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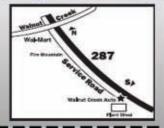












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Jason Jeter proudly supports his wife, Brooke, in her endeavors to make the National Finals Rodeo.

Photo by Jill Rasco Photography.

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Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$35 per year or \$3.50 per issue. Subscriptions should be sent to: NOW Magazines, P.O. Box 1071, Waxahachie, TX 75168. For advertising rates or editorial correspondence, call (817) 477-0990 or visit www.nowmagazines.com.

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Legacy High School's Key Club leads by example in community service.

All About the Transition

When Rachel Moraw became a mother, she discovered her passion for dance was about much more than performance.

Editor's Note

Hello, Mansfield!

I raise chickens. They give me all the eggs I can eat and then some. For those who have trouble putting food on their table — especially during the Thanksgiving season — it's nice to know there are people all over Mansfield busily preparing to serve people outside of their own nuclear family. I'd like to give a shout-out to Living Word Outreach, which has served working families, single parents and the elderly for about 28 years. This year, on Tuesday, November 22, they expect

to feed almost 200 families by giving away baskets filled with Thanksgiving food, including: a turkey or a hen, two cans of corn, green beans, peas, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce, chicken broth, flour, sugar and a dessert. Every year they hope to give out eggs, too. What they can give varies depending upon donations the mission has received during the year. Maybe they will accept some of my hens' eggs!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Melissa

Melissa Rawlins MansfieldNOW Editor melissa.nowmag@sbcglobal.net











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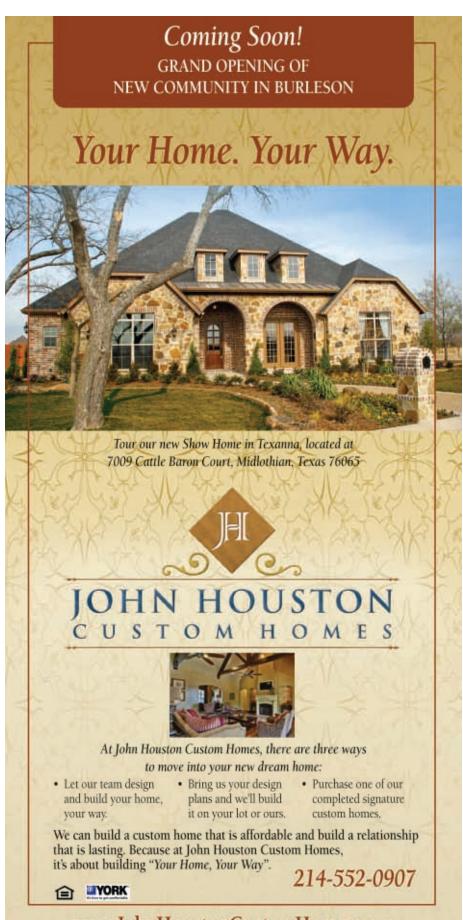
ATEXAS WOMAN, Through and Through

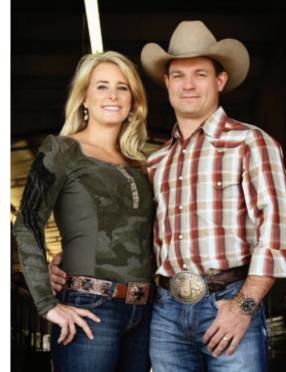
As with any true Texas woman, Brooke Jeter is proud of her morals, loyal to her friends, fun-loving, hot-tempered and unafraid to stand up for what she believes. As she embarks on a career as a barrel racer on the professional rodeo circuit, she hopes those attributes and her dedication to the sport will take her to the National Finals Rodeo and beyond. 'In the next five years, I want to have made the Texas Circuit Finals Rodeo and the National Finals Rodeo. Ultimately, I want to win a world title," Brooke said. "But my big dream is to do it all on a horse that I trained. Anyone can buy a horse and make the finals, but not a lot of people train their own horse. It's actually getting very hard to train your own horse and win, because horses are being bred for barrel racing, and you can be behind from the start."

Brooke grew up in South Texas. She and her twin sister followed her father as he rode bulls in local rodeos. They also tagged along to sale barns and helped him work cattle, riding colts and bringing cattle up to the auction all night. They saw barrel racing for the first time during their travels with their father, and even though they knew nothing about it, he found some barrels, and they used their ranch horses and found the sport came easily.

Brooke rodeoed throughout high school, competing in team and breakaway roping and competed for Texas A&M







University-Kingsville, as well — until the sport became too expensive. Rodeo was never far from her heart though, and it wasn't long before she got pulled back in. "I couldn't afford my horses when I was in school so I quit [rodeo]. After I graduated, I got another horse and trained it. Then, when I started dating Jason, I got a couple more colts. I've competed on the amateur circuit, and I've always trained my own horses. I've trained three so far. I won't buy a horse that's trained unless it's a project that I can fix and sell," she explained.

Jason Jeter, a Mansfield native, who competed at the city's old Kowbell Arena and is now Brooke's husband, is a retired professional bareback horse rider. He qualified for the National Finals Rodeo six times and won it once. That same year, he was the reserve world champion. His experience and knowledge have helped Brooke as she prepares for her own career.

"Since we've been together, I was gone 200 days a year. Now that I'm retired, I still travel some, but not at that level," Jason said. "It's good to be able to spend time together, but now she's traveling, and I support that. Hopefully, she can make some money at it and support me for a while.

"I try to tell Brooke the way I would've worked situations. I like to think the way I rodeoed was smart compared to some of my friends. I have a lot to show for it because I did it the right way. I can help Brooke by telling her not to go to a

certain event or how to enter so she can make money and save money. There's a right way and a wrong way, and you can make money either way, but what's the point if you're not ultimately going to be successful? I can help her with her learning curve," Jason explained.

Part of that learning curve is understanding there is much more expense to her events. "A lot of people win a lot of money, but people don't realize the expense of the sport," Brooke mused. She must bring her own horses to events, plus pay for fuel, feed, training and vet bills, whereas Jason was able to fly to events, saving time and money. Some riders try to travel together to cut down on expenses, but that is not always a good solution. "With the price of diesel," Brooke said, "I try to get several people to travel, but girls are girls, and half the time we can't get along anyway. I'm lucky to have a good group of friends who I can count on."

Beyond Jason's support, Brooke has also benefited from meeting Jason's friends in the rodeo world. Through them, she can learn how to do things that



she would normally have to learn on her own through competition. "I can call a friend who's been in the finals multiple times and ask for advice," she said. "Not everyone will tell you their secrets because it's an advantage for them, but if you have friends you hang out with, they'll tell you, 'Do it this way, but don't tell anyone.""

