

# History buffs seek building protection

BY CHRIS PORTER  
Daily Tribune Staff

MARBLE FALLS — The house on Avenue J and Seventh Street had stood for more than 100 years, but it didn't stand a chance against a bulldozer.

The historic structure, thought to be the seventh-oldest in Marble Falls, was demolished with little notice about three weeks ago. The loss has some members of the community looking for ways to keep other buildings safe.

"It was an antique store at one time," said Caryl Calsyn, a member of the Marble Falls Historic Commission. "It was built in 1892. Now it's gone."

Calsyn, who herself lives in a turn-of-the-century house, is championing a proposed city

law that would protect historical homes from the wrecking ball.

The law, which was drafted by the commission, would create a historic district around parts of the city, setting up additional criteria that builders would have to meet before remodeling or demolishing a historic building.

Calsyn said the current law allows for anyone to obtain a demolition permit and start tearing down a building within 24 hours, regardless of the building's age or historical value.

That fate was averted for a 110-year-old Avenue N home after its purchase by Meadowlakes resident Beth Wooten and husband Phillip.

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Cynthia Chebultz, who runs a local photography studio, watches Thursday as movers work to relocate the 110-year-old house she will use for her business. A Web site has been launched to keep the public informed of the move, [www.302AveN.com](http://www.302AveN.com). Photos by Raymond Whelan



Sturdy metal beams are placed under the 110-year home at 302 Ave. N to move it up the street about 100 feet. A day care will be built on the site where the home, described as the fifth oldest in Marble Falls, once sat.

## MOVING ON

BY RAYMOND WHELAN  
Daily Tribune Staff

MARBLE FALLS — Cynthia Chebultz watched Thursday as workers from Come and Take It Structural Movers placed air bags and beams beneath a 110-year-old house at 302 Ave. N, which will soon be her new photography studio.

The workers were preparing to lift the 2,200-square-foot house, in one piece, onto dollies and move it to a vacant lot about 100 feet north to save it from demolition, said Chebultz, a Kingsland photographer.

The delicate operation takes

hours, Chebultz added. The house has quite a history, she said.

Alexander Washington Morrow Crossover built the house in 1897 and lived there until he died in 1926. Local historians claim the house is the fifth oldest on record in Marble Falls.

Crossover was a farmer, banker and stockholder at the First National Bank of Marble Falls. His daughter Eula married A. Rankin Johnson, a grandson of Gen. Adam R. Johnson, the founder of Marble Falls in the 1880s.

Meadowlakes resident Beth Wooten has already purchased

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Come and Take It Structural Movers began working Wednesday to move the 110-year-old house at 302 Ave. N to an empty lot 100 feet due north. A new day care and learning facility will occupy the space where the old home stood for more than a century, while the old home will become a new photography studio.

the lot where the old home stood for more than a century. There, after the old house moves away, she plans to build a new state-

of-the-art day care center and pre-school learning facility for 125 children.  
[raymond@thepicayune.com](mailto:raymond@thepicayune.com)