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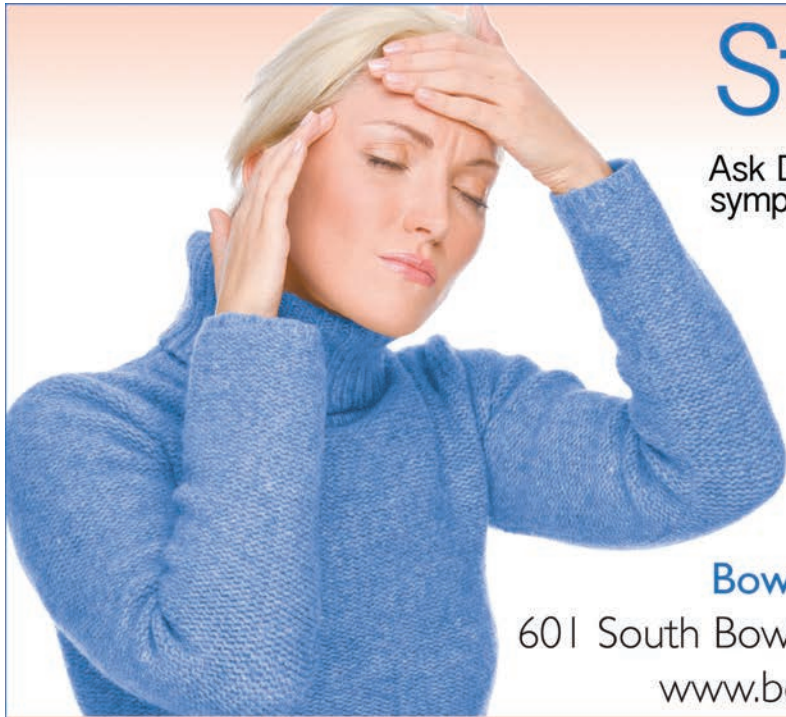
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ON THE COVER



Madison Ward first competed in Playdays with the Weatherford Comancheros Riding Club.

Photo by Thomas Freylack.

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Editor's Note

Hello Friends,

It's my favorite month of the year! Celebrating everything good, from the end of hot weather to the beginning of fall harvests, there are multiple opportunities to plow into the community. Parker County Health Foundation hosts the 7th Annual Pink Luncheon on October 12 to fund battles against cancer. Three days later, the chili cook-off at Clark Gardens benefits educational programs. If I entered my chili, it would come close to tasting like

the covered-wagon meals eaten by my ancestral pioneers, made of rehydrated bricks of dried beef, suet, dried chili peppers and salt. Mine, made of ground beef, Wick Fowler's 2-Alarm and canned tomatoes, can also be prepared and served in less than 30 minutes. Thank goodness for refrigerators and pantries! By the way, if you know a great cook, don't be shy about letting me know!

Have a lovely October!

Melissa

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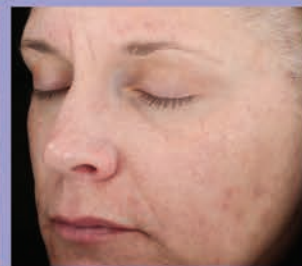
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Life in the ARENA

— By Amber D. Browne

Riding horses can be relaxing for Madison Ward. “I love to get on and just ride,” she said. But, it’s the rush she gets while competing in rodeo events that keeps her riding. “My favorite event to compete on is pole bending, because my horse and I are in sync. We’re a team, and he’s really good at it,” she explained.

An average time is 21 seconds. Madison and her horse, Roman James, or R.J. for short, run consistent 20s. Madison also loves the goat tying event. “It’s an adrenaline rush.” Sometimes, it takes her a few minutes after a run to come down from that rush and begin evaluating what could be done differently to get a faster time. “It’s dangerous. I think all rodeo events are. You are

dealing with both animals and humans. Twelve-hundred pound horses, steers, calves and sometimes another cowboy or cowgirl.” Madison thinks that thrill might be part of why she enjoys rodeo so much. “Fear just doesn’t cross my mind, because I love it.”

Madison has competed on various rodeo teams, including with the Texas High School Rodeo Association (THSRA), the North Texas High School Rodeo Association (NTHSRA), Pro-Youth Rodeo and Weatherford Rodeo Team. Her love of rodeo competition started at the young age of 13 at Weatherford Comancheros Riding Club’s Playday. “Playdays really kicked it off, because I was able to compete more on a fun level rather than a competitive level. So I was able to enjoy it and learn at the same time,” Madison said. Playday competitors get to run obstacles, including barrels, poles and pylons. “I can go to a Playday and run barrels. My horse and I are a lot more relaxed,” she

explained. “It’s more affordable, and it’s a great family event.”

Playdays are held the second Saturday of every month. Frequently, retirees get out in the arena to compete in their event instead of traveling to rodeos. It’s also a good way to get involved as a youngster. Riders, from beginners to experienced, get a chance to compete and win ribbons, which is always a highlight for the younger riders. Riders can also earn high-point awards at every Playday, and Weatherford Comancheros holds a year-end high point awards ceremony each year.

Robin Dean works as the treasurer for the Comancheros. “Even if you don’t ride, you can just come out and have fun,” Robin said. The arena is in Horseshoe Bend, and local community members often grab some food from the concession stand and cheer on competitors.

Many children who start out at Weatherford Comancheros, like Madison, move on to rodeo. She enjoys horning

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around with her friends at Playday. "It's just a lot of fun to get to hang out with your friends doing something you enjoy," she said.

