



No. 32: March 2017

What's Happening in LG

A Free Local Newsletter
Sponsored by the Locust Grove Arts Alliance

Upper Elementary Bunko Time: See Page 3



Tulsa Youth Ballet is coming to LG

The Tulsa Youth Ballet, in conjunction with Oklahoma Performing Arts, will present a performance of four unique productions at the Locust Grove Upper Elementary School on Saturday, March 25 at 2 p.m.

The program called "L.O.V. The Arts Within U" will include

L.O.V.
the Art
Within
U

"Cinderella" (classical ballet), "Explore the Joy" (jazz), "Dreams Work" (contemporary Ballet) and "Afternoon at the Museum" (theater).

L.O.V., which stands for "Listen to Our Voice," will also include a hands-on "iExperience" workshop to area youth to expose them to the joys of the arts and performing.

Youth in grades 1-5 take a performing arts class prior to the performance.

Youth in grades 6-12 shadow Children of the Arts Support Team (C.A.S.T.) during the set-up, performance and strike

to give them the entire "truck and tour" experience; this includes wardrobe, set, stage management and direction.

The performers will also make use of artwork created especially for this show by students in LGHS art teacher Sabrina Shirley's classes.

The artwork, 12 paintings in various styles and two sculptures, will also be auctioned off during the performance intermission.

The performance will include a question and answer session afterwards.

This event will be a fundraiser for the Locust Grove Arts Alliance and the Locust Grove High School Art Department.

Tickets can be purchased for \$5 at the door. Children 12 and under are free.

For more information, contact LGAA President Jennifer Henson at 918-530-1902.



JUSTIN AND LINDA COWAN sign papers to give a building on Main Street to the arts alliance and chamber.

Cowans donate building to LGAA

Justin and Linda Cowan of Cowan Insurance in Locust Grove have donated the former tag agency to the Locust Grove Arts Alliance and Locust Grove Area Chamber of Commerce, who will share the building jointly. Jennifer Henson, president of LGAA and a member of the Chamber, and Roxann Yates, a board member of the Chamber and a charter member of the LGAA, expressed gratitude to the Cowans for such a facility that will put both organizations on Main Street. The gift is given in the name of Justin's mother, Wilma Cowan, and will be named in her honor.



Locust Grove Chamber names board members, gets ready for May 13

In its Feb. 21 meeting, members approved two new board members to fill vacancies: Ron Davis to the class of 2017, and Adele Collette to the class of 2018.

The members voted to accept the donation of a building on Main Street by Justin and Linda Cowan.

They will share jointly with the Locust Grove Arts Alliance. Both logos will be placed on the outside of the building which will be named in honor of Justin's mother, Wilma Cowan.

Plans for Founder's Day on May 13 were discussed, and members were added to various committees. Vendors can contact Kelly Palmer or Adele Collette. In charge of the parade will be Jerry Yates, Ron Davis and Collette.

Shaun Perkins will be in charge of marketing and advertising, and Theresa Mennecke will staff the in-

formation center in its new location on Main Street.

Volunteers are still needed for downtown, outside entertainment.

Jennifer Henson will contact the Oklahoma Department of Transportation on the possibility of closing Main Street for various activities that day.

Sydney Schwichtenberg, new member and director of the Creative Communities group, will be in charge of maps and schedules.

Collette will check on the possibility of Pepsi providing products. Marsha Evans will coordinate the day with other groups, including games planned by businesses.

In other business, the group planned to complete soon the ribbon cutting for new businesses in town.

The next meeting of the chamber is at 6 p.m., March 21, at the VFW Hall on Broadway Street.

LaTasha Duncan selected for leadership arts class

Local artist and member of the LGAA, LaTasha Duncan has been selected to attend the Oklahoma Arts Council's 2017 Leadership Arts class.

Duncan is one of 33 selected for this year's class. According to a press release from the OAC, an individual "will receive in-depth training and strategies for using arts and cultural resources to strengthen local economies, improve education, and enhance quality of life."

"I am honored to participate in the . . . program because it provides an opportunity to grow the arts in our local community," Duncan said.

LGAA meets March 8 at VFW

The Locust Grove Arts Alliance will meet at 5:30 p.m., March 8, at the VFW Hall, when plans for the Founder's Day Art Show on May 13 will be finalized.

