

COMPLIMENTARY

LAKE GRANBURY LIVING MAGAZINE

Live Music Issue

FALL 2021



TEXAS MUSIC

What it is, where it came from, and why we love it

RIDGE ROBERTS

Granbury's own World Champion Fiddler on a Course to a New Star

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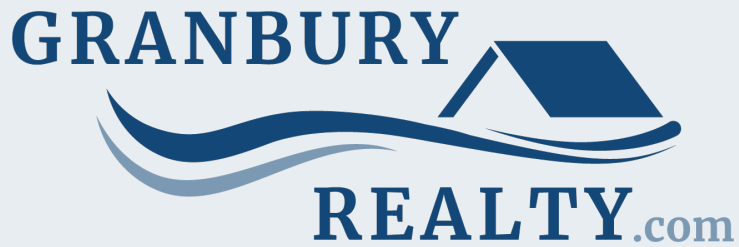
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

MELISSA MCGAVOCK



Do you guys remember live music? In this issue, you will find articles about local musicians alongside our magazine favorites including community happenings and history in the making.

Music has the power to connect people and humans need connection. We crave it. We connect with others to learn, to feel heard and also to heal. The energy exchanged between us has the power to inspire and build trust, key elements for a happy and healthy existence.

People come in and out of our lives for various reasons and most times it's completely unpredictable. However, it's these experiences, no matter how long or short, that inspire creativity, art, and music. We cherish these moments we have with one another and sometimes endure great pain because of it.

With music, we come together and celebrate in a synchronous fashion, feeding off one another's joy and experience. We also use music to completely escape from life's difficult moments, even if it's just for a song. For that few minutes, the sound and the lyrics reach you in a way that's very personal. It's like a hug for your soul.

We're overdue for new experiences, for art and to get creative, to dance together, and to experience life together. Music is such an easy conduit for human connection and understanding, and it's an amazing outlet for fear, love, and genuine happiness.

As the music scene grows in our already creative community, we will be covering it. Look forward to more music themed issues in the future. In the meantime, enjoy getting to know one another again, and enjoy meeting new people and trying new things. Let the good times roll.

This letter is dedicated to my beautiful friend Brenda Hyde who loved life and and loved to party.

Melissa

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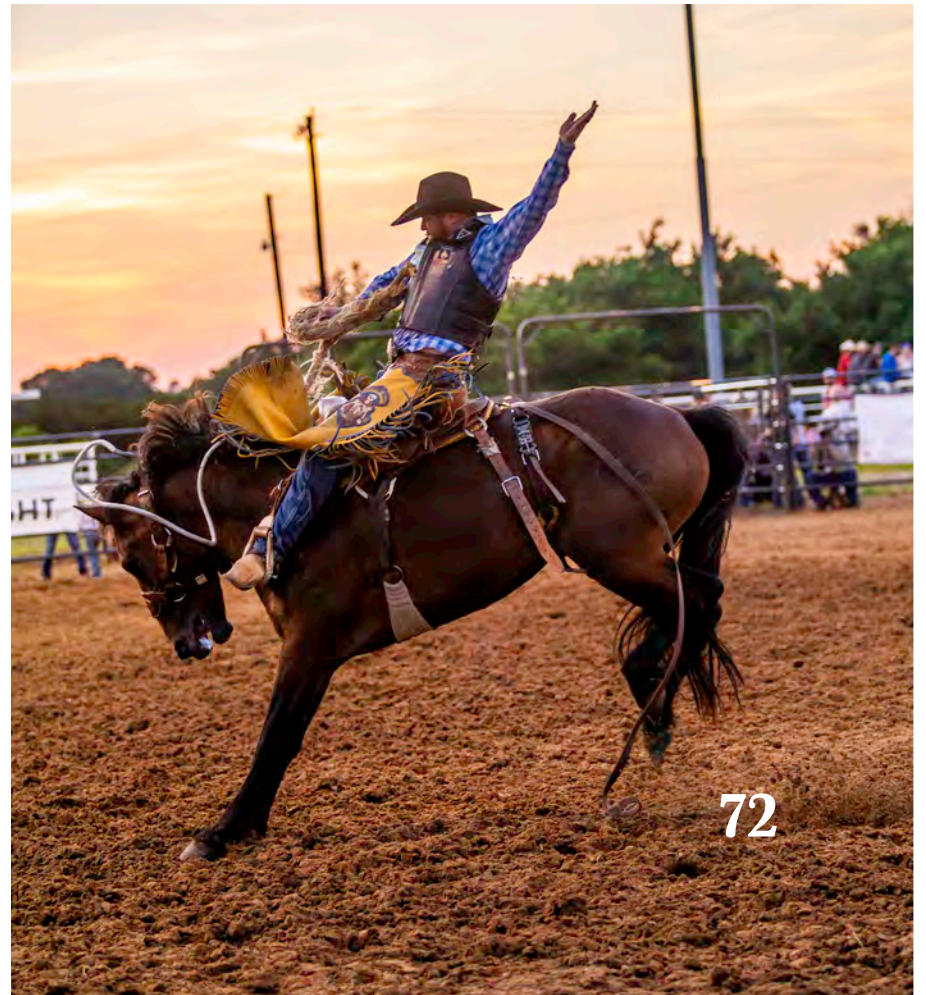
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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHERS

THE MUSIC ISSUE

Here is what I know. Our first issue of the magazine touched many people in a very positive way and the overall response was a big thumbs up. Our goal was to revitalize an already successful magazine. Mission accomplished.

Now, it's time to move forward and use our fresh momentum to score another high mark from not only our advertisers, but also the residents of Granbury and, of course, our very important visitors.

I love music. It is a part of me that will never go away. I remember life events by songs of that time. I sing to relax. I sing to get pumped up. I sing to be romantic, and I sing to be me. People who know me, know that music is my passion and is the reason I am who I am.

How cool then to be able to bring this issue of Lake Granbury Living to the people of this great community. We are highlighting some of the best bands and individuals from the surrounding area. If you love music like me, you are going to love this issue. I am excited to share with each one of you the magic of the music in Granbury, Texas.

Kevin

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this edition of Lake Granbury Living. Our love for the city of Granbury has made this project a true joy and a chance to celebrate our community. In a world where it seems almost impossible to travel, we are blessed to have so many visitors each weekend. And for those of us who live here, why leave at all? I am so thankful for the beautiful lives that drift in and out of our building on the square. And I am humbled by the locals that bless us each week with conversation and smiles.

While the world outside of Granbury seems to be churning in chaos, we are seeing more and more people wanting to be a part of Granbury, even if it is just for the weekend. The demand for more entertainment, shops and restaurants is growing stronger year by year. It is exciting to witness as Granbury steps up to the challenge.

That brings us to the final edition of 2021 and the marvel of music. Like many of you, I am a huge fan of live music. It just makes me happy. I would never want to contemplate a world without music. We are so excited to highlight the musicians that live in Granbury as well as those artists that come in for special evening. As you read the stories of these musicians we hope you will be inspired to continue to support this industry and the establishments that host them. If you haven't been out to see the ever growing night life in Granbury, make this weekend the time to start. I know you won't be disappointed. The music is everywhere!

Granbury definitely has its challenges; but our commitment to this community is a common thread that pulls us together and we know that we will continue to grow and thrive. It is, after all, the people that have made this town so beloved.

Eliza

PUBLISHERS KEVIN AND ELIZA KNAPP



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TEXAS MUSIC



Stoney LaRue
Photo by Eric Killingsworth

words by **CODY STARR**

photography provided by **CODY STARR**

A PRIMER ON TEXAS AND RED DIRT MUSIC.

WHAT IT IS, WHERE IT CAME FROM,
WHY WE LOVE IT, AND WHERE WE
CAN HEAR IT IN GRANBURY.

Texans can be a braggadocious bunch. We boast about our barbeque, our beer, our beautiful state and its people, and perhaps most of all, our music.

“Willie Nelson? George Strait? Janis Joplin? Kelly Clarkson? Beyonce?” a new transplant might ask. Yes, we really love those folks, but that’s not what we’re talking about (well, we’ll talk some Willie, but I digress).

