants must raise the minimum \$1,000 to participate



www.riverbendnaturecenter.org/goovertheedge

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MUSIC

September 4 -Harvey & Tim @ Stick's Place

September 6 -Karaoke with Tom Brillhart @ Mustang Bar -Open Mic @ Gypsy Uncorked

September 7

-BluesBuckers @ Stick's Place -Radio Republic, James Cook @ The Iron Horse Pub -Open Mic @ 8th St. Coffee House -Morgan Jezek @ Mustang Bar -The March Divide @ Gypsy Uncorked -Casey Donahew @ Boulevard Nightclub -Justin David @ Vernon Parts Sports Bar and Grill -Karaoke @ Krank It Karaoke Kafe'

September 8

-Crued and Tattooed @ Half Pint -Forever Mac, Blue Bayou @ The Iron Horse Pub -Dru Gid And Company @ Mustang Bar -Race Rutledge & the Texas Knights @ Texas Nite Life -Mark Reynolds & Already Goners @ Vernon Parts Sports Bar and Grill -Shad Blair & Michael O'Neal @ Royal Theater (Archer City, TX) --Karaoke @ Krank It Karaoke Kafe' September 9 -Gabby's 24th Birthday! -Mark Forehand Unplugged @ Mustang Bar September 10 -Despite Despair @ The Deep End September 11 -Harvey And Tim @ Stick's Place September 13 -Armadillo Flatts @ Silver Dollar -Karaoke with Tom Brillhart @ Mustang Bar -Open Mic @ Gypsy Uncorked -Sounds of Speedway: Michael Hix & The Holla @ The Forum September 14 -Jason Boland & The Stragglers @ Silver Dollar

-City Creeps, It Hurts To Be Dead, The Danner Party, Skeksis, Mugen Hoso, Justin Houts, Polly Pocket @ 9th St. Studios -Metal Ed @ The Iron Horse Pub -Ground Floor And Rising @ Mustang Bar -Open Mic @ 8th St. Coffee House -Hairball @ Memorial Auditorium -Cody Johnson @ Kay Yeager Coliseum -Shane Mercer And The Mercenaries @ Vernon Parts Sports Bar and Grill -Karaoke @ Krank It Karaoke Kafe' September 15 -AA Bottom @ The Iron Horse Pub -Clint Vines And The Hard Times, Leddit Ride @

-Clint Vines And The Hard Times, Leddit Ride @ Stick's Place -Race Rutledge & the Texas Knights @ Texas Nite Life

-Shane Mercer @ Graham VFW Post 8567 -Gannon Fremin and CCREV @ Vernon Parts Sports Bar and Grill

-Karaoke @ Krank It Karaoke Kafe'

September 16 -Mark Forehand Unplugged @ Mustang Bar

September 18

-Walkin' Johnny @ Bud Daniel Park September 19

-Papel Chicano Dos, from the collection of Cheech Marin, opening reception @ Wichita Falls Museum of Art September 20 -Open Mic @ Gypsy Uncorked -Karaoke with Tom Brillhart @ Mustang Bar September 21 -OddFellas @ Stick's Place -Blue Light Special, Raymundo @ The Iron Horse Pub -Zach Cornell @ Mustang Bar -Open Mic @ 8th St. Coffee House -Harvey Toalson @ Vernon Parts Sports Bar and Grill -Karaoke @ Krank It Karaoke Kafe' September 22 -Zack Crow @ Stick's Place -Race Rutledge and the Texas Knights @ Texas Nite Life -Rockafellas @ The Iron Horse Pub -Sleepspent @ Gypsy Uncorked -CJ Cody Band @ Vernon Parts Sports Bar and Grill -Karaoke @ Krank It Karaoke Kafe' September 23 -Mark Forehand Unplugged @ Mustang Bar September 25 -Harvey And Tim @ Stick's Place September 27 -Karaoke with Tom Brillhart @ Mustang Bar -Open Mic @ Gypsy Uncorked September 28 -The Spazmatics @ The Warehouse -RIP @ Stick's Place -Open Mic @ 8th St. Coffee House -Leddit Ride, Everything In Between @ The Iron Horse Pub -Robert Paulson @ Mustang Bar -Karaoke @ Krank It Karaoke Kafe' September 29 -RIP @ Stick's Place -Downtown Royalty Band @ Mustang Bar -Under The Influence @ Vernon Parts Sports Bar and Grill -Race Rutledge and the Texas Knights @ Texas Nite Life -Karaoke @ Krank It Karaoke Kafe' September 30

-Mark Forehand Unplugged @ Mustang Bar

ART

September 6 - After Hours Art Walk @ Downtown September 6 - Sculpture Garden After Dark @ The Kemp September 8 - Stroll & Roll @ Downtown Wichita Falls (Wichita Falls Art Association)

FOR THE KIDS

September 4 -Preschool Storytime @ WF Public Library -Process Art Experiences @ WF Public Library -Elementary Art @ The Kemp September 5 -Toddler Time @ WF Public Library -Advanced Anime & Manga @ The Kemp September 6 -Advanced Youth Art @ The Kemp WWW.THEHUBNTX.COM

September 8

-Lego Club @ WF Public Library September 10 -Molly Connoly, Dead At The Helm, DESPITE DE-SPAIR @ Iron Horse Pub -Maker Monday - All Things String @ WF Library -Youth Drawing @ The Kemp September 11 -Preschool Storytime @ WF Public Library -Process Art Experiences @ WF Public Library -Elementary Art @ The Kemp September 12 -Toddler Time @ WF Public Library -Advanced Anime & Manga @ The Kemp September 17 -Maker Monday - All Things String @ WF Library -Youth Drawing @ The Kemp September 18 -Preschool Storytime @ WF Public Library -Process Art Experiences @ WF Public Library -Elementary Art @ The Kemp September 19 -Toddler Time @ WF Public Library -Advanced Anime & Manga @ The Kemp September 24 -Youth Drawing @ The Kemp September 25 -Preschool Storytime @ WF Public Library -Process Art Experiences @ WF Public Library -Elementary Art @ The Kemp September 26 -Toddler Time @ WF Public Library -Advanced Anime & Manga @ The Kemp September 27 -Advanced Youth Art @ The Kemp September 29