About *What's Happening in LG*

EDITOR'S NOTE: While this newsletter is produced by the LGAA and will contain our organization's news, we also want to publish information about any activities in Locust Grove that our community might be interested in.

Please contact Betty Perkins at blperkins@sstelco.com or 918-479-5617 (leave a message if no answer), if you have news on LG events, places, or people for inclusion in future issues. For advertising, call Roxann Perkins Yates at 918-530-5321 or email at roxannperkins@gmail.com. As LGAA is a nonprofit organization, advertising must support the publication of this newsletter. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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Bunko tournament planned March 6

By Melissa McClendon

Locust Grove Upper Elementary will let the good times roll at its spring fundraiser with a Bunko Tournament and Silent Auction at 6 p.m., March 9, at the LGUE cafeteria.

Bunko, a parlor game played with three dice, is big business for the school. Last year the event brought in close to \$4,000 that was used for classroom supplies and other educational resources.

"Our Bunko Tournament is by far our largest fundraiser of the year," said Shannon Hall LGUE Principal. "We have a good time and it's for a great cause."

Donations are brought in from local businesses as well as businesses from other cities and states. A few of this year's donations include tickets to popular sites in Branson, Mo., Eureka Springs, Ark., Arlington, Texas, Tulsa and Okla-

homa City.

All donations are used as raffle ticket prizes, silent auction items or for the night's big prizes. Players with the most bunkoes, most wins or most losses will have a chance to win the big prizes.

This year big prize winners will get to choose from a Branson package, an Oklahoma City Family getaway and a night's stay at the Hard Rock Casino.

In conjunction with bunko, raffle tickets will be sold for many other prizes. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or \$20 for 25 tickets.

Raffle prizes include everything from candy to Pirate gear to home decor. There are also lots of gifts certificates for area business and restaurants.

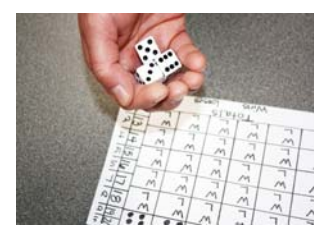
The Silent Auction will begin at 5:30 p.m., and will continue through the first three rounds of play. Silent auction items include: an



SECOND GRADE teachers Rachel Pursley and Amber Swarer help prepare items for the Locust Grove Upper Elementary Annual Bunko Tournament and Silent Auction. The event is scheduled for 6 p.m., Thursday, March, 9, at the LGUE cafeteria.

exciting Arlington, Texas package, a night out at the Hard Rock Casino, several themed baskets, Tulsa Ballet tickets as well as tickets to a St. Louis Cardinals ballgame.

"I hope everyone will join us for a night of fun and support the school at the same time," Hall said.



Bunko Time

Calling all bunko groups. The LGUE Bunko Tournament is Thursday, March 9 at 6 p.m., in the cafeteria. Attendance was down at the last Bunko Tournament but coordinators are hoping to gather the support of not only the community but of local bunko groups. The group with the most bunko players in attendance will be recognized at the event.



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Artist dabbles in variety of art forms

"I learned to see the possibilities in things at an early age", artist Shelley Horton said. I needed a Valentine's box for school. Dad had have some scrap wood, some scrap white paneling, red paper heart doilies, fabric and glue. And while I was young enough to not really be able to help with the cutting of the lumber or paneling, I did help with the nailing, gluing, and the writing of the "Happy Valentine's Day" on the project.

Horton's early creations sparked an interest in a myriad of artistic endeavors.

"I have always had trouble doing just one thing. I have done mostly paper craft, and I'm an Independent Demonstrator for Stampin' Up. I do scrapbooks and greeting cards, party decorations and have done some 3-D paper crafts as well. I also do some jewelry work, x-stitch, sewing, wood crafts, play music, and floral ar-

rangements and metal stamping," she said.

Project work is a stress reliever for Horton, too.

"The time spent creating things helps relieve stress and gives me that quiet time so that I can think about things and really get into the details of what I am doing in other areas of life as well," Horton said.

This long-time Locust Grove resident is an active member of the Locust Grove Arts Alliance (LGAA) the arts community.

"My involvement with the LGAA comes from wanting everyone to have the opportunity to express themselves in a way that is lasting," she said. "I like that the LGAA supports all arts and crafts and is such an inviting atmosphere for new people to come into for all ages. I think that it is a very important part of the future of our community and I hope to be able to help spread the word that this group is here for



ARTIST SHELLEY HORTON, a member of the LGAA is shown with a variety of the artwork which she produces.

everyone interested," she said.