What is Texas Music you ask? Well, to give it proper treatment would require a War and Peace length expose, but I’ll do my best to give a brief, but proper education.



MAKE A SCENE

**JOHN BAUMANN PLAYING WITH
TEXAS SUPERGROUP CALLED THE
PANHANBDLERS AT BILLY BOB'S FW**

Texas Music, using its broadest definition, encapsulates a rich regional music scene that's more about attitude, geography, and history than slotting itself to a particular sound. A giant melting pot of genres, one can find anything from country to blues, rock and Tejano, folk, roots, creole, punk and "red dirt" (more on that in a moment).

Traditional country themes of hell raising, heartbreaks and barely gettin' by are undergirded by the anti-establishment attitude that laces most of Texas culture. Heavy nods to people, places and happenings unique to the Lone Star State are often woven in, naturally resonating with Texans' life experiences. Its production usually takes a "less is more" approach, forgoing the heavy effects and loops that dominate mainstream pop and country in favor of a more raw, unrefined sound. Among artists, there is an acknowledgement of history and a true appreciation for the Texas songwriters of the past who paved the way by cultivating a loyal fanbase of passionate listeners.

A GIANT MELTING POT OF GENRES, ONE CAN FIND ANYTHING FROM COUNTRY TO BLUES, ROCK AND TEJANO, FOLK, ROOTS, CREOLE, PUNK AND "RED DIRT."

ROOTS OF THE SCENE TAKE HOLD

The 1970's arguably was the time the seeds of the modern Texas music scene were planted. While credit is due to Texans Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, and George Jones for birthing the outlaw country genre, those household names were merely the mainstream facade of other, deeper happenings.

In Austin, a music scene of unbridled talent was assembling in a haze of booze and drugs. Changes in the law allowed establishments to start selling liquor, turning the downtown beer joints into thriving night clubs. It was dirt cheap to live in Austin back then, so naturally it attracted musicians and other hangers-on to mingle with the politicians and ranchers. It's when Austin got "weird" as they say, when music and art flourished not only on Sixth Street, but outside the Austin city limits as well. Epic house parties were the norm, with musicians gathering after the bars closed to song swap until sunrise. Folks like Ray Wylie Hubbard, Rusty Wier, and Gary P. Nunn latched on and ran the gauntlet, establishing themselves within outlaw movement. At the center of the party was a native New Yorker turned Texan that went by the name Jerry Jeff Walker. Bold and charismatic, Walker told stories and wrote songs that would captivate crowds and make it rain beer. In August 1973, Jerry Jeff and his buddies recorded what is considered to be the seminal record of the Texas country movement.

Viva Terlingua was captured over the course of several hot August nights using a makeshift recording setup inside the non-air conditioned Luckenbach dancehall. Its brilliance is partially attributed to the "gonzo" method in which it was recorded – unfiltered, unguided, but purposeful in execution. The live album birthed several Texas music party anthems including Walker's "Sangria Wine" and "Gettin' By," Gary P. Nunn's famous "London Homesick Blues" and Ray Wylie Hubbard's "Up Against The Wall Redneck Mother."

Meanwhile in Nashville, a pair of young





songwriters, Guy Clark and Townes Van Zandt, spent a few years going the traditional route, making records and scraping by in The Music City. Eventually they moved back to Texas to join their brethren, and while the best friends never found that fame and fortune, they achieved legendary status among their peers for their unrivaled ability to mix melody and poetry. Songs like Clark's "LA Freeway" and Van Zandt's "Pancho and Lefty" have been covered too many times to count, and are always included in the list of Texas Country standards.

IN AUGUST 1973, JERRY JEFF AND HIS BUDDIES RECORDED WHAT IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE SEMINAL RECORD OF THE TEXAS COUNTRY MOVEMENT.

THE BIRTH OF RED DIRT

As the decade turned over, a quieter but equally powerful movement began in the college town of Stillwater, Oklahoma. While the term "Red Dirt Music" is now casually used synonymously with "Texas Music," its origins are distinctly Oklahoman. A cast of unknowns led by Tom Skinner, Bob Childers, Jimmy LaFave, and John Cooper were doing some partying of their own from a rundown old farmhouse on the outskirts of town. "The Farm" as it became known, hosted night after night of pickin' parties where songwriters would gather to share and create what eventually would be termed "Red Dirt Music," named after the iron rich soil that blankets much of the state. An eclectic mix of folk, southern rock, blues and bluegrass influences, red dirt shared the same rebellious streak and adherence to unbridled authenticity as its Texas counterpart.

Back in Texas, the indie-country movement sparked by Walker and friends roared into the 80's. In College Station a pair of Aggies, Robert Earl Keen and Lyle Lovett, were serenading churchgoers from their front porch on Church Street. Both would leave A&M, each garnering their own form of success. Lovett attained pop culture level stardom as a songwriter, performer,

producer and actor, collecting four Grammys along the way. Keen is considered by his contemporaries and successors as one of the best songwriters to ever come out of the state, with his 1996 release *No. 2 Live Dinner* being a benchmark record in the Texas Music scene. On the mainstream end, Texans George Strait and Kenny Rogers were in their prime with a young Clint Black on the verge of a breakthrough.

LUBBOCK AND THE RED DIRT INVASION

While Lubbock may always be the home of Buddy Holly, it is also without question the place where the modern Texas Music movement exploded. Fast forward to the mid-90's, Pat Green and Cory Morrow, two Texas Tech students with something to say, began performing at local panhandle dive bars before catching fire statewide. Both took a page from the Jerry Jeff Walker guide to showmanship, and sung songs about road trip weekends in their homeland with more fervor than any predecessor did. Almost single handedly, Green ignited a generation of musicians to pick up their guitars and make a go of writing and performing music. Entire subcultures of dedicated fans spent their weekends going from town to town to find the party anchored by acts like Green, Kevin Fowler, and Roger Creager.

Meanwhile in Stillwater, after twenty years of red dirt stewing, the pot began to boil over. Mentored by Skinner and his contemporaries, a slew of young and ambitious songwriters lit up the bars around the Oklahoma State campus. Cody Canada's outfit, Cross Canadian Ragweed, brought the attitude and rock 'n' roll, Jason Boland and The Stragglers were pure honky tonk country, Mike McClure and The Great Divide provided the red dirt tradition, and Stoney LaRue brought the southern soul. At the same time, there was a guy named Garth Brooks banging around those same beer joints, but I don't need to explain what happened to him.

Like their Texas counterparts, Canada, Boland, McClure and LaRue sang songs that were authentic, rowdy, irreverent, but at the same time, real and visceral to a rabid, college aged fan base. It wasn't long until the boys from Oklahoma crossed the Red River and took the state by storm. It was gasoline on the fire started by Pat Green and company. "I knew that I was in the middle of something that had the potential of being bigger than all of us," Stoney LaRue told *Lake Granbury Living*. "The people down in Texas were more than accepting of what we had to offer because it was pretty similar to their culture." Over the next decade, new blood continued flow in, acts



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YOUNGER AUDIENCE.**

like the Randy Rogers Band, Turnpike Troubadours, and Wade Bowen quickly rose to prominence, filling venues all over the state and the country. Annual events like Larry Joe Taylor's Texas Music Festival and MusicFest in Steamboat Springs, Colorado popped up, where both artists and thousands of fans would get together for weeklong parties with the music front and center.

Today the scene continues to thrive. A new generation of artists have arrived, including an influx of female talent that has commanded attention from what was historically a male dominated genre. Houston native Bonnie Bishop won a Grammy in 2013 for her song "Not Cause I Wanted To," recorded by her idol Bonnie Raitt. Other notable women that are making a lane for themselves include Jamie Lin Wilson, Sunny Sweeney, Kaitlin Butts, and Stephenville's Courtney Patton. In the panhandle, Lubbock continues to churn out high quality talent in William Clark Green, Flatland Cavalry, and songwriter

John Baumann. There's also a sizeable "cowboy country" segment led by Cody Johnson, who drew over 60,000 on just two days' notice at the Houston Rodeo in 2017. Finally, there are Koe Wetzel and Parker McCollum, two bad boys that are the hottest names going now, especially with the younger audience.