-Lego Club @ WF Public Library

EVENTS

September 2-3 -MP3 Barrel Racing @ Wilbarger County Events Center/Bradley Arena in Vernon September 5 -Live Trivia @ Wichita Falls Brewing Company September 8 -Emergency Services Appreciation Day @ Stick's Place September 11-15 -Texas/Oklahoma Fair @ MPEC September 12 -Live Trivia @ Wichita Falls Brewing Company September 13-15 -Clay County Pioneer Reunion & Rodeo @ Henrietta September 15 -Artisan Day @ Farmers Market September 21-23 -Top of Texas Market @ Ray Clymer Exhibit Hall September 22 -Over The Edge for River Bend Nature Center @ Big Blue in Downtown Wichita Falls -Nocona Gas Junkies Car Show @ Nocona, TX September 22-23 -Oklahoma/North Texas Little Britches Rodeo @ Wilbarger County Events Center and Bradley Arena in Vernon, TX September 27-29

-Southern States Chainsaw Carving Championship @ Graham, TX SEPTEMBER 2018

THEATER

September 6 - 8 -2 Across on the Dinner Stage @ Backdoor Theatre September 7 -High School Musical @ Wichita Theatre September 8 -High School Musical @ Wichita Theatre September 12 -Once Upon A Party @ Wichita Theatre September 14 -An Evening of Improv @ Half Pint -High School Musical @ Wichita Theatre -Mystiq Mind Tricks @ Wichita Theatre September 15 -High School Musical @ Wichita Theatre -Once Upon A Party @ Wichita Theatre -Mystiq Mind Tricks @ Wichita Theatre September 21 -High School Musical @ Wichita Theatre -Clue, The Musical @ Wichita Theatre -Comedy Night @ Half Pint September 22 -High School Musical @ Wichita Theatre -Clue, The Musical @ Wichita Theatre

September 28 -North Texas Rising V.2 @ Wichita Theatre September 29 -Clue, The Musical @ Wichita Theatre -North Texas Rising V.2 @ Wichita Theatre

BUSINESS

September 5 -BOSS: How to Build A Great Team @ The Warehouse September 12

-1 Million Cups Wichita Falls @ Nonprofit Center September 20 Wake Up Wichita Falls @ Hampton Vaughan September 25 Business After Hours @ Child Care, Inc.



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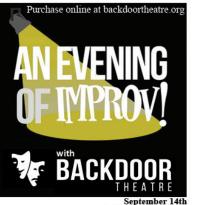
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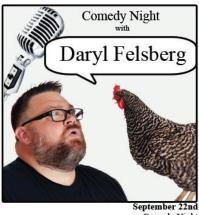




"There is a vast wealth of some absolutely phenomenal original music in Wichita Falls right now. It's insane." - Joel Estes