When it comes to competing in rodeo events, it's all business. Madison graduated from Weatherford High School last May and started at Weatherford College this fall. She is competing on the college's rodeo team. "I'm almost too competitive, and I overthink my performance. I'm working on improving my mental game," she admitted. "I love the competition atmosphere. You always push yourself to do better."

The 18-year-old plans to use R.J. in nearly every event on the college level. She has been competing with him for two years. "It takes at least a year to really click with a horse," she explained. "You have to be on the same level, working as a team in the arena." The two are still working at getting on the same level, but they mesh just fine during competitions. Madison will ride R.J. in break-away and

goat tying while in college, but she hopes to find another horse to compete with in barrels.

Besides getting her cowgirl boots dirty while tying up those goats, Madison enjoys getting dolled up for rodeo pageants. A rodeo pageant is similar to a beauty pageant, but contestants model leather dresses and are also judged in speech, interview, horsemanship and rodeo knowledge. She was crowned the NTHSRA Queen in 2011 and was runner up THSRA 2011. She made appearances at local rodeos and had a few speaking engagements for area clubs, schools and organizations to educate attendees about the association and rodeo.

"You are an ambassador for rodeo representing that organization. It's a job and you have to take it seriously," she said.



By competing in pageants, Madison has gained many life skills — ranging from public speaking and interview skills to poise and more self-confidence. She thinks it is important for girls interested in pageants to keep those traits in mind when competing on stage. "These are skills you are going to need for the rest of your life."

Madison understands the importance of taking lessons learned and living life to the fullest. Her mother, Angela Ward, passed away nearly three years ago during flu season when the H1N1 virus was prevalent. "She just got the regular flu, not swine flu. But, she passed away from a secondary infection, pneumonia," she explained. Her mother's death was shocking, but Madison immersed herself in rodeo. "I think it was important that I had my rodeo family, and my horse," she said. "It was good to have something

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to focus on and keep my mind busy," Madison confessed. "I know she is watching me from heaven and is proud of my accomplishments."

Robin and Madison's mother were best friends, so she has known the teenager a long time. Madison started taking riding lessons from Robin nearly a decade ago. "She's an awesome kid," Robin said. "She's worked really hard to be doing what she is doing now." Madison and her mother were close. "It's been pretty tough. She was 15 when her mom passed away. That's the time when you're really spending a lot of time with your mom and learning a lot from her," Robin said. "She knows that any time she needs anything, she can call me, and we'll help her out."

Madison hopes to attend a university, possibly Tarleton State University. Officials at a university in Wyoming are also keeping an eye on Madison and her rodeo skills.

"Every cowboy and cowgirl's ultimate goal is to go to the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas," Madison said, "or for me, to become Miss Rodeo America! That would be an extreme dream of mine, but to just keep excelling is a goal for me," she said.

If she ever gets the chance to have a voice in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, Madison would like to push for more women's events in rodeo. Until then, Madison is enjoying her time in the classroom, on horseback or swimming with friends in the Texas heat. **NOW**



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Hosting Halloween

— By Amber D. Browne



They do their best to make their Craftsman Victorian home look spooky at Halloween. But, the warmth of the home and its current residents actually invites guests to enter. Each year, Thomas and Melissa Moorman and their neighbors on West Lee Avenue go all out for Halloween, offering buckets of candy to hundreds of children. "Lee Avenue is a very popular street on Halloween," Thomas explained. "They warned us about that when we bought the house," he chuckled. The couple bought about 200 pieces of candy their first Halloween in the house. They ran out within 30 short minutes.



At Home With Thomas and Melissa Moorman

Each year, the crowds have grown, with 1,800 visitors passing through their home last year. The Moorman's house is considered home base for their family, friends and fellow church goers. "They go trick-or-treating from here, and we pass out candy in the front yard," Thomas said.

They enjoy decorating the home to draw people in, so, each year, they choose a different theme. "This is the first place I've ever been where we decorated for Halloween. It changes every year. We did spiders one year, mummies one year and ghosts one year," Thomas' wife of 19-years, Melissa, explained.

"It is a happy house," Melissa said.

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"We are only the third owners." Thomas and Melissa have heard stories over the years, giving them an insight into the home's history. The 1902 house was featured a couple of times on the local Tour of Homes. "We met people during the tour that lived upstairs during the war," she said. "You feel like a steward of the house."

When they first purchased the home eight years ago, Thomas dove right in and began renovations. "It was pretty rough. Holes in the floor; holes in the ceiling; the electricity didn't work," he recalled. "It was definitely a project." Thomas patched more than 100 holes and completely replaced the electrical system,

most of the plumbing and added central air and heat.

The front yard boasts of well-kept shrubs and colorful flowers. "There is something blooming all the time," Melissa said. The covered, wrap-around porch extends almost to the backyard. Century-old trees canopy the home, cooling it off in the summer. A tree house sits atop one of the many large trees outside, giving the children a perch where they can play. They painted over the white exterior with an organic sage green, making it more noticeable to passersby. "Given the foliage and the green of the lawn, I couldn't imagine that green wouldn't be beautiful," she said.

Inside, the sturdy home boasts rich wooden floors covered with area rugs and antique furniture passed down from previous generations. Unpainted wood frames surround doors, many topped with transoms. The high ceilings open up the spacious rooms even more, and large windows bring the outside in.

To the left of the foyer is the men's parlor. A fireplace with the original mantel and colorful tile warms up the



room. Melissa sewed the heavy velvet drapes, and the family added a pull down movie screen above the pocket doors. They often close the drapes, get comfy on the burgundy leather sofa and chair and enjoy family movie night. The movie screen is the youngest Moorman's favorite feature in the house. "You pull it down with a stick that has a hook on it. You can play movies on there," 7-year-old Bennett explained. He has all the *Star Wars* movies and loves watching them with his family.

