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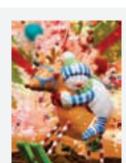
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On the Cover

Enjoy the season with a bit of whimsy from the Lynn home.

Photo by Amy Ramirez.

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Editor's Note

Wishing You a Merry Christmas!

Christmas is the season to be jolly! Holiday stockings hang by the chimney with care. Children, and some adults, find pleasure in shaking the beautifully wrapped presents under the tree. Visions of Santa's upcoming visit dance merrily in the heads of those who believe. And the story of Jesus Christ is told time and time again in homes all around the world.

Christmas is also a time to reflect on the past year — with its ups and downs, as well as all the wonderful blessings in between. I have learned so much from all of you in these past 12 months. By allowing me to write about your homes, I learned tricks in decorating my own. By sharing your ideas, I learned how to craft jewelry, design a special page in my scrapbook and personalize my holiday greeting cards. *WaxahachieNOW* had some fabulous stories, and I made some fantastic friends. It has truly been an awesome year!

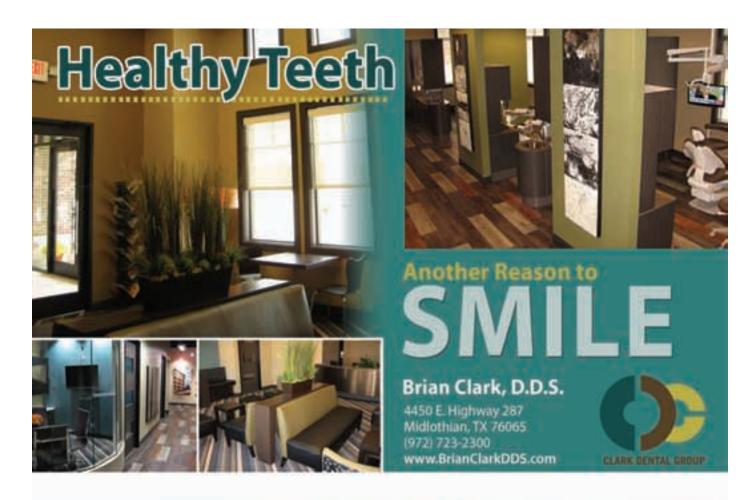
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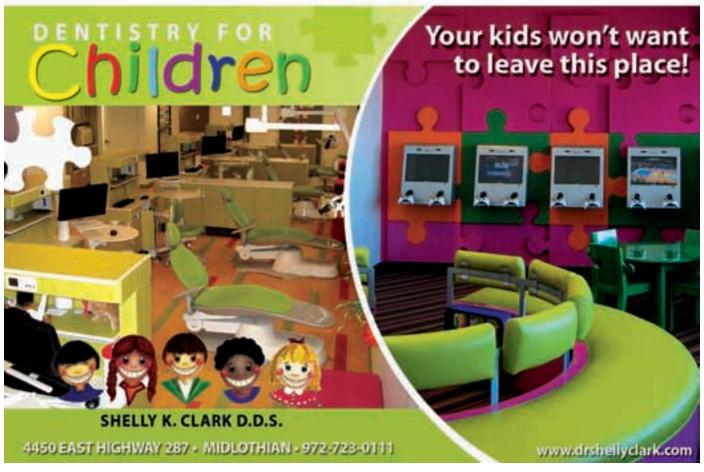






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Left to Right: Sergeant Casey Leadbetter, Private First Class Vincent Baleme, Sergeant Jason Cupak, Carolyn Standfast, SPC Bryan Williams and Sergeant First Class Martin Morales.

