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Falls | Tru

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LAKE TRAVIS FILM FESTIVAL LAUNCHES NEW PODCAST

By Goldie Nourian

LAKE TRAVIS, TX--December is an exciting time for The Lake Travis Film Festival. This year's festival theme, "Dive In" was announced on November 6th, via social media. Take the dive with us as we celebrate the wonderful world of film and culture, June 10th-13th at venues throughout Bee Cave and Lakeway.

The Lake Travis Film Festival dropped Episode One of their new bi-monthly podcast on Friday, December 4. Hosted by Darren Moore, learn more about Star Hill Ranch in Lakeway from proprietor, Matt Woolley. Matt tells how they got into the movie business and throws in a little local history, too. Matt and his brother, Adam grew up in neighboring Westlake. The first film they worked on was "The Stars Fell Over Henrietta." Since then, 1995, they've worked with almost every production that has come through the area.

As for the film festival, the regular submission deadline for screenplays and films is December 15th. For more information, or to submit your work, go to: https://www.laketravisfilmfestival.com/submissions for more details.

Badges and wristbands are officially on sale on the website. Excite your loved ones this holiday season with the gift of a festival badge. Early bird savings is available until February 15, 2021. To purchase your badge, visit https://www.laketravisfilmfestival.com/badges-1.



Photos, Darren Moore interviews Matt Woolley at Star Hill Ranch in Bee Cave. Photo by Bryant Duncan.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

EMERGENCY	
Fire	
Ambulance	
Police Department	512-314-7590
Sheriff – Non-Emergency	
Travis County ESD No.6/Lake Travis Fire	e Rescue
Administration Office	512-266-2533
Travis County Animal Control	512-972-6060

SCHOOLS

Lake Travis ISD	512-533-6000
Lake Travis High School	512-533-6100
Lake Travis Middle School	
Lake Travis Elementary	512-533-6300
Hudson Bend Middle School	
Lake Pointe Elementary	512-533-6500
Lakeway Elementary	512-533-6350
Serene Hills Elementary	512-533-7400
Bee Cave Elementary	512-533-6250
West Cypress Elementary	512-533-7500

UTILITIES

Travis County WCID # 17	512-263-0125
Lakeway MUD	
Hurst Creek MUD	
Austin Energy	512-322-9100
Pedernales Electric	888-554-4732
Texas Gas Service	
Custom Service	1-800-700-2443
Emergencies	512-370-8609
Call Before You Dig	512-472-2822
AT&T	
New Service	1-800-464-7928
Repair	
Billing	
Time Warner Cable	
Customer Service	
Repairs	512-485-5080
Austin/Travis County Hazardous Waste	

OTHER NUMBERS

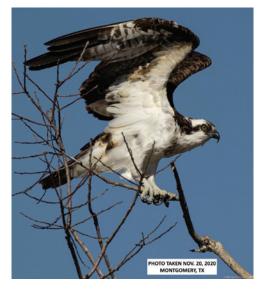
Bee Cave City Hall	512-767-6600
Bee Cave Library	512-767-6620
Municipal Court	512-767-6630
Lake Travis Postal Office	512-263-2458
Baylor Scott & White Medical Center	512-571-5000
City of Bee Cavewww	beecavetexas.com

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THE GREAT FISHERMAN

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



When o n e mentions raptors, there are a few species that people are very familiar with like owls, eagles and hawks. The osprey, however, isn't a familiar species to most people even though it is one of the most widespread raptors in the world. They are found on every continent except Antarctica.

Like all raptors, the osprey is a large bird

with a hooked beak and sharp talons, both of which are used to catch their prey and tear it apart to eat.

About 99% of the osprey's diet is made up of fish so it only makes sense that they nest near water along the coasts and large lakes. Occasionally they can be seen along rivers. They build their nests at the tops of dead trees, buoys, chimneys, and even atop power poles. Like the bald eagle, they use the same nest year after year but can be seen making minor repairs each spring.

