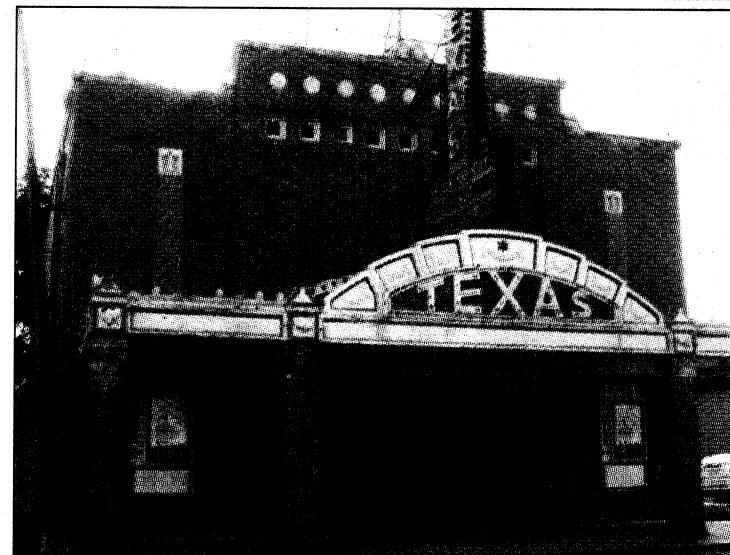
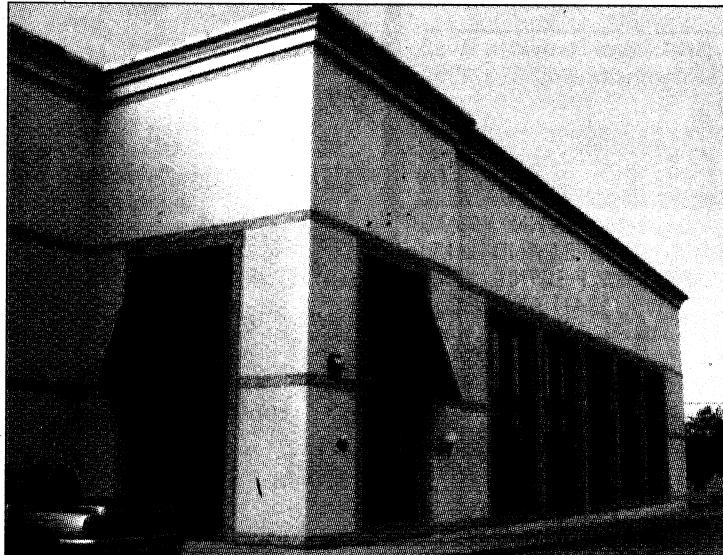


Downtown Locations Provide Setting for Gala Fundraiser



Show up at one location – the former Economy Furniture Building, now the Guadalupe County Annex – on October 18 in your best attire, and you can help make another location – the historic Texas Theatre on N. Austin St. – sparkle once again.

by Lisa McGovern
Guest Writer, Seguin Main Street Program

Preparations are under way for an evening of fun and glamour as the Seguin Conservation Society plans a gala for October 18, 2003. Proceeds from the event are earmarked to support the group's efforts to refurbish the Texas Theatre.

The site for the evening's festivities will be the Guadalupe County Annex, which was formerly Economy Furniture. A make over of this spacious area has already begun through the labor of Conservation Society workers, as well as a TLU community service team. The end result will be a fabulous setting decorated to fit the 1950s-style architecture of the building. The huge windows along the front of the building will provide passer bys with glimpses of this black-tie event.

The kick off for the gala will take place across Nolte St. at Lone Star Printing. Owner Bonnie Bartels will host a cocktail hour from 6 to 7 p.m., complete with hors d'oeuvres, at her business site. Afterwards, guests will be able to easily cross to the gala in time for the dinner, which is to begin at 7 p.m.

Food will be provided by Nash Catering. The menu will include prime rib, quail, bacon wrapped asparagus with hollandaise sauce, and homemade dessert. There will also be an open bar. Entertainment will be the big band sound of the Nash Hernandez Band, who also

play a variety of other music.

In addition to dinner and dancing, the evening's activities will include both a silent and a live auction. Bidding will take place throughout the evening. Some of the prizes up for auction include a trophy deer hunt at the Blumberg Diamond Half Ranch, time at a condo in Durango, Colorado, a week of ski camp at Ski Masters of Texas at Lake McQueeney, and a one-year family membership at Seguin Fitness. Items such as custom portraits and art will also be offered. To make a donation for the auction, contact Donny Keil during the day at 379.9170.

This is the third bi-annual gala hosted by the Seguin Conservation Society. The group's efforts to resurrect the Texas Theatre are becoming realized through this and other fund raising activities. The master plan is not just to fix up the old Texas Theatre. It calls for the theatre to be expanded, equipped with additional state-of-the-art facilities, and renovated in order to bring Seguin a multi-venue theatre that would allow for a variety of entertainment into our city. It would also provide our city's youth with access to a wonderful stage for student productions. It is a project that is supported by our community's business leaders and individuals alike.

Audra Schulz, publicist for the Conservation Society, said there have already been 12 corporate tables and around 100 individual tickets sold for the gala event. And tickets are still selling. "It's a special evening. You get dressed up and get to enjoy food and drink at an open bar,

with music and dancing, all for \$75 a ticket. That's a deal!" she remarked. Indeed, it is a deal. Especially when the payoff goes beyond the evening of the gala itself, and is aimed at providing our city with a treasure such as the new, old Texas Theatre.

The Seguin Conservation Society committee members who are instrumental in planning the October 18th Gala for Texas Theatre fundraiser are: Stan Ledbetter, Sr., Cristin Ledbetter, Audra Schulz, Donny and Marty Keil, Jeff Koehler, Nancy Stevens, Sydney Burton, Anna Menking, Kay Martin, Stacy Alexander, and Steve Tschoope.

Tickets can be purchased for this event at Gift & Gourmet on Austin St., 379.1242.

Lisa McGovern is a teacher working on a master's degree. She is currently on maternity leave awaiting the birth of her third child. She lives in Seguin with her husband Jim and children Isaac and Sydney.

Corporate sponsors for the Gala to date are Advantage Rent-A-Car, Alamo Title Company, Guadalupe Valley Hospital, Karen McMillan Kiel/Fisher, Mickey Ferrell Realtors, Seguin Ford-Mercury, Structural Metals, Inc., State Bank and Trust, The Koehler Company, and Tri-County A/C and Heating. Corporate tables are still available. Call Stan Ledbetter or Terry Boehnke, or Gift & Gourmet for details.