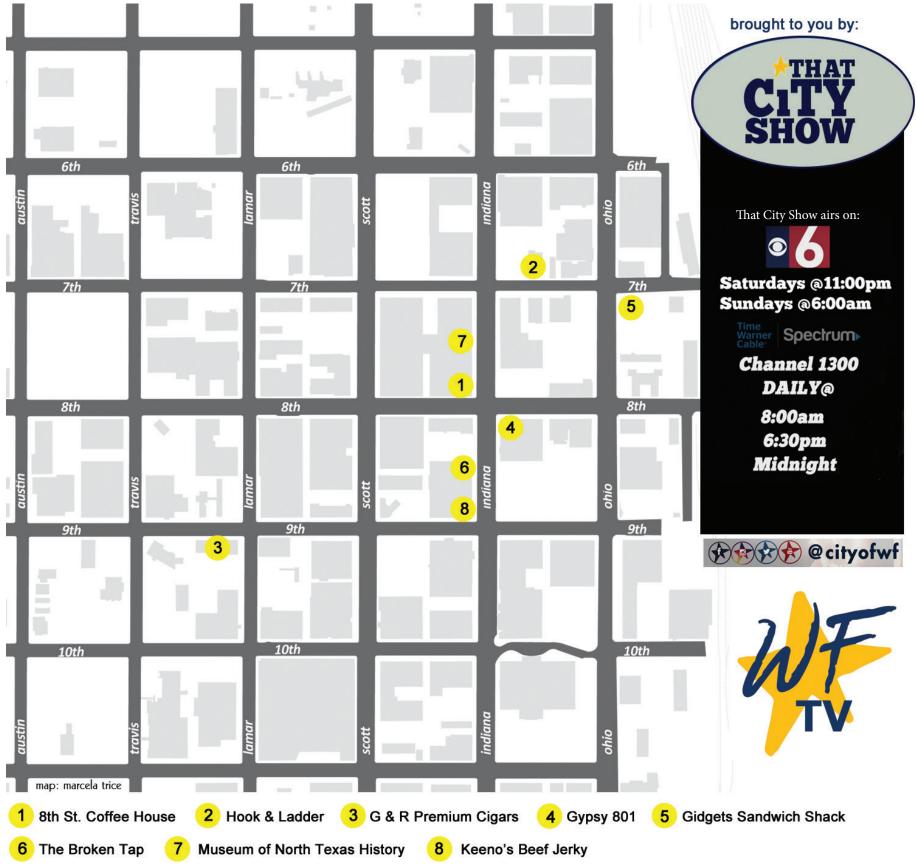
An Evening of Improv f /halfpinttaproom



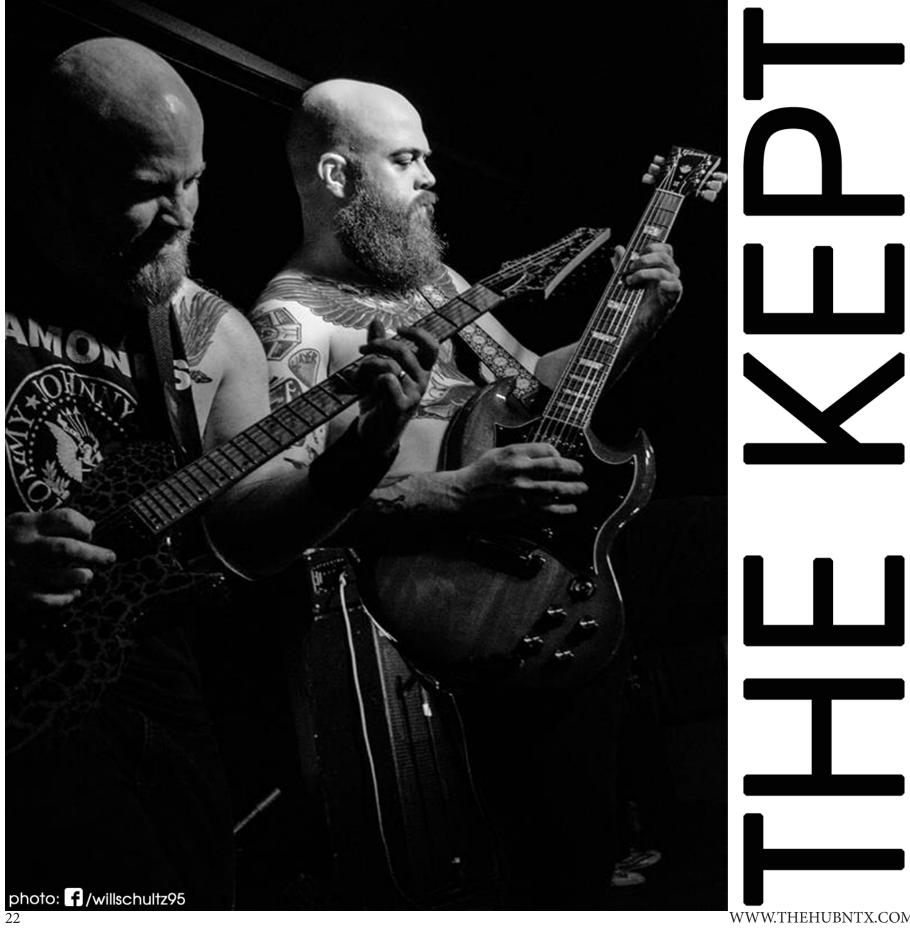
Comedy Night

Crued & Tattooed





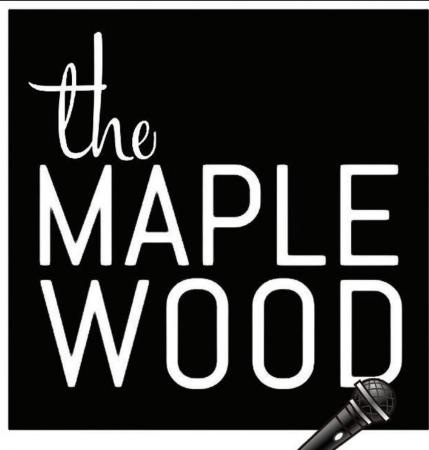
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• Karaoke Night w/ Tom Brillhart Wednesdays, Sept. 5th & 19th



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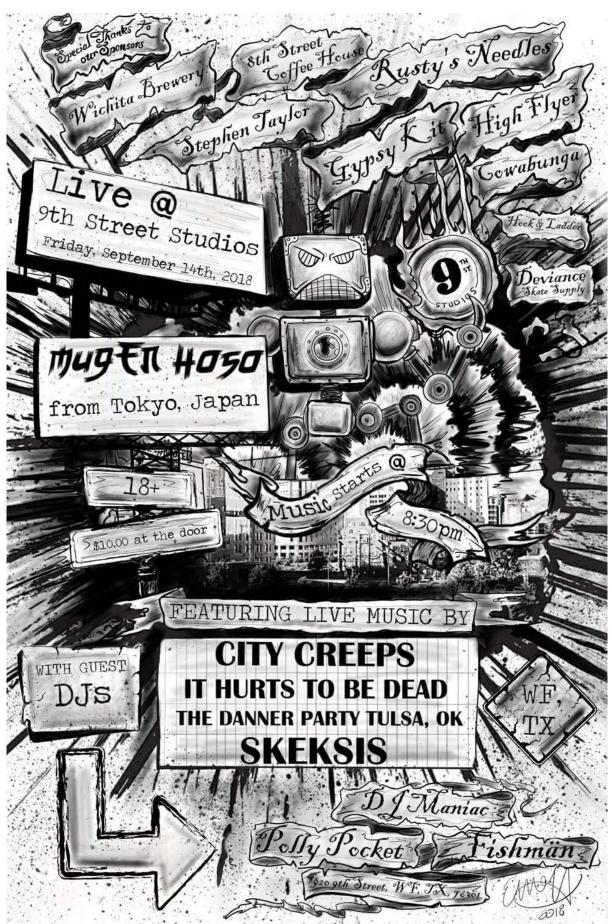






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Internet jukeboxes have no place in my world. I'm supposed to be impressed with a glorified I-Pod? The jukebox wasn't just a machine that played music, it described what bar, restaurant or club you were at. The character of the venue was based on the music selection. Plus, there's something exciting about going to a place, walking up to their jukebox, and selecting from what they have to offer. Internet jukeboxes have no style, no class, no character what-so-ever. So, I was excited to get the chance to talk to local legend and former radio personality "Mad" Joe Martin about his massive collection of these music machines of the past.