Jason's career has already helped Brooke gain a measure of fame away from the circuit. Last summer, she appeared in the CMT television series, Texas Women. A production company was looking for women married to rodeo cowboys and contacted a friend of Brooke's, who promptly recommended her. She agreed to shoot a "sizzle reel"



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Chandra Chellappan, M.D., has joined Huguley Medical Associates and opened an obstetrics and gynecology practice. She cares for women at all stages of life, including pregnancies and well-woman check-ups. She offers various treatment options for both medical and surgical problems, including several minimally invasive procedures performed in her office.

Dr. Chellappan completed her obstetrics and gynecology residency at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth. During her training, she also provided obstetrical and gynecological medical care for Tarrant County facilities. She earned her medical degree from Texas A&M University Health Science Center College of Medicine, and she studied nutritional sciences at Texas A&M University.

Fluent in both English and Spanish, Dr. Chellappan welcomes new patients and accepts most insurance plans, including Medicare and Medicaid.

Chandra Chellappan, M.D. 11803 S. Freeway, Suite 206 817-551-9339





to try to sell the show and, a year later, got a call that the show had been picked up by CMT, and "things went real fast after that." The show was filmed in May and aired in July, quickly becoming the highest-rated show on the network. Although it was a good experience, Brooke was disappointed that what she expected the show to focus on - her horse training and rodeo competitions — was not what aired, and that the title was misleading.

"Texas women are prideful about being born and raised in Texas, and I was the only one of the four of us who was," she said, indignantly. "I was a little offended by the title, and I was afraid other Texas women would be, too."

However, the show paid for surgery for one of Brooke's horses and an MRI for another, plus it gave her a financial jumpstart for her professional career, so she is happy that she did it.

Brooke began her rodeo career in October, travelling to events in Seguin, Bellville and Rosenberg, Texas, as well as Tulsa, Oklahoma. However, she knows she must win to expand her travels around the country. "Texas is the hardest place to win. It's nothing to show up to an event and see five girls who have qualified for the National Finals Rodeo. If I don't have a horse that can win in Texas, I'll compete in local events, but I won't go around the United States," she stated. "You have to be winning to afford to do it." NOW

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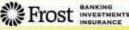
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Keli Ferrier pushes her Summit High School choir students to learn and succeed. At the same time, she does her best to provide a place where her students are comfortable being themselves because she knows how important it is for them to have stability at school. "I want people to know that these kids have a passion for singing. I'm trying to cultivate their talent and many of them have already made up their minds to be music educators," she said. "I know for a fact that a lot of kids come to school because of choir or band or art. That's a big responsibility for me."

After earning a bachelor's degree in vocal performance from Louisiana Tech University, she came to Texas to pursue a master's degree in music therapy at Texas Woman's University. Before she found a job, she taught private voice lessons in the Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD and found she loved it. After doing that for a while, she realized that she had been teaching with nothing to show for it, so she decided become a choir director in Fort Worth ISD. She has been in the classroom since, including the last four years at Summit. "I should have become a classroom teacher earlier. I realized public schools were where I needed to be. I've taught high school and middle school. Everyone should teach middle school and take their lumps," she laughed.

In the choir room, Keli works on students' technique, with

a particular focus on sight reading. Her students often complain about it, but she says it's important for them to be able to read music, and many of her former students have thanked her for teaching them that skill. Her connection with students goes beyond rehearsals, as many of them hang out and eat lunch in her classroom every day.

Each fall, she focuses on art songs in preparation for UIL (University Interscholastic League) competition in the spring. The winter concert features holiday music, and for the spring concert, she pulls out all the stops. "We do full choreography and just have fun. "Last year we sang 'I Gotta Feeling' by The Black Eyed Peas and 'Baby' by Justin Bieber, to name a few."

In addition to full choir work, Keli also helps students prepare for All-State auditions. "The competition for All-State is ridiculous. It's four rounds, and the final performance is at the Texas Music Educators Association convention in February in San Antonio. I try to guide them and help them, because I'm competitive, too, and I want them to make it," Keli said. "I taught voice and piano lessons to Scott Hoying, who was part of the group Pentatonix on the TV show, The Sing-Off, from the time he was 5 years old until about sixth grade. He went on to become a three-year Texas All-State choir member. Being able to point to him helps me nudge kids to work hard and show



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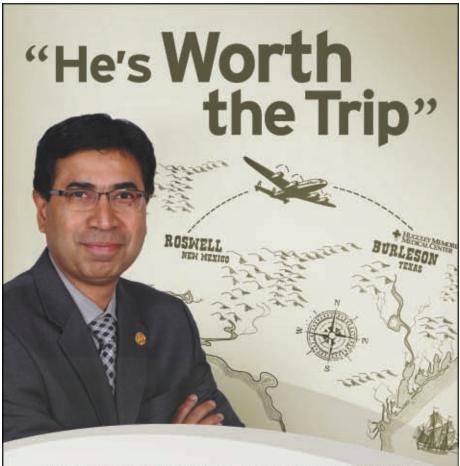
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them that you can't just hope the music comes to you."

Keli does her best to provide her students with opportunities they wouldn't necessarily get otherwise. Last summer, she teamed with Thomas Rinn at Seguin High School and Josi Alexander from Mansfield's Timberview High School to create a no-cost All-State camp to allow them to get extra work in preparation for All-State auditions. During this time, she learned from her friend and former assistant, who is now choir director at Wester Middle School and a member of the Fort Worth Choral Society, that the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra needed singers for their combined August performance of Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms.

Three of her students – senior, Bryanna Sims, and juniors, Gabriel Kunda and Camryn Nunley – as well as, Jyron Joseph from Seguin High School jumped at the chance to perform in the concert. They rehearsed all summer with the choir, which was comprised of music students from the Fort Worth School of Fine Arts, Texas Christian University and The University of Texas at Arlington, plus community members, leading to a performance at Bass Hall with the Symphony.

"It was an awesome experience. It was fun to sing with the kids, instead of just being their teacher. I got comments such as, 'I didn't know you



could sing like that," Keli recalled. "Bass Hall is amazing, and the orchestra was fantastic. When they started playing at the first rehearsal, I got chill bumps. The whole thing - Bass Hall, performing under a world-class conductor - opened the kids' minds to what it's like to be a professional musician."

In another effort to expose her students to the world beyond Mansfield, Keli also takes them on trips. Her group traveled to San Francisco, California, last year, and she has taken groups to Disney World twice. In March, her choir will







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"I feel that taking these trips is good for the kids. We always perform and sometimes we compete. Disney offered a clinic and showed the students how a recording studio works using the song 'Under The Sea' from The Little Mermaid. That gave them a look at careers in music and might be the push they need to pursue that career," Keli said. "We're very lucky in MISD [Mansfield Independent School District not to have to raise all of our funds for supplies and class needs, but the extras - like trips -



still require us to do fundraising. We do it because the students get so much out of the trips."

