

Living History Day features textile arts

STAFFREPORT

From 1 to 4 p.m. at Sunday, Feb. 12, is Living History Day Chestnut Square Historic Village.

Living History Day will be the second Sunday of each month (a change from last year) on the grounds of Chestnut Square Historic Village, located at the corner of Chestnut and Anthony Streets just south of downtown McKinney and next to the six-story Collin County Courthouse.

This month features the textile arts, with emphasis on weaving, spinning, knitting, rag rug making and tating. Other members of the Living History Guild will be on hand to demonstrate their special trades and roles in 19th century McKinney. Be sure to visit the Blacksmith Shop, church and other historic buildings, including the General Store stocked with great items including local honey and grains, items handmade by the artisans and books by local authors. As you tour, you will be able to talk with the crafters and sign up for classes to learn their trades. Classes on Native American bow making, Dutch oven cooking, rag

rug making, quilting and much more are available.

Arrive in 19th century style by boarding a real stagecoach downtown or board the stagecoach at Chestnut Square and ride to downtown. Take the full trip in the brightly painted Wells Fargo Stage Coach to get a tour of downtown McKinney. Don't forget to bring your camera. Stagecoach rides are available for a small fee.

Memberships to both the Chestnut Square Historic Village and the Heritage Crafter's Guild are available. They are seeking people interested in local history, architecture, genealogy, antiques, old time crafts, re-enactment and more. Membership benefits include members' only events, free admission to the museum for tours, free quarterly newsletter subscription and more. Volunteers are also needed on a daily basis.

■ For more information about Living History Days, Chestnut Square Historic Village, the Living History Guild, volunteering or membership, call 972-562-8790 or visit the Web site at www.chestnutsquare.org.

See HISTORY Pages 7 and 8



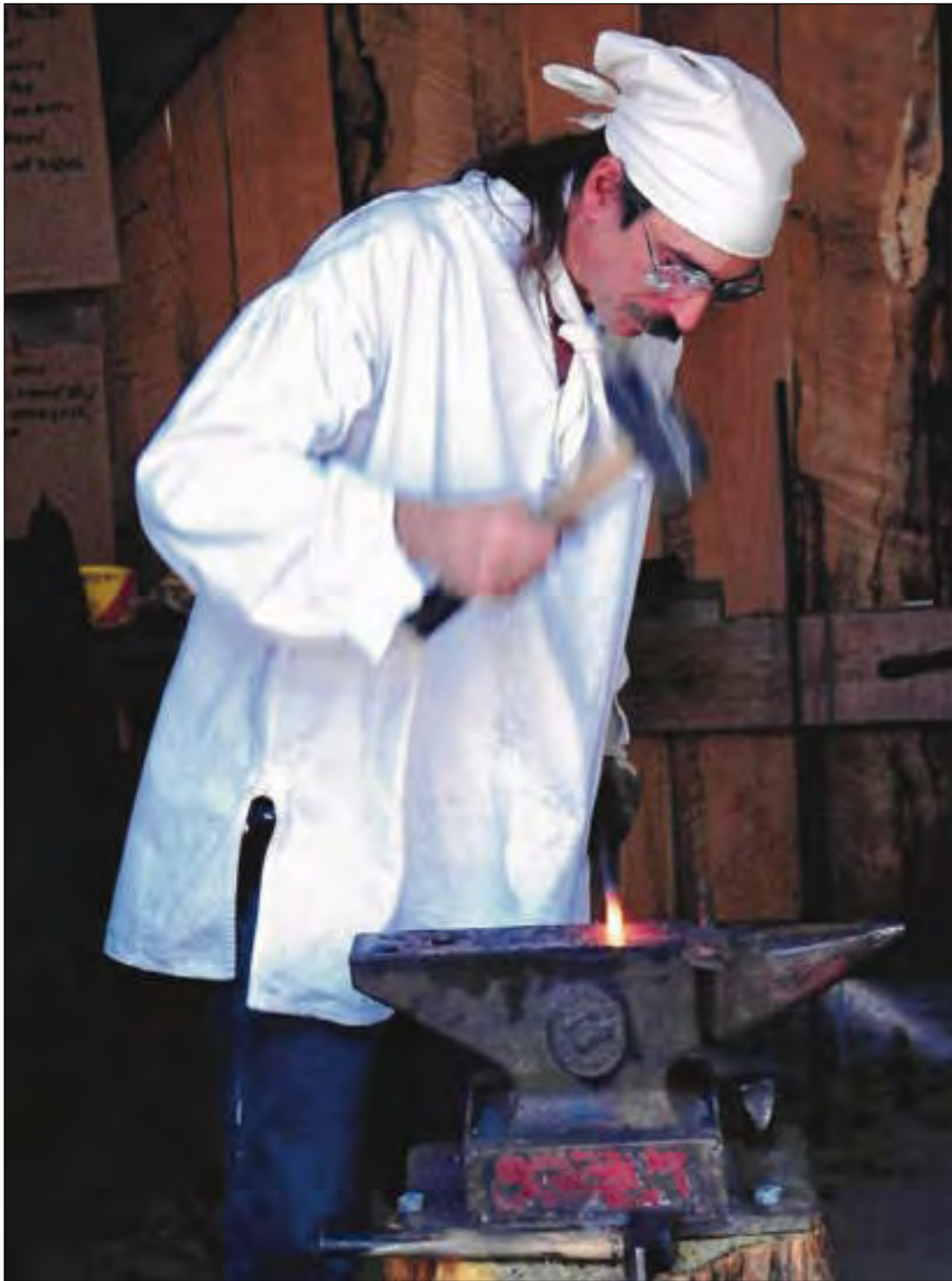
THIS POT IS WATCHED: James West cooks in the open fireplace of the Faires House at Chestnut Square, assisted by Ben Buckwalter, back in hat.



