



City of Balcones Heights

Southwest Gourmet Food Show attracts a really big crowd

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Like busy little bees buzzing around a beehive, a swarm of enthusiastic event-goers converged on the Southwest Gourmet Food Show held at Crossroads Mall, November 21-23.

Food sampling, wine tasting, cooking, demonstrations, local and celebrity cookbook signings, celebrity chef cooking classes, food art presentations and entertainment were offered during the three day extravaganza.

The annual event targets Southwest Texas and the San Antonio metro area.

A diverse array of gourmet, specialty, fancy and novel food products was assembled.

Southwest cuisine restaurants,

food manufacturers, vineyards, bakeries and breweries provided tasting during the show.

The entertainment schedule included two Jazz pianists: Bette Butler and Nobuko, George Gaitan; guitar, Alice Gomez; Marimba, and Josie Champion; Flamenco.

Amber Rose, Mario Fernandez, and Kimberly sang.

The entertainment also included: Andrew and Company; dance, San Antonio Street Dance & Drum Company, Don Rodriguez & Energy; dance, and the Ballet Folkorico.

The City of Balcones Heights served as a major sponsor, by contributing \$11-thousand dollars.

City stuffs soldiers with Turkey

The City of Balcones Heights, Luby's Cafeteria and Dave & Busters sponsored a Thanksgiving Day dinner and entertainment for 12 young soldiers from Fort Sam Houston, Thursday, November 27th.

The City transported the soldiers from Fort Sam Houston to Luby's where they were fed Turkey dinner. At 5 p.m. the soldiers were given \$20 entertainment cards to play games at Dave & Busters from 5 -7 p.m.

Those participating as hosts for the event included: Police Chief Ken

Menn, Assistant Chief Robert de la Garza and Officer Ray Menchaca. Officers Bob North and Lee Powers brought their wives.

Fire Chief Ben Hoeffner, Chief Financial Officer Jo Ann Vidal and her husband, Councilwoman Melissa Castro and City Secretary Delia Flores also participated.

Event coordinator and Councilman Steve Walker, said "We thank Dave & Busters and Luby's for their corporate generosity. We also thank our employees for sharing their holiday with soldiers away from home."

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Jim Craven

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Councilwoman, Place 3

Melissa Castro

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Steve Walker

Councilman, Place 1

Bennie Cass

Warm Springs Wonderland 2003 comes to Crossroads Mall

This year Warm Springs Rehab Hospital will sponsor its 2nd Annual Warm Spring Wonderland at Crossroads Mall.

The holiday display will be on view from November 29th to December 24th.

The theme is "Hill Country Christmas," and will feature a rustic village nestled among pine trees, dusted with snowflakes.

A small scale hill country village will feature shops and homes, manned by busy bears, bunnies, birds and other forest creatures in costume

According to John Bloodsworth, vice-president for External Affairs, "Woodland animals will be busy decorating for the season, but will also find time to frolic in the cool, crisp snow."

Children and their families

will enjoy whimsical wonders and seasonal surprises as they stroll through this winter wonderland and visit with Santa Claus and his elves.

Bloodsworth says "not only is the magic of the season captured in the village and winter scenes, it is a holiday haven designed to be fully accessible to children and adults with disabilities."

The display was the inspiration of Warm Springs employees who recalled childhood visits to Joske's Fantasyland in the sixties and early seventies.

The former department store, located on Alamo Plaza, created elaborate Christmas displays that excited children.

According to Bloodsworth, "we hope this will be an annual event at Crossroads Mall."

Admission to the Wonderland is free. Pictures with Santa will be available for a fee and donations will be accepted to benefit the Warm Springs sports Program for People with Disabilities.

Bloodsworth points out that Warm Springs Rehabilitation Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation 501 founded more than 64 years ago as a single sixteen bed hospital near Gonzales, established to treat children with polio.

Warm Springs is a rehab care system with hospitals in San Antonio, Luling, Corpus Christi and Victoria, ten outpatient clinics located throughout South Central Texas, the Warm Springs Sports Program for People with Disabilities and the Warm Spring Resourcecenter for People with Disabilities. The City is a co-sponsor.

Council selects P & Z committee members

Gloria Cantu and Jimmy Berchelmann were nominated by Mayor Jim Craven and confirmed by Council to serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission to serve out the unexpired terms of Ralph Ruiz and Cecil Winn. Cantu is a resident on Beryl Drive and Berchelmann is a resident who lives on Bobbies Lane.