Spirit of 1V1110

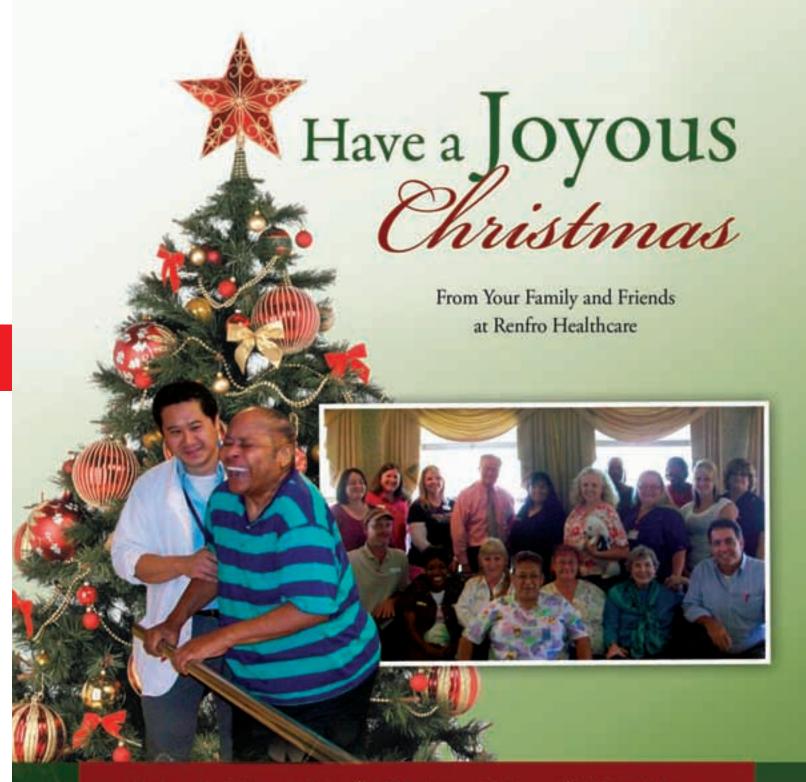


Santa Claus carries a large red bag filled with toys, while Carolyn Standfast pulls an overstuffed suitcase filled with Beanie Babies. But, that is where the differences end. You see, they both bring a sense of family and joy to everyone they come in contact with, whether it is all the good little girls and boys or the multitude of men and women who are serving in the military. 'T am very passionate about those who serve in our military," Carolyn said. 'I don't think you have to support the war, but I strongly believe you have to support the troops."

Although it seems small in comparison, the very least Carolyn feels she can do is give back by continuing to actively participate in the Beanie Baby Project at DFW Airport. Her journey volunteering alongside the Dallas USO has been going strong for six years, but her focus on collecting Beanie Babies began twoand-a-half years ago. Since that time, the donations have grown by leaps and bounds because of Carolyn's dedication to a project she strongly believes in. "Those serving in the military look at what they do as a job," she stated, "but I look at them as the heroes they are. Supplying Beanie Babies is the least I can do."

This spirit of giving lasts all year long for Carolyn and those who help supply the stuffed animals that bring delight to children's faces. The project is one that allows military men and women the chance to leave something real, lasting

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and meaningful behind as they ship out to locations around the world. "I had been going to 'send offs' for several years when all this started," Carolyn added. Volunteers go through security before making their way through another gate which brings them to the USO area. It is here that the spirit of giving is evident, not only with the USO and the volunteers, but also with the mothers and fathers who serve in the armed services. "The soldiers go into the USO Reading Room and pick an age-appropriate book for the child or children they are leaving behind," Carolyn explained. "They sign sentiments in the book, and then take a seat in one of two oversized chairs. Now it's time for them to pick a Beanie Baby that goes with the book."

Once all their choices have been made, Jan and Don Krebes and Peggy Seals videotape the soldiers as they read the

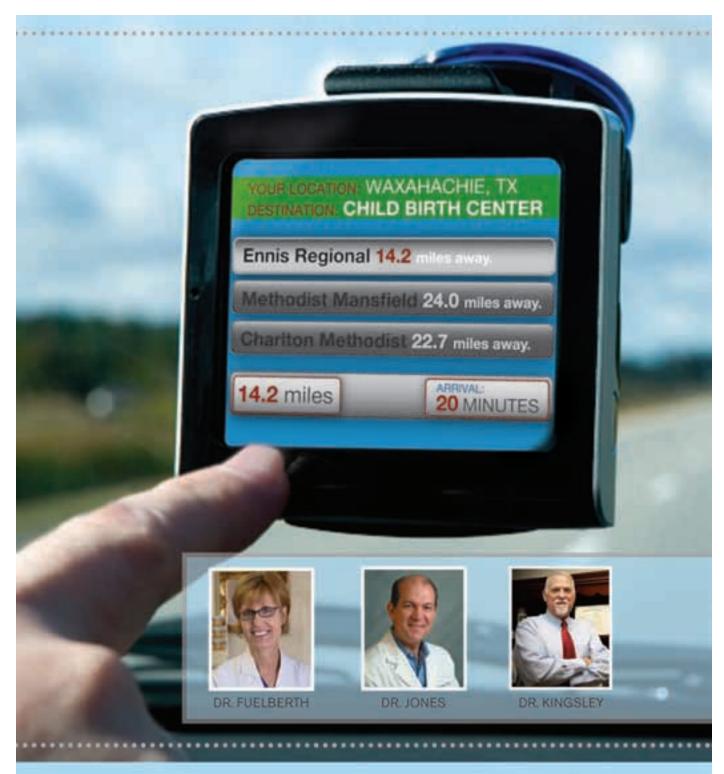
"Those serving in the military look at what they do as a job, but I look at them as the heroes they are."

books aloud. On rare occasions when the children are present for the "send off," the children will sit upon their parent's lap and be videotaped, too. "But most of the time, the children are not present," Carolyn said. "Then FedEx takes over. The books, the Beanie Babies and the videotapes are packaged up and shipped to the children."

The day her Beanie Baby journey began was the day Carolyn noticed a shortage. "They had so few to choose from," she explained. "I immediately knew I'd been given a challenge." The challenge soon became a mission — a mission for the entire Waxahachie community. "I asked friends for donations first," she fondly remembered. Her first big donation came from Bill Kendall. "His wife, Dorothy, had just passed away, and she had a large collection of Beanie Babies," Carolyn said. "He donated her entire collection; right at 100 babies."

Carolyn then asked the Waxahachie Bible Church for a donation. She received

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close to 100. Still she needed more, so she made a trip to the local newspaper. "They ran a one-time advertisement," Carolyn said. "Hundreds more came pouring in." She then decided to call the KBEC flea market to make her needs known. "Within 30 minutes," she smiled from the memory, "I had well over 200 more."