Joe has almost hit the fifty-year mark since his first time to open a mic on the radio. He started his radio career in 1971 and throughout the years, worked at several stations. "I lasted six days on KLUR", Martin proudly claimed, tongue in cheek. He did a Sunday show in 1980 for



6 weeks and then went back to Top 40.

These days "Mad" Joe works as a nostalgia DJ for Class Reunions, Car Shows, adult birthday parties and such. "When they want to create the memories from days gone by, I'm the go-to guy on that", Martin explains.

Joe Martin is a collector of things of the past. "I've always been a nostalgia freak... and I enjoy the days gone by", Martin continued. He also

has classic cars, and old guitars added to his collection of his many, many jukeboxes. 14 jukeboxes, with 13 of them in his own home, which he explains is an extension of his music career and his time in radio.

He began his collection 30 years ago, but his fascination for the juke box started in the mid '50's when he'd put nickels into his uncle's café in Denton, TX. Over 60 years later, he still loves the sound and now owns an identical replica of that original coin operated machine that he'd sit and listen to at his uncle's café.

"I prefer to listen to old records... especially the 45's. There's something about that... the warmth, the feeling, the sound, the memories... it just can't be beat", Martin notes. The nostalgia takes him back to when he first put those songs on the airwaves with debut singles from artist like The Doors, The Doobie Brothers, The Beatles and so many great artists from the 50's, 60's, and 70's. Martin's oldest jukebox was crafted in 1937. An eighty-one year old piece with a wooden cabinet and only 12 selections to choose from. He tries to keep each machine "period correct" and the oldest song he has is Al Jolson, doing "Swanny" on a 78 RPM from 98 years ago. He



also owns a copy of Eddie Arnold's "Texarkana Baby" which was the very first ever pressed 45 from 1949 RCA 001. Very first copy ever.

Around the mid-60's manufactures started making jukeboxes covered so you wouldn't see the inner workings. They believed it looked fancier but Martin prefers the classic look so he doesn't have much past those years. He's gathered pieces from around the country as far as Eugene, Oregon as well as Iowa, Florida, Colorado, Nevada, and occasionally will find one from the area.



So what record impresses someone with THIS much selection to choose from? "Mad" Joe Martin's favorite records are the local ones. Hard to find records that are a part of Wichita Falls history. Back in the 60's there was an anchor on TV3 named Don Alexander who put out a record with his band called "Hot Dang, Mustang" in 1965. Plus, local favorites, The Mammals, and a rare one called "Wichita Falls, My Hometown" made in 1962.

Can he possibly collect more machines while his house is packed with so many? Martin adds with a grin, "Should someone call me and say, 'Joe we've got a great Wurlitzer jukebox that needs a new home', we'll make room for it." His goal is to have a small museum in town to show his collection to others. In a world that gives us endless choices in our music, I'd love to see these machines be preserved with his retro idea. It would definitely give our town a touch of nostalgic class.



-James Cook

AOOG Geographic States of the second second

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SEPTEMBER 2018

KENNY THE E

It was in the early 70's that a young lad of about seven or eight years old named Kenny Ochoa would listen to the radio and tap along with the rhythm of the music. The music at that time was the beginning of the disco era. He really liked the funky beats. And when he discovered that his radio could pick up the Chicago radio station WLS playing Isley Brothers, The Ohio Players, Earth Wind and Fire, and other groups not associated with mainstream top-40 music, his world expanded. He knew that there was something in him that he needed to release. He would take the dining room chairs and turn them around and pretend that he was playing drums, using kitchen utensils or anything else he could find for sticks. His dad saw that he had an interest, and young Kenny asked him if he could have a drum set. His dad told him to look around for a set and see how much it would cost.

At that time there was a weekly advertising paper called the Shopper that was thrown every Thursday. Across the street from Kenny's home was a vacant house with a bunch of Shoppers in the yard, so Kenny went over there and scoured them one at a time until he found a drum set for sale. He called the number and his dad took him over to look at it. It was a bass drum, a snare, and a mounted tom tom. No cymbals or hardware other than the kick pedal and snare stand, all for \$85. His dad bought it for him and a pair of drum sticks, which he had never had the opportunity to use. He was so proud to have that kit set up in his bedroom!

As he got a little older he discovered that there was a music store downtown called McCarty Music. He asked his dad if they could go there one Saturday. When he walked in the first thing he noticed was all the beautiful drum sets in a variety of colors. He got to talking with Tom McCarty about the kit that he had. Tom told him that he needed a hi-hat and a floor tom, and cymbals. Tom showed him a beautiful blue set and told Kenny that if he brought his old kit in he could trade it in for the new set and pay out the difference. Kenny talked his dad into the deal and came home with a brand new 5-piece kit, complete with hi-hat, floor tom, cymbals, and the whole nine yards.

He moved his kit into his parents' living room where the stereo console with a turntable was

and taught himself how to play listening to records. Then he discovered Don Kirshner's Rock Concert series on the TV on Friday nights. "That's when the whole music scene opened up to me", Kenny said. "They had everybody on that show—Peter Frampton, Kiss, Bad Co.—I got to visu-



ally see the drummers playing. That was it. I was hooked!"

Kenny was never into sports. It wasn't any interest to him. And when other people at school asked him what he did after school he would tell them that he goes home and plays his drums. One of his school mates really didn't believe him, so Kenny invited him over. He sat his pal down and put on the record Dressed To Kill by Kiss. Kenny had learned the entire album start to finish. After that his friend would brag on Kenny at school that he could play the whole album.

"Kiss was the theatrical group that I wanted to be like," Kenny says, "But Led Zeppelin's John Bonham had the heavy hitting drum style that I liked to play."