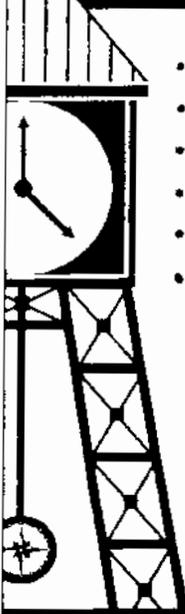
Police Investigator earns Bachelor's Degree

Special Investigator Lee Powers recently earned his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Wayland Baptist College. Powers, a longtime employee,

says his next goal is to earn his Master's Degree in Public Administration. Powers has been with the City of Balcones Heights over 25 years.

The Balcones Heights Newsletter is the official publication of the City of Balcones Heights. Articles must be submitted to Editor Steve Walker before the last day of the month. For more information, call Mayor Jim Craven, 735-9148, at Ext. 235.

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More businesses locate at Crossroads

"Things are definitely changing for the better at Crossroads Mall," according to Sarah Teel, General Manager.

As of December, fifteen new leases were signed since May.

Those leases include: Anne's Old Fashion Ice Cream, Caring Christian Stores, Coffee Cabana, Dr. Peter; Simply Chi-

ropractic and Fabulous Fruit.

Other leases include: Inca Treasures, Learning Zone, Rick's Famous Burgers, Ritmo Y Sabor Records and Roll Out.

Rosie's Quincenara, May Marie, Raceway, Tinseltown and Ultimate Images also signed leases.

According to Teel, four tenants relocated for better place-

ment for their products.

They included: Alamo PC, Airbrush Empire, and Lari Nelson Modeling. Benny's Pretzel combined with Benny's Sweet Tooth also relocated.

Records show that as of April 1st of this past year, only 69 percent of the Mall space was leased. To date, 86 percent is leased and climbing.

Convention Calendar of Events-2003-2004

Grand Opening.....	December 16	San Antonio Model
New Year's Eve Party.....	December 31	Train Show.....
Pow Wow.....	February 14-15	North San Antonio
Rings & Things Exp.....	March 13	Chamber of Commerce.....
FEAST Homeschool Conference....	March 14-15	Express-News Job Fair.....
Quilt & Sewing Show....	April 6-10...April 8-11	San Antonio Apartment Association
Express-News New Home		Business Expo.....
Buyers Conference.....	April 10	Antique Road Show/Light House School
ChimaetaCon.....	April 16-17	of the Blind.....
Express-News Job Fair.....	June 2	Health Fair 2004.....

Mall Calendar of Events-December

Winter Wonderland.....	10 a.m. -9 p.m.	Showcase Arts & Crafts.....	9-20
Mon-Sat. 12-6 (Dec. 24 only).....	1-24	Mall closed Christmas Day	25
Lari Nelson Winter Modeling Show.....	1-2 p.m. 6	New Year's Eve Party @ Convention	
Saltarelli String Orchestra Concert... 7.m.....	8	Center.....	31
Bethoven Concert.... 7:30 p.m.....	10	Extended hours... 11 a.m. -7 p.m...Sundays	
Show Case Arts & Crafts.....	12-14	Extended hours... 9a.m. -9 p.m.....	weekday
Girl Scouts Ba. aar.....	13	Extended hours... 9 a.m. -10 a.m.....	Fridays
SA Shell Club.....	16	New Year's Day.....	10 a.m. -6 p.m..... 31

Christmas Parade coming Dec. 6th

The Balcones Heights Business Alliance and Crossroads Mall are sponsoring a Christmas Parade scheduled for December 6th beginning at 9 a.m.

According to Lynn Calkin, executive director of the Business Alliance, the parade route begins at Career Point Institute, located at the corner of Balcones North Boulevard and Spenser Lane, which will be used as a staging area.

The parade continues right onto Fredericksburg Road going west 1/2 mile to Crossroads Mall underground parking.

The parade, including set up, staging, parade

and actual takedown is estimated to take no more than three hours.

Traffic control will be handled by the South Texas Emergency Radio Service, headed by Charles Wallace, in coordination with former Councilman George Moellering and the Balcones Heights Police and Fire Departments, as well as members of the Balcones Heights Business Alliance and Crossroads Mall security.