Another reason Keli considers herself lucky is the support of her principal, Jimmy Neal, and Summit's journalism teacher, Tracy Schultz. "Mr. Neal is one of the most supportive principals I've ever seen. He goes to every event at the school, and seeing how he supports me is huge for the kids. Tracy is our biggest fan. She sends photographers and writers to our concerts and helps with events," Keli said.

Her support has also come in personally meaningful ways. Last year, Keli received the MISD Distinguished Educator Award. "The top 12 students in the graduating classes of every high school in the district are honored, and they name their favorite teachers for the award," she said. "They can pick anyone and to be chosen made me feel honored." NOW

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A Sanctuary With a

World View

— By Jeremy Agor

Terry and Jan Harmon spent 37 years of marriage farming in the country. When rezoning threatened to surround their land with warehouses five years ago, they decided to give up that life and build a home in a neighborhood. What they didn't give up was the tranquility and peace that living a quarter mile from their neighbors provided, making sure their new home had room to escape and enjoy some quiet time. "At 65, it was time to stop wrestling with bulls and cows and hay," Terry said.

When they began building their home, Terry and Jan based their idea of what they wanted on a similar house. However, when they explained the idea to their builder, he had never built





At Home With Terry and Jan Harmon

a house like theirs before. He expressed his worries, but after many conversations with their architect, their dream took shape. "We had a great system for making decisions on our house," Jan explained. "If we didn't agree on something, we would find something else we could agree on and compromise. The architect and builder did a really good job inside and out. It's a very pleasant place to come home to."

Another factor in building their home was their grandson, Michael, who has special needs and lives with them. They needed to ensure that he had space to himself and was comfortable as well.

As guests approach the front door, which features custom, leaded glass, they are greeted by three half-size terra cotta warriors from Xian, China. The warriors are only the first of many pieces of art from China, Mexico, New Zealand, Egypt and other countries the couple has visited. In fact, it's hard to find anywhere in the house that does not have a piece of art from some foreign land. "We buy things to remind us where we've







been, but we want unique pieces, not something from a souvenir store," Jan explained. "More importantly, our travels and the things we bring back help Michael because it broadens his world view."

The home's entryway has a hand-scraped hardwood floor with a Chinese jade screen on the facing wall and an Egyptian papyrus hanging on another wall. In a cabinet is one of Jan's most prized possessions – a small, hand-carved ivory teapot that she needed special permission to take out of China. Also gracing the home are three silk Chinese rugs, one they brought home themselves and two were purchased from the same dealer from photos online.

"Of all the places we've visited, China is our favorite country," Terry admitted. "It's beautiful, with friendly people."

The home's second story has a suite for Michael, where he proudly displays his collection of Texas Rangers memorabilia. Close by the bedroom is a theater room, complete with a video game system, where Michael, Terry and Michael's friends spend hours playing



games, watching TV and just hanging out. A pool table and a wall painted to look like a tree, which features framed ink drawings of owls Jan has collected over the years, are located in the open space outside the bedroom. "When we built the house, we knew Michael was going to be with us. He has his own bedroom and bathroom and plenty of space he can call his own," Jan said.

Also on the second floor are Jack-and-Jill bedrooms, which house several family heirlooms. One, a dresser,









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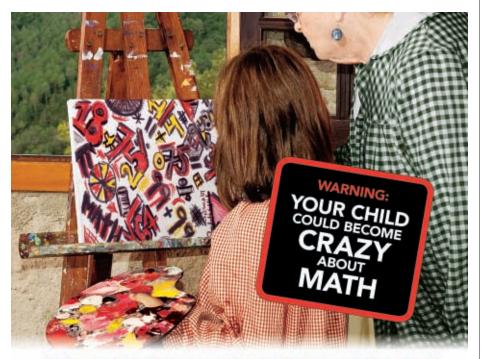




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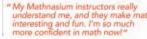
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The surplessed in the late 1900s for \$1

was purchased in the late 1800s for \$1 when a family was trying to move back to Mississippi or Louisiana and needed money. An antique hall tree graces the other bedroom, complete with Terry's great aunt Rachel Perkins' bonnets and his grandmother's purses and umbrella.

Back on the main level is Jan's kitchen, which has a great deal of space and was designed to allow Jan indulgence in one of her passions. "I'm a major cook," she said. "We had professional-grade appliances installed and made sure I have plenty of room to spread out. I have a lot of freezers, so if there's a sale, I stock up and freeze things so I'm always prepared."

A large Viking stove, huge sink and large center island give Jan plenty of area for prep work. The cabinets have glass fronts that coordinate with the home's custom front door. Off the kitchen is a mother-in-law suite, which doubles as Terry's office. It has a bedroom and bathroom and can be completely closed off from the rest of the house. In the living room, a silver deer dancer figurine from Mexico graces the fireplace mantel. A large window makes the space bright and airy.

Also on the first floor is the master suite. On one wall is a bas-relief artwork of a man and woman. On another is a second bas-relief of a woman and child. Both were obtained in Tahiti. The master bathroom has a huge walk-in shower and separate vanities with a unique touch – cabinet-height countertops so neither Terry nor Jan has to lean over to use the sink.

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A door in the bedroom leads to Jan's outdoor kitchen. The full-size kitchen is completely covered and has arched doors and barn door windows that can be opened or closed depending on the weather. There is a sink, a grill and black granite countertops, as well as a range and refrigerator. Just outside the kitchen is Terry's pride and joy – a massive smoker with a charcoal grill, complete with his initials, which Jan had made when Terry retired.

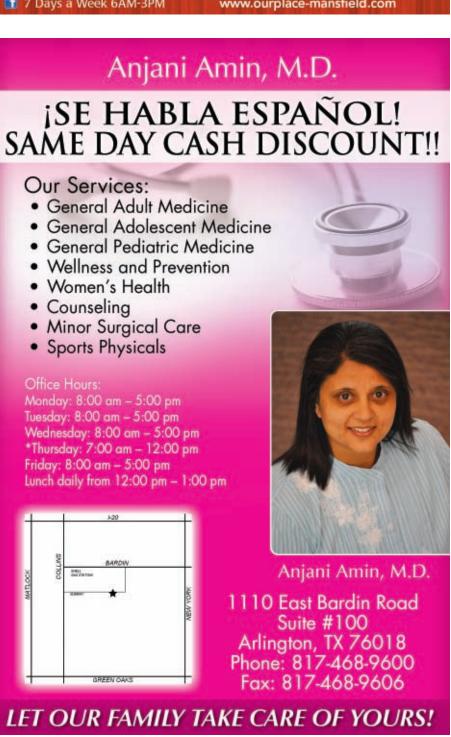
The backyard is Jan's oasis. The back porch off the master bedroom has chairs where she can sit and relax while looking



at their beautifully landscaped pool and waterfall. Flowers and trees add to the ambience, creating the feel of a secluded pond. Michael and his friends spend hours in the pool during the summer months, but when it's quiet, the backyard is Jan's favorite place to be. "I love the sound of water, and I come out here, sit on the patio under my fan and listen to the waterfall to relax," she said.