Kenny talked his childhood friend, Orlando Arredondo, into buying a bass so they could start a band. They went to Sam Gibbs Music store this time. "Sam was a really cool guy. You would come in and he would ask you what you liked, and he would let you take it home with you and pay it out."

Kenny got a job at the Girls Club and was making what he thought was some serious money at \$2.20 per hour. He had been such a loyal customer at Sam Gibbs that he had them order a custom Pearl drum set for him with every size of toms that they made, from a 6" tom tom to the 16" floor tom. "I remember paying on that kit for what seemed like forever. At \$2.20 an hour it took a lot of hours."

It wasn't until he reached high school that Kenny was introduced to a lot of people who were not only musicians, but liked the same kind of music that he and Orlando were into. "We found some other guys who played and right off the bat we had a whole band. We played the Howdy Assembly at Old High with our band we called Oz. We got to play one song—Rock and Roll All Night by Kiss. That was my first live on stage performance."

Later on Kenny met Kenny Nordman and his brother Kevin who had an Elvis impersonation show. "I invited them over to my mom's house one Saturday," Kenny recalls. "Kenny was about six years older than Orlando and myself. He was so knowledgeable about guitar and music- he was teaching us. It instantly clicked. He introduced us to music by Ted Nugent, REO Speedwagon, and other groups we had never played before. We named that band Fury. We landed a few gigs here and there. Other musicians came and went in the band, but Kenny and Orlando and I stayed together as Fury for a couple of years.

"I also met guitarist Steven Carter in school. He was a year ahead of me. We started playing together and named the band Damien. We decided we needed a rhythm guitar in the band. I called up my friend Tim Stunson, who I had met working at the Girls Club, and he joined the band. Orlando left the band and there were some transitions of bass players, including Eric Harley, Dallas DJ for the Red Eye Radio show, and Richard Bellamy. Eventually Tim Stunson moved to bass, and JD White was our lead vocalist. "Damien did a lot of shows at Journey's End and Haley's Comet. Dr. Dave (owner of Haley's Comet) really liked us. He recommended us to Vern, the promoter and booking agent for the Airmen's Club on Sheppard Air Force Base. Dr. Dave invited Vern out to hear us play one night and he really liked us too. He booked us into a few shows at the Airmen's Club and it was great. There were a bunch of airmen who really dug what we played."

As it turned out Vern also knew people in Dallas, and when the opening act for the band WASP cancelled Vern got Damien the show at the Arcadia Theatre. "After we got our sound check I went into the seating area and sat down, taking it all in—the big stage, the huge PA system," Kenny said. "Then a guy came in the side door dressed all in black with shades on and sat down two seats over from me. My curiosity got the better of me so I asked the guy if he knew the band or if he was involved with the show



somehow. He just looked at me over his sunglasses, and looked back up at the stage. It was at that instant I realized that it was Blackie Lawless, the bass guitar player and lead singer for WASP. I felt like such a dumb ass!"

"But the show was great. The place seated 5,000 people and it was packed. During our set I glanced over to the wing of the stage and could see the silhouette of four guys with big hair rocking out with us. I knew it was the members of WASP.

"And I remember throwing my drum stick into the crowd because I've always wanted to do that. And at the end of the night when we were leaving the venue I spotted the girl that got my stick. She was clutching it like it was something special. That was a really cool feeling."

After that Damien broke up, and Kenny joined a gospel tejano band that a friend of his had, and they SEPTEMBER 2018

recorded some songs at Outback Studio. That's where he met Johnny Divine. And later on, Johnny had Kenny come and lay down some drum tracks for another group, giving Kenny some recording experience.

Shortly thereafter, Kenny was getting tired of the music scene and all the band member changes and the amount of time and effort it took to be in a band, so he sold his drums thinking he was finished. He didn't play again for another six or seven years. Then one day he got a call from his old friend Steven Carter, who was in a band called "X", and asked Kenny if he still played. He said no, that he didn't even have a drum set. But Steven talked him into getting back into it, even loaning him some money for a kit. "If it wasn't for Steven I wouldn't be playing today," Kenny admits.

Kenny played with "X" for about two years, and then joined with some other players to form the band Outspire, which lasted about four years. It was during this time that Outspire was playing at the Iron Horse Pub and the

heavy style of music they played prompted someone from the audience to yell out that Kenny was a beast. He kind of laughed it off, but people remembered it and the moniker Kenny "The Beast" Ochoa stuck with him.

After Outspire ran its course Kenny played a couple of fill-in gigs in Dallas with the recording artist band Hazeland featuring the former lead singer for Outspire, Cecil Gilmore.

Shortly thereafter Kenny joined the band Pvt. Wilhelm. He says that he was really into this group because it was the first all original group he played in.

But due to internal band problems he left after about a year.

Within a couple of weeks, he got a call from Jason Brown. Jason explained to him that the drummer for RIP had to leave due to health issues and of all the people who could fulfill the role Kenny was the

one he thought of. "I knew right away that I wanted to do it," Kenny admits. "It was the perfect transition for me."

November 15, 2017 was the announcement of The Beast joining RIP. And on July 4 of this year he did a fillin gig with local legend band AA Bottom at the MPEC center. "It was really cool," Kenny states. "Great musicians, legendary following, very well-known and respected musicians. I've been fortunate enough to play with a lot of great bands and the best musicians in Wichita Falls, by far."

"I've never thought of myself as being a better drummer than anyone else, just a different kind of drummer. I feel like I'm a different kind of player because of my musical background, how I grew up playing. Back in the 70's there was no heavy metal, no speed metal, there were not a lot of things we have now. You only knew what was currently relevant. You go through the years as new things are introduced, like the British metal invasion, the hair bands. If you were fortunate enough to grow up during those times you actually lived through the changes. Today's younger players only know what they're living through now, and what is introduced to them from the past."