Behind the men's parlor sits an office where Melissa runs her public relations and marketing firm. Melissa started the business before Bennett was born, and

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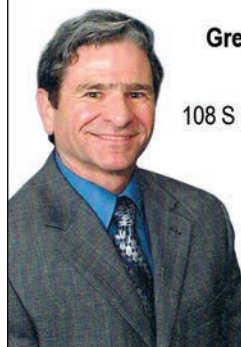
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Thomas works as the vice president of student affairs at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth. On the left side of the foyer sits the women's parlor with French doors and yet another fireplace featuring a more elegant fleur-de-lis design. Thomas was born in Germany, and a glass cabinet showcases steins and other items from his heritage.

The dining room behind the women's parlor features a Swarovski crystal chandelier the couple purchased in Germany on their fifth anniversary. It is proudly displayed above their dining room table, which was passed down from Melissa's grandparents. A fireplace also shines brightly in the dining room. Thomas converted all of the home's fireplaces to electric during renovations.

The kitchen can be found further down the central hallway. Its walls are lined with wooden cabinets, and a huge island stands solidly in the center of the room where the family gathers to share stories and delicious food. Artwork is hung throughout the home. Many pieces come from local artists, including their 12-year-old daughter, Emma. Her talent can be seen in several paintings sprinkled throughout the home.

Up the sturdy wooden staircase, the family's bedrooms await. Emma uses the upstairs, screened porch as her art studio. Her favorite room is her own cozy bedroom with clouds painted on the ceiling. Bennett's room sits across the hall with two old fishing rods found in the attic hung on one wall.

Melissa stenciled a floral pattern on each green wall in the master bedroom,



giving it an earthy feel. A fourth bedroom serves as the guest room and game room for the children. "They like to stay up here because they can look out the window, and you're up above the trees," Melissa said. Emma and Bennett spent several hours after returning from a three-week summer vacation in Italy building a replica of the Coliseum with Legos. They enjoy traveling the world, and before heading home, they often shop for a keepsake piece to incorporate into their home decor. A golden doorbell purchased in Florence is their latest addition.

The children always make their way upstairs at Halloween and during other holiday get-togethers hosted at the house. They enjoy all the toys and have Nerf dart wars. "I think it's a lot of fun, because I get to see most of my friends in costumes. We can play around in the yard," Bennett said. Candy is also a perk, especially Tootsie Rolls. "I get to eat free candy!"

Emma enjoys spending Halloween at home, too. "I get to see a lot of my friends from church and school," she said. "It's fun, because we all just come together."

The family describes Halloween in their neighborhood as a scene from the movie, *E.T.* "Where the streets are full of people," Thomas explained. He enjoys seeing all the homemade costumes and passing out candy to the children. The Moorman family plans to host Halloween at the home for years to come. "When you walk in, it just has a very good feeling to it," Thomas said. "It just feels comfortable. It feels like home." **NOW**



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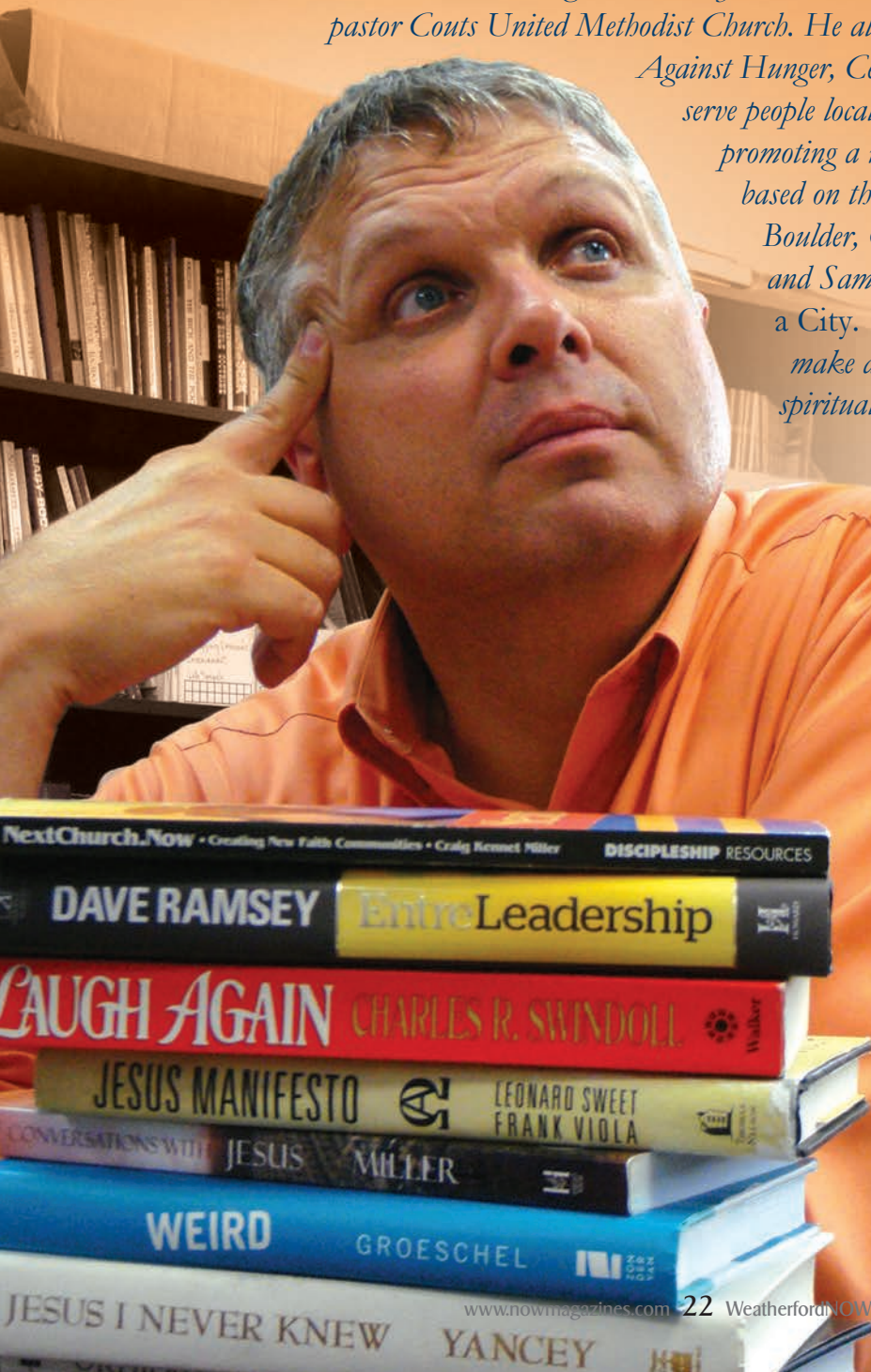
Into the WORLD