With all that behind us, the final question is obvious. Where can you see and hear all this all this great Texas and Red Dirt music?

No surprise, the people of Granbury love their music. Whether its boats zipping across the lake with tube in tow or sitting around the fire pit with margaritas in hand, there's always a tune in the air. In recent years, a bevy of live music establishments have popped up, providing a welcoming stop to Texas and Red Dirt artists from across the region. In downtown, you'll find Bob's Off The Square, with a great back patio ambiance regularly hosting names such as Cody Canada, Bart Crow, and Kaitlin Butts. On the square, The New Granbury Live provides an intimate listening room that has featured legendary Texas songwriter Walt Wilkins and amazingly talented Josh Weathers. Silver Saddle Saloon is a great place to grab an ice cream while watching up and comers play the main room, or venture out back to watch full bands play in the alley. For those wanting to hear familiar tunes, there's a good chance you can catch local musician Kim Younkin covering Stevie Ray Vaughn at Kessler's or Fuzzy's Tacos. Enjoy your Texas music with some barbeque by heading out Acton Highway to Brock's to see Gary P. Nunn or Tommy Alverson. We even have our own Texas Music festival, Lakefest, in the fall. If you can't find what you're looking for in Granbury, you have options in nearby Bluff Dale, Stephenville, and of course, The Stockyards in Fort Worth.

Bob Childers once told Stoney LaRue that the goal of any Red Dirt musician or fan should be to "spread the dirt," meaning take the music to as many folks as possible. Granbury has embraced that mantra, so come see us, take in a live show, and party like a Texan.

KAITLIN BUTTS, PART OF AN INFLUX OF FEMALE TALENT THAT HAS COMMANDED ATTENTION FROM WHAT WAS HISTORICALLY A MALE DOMINATED GENRE.



HOMETOWN HAPPENING

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GRANBURY'S CHAMPION FIDDLER TURNS SINGER-SONGWRITER.

Ridge Roberts

World Champion Fiddler on a Course to a New Star

WORDS BY PEGGY PURSER FREEMAN

PHOTOS BY ERIC KILLINGSWORTH

Wheels of Life

A little boy outside the hayfield
Watching the tractor mow the hay
Fascinated by the treaded wheels
On a September breezy day
He climbs a tree and feels the world
Resting at his feet
And he wonders if this feeling
Is just a boyhood fantasy

From Wheels of Life ©Ridge Roberts

At seventeen, Ridge Roberts holds many championship fiddle titles, having won numerous contests. Most notably, 2019 Grand Masters Champion, 2019 Bob Wills Fiddle Festival Champion, 2019 Colorado State Champion, and 2018 World Champion. He will be appearing on the Grand Ole Opry in September of 2021.

“I have been blessed with the greatest friends,” Ridge said at a 2020-Chic-Fila-parking-lot-release party in Granbury. “We recorded our debut fiddle album in Nashville, Tennessee in February. Our Lone Star Fiddler CD pays homage to my deep Texas roots. The CD showcases the musical pioneers and legends of the past that I so admire. The CD also features legendary rhythm guitarist Joey McKenzie, and world-class upright bassist Dennis Crouch. “As a young boy when he wasn’t playing the fiddle, he was thinking about the fiddle, listening to fiddle music, researching fiddle history, playing rhythm guitar for fiddle tunes, looking for fiddles, and sometimes just looking at his fiddle,” Ridge’s mom, Cindy, explained.

Since he recently graduated from North Central Texas Academy, Ridge’s focus shifts to a new path. Along with classic fiddle music, a Texas boy is bound to hear that old-time classic country. With the old fiddle music came a new love.

“Whether it was the lyrics or the actual music that drew me in, I don’t know, but once I heard it, it was in my soul,” Ridge said.

Cindy added, “Just like with fiddling, he dived in headfirst and didn’t come up for a breath until he had

watched every video he could find on Merle Haggard, Buck Owens, Marty Robbins, Faron Young, Jimmy Rodgers, the Glaser Brothers, and all the other greats. He watched them again and again—always listening and hanging on to every word and every note. He listened over and over.”

“Mom, says I got a little nerdy because I would listen for a particular note or lyric and then want to talk about it.” Ridge laughed.

“He listens again and again and then talks about it some more.” Cindy continued. “To this day he still does it... and I love it.”

*Life tells me that it’s switching gears...
From Wheels of Life ©Ridge Roberts*

The studying and listening paid off! As Ridge continues his career as the fiddler for the Western Flyers, he’s tuning up his career as a singer-songwriter. In 2021, Ridge wowed audiences all over the area by singing classic country with a rich voice and excellent presentation. Then he introduced some original songs with lyrics rich in soul and pure in heart. You can bet your lucky cowboy hat Ridge will have studied what it will take and be working toward that goal. For Ridge it’s not all music, he also enjoys reading, drawing, antiques, and he collects old Bibles, old books, and cowboy hats.

John and Cindy Roberts have three boys, all bring different gifts to the world. The oldest Aedan offers that astute thinking of the quiet scholar. Rio brings the gift of love with the grin of a minx, and with his special needs he teaches the Roberts family the gift of devotion and strength.

Someday you’ll find when you look across the valley





The path that you climbed was the right one...
From the Deepest Valleys ©Ridge Roberts

Looking back, Ridge has no regrets about taking the path of fiddle competitions. “The experience has given me lifelong friends from all over the country,” he added. “The CD release and the September appearance on the Grand Old Opry feels surreal. I know my future path will have valleys and mountains, but I know Who to follow. More than championship fiddler or singer-songwriter, the one thing I want people to know about me is that I’m a Christian. I believe Jesus was a perfect man, God born as a man. He showed His love for us, He died for us, took our sin on Himself. That is number one in my life. Then my family and friends.”

And oh how it still hurts now
The way a soul can cry without a sound
But you have learned to be strong
And know the difference between right and wrong
How did you cling to your hope,
That seemed to be fading away?
I guess I was right all along
The deepest valleys are surrounded by the highest
mountains

The Deepest Valleys ©Ridge Roberts

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Dates

Event

Location

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	2	Lakefest 5k	Virtual
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	8-10	Oktoberfest	Granbury Square
	9	Corvette Club Car Show	Granbury Square
	9	Mission Granbury 5k/1k Ghost Run	Hewlett Park
	15-17	Harvest Moon Festival of the Arts	Granbury Square
November	6-7	Granbury Sesquicentennial Celebration	Langdon Grounds & Granbury Square
	11	Veterans Day	Memorial Lane
	12-14	North Texas Vet Fest & Parade	Decker Field
	19-20	Cross Timbers Wine Symposium	Langdon Grounds
	26	Night of Lights Christmas Parade	Granbury Square
	26	Santa's House (ongoing through December 23)	Granbury Square Gazebo
December	3-4	Granbury - A Candlelight Tour	Granbury Square
	3-12	Away in A Manger (1,200+ Nativity Displays)	Granbury Square
	10-11	Living Christmas Cards	Granbury Square
January	15	Goosebump Jump 2022	City Beach Park



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| Girl's Night Out on the Square | Every 2nd Saturday (Feb - Dec) |
| Granbury Ghosts and Legends Tours | Fridays and Saturdays (7pm, 9:15pm) |
| Rise and Grind at Visit Granbury | Friday mornings (9am) |
| The New Granbury Live | Live performances on the square |
| Granbury Opera House | 8-10 productions throughout the year |
| Gallery Night | 2nd and Last Saturday of each month |

All Events and Dates are Subject to Change

To view complete list of events, go to: www.visitgranbury.com/events



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HOMETOWN HAPPENING

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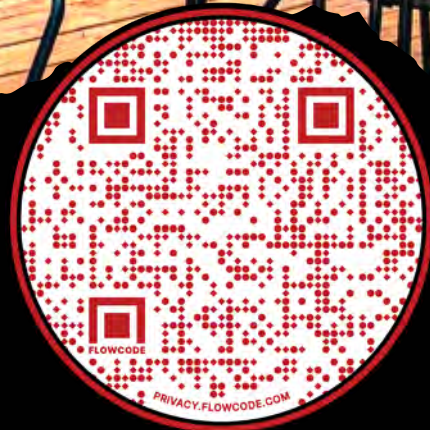
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GRANBURY FISHING LODGE