It's important to Horton that people are allowed to showcase their artworks.

"I would like to see more venues support the arts such as music venues and art studios and areas where people have more access to the ideas, lessons, and supplies needed right here in our community," Horton said.

Locust Grove is home to Horton and her husband Stuart. She appreciates the

community.

"I like that small town feel. I like that I can make a picnic lunch if I want and go just a couple miles from home and be at a lake or a creek or a town park to enjoy it. I like that we have the opportunity to see the more simple things in life around us and be a part of them," she said.

Many people have inspired Horton to live an artful life.

"Besides my dad being
(Continued on Page 5)

A promotional image for Mazzio's. It features the Mazzio's logo in a stylized font with a red pepper. Below the logo, it says "Dine in & Carry Out 918-479-2900 102 Holiday Lane Locust Grove, OK". To the right of the text is a photograph of several pizzas, including a large pepperoni pizza in the foreground.

A promotional image for the Bank of Locust Grove. It features a logo of a tree and a house icon. The text includes "Member FDIC", "Established 1949", "Bank of Locust Grove", and the slogan "A Community Bank With Roots, Not Branches". At the bottom, it provides contact information: "Phone: 918-479-5225 Online Banking: www.banklg.com FAX: 918-479-8787 Voice Banking: 1-877-479-5225".

ART FROM AMY BOLIN shown at right, was a part of the LGAA Founder's Day Art Show last year sponsored by the Locust Grove Arts Alliance. This year's art show will be May 13, at the VFW Hall and will feature both arts and crafts. Artists should contact Roxann Yates at 918-530-5321 or roxannperkins@gmail.com, or Betty Perkins at blperkins@sstelco.com to reserve booth space. Tables and chairs will be provided. Artists are asked to provide something for the silent auction which will be held that day also. Those artists willing to participate should contact Betty Perkins at the address above so she can compile a list of donated articles for the April issue of What's Happening. The art show is free and open to the public



Seniors plan dinner, dance Saturday, Mar. 4

The Locust Grove Coalition will hold its monthly Senior Dance on March 4 at the Locust Grove Senior Center.

All ages are welcome to come and enjoy some good food and good music performed by the Hole in the Wall Band. This month's menu will be grilled chicken, buttered potatoes, green beans and a roll and desserts made by the senior ladies of Locust Grove. Cost is \$6 for the dance and dinner.

Dinner is served at 5:30 and the band plays from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Founders Day LGAA Art Show continues. . .

(Continued from Page 6)

You may also contact her by phone: 918-530-5321. Or, email Betty Perkins, blperkins@sstelco.com. Please send a 2-4 sentence description of your work to be published in the show brochure.

In the past a variety of artists have displayed their creations in many forms, such as: wood work, painting, jewelry making, photography, fire walks, culinary dishes, textile art pieces, glass works, and more.

--Artist Shelley Horton--

(Continued on Page 4)
an inspiration to me, my grandparents, my husband, my kids, and now my grandkids have all inspired me to be creative," Horton said.

"My husband is more into the painting world which introduced me into the world of stretched can-

vas. My daughter, Tristin, likes to do all kinds of crafts as well. My son, Thomas, is leaning more toward the photography aspect of things," she said.

"His world revolves around the lakes and fishing and the awesomeness of what God has created for us to enjoy. The grandkids,

even though they are very young, they love to dabble in the painting and building of things. Mom took me and others to band practices every morning and to all after-school events. Without her, I would not have the musical background that peaks my interests in the musical arts."

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Local museum sponsors poem contest

In April, the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry (ROMP) in Locust Grove will be celebrating National Poetry Month. In celebration of that month, ROMP is conducting its second annual Oklahoma Poem Contest.

In 2016, the Oklahoma

Poetry Society, which annually did an Oklahoma symbols poetry contest, stopped doing the event, so ROMP decided to continue the practice. Last year's entries came from people of all ages from all over the state.

Anyone from kindergar-

ten on up can contribute a poem to the contest. The poem must be your own creation and have something to do with one or more of Oklahoma's emblems: our state bird, animal, flag, motto, etc.