They are amazing to watch as they glide over water looking for a fish. Sometimes they plunge so forcefully into the water that they are totally submerged. After catching a fish, they arrange the fish so it faces upright with the head forward.

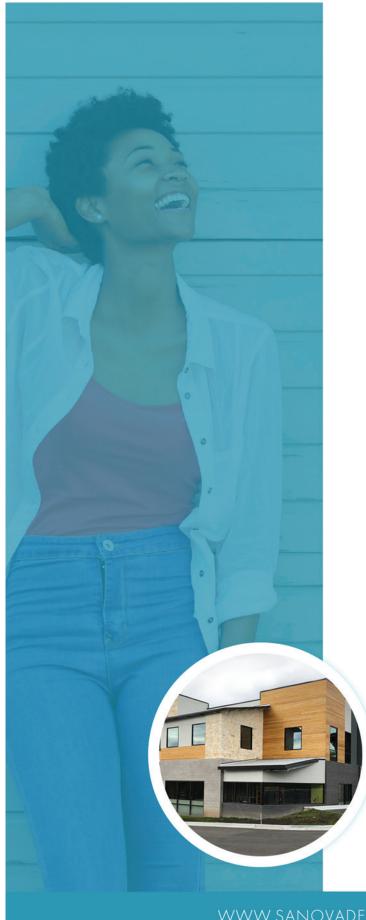
The osprey is a great fisherman, successfully catching a fish one out of 4 tries. They have a much higher success rate than it's relatives like the eagle. Sometimes eagles watch and when an osprey catches a fish, the eagle will attack the osprey causing it to drop the fish. Easy meal for the eagle! Benjamin Franklin said in 1784 that "bald eagles are too lazy to fish for himself......and does not get his living honestly." True then, true today.

Ospreys generally mate for life but they will find a new partner should their partner die or disappear during spring migration.

If you'd like to watch an osprey nest, there are many online. The Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey has an osprey cam that you can watch here: http://www.conservewildlifenj.org/education/ ospreycam/. In the New Jersey area, nest building begins in early April and eggs are laid from mid-April to early May. You can watch the eggs hatch and observe Mom and Dad caring for the babies. It's interesting and educational.

TWRC Wildlife Center is a 501(c)(3) organization located in the Spring Branch area of Houston. Since 1979, we have been committed to providing quality emergency care and rehabilitation for injured, ill, orphaned and displaced wildlife. We are proud to be making a difference for the wildlife in our area.

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NATURE WATCH

A CHARM OF FINCHES

by Jim and Lynne Weber



Lesser Finch

At times, winter in Central Texas may seem a bit drab, colorless, and dreary, but the season is usually brightened by members of a beautiful and diverse group of birds called finches. These small, seed-eating birds have an undulating flight, and flocks of them often roam south in the winter.

Found primarily west of the Balcones escarpment, Lesser Goldfinches (Spinus psaltria) are present year-round, but are more likely to be seen at bird feeders in the colder months. At 4.5 inches long, males have an entirely black crown and back, white wingbars, and are lemon yellow below, while females have olive backs, black wings with whitish wingbars, and duller yellow underparts. They can gather in groups of up to several hundred at a time, and are most commonly found in Texas and California.

The American Goldfinch (Spinus tristis) is a slightly larger bird that is less common but typically present here from November to March. At 5 inches long, males have a bright yellow body, a black cap, and black wings with white wingbars. Females are duller overall, with an olive body and black wings with prominent white wingbars. They are the only finch that molts its body feathers twice a year, in late summer and then again in late winter in preparation for breeding season.

Most gregarious are the Pine Siskins (Spinus pinus), a 5 inch long finch with prominent brown streaking and yellow at the base of the tail and in flight feathers. At first they may appear mostly grayishbrown, but they flash their yellow markings as they explode into flight

or flutter while feeding. Typically present from December through March, flocks of Pine Siskins may congregate at bird feeders one winter and be completely absent the next. Their behavior is highly nomadic and their presence is erratic across North America in winter in response to available seed crops. In fact, some individuals may stay near a dependable food source and breed far south of their normal breeding range, which is in Canada, the northern U.S., and higher elevations of the west.



