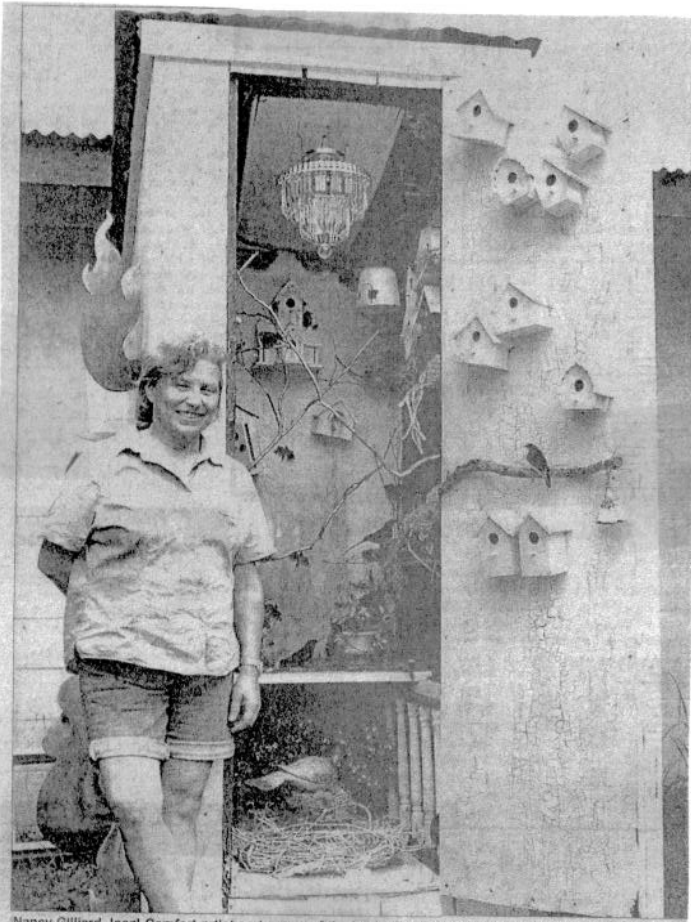


THE COMFORT NEWS

USPS 125-020
Comfort, Tx. 78013

The only newspaper in our world that cares exclusively about the community of Comfort, Texas
and has been reporting its news for over 100 years.

American Profile
included in this issue

Nancy Gilliard, local Comfort artist and owner of the Lucky Bat Gallery, will be competing against eleven other artists in the *Thunderbox Road* Art Exhibition. The art exhibition's purpose is to bring awareness to artists and galleries in the Hill Country area and to raise money for the arts.

Local Artist Participates in Unique Creative Project

By Bill Terry

Recently 12 Hill Country artists were challenged to expand their artistic abilities of expression to a new level. Local artist, Nancy Gilliard, owner of the Lucky Bat Art Gallery in Comfort, was chosen to be one of the twelve Hill Country Artists that will participate in the select Thunder Box Road Program. This unique traveling show will appear at several Hill Country venues for the next nine months. These will include wineries, town squares, festivals and art festivals.

Other artists who were invited to participate are: David Querbach, Pamela Gardner, Ken and Donna Malson, Thomas Evans, Rex Hausmann, Dotti Brundrett, C.J. Latta, Ben Beckendorf, Betty Rhodes and Greg Glowka, Gwendolyn Listerman and Charles and Tami Kegley.

Nancy was nominated by Deb Luce, Director of the Hill Country Arts Foundation. The 12 participating Hill Country Artists will use their artistic skills to and announcement of the winners at the Museum of Western Art in Kerrville, with the proceeds going to Art organizations and foundations.

The exhibit will be in Boerne from October 4-19, 2008 where it will be a feature of Boerne's Second Saturday as well as a feature of the Cibola Art Council's Festival, Art and Music. After October 20th, it moves to the Hill Country Arts Foundation in Ingram and then on to selected Hill Country venues through May of 2009.

November 8-30, 2008—Fredericksburg, Texas; At Grape Creek Vineyards, 10587 East Highway 290,

create their own version of an artistic Thunder Box, better known as an "out house."

Each of the 12 was given a representative wooden out house made of raw wood. Then it was the artist's job to make it their own artistic works of art.

Nancy was inspired, calling her creation The Firebird, and covered her Thunder Box with an aged cracked paint effect while inside she added birds, bird houses, golden tree branches, bird nests and of course a chandelier. Something every "out house" needs is a chandelier. And "going out side the box" she added flames of fire, thus the name The Firebird.

The purpose of this somewhat unusual artistic medium is to help give awareness to art and galleries in the Hill Country area.

There will be two cash awards, the people's choice award and the judge's choice award.

The tour will end with an auction

Fredericksburg, Texas www.grapecreek.com.

January 3 - 31, 2009—San Antonio, Texas At the Historic Menger Hotel Courtyard, 204 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Texas www.mengerhotel.com.

February 7 - 22, 2009—Lampasas, Texas Texas Legato Winery and Vineyard, 2935 FM 1478, Lampasas, Texas www.texaslegato.com.

March 8-29, 2009—Bergheim, Texas At The Serengeti Resort, 408 Fuller Road, Bergheim, Texas www.serengetiresort.com.

April 2009 (Tentative/Dates TBD) Kerrville, Texas The Museum of Western Art in preparation for the Auction on May 9, 2009.

More venues will be announced at www.ThunderboxRoad.com after October 4th.

The project is under written by SandCreek Post and Beam and Cedereaters. Thunderbox Road came about when Sonja Howle, Business Development for Sand Creek Post and Beam of Texas, was inspired by a book that the co-owner of the company had collected, *Nature Calls: The History, Lore and Charm of Outhouses*. "We'd discussed an event that would involve our community and outhouses, as treasured, iconic structures from our past, and provide a fun medium," said Sonja. Most of the barn kits sold by Sand Creek are based on historic designs from the turn of the century.