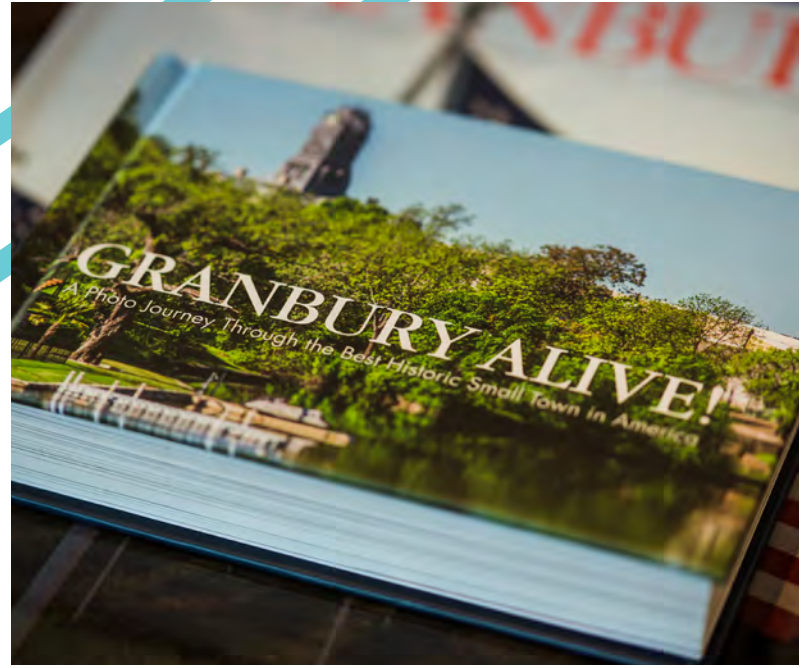


Grab your fishing gear and head to this lakeside vacation rental for a relaxing trip in Granbury, Texas! This 2-bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home has everything you need for the perfect Lake Granbury retreat with a fully equipped kitchen, covered veranda, huge outdoor living area, private fire pit, and horseshoe pit, all only a few feet from the water. And getting on the water is a breeze with a community launch, private dock, kayaks and paddleboard.

The Granbury Fishing Lodge, owned and operated by Granbury residents Steven and Kelly Place, is situated in the small fishing community of Arrowhead Shores on north Lake Granbury. This unique home is situated at the end of a cul-de-sac, which provides privacy and tranquility for guests. The owner's attention to every detail, charming décor and abundant amenities makes it obvious that they love the home and that they love sharing it with others.

words by **KELLY PLACE**

photography by **ERIC KILLINGSWORTH**



The Granbury Fishing Lodge is a quaint 2-story home built on stilts and features a spectacular view of the lake. It is loaded with amenities and activities that will make your stay a memorable one. Whether you choose to fish, swim, kayak, or engage in any other of your favorite activities, this lakeside hideaway also offers a tranquil respite where you can just relax next to a roaring fire in the large lakeside firepit or just chill on the veranda and watch the sun set over beautiful Lake Granbury. You may also want to cook-up the days catch on one of the three grills or head into downtown Granbury, only 7 miles away, to sample some of the area's best eats and other activities.

Vacation rentals like The Granbury Fishing Lodge provide travelers with an opportunity to experience lake life, observe nature on the water, and encounter the charm, history and hospitality that Granbury, Texas, has to offer. This 5-Star, lakefront vacation rental is a welcome addition to the list of great places to stay in Granbury and is a perfect escape for a relaxing fishing trip with friends or a family retreat.

GRANBURY FISHING LODGE
5901 PARKSIDE COURT
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VINEYARDS AND WINERIES

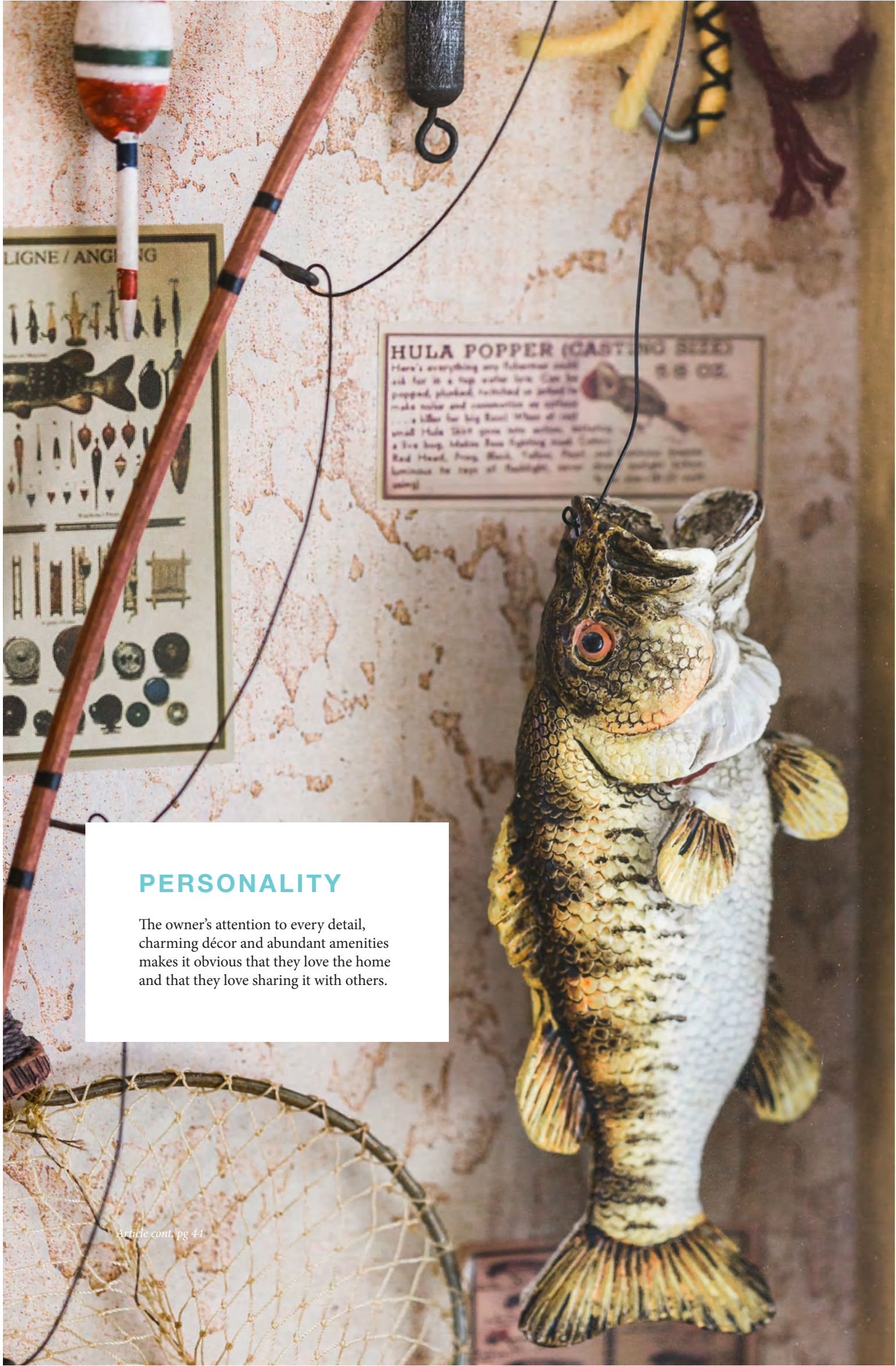
- Pemberton Cellars Winery (5.0 miles)
- Barking Rocks Vineyard & Winery (6.5 miles)
- Bluff Dale Vineyards (23.2 miles)
- Lost Oak Winery (43.9 miles)

DAY TRIPS

- Fort Worth Zoo (45.2 miles)
- Downtown Fort Worth (46.2 miles)
- Fort Worth Botanic Garden (46.2 miles)
- Fort Worth Stockyards Station (51.2 miles)

AIRPORT

- Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (71.2 miles)
- Dallas/Love Field Airport (80 miles)



PERSONALITY

The owner's attention to every detail, charming décor and abundant amenities makes it obvious that they love the home and that they love sharing it with others.