— By Melissa Rawlins

From a booth at a local taco shop, Tim Jarrell writes his sermons. He watches the customers and thinks, What would I have to say to get him or her to think twice about something? This ability to understand other people's points of view helps him pastor Couts United Methodist Church. He also finds inspiration to participate with Kids Against Hunger, Center of Hope and Manna, charities which serve people locally and internationally. This year, he began promoting a new focus on public service in Weatherford based on the concept of city transformation birthed in Boulder, Colorado, and described by Eric Swanson and Sam Williams in their book, To Transform a City. "I read the book, which asked how we can make a difference in our community and, from a spiritual perspective, make the community the place God wants it to be," Tim said.

He decided that question was worth talking about with Weatherford pastors and city officials.

"If you want to do something that is going to impact people, you have to think **big.**"



A natural-born leader, Tim asked the members of the Ministerial Alliance and even some civic leaders to read the book that fascinated him. The results thus far are both simple and complicated initiatives, ranging from The Big Tent — which offers comprehensive children's services under one roof — to individual churches adopting elementary schools. Coutts is helping to revive a program called The Clothes Line to provide basic clothing for students in Weatherford. "It was shocking to find out there are kids who come to school without socks and underwear," said Tim. He hopes to find funding for a building that would house operations for The Clothes Line, as well as for Kids Against Hunger.

Tim feeds his visionary nature and his personal growth with other people's thoughts, processing ideas both new and old. "I read in other genres, beside church," said Tim, who likes to find quiet spots like his home or his car when he is waiting for his children. "Right now I'm reading Stephen Covey's book, *The Eighth Habit*. It's about finding out what your voice is and what unique contribution you are here on this planet to make to others." And if you ever get a chance to listen to Tim, you will think twice about something.

For instance, shortly after arriving in Weatherford nine years ago — after pastoring for 27 years in places as varied




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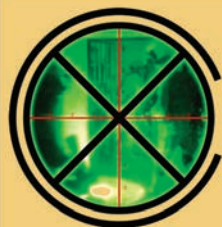
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as Grapevine, Hico and Granbury — Tim preached a sermon titled: “Ministry and Mission,” and passed out little snack-sized packages of M&M’S (for ministry and mission). He threw a few, while ushers passed out most of them. “For a lot of our history we just judged our Christianity on what we do inside the church. I want to refocus our understanding of what it means to turn church inside out. The sermon asked



the question, ‘How do we go out to be missionaries to the world?’ Nine years later, our mission statement is: Go WEST.”

The members of Coutts strive to Welcome, Equip, Serve and Transform, doing this under the leadership of Pastor Tim by going out of the church and building relationships in their communities. Tim’s wife, Sarah, directs a school serving 165 preschool through 6th grade students. They host one of the largest scouting programs in town. And several times a year, they meet in a building near Brookshire’s on Palo Pinto to pack food for Kids Against Hunger. Many other churches and



service organizations are involved in their mission to feed starving children in countries like Haiti, Honduras, Mexico and Somalia.

Three years ago, Weatherford's ministerial alliance sponsored half the cost of an assembly line for packing meals that cost one quarter for one child for one day. Then Coutts, Adell Community Fellowship, All Saints Episcopal, Grace Presbyterian and Christ the King gave \$1,000 each. "We bought a trailer and have packaged close to half a million meals," said Tim, who is dreaming now of creating more satellite packing locations. "If you want to do something that is going to impact people, you have to think big. It would take 282 billion meals to feed every hungry child for a year. We are not trying to create dependent relationships — we are partnering with people helping train those starving kids to be able to feed themselves later."

Locally, Tim promotes the same philosophy. Coutts is one of Weatherford's many Churches of Hope, serving meals five times per year at Center of Hope. "We come on-site, prepare food, serve food and care for clients there," Tim said. "We don't just feed them — we also help offer job skills."

