



Stuart sparkles on stage

As a kid watching the Porter Wagoner TV show in the 1960s, even while distracted by a young Dolly Parton pulling dish towels out of a box of Breeze, I remembered the classic country star's rhinestone suits and big hair.

So did Marty Stuart, the Grammy award-winning country artist, TV host and photographer, who used that memory to become the High Priest of Hillbilly Fashion.

Stuart is a whiz-bang picker, mastering guitar and mandolin while blazing his musical trail.

But many of his fans know him for his clothes —rhinestone, fringed, embroidered, embossed, studded, buckled suits that literally sparkle on stage.

"It was simply about the pure beauty of it at the beginning," Stuart said in a phone interview when asked about his fashion sense. "I always wanted those kinds of clothes. When we started our own band, videos were a big part of artist PR. And so, I simply went back to the way those old '60s television shows dazzled me as a kid."

While it may have started as sparkle and buzz, it turned into something with more substance.

"After I got to know the people who made those clothes, I saw the artistry in them," Stuart said. "So I wanted to promote the clothes, the art, and the concept. The by-product was that it looked pretty good on TV!"

While most of us don't go to the office wearing blazers bedazzled with black roses, Stuart looks upon his rainbow closet the way a house painter might see his coveralls.

"I call them my 'work clothes,'" he said with a laugh. "I think Bob Dylan called it his 'rabbit suit' in

FULL HOUSE ▶C3



Schoolgirl samplers were used to help learn the alphabet, their numbers, to promote reading, writing and math skills. Often, the name of the student creating the sampler was also stitched onto the fabric such as this one created by Rosalie Ahrens. — Standard-Radio Post/Yvonne Hartmann

Threads of education

Schoolgirl samplers exhibit among national conference events

By Yvonne Hartmann

Samplers have a story to tell. These pieces of fabric art have been used as a teaching aid in country schools, and today they help tell the story of a girl's education in earlier times.

These stories will be brought to life when the 2016 Country School Association of America Convention is held in Fredericksburg, June 19-22, 2016.

Theme for the convention, hosted by the Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools, is "On the Land, Learning at Hand."

And in keeping with that theme, an exhibit of over 40 antique and contemporary samplers is planned at Pioneer Museum.

"Samplers are just woven into our lives," said Jane Woellhof, a national CSAA co-chairman and director at large with the Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools. "They teach us a lot but they mean a lot. Most families don't throw them away."

Since conference attendees will be coming from all over the United States, local organizers want to highlight some of the differences in early-day schools here and elsewhere.

SHARING SAMPLERS

Persons interested in sharing their samplers for the exhibit are invited to do so. The samplers will be displayed securely and will be returned.

For more information, contact Jane Woellhof at 990-8059 or email her at jane423@austin.rr.com.

"We want to show some of our differences of being on the land and how the land — living there and working there — impacted the learning of the students," Woellhof said. "They learned by doing."

Creating samplers

Samplers have been made since the 1500s and have never fully gone out of fashion, said Woellhof, who added that they were very strong in the 1700s and 1800s in Europe and America.

There are many different types of samplers, and the Schoolgirl Sampler Exhibit will showcase the basic marking samplers which usually included alphabets, numerals and geometric patterns as well as the darning, the buttonhole and other types of fancy samplers with verses, houses, motifs and those worked in single or multiple colors.

Woellhof said that young

girls, and even boys, made samplers to learn the alphabet and their numbers to promote reading, writing and math skills.

"There was an additional reason to learn to make these cross-stitched designs," Woellhof said. "They could use these stitches as a marking system for their linens and clothing."

"Something important this exhibit will tell is that we forget how expensive fabric and clothing were," Woellhof said. "They were treasures."

In fact, she said, clothing was often listed as treasured possessions in wills.

She added that it was necessary to mark personal textiles since often a shared laundry place was used in earlier times.

Learning the skills needed to produce a sampler could also help women earn a living with their needlework.

Traditionally, the samplers were done in cross stitch,

thought to be the oldest known embroidery stitch, using red or blue thread because they were colorfast, and then progressed to other stitches.

Evelyn Weinheimer, who is in charge of the archives program at Pioneer Museum, added that the students were also taught to do the samplers in different fonts.

