

# 'Jazzy Junque' sale benefits New Danville March 4-6

You know what they say — one person's trash is another person's treasure.

But you'll be hard put to find any trash at the "JAZZY JUNQUE" sale next weekend.

"Jazzy Junque" takes place in two large complexes at THE CONROE OUTLET MALL, I-45 and League Line Road, from 9-5 March 4 and 5; 1-5 Sunday, March 6. Admission to look at the treasures costs only \$1. But don't expect popcorn.

The sale benefits TEXAS NEW COMMUNITY ALLIANCE, according to BARBARA HILTON, board chairwoman of this organization that helps sustain NEW DANVILLE, an integrated community for adults with developmental disabilities. The facility occupies 42 acres on Shepherd Hill Road five miles northwest of Willis.

"New Danville, unlike most



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places, offers a holistic approach," Barbara said. "The residents live, learn, work and grow with non-disabled peers, while developing emotionally, socially, and spiritually."

Volunteers collected and sorted quality furniture, antiques, linens, dishes, exercise equipment, toys, holiday décor, clothing and much more. Some items are price tag new; others gently used. All come at highly reduced prices, according to board member ODETTED'AGOSTINO, and NANCY

DAY, who are chairwomen.

For those hankering to have first choice of all the goodies, a preview party is Wednesday, March 2, from 6-9 p.m., costing \$25 per person. Chair lady ANN MARIE RICCI plans wine (donated by CRESCENT MOON WINE BAR of The Woodlands), appetizers, and "many surprises."

The caterer for this affair is New Danville's own BLUE BONNET BAKERY & CAFÉ.

(On a side note: the café serves lunch weekdays at the Jett Center in Conroe, former site of Sam Houston Elementary School, now used as a teacher training center.)

Some dedicated volunteers are PAUL and PEGGY KNAPP, of April Sound, whose daughter is a New Danville resident; and board member NAN MCSHAN. Others come from The

Woodlands, Conroe and the Lake Conroe area. Helpers always are needed, so those wishing to volunteer may call 713-725-7070.

Some everyday products available for purchase at New Danville are honey, greenhouse plants and more. Its gift shop provides an assortment of items to visitors, who may be greeted by friendly miniature horses.

KATHY SANDERS is the driving force behind the creation of New Danville, according to Barbara. Those who live or attend classes there are designated as "Wranglers," including Kathy Sanders' son, Jimmy. Kathy's peers regard her so highly that she was nominated for Mardi Gras Queen during the PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY BALL that takes place Saturday eve.

If you ever wished you could see an act just once in your lifetime where the star sang all the favorites that led to fame, then "ALWAYS ... PATSY CLINE" at the Crighton Theatre is for you.

MARY ALLEN-KEATING, she of the huge melodious voice, swings out 27 Cline favorites, traveling freely through "Back in Baby's Arms," to "She's Got You," to "Blue Moon of Kentucky," and most of the late singer's other hits. The repertoire includes a sweet lullaby, and a couple of hymns as well.

There hardly was enough time between songs for the skeleton story to unfold, but Ms. Allen-Keating and CAROLYN CORSANO WONG (Cline's sidekick Louise Seger) managed to get it all in, partly because of author TED SWINDLEY'S tight script,

and partly because of the fast pace. Hardly a pause longer than a heartbeat.

I rather doubt that the show exactly was intended to come out this way — two equally strong personalities dominating the boards, as they do in STAGE RIGHT'S current production. But it works beautifully.

Oh, it's Mary Allen-Keating's show, all right, as she lets loose every one of those country and pop favorites. However, Carolyn Wong also makes great big tracks in her little boots, portraying the fan who developed a close friendship with Cline a few years before she died at age 30 in a plane crash March 5, 1963.

Furthermore, Ms. Allen-Keating's fashions are exactly right for the period.

The pink Chanel suit from circa 1960, and the numerous cowgirl outfits throughout, were all spot on; even her sequined sleeveless sheath near the end.

I also should mention that Ms. Allen-Keating is slimmer than Cline ever was, and much prettier, with delicate, molded features. And oh, what a voice!

Wong's hyper energy never falters. In skintight leather pants she capers across that stage: Dancing, clapping and

jumping. But then, neither does Mary's vigor waver.

Director JIM BINGHAM blocked some action to transpire offstage. A few songs start in the wings, with the star gradually walking into view. Excellent lighting moves the mood from bright to somber when tragedy unfolds.

The six-piece band that DAVE ENGLERT directs could hold attention in a show of its own. Of course, most, with music degrees and vast experience, have done just that, playing at the Owen Theatre, and myriad engagements elsewhere.

At \$25 or less per ticket, this is an offer you shouldn't refuse. "Always ... Patsy Cline" runs at 8 p.m. week-ends through March 6, with two Sunday matinees at Conroe's Crighton Theatre, 234 N. Main. Reserve at (936) 441-7469 or purchase online at [www.crightontheatre.org](http://www.crightontheatre.org).

Please note that MARED-ITH ZARITSKI performs the role of Patsy Cline for this Saturday only.

Looking for some of the best Nawlans food outside Louisiana? You'll find it at the WALDEN YACHT CLUB Mardi Gras buffet this eve.

There's Happy Hour at 5 if you wish. It provides complimentary snacks and party favors. A spectacular buffet with most Crescent City favorites follows, according to CHEF RICK ADAMS. The wait staff will be throwing coins and beads all evening, and costumes are welcome but not mandatory.

Call 936-582-4222 to reserve for the buffet at \$28.95 each. You might even find the baby in your King Cake!

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