"I don't recall there being this many bands around here like there are today. I see a lot of local bands playing around here and I feel like (the music scene in Wichita Falls) is in very good hands. The talent pool here is unbelievable."

Kenny is endorsed by Kelly Shu, who manufactures an internal mic placement system that is suspended inside the drum shells. "I contacted him right when he started advertising," he says. "I ordered some of his products and he asked me if I was interested in an endorsement. I'm registered on the Kelly Shu website roster."

Kenny continues, "All I'm doing now at my age of 55 is just trying to stay relevant. The Genre of RIP (pre-1985 rock) fits in with what I grew up with. Pretty much the first ten years of my playing career. It was cool then, and it's still cool today, and playing it is even better."

Sounds to me like Kenny is one happy BEAST! ~*Tim Maloney*



What started out as a jam session with friends to relax and blow off steam turned into one of the hardest working bands in Wichita Falls. Deep In It founder and bassist Brian Beck, and guitarists Robert Duncan and Chris Rodriguez got together in Brian's Garage to have a little fun.

Brian had been the bassist for the band Fundamental Mojo and they played extensively at frat parties, MSU functions, casinos, and for a time they were the house band for Shooters Bar before it burned down. Shooters bar was located downtown behind P2.



Chris had been the guitarist for the TuTones for about 17 years, playing R & B standards, Frank Sinatra, MoTown and the like, and his playing style, as well as his song repertoire, is extensive.

Robert, Brian's dad, is a retired property manager, and played in his church band.

For the next eight months or so they played a lot of shows around town and, luckily, they got to play at Falls Fest in 2006. After that show the band took a long hiatus.

It wasn't until February of 2017 that the right mix of players formed

the nucleus of the band currently known as Deep In It. This Trio of musicians played in the garage with several different drummers and guitar players. Word got out that there was a hot new band in town and people started calling them for shows, so Chris handed the other guys a set list and told them, "They want us to play. I will show you these songs, I can sing them, let's play a gig." And they hit the door running.

They had decided to add some country songs to their repertoire and needed someone to sing and

play the country style, so Robert called up Derrick Kuehner, former guitarist for recording artist and songwriter Jordan Walker. Robert and Derrick played together in church band, and when Robert asked Derrick if he would like to come and sing some country songs he said yes. When he showed up for the first rehearsal they told him to forget that, he is now a lead guitar player. "Here we are a year later," Robert says, "and we're just now getting to those country songs."

Suddenly the bookings of the band took off. Deep In It started getting very busy and that took its toll on drummers. It was difficult to find one



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that could commit to the schedule. material, but we also do the dance They utilized several drummers to play shows for about six months. "Then Billy became available," Deris Billy Pennington, former drummer for the bands Twicebroken, Roselwan, and 8 Minute Fall. He and Derrick had also played together in the Jordan Walker Band.

Robert says, "It was a magical formula right off the bat!" And Brian

adds, "As soon as I got a hold of Billy, I filled up the calendar for the whole year so he couldn't go anywhere."

The band worked almost every weekend last year, and so far this year, there have been few exceptions to a similar schedule. Working so hard and so often, they have also developed quite a following. They not only do shows in town, but they also venture out to other cities like Medicine Park, Lawton, Lewisville, Vernon, and Bowie to name a few. When I asked how you go from a garage band to the busiest band in town Brian tells me, "I'm the guy that gets on the phone. I don't let them tell us no. I think I'm sweet about it, but I bug them to the point where they know this guy is not going to leave us alone if we don't give

them a gig. We get a gig and they tation, Deep In It recently took the

a little more difficult. Everyone great Malford Milligan and asked wants an EP. I've been BS-ing my him if Deep In It covered a couple way through so far -- Facebook, of his songs would he be interested YouTube -- and we usually get a in performing them with the band. call back pretty quickly which is a Malford said he would be honored benefit for us. We do have original to do it, and Malford made an ap-SEPTEMBER 2018

floor stuff and we're really good at keeping people out on the floor."

And they sell a lot of merchandise. rick said. The Billy in reference here Brian tells me, "The first time we played at Fubar Saloon in Lawton we sold 75 shirts and 100 koozies. We were passing out shirts and collecting money as we played. By the way, we will be back at Fubar again on September 15th."

On top of building a solid repu-

pearance with Deep In It at The Iron Horse Pub. "That was one of the highlights of my career," Chris said. "He made us feel like we were the most important people to him," Brian adds. As an extension of that special performance, Malford asked the band to do a complete show with him at The Iron Horse Pub for November 30th as well. Congratulations again, guys!

I asked Brian how it feels play-



love us and they want us back right top honors of the Times-Record then and there. I don't think we've News public poll in the Live Muplayed a venue that we haven't got- sic category, solidifying their repten another booking before we left". utation even more. If that wasn't "But venturing out further is enough, Brian reached out to blues

ing in a band with his dad. He replied, "It's great. We feed off of each other. I know where he's going and what he's going to do next. It's a lot of fun!" I then asked Robert how it feels playing in a band with his son. "It's not as bad as when he was younger," he said with a chuckle. "But I spent many years as a property manager. In that job I made all the decisions. Here I let him make the decisions. Just tell me when

and where to show up and what to bring. It's so nice, and he pays me when I do it!"

The band had decided earlier this year to take October, November and December off from playing to rest and work on some studio material. Brian has his own remodeling business, coaches football, and likes to hunt, so his plate is pretty full this time of year. But it seems as though they have a hard time saying no

> to a good gig. People have called them to play parties, weddings and events, and not really wanting the job would overprice their rate. Much to their surprise they would take the offer.

At the time of this writing, December is the only month in which they have no bookings, and although there have been requests to not book every single weekend next year they are already filling in dates in January, February and March. "À ride like this doesn't last forever so you better enjoy it," Brian said with a big smile.