"This practical skill served you in everyday life as 'marking' as well as assisting in your education," Weinheimer said. "Remember, girls were not always allowed to attend school with the boys so the needle was their educator, their teacher."

In addition, creating samplers stressed eye-hand coordination and repetitive movement.

"So much thinking was involved in the planning of the samplers," Woellhof said. "You

really built your skills as a student. You had to work independently, you had to think it through."

Back then, the patterns weren't stenciled on the fabric. Individuals looked at the pattern on a graph and then used the threads of the fabric, which was usually either linen or cotton, as their guides.

"You see some samplers where they just ran out of room because they didn't plan well enough," Woellhof said.

"These kinds of jobs are teaching you skills for the next job," Woellhof said.

Sampler exhibit

Woellhof said that research shows what school girl samplers contributed to learning was strong so it just seemed natural, she said, to approach

SAMPLERS ▶C4

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SAMPLERS: A part of education

Cont. from C1

the Pioneer Museum about partnering with the Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools for this exhibit. “These partners share a common goal: preserving the past to enrich the future with emphasis on country schools and our heritage,” Woellhof said. The Schoolgirl Sampler Exhibit will actually open on May 2 and continue for three months through July 30. Eight of the samplers that will be featured in the exhibit are from the Pioneer Museum archives, Weinheimer said.

National conference

More than 100 people are expected to attend the four-day Country Schools Association of America 2016 National Convention that will be headquartered at the Pioneer Museum.

Vickie Jennett, author of “A Schoolroom Alphabet” needlework book, will be the keynote speaker. Jennett, of Arizona, is a well-known needleworker who collects samplers, two of which will be in the exhibit. She will focus her presentation on how samplers helped in education and how they helped young women. The conference will also include self-driving tours to area country schools, programming, exhibits, presentation of grants and scholarships, a dinner at the National Museum of the Pacific War and a motor coach tour of country schools and free time. More information on the conference will be updated as it becomes available on the Friends of Gillespie County Country Schools website at www.historicschools.org.



Jane Woellhof, left, and Evelyn Weinheimer at Pioneer Museum. — Standard-Radio Post/ Yvonne Hartmann

Radiothon fundraiser set for Sept. 12

New Horizons’ 27th Radiothon will run from 4-10 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12, on 910 KNAF-AM. Local and area bands will play live at the station, while people from both KNAF and New Horizons will work phone lines, asking for donations. Valorie Dorer, who helps with New Horizons and will work on-air as a disc jockey for the event, estimates \$26,000 was raised from last year’s Radiothon. Proceeds will go to New Horizons, which provides individualized services to adults with developmental challenges. The Radiothon is one of two major fundraisers New Horizons holds each year. The other is a barbecue chicken dinner, which was held on June 7 this year.

More information and donations can be made by calling KNAF at 997-2197, or New Horizons at 997-8696 for anyone who wants to make donations prior to the event.

Harper News

By Peggy Ernst

School has started and Harper officially has 603 students at the first of the year. Harper Independent School District is the largest employer in our area, with 49 teachers, coaches and directors; five aides; two librarians; the superintendent and three principals; the secretaries or assistants in each of their offices; a nurse; two counselors; maintenance people; housekeeping; bus drivers; cafeteria and the IT department. We understand the pre-kindergarten group (three- and four-year-olds) alone has 28 students this year. Harper Frontier Days will be celebrated this weekend with a variety of activities. Events on Saturday include: •Kid Fish at 10 a.m. •Little Mr./Little Miss at noon. •Washer pitching at 1 p.m. •Domino tournament at 2 p.m. •Parade line-up begins at 2:30 p.m., judging is at 4 p.m. and step-off is at 5 p.m. •The meal in the picnic area will be by donation once again this year, and Daniel and Linda Rech are in charge. It begins at 6 p.m. •The rodeo by the Lester Meier Rodeo Company will begin at 8 p.m. Local riders and ropers are entered in the events. •Dance to the music of Country From the Heart band beginning at 9 p.m. The museum will open at 10 a.m. and the concession stand will be open from 8 a.m. to when the rodeo ends. The Community Team Roping on Friday night is open to any team roper who lives in Gillespie, Kerr, Kimble, Mason and Kendall counties, and the top five will rope in the rodeo on Saturday night for prizes. Books open on Friday night at 5 p.m. and the event begins at 6 p.m. On Sunday, the youth of the community as well as the surrounding area will have their own play day, with barrel races, pole bending, breakaway calf

