

# Tourism Tidbits

JANUARY 2008

## LUFKIN FEATURED IN *TEXAS MONTHLY*

“Destination Lufkin” reads the headline in the 2008 January issue of *Texas Monthly*, the premiere travel magazine read by more than 2.5 million people.

The monthly publication features travel related articles and information on surrounding destinations in Texas. The January issue will focus on the many aspects of retirement planning from relocation to financial and health concerns. Lufkin, Texas will be featured in the “Out of Town” section of the magazine.

The Lufkin Convention & Visitors Bureau worked with Amy Vandaveer, Account Manager earlier in the year to work on a section that would include copy and photographs about Lufkin. Re-

lated business advertising in the same issue are featured following the copy and lists company name and contact information.

“The Lufkin CVB was pleased to be featured in one of the state’s most effective print medium, which reaches affluent and educated readers in Texas,” stated Alisha Burrow, Manager for the Lufkin CVB. “*Texas Monthly* was eager to partner with the Lufkin CVB, and we (LCVB) were looking forward to building a partnership with local attractions and businesses on this multi-tiered initiative. The “Destination Lufkin” focus highlights many wonderful sights there are to see and experience, and the article really gives visitors an idea of what Lufkin has to

offer.”

The “Destination Lufkin” focus lists the Lufkin Chamber of Commerce website, where readers can discover retirement opportunities in Lufkin, and also lists the Lufkin CVB telephone number for visitors to learn more about tourism opportunities in Lufkin.

**Featured Points of Interest Included:** First Street Arts Center; Museum of East Texas; Texas Forestry Museum; Ellen Trout Zoo; Crown Colony Country Club; Atkinson Candy; Manhattan’s Fine Dining; Ray’s Drive-In Café; MarTeres Tea Room; Lufkin Antique Mall; The Heart Center of Woodland Heights; Memorial Health

Systems of East Texas; and the W. Temple Weber Resonance Imaging Center.

For more information on Lufkin’s tourism industry and the Lufkin Convention and Visitors Bureau visit [www.visitlufkin.com](http://www.visitlufkin.com).

The Lufkin Convention and Visitors Bureau (Lufkin CVB), a division of the Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce, is a destination marketing organization that promotes economic development through tourism, and encourages tourists to visit and enjoy historical, cultural, and recreational opportunities in Lufkin and Angelina County.

## DATES NEEDED FOR TABLETOP CALENDARS

Looking for a great way to advertise your PUBLIC events? Submit your **February & March** dates to the Lufkin Convention & Visitors Bureau for the next printing of the “Happenings in Lufkin” tabletop calendars.

The deadline to submit your events is **January 7th**.

These bi-monthly calendars display the various events going on at our attractions, and are distributed in our restaurants, hotels, and attraction facilities.

If you would like to help promote tourism in Lufkin by displaying these colorful calendars at your business or organization, contact the Lufkin Convention & Visitors Bureau at (936) 634-6305.

### NOTICE

The Lufkin CVB needs your 2008 Calendar of Events!

Any events from a club/organization, attraction, or business can be submitted to the Bureau.

Please submit your events to the Lufkin Convention & Visitors Bureau website, [visitlufkin.com](http://visitlufkin.com)

## ANGELINA ARTS ALLIANCE ANNOUNCES NEW HALF-PRICE TICKET PLAN

Angelina Arts Alliances announces a new ticket option which will offer half-price tickets for all upcoming Arts Alliance events. All unsold tickets will go on sale for half-price – on a standby basis -- starting thirty minutes before each performance begins. The half-price tickets are sold subject to availability.

“This is an opportunity for audience members to enjoy the outstanding artists we bring to Lufkin at a substantially reduced ticket price”, Executive Director Rick Schiller

stated. He hopes that families in the community will take advantage of this offer and fill the unsold seats for each performance. “Of course, there’s no guarantee that seats will be available for each show, but for these discounted tickets, we hope audience members will take a chance and come.”