Article cont. pg 44



TIPS FOR CRUISING GRANBURY

1.

Lake Granbury

Fishing, Swimming, Boating, Tubing, Water Skiing

Lake Granbury Marina (10.0 miles)

Rough Creek Park (10.0 miles)

2.

Granbury Square Plaza (7.8 miles)

Granbury Opera House

Langdon Center Concert Hall

Hood County Museum

3.

Outdoor Adventures

Dinosaur Valley State Park (29.7 miles)

Fossil Rim Wildlife Center (29.8 miles)

Squaw Valley Golf Course (30.0 miles)



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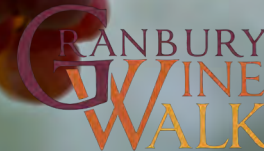
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JOANIE KEAYS:

I have lived in Granbury almost all of my life. After watching Granbury change so much since 1981, and the leadership that has come and gone over the years, it is clear that the position of Mayor is something that requires a person to have a skill set in place prior to being sworn into position. What can you tell me about the experiences in your life that you feel prepared you most for this new leadership role in our community?

MAYOR JIM JARRATT:

“I have worked all of my life. As a 6-year-old, I was expected to pick my “quota” of cotton on our farm in Italy, Texas. Later, during my teens, I always had a job and was always expected to provide an honest day’s work. Living in a small town like Comanche, Texas, you sure didn’t want to get a reputation as someone who didn’t work hard – it would get back to your family quickly. So, I developed a good work ethic and a tremendous appreciation and respect for others who do their jobs to the best of their abilities. As an Eagle Scout and later a Scoutmaster who was invited to National Jamborees as a Jamboree Scoutmaster, I learned to live and teach the Boy Scout Handbook. Next to the Bible, I recommend this book, at least the earlier editions, as a practical guide to growing up and becoming a contributing citizen to the family, community, and nation.”

JOANIE KEAYS:

My background is in small business. As a small business owner, you are taught to wear every hat in the business. You never know when you will have to wear the hat of the Human Resource department, janitor, receptionist, accounting, marketing and anything else that is required for that day to be successful. The corporate world seems to be a completely different environment. Do you feel your corporate experience prepared you for your role as Mayor and if so, why?

MAYOR JIM JARRATT:

“Most of my working career has been with Fortune 100 Companies. These companies generally have an excellent management development program. I was fortunate enough to begin my career right out of college with Johnson & Johnson, which had and has one of the premier management training programs. A program that took a management candidate through all aspects of a company. One year I would be in production, then six months in personnel, then a year in finance, followed by a tour in distribution and marketing. All these different functions prepared me to perform in different companies, even if they made a different product. And I was with companies that made snack foods, produced sterile bandages, provided financial services, outsourced communication process and handled insurance for millions of customers. This diverse experience, plus my most current experience as a Trustee for Austin College, have prepared me to ask the right questions, and the right follow up questions so that pertinent information is provided with which good decisions can be made.”

JOANIE KEAYS:

During the Mayor race, we had several forums that questioned each candidate about our agenda once in office. As Mayor, what is the first thing you would like to accomplish?

MAYOR JIM JARRATT:

“Well the first little thing was to get the Monitors down from in front of the Mayor’s place on the podium so that the public could see the face of the Mayor. This was accomplished and all of the Council Members, City Manager and City Attorney’s Monitors have also been lowered which I believe makes it much better for the attending public.



JOANIE KEAYS:

I would think every elected official would like to look back on their political career and think of all the things they accomplished while in office. What would you like to be known for during your term?

MAYOR JIM JARRATT:

“The Mayor that was able to work with the County and the Independent School District so that problems of mutual interest to City, County and School could be properly addressed and resolved with mutual solutions vs. one off and expensive patch work solutions. Synergy is a powerful tool when used for the public good.”

JOANIE KEAYS:

You were sworn into office since July 6, 2021, how would you say your life changed after becoming Mayor?

MAYOR JIM JARRATT:

“I wear a coat and tie 4-5 times a week, and before it was jeans and a t-shirt everyday, but Sunday. When I am out and about, I represent the City of Granbury and the City of Granbury has high standards. I’m trying to represent those standards and the City of Granbury citizens and put them in the best light possible. Before Mayor, I planned my days and weeks and adjusted activities as I chose. Now, there are meetings for this, meetings for that and meetings that require a lot of preparation. Some of the preparation is due to my being new – but not all of it. Being prepared for each of the meetings is another example of ‘representing the citizens of Granbury’. If I am not prepared for the citizens, I’m not doing my job – and if the citizens think I show up unprepared, then I want to hear about it.”

JOANIE KEAYS:

What are some of the highlights over the past few months?

MAYOR JIM JARRATT:

“The citizens of Granbury are the Highlight. When campaigning I knocked on lots of doors and met citizens from every neighborhood in the City. Our Granbury Citizens are outstanding.

(cont.) They are polite, courteous, honest and energetic and want more for the City and its citizens. The understanding that the City Employees have demonstrated time and time again as they go about doing 'just their job' and knowing that it so much more than that. Our City Employees have extreme pride as they perform the daily tasks that keep Granbury running smoothly, safely, efficiently. Think about it; how do you feel when you wake up without electricity, without plumbing, to dirty and crime infested streets, and boarded up beautiful old buildings. Well, you will have to think about it real hard – because that isn't Granbury – we wake up to all of the necessities and a clean and safe environment surrounded by historic and beautiful thriving businesses because of City Employees."

JOANIE KEAYS:

After running a campaign beside you, I witnessed firsthand how much you connected to the community. I watched you from afar meet the community and how happy you were to shake hands and have conversations with everyone. I can see how this has been your favorite part. With the moratorium in place on the east side of town and traffic along 377, I often wonder what Granbury will be like in the future. Where do you see Granbury in 10 years?

MAYOR JIM JARRATT:

"I see Granbury fully built out with adjacent areas requesting that they be annexed into the City of Granbury. These individuals requesting annexation see the benefits of Granbury and are willing to pay the City Taxes to obtain the benefits. The benefits include a robust downtown and surrounding Historic area that is both a commercial center and tourist center. A town center that is easy to reach from the main intersecting highways and a useable Loop around town. A downtown that has accessible parking, fine dining and grill type restaurants, merchandise that leans to the high end and compliments the many and varied art appreciation opportunities that present themselves in public and private placements."





Granbury has a reputation that precedes itself. Spend a weekend on the square and you will witness the influx of tourists. Granbury is a city where others want to come and enjoy our utopia, even if it is just for the day. If our community continues to grow at the pace that it has, our Mayor and Council members need to ensure that it is done with precision and purpose. Positive growth is critical for our city to continue development, while maintaining our small-town charm.