Setting the example, Tim practices what he preaches about being a missionary as well as being a minister. "You do have to consciously choose to develop relationships. Because of our nature, we gravitate to those we already know. But you've got to go outside the doors of church to make missionary work a reality," Tim said. He learned



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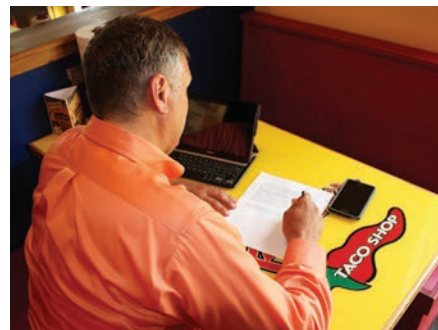
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this when he pastored the First United Methodist Church in Crowley. "Billy and Linda Hutchings saw a need to feed people and got involved in their community, and then I got involved. The result was Crowley House of Hope. You encourage people to go out, then you're out, then all of a sudden it propels you further."

Another lesson Tim learned during his service in Crowley was that preaching to people before feeding them is manipulation, not love. "I say it's hard



for a starving person to hear anything but the growling of their stomach," Tim said. "Our obligation is to care for people and love on them. Then they'll listen as we talk about our faith, which becomes authentic and real."

Everywhere he goes, Tim appreciates the relationships he develops. "The joy of being 50 is you realize other things are more important than gold and silver. The wealth is found in relationships, in being a person of substance and character, in being a servant leader," Tim said. When he joined Weatherford Stage Performers, he met youth in the Peaster area and enjoyed connecting with the kids while performing Shakespeare. Tim grew up in Richardson playing guitar and singing in church musicals. "Music is something that is deep inside of me and helps to express my soul. Plus, it's a great outlet to give of yourself to other folks.

"Church is not the ministry epicenter," Tim insisted. Focused on finding and helping at-risk people, he wants to make Weatherford — and the world — a safe and wonderful place for everyone. "I am comfortable with letting things work their way out instead of having a fixed end in mind. I think what we're doing with *To Transform a City* invites others to get involved. And who knows who will have a significant impact on making Weatherford a more wonderful place." **NOW**

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GOIN' FOR GUSTO

Freedom Powersports is geared up for heavy hunting season with street bikes, ATVs and Side x Sides.

— By Melissa Rawlins

Like his customers, Kevin Lackey goes for the gusto. At the age of 3, he got his first Yamaha, a 1982 Y-Zinger. "That was the most fun ever," Kevin said. His love for such "toys" propelled him into a 13-year career servicing and then selling motorsports equipment to Parker County enthusiasts for the great outdoors. He became owner of Freedom Powersports this summer, when he purchased two stores in a chain known as Family Powersports. The stores were home turf for Kevin. When it was called Longhorn Powersports, he began working at the store as a teen in a genius move to combine his work with his hobby.

Still passionate for a good bike, he started racing last year in the over-thirty class with Texas Cross Country Racing Association

(TCCRA). And while he and his friends are riding as weekend warriors, Freedom Powersports customers take their motorcycles out near Granbury, Glen Rose or Possum Kingdom Lake — or they are boating and jet skiing with their friends and families at Weatherford Lake or on the Brazos River.

Come Monday, Kevin and his staff of 22 tried-and-true employees are back in action at Freedom Powersports. Four service technicians take care of everything from simple maintenance jobs to performance upgrades or customization projects. "We have the ability to service all makes and models," Kevin said. The company offers various warranties, depending upon the products, and customers always enjoy the platinum service agreement

offered with every purchase from Freedom Powersports. "They get a quicker turnaround time, and we service their unit for them for three years. We want to keep our customers happy."

Specializing in Polaris, Victory, Yamaha, Suzuki, Yamaha Watercraft, Centurion and Landmaster, Freedom Powersports offers other brands on consignment and pre-owned vehicles of every brand. They are geared up this season to provide street bikes, ATVs and Side x Sides for customers preparing for heavy hunting season. In August, Kevin went to the Polaris dealer meeting in Las Vegas and brought the new product line back to Weatherford. "My customers will especially love their all-new 2013 Ranger XP900," Kevin said. "They've increased the horsepower, and it looks cooler." Freedom Powersports frequently loans such utility vehicles to the Weatherford Fire Department and to organizers of local festivals as a donation to community projects.

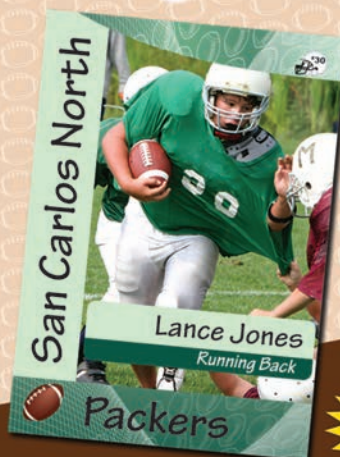
Whether you desire to go boating and jet skiing next summer with your family, require a utility vehicle for your ranch, or you're curious about a motorcycle that you might ride for the first time with your friends, the sales force at stands ready to help. "Our absolutely most important goal is making sure customers are safe," Kevin said. "We'll use our knowledge to educate you on making an informed decision. We take pride in putting our people on the right unit."

Starting this month, customers can visit Freedom Powersports online to search through available products and see calendar events. Kevin frequently hosts customer appreciation days, where he demonstrates new products. This Christmas season he will open the doors one evening for VIP night where he will serve up food, beer and wine along with discounts to help valued customers prepare for the holidays.

Kevin's got a vision to open more dealerships in the Metroplex. Within the next two years, Kevin plans to update and expand the Fort Worth Highway property and bring in a whole array of new product lines. That's just one more way to help keep Freedom Powersports customers happy. **NOW**

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Tyler Yelverton is ready for bow season to get underway.