Cash prizes and medals will be awarded to winners

at Wonder City Wordfest on April 15, at Wonder City Coffee.

For an entry form and more details about the contest guidelines, visit ROMPoetry.com or pick up a form at Wonder City Coffee or at ROMP Rumage Store.

Art Alliance plans 4th annual Founder's Day show

The 4th annual LGAA Founder's Day Art Show will be May 13 from 10-4 at the VFW Hall. In the past three shows, more than 25 artists have displayed and sold their works. Each artist will contribute a piece

for the silent auction. Demonstrations, and more, throughout the day, promise to make this event an artistic blast.

There is no cost for artists to claim a space during the show. All that members

ask is that you donate one of your creations to the silent auction. This auction is a fundraiser for our future programs and events.

The Hall will be opened by 9 a.m. for artists to set up.

Contact Roxann Yates by April 26, if you would like to have a space to showcase your work. Space is limited. Email her at roxannperkins@gmail.com.

(Continues on Page 5)

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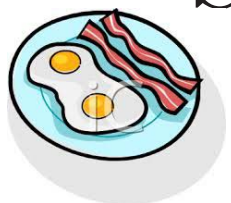
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Wonder City Wordfest will celebrate words

The first Wonder City Wordfest will take place in Locust Grove on April 15. The all-day festival will celebrate the power of words with a variety of activities, including some contests that people are encouraged to sign up for right away.

Three contests will take place during the day: They involve storytelling, poetry recitation, pastry-making and poetry about pastry. To sign up to participate in one of the contests, visit ROMPoetry.com and click on the Wordfest link.

The festival will also include an author book fair, and local authors are also encouraged to reserve a space free of charge in the book room to sell their books and meet visitors.

The completion of the Wonder City Coffee Cookbook will be celebrated with the cookbook on sale and a talk with slideshow

about the book from author Roxann Yates.

A poetry caravan from Wonder City Coffee to the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry (ROMP) to visit the new year's exhibit will also be a part of the festivities, as will announcing the winners of the Oklahoma

Poem Contest that ROMP sponsors.

ROMP director Shaun Perkins will perform her one-woman show POEM LIFE as the culminating event at 7:00 p.m. that night. This show combines storytelling, poetry, audience interaction and multi-

media displays.

All events are free and open to the public. To learn more, visit Wonder City Wordfest at the ROMP website: ROMPoetry.com.

Storytellers, pastry chefs and poetry reciters all need to register in advance at the website by April 1.



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Founder's Day coming May 13

The Locust Grove OK Area Chamber of Commerce is planning Founder's Day activities, which will include a parade, games, live entertainment, vendors, art show, train rides and much more.

To sign up as a vendor or to participate in the parade, you need to fill out a registration and release form, which can be found at the Chamber website locustgroveoklahoma.com.

If you are available to help plan and to run the event, please contact Chamber President Jerry Yates at jerryrandall52@hotmail.com or 918-586-2636.

HS Archery Team wins state



LOCUST GROVE HIGH SCHOOL ARCHERY TEAM is from front row, left to right, Larry Leforce, Sierra Murphy, Jeffry Henin, Amelia Ingram, Candace Bolin, Mitchell Keith; back row, left to right, Coach Ladney Keener Peyton Garrison, Brody Dugger, Kaitlyn Taylor, Kaylee Taylor, Justyn Demspsey, Kye Carlile and Matthew Monroe. Not pictured : Lexi Johnston, Mckenna Wilson, Kaylyn Condry, Caleb Gibson and Taylor Looner. Individually, Lexi Johnston placed second with a score of 285, and Kaylee Taylor placed third with a score of 284. As a team, the high school scored a total of 3309 points.



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MS Archery Team wins state



MIDDLE SCHOOL ARCHERY TEAM MEMBERS in the front row, left to right are Maranda Beckham, Felicia Thompson, Trenton Gardner, Katie Quantie, Rayden Stipes and Colton Durnal; middle row, left to right, Trenton Keith, Madison Spoonmore, Gracein Moore, Kristin Rogers, Keith Blair, Colton Dugger and Gracie Standord; back row, left to right, Caleb Gottlob, Jessika De Selle, Justin Kirk, Jarron Davis, Madison Smith, Payton Dean, Nathan Brown and Coach Brad Cowan. Individually in the boys' contest, Trenton Gardner placed first with a score of 293, and Rayden Stipes placed third with a score of 287. In the girls' division, Jessika DeSelle placed second with a score of 384. As a team the middle team scored 3336 points.



