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Ennis NOW

M A G A Z I N E

October 2008

**They're
Altogether
Spooky**

**Generation
to Generation**

**Like
Father,
Like
Daughter**

**Drop Everything
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Contents

October 2008, Volume 5, Issue 10

6



They're Altogether Spooky

14



Meant to Be

At Home With Charlie and Celia Yowell

20

ArtsNOW
Generation
to Generation

26

SportsNOW
Like Father,
Like Daughter

30

BusinessNOW
The "Mom" Yardstick

32

EducationNOW
Drop Everything and
Read!



*On the Cover:
Jack-o'-lanterns help
usher in the season at
Kelly Manor.*

Photo by Rod Cordsen.

36 Around TownNOW

40 FinanceNOW

38 Who's CookingNOW

42 HealthNOW

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Ennis NOW

Editor's Note

Dear Ennis,

So, it seemed like fall would never come? Welcome it at the fall festival, on October 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Our art feature brings you a story on the Little Ennis Czechadees, who will be performing at Autumn Days in Ennis.

If something a little spookier is to your taste for this month, plunge right in, if you dare, to the main feature about Randell and Julie Kelly. They have embraced the Halloween festivities with zest. Their haunted house may be creepy and kooky, but they are down-to-earth family folks.

Golfers: get your golf clubs in order. Find yourself a non-golfing partner who can do your putting for a never-before chance for hilarious fun at the Lights of Ennis golf tournament fundraiser November 1st. Be a hole sponsor and be planning your "famous couples" costumes for that night's costume gala.

Happy Halloween!

Kelly Kovar

EnnisNOW Editor





PRESCRIPTIONS



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They're Altogether

Spooky

— By Kelly Kovar

"It turns out to be the most fun they have ever had to get into character, scare people and see how much fun people are having getting scared."



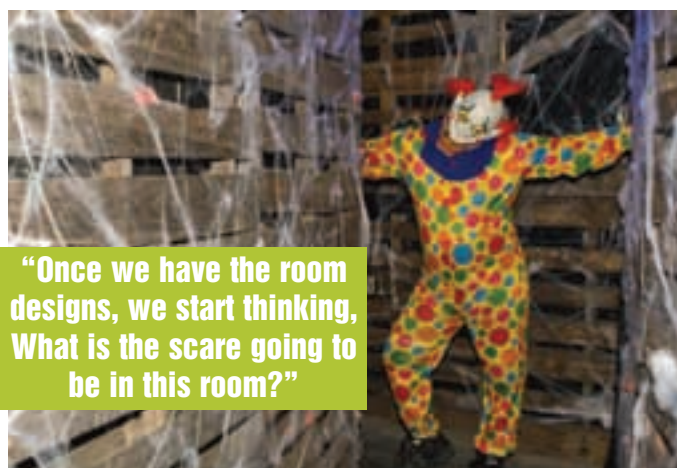
Randell Kelly does not do anything halfway, so when he started building a haunted house in his garage to entertain friends at Halloween parties, his wife, Julie, knew what to expect. "When he does a hobby, he *does* a hobby," Julie said. Halloween was always something Randell and Julie both had fun with as children. "When we were kids, we would make haunted houses and have my parents go through them," Julie reminisced about her own childhood. "We did silly little things where you had to touch stuff like cold spaghetti."

"I used to make little ghosts out of Kleenexes®, paint faces on them, wire them on fishing line and hang them in the street; I'd make them jump when people walked by," Randell said. He and Julie, high school sweethearts who have been married 16 years, have two children of their own now, Sydney, age 5 and 12-year-old Garrett. The Kellys built their home in 1997, and a few years ago added a 1,200-square-foot metal building, which houses their burgeoning haunted house. "At first, we just made it for our family," Randell explained. "We have a big costume party every year, because we still hang out with all of our high school friends. In 2000, we did a haunted house for everybody to go through at the costume party."

Entertaining comes naturally and year-round at the Kelly's. "We are the party people of both of our families," Julie said. "Every holiday — Thanksgiving, Christmas, birthdays — we host everything. Every year we have a themed Halloween party."

One year, Randell recalled, the party theme was about two deceased real estate agents who could not pass on to the afterlife until they sold a house which was haunted. So, the invitation

"Once we have the room designs, we start thinking, What is the scare going to be in this room?"





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was to a 'home tour,' staged by the agents, Ima Corpse and Ura Corpse.

For a few years, Randell and Julie tried to host the party while running the haunted house for their friends. "It got too hard, because we couldn't be at the party and in the haunted house at the same time," Julie mentioned. "So many people were saying, 'Wow! This is way better than all the other haunted houses.'" They decided to start having the party on a separate night, and began to open up the haunted house for other people, accepting donations to benefit local organizations, after the



**"We try to use all
the senses to create
a creepy design to
get you scared
and startled,
including scent
and sound."**

expenses are covered. For the last few years, recipients have been St. John School and the Reunion Fund of the Ennis High School Class of 1990. This year, beneficiaries will be JoLeena Jurica, who is battling cancer, and also the Ennis Bank Booster. Randell was in junior high band, and later played guitar in his own band. Julie played baritone at Ennis High School. Their son, Garrett, is just getting involved with band. "We are kind of tied to

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Band Boosters, because hopefully, it will be something our family will be involved with as well," Julie said.

Local sponsors, such as Handywash of Ennis and JE Graphix have gotten on board. "Mr. Jim's delivered pizza to us every night last year," Randell said. Blazeks donated supplies. "Other people come to volunteer, and you can tell they are a little apprehensive. They think it is going to be a chore. It turns out to be the most fun they have ever had to get into character, scare people and see how much fun people are having getting scared."

Preparation for the annual haunted house begins months in advance. Julie works at Baylor Medical Center in Waxahachie, and Randell works in Dallas



"It is hilarious to watch people. They have so much fun."

at World Marketing, so weekends and evenings are used to build the haunted house. "How we do it is first we come up with a story line," Randell explained. "The backstory this year is an imagined scenario about the Kelly family emigrating from Ireland. The haunted house is called Kelly Manor. Off of the backstory, we start thinking of room designs. Last year we had nine rooms."

"Once we have the room designs, we start thinking, What is the scare going to be in this room?" Julie said. A lot of haunted houses use animatronics, but the Kellys try to put as many live

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people in as they can. "It is scarier when you have somebody real there. We have friends that dress in costume, and we have friends and volunteers that act, take tickets and help with the haunted house," she added. The actors have walkie-talkies to communicate with each other. Randell builds a central work area in the middle of the haunted house, from which the actors can access the rooms where they each do their scares, and where all the actors can hang out between visitors. "We are so grateful to all of our friends and volunteers; we couldn't do it without them," Julie expressed.

"There are lots of different types of haunted houses," Randell pointed out. "Some haunted houses are gory. I try to keep away from the gore. We try to go for the creepy factor. We try to use all the senses to create a creepy design to get you scared and startled, including scent and sound." The haunted house has one continuous flow; each room leads to the next. A 16-foot facade stands in the front and houses the entrance and exit.