Beverly Worthington read about the opportunity in the paper and decided



L to R - Chris Broadrick (Captain), Peggy Seals and William Timmons (SPC)

to make a donation of her own. "The request brought tears to my eyes," she said, emotionally sharing what little she felt she was able to do to say thank you for the freedom she enjoys. "Giving Beanie Babies was a way I could get involved." But it did not stop with Beverly. She mentioned the need at her church, First United Methodist Church, on the following Sunday. Beverly's comments caused a notice to be added to the church bulletin. "Beanie Babies started pouring in," Beverly said. "As of September, the church has collected 1,241 Beanie Babies, and they still faithfully run the notice in the bulletin." Words for what FUMC has done in relation to the project come easy for Carolyn. "It's unbelievable what they've been able to accomplish. They have been amazing!"

It seemed the more Carolyn collected, the more the USO needed. "So, I asked a longtime friend about it. She mentioned it to her daughter and her daughter mentioned it to her book club," she said. After receiving many from the book club, Carolyn has also received over 650 Beanie

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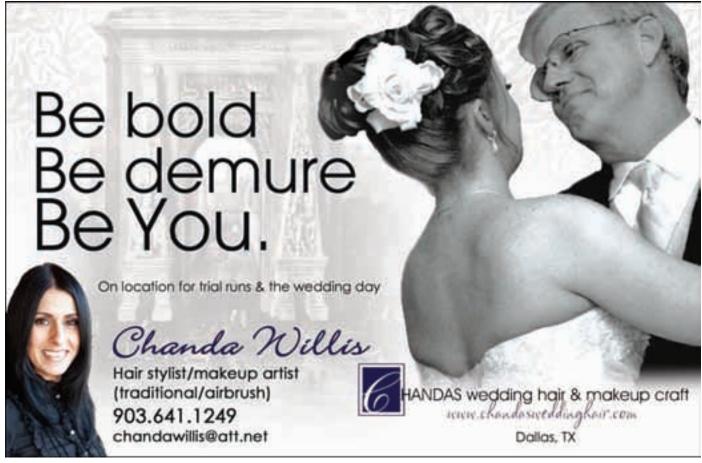
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Babies and no fewer than 275 books from Plymouth Park Methodist Church in Irving, where her friend's daughter attends church. "Everyone who hears about it gets on board," Carolyn added.

Beanie Babies are inspected before going into the suitcase that carries them to their destination. They can be slightly "loved on," but they must be clean. Carolyn will be taking all her Christmasrelated Babies this month, but she has them sorted for all special occasions such as green ones for St. Patrick's Day and traditional red, white and blue ones for the Fourth of July.

These packages, when received by the family members, are very special



throughout the year, but it seems they become even more special during the holidays. "What a special Christmas package," Carolyn said with emotion. "Try to imagine how the children feel when they open these packages. To see and hear their parent reading to them and to be able to hug the Beanie Baby picked especially for them. What a wonderful moment."

For years, Carolyn has been sharing a spirit of giving with individuals she only meets for a moment in time. Recently, the tireless effort hit much closer to her heart. "I shed a few tears every Friday," Carolyn confessed, "but it hit home when my granddaughter, Tiffany Windle, shipped out in the Navy. She lives in Georgia, so I don't get to see her often." Since enlisting, Carolyn sees Tiffany for about one hour during her layovers at DFW. "It's not a lot of time," Carolyn admitted, "but I'm thankful for it."

Editor's Note: To donate Beanie Babies, call Carolyn at (972) 938-9360. To volunteer, visit www.USO.org/DFW.





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Child's Play -By Janice C. Johnson At Home With Bob and Becky Lynn

Like different children in the same family, each room in Bob and Becky Lynn's 75-year-old home has Christmastime.

The original 1,500-square-foot house was built in 1935. Since it bears a historic designation, it must maintain its original dignified appearance — at least, on the outside. During most of the year, it does just that. Even the parlor just inside the front door wears period costume: art deco chairs and a baby grand piano. But by December 1, an 8-foot white floral tree has appeared beside the dining room door, festooned with fullsize top hats in red or black. One stray hat winks from atop the piano, snuggled next to a red feather boa and a saucy pair of



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feminine, high-heeled red Santa boots. A reindeer ballerina stands on tiptoe to see, while stylized red Christmas trees on the mantel lean toward each other as if sharing the joke. "Those are our 'tipsy' trees," Becky explained.

The parlor's whimsy echoes the Lynns' own love story. The traditional way to a man's heart is through his stomach; rarely do you find a way to a woman's heart through a man's stomach. Bob and Becky, longtime casual acquaintances, had become "single again." Becky, a fourth-grade teacher at Northside Elementary, was also a cook of almost legendary skill. One day, Becky related, "Bob got real hungry. He called me and asked, 'If I bring some food will you cook it?' I told him, 'Yes.' I was perfectly content staying single, but we found out we liked all the same things. Bob even likes shopping!"