THROUGH THE FIRE. . . One of David Fishinghawk karate students breaks through a stack of blocks at last year's Founder's Day event. Fishinghawk and his students will also appear this year for a show of art behind his building on Broadway Street.

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March entertainment at Wonder City Coffee

Wonder City Coffee, 118 E. Main, continues its regular schedule of Saturday night entertainment in March with storytelling, music and balloon art.

The first Saturday of the month is always storytelling time. On March 4, you can enjoy an hour of storytelling from master tellers, old-timers and impromptu tellers in the audience. The storytelling runs from 7-8 p.m.

March 11 marks the return of WCC favorite Ed "Home Skillet" Biggs, a local musician with a lot of talent. This month, he will be hosting a jam session, so all area musicians are encouraged to bring their instrument and join in the musical fun. The jam session will run from 6-8 p.m.

On March 18, enjoy an hour of balloon-sculpting with Guinness World Record Holder Brian Jackson, from Muskogee. Jackson holds the record for Heaviest Vehicle Lifted with Breath, Fastest time to burst a balloon through a 100 meter firehose and Blowing up 5 Hot Water Bottles in 1 minute. The balloon sculpting will take place from 6-7 p.m.

Local multi-talented young man Canton Little, LG 8th-grader, will play a variety of tunes on the piano for his performance on March 25. Little played at the ORU

Mabee Center for an Honor Flight program last year. He will play classical, jazz and patriotic songs from 6-8 p.m.

For more information, visit Wonder City Coffee on Facebook or call 918-479-2885.



COWBOY SHORT VISITS LG. .Chris Hardy, center, brought his Cowboy Short persona to the Wonder City Coffee Shop for a performance for young and old alike on Feb. 25. He is shown with two of the crowd attending Hardy's show, Carter Williams, 7, at left, and Hudson Williams, 5. The boys were so responsive to Cowboy Short that he asked them to join his show.

Cowboy Short at Wonder City

Chris Hardy of Pryor, or W.R. King, or Cowboy Short came to Locust Grove Saturday, Feb. 25 to read books to young and old alike, and to tell stories about his character of Cowboy Short.

One of the books Cowboy Short read was about "Grady the Cow" who got herself stuck in a silo. The book is based on a true story about a cow in Yukon, Okla.

Those expecting Chris Hardy would have been disappointment because he was Cowboy Short from the time he walked in the door, until he had to leave in search of his horse, Blue Thunder which he had tied to a tree about a block from the shop.

Blue Thunder had untied his rope and make it all the way to Salina where he called Cowboy Short to come and get him at the Pig 'N Out. Cowboy Short asked for a ride to Salina, and Davis Joice, a member of the audience offered to take him.

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Friends of Library make cookbook plans

Ten members of the Locust Grove Friends of the Library met Feb. 23 to discuss the status of the upcoming cookbook planned by the group, to make Easter and Founder's Day plans.

Monica Stillman, treasurer, reported that the cookbook was completed and ready to go to the printer. They hope to have the book ready for sale during the Founder's Day events. One of the recipes available in the book is for those who might have "possum" on hand.

"I'm looking for the author of the recipe, but if you need to know how to roast a possum, buy the cookbook," Stillman said.

President Maggie Hunton reported that the used book sale would be in October, and that the group is already collecting books for this sale. Anyone with gently-used books can drop them off at the library.

Hunton also reported on the need to buy a new set of letters for the yard sign which has recently been bought.

She also thanked Hugh J. Callery for a donation that bought a new door for the library complete with letter drop, and paid to have the new door installed.

"My brother and I are



FRIENDS OF THE LG LIBRARY are presented a \$1,000 check from the Locust Grove Centennial Committee to buy bookshelves and floor mats. Kay McFarland, second from left, presents the check to Maggie Hunton, president of the Friends of the Library. Other Centennial Committee members are Roxann Yates, left, and Hugh J. Callery, right. Also pictured is Monica Stillman, treasurer of the library group.

quite happy to do that," Callery said.

The group plans once again to walk in the parade on Founder's Day, but instead of throwing out candy to the spectators, they will hand out coloring books to the youngsters.