Jan volunteers with several groups, including the Methodist Mansfield Hospital Auxiliary, Reach to Recovery (a group which visits and offers support to women who have had mastectomies due to breast cancer) and Cook Children's Hospital, where she was parent advisor of the year. Terry works with the Mansfield Historical Society and makes his own grape jelly made from special mustang grapes only found in the Mansfield area, which he harvests himself. "We've found things to keep us busy," Terry said in an understated tone. Terry and Jan may be retired, but they are far from sedentary. NOW





Around Town NOW



Fans show support for the Mansfield Girl's Softball Association.



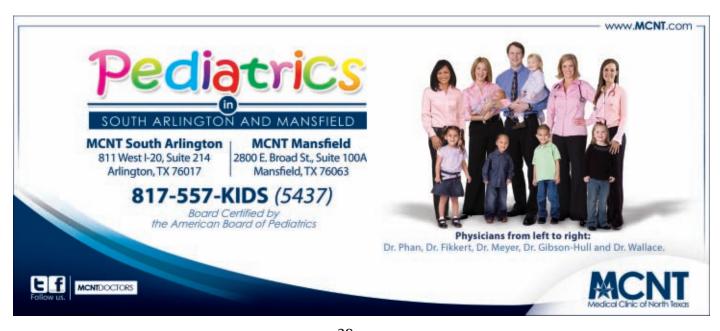
This year, the Kiwanis Club was fortunate to receive a large donation from the Mansfield Women's Club to support the Jack Buster Memorial Book Project. Through this partnership, they were able to purchase a larger than usual number of books for the Nancy Neal Library and will have funds for the next elementary school to open.



Beth and Gordon Schwarz pose with Food Service Cashier, Sheila Russ, at the Methodist Mansfield Medical Center's cafe.



Haven O'Connell proudly shows off the pumpkin she chose at Country Critters Farm.



Holiday Shopping Guide

A quick look at gift items and discounts available locally.

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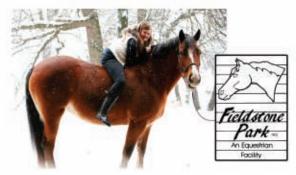


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Leading by Example -By Jeremy Agor

Doyle Spurgin was forced to be a softball coach, but despite an inauspicious beginning, he has become one of the most valuable assets of the Mansfield Girls Softball Association (MGSA). "We had just moved back to Mansfield in 2002 and my daughter, Taylor, wanted to play softball. When we went to registration, she was timid and hiding behind me. When I got through registering her and turned to leave, a guy asked if I'd be interested in being a coach. Taylor immediately looked up at me and said, 'Dad, I'm not playing if you don't coach,' and that was my beginning in the Association," Doyle chuckled.

Doyle was the oldest of six children reared together (eight total) in Lucas, Texas. He went to a one-room school in Lovejoy and graduated with 180 in his class from Allen High School. Growing up in the country, sports were not that big a deal. Living in the country meant that running across town to the nearest field was a family event. Nevertheless, he played baseball in junior high and high school and intramurals in college.

His experience playing sports and his background as an engineer specializing in lean management made him the perfect volunteer for the MGSA. He has been a coach, a league commissioner and a player agent — the person responsible for registrations, drafts, coach and player evaluations, and reporting to the city. "I've always had to lead groups, and I've always been interested in leading. I'm not afraid to jump in when work needs to be done. I told them I'd help in any way I can. Usually my volunteering runs about 20-30 hours per week in the spring and about 15-20 in the fall," Doyle said. "It's not all about me, though. The whole association doesn't run on what I do as an individual. We see ourselves as a team, not a bunch of individuals, and that's one reason Mansfield is viewed as a premier softball association."

Proof of the MGSA's success lies in the organization's registration numbers, which have grown from about 170 players in the fall and 350 in the spring when Doyle started to nearly 500 last spring and 300 this fall. There are 25 recreational teams, 20 select teams and 18 high school teams registered this fall.

"Mansfield is big enough to support the teams we have, and there's room to grow. We're building foundations in all age groups," Doyle explained. "It's one way to take their extra time and energy and focus on building ability, learning a team sport and being fit and active."

Doyle is the president of the MGSA and also an Amateur Softball Association of America Metro Fort Worth Deputy



"I love what I do, but I'm a facilitator, I lead. One of my goals is to understand how the volunteer side works and lead by example."















Commissioner for recreational leagues. He works with other associations throughout the Metroplex to help them build associations as strong as Mansfield's. By day, he is an engineer with Parker Hannifin doing equipment design, process engineering and facilities and operational management. He works that job from 6:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., then drives to the softball complex by 6:00 and begins his second job. A typical game day at the park consists of dragging and striping fields, filling ice jugs, setting up blast ball (a modified game to teach young children the basics of softball), checking in with coaches and umpires and just being available for anyone who might have a question, a compliment or a complaint.

"My real job takes the least amount of hours in my week," Doyle joked. "I love what I do, but I'm a facilitator, I

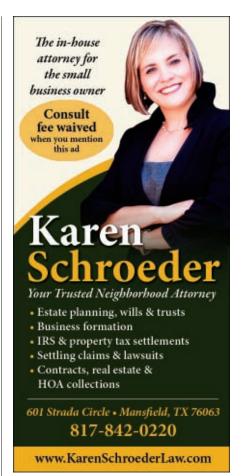


lead. One of my goals is to understand how the volunteer side works and lead by example."

Doyle had a lot to learn when he first started coaching. He knew the game, but he had to adjust to working with girls. "I had a coach tell me when I started that boys have to play good to look good, but girls have to look good to play good, and there's a lot of truth to that. Girls don't respond to coaches

velling and screaming as boys do, so coaching them is different. I made my share of them cry, and I felt bad about it, but I support them all 100 percent and at the end of the day it's about the team," Doyle said. "I've had teams go 2-10 and 12-0, so I know how to win graciously and how to lose graciously. I require four things from all my players: respect your parents, respect for the game, respect your teammates and respect for people who are trying to teach you something."

Taylor is now a high school sophomore with dreams of playing college softball. She plays for Doyle in the recreational league and in some tournaments, and is also a member of her high school team. As involved as Doyle is, he has been mindful of pushing her too hard. One season, she decided she didn't want to play, and he sat back and let her make the decision, only to









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watch her change her mind as registration neared and she decided to play after all.