"This year, the haunted house is completely new," Julie said. "That way, people don't know what to expect. We decided to redo the whole thing. We come up with the ideas together. It is mostly Randell who does the building, but it is a team effort."

Randell designed it with modular wall partitions, so he can literally move around the walls. "The ticket booth is outside, and as people are standing in line, they watch a cue-line video, that is like a scary movie," Randell said. "By the time they get in, the hair on the back of their neck is already standing up."

"It is hilarious to watch people," Julie said. "They have so much fun. It grows every year. Last year we had about 800 people, on four nights. I know some people have different views on Halloween and haunted houses. Some people get the wrong idea that we are just 'out there.' But, we are really just people having a lot of fun. So much work goes into it, but people definitely seem to enjoy it." **NOV**





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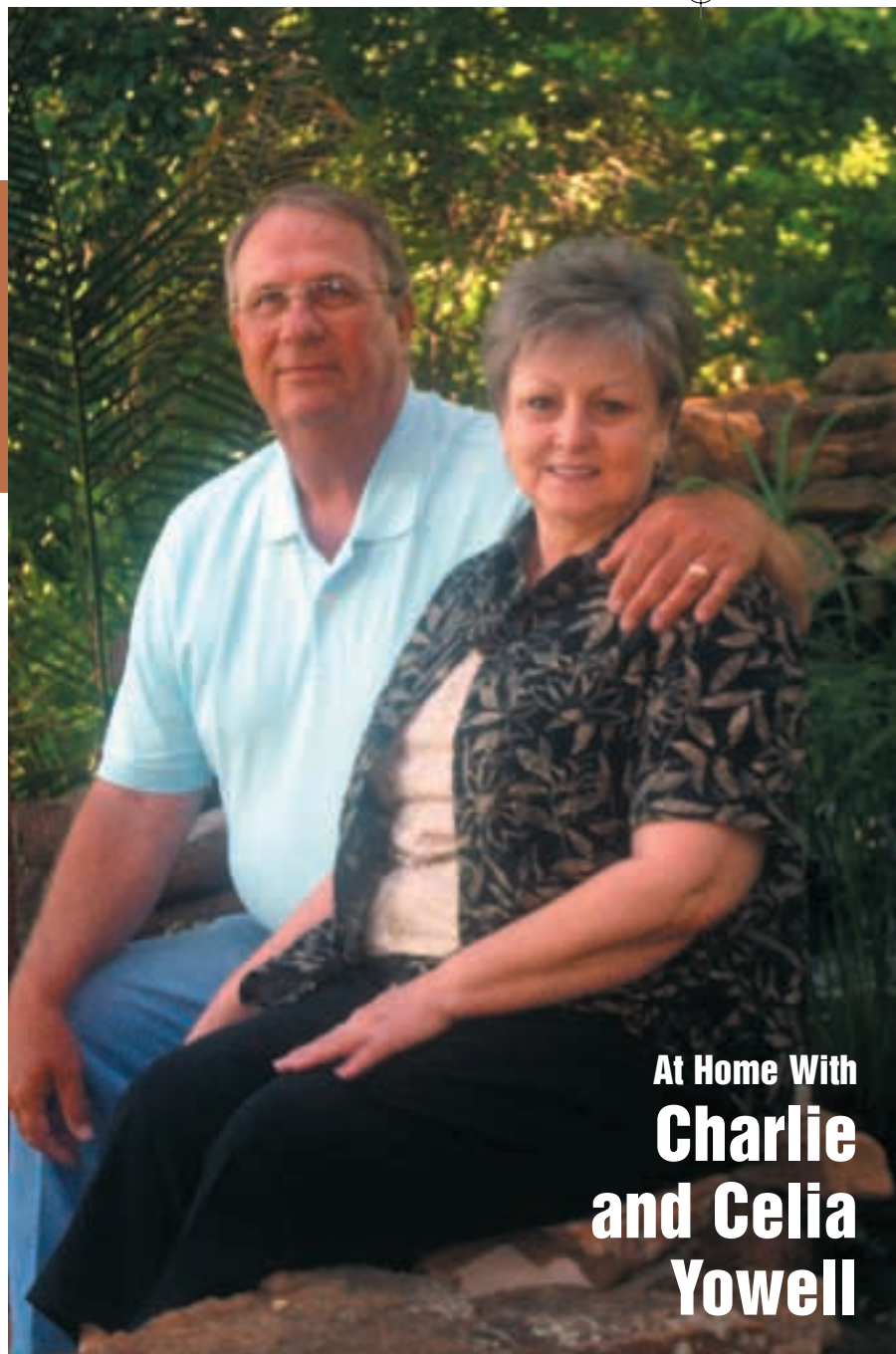
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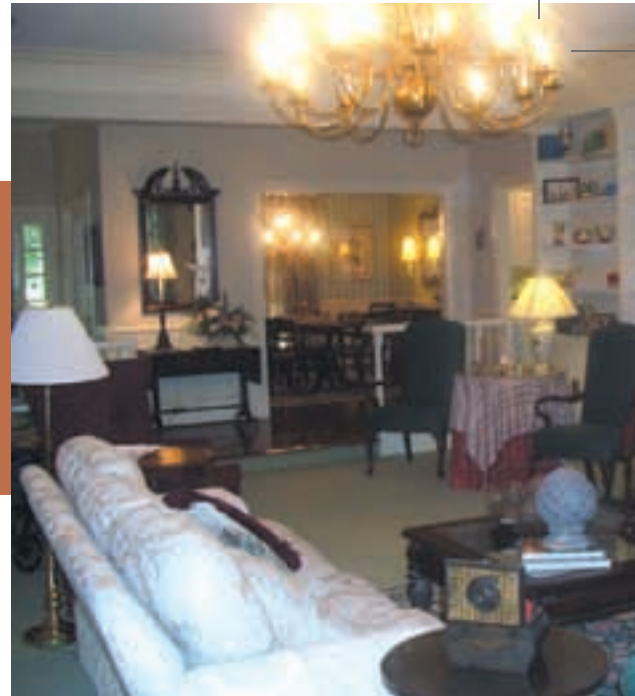
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At Home With
**Charlie
and Celia
Yowell**



Meant to Be

— By Sandra McIntosh

Sometimes opportunities fall easily into place, while other times it seems to take a lifetime for them to manifest into reality. For Charlie and Celia Yowell, the move from town was meant to be. “We were looking at houses and following a bidding war on another house, [when] we saw this



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one," Celia said. "Overnight, Charlie and I knew we wanted this home."

When the decision to purchase the four-bedroom, three-and-one-half bath, contemporary style home was made, the couple's home in town was not even on the market. They knew they had to sell one home before they would be able to seriously contemplate moving into another. "The same day we decided on this house, a man came by the house on Munn Drive," Charlie remembered, no longer shocked by the coincidence. "He made us an offer and his wife hadn't even seen it." Two weeks later, the Yowells were moving into their new home on the outskirts of town.