Pine Siskin



American Goldfinch

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BABY NEW Y

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Shreya Ramanathan of Austin, TX RECIEVES NATIONAL YOUNGARTS FOUNDATION AWARD FOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN World Dance/Indian Classical Dance

Austin, TX (12/18/2020) – Shreya Ramanathan of Austin, TX from LASA High School, has received a 2021 <u>National YoungArts</u> Foundation (YoungArts) award in World Dance/Classical Indian Dance. Shreya Ramanathan has been recognized at the Honorable Mention level, the organization's second highest honor, for her caliber of artistic achievement and joins 659 of the nation's most accomplished artists in the visual, literary, and performing arts. Ramanathan was selected by an esteemed discipline-specific panel of artists through a rigorous blind adjudication process. YoungArts award winners gain access to one of the most comprehensive programs for artists in the United States in which they will have opportunities for financial, creative and professional development support throughout their entire careers. A complete list of the 2021 winners, all 15–18 years old or in grades 10–12, is available online at youngarts.org/winners.

"YoungArts empowers artists to pursue a life in the arts beginning at the critical time when many are faced with decisions about life after high school and we are thrilled to announce this year's YoungArts award winners. This group of extraordinary artists has reminded us yet again that extraordinary artistry is ageless, and I encourage everyone to get to

know these faces and names as we will be seeing them for many years to come," said Executive Director Jewel Malone. "To all of this year's winners, congratulations! This is just the start of YoungArts' commitment to supporting your careers, we look forward to working to with you and supporting your artistic and professional development."

Ramanathan will receive a cash prize and the opportunity to learn from leading artists such as Debbie Allen, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Frank Gehry, Wynton Marsalis, Salman Rushdie and Mickalene Thomas. Ramanathan is now also eligible for exclusive creative and professional development support including a wide range of fellowships, residencies and awards; virtual and in-person presentation opportunities in collaboration with major venues nationwide; additional financial support; and access to YoungArts Post, a free, private digital network for YoungArts artists to connect, collaborate and learn about additional opportunities.

As a YoungArts award winner, Ramanathan joins a distinguished group of accomplished artists including Daniel Arsham, Terence Blanchard, Camille A. Brown, Viola Davis, Allegra Goodman, Josh Groban, Judith Hill, Tarell Alvin McCraney, Andrew Rannells, Desmond Richardson and Hunter Schafer.

Support

Support for the 2020-21 YoungArts season is

provided by Together campaign supporters, including Campaign Chairs Sarah Arison and Thomas Wilhelm, Jay Franke and David Herro, and Michi and Charles Jigarjian and Lead Sponsors Sandra and Tony Tamer.

Additional support for National YoungArts Foundation programs is provided by Anthropologie; Batchelor Foundation; the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; Funding Arts Network; the City of Miami Beach, Cultural Affairs Program, and the Cultural Arts Council; Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; Dr. Sidney Stern in loving memory of Florence Stern; and Bruce and Ellie Taub.

ABOUT NATIONAL YOUNGARTS FOUNDATION

National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) was established in 1981 by Lin and Ted Arison. YoungArts identifies the most accomplished young artists in the visual, literary and performing arts, and provides them with creative and professional development opportunities throughout their careers. youngarts.org



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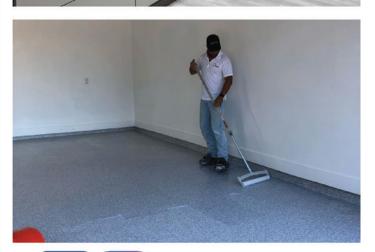
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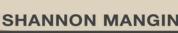
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