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## Antiques

Antique radios repair & sales, models displayed at www.vadaxradio.com, 512-221-1335.

## Furniture

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**Wanted: Cattle** pasture grazing lease. Phone: 512-748-8150 or Email: cranoncattco@aol.com

## Pets

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## OBITUARY

### Stacy Lynn Harper (Snitker)

Stacy Lynn Harper (Snitker), of Round Rock, Texas, passed away on December 24, 2021, surrounded by her loved ones.

Stacy was born on May 15, 1972, in Kansas City, Missouri. A professional pool player and saxophonist, Stacy lived life to the fullest. She was bold, smart, funny, and had the most beautiful voice. Stacy loved the ocean, the color green, and of course her beloved dog, Elvis. It was impossible to enter her

house without smelling her homemade banana bread or, if you were lucky, her butter-scotch layer dessert. Above all, Stacy was known for being a phenomenal and loving mother whose giving nature knew no limits.

Stacy is survived by her son, Dalton Harper, and Jacquelyn Carnes Brownwood, Texas; her son, Zachary Harper; and Desiray Wallace and her grandson, Maison Harper, of Duncan, Oklahoma; her father

and stepmother, Dwight and Evelyn Snitker, of Mt. Vernon, Missouri; her sister, Lisa Snitker, of Mt. Vernon, Missouri, and her niece, Gracy Thompson, of Round Rock, Texas.

Stacy was preceded in death by her brother, Danny Snitker, and her mother, Linda Mahurin.

A memorial for Stacy will be held on Monday, January 3, from 1 - 3 p.m. at The Gabriels Funeral Chapel and Crematory. Flowers can be sent to The

Gabriels Funeral Chapel and Crematory at 389 North Interstate 35, Georgetown, Texas.



gabrielsfuneral.com

## Exhibits and festivals

# Time to plan for 2022 and 2023

### Lampost Coffee

Round Rock's Lampost Coffee location, 1205 Round Rock Avenue, is featuring local photographer Henry Huey in its current exhibit. His work is all about the city's "Music on Main" series. Relive the events through his colorful photographs.

### Red Poppy 2022

If you want to be part of the 2022 Red Poppy Festival, now is the time to submit artisan and entertainment vendor applications. Deadline for applications is January 14.

The three-day live music and art festival is planned for April 22 through 24. For more information, email RedPoppyArtisans@Georgetown.org, visit RedPoppyFestival.com or call 512-891-7651.

### ART SCAPES

Ellen Greeney

The submission deadline for 2023 applications is January 31. Entrants will be notified by March 15 followed by finalist interviews through March 31, with contracts due May 1.

A panel of curators, artists, gallery owners and guest judges with considerable experience in visual arts will review the artist proposals. This panel will recommend finalists to the GAC Exhibits Committee.

All artists who reside and create their work in the United States are eligible. The majority of work used for a proposal must have been completed within the last three years. Artworks may be in any media, providing the exhibition space can accommodate the work. Installation or other work requiring special accommodations must be approved in writing prior to the exhibition.

Submissions are received via Submittable.com and require a submission fee. Visit GeorgetownArtCenterTx.org for more information and submission requirements.

### Deadlines

Red Poppy Festival vendor applica-

tions, January 14

Art Center 2023 exhibit applications, January 31

### Current Exhibits

Center Art Club at St. David's Healing Arts Gallery through January 5  
"Carved in Stone 2" at the library through January 6

"Wrapped in Wonder" at Downtowner through January 7

WCAG exhibits at Palace Theater and Playhouse through January 8

Karch Madhu "Micro Cosmos" at the library through January 9

"Celebrations" at TSI Round Rock campus through January 14

Christmas images at Mulligan's through January 15

Mark Stalner's "Fine Lines" at the library through January 16

Robert Douglas's artwork at the library through January 16

Burton Anes photos at St. David's Impressions Gallery to January 21

Letitia Eldredge exhibit, Estrada Garcia Gallery to January 31

WCAG "Reflections" at Truewood to February 3

ArtScapes is a weekly column for and about local artists and art enthusiasts. Send info to ellen@wilcoxon.com

# Sensory storytime at the library

## BIBLIOFILES

Ann Evans

For many children, storytime is the highlight of a visit to the Georgetown Public Library. Not only is storytime fun for children and caregivers, but it includes many elements that aid in childhood development. Reading stories exposes children to new words and new worlds. It also demonstrates the basics in how to read, how to hold a book, how to follow words and other print awareness skills.