Charlie and Celia are definitely not new to Ellis County; just the opposite. Charlie was born and reared in Ennis, while Celia's family moved here when she was 5. Charlie is proud of his Czech heritage on his mother's side, and Celia still smiles when she remembers the first time she heard a foreign language. "I was in the old Safeway store with my mother," she said. "I overheard people talking Czech. I'd never heard anything like it before."

The couple married on August 13, 1966. Exactly one month later, on September 13, Charlie was drafted into the Army. His tour of duty in Vietnam lasted from September of '67 to September of '68. "I was in the 4th Infantry Division," he said. "We were stationed in Pleiku, in the Central





Highlands." While away from his new bride, Charlie earned the Army Accommodation Medal, as well as the Combat Medic Badge for a job well done. "When I got back home," Charlie said, "I went to work for Tropar Manufacturing. It's the only

job I've ever had." During those early years of marriage, Celia remained at home to rear their two sons, Lee Christopher and David Scott, now adults at 33 and 30 respectively. She did not start working alongside her husband until 1988. "It's still a part-time job," she explained. "I do the computerized engraving."

Going back to the move, Charlie and Celia still recall the home being perfect for the items they had accumulated throughout their marriage. "Our stuff just seemed to fit," she quipped. "It blended well with what Ken and Janet Ward had created when building the

house nearly 40 years ago." The couple left the original layout the same. All they have changed in the past 12 years is the paint, the carpet, new hardware and complementary wallpaper borders "here and there."

The weekend of the move is remembered fondly as a "sister weekend." "Charlie and Lee were fishing at a tournament," Celia laughed. "When they returned, everything was in its place thanks to the help I got from my sisters."

An antique cup and saucer which once belonged to Charlie's great-aunt, Lee Lamb, was placed on a side table in



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the living room. Years later, Celia was shopping in Dallas. "She was looking for a lamp," Charlie said. "The flowers on the lamp matched the flowers on the 75-year-old cup and saucer perfectly."

Cups and saucers seem to be Celia's passion. The collection started years ago when Great-aunt Lee purchased Celia's first set as a gift. Since Great-aunt Lee's passing, the two sets have now become one. They are displayed throughout the home, as is the Depression glass they acquired from both of their families. In fact, very few of the antiques displayed in the home today were purchased. Most have been handed down

from one generation to the next.

Another antique item is also found in the living room. At one time, the Victorian doll belonged to Celia's grandmother. "My grandmother received the doll when she was 11," Celia stated. "She passed away at the age of 89, and she's been gone now for close to 20 years. The doll has to be over 100 years old." Since Celia took ownership of the doll, which back in the day cost \$1.89, she has replaced her hair and changed her clothing, so the original dress could be kept in a safe place away from curious hands and sticky fingers. "Rich people were the only ones that could afford the dolls with porcelain

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faces back then," Celia said, explaining the face of the doll she cherishes. "Her face is made from a crushed shell and clay compound."

One of Charlie's favorite indoor rooms is the one he proudly refers to as the "trophy room." Charlie and Lee have been fishing since Lee was 3. They enjoy bass fishing and tournament



fishing. The trophy room is a testament of the special times they have shared. Charlie remembers a plaque they won while fishing at Richland Chambers Lake. "All Lee said was, 'Thanks, Dad, for taking me fishing,'" Charlie recalled. "There's no one else I'd rather fish with either."

As trophies adorn the walls of Charlie's special room, history is told on one wall found in David's room. Two separate gold frames hang on the wall; the backing has been removed. Within

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the frames are smaller, individually framed photographs. The Polaroid snapshots tell the history of both sides of the family. One side is a representation of Celia's family, the Comptons and the Campbells, while the other side preserves the Vavras and the Yowells.

There are so many wonderful things to see in the Yowell home: the treadle Singer sewing machine, Celia's Andrea hummingbird collection and the intricately carved cameo pin found resting on a vanity in the master bedroom. But it is the wishing well out front that welcomes them home each evening. "The chain, the bucket and the pulley belonged to my aunt, Angeline Slovacek, who lived in Alma," Charlie said, explaining that she quit using it back in the late '80s. "I remember visiting the farm on Christmas and seeing the wishing well." Now, every time he turns into the driveway, he remembers his childhood.

From September to early spring is the couple's favorite time of year. Sitting on the back patio, enjoying that first cup of morning coffee is commonplace, as is relaxing with nature each evening. They go all out for the holidays with pumpkins, orange twinkling lights and hay bales. When Christmas comes around, those passing by will enjoy a decorated tree in every window. "Once we pull in the driveway, it's hard to get us back out," Celia said. "We still live in the city limits, but we feel like we're in the country. We love the openness of it all!" **NOW**

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Generation *to* Generation

— By Kelly Kovar

The Little Ennis Czechadees performed at Sterling House to the delight of resident Mary Head.

This month at the fall festival, on October 18, the Little Ennis Czechadees, a dance troupe of elementary- and middle-school-aged youths, will be performing traditional polka dances. The girls, their long blonde or brown hair swinging, are attired in the traditional Czech *kráje* (folk wear) with red skirts, black vests and white blouses. They each wear matching red rose coronets on their heads. Boys wear black pants, white shirts and red vests. Marita Barak, who has recently taken a short-term teaching position in the Czech Republic, was inspired to begin the group last year. With The Ennis Czech Boys getting young people excited about the traditional music of their heritage, Marita decided it would be fitting to have a group of girls and boys, who could remind people that polka dancing, too, is for all ages. Enlisting Paula Campo as an instructor, Marita talked to members of the Ellis County Czech Heritage Society and found several girls and one boy, Josh Zapletal, who were interested in being involved. In February 2008, the group was officially launched. Sandra

Slovak has two daughters in the Czechadees, Hanna, age 5 and Hayley, who is 8. They are following in their mother's footsteps, literally. "I have polkaed since I was their age," Sandra said. "Hanna and Hayley have polkaed before at the halls."

The task of learning the traditional dance steps has been challenging. "When I first started, it was hard for me to learn," Hanna remembered. "But, now I can polka." The girls' pride in their accomplishment is contagious, and the group has grown to 14 members.

Tori Motley is 12-years-old. "I've been in the Czechadees since they started," Tori said. "My mom told me about it." Learning the dances came easy for Tori. "It's not hard to learn. The Seven Step is my favorite dance."

A love of dancing is one thing shared by all the members. Carelynn Trojacek, who is 13, is in the 8th grade. "I like being in the Czechadees because I like

to dance," she explained simply. Her parents, Benny and Laura Trojacek, are very supportive and enjoy coming out to watch the girls perform.