Residents are encouraged to line Fredericksburg Road from the Santa Fe Apartments to Crossroads Mall near the undercover parking.

New Year brings new business & new annual event

TexSan Heart Hospital, Balcones Heights' newest business will celebrate its grand opening, January 8th and officially take its first patient, January 15th.

According to Bruce Hoffman, executive vice-president for public affairs, "the hospital is right on schedule and we are looking forward to being a good corporate neighbor."

The annual Cowboy Breakfast, a long running tradition in the San Antonio area for well over 25 years, has relocated permanently to Crossroads Mall.

Hosted by Central Park Mall for over 20 years until it was torn down, the Cowboy Breakfast has moved twice before settling on Crossroads Mall. The breakfast will be held January 30th from 5-9 a.m.

Estrella Mall finally opens for business

Estrella Mall, located directly next to Gold's Gym on Crossroads Boulevard, hosted its grand opening, Friday, November 14th.

Originally scheduled to open this past April, the Mall is now open to the public.

The mall will be open every Friday night and

all day Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

The mall is designated for independent retail vendors and a separate segment of the building hosts a restaurant, family entertainment and live bands. The grand opening featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Fitness Connection is now Gold's Gym

The signs at Fitness Connection Health Club, located in the old HQ building on Crossroads Boulevard across from Crossroads Mall were replaced, Friday, November 7th, with temporary banners reading Gold's Gym. According to Bethany Smith, former employee of Fitness Connection and now spokesman for Gold's Gym, "the seven locations in San Antonio and Balcones Heights were bought out by the Gold's Gym Corporation."

Smith also says, "not to worry. Nothing has changed except the name. All contracts will be honored."

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Balcones Heights Business Alliance

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Vice President: Sarah Teel, Crossroads Mall
Secretary: Cathy Oliver, Super Target
Treasurer: Rodney Carr, Career Point Institute

Board of Directors

Nancy Jeffreys, Nancy J's
Ana Rasmussen, Dave & Buster's
Mike Alcoces, Bonanza Family Steak House

Executive Director

Lynn Calkin, A-AAKey Mini Storage

Advertising and payments for the Balcones Heights Newsletter must be to the Business Alliance no later than the 20th of the month prior to publication.

Ad sizes and prices are:

A. \$20.00 /month
Horizontal: 1 7/8" x 3 1/4"

B. \$35.00/month
Vertical: 3 3/4" x 3 1/4"
Horizontal: 1 7/8" x 6 5/8"

C. \$50.00/month
Vertical: 5 3/4" x 3 1/4"

Businesses who wish to pay for 11 months in advance will receive the 12th month free.

Guidelines:

1. Ad copy must pertain only to the business location in Balcones Heights.

2. Ads can contain specials, discounts or coupons available for the month(s) the ad is to run.

3. Lewd or lascivious material and artwork is prohibited.

Businesses who need more information regarding advertising in the Balcones Heights Newsletter, please contact Lynn Calkin at (210) 732-5736 or (210) 857-9571.

For more information on joining the Balcones Heights Business Alliance, call any officer listed on this page. Meetings are once per month during the lunch hour and will be held at different restaurants in Balcones Heights. The December, 2003 meeting will be a mixer at the new Crossroads Mall Convention Center. The date and time will be announced before the 5th of the month. We welcome all businesses to join us for the celebration.

Please contact Lynn Calkin about your listing in the Balcones Heights Business Alliance Business to Business directory scheduled to publish at the end of December, 2003. This issue we are adding a "guide" for specialized groups, such as restaurants and attorneys, as well as web sites.

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Newsletter Editor.....	Steve Walker.....	Ext. 263
Mayor.....	Jim Craven.....	Ext. 235
Balcones Heights Justice Center.....		735-9148

Upcoming events in Balcones Heights

- Regularly scheduled City Council meetings are held the second Monday each month at 6 p. m. at the Justice Center located at the corner of Hillcrest (3300 block) and Gentlemen Road. All citizens are invited to attend. Meetings are held on the first floor in the courtroom.
- Planning & Zoning meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month in the courtroom on the first floor at 6 p.m.
- Senior Citizen's Dinner will be held the 4th Thursday of the month at the Community Center, located at 107 Glenarm Ave. at 6 p.m. For more information, call Edna Moellering at 733-8718.