But they still plan on going into Studio to do some recording. They are also in the top five nominees for best live music in Texoma and there is a little money involved that would help them pay for the studio time should they take top prize. They are also regional finalists in the NeXt2Rock competition, a statewide songwriting contest. You

can follow their progress in this competition on Cumulus Radio website and 104.7 The Bear website and radio station.

I think that they all agree that it's been a wild ride from a friendly jam session in a garage to being this Deep In It.

~Tim Maloney

WFSO Premieres at Akin

The Wichita Falls Symphony Orchestra has had a long and productive relationship with Midwestern State University going back to 1948 when their first conductor, Frederic Balazs, took a faculty position at MSU and established the WFSO as the tenth orchestra in Texas.

More recently, MSU pia-

a Saturday evening and Sunday matinee performance, we hope to give more community members an opportunity to experience the music of the WFSO."

The opening concert will be held on Sept. 22 at 7:30 pm at Akin, with the Sunday matinee at 3:00 pm. The guest artist for the first two Akin concerts will be Alliance for Arts and Culture to present Lewis at the TALL summer arts camps. At the workshops, he performed piano, sang, talked about his life journey, and worked with the campers. He is an inspiring young man!"

For the season opener, Warren will be joining members of the WFSO and Maestro Fakernist Charles Ives."

Warren, who has performed with many orchestras around the country, has also appeared on "America's Got Talent" and was featured on "NASCAR's Samsung 500," where he performed the "National Anthem" in front of over 200,000 live spectators. In March 2012, he was a

no professor Ruth Morrow was joined by two of the orchestra's most important advocates and benefactors, Aurora Bolin and Dale Prothro, in 1999 for а performance Mozart's of "Concerto for Three Pianos Orchesand tra," and last MSU's vear

pictured: Lewis Warren Ir.

Martin Camacho joined the orchestra to perform the music of Grieg.

This season the WFSO will for the first time in their 71year history present regular performances at Akin Auditorium on the MSU campus. These concerts will open and close the season. "Akin Auditorium offers the WFSO an opportunity to perform music perfectly suited to the more intimate performance space," says Elizabeth Yeager, President of the WFSO. "By offering both 32

pianist Lewis Warren Jr. Like Mozart, Warren began composing his own songs at the age of five, and since the age of eight, he has been a top-prize winner in local, state and international piano competitions.

"We are so excited to have Lewis perform as a guest artist with the orchestra this season," says the WFSO's Katie Parkey. "For the past two summers, the WFSO has partnered with the Wichita Falls Area Community Foundation and the Wichita Falls

houri in a performance of Mozart's "Piano Concerto No. 21 in C Major." The program will also include Felix Mendelssohn's "Italian Symphony," and a short American masterpiece for orchestra from 1906. Fakhouri, who spearheaded the new Akin concerts, says, "I am very much looking forward to performing these great masterpieces at Akin Auditorium. I specifically wanted to open the series with 'The Unanswered Question' by one of the most innovative American composers, the modfeatured performer at the Van Cliburn Foundation's 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration. and has recently released his first two CDs— 'Shine on Us," recorded at the Gateway Church and

in 2015, and a holiday instrumental titled "A Christmas Album."

Along with the new Akin concerts and this season's three young guest artists, orchestral music fans will also have four new thematic concerts to look forward to—"Symphonie Fantastique," "WFSO does Hollywood," "Dance Mix," and the annual "Holiday Celebration." Those interested in learning more about the season can call 940-723-6202, or visit wfso.org.

> -Dr. Todd Giles WWW.THEHUBNTX.COM







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





Here is a list of The Hub's favorite local hot spots around Wichita Falls





MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY™

September 2018

Becky Hammon Assistant Coach for San Antonio Spurs 7 p.m. Thursday, September 6 Akin Auditorium

The Artist-Lecture Series will present Hammon, who played for the San Antonio Stars and the New York Liberty teams in the Women's National Basketball Associa-



tion and joined the Spurs as an assistant coach in 2014. She is the first full-time assistant female coach in any of the four major men's sports leagues. Admission: \$20 general public; \$18 senior citizens, active-duty military, and MSU alumni. Tickets available at the Clark Student Center Information Desk. For more information, call 940-397-7500.

MSU Texas Lifelong Learning Center Grand Opening 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Wednesday, September 12 25257 Hampstead Lane

The LLC, opening Fall 2018, offers courses and opportunities on a membership basis for individuals 50 and older who still enjoy learning. Visit **msutexas.edu/ lifelong-learning-center** for more information.

MSU Texas Theatre Extremities by William Mastrosimone 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Sept. 13-15

2:30 p.m. Sunday, September 16 Bea Wood Studio Theatre

After Marjorie is assaulted by an intruder, she fights back. But how far will she go in her pursuit for justice? *Extremities* examines the fantasy of taking control back after an assault. For mature audiences. General admission is \$5, including students, faculty, and staff. Call 940-397-4399 or 940-397-4393 for more information.

Opening Reception for "Waterways: Monotypes" Exhibit by Melanie Yazzie 6 p.m. Friday, September 14 Juanita Harvey Art Gallery

Yazzie is Associate Professor of Art at the University of Colorado Boulder. She has had more than 100 group and solo exhibitions combined in national and international galleries. Yazzie makes prints, sculptures, paintings, and mixed media works. Her work is on permanent exhibition in the Glenn Green Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Call 940-397-4264 for more information.



Papel Chicano Dos: Works on Paper September 8 – December 1 Wichita Falls Museum of Art at MSU

Actor/comedian Cheech Marin began collecting pieces of Chicano art in the 1980s. Thirty years later, he has accumulated one of the most extensive private collections of Chicano art worldwide, and he is recognized as one of its foremost advocates. The "Papel Chicano Dos: Works on Paper" exhibit coincides with National Hispanic Heritage Month, which is September 15-October 15. WFMA hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call 940-397-8900 for more information.