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The Alzheimer's Association celebrates joining the East Parker County Chamber of Commerce with a ribbon cutting ceremony.



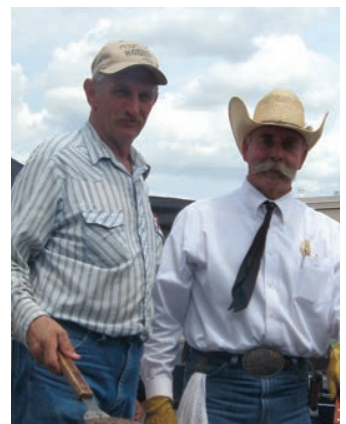
Gracie Smith gets picked up from Heart 2 Heart.



Emely Larimore tells all about Southwest Ford at a recent East Parker County Chamber Business to Business meeting.



Aledo graduate, now attending Weatherford College, Megan Shee, makes herself a latte at Agape Coffee Haus.



Ray Densmore, groundskeeper for PCSP Rodeo Arena and Posse member David Stanley, cook burgers for a fundraiser at First National Bank.



Terry Hughes, City of Weatherford director of capital transportation projects, answers Brookes Worthington's questions about alternative traffic routes around the South Main construction.



Several people attend the ribbon cutting event for Service Experts.



Aaron Carpenter and Sophie enjoy the cooler weather.



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If you're somewhat familiar with investing, you may know that the Roth IRA is a great retirement-savings vehicle. But are you aware that some of its benefits can also pay off for the next generation of your family?

To understand why this is so, it's necessary to be familiar with a Roth IRA's features. For starters, when you contribute to a Roth IRA, your earnings have the potential to grow tax free, provided you don't start taking withdrawals until you're 59 1/2, and you've had your account at least five years. The amounts you contributed aren't taxed when withdrawn because you've already paid taxes on the money you put in. And the potential for tax-free earnings can continue even when your beneficiaries inherit your Roth IRA, though you'll need to consult with your tax advisor on this issue.

A Roth IRA also offers other features that can help you build resources for retirement while possibly helping your surviving family members. For one thing, you can contribute to your Roth IRA for as long as you have some earned income, up to the contribution limits, and as long as you meet certain income limitations. Even if you've officially "retired," you might do some consulting or part-time work. So you could put some of your earnings into your Roth IRA. This ability to keep funding your Roth IRA, virtually indefinitely, can give you more flexibility in managing your retirement income — and, depending on how you do manage that income and what your other objectives may be, you may also end up with more money that could be left to your beneficiaries.

Also, unlike a traditional IRA or a 401(k), a Roth IRA does not require you to start taking minimum distributions at age 70 1/2. In fact, you are never required to withdraw money from

your Roth IRA. And by leaving your account intact for as long as possible, you'll potentially have more money available for a variety of options — one of which may involve leaving sums to your beneficiaries. Your non-spouse beneficiaries must take annual required minimum distributions, but they have the option to take the distributions over their lifetime.

Keep in mind, though, that your Roth IRA is part of your estate for purposes of federal estate taxes. In 2012, your estate would be subject to these taxes if it were worth more than \$5.12 million (or less, if you made certain gifts). In 2013, however, this amount is scheduled to drop to \$1 million unless Congress acts on this issue. (Some states also have estate taxes that apply at amounts less than the federal amount.) In any case, if you have a sizable estate, you should consult with your tax and legal advisors.

When you invest in a Roth IRA, your goal, first and foremost, is to help fund your retirement. In fact, basically all your decisions regarding your Roth IRA — how much to contribute, where to invest the money and when to begin taking withdrawals — should be based on your own retirement goals. However, as a side benefit to investing in a Roth IRA, you may find that you could help out the next generation, or two, of your family. **NOW**

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This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Gregg Davis is an Edward Jones representative based in Willow Park.



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Thank you for taking time to read this letter and please feel free to submit any comments and suggestions directly to myself or one of the staff at Waxahachie Autoplex.



Sincerely,

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When Hearing Hurts

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

Babies cannot speak our language yet, but their actions speak volumes. Grabbing or tugging at the ear with accompanying symptoms of general fussiness and a fever may indicate an ear infection. Ear infections are common in children. According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, three out of four children will have an ear infection during their first three years of life. It is the most common reason mothers take their children to the doctor.

Most ear infections (*acute otitis media*) will heal on their own without medical intervention, but some will require antibiotics. Frequent infections in the ear can interfere with hearing. Persistent fluid in the ear (*otitis media with effusion*) can also cause hearing loss. Not being able to hear correctly can cause speech problems. The ear needs a way to drain the persistent and excess fluid and also to allow ventilation of the middle ear. If medication does not solve the problem, tiny, cylindrical ear tubes surgically inserted through the ear drum can accomplish this process.

Ear tubes become necessary when the Eustachian tube loses the ability to drain properly. The Eustachian tube is nature's natural drainage canal that connects the middle ear to the nasal passageway. When it is blocked or swollen from an ear infection, whatever fluid or mucus has accumulated in the middle ear has no way to escape.

Fluid in the ear interferes with hearing because the eardrum cannot function as it was designed. The buildup of pressure in the ear causes pain. Once ear tubes are inserted, the middle ear can drain and be ventilated once again.

Hundreds of thousands of ear tube surgeries are done every year with the goal of decreasing ear infections, restoring or improving hearing and decreasing painful pressure in the middle ear. It is rated as the second most common surgery for children. Since the insertion of ear tubes is a surgical procedure, the decision to do so is not made lightly. Your practitioner will examine your child to determine the need for tubes and the child's general health. They will look at the frequency of ear infections and the length of time fluid remains in the middle ear among other conditions.