"I've always been concerned that I'm pushing too hard or expecting too much. She is a strong young lady with great grades, and she enjoys playing the game. You could say I'm proud, but I'm also confident in her abilities and know she will someday see the virtues of volunteer efforts, how they helped her and how she can give back."

Doyle enjoys his role on the board as much as he does coaching, but he is careful to be fair. "I want to be fair, and I don't want to usurp my standing on the board. I always ask myself, 'If I wasn't on the board would I do this?' Or I ask someone else for their opinion. I'm careful to be completely aboveboard, because it's not all about winning a game. It's about teaching young people and winning in life," he said.

Doyle is happy to continue his work with the MGSA, and even though Taylor has just three years left in the Association, he admits that he probably has longer. "I've already had discussions with the other directors that even when Taylor's done I'll still be involved at some level as long as I'm a benefit to the association. It's good exercise, and I'm out with friends and people I have a lot of respect for. It's like a family. There's a lot of camaraderie, and everyone has so much to give," he said. "When you come down to it, you can get a lot out of volunteer work, and when you're doing it year-round it becomes second nature and real fulfilling. When I'm not doing it, it feels like something's missing." NOW

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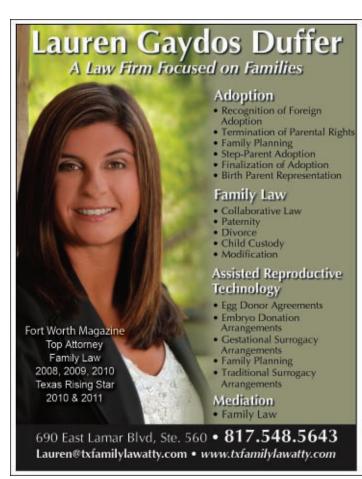
As a resident of Mansfield, Dr. Ronny Ford cares about his community. He has a general surgery practice at Huguley Memorial Medical Center. In addition to traditional open surgery, Dr. Ford has extensive training in laparoscopic surgery including colon resection and hernia repair. Also known as minimally invasive surgery, laparoscopy usually results in less scarring and faster recovery times for the patient.

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Life Through Service

— By Jeremy Agor

Each day, Shelly Burkett stands in front of her mathematics classroom at Legacy High School and attempts to give her students the algebra knowledge necessary for a firm foundation which will carry them through their high school, college and professional careers. As Key Club advisor, Shelly impacts her students with a sense

of community, service and giving, which also provides a foundation for good citizenship in the future. "I began teaching because I have always really enjoyed teenagers. It's a gift of mine to relate to them, where a lot of people run from them!" Shelly joked. "I love math, and I try to show my students that math can be fun."

When Legacy first opened, the principal approached Shelly about being the Key Club advisor. She accepted and has been the club's leader ever since. Key Club International is the oldest and largest service program for high school students and is a subsidiary of the Kiwanis Club (Kiwanis of Mansfield Afternoon is Legacy's parent club.) This student-led organization teaches leadership through service to others and



has 260,000 members in 30 countries worldwide. The club is open to anyone who wants to participate, and members pay dues and have to put in community service hours to stay active. At Legacy, the Key Club is in charge of recycling and teams up with UNICEF for a trick-or-treat program at Halloween. Also, the group is often contacted by members of the community who have volunteer opportunities, such as carnivals and working with elementary school students.

"Key Club is a great way to be involved with students interested in doing things for others and getting community service hours," Shelly said.

While the students take the service side of Key Club seriously, there are opportunities for fun and personal growth as well. Each year, Shelly takes students to the Weekend of a Lifetime, a leadership conference focusing on how students can be leaders. The teens are put into groups with people they don't know, where they learn how to interact, how to work together as a team and how to use skills they might not use in everyday life.

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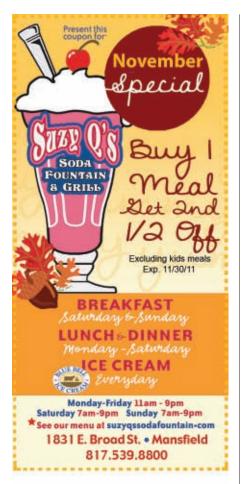
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more impactful they can be when they use those skills with their friends and family when they get home," Shelly explained. "It's also fun for me because I enjoy building relationships with these students and getting to know them beyond the classroom."

Another activity the Key Club sponsors each year is the Angel Tree, which takes the names of those in the community who otherwise could not afford to provide Christmas presents for their children and finds people to "adopt" a child and purchase gifts for him or her to ensure a merry Christmas. "Legacy has always participated in Angel Tree. Some years we can adopt more than others, especially with the economy the way it is," Shelly said. "It's definitely a community thing, though. I am sure many churches and groups adopt more than we do."

The first thing Shelly does is to contact the homeroom teachers around the end of September to let them know that it's time to think about adopting a child. Those teachers then speak to their classes and encourage them to participate. Last year, the volleyball and softball teams also participated. Once Shelly knows how many faculty and student volunteers she has, she contacts Common Ground,

which coordinates the recipients. Once she receives the names of the children to be adopted, she distributes them to her volunteers, giving them the child's first name, clothing sizes and wish list. Shelly encourages participants to purchase an outfit, a pair of shoes and some toys, and the students and teachers take it from there.

"It's pretty sweet how all the kids, not just those in Key Club, want to give back and help others. Last year, the Ben Barber auto mechanic classes donated bicycles so our volunteers didn't have to spend money on bicycles and could focus on other things. Some volunteers meet at the store to go shopping as a group, while others may purchase the whole list on their own," Shelly explained. "One year, I had a kid bring me something after we'd distributed all the presents because he didn't have enough money to buy something before the deadline, but he wanted to follow through anyway. I put

his gift away for the following year."

Once the gifts have been turned in, Shelly and a few of her Key Club members sort them in a spare room, which is soon filled to overflowing. They make sure the gifts are divided by family and also verify siblings within families get roughly the same amount of gifts. When that process is finished, she sends the recipients a letter with the pickup time and place, and then sits back and watches her favorite part. "It's fun to see the parents' faces when they come to pick up the gifts, because they expect they'll have one or two gifts, but we bring out a lot more. Their faces just light up! Everyone's real receptive here, too, and

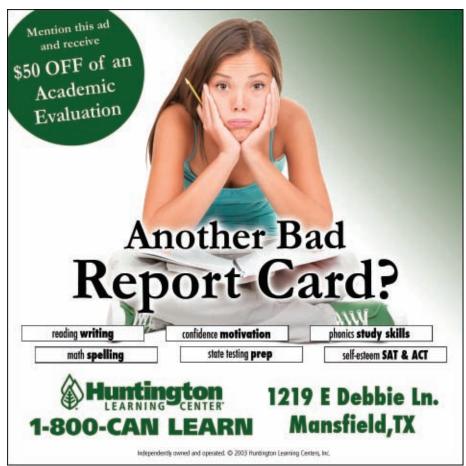


the kids love passing out gifts."