Two of the mothers, Sheryl Stuckly and Stormy Hornik,



ARTS NOW

have stepped in to help with the organizing since Marita has been gone. Sheryl and Stormy call the halls and find a place for the girls to rehearse each week. Some of the moms are the troupe photographers, and Paula acts as booking agent. Most of the girls, like Stormy's daughter Harley, heard about the group from their mothers — in most cases mothers who had polkaed themselves as girls. "Mom told me about it," Harley said. "I like to dance a lot."

The Czechadees is becoming a vehicle by which tradition, heritage and customs can be handed down from generation to generation. Just as the instructor, Paula Campo, learned to polka from her grandfather, Leslie Jarolimek, she is passing down the knowledge to this generation. The dancers have learned Annie in the Cabbage Patch, Put Your

"The delighted faces of their audience reflect not just an appreciation of the authentic steps, but reveal the flickering memories of days gone by and dances of the past."

Little Foot, Seven Step Polka and The Chicken Dance. This fall they will be learning a new dance, Red Handkerchief.

Not only are the dances the same ones these girl's parents used to dance in the halls as children, the costumes themselves are often family heirlooms. "The girls wear the very costumes we wore when we were their age," Sandra Slovak said. As the girls grow, and continue to dance, some pieces need to be replaced, but much of what they wear has historical significance. "The costumes have been recycled and handed down [through the generations],"

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Saturday, November 1st

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Sheila Motley, Tori's mother, said.

"When my mom was a teenager, she embroidered the costume Tori wears. I wore it, and now Tori is wearing it."

"The group was formed to preserve the Czech heritage and it operates under the auspices of the Ellis County Czech Heritage Society," Stormy said. The girls practice once a week, all year, except for a break in the summer. Their performances are early, before 8:00 p.m., since the members are young. "Any aged children can join, if they don't mind dancing in front of a crowd," Stormy added.

The Czechadees performed downtown at the Bluebonnet Festival and year-round at area halls and nursing homes. They helped commemorate the Sokol's 100th anniversary. The Polkafest mascot chicken often appears with them. "At this year's Polkafest, the girls performed on Sunday

"When my mom was a teenager, she embroidered the costume Tori wears. I wore it, and now Tori is wearing it."

at all three halls. They were so cute," Paula said. "I never have any of the girls sit out. If an odd number of girls shows up for a performance, I or one of the mothers will dance too, so all the girls have a partner."

"The Little Ennis Czechadees is just a fun thing," Paula said, "I enjoy it." The delighted faces of their audiences reflect not just an appreciation of the authentic steps, but reveal the flickering memories of days gone by and dances of the past. As the children whirl round-and-round, feet begin tapping in time to the music. The tradition of the polka is alive and well. **ENNISNOW**



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Like Father, Like Daughter

— By Kelly Kovar

Leslie Henry might as well have been born with a golf club in her hands. “There is a picture of me in diapers, in the backyard, swinging a golf club,” Leslie said. Her dad, Johnny Henry, was the golf pro at Briarwood Country Club (now the Cascades) in Tyler until Leslie was 3 years old. In fact, Leslie actually grew up living on a golf course. “From the time I was 5 until I was 15, my dad was the greenskeeper at Brookhollow Golf Club in Dallas; a furnished house, just right over the creek from one of the golf holes, came with the job,” she explained. Johnny golfed all the time, and Leslie had her own little set of clubs.

One of Leslie’s most-cherished childhood golf memories is when Ben Hogan came to Brookhollow to golf. There was also the unforgettable day when Leslie was about 10 years of age and Byron Nelson himself arrived. “I was in the back of the Cushman (a little motor scooter/maintenance cart) with my dad,” Leslie remembered. Her dad said, “She has got a good golf swing, you should take a look at it.”

“Byron Nelson gave me a lesson,” she said. “He showed me a couple of tips. I remember everybody made a really big deal out of it. He took me out on the putting green, and said, ‘Well, she has got a good stroke.’ That was very inspiring.”

Although Leslie had an early and promising start at golf, as she grew up she chose to switch to tennis as her principal sport, playing enthusiastically for many years. In 2001, she decided to give up tennis and wholeheartedly return to golf.



She told her dad she wanted to play in golf tournaments.

Leslie’s father could understand a returning passion for golf. After years on the golf course, he had moved to Ennis to run Henry Oil and Gas, the company his father had started in 1959. In the late 1970s, several of his friends invited him to fly in their plane to the deer lease. Johnny regretted that he had to pass on the invitation since it was a busy season for the oil company. “So dad stayed home; the plane crashed and they all died. Dad walked into work the next Monday and turned the running of the company over to the manager and said, ‘Life is just too short. I could have been in that airplane. So, I’m going to play golf every day.’ So, that is what he did. He played golf every 24 hours from the time he was 51 until

Sports NOW


he was 80," Leslie shared.

When Leslie's dad heard she wanted to play in the Texas State Amateur, he cautioned her: "Sugar, you can't play in that — you're not good enough. You never even played in a tournament before." Leslie remembered her mother, local real estate agent Joan Glaspy, had always told her, 'You and your sister can do anything that you set your minds to do.' So, Leslie's response was, "Dad, I don't have that much time left. I'm 49 years old." Johnny took her to the driving range, helped her with her swing and taught her a few things she

"So, I played, won my first match and I was hooked."

had forgotten, as well as some things she had never known. "So, I played, won my first match and I was hooked," she said.

Now, Leslie makes time to practice every day after work. She belongs to the Ladies Amateur Golf Association, and plays with about 85 female golfers in Dallas. She is a mortgage banker by day, but participates as an amateur in about 10 golf tournaments yearly. In September, Leslie was runner-up in the Ft. Worth City Championship, and played in the City of Dallas Championship, the USGA Senior Amateur and the Texas Cup. Her office is brimming with golf trophies, a testament to her success at returning to her youthful passion. "I had been playing for years when I won my first big tournament," she exclaimed. "I was extremely excited about that. I was the Fort Worth Women's Champion of 2005." She has a 2007 trophy for third place in the Southern Region Chrysler Club Championship. That win took her to the national tournament in Naples, Florida, held during the PGA




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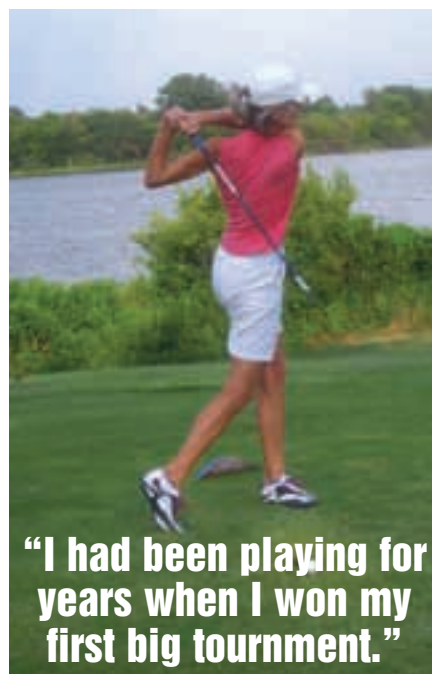
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Merrill Lynch Shoot-out Tournament. "I made the North and South Senior Women's Amateur Championship, in August of 2007, at Pinehurst in North Carolina," she said. Leslie has also qualified to play in the United States Golf Association national events for three of the last four years.