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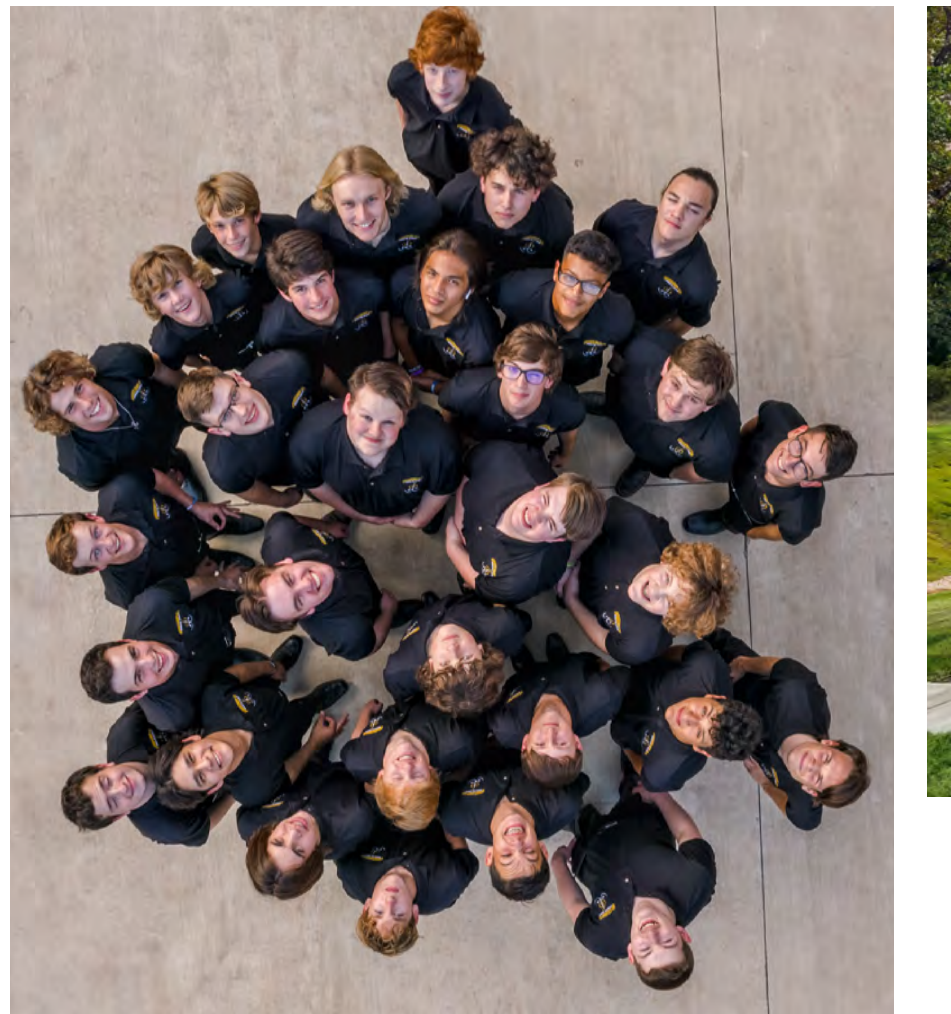
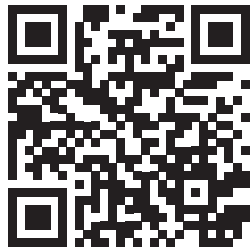
PHOTOS BY ERIC KILLINGSWORTH

GHS VARSITY TENOR-BASS CHOIR

The Granbury Varsity Tenor-Bass Choir was selected to perform as an invited choir for the Texas Music Educators Association Convention. The convention will be held February 9 - 12, 2022, at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, TX. The Granbury High School Varsity Tenor-Bass Choir was selected for this honor by a panel of judges who adjudicated performances submitted by choirs from across the state of Texas. After a multi round adjudication process, the Granbury High School Varsity Tenor-Bass Choir was selected as the only high school men's choir to perform for this convention in 2022.

STAY TUNED

February 9 - 12, 2022





Ter



r o i r

words by **SAVANNAH GATES**

photography by **ERIC KILLINGSWORTH**

This is a word often used to describe wine in a “sophisticated” manner. If you look at the environment where the grapes were grown, you could observe elements such as climate, soil, temperature that year (both day and night), topography, farming practices and methods in which the wine is made. These elements make up what is summarized as “terroir” and give each wine its own essence or soul. Although it is present in most things that we eat or drink, the coffee industry seems to be the only other product that commonly refers to “terroir” when describing taste notes. But what might you find when you take this term and look closer to home?





In July 2021, Chef Rose and Oz Coffee Bar hosted a six-course dinner featuring intriguing ingredients from the Texas Hill Country interpreted with a South African flare. Each course was paired beautiful bottles from one of the oldest wineries of Stellenbosch, South Africa known for their stunning display of “terroir” and their farm-to-table approach. The opening course was an agricultural experience in itself with local farmer, Kent Walker of Grow the Greens, lining the tables with a colorful variety of live microgreens. (Microgreens are baby vegetable greens that have only developed their first set of leaves and are highly concentrated in flavor and nutrients.) Each guest was provided a pair of scissors to harvest and build their own salad as they pleased, along with all the salad fixin’s used to highlight taste notes of the rare sparkling Chardonnay, Babylonstoren Sprankel.

Ordering seafood, or any food, from a distributor or grocery store is definitely easier for a chef. Convenience, consistency, and cost are three major reasons why farm-to-table is not a common concept throughout the United States. Beyond that, it takes time and effort to build relationships with farmers. It requires flexibility in the menu and skill plus creativity to adjust dishes on the fly based on what

products are available in the present bounty. Beyond everything else, it demands an understanding audience from guests for the imperfections and variations in flavor due to the “terroir” at the time leading up to harvest. With that in mind, sourcing local fish to pair with rich Viognier for the second course was certainly the steepest challenge of the meal. After all, there are not many fishermen of the Brazos advertising their catch of the day. Chef hit a gold mine when she found enough fat, glistening Crappie in a friend’s freezer from his first season of retirement fishing. Hours of cleaning, descaling, and gutting by her sous chef led to a memorable second course of stuffed whole fish cooked directly on the grill, South African style. Most of the guests had no idea such a flavorful fish lived in the river right in their backyard.

There is something that shifts inside when you grow your own food. You start to understand “terroir” on a new level and taste the difference in the details. It is what makes the memory of your first tomato straight from the garden stand out so strongly. It is why melons at the grocery store just are not the same after you start buying from the local farmer’s market. It is how honey from your local beekeeper is so much sweeter. Then you start raising and harvesting



your own animals, and that depth drills even deeper. When you spend days in an unprecedented winter storm bundled up hauling buckets of hot water and food, collecting chickens that are disoriented in the snow, stretching tarps and anything else you can find to insulate your animals from the cold wind, carrying loads of firewood, wrapping the incubator in blankets by the fire so that your unhatched babies might make it without power, and then everyone survive, the depth reaches places you did not know existed. Especially for a chef that has devoted her life to food. This is a snapshot of the labor of love behind Chef Rose's ducks and geese used for home-made sausage in the third course alongside a bouquet of peppers to pair with Babylonstoren's gorgeous Mourvedre Rose. Customers joke about professionals like her having secret ingredients that make it impossible to reproduce their recipes at home, but the truth is, that secret ingredient is not secret at all. It is the result of their craft being rooted in love, and when they are connected to the ingredients from start to finish, you can taste the difference in every bite.

The United States discards an estimated 80 billion pounds of food per year, making us one of the most wasteful countries in the world. When you live in the

land of plenty and have "seasonal" produce available at your fingertips, it is easy to lose touch with the roots of the food system. "Waste" is usually even lower on the priority totem pole. As we discussed before, something shifts when you grow your own food, and when you hatch, raise, and harvest your own birds, waste suddenly becomes a much more predominate subject. This was the case when Chef found herself with an abundance of poultry carcasses left over from carving for sausage. From what would appear as trash to most, came the most incredible base for a South African style curry to pair with a charming Shiraz. Chef infused an additional layer of love into the dish with goat meat from an animal that had been tenderly cared for by her own hands since before birth. Some guests gasped when they found the meat in their bowl had a name, but from the farmer's perspective, they provide their animals the absolute best life with one bad day. And when you introduce a chef to farming, suddenly there is an art behind how the animals are fed as they now have the power to influence that element of the terroir. When a chef labors in the heat, building fence to protect those animals that will later be used to feed a crowd, waste is no longer an option. Creativity blossoms, and everyone invited to their table benefits from the holistic approach to the culinary art.

In the 1990's Ostrich farming boomed in Texas as an alternate red meat during the Mad Cow Disease scare. Interest in ostrich eventually declined until avian flu hit South Africa in 2011, giving surviving ostrich farms a second chance. Since then, the continued popularity of lean, exotic meats has sustained farms such as Clark Ostrich Ranch, just a couple hours away from Granbury. Layers of connection to South Africa in this dish called for simplicity in preparation to allow the meat to speak for itself with just a dusting of smoked sea salt, a kiss of the grill, a side of garden-fresh zucchini, completed with a rustic chimichurri. To accompany this epic finale, it was only fitting to pair one of the oldest cultivated grapes in viticulture history, Cabernet Franc. Usually, this grape takes a supporting role in blends, but when grown in optimal "terroir" such as the old seabed of Helderberg, Stellenbosch, wine makers such as David Finlayson of Edgebaston Vineyard bottle nothing short of magic with 100% Cabernet Franc. A lesser-known fact about this grape varietal is that it is the parent grape of the top two most popular grapes in the world, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. Do a little digging in 'Wine From Neolithic Times to the 21st Century' by Stefan K. Estreicher, and you will find a rich history of how these grapes were accidentally bred in southwestern France.