FROM THE MSU DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Faculty recital with Assistant Professor of Music Gordon Hicken on percussion 7:30 p.m. Monday, September 17 Akin Auditorium

Faculty recital with Dr. Amy Thiemann on flute 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 19 Akin Auditorium

University Jazz Ensemble Noon Friday, September 28 Priddy Pavilion at Sikes Lake

University Wind Ensemble and the University Orchestra 4 p.m. Sunday, September 30 Akin Auditorium

For a complete list of events, visit msutexas.edu/calendar.

Athletic events can be found at msumustangs.com.

There have been numerous music festivals and concerts put on here in Wichita Falls featuring all local talent over the years, at least since the first Local Heroes Banquet

in 1985. More recently there have been shows like Dimebash, Dirtbag Dave Throwdown, The Hub's Battle of the Bands, and I even put on a couple of local talent showcases with Tim Maloney and Company. Falls Fest could be included because a lot of local bands would play, but there was usually a national headliner to close out the show. There have been many. And when Falls Fest held its last show in 2015 it left a void in Wichita Falls' concert/festival life. Enter David Falnes.

David got the urge to organize an all local concert, and in October of 2017 the first Local Legends Rock Music Festival was held at Kimberly and Eric Stevens' newly reopened Stick's Place. Twelve local bands played and it was a much-needed shot in the arm for the local music scene. And to make that show even more remarkable, it was a benefit concert for CASA.

CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates. CASA supports and promotes court-appointed volunteer advocacy services to children so every abused or neglected child can be safe, have a permanent home and the opportunity to thrive. CASA volunteers represent the best interest of children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. The Local Legends concert raised \$4,500 last year to benefit this organization.



annual benefit concert. On April 10, 2018 the Wichita Falls music scene suffered a tragic loss with the news of the passing of Donald Larson (The Hub of NTX May 2018 cover story). Don whole-heartedly supported the live local music scene here, and was always out watching live bands perform. He was friends with all the bands and all the players and performers. And on that fateful afternoon, Brandon Mundt, drummer for Downtown Royalty Band and Everything In Between, was feeling pretty sad about the news and made a Facebook post reading 'Last year Local Legends- this year LarsonFest'. His phone started blowing up with bands wanting to be a part of it. Within a couple of hours, he was contacted by about 30 of them. David saw the post and suggested that they combine the Local Legends idea and change the name to LarsonFest. Don was such a loving and giving person it was only fitting that we could honor his love of live local music and his kind and giving spirit to help children in our community. So, David, Brandon, and his wife Erica, bassist for Everything In Between and Romeo Whiskey, decided to take on the enormous task of organizing the event which has grown to more than 40 acts.

David said, "If we're going to do this, let's do it big. No acts will be turned down to play because Don loved all music, and this is one way to memorialize his name and how much his support meant to all of us."

LarsonFest 2018 will be a threeday music festival the likes of which have never been attempted in Wichita Falls. It will be held at Stick's Place, 3305 Sheppard Access Road on October 5, 6, and 7, and have 41 acts scheduled in the three-day lineup.

Since the Local Legends show last year, there have been some enhancements to the production. There are sponsorships available this year ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. Main sponsors will be on the tee shirts and other sponsorships include your name or company logo on the banner that will be adorning the back of the stage, as well as on printed material and Facebook posts. Sponsorships will be accepted up to the day of the event. There will also be two types of tee shirt designs available, and there will be credit card capabilities for purchases. If the tee shirt supply is depleted there will be order forms to fill out for delivery at a later date. All credit card purchases go directly to a CASA account.

Three guitars have been donated

to the event by local music stores Sam Gibbs Music, Hayley Music, and Bruce Lyons Guitars. One guitar will be raffled each day, and each one will be signed by all the band members who performed that day.

There will be a motorcycle run on Saturday and vendors and food trucks will be on site all weekend. Participating bands will have an area set up for selling their merchandise and MSU sorority Alpha Phi will be volunteering to help with the show.

David hopes to triple or even quadruple the amount of donations they received last year. A website is currently being developed for this event and you can follow the progress leading up to the show on the LarsonFest Facebook page. Tickets for LarsonFest will be at the door only and are \$10 for a one day pass or \$20 for all three days. Again, all proceeds will be donated to CASA.

~Tim Maloney

Remembering Donald Larson



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Larsonfest 2018 October 5-7

Lineup:

Friday, October 5-

5:30 Fury
6:15 Singular Alloy
7:00 Coalition
7:45 Beyond The Down
8:30 Pvt Wilhelm
9:15 Skinhook
10:00 Suspence
10:45 Trigger The Dead
11:30 Brazos River Outlaws

Saturday, October 6-

12:00 Empty Angels 12:45 Cellar Door 1:30 Gypsy Railhead 2:15 The Indications 3:00 Jaguar 3:45 Clint Vines & The Hard Times 4:30 Killdevil 5:15 BLC 6:00 AA Bottom 6:45 RIP 7:30 Everything In Between 8:15 Downtown Royalty 9:00 Robert Paulson 9:45 It Hurts To Be Dead 10:30 OddFellas 11:00 Leddit Ride

Sunday, October 7-

12:00 Harvey Toalson 12:20 Rio Trio 12:40 Shane Mercer
1:00 Armadillo Flatts
1:30 Greg Neth
2:00 Randy Summers
2:30 Johnny Bones
3:00 Romeo Whiskey
3:30 Rusty Dillard
4:00 Therapy
4:30 Terry Thompson
5:00 MOXY
5:30 Ground Floor & Rising
6:00 Mr Meaner
6:45 Deep In It
7:30 James Cook

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