Leslie is organizing a November 1st golf tournament at the Ennis Country Club to benefit The Lights of Ennis, the organization that lights downtown in December. After a hamburger lunch, golfers can relax, and then that evening, can opt to participate in a "famous



"I had been playing for years when I won my first big tournament."

couples" costume party and dinner, hosted by Harriett Adams. The Lights of Ennis Golf Tournament will pair a golfer, in charge of getting the ball onto the green, with a non-golfer, who will be in charge of putting. People who want to contribute the price of an entry fee without golfing are welcome to heckle the golfers. "It is going to be fun for everybody and open to all ages," Leslie explained. "It will get some people out who don't normally golf." But be forewarned, because, as Leslie said: "Golf is an addictive sport." **NOW**

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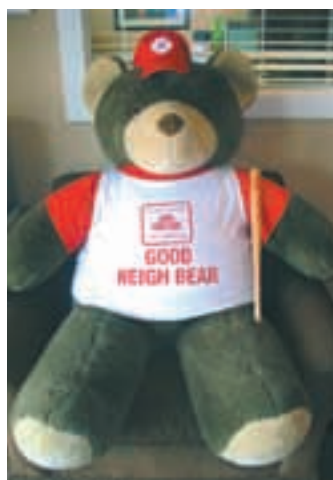
— By Kelly Kovar

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Jenny Vidrine has been with State Farm for 15 years. As the owner of a local State Farm office, she works with her five employees to offer insurance and financial products to the Ennis community. “We are committed to being our customer’s best choice for insurance in Texas,” Jenny said. “I have the most wonderful ladies on the planet that work for me. With the Hispanic population of the 75119 ZIP code being at 36 percent, our three Spanish-speaking account managers make it possible for anyone to come in and get the help they need.”

Jenny is originally from Oregon, and her husband, Joe, is from Louisiana, but both have family in Texas. After working for State Farm in seven states, Jenny was looking for a place to call home where she could rear her two young children. “My husband and I were each raised in a small town, and we wanted to stop and lay roots before our children started school.” When she heard about a State Farm in Ennis that needed an agent, the Vidrines made the decision to move here. “Ennis is my community and where I hope my grandkids

will come and visit me,” Jenny exclaimed of her love for her new home and her State Farm office.



She is interested in giving people enough information to make good financial decisions. Her office offers term and whole life insurance, home and automotive insurance. Also available are disability insurance, long-term care insurance and health insurance. “There are three things we do for everybody when they come in the office,” she explained. “The first one is we make sure their insurance is customized to meet each individual’s needs. We have a responsibility to sit down with people eye-to-eye and have a long conversation about who they are, and then I can tell them what I can help them with. Second,

we find every single discount that is available. In Texas, Life Insurance Awareness Month goes from September through October and we are going to call and ask every customer to come in and meet with me. I like to have an annual review with

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my clients. And third, we are going to be there when they have a claim."

Customers call Jenny's office if they have a claim, and even if it is after hours, they can connect to a live person in the claims' office, 24 hours a day. Jenny takes customer care a step beyond that though. "If there is a fire



or an auto fatality, I will get called at home. I had a 10 o'clock at night phone call that a customer's house was burning. We went to her house. Would I have left my mom standing there alone, or my dad, or my brothers or sisters? If my mom's house was burning to the ground, I would have gotten out of bed and gone to see her, and that is exactly what I did for my customer. My mom is my yardstick."

Jenny tells her employees that they have to be willing to build a relationship with customers. "You have to love them like you love your family, so when they walk in the door, you are happy to see them and they are happy to see you." Her philosophy when it comes to selling insurance or handling claims is, "If I would do it for my mom, I'm going to do it for every single customer. It's the 'mom yardstick.'"

To contact State Farm agent Jenny Vidrine, or the other agents on her staff, visit them at 206 S. Clay Street, Suite C in Ennis, or call (972) 875-4791 for an appointment. **NOW**

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Education NOW



Drop Everything and Read!

— By Kelly Kovar

Heather Raburn is the smiling face that staffs the Travis Elementary School library. “My favorite part of my job is getting the new books, and reading to the kids,” Heather said. “I love to find fun stories.” All of the 20 classes at Travis take turns having a weekly 30-minute library class, and Heather does everything she can to make the library a fun place for learning about reading.

This is Heather’s fifth school year in the Travis library. “I choose a theme for each six weeks. Through the years, I have collected my own stuff. And I can go back there, and I will have my tub of fairy tale stuff, so, I can pull it out and go decorate for that theme.” Heather sets up six learning centers in the library with books and projects related to the theme for that six weeks. “There are six themes. This year I have fairy tales, and then I will either do elections or a U.S.A. theme in the fall.”

“I always do a holiday theme, with three weeks for Thanksgiving and three weeks for Christmas.” Other themes that Heather has planned for this school year are “under the sea,” space and dinosaurs. The space theme is one of Heather’s

favorites for which to decorate. “To me, space is fun; I have a blow-up spacecraft. I take lights and put them up, put black paper over it, pop them through, and make it look like the sky. Then I put up planets and stuff.”

The busiest times of her day are the class sessions. Children drop off their returning library books, which Heather checks in and puts up. After they select new books, they go to their centers. “At 10 minutes ’til [time to go] I turn the lights off and that is the signal to clean up. They go back [to their tables] and they do ‘DEAR’ time which is ‘Drop Everything And Read.’” That is the students’ opportunity to read the library book that they have chosen to check out that week.

Class sessions take up a considerable part of her week, but Heather always sets aside Friday afternoon for administrative work. As a paraprofessional, she is responsible for the running of the Travis library. “I put books away, catalogue new books, straighten shelves and shelve books. I set up the Accelerated Reader (AR) program in the beginning of the year and keep up with it each six weeks. We have a little party each six weeks if they have earned a certain amount of points.”

Education NOW

For two or three hours each day, she is assisted this year by Ennis High School senior Kaylee Adamcik. "Every year, we have a senior to help us," Heather explained "It helps out, especially during the classes." Kaylee helps keep the centers going by assisting students on the computers and with the listening center. "Kaylee helps with everything. She helps students find books and helps put the books up. When AR comes around and when we do those different parties, Kaylee will be right there with me."

"I choose a theme for each six weeks. Through the years, I have collected my own stuff. And I can go back there, and I will have my tub of fairy tale stuff, so, I can pull it out and go decorate for that theme."