Half-price tickets are available the rest of the 2007-08 Season, starting with the Canadian Brass performance on Sunday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m.

All unsold tickets will go on sale for half-price beginning at 7:00 p.m. that evening. No other discounts can be applied. For more information, contact the Temple Theater Box Office (weekdays, noon-5:30 p.m.) at 936-633-5454.

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## LUFKIN CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU LAUNCHES REVAMPED WEB SITE

In response to the growing demand of online travel decisions and purchases, the Lufkin Convention & Visitors Bureau has launched an improved, user-friendly website, [www.visitlufkin.com](http://www.visitlufkin.com), designed to provide easily accessible information for pre-planning travelers and local residents alike.

Redesigned by Matt Massey from MasseyMedia, Inc., the Lufkin CVB website features entirely new design, easier navigation and expanded features. Its standard offerings include trip planning to Lufkin for leisure travelers, group tour operators and meeting planners, listings of local attractions, dining, and lodging options, convention services, and Lufkin CVB information. Additions to the site include registration for the e-newsletter, *Tourism Tidbits*, and a photography gallery of Lufkin events, attractions, and happenings.

With no registration needed and technical downloads readily available, researching Lufkin as a destination is now easier than ever. The site also includes an enhanced feature, an interactive calendar that will give local businesses, attractions, and residents access to publicize their public events at the touch of a button.

Use this calendar to find dates on annual events, holiday events, and more. Whether looking for a specific event in Lufkin or browsing our local attractions, the new design and enhanced features will help potential visitors find what they need – and quickly.

“Since the Lufkin CVB launched its first website, some updates have been made over the years,” said Alisha Burrow, Manager for the Lufkin Convention & Visitors Bureau. “The Lufkin CVB has wanted to give it a major overhaul for some time now, and we are confident that we

can promote Lufkin as a *premiere* tourism destination. Our goal was to design a website that is innovative and reflective of all the changes in both our region and in the world of technology. We’re very proud to bring our visitors the best of both with the introduction of our newly redesigned web site.”

The Lufkin Convention and Visitors Bureau, a division of the Lufkin/Angelina County Chamber of Commerce, is a destination marketing organization that promotes economic development through tourism and encourages tourists to visit and enjoy historical, cultural, and recreational opportunities in Lufkin and Angelina County. For more information on tourism related events in the Lufkin area, please contact the Lufkin Convention and Visitors Bureau.

## EARL MOTT TO TEACH OIL PAINTING AT ART CENTER

Lufkin artist, Earl Mott, will teach an oil painting class at First Street Arts Center in Lufkin beginning in January 2008. Mott paints in the classic realist tradition, and he will teach his approach and technique in oil painting. Students will learn this technique by making copies of Hudson River School and Luminists paintings from the 1800's. As the students advance, Mott will guide them in completing original work. He stresses the fact that art is not fast and easy but involves a long, slow process of learning, which requires a lot of patience and work.

Classes will be from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. each Wednesday and is limited to eight students. Fee is fifty dollars per month, payable the first Wednesday of each month. Beginners as well as the more advanced are welcome. Contact the Art Center for more information.

Mott has been painting in oil for over forty years and has authored two books on landscape painting--one soon to be available on CD-ROM. His work may be seen at First Street Arts Center in Lufkin, La Nana Creek Gallery in Nacogdoches, and at [www.artshow.com](http://www.artshow.com).

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## BOX OFFICE OPENS FOR “THE PIANO MEN” AND THE MUSIC OF BILLY JOEL AND ELTON JOHN

The Angelina Arts Alliance is delighted to introduce East Texas to The Piano Men...Starring Jim Witter, live on the Temple Theater stage on the Angelina College campus, Saturday, January 19 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets prices are \$18-\$25, and go on sale Monday, December 17 at the Temple Theater box office (936-633-5454).

All unsold tickets will go on sale for half-price—on a standby basis—starting thirty minutes prior to curtain (subject to availability).