Bob smiled and patted his stomach. "That was 14 years and 40 pounds ago!"

Anyone might gain weight in the inviting "Peacock" dining room, featuring off-white trim against bold blue walls. For the holidays, the room glitters with peacock-feathered garland, centerpiece and Christmas tree, their blues and purples frosted with gold.

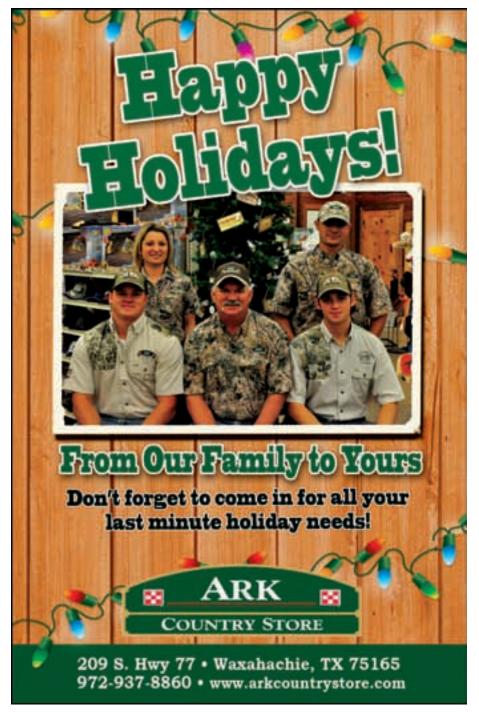
The kitchen, just beyond the dining room, wears a casual costume that could have been designed by Mrs. Santa herself. Dubbed "The Gingerbread Room," it is accessorized with candy canes, its own shiny red tree and gingerbread people.



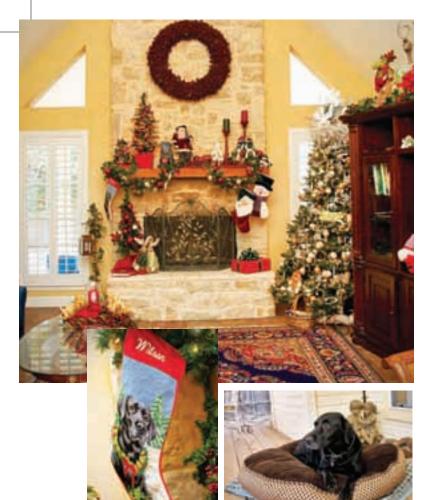
(These seem to have come from the gingerbread house outside, which last week had been an ordinary tool shed.)

The Lynns bought their home in 2005. When they first began looking, they did not consider an older house. But their Realtor knew of one previously for sale that she thought they would love. It was





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not even on the market, but she asked the owner whether she would like to sell. The owner agreed. When the Realtor described the house, Becky said, "We decided to buy it without even seeing the inside first."

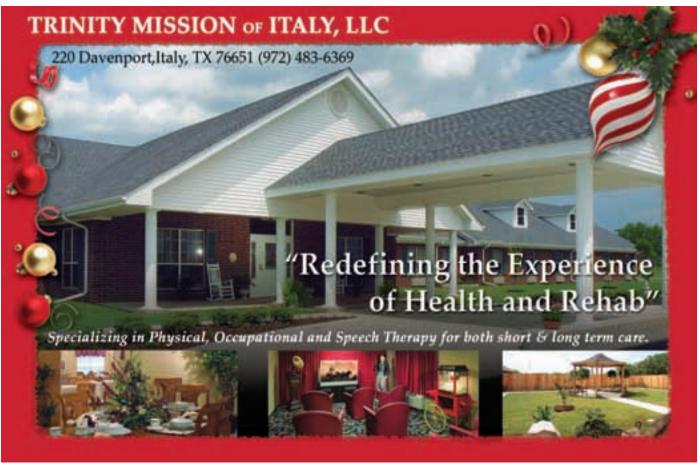
Becky's favorite room is the white bookshelf-lined library off the entry. Mischievous stuffed animals adorn its white Christmas tree, their teasing smiles giving no hint about what is in the gift-wrapped packages scattered around the room.

The front rooms still have their original windows and dark wood floors. But in the five years since joining the Lynn family, the house has grown considerably. A new den with a stone fireplace puts on Christmas finery each December just like the older rooms. A tall gold-and-silver "snowflake" tree occupies one corner, while smaller trees twinkle from tabletops and shelves. Wilson, the Labrador Retriever, has his own tree on the



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hearth, just below his personalized stocking.

Not surprisingly, the master suite holds yet another Christmas tree, laden with handmade ornaments. Lighted "gifts" and stuffed bears fill a guest cradle along one wall. The room also sports greenery, tinsel and a snow-skiing polar bear. Becky is most enthused about the suite's two separate bathrooms. "It was Bob's idea," she said. "He managed to get two whole bathrooms into this space. We just had to

make one of the closets smaller... and it wasn't going to be mine!"

