



## THE LONE STAR STATE ...Where Soda Fountains Still Thrive

Diane Jennings is an exceptional writer for the *Dallas Morning News*. One of her recent features undoubtedly took every reader on a nostalgic journey back to younger days. MyBestYears.com asked to reprint her story, and she graciously allowed us to do so.

**Join Diane as she waltzes across Texas through ten very special soda shops! Enjoy the trip, no matter where you live. Better yet, plan to visit some of these special places on your next trip to the Lone Star State!**

When regulars stroll into the Highland Park Pharmacy, the waitress at the old-fashioned soda fountain starts pumping syrup before they slide onto a stool.

Strong Coke? Five pumps. Weak Coke? Three. Add carbonated water, ice and stir, stir, stir. The glory days of marble counters and swivel seats may be gone. But the soda fountain has yet to fade away.

These poignant pieces of the past – which conjure up visits with Granddaddy for a limeade – aren't just surviving. They're thriving in small towns and big cities – from the tony suburb of Highland Park to small towns like Albany and Cooper.

"People will always have that sense of place and want to preserve community," said Susie Flatau, author of *Counter Culture Texas*, published in 1999.

For her, "magic happens" because customers talk to one another. And the experience invariably takes the customer back.