Insertion of ear tubes is day surgery, and the actual procedure takes minutes. Children usually recover quickly from the anesthesia and are able to leave the hospital within a few hours, able to look forward to less pain, fewer complications with ear infections and better hearing. **NOW**

This article is for general information only and does not constitute medical advice. Consult with your physician if you have questions regarding this topic.

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October Through February

Expressions from the Soul: **Tuesday-Saturday**, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; **Sunday**, 1:00-5:00 p.m., The Doss Heritage and Culture Center, 1400 Texas Dr. Works in watercolor, bronze, metal, oil, mixed media, glass, jewelry, leather and wood will be on display throughout the winter, ending **February 3, 2013**. Visit www.dosscenter.org or call (817) 599-6168.

October 1-31

Fill The Van Food Drive: 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., SouthWest Nissan, 3050 Fort Worth Highway. This second annual community food drive raises money and collects non-perishable food for Center of Hope. Call (817) 596-3811.

October 6

Spiciest Festival Around: Noon-6:00 p.m., Clark Gardens, 567 Maddux Rd. Chili Cook-Off costs \$15 to enter, and supports Clark Gardens' educational programs. Go to www.clarkgardens.com or call Beverly at (940) 682-4856.

October 8

Metro Beekeepers Meeting: 6:30-8:30 p.m., United Cooperative Services Building, 3309 I-35 West, Burleson. Contact Stan Key at (817) 888-0470 or visit www.metrobeekeepers.net.

October 11-14

Greenwood Farms Horse Triathlon: 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Greenwood Farm Showgrounds, 2100 Greenwood Rd. Good family outing featuring dressage, stadium jumping, and cross-country jumping. Free admission, food and vendors on grounds.

October 12

Parker County Women's and Newcomers Club meeting: 10:00 a.m., Alkek Fine Arts Center on the Weatherford College campus. Guest speaker, Dr. Bruce Epker, suggests ways to look our best. Lunch is available for \$10. RSVP by **Oct. 7**, (817) 594-0125.

7th Annual Pink Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Victory Baptist Church Life Center. Parker County Health Foundation (PCHF), with title sponsors First National Bank of Weatherford and George and Amy Mercer, produce the Pink Luncheon to raise money to provide breast cancer screenings for local men and women. Learn more at www.parkercountyhealthfoundation.org or call (817) 594-1990.

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October 13

Fall Plant Sale: 8:00 a.m.-noon, Parker County Extension Office, 604 N. Main St. Parker County Master Gardeners offer healthy native and adapted plants, plus answers to questions related to horticulture in the area. Call (817) 598-6096.

Weatherford Kangaroo Craft Sale: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Weatherford High School, 2121 Bethel Rd. This annual event is a fun opportunity to purchase unique items not always available in stores.

Car Show at Hidden Valley Ranch: 11:00-2:00 p.m., Jackie Collins Cars, 4501 FM 920. Free to the public. Bring your picnic, beverage and lawn chair. Rain or shine. Contact JackieCollinsCars@Gmail.com or visit www.jackiecollinscars.com.

Weatherford ISD Education Foundation Gala: 6:00-11:30 p.m., Omni Fort Worth Hotel, 1300 Houston St., Fort Worth. For more information on how you can support the students and teachers of Weatherford ISD, call (817) 598-2956.

October 18

Weatherford College Foundation Golf Tournament: 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., Sugar Tree Golf Club, 7510 FM 1189, Dennis. 12th annual tournament to raise scholarship funds for Weatherford College Foundation efforts to support local students and the college. For more information, visit www.wc.edu/foundation or send an e-mail to Brent Baker, bbaker@wc.edu.

October 19

WHS Homecoming game: 7:30-10:30 p.m., Kangaroo Stadium. Reunion activities are posted under the WHS Alumni link at www.weatherfordisd.com.

October 20

Community Craft/Flea Market: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., St. Francis Church Grounds, 117 Ranch House Rd., Willow Park. Sponsored by Gardeners' Club of Parker County. For more information, call (817) 919-6280.

2012 Weatherford Christian School Faith Promise Dinner: 6:30-9:00 p.m., The Doss Heritage and Culture Center, 1400 Texas Dr.

Event features a sit down dinner, keynote speaker and the opportunity to benefit a local institution. Tickets: \$10. RSVP by Oct. 5 to (817) 596-7807.

Politicians & the Wives that Made Them: 1:00-4:15 p.m., Old City Greenwood Cemetery, 300-400 Front St. Parker County Heritage Society escorts tour groups to sites throughout the cemetery where period-attired presenters share their life stories. Tickets are \$10 for 10 years and older, \$5 for 5-9 year olds, not recommended for small children or those needing walking assistance. No on-site restrooms. Call Jonelle Bartoli, (817) 658-3580.

October 27

Fall Festival sponsored by Jerry Durant Auto Group: 5:00-8:00 p.m., parking lot behind Durant Toyota. The free event which serves the youth of Parker County will offer an array of activities for the children.

Hometown Heritage Stampede: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., historic downtown courthouse square. Entertainers include Buffalo Bill's Cowboy Band, a 28-piece band period-specific to Buffalo Bill's 1915, and The Legends of Texas, who re-enact comedy gun fight acts. Call Kim, (817) 598-4034.

