

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lecture Series Presentation and Display: Recovering the Louisiana Black Bear to Southeast Texas

WOODVILLE, Texas – Adrian Van Dellen’s photography passion brings us a wonderful tale of black bears with a focus on the Louisiana black bear, known scientifically as, *Ursus americana luteolus*. There are 16 species of black bears in North America, four of which were historically present in Texas, and two of these were native to east Texas. One of them may now be in the process of naturally recolonizing in northeast Texas, but there is no evidence that this process is happening in southeast Texas where the Louisiana black bear was historically native. The North American Black bear is termed by Mr. Van Dellen, “The Gentle Ones.”

Come **join** us for this special event, scheduled on August 26, 2021 at 6 pm at Heritage Village in Woodville, Texas. Ticket price is \$10 per person. The tickets may be obtained at the event or in advance at the Heritage Village Museum Store, Pickett House Restaurant, and Sullivan’s Hardware in Woodville, or at the door.

Currently, there is a photo exhibit with a short video, free and available to be seen in the Heritage Village’s Special Exhibit Room. Ask the Heritage Village Museum Store Clerk for directions to the display.

Adrian Van Dellen, DVM, USAF Lt. Col., ret., has made his home in east for 26 years. His artistic passion is Landscape and Wildlife photography that is focused to help preserve riparian biodiversity and Neches River wildness. He is the founder and president of the nonprofit, Neches River Watershed Sentinels, and co-author of two recent publications: *Neches River User Guide*, by Gina Donovan, Stephen D. Lang and Adrian F. Van Dellen; and, *Let the River Run Wild! saving the Neches*, by Francis E. Abernethy and Adrian F. Van Dellen, and friends. He is past-president (2017-2020) of the Texas Black Bear Alliance. He is presently a member of the Board of Directors and serves as the Alliance’s Treasurer.

Contact Ofeira Gazzaway (hvillagemuseum@att.net / 409-283-2272 or 800-323-2194) for information.