In the spare bedroom, a boisterous pile of gift packages and stuffed animals spills over the bed. And the closet holds a secret: a leaded-glass window in the hallway is set into one of its walls. The glow from the window lights up the hall whenever the closet light is on. "This window came from an old building in Chicago," Bob said. "When we bought it,



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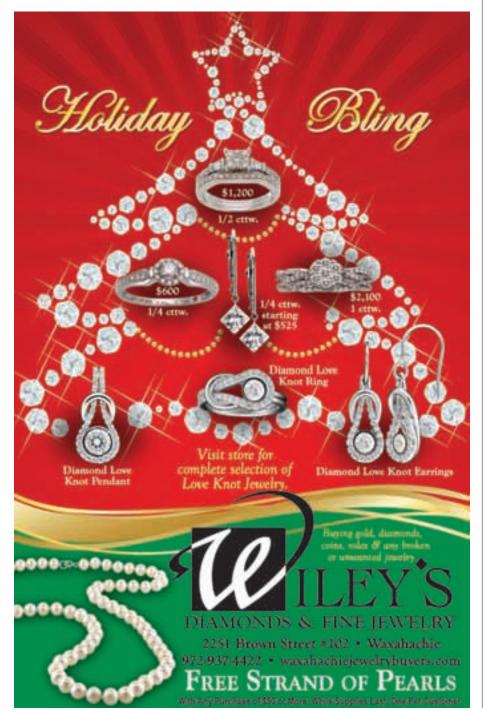




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we had no place to put it."

In the last few years, the Lynns have gained four grandchildren. "It's a new chapter in our life," Bob said.
"Grandparenting is the only way to go."
With all the toward presents it is no

With all the toys and presents, it is no wonder the little ones love to visit in December. In fact, it looks as if the home dressed up just for them. Bob disagreed. "No, we do the fun stuff for us — if they like it, that's great!"

How can the home of two busy professionals transform, with no visible



effort, into a winter wonderland full of quirky decorations? If you suspect they had a little help from elves, you are not far wrong. "We bought most of our decorations from the Briar Patch," Becky explained. "Last year we gave Kirstie Brown, the owner, a house key, and she started

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Local residents have been taking advantage of a nationwide trend by turning gold into cash.

Kendall Wiley, owner of Wiley's Diamonds and Fine Jewelry, said he has been buying gold and diamonds for the last 28 years. Since gold prices have soared, he has been buying thousands of dollars weekly. The increase in market value for gold is allowing people to get more money out of it than in previous years. The last three of four months have had record highs.

People have turned to selling their used gold for several reasons. Some people genuinely need to sell because of expenses. Some just want to clean out their jewelry box of unwanted items. Many want to trade in and upgrade to white gold or just a new piece of jewelry. Others may just need some extra Christmas spending money.

Whatever the reason, seller beware! Be as cautious with selling your valuables as you were in making the purchase. Think twice before mailing in your goodies in response to an Internet ad or TV infomercial (read the fine print). As the old saying goes, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Sell only to reputable jewelers or buyers you trust, so you know you will get the most for your god and diamonds and won't be taken advantage of. Wiley mentions that if you are even thinking about selling your old gold, now is the time. Stop by our location or call for an appointment for a free evaluation while you wait. You are not obligated or pressured in any way to accept our offer. It is our job to make sure you know the facts about your valuables before you sell them to anyone. We are paying cash for gold, diamonds, silver, coins, dental gold, silver flatware, any broken or unwanted jewelry. Stop by the store for more information or visit our website.

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decorating while we were at work."

Elfin help could not have come at a better time; the Lynns' house was slated for the 2009 Candlelight Home Tour. They love to share their home, but they must find many volunteers. Bob has learned to keep the house manned throughout each hour of the tour. One evening last year, tour traffic dwindled. It was early, but no visitors had come by for some time. Bob finally suggested the

"Grandparenting is the only way to go." With all the toys and presents, it is no wonder the little ones love to visit in December.

volunteers call it a night, so they left. He shook his head. "It wasn't 15 minutes later when two busses pulled up, and people just poured out." Becky laughed, remembering the chaos. "It was hectic there for a while!"

Bob explained why they do not mind hosting: "I think we are two of the most blessed people we know, and we feel an obligation to 'pay it forward." He cited the cochlear implant that saved Becky from losing her hearing and having to retire from teaching. Afterward, she heard her first birdcall in 10 years. "That was a tremendous treasure given back to us."

Besides, the invitation to host came from Waxahachie Merchants' Association founder Hilda Harbin Chapman, whom Bob describes as "a silent hero — absolutely tireless." Despite some initial misgivings, he said, "We enjoyed it; we got to hear people's memories and the history of the neighborhood."

The masquerade is over in January, when the Lynns must face the hardest job of all: "Un-decorating," Becky said. "It takes weeks!"

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2010 Holiday Shopping Guide

A quick look at the gift items and discounts available locally.



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A special advertising section

Around Town NOW



A ribbon cutting was held at the new Dairy Queen.

Dakotah Van Huss, and Makenna Van Huss with Boone the dog at the SPCA fundraiser.



Dressed as a friendly lion, Axel the dog visits the park with his owner, Mary Pitner.



B Div KIOWAS Team support Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing pink wristbands and socks during their October games.



Ian Dickson performs live in The Music Room.