Ordering new books for the library is something Heather enjoys. "We get new books all year round," she mentioned. She keeps track of what units the teachers are doing in their classrooms, so the library will have coordinating supplemental materials. "Our second grade teachers do a bat thing. So, through the years, I've tried to add a few bat books to the collection. I keep a running list of books the teachers request for when it is time to order. We usually get five to six shipments with four to five boxes full of books. I love to go through new books. I love them! They are so nice to open and I like the crispness of the pages."

Working in the library is not the only way Heather has found to assist the teachers at Travis. "I've gotten involved with the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) doing public



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Education **NOW**

relations. The PTO makes so many decisions, and teachers have so many other things going on that it is easier for someone like me to just shoot an e-mail to the teachers." She communicates with the teachers and keeps them up-to-date on PTO activities, such as the Travis Carnival and Mexican food fundraiser scheduled for October 25



from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. "Last year, I and another teacher, Brandy Lassetter, made baskets. Each classroom had a theme and the students would bring stuff that pertained to that theme. We just took all the stuff and decorated the baskets. It was fun; a lot of fun. Then we put the baskets in a silent auction. It brought in over a thousand dollars." This month, Travis students will be selling dinner and raffle tickets for the carnival. Heather will be on hand to help with baskets, public relations and collecting raffle items.

Heather prepared for her career with two years at Navarro College followed by getting a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology at the University of North Texas. "I really like my job as a library paraprofessional," Heather exclaimed. "It is fun; I really do like doing this."



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Around Town

NOW



Denise Dodson, Mendi Treadaway and Louanne Brown, top left, enjoyed a day at Fiesta Texas. Sara Nelms, one of the youngest bowlers at All Star Bowl, top center, came all the way from Combine, Texas, to spend a Sunday afternoon. Nick McIntosh, top right, cleaned the wax off his bowling ball before bowling a strike at All Star Bowl. Seussical Co-director Valerie Pool with Cat in the Hat, Kristin Pool, bottom left, took a bow following a performance at San Jacinto Auditorium. Cody, Caitlyn and Chad Carsner, second row center, journeyed from Paris, Texas, to visit their grandparents and spend the afternoon at the bowling alley. Tonya Barncbee, Cindy Hayden, Sherri McGaha and Gary Hayden, second row right, enjoyed conversation and cocktails at the Corsicana Country Club after hours event. Jennifer Colburn and Dana White, bottom right, joined *EnnisNOW* editor Kelly Kovar on a trip to First Monday in Canton.



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Around Town **NOW**



Melrose French and Jo Ann Cody, top left, sparkled during the Black & White Gala. Sonic Drive-in owners, Mike and Cleta Miller and Larry and Donna Eagleberger, top center, enjoyed the Chamber dinner with Amy Womack of CNB. ATPE officers for the year, top right, are Marilyn Glasscock, Mary Dowell, Rhonda Ferrer, Merry Creagor and Nanette Mayers. Richard Webb of Sunbelt Brick, second row center, joined David and Debbie Box of Allstate and their daughter, Nickie Weyrauch, for dinner during the Chamber auction. ATPE 2008 scholarship winners, second row right, were Taylor Horne, Molly Yocum and Tawnya Crow. Friends were glad to see Scott and Brenda Rider, bottom left, during the Chamber gala event. A wedding event at Sokol, bottom right, provided a great opportunity to enjoy some warm weather outdoors.





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Look Who's Cooking

— By Faith Browning

IN THE KITCHEN WITH JIMMY WHATLEY

PINEAPPLE-SCALLOP BITES

12 6-inch bamboo skewers
1/2 cup French's Honey Dijon Mustard
1/4 cup orange marmalade
1 cup canned pineapple cubes (24 pieces)
12 8-oz. sea scallops, cut in half crosswise
12 strips turkey bacon (6 oz.), uncooked, cut in half crosswise

Soak bamboo skewers in hot water 20 minutes. Combine mustard and marmalade in small bowl; reserve 1/2 cup mustard mixture for dipping sauce. Put one pineapple cube and one scallop half together. Wrap with one strip of bacon; thread onto skewer. Repeat with remaining pineapple, scallops and bacon. Place skewers on oiled grid. Grill over medium heat 6 minutes, turning frequently and

brushing with remaining mustard mixture. Serve hot with reserved dipping sauce. Makes 6 servings.

GRILLED RED SNAPPER WITH AVOCADO-PAPAYA SALSA

1 tsp. ground coriander
1 tsp. paprika
3/4 tsp. salt
1/8 to 1/4 tsp. red pepper
1/2 cup ripe avocado, diced
1/2 cup ripe papaya, diced
2 Tbsp. fresh cilantro, chopped
1 Tbsp. lime juice
1 Tbsp. olive oil
4 skinless red snapper or halibut fish filets (5 to 7 ounces each)
4 lime wedges

Prepare grill for direct cooking. Combine coriander, paprika, salt and red pepper in small bowl; mix well. Combine avocado, papaya, cilantro, lime juice and 1/4 teaspoon of spice mixture in medium bowl; mix well. Brush oil over fish. Sprinkle with remaining spice mixture. Place fish over medium-high heat. Grill 10 minutes or until center is opaque, turning once. Serve fish with salsa. Garnish with lime wedges. Makes 4 servings.

GREEN BEANS WITH TOASTED PECANS

3 Tbsp. margarine, melted
1 tsp. sugar
1/4 tsp. garlic powder
pinch of red pepper
salt to taste
1/3 cup pecans, chopped

Opportunities for free time are few and far between with the busy lifestyle of Jimmy and his wife, Aline. They own and operate several businesses, including The Firehouse Grill. He dedicated the grill to his stepfather, Thomas Bond, a Dallas police officer who was killed in the line of duty in 1994. Aline has two brothers working for the Ellis County Sheriff's department, so the pride they feel for their family members who have put their lives on the line for others is reflected in the décor of their grill.

Jimmy claims his true love is grilling. "Trying to think of different flavors and ways to make meat juicy and tender is always a challenge," he said, "and I love a challenge!" **NOW**

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Who's Cooking **NOW**

1 lb. fresh green beans

In small bowl, blend margarine, sugar, garlic powder, red pepper and salt. In 12-inch skillet, heat 2 tablespoons garlic mixture and pecans over medium high heat, stirring frequently 2 minutes or until pecans are golden. Remove pecans and set aside. In small skillet, heat remaining garlic mixture; stir in green beans. Cook covered over medium heat, stirring occasionally, 6 minutes or until green beans are tender. Stir in pecans. Makes 4 servings.