Shelly does her best to keep the full names of the recipients confidential, because they live in the community and may have brothers or sisters who attend Legacy. Last year, Shelly gave gifts to a young mother who was one of her former students.

Sometimes things don't go according to plan. Last year, Shelly tried multiple times to get in touch with a family so they could pick up their gifts, but for some reason she was unable to. Sadly, she had to take those gifts back to Common Ground, where they were distributed to a different family.

Angel Tree is fulfilling to Shelly for many reasons, but she is humbled by the outpouring of generosity from those at her school. "Some people just don't have anything. It's humbling to realize how many people in Mansfield have a need. A lot of us, including teenagers, think everyone is like we are, but there's a huge list of children each year that might not have Christmas. It's important for our students to understand the impact of giving and doing so when they can."









- By Melissa Rawlins

Knowing how to spell and write every dance-related French word properly is the least of Rachel Moran's proficiencies. She also pliés, soutéas, chassés and pirouettes perfectly on point. Almost simultaneously, she can change Judah's diapers, wipe Josiah's nose and praise Ayla's joyful bourrée walk. Throughout



Rachel's childhood, college and into her early twenties, she trained to be a professional dancer, earning a Bachelor of Arts in dance from The University of Iowa so she could perform ballet and contemporary, and teach all styles of dance. "It was in my spirit and heart," Rachel said. "I just had to dance!"

Her urge to dance, however, has changed. "As I've matured over the years, it's less of a selfish desire and more of a desire to give to others. Gosh, you have children, and you realize your passion for dance is about so much more than



you performing," Rachel explained.
"Now, we just mostly dance with the kids around the house. We have had several times when we move the coffee table out of the way while I work on my choreography for recital dances. At other times, the kids and I turn on music and dance and have fun." Her husband, Patrick, will often help Rachel with music selections and recital themes — even writing scripts and narrating for all the little actors in the shows put on by Kingdom Dance Kids, Rachel's 10-year-old company.

Rachel moved to Texas after college to live with her brother, in order to save money in preparation for her next big thing. "If I had gone the direction I wanted to, I'd be in New York City performing," Rachel said. "But when you surrender to what God wants you to do with your life, it usually is not what you envisioned. When I really prayed and asked God what I'm supposed to

















do, God said, 'Stay in Texas.' I was like, 'What!? No.' But my desire to go to the big city to perform changed." Most of her life, Rachel studied and trained almost eight hours a day to be a great performer, yet after moving here she realized her gift of dance was more about building other people's self-esteem and confidence.

Remembering the most amazing moments of her artistic life, Rachel does not think of the spotlight. "I feel like the Lord is smiling down on me to say, 'Yes, you do understand that yes, your gift is from Me to give Me glory and My glory to others." Rachel and a friend formed a dance ministry in her early years in Dallas. Firefall Dance Theater traveled to Europe and did a lot of church, youth and prison ministry. "It was neat to see their faces light up with something that was different and refreshing and to know that even when we make mistakes, we can launch forward to what God has in the future. Restoration can happen."

Using dance as a tool to mold the person, whether adults or little people, Rachel focuses on two things: proper technique and freeing the heart. When she teaches at the Mansfield Activity Center, her students might be mothers coming to have a break from their kids, or youth with self-esteem issues who need help feeling more secure and knowing who they are as a person. She might be teaching little ones who are shy and need freedom to allow their inward



child to come out. "What I am imparting is really like a gift. When I teach, I'm trying to pull out of kids their personality, their spirit, into the gift of dance. Dance is not about doing the moves perfectly," Rachel said.

Still, she is particular about teaching the fundamentals. "I'll always teach a proper tendué, and proper plié, and will correct my students so they get the technique right," Rachel said. But she understands their desire might have only been to have fun once a week. And that's okay with her. "Dance the way God looks at it is to bring Him joy. King David might not have had the perfectly pointed toes or the most proper leaps, but God was looking at his heart. A lot of that is not taught in the studio, which is all about technique and technical perfection of your artistry."

For Rachel, dance began in the heart. "I was raised in a really strong Christian household and had great parents who loved me and I always felt very secure," Rachel said. "I've never been able to separate dance from who I am." Growing up in a family of seven children, it has been second nature for Rachel to combine dance and children. Disciplining herself through hours of work in the studio, Rachel honed her artistry yet did not know how to express what she felt in her heart to the audience. "You're so focused on getting your technique right! The older you get, you realize that the technique will come — but without showing it, in your face and spirit, the audience will not connect."

Lately, her audience has been her own children. "The most fulfilling [times] emotionally, at my house are when I'll















dance knowing it's not about technique or performance, it is a tool for worship," she said. Ayla, 4, has danced with Rachel for the past two years. Newborn Judah sometimes rides on his mom's hip. Josiah, 1, is still a little young to dance on his own. "We'll see if he wants to try when he gets older. With boys, dance develops a neat creative and cognitive side of the brain that carries over to academics and other athletic abilities. Two of my three brothers danced, and both have said it helped them in business."

Next spring, Rachel and her husband will open Family Dream Center. "That DREAM (Dance Recreation Education Art and Mentoring) Center will be our ministry," Rachel said. In a secular setting, the couple will provide character-building activities to encourage families and children to keep the family functioning. "As we're working on the Center, we're seeing this is the heartbeat of who we are. Dance has given me a tool to teach others, 'Look, you have a legacy and a purpose and you need to walk in it whether it's through dance, counseling, being a school teacher, whatever it is! Let's use dance to build you up, to make you feel good in who you are as a person, to give you that boldness to go out and fulfill your purpose."

Believe it or not, Rachel and Patrick have been married for eight years and "going out" to dance for a date, is something they have yet to do. "In college, I used to do country western dancing," Rachel remembered. "Things shift when you have kids. We're just happy to get to a nice quiet dinner!" NOW





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Monday-Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.



Michele Rose and Megan Maher share the love of denim. They suggest ribbon belts with leggings or skinny jeans worn with a longer shirt.

DESTINATION DENIM

Celebrating their one-year anniversary, Destination 76 provides jeans for women desiring denim.

— By Melissa Rawlins

Even with The Ticket playing on the radio and chatty, happy people running the show, you'd be hard pressed to guess why Megan Maher and Michele Rose use Destination 76 as the name of their denim store. The name has nothing to do with freedom, à la 1976 when blue jeans were hitting our nation's streets big time. Megan's not even old enough to remember that year! She does recall when the pawn store was opened and Roy's did perms. "Not long ago, I would have laughed if someone told me I'd have a business in downtown Mansfield," Megan said. "Turns out we love it!"