Dylan Chase celebrates his new braceless smile with Dr. Stanley Parker.



The YMCA was well represented at the Ellis County Health Fair.



Ark Country Store shows a lot of pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

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Volunteers from Lighted Pathways make a Veterans Day visit to Pleasant Manor Health & Rehab Center.



Melody Miller, Bonnie Howarth and Diane Anderson from Baylor.



Sandi Perry, manager of Heritage Square Townhomes is ready for a busy workday.





Lawrence Jennings makes a stop for the camera.



Chance Harper takes a break during his soccer game.



Gracie Dunsmore smiles after her soccer game.



Joey Kochetta and Piper Ozymy strike a pose.

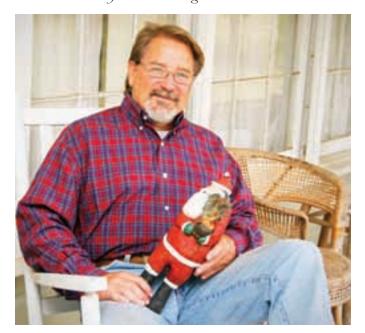
Arts NOW





to Tife

— By Sandra Strong



Kerry Wilson has not figured it out yet. "Three of my four fantastic granddaughters call me 'Ho Ho' instead of 'Paw Paw," he smiled, mentioning the youngest is too small to call him anything right now. "I don't know if it's because of my beard or because I carve Santas." It is how they get his attention all year

long, and believe it or not, Kerry would not have it any other way.

The girls have grown up around the old cedar fence posts, mesquite tree stumps and carving tools that help Kerry master the intricate details of each Santa he creates in his backyard woodshop. For Kerry, the self-proclaimed, God-given talent did not manifest until 18 years ago. "Christmas has always been my favorite time of year. I remember going to a friend's house during the holidays 18 years ago," Kerry explained. "All kinds of Santas were lined up on the fireplace mantle and placed all around the home."

That visit inspired Kerry to return home and cut the top off his live pine Christmas tree. "I carved my first Santa," Kerry said, as he held it gently in his hands. "As you can see, he's tall and skinny; looks similar to a tapered candle." What makes his carving so special? He has never had a single lesson. He has spent very little money on the tools needed for all the intricate details. How long did it take to carve that first one? "It only took about an hour," he laughed.

Kerry's first carved creation was a sensation with family, friends and his soon-to-be wife, Kathy. Looking back, he finds pleasure in remembering so many of his creations. There are Santas dressed in cowboy attire, fisherman Santas, the Harley Davidson Santa, Santas sporting a favorite team and golfing Santas with knickers and argyle socks. Kerry even carved a hunting Santa. "I placed him on a piece of cedar," he said. "If you look closely, you'll see his dog pointing at a quail in front of a cactus."

One of his most intricate carvings is a birthday Santa. "I carved that one for my mother-in-law for her 60th birthday," Kerry said. "There are actually 60 small candles on the cake and the balloons are also carved from wood." Several others feature American flags, wreaths, ski poles and overstuffed Christmas bags. "I love the Santa holding the rooster. It looks like his feathers are tickling Santa's nose," he added with his "Ho Ho" grin.

Kerry takes great pride in the details. Old ceiling tin becomes

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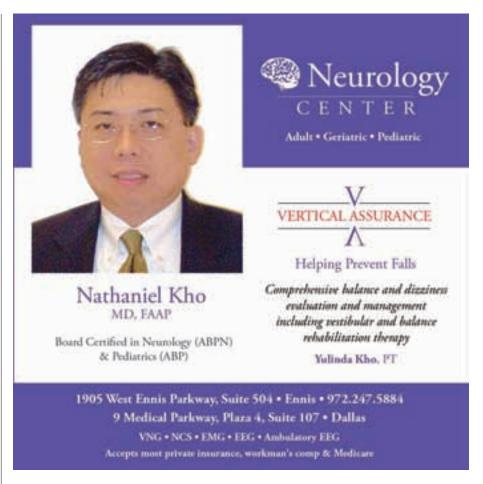
ArtsNOW

a rooster's tail, and it also serves as the fringe on the chaps he carves for his cowboys. Old rusty wire, when twisted just right, becomes a rope, perfect for lassoing. "I also enjoy personalizing them," he admitted. "San Antonio Spurs coach, Gregg Popovich, commissioned one and Texas State Representative Jim Pitts has ordered several. Sometimes families will like two college teams. One of Santa's hands will have the Aggies 'thumbs up' while the other hand will be carved with the sign of the Longhorns, 'two fingers up.' Or a ball cap might be half one team and half another. I don't



begin to carve until I've listened to what the individual wants." And Kerry said mistakes are easily corrected. "I just sand a little and repaint."

The process with each new hand carving is the same. Most of the time Kerry uses old fence posts, but he has also been known to use fallen mesquite trees. He spends a great deal of time "eyeing" the wood before he makes the decision to begin. And so many times, the details he loves are dictated by the shape of the wood. "I strip the skin off and really look at the wood; it has so much character," he said. "I usually decide on the face first, but where I'm going to carve the feet is equally as important. I'm able to see the completed project before I ever begin to carve." Knot holes become





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Arts NOW

Santa's face or a strong shoulder that can carry the weight of Santa's bag. "Inner knotholes cause lots of problems," he added. "Wood bees can burr through wood, and you won't know it until you carve into the hole. Most of the time, these pieces have to be trashed, and I have to start all over again."