roping and more. Books open at noon and events begin at 1 p.m. Intermixed with all of that, on Friday night, Sept. 4, the volleyball team will compete in our gym against Knippa and the high school football team will travel to San Saba. The junior high and JV teams will play on Thursday night. Next week, everyone competes against Ingram. School pictures will be taken next week on Sept. 9, and the PTO will have its first meeting of the year in the elementary cafeteria. The Friends of Harper will have their first Adopt-A-Highway trash pickup on Saturday, Sept. 12, starting at 8:30 a.m. You can meet your friends at the Adopt-A-Highway sign on Ranch Road 783 South, and help keep Harper clean by volunteering with this group. Everyone is welcome and vests will be handed out there. Anyone wishing to help man

the concession stand on Saturday, Sept. 5, during Frontier Days events is asked to call the church in charge or just show up to help. It takes four-to-six people to help during a two-hour shift and more during the actual rodeo time itself. Here is the line-up: Friday night — Wild Ride and Presbyterians; Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon — Lutherans and Methodists; noon to 4:30 p.m. — Baptists and Lighthouse, and 6:30-10 p.m. — Catholics. Brush Arbor Days will be coming up on Sept. 13-14. Anyone attending on Sunday evening is welcomed to the potluck meal that will be shared, but you are asked to please bring a dish to share. The Baptists will be furnishing the meat and beans, the Lighthouse folks will bring all the paper goods the Lutherans and Catholics will furnish desserts and coffee. The meal will begin at 6 p.m.

and the service will follow. On Monday night, the service will begin at 6 p.m. and cookies and punch will follow to close out the event for another year. The Methodists, Presbyterians and Wild Ride are in charge on Monday. The barbecue cook-off is Oct. 9-10, and there will be added money this year for contest winners. Call Damon Clark for more information. On our sick list this week we include: Paula Deike, who came home after more than a week in the hospital, only to have to return the next day with complications. She is hopefully home now. Also, please include Dale Jones in your prayers, and a thankful one for Fran Dendy who had to be airlifted to San Antonio with a head injury on Saturday. She returned home on Sunday. Grandparent’s Day is coming

up on Sept. 13. The work on the “Here’s Harper Three” book is looking good and going right along. Please get your story or at least your family outline in as soon as you can. We hope we can put this all together by the end of September and will have your family’s name mentioned. As mentioned before, the first two books have laid the foundation in the founding of Harper and stories in and around the area; now is the time to update the modern Harper and all the people who now make up our community and how they got here. It’s easy to submit at one of the businesses in town with a flyer — Behrends’ Feed, Waldo’s, Longhorn Cafe, Security Bank and Dauna’s. Information can also be submitted to this writer at P.O. Box 425 or by email to pegernst@gmail.com.

Guadalupe Watercolor Group to meet

Guadalupe Watercolor Group will meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 8, in the forum of the Kerr Arts and Cultural Center at 228 Earl Garrett in Kerrville. President Jeanne Heisse will conduct a short business meeting to discuss the upcoming Fall Juried Show. The program will be presented by Lesta Frank of San Antonio who will demonstrate her techniques for creating backgrounds and textures with watercolor and acrylics.

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Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The STONEWALL WCID will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on 09/17/2015 at 12:00 PM at Lindigs Cafe 14857 E US Highway 290 Stonewall TX 78671. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal:	Herbert Nebgen, Bradley Sweeney, Robert Welch, Don Hill
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	Nikolaus Hopkins

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.363300/\$100 Adopted	\$0.366600/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		+ \$0.003300/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		+ 0.91%
Average appraised value	\$100,331	\$109,228
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$203	\$2,083
Average taxable value	\$100,128	\$107,145
Tax on average residence homestead	\$363.77	\$392.79
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		+ \$29.02
and percentage of increase (+/-)		+ 7.98%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

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