Who knew she and co-owner, Michele Rose, would become instant friends when they met in 2009 at a class reunion for Mansfield High School, where Michele's husband and Megan

graduated. Turns out Michigan was home state for both Michele and Megan, who also have fashion, football and food in common. "We bonded over a Coach purse," Michele laughed. The friends both have two kids, and both love jeans, and on November 8, 2010, they partnered to open Destination 76.

At any time, you may find children running around while Michele shows off the fashion world's most popular denim designs. "We have a lot of mothers who come in here," Michele said. "So when they come, we have baskets of coloring books and toys back there to keep the child happy and occupied while the mom gets some attention she deserves." When mom is ready to try on her jeans, the extra-large dressing rooms were designed for her to bring a stroller in.

Business NOW

When husbands come shopping for their wives, Megan and Michele have gift certificates available and are happy to give fashion advice. If something is a hot trend this fall - and if it is blue and it flares, then it is hot - Destination 76 will have it. Unlike a consignment shop, Michele and Megan offer all the current and latest styles in brands from Silver to Miss Me, Rock and Roll Cowgirl to Lucky. They do not carry destroyed denim, but you'll find some with crazy shading and some that are slightly distressed. "The stone washed look from the '80s is coming back. It's a lot more clean and attractive than it was in the '80s!" Michele said. Accessories like ribbon belts or soft Pashmina scarves are always on hand.

For less than \$100, people can come into Destination 76 for styles similar to what strikes their fancy at the mall, still have that brand name, yet save some money. Michele, whose talkativeness is endearing, loves custom-fitting your jeans to your body. She makes sure that the girls who work here do the same thing, pointing out the reasons why a pair of jeans does or doesn't work and guiding

"When they leave our store, they feel their jeans are right for them."

them in the right direction. "People want to leave with a pair of jeans they look good in and are comfortable in. When they leave our store, they feel their jeans are right for them."

At Destination 76, jeans lovers will find bling, no bling, high rise, no rise, skinny, boot cut, straight leg, trousers, shorts and capris in the spring and summer and sweaters and jackets in the fall. They only get a few of each style, and post it on their Facebook page. People drive from as far away as Ennis to find what they have been searching for —whether it is short 29 1/2" inseams, tall 36" inseams, size 0 or size 19. As Michele is fond of saying: "We can fit just about every booty that comes in."









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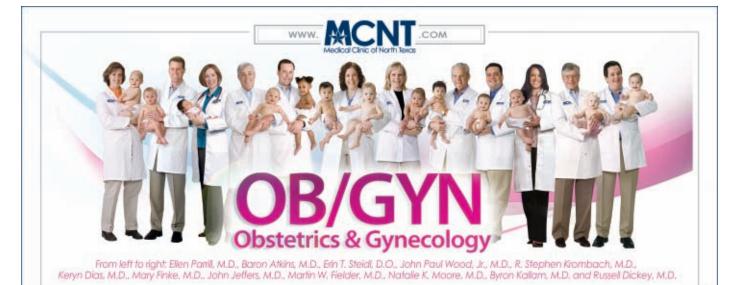












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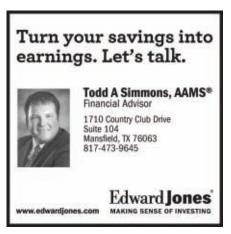
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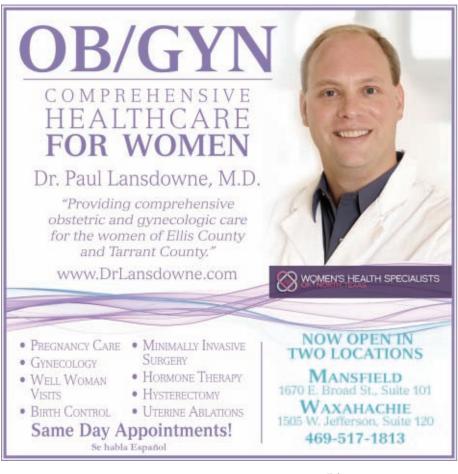
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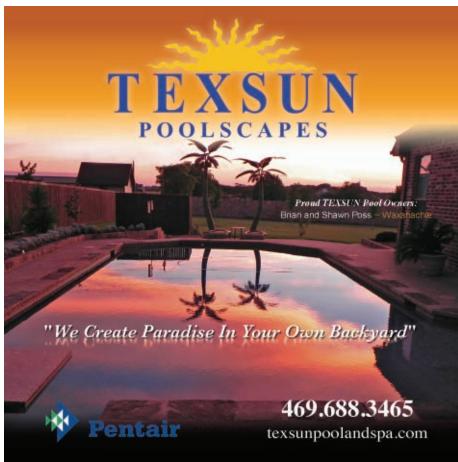
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Ennis

Do your employees need a 401(k)?

— By Tim Bordelon

With so much talk about Social Security and the need for retirement planning, there are a number of actions small business owners may take. Establishing a retirement plan for small business employees may sound like a huge undertaking. The reality is that setting up a 401(k) can be easier than you think.

A Safe Harbor 401(k) can be an appropriate solution for businesses with fewer than 100 employees. The Safe Harbor 401(k) Plan allows eligible employees to contribute a portion of their own salary to a retirement plan. Employers contribute either matching or non-elective amounts to the plan on behalf of eligible employees.

Both employer and employee enjoy federal tax advantages of contributing. Those advantages include:

- Employer contributions are tax deductible for the employer
 up to 25 percent of compensation of all participants.
 - Employee elective deferrals are excluded from the

employee's income for Federal Income Tax purposes.

• Tax-deferred growth potential is possible — any investment earnings grow tax-deferred until withdrawn.

One attractive advantage of establishing a Safe Harbor 401(k) Plan is that discrimination testing of employee elective deferrals or employer matching contribution limits is not needed. Additionally, each plan participant or beneficiary can request an easily understandable summary plan description within 90 days after they become eligible. A summary annual report may be requested each year within seven months after the end of each plan year.

There are many reasons you may want to begin a retirement plan for your employees. The ease with which you can establish a Safe Harbor 401(k) could make it an appropriate choice for your small business.

Tim Bordelon is a State Farm agent based in Mansfield.









November 2

Multiplication Madness: 4:00-5:00 p.m., Mathnasium of Mansfield, 2270 Matlock Road, Ste. 104. Free: second-sixth grade. RSVP: (817) 473-6284 or mansfieldtx@mathnasium.com.

November 2-30

Line dancing at Mansfield Activities Center, 106 South Wisteria. Mondays: 1:00-2:30 p.m.: beginners, 45 and older. Wednesdays: 1:00-3:00 p.m.: intermediates. Thursdays: 10:00 a.m.-noon: advanced. (817) 453-5420.

