

TIES TO THE PAST:

APRON CHRONICLES: A Patchwork of American Recollections

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Apron Chronicles: A Patchwork of American Recollections, a powerful and poignant exhibit now on display at the Park City Museum's Tozer Gallery, explores the American experience as seen and read through journalistic portraits, text in narrative story form and 100 vintage aprons.

The juxtaposition of evocative narratives, journalistic photography and aprons explore the people behind the domestic icon and give life to both the aprons and the exhibit. The storytellers include a 111-year-old mother and her only child, a Holocaust survivor, a biology professor from Mali, Africa, and a pre-teen and her grandmother. Although it is primarily women who wore the aprons, they left an indelible imprint on their sons. Many of the narratives come from men.

The unwavering focus of award-winning photographer Kristina Loggia's portraits and emotional narratives by award-winning author and apron archaeologist EllynAnne Geisel provide a balance that keeps the show from being either exploitative or sappy.

Channeling the universal memories of home and holidays, love and hard work, and the strength of the women and men who wore aprons, the exhibit encourages us to recall the apron wearers in our own histories. And though their voices may be silent, through our remembrances, we bring them back.

In conjunction with the exhibit, Geisel will present 2 programs at the Park City

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Museum. On November 3 at 5 pm, Geisel will offer her signature presentation, “**A Celebration of the Apron: Remembering the Richness of Our Lives Through a Humble Icon.**” Accompanied by a laundry basket full of aprons, Geisel speaks on the apron’s historical odyssey, shares her life-changing apron journey, and discusses the people, aprons and stories she’s met and collected along the way.

Audience members are encouraged to wear their own favorite aprons, and share in the storytelling. On November 4 at 10 am, Geisel will present **Writing Your Memories Workshop**, subtitled, “Harriet Nelson May Have Died, But She Isn’t Dead.” With an assortment of old aprons as the inspiration, attendees will revisit their past, record recollections, and write their first story in the format EllynAnne utilizes: short and vivid with detail. Participants are asked to bring a blank notebook and a writing pen. The programs are free to all.

Apron Chronicles has received much national recognition, with the work of Geisel and Loggia featured in *Time* magazine, *The New York Times*, *CBS Sunday Morning*, and NPR’s *Weekend Edition*, among other media.

Apron Chronicles is on display at the Park City Museum Tozer Gallery through December 11. For additional information, contact the Museum at 435-649-7457 (parkcityhistory.com) and www.apronchronicles.com.

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