Box office hours are noon to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Show sponsor is Goodwin-Lasiter, Inc./Scott & Strong, Architects. Season sponsors are First Bank & Trust/East Texas and Temple-Inland.

The Piano Men is a musical celebration of the 1970s—year by year, hit by hit—from the songs of beloved songsmiths,

Renowned recording artist Jim Witter and his band lead an expertly crafted multi-media tour of an entire decade, and showcases music that has become ingrained in our cultural consciousness. With Witter on the grand piano, and his wonderfully talented musicians on keyboards, guitar, bass, flute, sax, and drums, his phenomenal singing ability does not “mimic” Billy Joel or Elton John’s songs, but powerfully and emotionally evokes these landmarks in a pop culture timeline. Classic hits such as “My Life”, “Candle in the Wind”, “Rocket Man”, and “Just the Way You Are” create an evening of entertainment that will have the audience grinning and singing along.

If you can remember where you were when Elvis may have died, this show is for you. If you can still smell the interior of your 1973 VW Beetle, you’ll recognize every song. If you watch reruns of Gilligan’s Island or Green Acres, you’ll find yourself singing

along. And if you still have your bell-bottom jeans and Puma running shoes, then you probably need more help than Witter can provide!

Tickets for The Piano Men... Starring Jim Witter will go on sale Monday, December 17th at the Temple Theater box office (936-633-5454). Hours are weekdays from noon to 5:30 pm.



**DON'T MISS JIGU! THUNDER DRUMS OF CHINA  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2008 AT 7:30 P.M.!**

**MANAGER**

ALISHA BURROW

**DESIGNED BY**

LUFKIN CONVENTION &  
VISITORS BUREAU

**CONTACT US**

(936) 634-6305

**WEBSITE**

[www.VisitLufkin.com](http://www.VisitLufkin.com)

Submissions to post an event in **Tourism Tidbits** is due the 3rd Friday of every month. Event information can be sent up to two months in advance via fax, telephone, or e-mail. If a logo or flyer is included, PDF or Word documents are preferred.

**Tourism Tidbits** is published monthly by the Lufkin Convention & Visitors Bureau. It is mailed to businesses, those in the travel industry, and those interested in tourism-related information, trends, and tourism-related activities around Lufkin.

If you would like to receive a free copy, or would like to make any changes to your mailing address label, please contact us by phone at 631-3826.

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## TAMALE FESTIVAL

The City of Diboll is proud to announce a new annual festival to East Texas. Diboll will host its first Diboll Tamale Festival March 15 & 16, 2008. This upcoming event will bring food, fun and family entertainment to the grounds of the Lottie & Arthur Temple Civic Center. The Diboll Tamale Festival will feature tamale cook-offs, craft vendors, live music and lots of outdoor fun for the whole community. Applications are currently being accepted for vendors, cook-off contestants and entertainment.

For more information about this event, please contact Lance Moore at (936) 829-4888.



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## happenings in LUFKIN

### JANUARY 2008

**5 Pineywoods Youth Rodeo**

George H. Henderson, Jr. Exposition Center,  
(936) 637-3976

**12 Belt Buckle Bash**

George H. Henderson, Jr. Exposition Center,  
(936) 637-3976

**12 Go Texan Team Roping**

George H. Henderson, Jr. Exposition Center,  
(936) 637-3976

**12 Houston Livestock Rodeo Area School Art Exhibition**

George H. Henderson, Jr. Exposition Center,  
(936) 637-3976

**19 The Piano Men...Starring Jim Witter**

Temple Theater, 7:30 p.m, (936) 633-5454

**22 Houston Livestock Rodeo Area School Art Exhibition**

George H. Henderson, Jr. Exposition Center,  
(936) 637-3976

**26 Rock Around the Clock Gala**

Kurth Memorial Library, 6:30 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.,  
(936) 630-0560

**31 3rd Annual Chili Bowl Supper**

Lufkin High School Alumni Association, 5:30 — 6:30 p.m.  
(936) 632-4155