PINEAPPLE DAIQUIRI SUNDAE

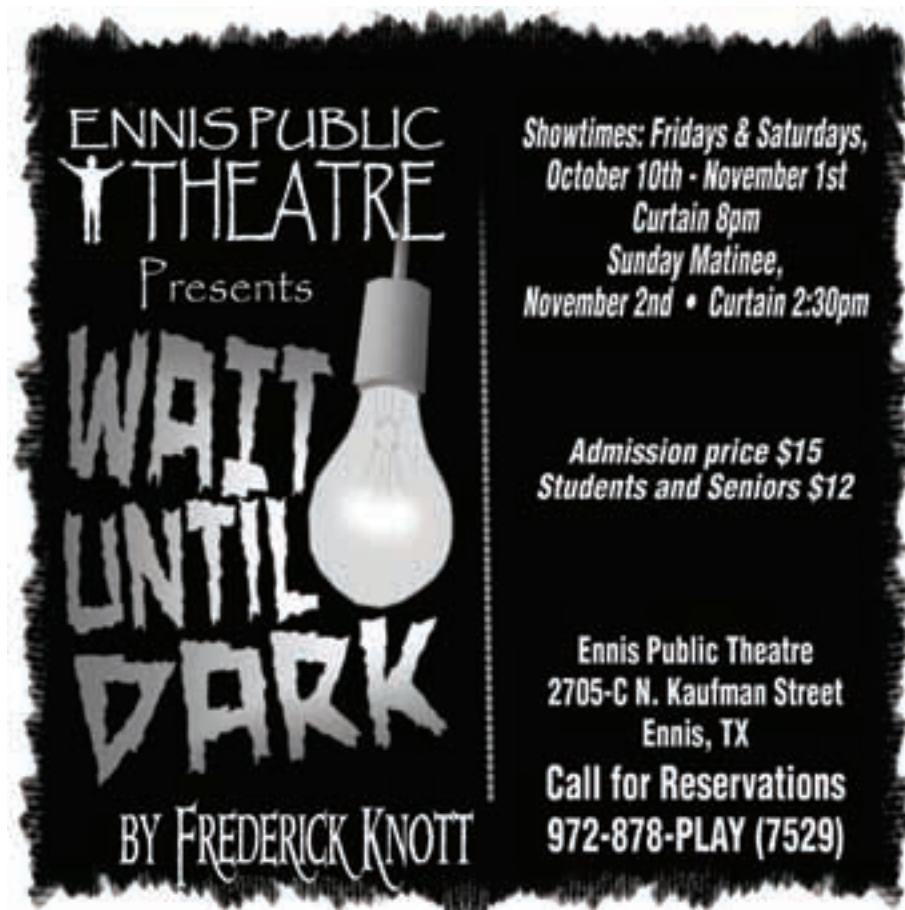
1 pineapple, cored, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch chunks
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup dark rum
3 Tbsp. lime juice
2 limes, zest peel and cut remainder into long strips
1 Tbsp. cornstarch or arrowroot

Place all ingredients in slow cooker; mix well. Cover and cook on high 3 to 4 hours. Serve hot over ice cream, pound cake or shortcakes. Garnish with fresh raspberries and mint leaves, if desired. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

PORTOBELLO MUSHROOMS SESAME

4 large portobello mushrooms
2 Tbsp. sweet rice wine
2 Tbsp. soy sauce
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 tsp. dark sesame oil

Prepare grill for direct cooking. Remove and discard stems from mushrooms; set aside. Combine remaining ingredients in small bowl. Brush both sides of mushroom caps with soy sauce mixture. Grill mushrooms, top sides up; cover grill over medium heat 3 to 4 minutes. Brush tops with soy sauce mixture; turn. Grill 2 minutes more or until mushrooms are lightly browned. Turn again; grill, basting frequently 4 to 5 minutes or until tender when pressed with back of metal spatula. Remove mushrooms; cut diagonally into 1/2-inch-thick slices. Makes 4 servings.



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Concerned About Market Volatility?

— By Angie Wingo-Juenemann

It happens every time the stock market drops: Investors question their strategy, their luck and their timing — all in an attempt to determine what went wrong and what they should have done differently. But if you, as an individual investor, really want to know how to respond to today's market decline, you need to look back at yesteryear.

To begin with, market declines are part of the investment process. Over the past century, the stock market has averaged one "correction" — defined as a decline of 10 percent or more — a year. Furthermore, on average the stock market has declined 20 percent or more once every three or four years. So, instead of thinking that a severe market decline is a once-in-a-lifetime disaster that "just had to happen" while you were investing, keep in mind that market declines are normal, frequent and, for the most part, short-term. And if you're a long-term investor, these declines usually offer an opportunity to buy quality investments at a lower price.

What other lessons related to a declining market can you learn from looking back in time? Here's one: Over the long term, quality stocks have historically outperformed quality bonds. This fact should be of particular interest to you, if, like

many investors affected by a market decline, you begin to wonder if you should scale back on your stock investments in favor of "safer," more conservative vehicles. But look at the numbers: From 1926 to 2008, large stocks returned 10.4 percent per year, long-term government bonds returned 5.5 percent and corporate bonds returned 5.9 percent. While it's true that past performance is not an indication of future

results, it's also apparent that if you want to give your money the potential to grow — and grow at a pace that can keep you ahead of inflation — you'll need at least some exposure to stocks. While you certainly may want to own some bonds — which offer current income and the ability to help stabilize your portfolio in the short run — you don't want to let a "down" market discourage you from buying stocks of strong companies and holding them for the long term.

Here's one last "history lesson" to consider: The U.S. economy has proved amazingly resilient. Since the end of World War II, each recession has averaged 10 months — and each economic expansion has averaged almost five years. Recessions often begin and end without warning, so if



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you take a "time out" from investing in response to a recession-induced market slump, you could end up missing the beginning of the next market rally. And when the market does turn around, your quality investments are the ones that will likely show the quickest recovery.

George Santayana, a well-known philosopher, wrote: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." As an investor, you can benefit from heeding these words, learning from history and not getting too rattled by short-term market downturns. By owning a mix of quality investments that are suited to your risk tolerance, time horizon and long-term goals, you can develop a strategy designed to weather any storm that hits the financial markets. **NOW**

Angie Wingo-Juenemann is an Edward Jones representative based in Ennis.

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Health
NOW

Understanding Head Lice

— By Joe Saucedo, D.O.

With the new school year starting, many kids are excited to get back to the classroom and play with friends. However, parents are not so enthusiastic about the possibility of their children being infected with head lice. Lice are tiny insects that live in the scalp and survive by sucking blood. While they can affect anyone, children are most at risk. In fact, one in every 10 children in a school setting is infected with head lice each year.

Head lice are contagious but do not spread disease. They spread in group settings such as schools, camps and playgrounds. Sharing anything that involves head-to-head contact, such as hats, brushes and bed linens is the most common way children are infected.

Head scratching and itching is the most common symptom of head lice. Your child may complain about irritation of the scalp. For some, a rash might appear, while others may notice small sores, red bumps or swelling of the lymph glands in the neck. In extreme cases, a bacterial infection can occur. If you suspect an infection, contact your child's physician for a prescription antibiotic.