A STITCH IN TIME: Brenda Lloyd gives knitting instructions to Bennett Elementary students visiting Chestnut Square.

HISTORY

Continued from Page 5



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STRIKING THE STEEL:

Above and left, blacksmith Jay Silber demonstrates how early settlers made the tools needed to tame a new land.

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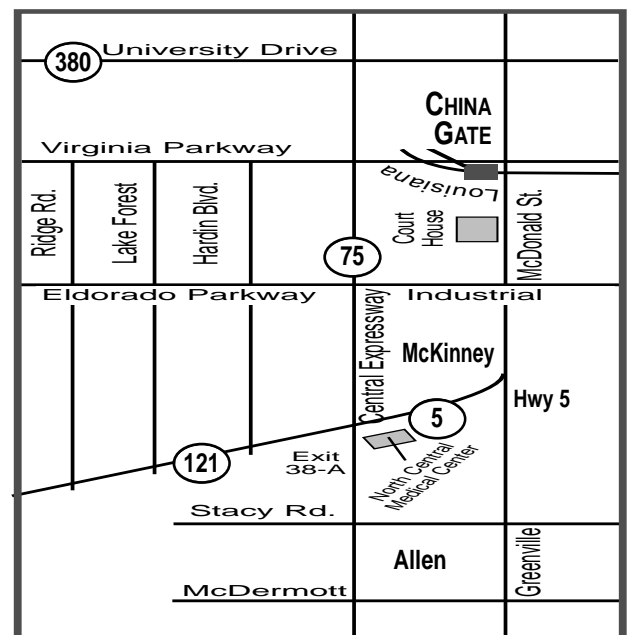
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Just E. of Downtown Square



Neighbors IN THE COMMUNITY



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY ANNIE STOKES

THE ART OF BOWMAKING: Artisan Tim White shows Bennett Elementary students how to make an American Indian bow, using locally cut bois d'arc wood.



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY GUY GIERSCH

BOOKS AND AUTHORS IN THE STORE: From left, local authors Jane Wood and Nella Petrick sign copies of their books at Living History Day.



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY ANNIE STOKES

FROM RAGS TO RUGS: Bennett Elementary school students gather round as Janet Alexander gives a lesson in making rag rugs. Nothing was ever wasted, so old clothes that were not repairable may have been cut into strips and made into rugs.