To end the night on a sweet note, braided donuts, known as koeksisters, dipped in local mesquite and

wildflower honey, were served for dessert with the classic pairing of coffee, specifically a bright, fun bean sourced from Ethiopia and roasted by Super Good Coffee Roasters in Austin. In the United States, a Central or South American coffee is more familiar and commonly consumed, with a traditional nutty and chocolatey profile. In contrast, many nerds in the coffee fanatic realm anxiously await the season every year for bright, delicate African coffees such as the one that filled the air in closure of the culturally rich evening. Details continued with the offering of cream from a nearby dairy that offers low-temperature pasteurized products. Because of their processing method, the fluctuating nuances of milk can be detected by experienced baristas who handle the products daily as the "terroir" of the seasons change along with the pampered cows' diet.

Food is estimated to travel an average of 1500 miles from farm to plate in the United States. The next time your neighbor offers farm-fresh eggs, take time to notice how much more flavor and color is packed into each little nugget. The closer you are to the source of what you consume, the more relevant "terroir" becomes. Do you know any local farmers or ranchers? Do you know which chefs in your community go the extra mile to build those relationships and support local agriculture? Do you support the art of those chefs regardless of imperfections and higher prices for quality ingredients? When you travel, do you seek out chains that offer familiar, redundant cuisine or do you dig

for those eateries who express a sense of place? It is the red pill worth choosing with an infinite positive ripple effect, and as the consumer, you hold the power in your own "terroir."



"Customers joke about professionals like her having secret ingredients that make it impossible to reproduce their recipes at home, but the truth is, that secret ingredient is not secret at all. It is the result of their craft being rooted in love, and when they are connected to the ingredients from start to finish, you can taste the difference in every bite."





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JOSH WEATHERS

TEXAS' MUSIC BEST KEPT SECRET

words by cody starr

photos by eric killingsworth



Once in a blue moon you'll come across an artist who is so talented that it makes you utter words we aren't allowed to print. Someone with all the tools - the voice, looks, musical chops, and charisma that come together on stage to give you an experience that feeds your soul. Fort Worth singer-songwriter Josh Weathers checks all those boxes.

Musically, Weathers can do just about anything. While accurately branding himself as "Texas soul music," the moniker woefully falls short in describing the Josh Weathers experience. Think the soul of Otis Redding and Stevie Wonder, the blue collar feels of Springsteen and Mellancamp, and just enough George Strait twang to firmly tie himself to Texas. He's troubadour without the cowboy hat and fiddle, and while spinning his records will give you a taste of his rich musical palette and otherworldly vocals, the true magic of Weathers can only be felt at his live shows.

A Josh Weather's show is truly a journey. He'll take you to Motown, Memphis, middle America, and Nashville, then proceed to land you back in Texas

with a groove in your step and warm feeling in your heart. Weather's ability to weave together musical genres is akin to a master chef taking ingredients that you wouldn't think belong together, and somehow concocting a dish that's heaven on earth. It's chicken and waffles for the soul.

But the best part of Josh Weathers shows are the curveballs. Interspersed in his set list of well-written originals are covers that will drop your jaw. Depending on the night, Weather's will show off his guitar slinging prowess with some Prince, go old school with some Bruce Channel, or hit the keys and spontaneously assemble a medley of classic grooves that will bring down the house. What's almost certain is that you'll here his rendition of Dolly Parton's "I Will Always Love You." Ever since a 2011 performance at Dallas' Kessler Theater surfaced on YouTube, it's been his calling card. On it, his freakish vocal range shines as he delivers the song more in the style of Whitney Houston than of Parton.

Finally, whether you like it or not (and trust us, you'll like it) a Josh Weather show takes you to church. Weathers is openly Christian and is sure to pull out one or more gospel standards to stir up a revival. He'll



also deliver a slice of his testimony that comes off as genuine, humble and compassionate. It's always fun walking out of the show, overhearing first-timers wonder out loud in disbelief, "How is this guy not famous?"

It's not bad luck or some other tragic tale that Josh Weather's isn't on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine.

It's by and large by choice.

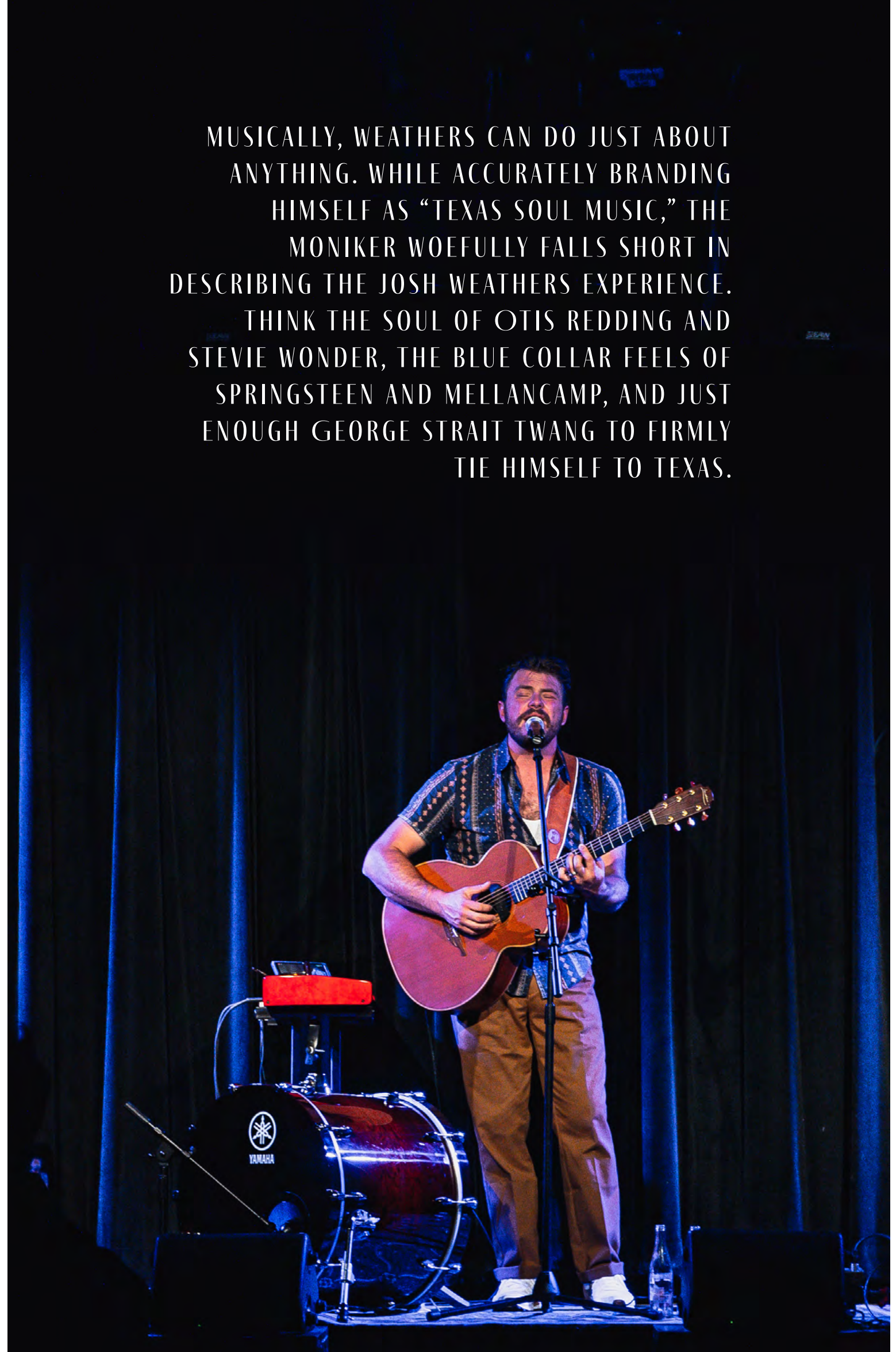
Weathers was a road dog more than 15 years ago, hitting every little dive bar from Austin to Amarillo. After his video went viral shortly after Whitney Houston's death, Josh followed up with a rabble-rousing set at Larry Joe Taylor's Music Festival that elevated his buzz to new heights. He was on the cusp of going national, but in 2014 he chose to shy away from the limelight and take a step back from music. During the hiatus he started both a business and family with his wife Kady. He and his wife also pursued a higher calling by starting a non-profit called "Love It Like You Mean It," which focuses on providing food, water, love and fighting sex-trafficking in India and Africa. During their mission, they adopted three children, in addition to having two children on their own.