Even though head lice are very small, they are still visible. Always check the scalp, neck and behind the ears. Lice eggs, known as nits, are found on the skin's surface closest to the

hair shafts. Eggs hatch after a week and lice survive up to three days. Check your child's scalp for eggs that resemble sesame seeds. Part the hair into small sections and use a fine-tooth comb to check for lice. Combing the head lice out is easiest when the hair is wet. If you're having trouble, use a bright light or a magnifying glass for better visibility.



To effectively treat lice, it is important that every affected person in a family, classroom or other group that shares close space, be treated at the same time. Medicated shampoos and creams are available with a prescription or over-the-counter. To avoid subsequent infections, repeat treatment in one week. Even if shampoo treatment works immediately, the itching and scratching may persist for a few days. Be sure to wash all clothing and bed linens with hot water and dry on the hot dryer cycle. Soak hair items such as barrettes, hair bands or brushes in

rubbing alcohol or shampoo for an hour.

It is important to check with your child's school to determine if other students have recently been infected with head lice.



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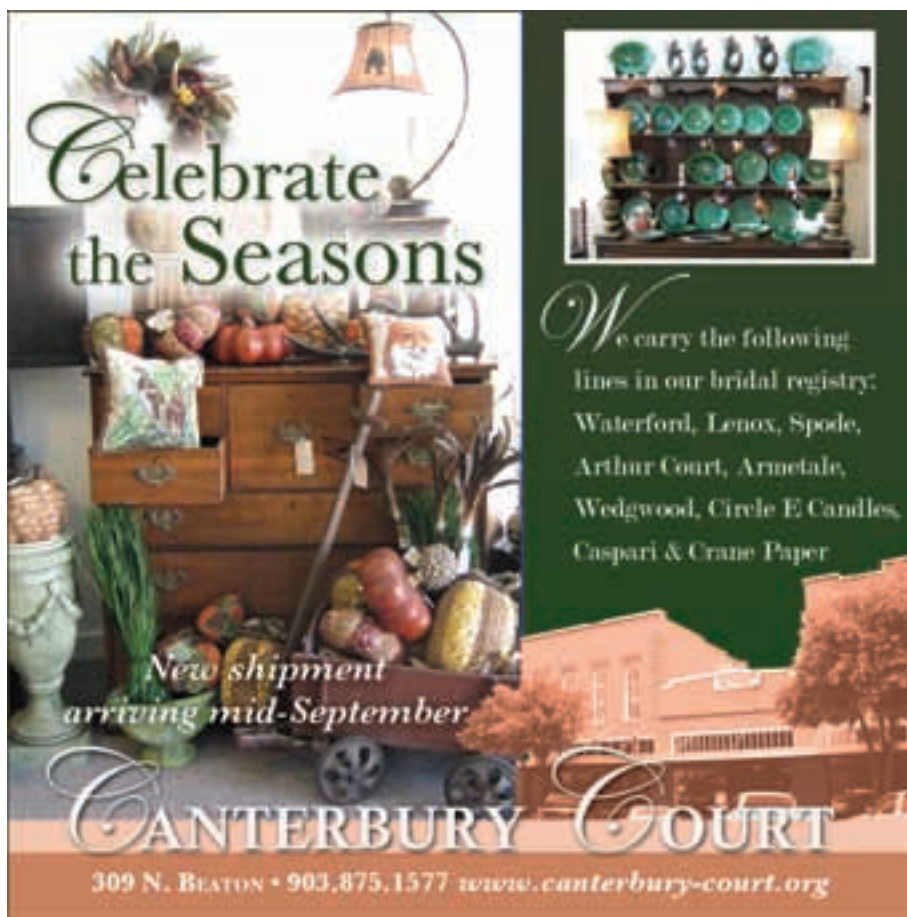
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If your child has been infected, notify their school immediately so they can be aware if other infections occur. Children who are found to have head lice at school are generally sent home until the problem is corrected. In addition, a note will be sent home with the other children in the class or school, asking parents to watch their children closely and to immediately treat any problem that develops.

Remember, being infected with head lice does not mean your child has bad hygiene. Any child can be infected. To prevent head lice, teach children to avoid head-to-head contact and not to share items like brushes and hats. If your child is still infected two weeks after you have started treatment, notify your physician immediately for other treatment options. **NOW**

*Joe Saucedo, D.O.
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October 2008

Community Calendar

October 2

Ellis County Circle of Friends' Style Show and Snacks, 7:00 p.m., Elements of Style, Waxahachie. For information, call Sondra at (972) 878-0740.

October 6

Ennis City Wide Intercessors, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., Ennis High School library. All people with a heart to pray for Ennis invited to join in prayer every Monday at this time and place.

October 7

National Night out in Downtown Ennis: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

October 10 – November 2

Wait Until Dark by Frederick Knott, presented by the Ennis Public Theatre, 2705-C N. Kaufman St. Fridays and Saturdays: 8:00 p.m. Sunday, November 2 matinee: 2:30 p.m. \$15 adults/\$12 students and seniors. For reservations, call (972) 878-PLAY.

October 11

100th Anniversary of Knights of Columbus at KC Hall.

October 17, 18, 24, 25, 31

Kelly Manor Haunted House, 7:00 p.m. - 12 a.m.,

6801 FM Rd. 660. \$8. www.kellymanor.com.

October 18

Railroad Museum Fish Fry, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., parking lot between Ennis Convention and Visitor's Bureau and Ennis Railroad Museum, 105 NE Main. For information, call (972) 875-1901.

7th Annual Autumn Days in Ennis Fall Festival, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Food, shopping, vendors and children's activities. Free Fall Scene Photos at Minnie McDowell Park, corner of W. Knox and Dallas. Main Stage Entertainment sponsored by Ennis Arts Commission. Italy Opry, Little Ennis Czechadees, Southern Rains. For information, call (972) 878-4748.

October 25

Carnival and Mexican Food Dinner, hosted by Travis Elementary PTO, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Silent auction and raffle. Proceeds benefit Parent Teacher Organization.

Women of Worship (WOW), a nondenominational group, monthly fellowship and Bible study, 10:00 a.m., 200 Dodge St. at Kaufman. Luncheon following at Wildflower Café. For information

contact Mary Moseley at (972) 965-2075.

October 30

Goblins and Ghosts downtown trick-or-treating for children through sixth grade. Sponsored by Downtown Merchants Association. Location: downtown merchants. Games for children. Location: Corner of Knox and Dallas at Minnie McDowell Park. Time: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

October 31

Tabernacle Baptist Church's Fall Fun Festival, 6:00 p.m., 1200 Country Club Lane. Children's games and activities. For information, call (972) 878-2539.

November 1

Lights of Ennis Golf Tournament. Ennis Country Club. For reservations or to be a hole sponsor, call (972) 875-4005.

Lights of Ennis Evening Costume Gala and Dinner. 500 W. Ennis Ave. For tickets or to be a table sponsor, call (972) 878-2400.

For more community events,
visit our online calendar at
www.nowmagazines.com.

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