November 6-7

Earth First Recycle Fundraiser: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., parking lot of D.P. Morris Elementary School, 7900 Tin Cup Drive, Arlington. School receives donation from Earth First for participation. (817) 473-5353.

November 13

Fall Festival: Noon-4:00 p.m., Anna May Daulton Elementary School, 2607 North Grand Peninsula Drive, Grand Prairie. (817) 299-6640.

November 13-21

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Drop-Off: Noon-3:00 p.m. (may vary), Mansfield Bible Church, 2351 Country Club Drive. Learn about Operation Christmas Child at www.samaritanspurse.org or call (817) 253-2258.

November 17

Mansfield Women's Division Networking Luncheon: 11:30

a.m.-1:00 p.m., Walnut Creek Country Club, 1151 Country Club Drive. Cost: \$20 with reservation; \$25 without reservations. Call Tami Stringer at (817) 473-0507.

November 22

Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway: Seniors, 10:00 a.m.; single parents/working families (English /Spanish), 6:00 p.m., Living Word Outreach, 107 North 1st Street. Families will need a certificate to receive basket filled with complete Thanksgiving dinner. Contact Kathy Wooddell or Gary Whetzel at (817) 473-6055.

November 22-25

Thanksgiving Holiday: Mansfield ISD closed.

Ongoing

Second and Fourth Mondays

Kiwanis Mansfield Afternoon Club meetings: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Fat Daddy's on Debbie Lane. Call Cheryl Litke at (817) 453-5106.

Tuesdays

The Rotary Club of Mansfield meetings: noon-2:00 p.m., Springcreek BBQ, 1724 N. Hwy. 287. Call Danny Wilson at (972) 595-1778.

First and Third Tuesdays

Senior Dance: 7:00-9:30 p.m., Mansfield Activity Center gymnasium, 106 S. Wisteria. Different live bands weekly. Call Suzanne Newman at (817) 453-5420.

First and Third Wednesdays

Mansfield Network Group meetings: 9:00-10:00 a.m., The Aristide, Mansfield. Contact John Boguski at (817) 939-5884 or info@mansfieldnetwork.com.

Third Wednesdays

Ellis County Christian Women's Connection luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Waxahachie Country Club, 1920 W. Hwy. 287 at I-35 East (Exit 401B). Cost: \$13. Nursery vouchers available. Kay: (972) 937-2807 or windchime423@yahoo.com.

Thursdays-November 17

GriefShare: 7:00-8:30 p.m., Mansfield Bible Church, 2351 Country Club Drive. Cost for materials is \$20. Call (817) 473-8089.

Thursdays

Mansfield Sunrise Rotary: 7:00-9:00 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 777 N. Walnut Creek Dr. Call Robert Putman at (817) 453-1616.

Fridays

Kiwanis Club of Mansfield meetings: 6:45-8:00 a.m., Methodist Mansfield Medical Center. Call Todd Simmons at (817) 473-9645.

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





In The Kitchen With Anita Hughes

— By Melissa Rawlins

Happiness comes from Anita Hughes' kitchen, even after accidents like the time she baked a cake in a very old oven without a thermostat. "When I took it out of the oven, my hot pads were too thin and it burned my hands, so I dropped the cake," Anita said. "Of course, it broke into pieces. At first I cried, but then I made the icing, poured it over the chunks of cake, and it was the best cake we had ever had." Cooking for friends, family and church gatherings, Anita loves to prepare old-fashioned, southern-style food from scratch — a joy learned from her mother. Anita's favorite meal, Thanksgiving, always includes Fruit Pizza since her grandchildren enjoy creating their own designs with the toppings.

Baked Turkey and Dressing

- 1 25-lb. turkey
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 10-oz. jar Lawry's Garlic Spread
- 2 onions
- 9 celery stalks
- 3 bunches of fresh onions with green tops
- 1 stick of butter
- I pan cornbread (use your favorite recipe)
- 10 slices bread
- 2 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. black pepper
- 2 Tbsp. rubbed sage
- 4 eggs, beaten
- **I.** Wash turkey and rub salt and pepper into skin.
- **2.** Warm jar of Lawry's Garlic Spread in

- microwave until spread is melted; pour inside and on turkey.
- **3.** Place 1 peeled onion and 2 or 3 stalks of celery into the turkey cavity.
- **4.** Place turkey breast side down in a roasting bag; cook according to package directions.
- **5.** Remove from oven, drain drippings into large pan and dilute with half as much water as drippings. Place on stove to heat.
- **6.** Chop other large onion, 3 bunches of fresh onions with green tops and about 4 to 6 stalks celery; sauté in butter.
- **7.** Thoroughly dry bread in a 250 F oven for about 1 hour. Crumble combread and bread into large bowl with salt, pepper, sage, sautéed onion and celery.
- 8. Add 4 beaten eggs.
- **9.** Pour drippings into cornbread mixture, small amounts at a time; stir well will be sloppy.
- 10. Spray baking pan with Pam and place

mixture into it.

11. Bake at 350 F for approximately 1 hour or until top is brown and crisp.

Fruit Pizza

- 1 8-oz. roll sugar cookie dough
- 1 8-oz. box of cream cheese
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 5-oz. container Cool Whip
- 1 15-oz. can mandarin oranges
- 1 15-oz. can crushed pineapple
- 3 fresh Kiwi fruit, sliced
- 1 pint fresh strawberries, sliced
- I lb. red grapes, halved
- 1 lb. green grapes, halved
- 1 10-oz. jar Maraschino cherries halves
- **I.** Let cookie dough stand until room temperature. Press into pizza pan or onto a cookie sheet. Bake at 350 F for 10-15 minutes until golden brown. Cool completely!
- **2.** Cream together next 3 ingredients and spread onto cooled cookie dough.
- **3.** Drain all canned fruit well and arrange it along with sliced fresh fruit on top of cookie dough.
- **4.** Keep refrigerated until ready to serve.

Sweet Potato Surprise

- 4 large sweet potatoes
- 3/4 cup butter
- 2 7-oz. jars marshmallow cream
- 2 large eggs
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 1/3 cup butter
- 1/2 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- I cup crushed cornflakes cereal
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- **I.** Peel and cook potatoes in boiling water for 20 minutes or until tender. Drain and cool slightly.
- **2.** Melt 3/4 cup butter and all the marshmallow cream in saucepan over low heat, stirring constantly until mixture is smooth.
- **3.** Beat potato, marshmallow mixture, eggs, sugar and milk at medium speed with electric mixer until smooth, scraping sides often. Spoon into greased 13x9 inch baking dish.
- **4.** Melt 1/3 cup butter and brown sugar in saucepan over medium-low heat. Stir in cereal and pecans. Spread over potato mixture.
- 5. Bake, uncovered, at 350 F for 1 hour.



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