Members of the group voted to do an Easter Egg

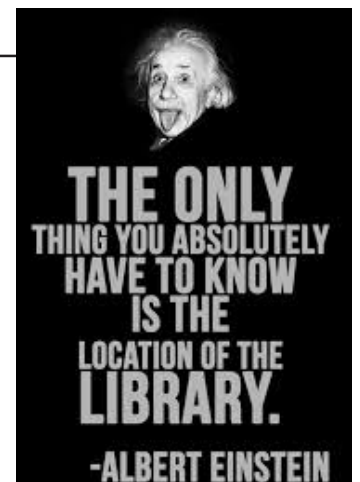
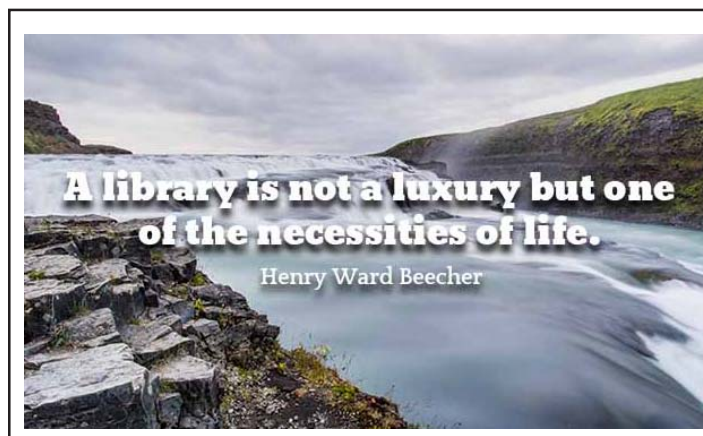
Tree at the library during April.

People who take an egg from the tree are asked to make a donation, and monies raised will be used to buy children's books.

Those who make donations will be recognized inside the book with their name on a sticker.

Hunton also suggested that the group make a new brochure to hand out to library patrons.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Library will be at 5:15 p.m., April 4. The library is located at 715 E. Main Street, and everyone is invited to attend.



Readers encouraged to think 'inside the box'

By Roxann Yates

Think outside, out of, beyond the box, the square; everyone says, "What's wrong with the box? I say, "Think inside the box." Every niche, corner and boxy space offers you a direction and an opportunity. Inside the box is someone's thinking and doing.

As early as the 1930s, women's magazines started printing recipes and sending recipe cards and sometimes boxes.

Card catalogues for the palate flourished. Someone's neighbor or grandmother or friend made their own recipes to share. These were named after the concocter.

What's inside the box are food stains and fingerprints and the feelings that couldn't be confined to a line that made the dish just right.

For part of the Wordfest celebration on April 15 at Wonder City Coffee, we've created a festival of words on recipes cards and filled vintage recipe boxes of not-so-exact recipes for you to enjoy—a box of luck for potluck.

You can touch a recipe that someone else touched and created a delectable, consumable piece of art. You can touch the computer that someone else touched, but it's not the



VINTAGE RECIPE BOXES. . . *The three boxes shown above are ones that will hold the Wonder City Cookbook when they go on sale April 15. The box on the top is from the 1960s; the one on bottom left is from the 1970s, and the yellow one on the bottom right is from the 1950s. Recipe cards will be sold inside these vintage tins to make up the Wonder City Cookbook.*

same. It's not nostalgic; it's not the same feeling.

Recipes are as much about feel as about exact, or not-so-exact recipes for life and the sharing of eats with another.

Recipes and their boxes are family artifacts, time capsules, genealogy lessons, our cultural heritage, our social history, our sharing history, our family history. Traces of love.

Inside the box are myriads of creative opportunities and incentives. Think inside the box.

You'll find more than culinary treasures—news clippings, notes, and other mementos.

I discovered in one such Lustro-Ware box a news clipping of President Johnson's visit to Texas. He was served German chocolate cake—Texas style. The recipe was included in the article.

Today, you'll see as many posts of and about food as you do of and about people. Food leads to fellowship.

Are you sick of politics?

Are you sick of TV? Are you sick of the cell phone, computer, and electronic connectivity? Connect with a recipe box of family, friends and memories.

Grandma, Aunt Doris, Mom are there for you. Where? Think. Think inside the box. Thumb through the memories. Touch the chocolate stain—the ingredient that created a gathering, a memory.

A box of memories and recipes will be on sale at Wonder City April 15.