In early 2017, Josh Weathers resurfaced and went national in surreal fashion when he was asked to play the Salute to Our Armed Services Ball for the inauguration of Donald J. Trump. Honored at the opportunity to play for a sitting U.S. President, Weathers and his band hopped a plane to Washington D.C. where he met the President and First Lady before playing "I Will Always Love You" during their first dance. It was watched by millions on national television, and if you do go see Josh Weathers live, you might get lucky enough to hear him tell the story (his Trump impression isn't half-bad).

Today, Josh Weathers plays on his own terms. 2019 saw the release of his first studio album in a decade, with *Wild Ones*. It's a must listen and serves as great sampler of what he's all about. His touring schedule focuses on quality over quantity in an effort to balance family, their mission and his music. Fortunately, Granbury has been a frequent stop for the Burleson-based soul singer, having played *The New Granbury Live* multiple times in 2021. This Christmas season, Josh Weathers is coming back to town you can bet there's going to be some groovy holly jolly happening in the square. Go get your tickets before they're gone.



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Hood County Stampede

words by MELISSA MCGAVOCK

photography by ERIN FELTMAN AND LP TAYLOR

photo by Erin Feltman Photography





The origin of the word “rodeo” comes from the Spanish word, “rodear,” which means to surround. The history of the rodeo as we know it dates back to the Old West when cattle drivers, cowboys, and cowgirls began to challenge one another during a day’s work of rounding up animals.

It wasn't long before these cowboys began competing for real prizes and some just for bragging rights. The spectacle began to draw in crowds and competitions looked a lot like what we are used to seeing today. They included some version of bull riding, barrel racing, tie-down roping, and team roping, as well as bareback riding, saddle bronc riding and steer wrestling.

Moreover, many rodeo committees throughout the United States have taken the sport of rodeo to the streets through sponsorship, donation, scholarship, and volunteerism. This is a big part of our local Hood County Stampede Rodeo.

Hood County Stampede

"An annual first-class and family-friendly rodeo.

Proceeds are invested back into the community towards local children's charities, helping children in need, scholarships, and maintaining the cowboy culture way of life."

hoodcountystampede.com



article cont. pg 76





Rodeo Committees often support local education with scholarship opportunities for students. Hand in hand with the cowboy way of life is hard work and perseverance. “It is not uncommon to find rodeo queens in the classroom during rodeo week, sharing presentations on the ins and outs of rodeo events, western tack, cowboy and cowgirl attire, and ranching history.”

Organizers like the Hood County Stampede give back to their community by choosing a beneficiary each year. This year’s beneficiary was the Rancho Brazos Community Center which works to mentor and empower children and families in need. The Hood County Stampede is a family-friendly organization and seeks out beneficiaries that align with their mission.

All rodeos have a unique platform to evoke positive change nationally and locally. Organizers across the country have much in common, that is to preserve western heritage and and strengthen local communities through sport, education, and giving back.



All rodeos have a unique platform to evoke positive change nationally and locally.

“What began as one man’s mission to fill a void within the community has evolved into a volunteer-run nonprofit that hosts first-class events to support the Hood County Stampede mission. This includes an annual family-friendly rough stock rodeo at Reunion Grounds, the most beautiful spot overlooking Granbury, TX.

A local Hood County family was enduring a difficult time, both emotionally and financially, when their child became severely ill, Hood County Stampede founder and President, Wes Stevenson, enlisted the help of the community to support this family. However, he kept running into a common roadblock. Many organizations had the giving heart but had their hands tied because there wasn’t a 501(c)3 nonprofit to give to. However, to this lifelong cowboy, a minor impediment is just an opportunity to readjust and keep riding.

Wes viewed this as an opportunity to do better and be better for the community. With ranching and rodeo being Wes’s livelihood for the last three decades, a charity rodeo seemed like the perfect fit. He enlisted business banker and good friend Jeffrey Ross (whose now on HCS board of directors) to help with the paperwork, planning, and making an official 501(c)3.

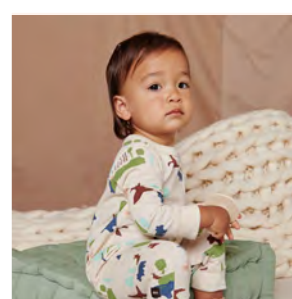
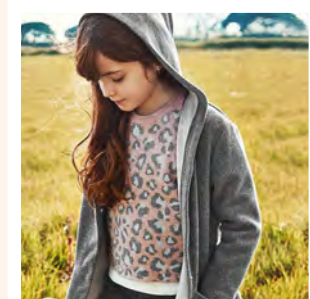
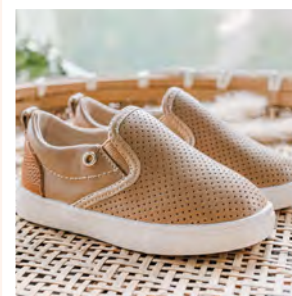
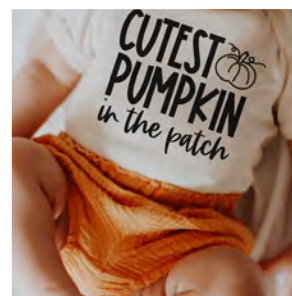
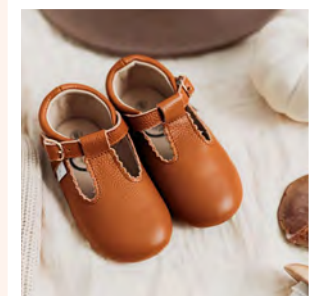
Thanks to the right contacts and strong relationships they had on speed dial, the two of them began roping in everyone they knew, from longtime rodeo friends to local business and community leaders. Even City Manager Chris Coffman, Police Chief Mitch Galvan, and State Representative Mike Lang showed support. Everyone’s hard work helped launch the inaugural event in just three months in 2017.

The Hood County Stampede has become a welcomed addition to the Hood County community and has since evolved into hosting multiple events each year to help raise money for local children charities and different scholarship needs while educating and preserving the cowboy way of life.”



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NOV 5 7:30pm

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NOV 6 7:00pm

Michael Hix
NOV 12 7:30pm

Johnny Cash Tribute
NOV 13 3:00 and 7:00pm

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NOV 19 7:30pm

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NOV 20 3:00 and 7:00pm

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NOV 26 7:30pm

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NOV 27 7:00pm

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DEC 3 7:30pm

Michael Hix
DEC 4 3:00 and 7:00pm

Lee Roy Parnell
DEC 10 7:30pm

William Lee Martin
DEC 11 7:00pm

Jingles With JetBlacq
DEC 16 7:30pm

Josh Weathers
DEC 17 7:30pm

Granbury Live Originals
DEC 18 3:00 and 7:00pm

**Briefcase Blues: Blues
Brothers Tribute**
DEC 31 7:30pm

**Briefcase Blues: Blues
Brothers Tribute**
JAN 1 7:00 pm

**Four by Four: The Beatles,
The Bee Gees, The Beach
Boys, & Motown**
JAN 7 7:30 pm

**Four by Four: The Beatles,
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Boys, & Motown**
JAN 8 3:00 and 7:00pm

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