As each piece of wood comes to life with its own unique personality, specific





details remain true. "I have always carved my initials and the year of completion," he said. "The painted holly berries evolved over the years and somewhere along the way, I started giving the Santas small round holes for mouths. This year, I'm going to add the Christian fish symbol. This will let others know where my talent comes from. I can't believe I didn't think to use it sooner."

Besides his four granddaughters — Fayth, Ella, Julianna and Jessa Rose — what inspires Kerry today? "That's easy," he stated. "Faith, family and friends; great art comes out of those three things."

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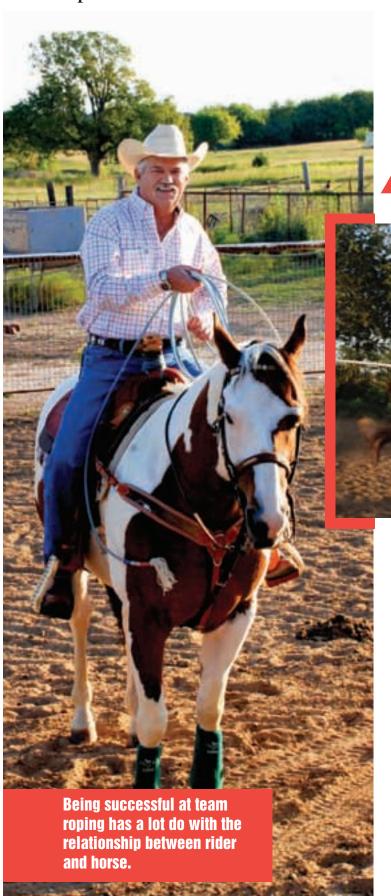




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Sports NOW



— By Carolyn Wills

Johnny Roland is passionate about God, family and team roping "My family has always been involved in equestrian activities," he explained. "I don't remember a time as a kid when I didn't have a horse. My wife, Becky, and I met at a high school rodeo. We've been married for 36 years, and while our children were growing up, we participated in a lot of play days. Becky and I have stayed with it. She likes to barrel race, and I enjoy team roping."

Johnny is not alone in his interest in team roping. It is an enormously popular sport. Last year, in sanctioned and affiliated events of the United States Team Roping Championships (USTRC), more than \$27 million was awarded in prizes. "It's a sport that riders from 8 to 80 can do," Johnny said. "Events pay out cash and prizes from buckles to trucks; and the USTRC has taken great strides to keep the playing field open so people at all levels can compete."

Team roping began as a practical ranching procedure commonly used when a steer needed to be branded or doctored. As a sport, it is a timed competition for two riders who must rope the steer by its horns and back feet and secure it by stretching it between their horses. It is a sport that is all about effective teamwork — teamwork between the rider and horse, in the partnership of two riders and two horses, and in the combination of that partnership with the steer drawn on a given run.

"I am primarily a header," Johnny said. "My job is to rope the horns and turn the steer to the left to give the other rider, the heeler, the chance to

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Sports NOW

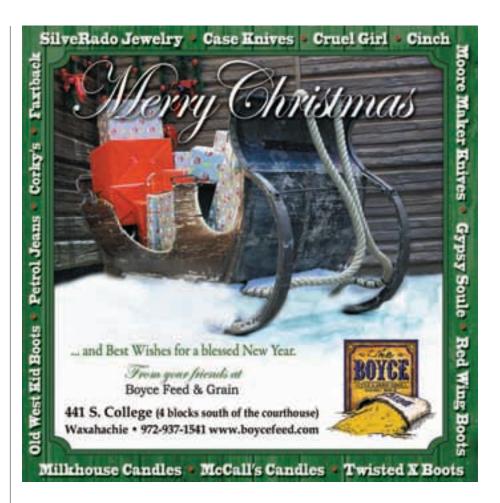
rope the steer's back legs." The clock starts when the steer is released from a chute and given a head start into the arena. The header is required to rope the horns and secure the steer by wrapping the other end of the rope around the saddle horn and then turning his horse to the left to pull the steer behind him. The heeler, then, moves in from behind to rope the hind feet and the flag is dropped when both ropes are taut and each horse is facing the steer. "If you're lucky enough to finish without penalties," Johnny explained, "the run is over in a matter of seconds. Times vary depending on the size of the arena." According to the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA), the current world record in team roping is 3.3 seconds, set at the 2009 Wrangler Final Rodeo in Las Vegas. "It takes a lot of time and money to compete at the national level," Johnny explained. "The industry joke is that team ropers spend all their money and spare time to go see who can stop the fastest."

It can also be a hazardous sport. "One year, my partner and I traveled to Reno, Nevada, to compete in the American Cowboy Team Roping National Finals," he explained. "I was riding a borrowed horse and during the run, the tail end of my rope wrapped around my arm; to avoid injury, I jumped off ... and broke my ankle." Most



injuries result from the use of the rope. "People often say you can spot a team roper by the number of missing fingers on his hand."