October 31

BOOtanical: 5:00-8:00 p.m., Clark Gardens Botanical Park, 567 Maddux Rd. Nonspooky way to celebrate Halloween. Admission is a nonperishable food item benefiting area food banks. Call (940) 682-4856 or e-mail beverly@clarkgardens.com.

November 2

Poverty Simulation: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Center of Hope, 629 Palo Pinto Highway. If you are interested in participating, contact Linda Livingston at (817) 594-0266.

November 8

Home for the Holidays: 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Coutts Memorial United Methodist Church, 802 N. Elm St. Parker County Extension Education Association hosts this event to support local programs and 4-H scholarships. For tickets or for more information call (817) 598-6168.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your event details to melissa.rawlins@nowmagazines.com.



In The Kitchen With Debra Clay

— *By Melissa Rawlins*

For six generations Debra Clay's family has lived in Parker County. In 1900, Dr. Campbell delivered her grandmother, and when he was in his mid-90s, he delivered Debra. From a heritage of soldiers extending back to the Civil War and the Revolutionary War, Debra herself is a survivor of the battle against cancer. She tries to cook foods low in sugar, low in fats and high in nutrition for her husband, who is diabetic, and her mom. When Debra first cooked, it was slice-and-bake cookies with her mom. "My job was to time the cookies, watching for when they turned golden brown," Debra said. "I looked forward to rewarding my dad with fresh baked cookies when he came home." She still loves dessert — like her easy, yummy Apple Fingers. **NOW**

Pea Salad

- 3/4 cup lite Miracle Whip**
- 1 tsp. sugar or 2 pkgs. Stevia**
- 1/4 tsp. salt**
- 1/4 tsp. pepper**
- 1 15-oz. can LeSueur peas, drained**
- 1 egg, hard boiled and diced**
- 1 4-oz. jar diced pimientos, drained**
- 1/2 cup Cheddar cheese, grated**
- 2 stalks celery, sliced 1/4-inch (optional)**
- 1/2 cup onion, finely chopped**
- 6 small sweet pickles, diced**

- 1.** Mix the miracle whip, sugar, salt and pepper together. (If mixture is not sweet enough add sugar 1/2 tsp. at a time until desired sweetness is obtained.) Set aside.
- 2.** Place remaining ingredients in medium bowl. Fold in the creamed mixture. Cover; refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Gently stir before serving.

Chicken & Apple Salad

- 3/4 cup lite Miracle Whip**
- 2 tsp. fresh squeezed lemon juice**
- 1 1/2 tsp. sugar or 3 pkgs. Stevia**
- 1/4 tsp. salt**

- 1/4 tsp. pepper**
- 1 10-oz. can Swanson brand chicken**
- 2 stalks celery, finely chopped**
- 1 to 2 Gala apples, diced**
- 1/2 cup almonds, sliced**

- 1.** Mix Miracle Whip, lemon juice, sugar, salt and pepper. (If the mixture is not sweet enough add sugar, 1/2 tsp. at a time, until desired sweetness is obtained.) Set aside.
- 2.** In a medium bowl place remaining ingredients. Gently stir in the creamed mixture. Must be refrigerated for at least 4 hours or more. Serve as filling for sandwiches or with crackers.

Cucumber Salad

- 3/4 cup spicy Italian dressing**
- 2 Tbsp. sugar or 3 pkgs. Stevia**
- 1/4 tsp. salt**
- 1/4 tsp. pepper**
- 2 large cucumbers**
- 1/2 red bell pepper**
- 1/2 onion**
- 3 large tomatoes**

- 1.** Mix dressing, sugar, salt and pepper; set aside.

- 2.** Slice cucumbers, bell pepper and onion into half-inch pieces. Quarter the tomatoes. Mix together and gently fold in the dressing.
- 3.** Let set in refrigerator for at least 4 hours; gently stir before serving.

Pot Roast

- 3 lb. roast, your favorite cut**
- 1 garlic bulb**
- Pam cooking spray**
- 3 cups water (divided use)**
- 3 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce**
- 1 Tbsp. lite soy sauce**
- 1 pkg. brown gravy mix**
- 3 russet potatoes, peeled and quartered**
- 3 carrots, peeled and cut in 2-inch sections**
- 2 onions, peeled and quartered**

- 1.** Wash roast. Make multiple 1/4-inch cuts in meat. Place one clove garlic in each cut. Place prepared roast in a sprayed small roasting pan.
- 2.** Mix 3 cups water with the 2 sauces; pour over roast. Cover and place in a 350 F oven. Cook for about 2 hours.
- 3.** Mix the brown gravy mix with 1 cup water. Set aside.
- 4.** Remove pan from oven, add vegetables; pour brown gravy mix over roast and vegetables. Do not let moisture evaporate. Add more water if needed.
- 5.** Cook an additional hour. Check vegetables for doneness. Enjoy!

Apple Fingers

- 1/2 cup sugar**
- 1/2 tsp. apple pie spice**
- 1 Tbsp. Cinnamon**
- 1 8-oz. can crescent rolls**
- 1/2 cup soft margarine**
- 1 large Granny Smith apple**
- Butter-flavored cooking spray**

- 1.** Mix sugar and spices. Set aside.
- 2.** Roll out crescents. Spread all over with margarine.
- 3.** Peel and core the apple; cut in 3/4-inch slices.
- 4.** Place an apple slice on each crescent. Sprinkle up to 1/4 tsp. sugar mixture on top of each crescent. Roll up each apple finger; spray with butter spray.
- 5.** Place separately on sprayed baking pan. Sprinkle with spices. Bake at 350 F until the apple is soft and crescents are golden brown.



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