Additionally, storytime provides opportunities for social interaction for both children and their caregivers.

However, for children with sensory needs, the regular storytime environment can be overstimulating and overwhelming. Too much light, noise and crowds can take away from the desired storytime experience. Cue the development of a sensory storytime program by Teen Services Librarian Margaret Lange.

Sensory storytime creates a space and opportunity for children with sensory needs, such as sensory processing and autism spectrum disorders, to engage in the storytime program in a more supportive setting with their caregivers.

Many of the elements are the same as the library's family storytime. It is interactive with an emphasis on socialization and engagement through storytelling, song and rhyme. However, there are adjustments made to make the program more accessible.

Low lights are used whenever possible, and sunglasses are made available so that children can regulate their own light exposure. Freedom of movement is emphasized during this storytime. Vocalization and stimulating, self-stimulating behaviors often including repetitive sounds or movements, are welcome. The storytime is held upstairs in a meeting room and attendance is limited to reduce noise and crowding.

Although the program

is free, tickets are required and can be picked up at the Kids Desk starting at 9:30 a.m. the day of the storytime. Siblings are welcome to join in and caregiver attendance is required.

Sensory storytimes typically occur one Friday per month. Be sure to check the online events calendar for exact dates.

Sensory storytime was one of the program recipients of the 2021 Eric Lashley Trailblazer Award and Grant, graciously provided by the Friends of the Georgetown Public Library. With their gift of \$1,000, the library has been able to purchase all new materials just for use in this program.

These include manipulatives such as shakers, bean bags and scarves for group exploration. Koosh balls and water beads were purchased to serve as fidgets, which are manipulative toys that can help children filter excess sensory information, remain calm and focus energy.

Ms. Lange conducted her first sensory storytime this past October.

"It has been an honor to

create and implement this program in the Georgetown community," she said. "I successfully launched a sensory storytime at my previous library and I am beyond delighted for the opportunity to do the same at the library. Our library has a strong commitment to accessibility and inclusion, and this program aligns well with those values."

The library offers several different storytime options for families throughout the week. Family storytimes occur on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. Friday storytimes alternate between family storytime, sensory storytime and STEM storytime, which includes activities on STEM topics (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). Baby and me storytimes occur on Tuesday mornings with a focus on children under eighteen months old.

We hope to see you soon at storytime!

Ann Evans is the Adult Services Librarian at the Georgetown Public Library.

# Covid again surging in Wilco

Continued from 1

versus Delta." Presidential health advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci said Wednesday at a White House briefing on Covid when talking about preliminary data.

But he said he isn't sure why Omicron appears less severe than Delta.

"It is difficult to determine what degree of lessened severity is due to pre-existing immunity or the intrinsically lower virulence of Omicron, or a combination of both," Mr. Fauci said.

While some evidence may suggest that Omicron

infects even people fully vaccinated and recently boosted, health researchers do not yet know for sure whether Omicron will affect protection given from current vaccines.

### Covid spreading in Wilco

Between December 21 and 27, the health district reported around 1,900 new infections, a sharp rise from the 400 to 500 new infections seen weekly for several weeks before that.

The rolling seven-day average positive test rate jumped to 13 percent on December 27 from around 4 to

5 percent, where it hovered for several weeks prior.

While more people have gotten sick from Covid over the past week than during the prior four weeks, most new patients do not appear to require hospital treatment, yet.

Hospital resources devoted to treating Covid patients in Williamson and surrounding counties are around 5 percent, with around 18 percent of hospital beds available and around 8 percent of ICU beds open. These numbers are up slightly from where they were over the previous

two months.

Through December 27, out of 609,000 total population in the county, about 379,000 have taken an initial vaccine series, around 62.2 percent, state data show.

About 119,000 have taken a booster dose, around 19.5 percent.

So far in the entire pandemic, 751 people have died of Covid in the county out of 70,982 confirmed cases. That's a case mortality rate of slightly more than 1 percent, meaning slightly less than 99 percent of those who catch Covid locally recover from it.