Team roping is such a huge sport, especially in Texas; it is not hard to find a nearby event. In fact, the USTRC is headquartered in Stephenville. "The farthest I've ever hauled my horse was to Cloudcroft, New Mexico," Johnny said. "Mostly, we go to events in Texas and Oklahoma. There have been years when we've competed just about every weekend





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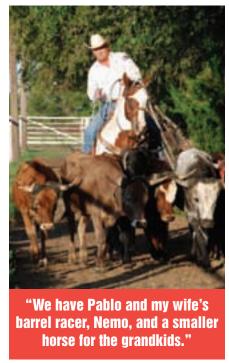




Sports NOW

and two or three times during the week."

Being successful at team roping has a lot do with the relationship between rider and horse. "Some horses can do both heading and heeling," Johnny explained, "but most horses do one. It takes strength and size to be a header and to turn a 500-pound steer running 20 miles an hour. I rode the same horse for about 15 years until he died last August; I was so heartbroken, I thought I might not rope anymore. Recently, though, I found an 8-year-old Paint ranch gelding that I really like. He's calm, has taken to the arena and I like his mannerisms. My 4-year-old granddaughter calls him Pablo, so that's his name."



The Rolands live on acreage with a barn and six horses. "We have Pablo and my wife's barrel racer, Nemo, and a smaller horse for the grandkids," Johnny said. For close to 20 years and until it sold, Johnny worked for an auto dealership in Waxahachie. About a year ago, he started working at the Ark Country Store. "T've used so many equine products in my life, and I like being a resource regardless of the riding discipline or breed," he said. "T'm so blessed to do what I love — to spend the days talking to my team roping buddies and helping people who are just getting started with horses."

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Lameda Balton, social worker; Elaine Roberts, MDS Coordinator; Temique Griffin, Inservice Coordinator; Gerry Noterman, PT/Reihab Dir.; Pete Putman, Maintenance Supervisor; Lisa Scruggs, Payroll'AP; Jennifer Folis, ADON; Melissa Caldwell, MDS Coordinator; Amanda Farmer, ADON; Cori Ogburn, DON; Kay Cobb, Activity Director; Gloria Hinojosa, Dietary Supervisor; Tammy Hughes, Billing; Jenny Cobb, Admissions/Marketing; Ciridy Pierce, Administrator

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Business NOW







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From left:

Dr. Rajiv and Nita Rugwani; staff from All Eye & Optical Care with the Rugwanis.

The Personal Touch

All Eye & Optical Care – the one-stop, eye care clinic. — By Sandra Strong

Dr. Rajiv Rugwani has been in the eye profession for a long time. When he opened his offices in Waxahachie in 2004, he came with a great deal of education and hands-on experience. Dr. Rugwani received a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry with a minor in biology from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1994. He completed his Doctor of Medicine degree at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, School of Medicine, in 1998. Continuing to move up the ladder, his internship in internal medicine was at Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas in 1999. He completed his surgical residency training in ophthalmology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas and at Parkland Hospital in 2002.

Next month, Dr. Rugwani and his staff will celebrate their

first-year anniversary at their new location. As a comprehensive ophthalmologist, he has a wide range of expertise that includes medical, surgical and vision care of eyes. His range of expertise includes complete eye exams, glasses and medication prescriptions as needed, contact lens fitting, glaucoma treatment, cataract surgery, diabetes eye care and corneal disease.

Many wonder what the difference is between an ophthalmologist and an optometrist. There are many misconceptions in the differences, with the main one being their medical backgrounds. "Both are referred to as 'eye doctors,"" Dr. Rugwani explained, "but, ophthalmologists have specialized training in all aspects of eye care — medical, surgical and optical. They have a medical degree and offer comprehensive eye care."

An ophthalmologist is licensed to practice medicine and

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surgery. They can diagnose and treat all forms of eye disease, perform eye surgery and prescribe and fit eyeglasses and contact lenses. There are many reasons individuals should see an ophthalmologist which include, but are not limited to: routine dilated eye exams, decreased vision, flashes of light, eye injury or pain, double vision, diabetes mellitus and a family history of eye disease.

Another fact prospective patients may not be aware of is the use of medical insurance at All Eye & Optical Care. "Since I'm a medical doctor, we take regular medical insurance," Dr. Rugwani stated. "Most of the time, your medical insurance will cover the care from an ophthalmologist." Currently, patients can use vision insurance or their medical insurance including Medicare to make an appointment with Dr. Rugwani.

"We are very particular about the eyeglass lenses and prescription fitting of our patients. We make the extra effort to provide good service and quality."

Opening an optical retail shop at the new location to enhance the professionalism of eye care made perfect sense. "Merging the two makes it the one-stop eye shop for our patients," Dr. Rugwani explained. The optical shop, which is managed by Nita Rugwani (Dr. Rugwani's wife), has frames, lenses and contacts, and here vision care insurance is beneficial. "We carry frames for everyone," Nita stated, "from a budget line to the different brand names so there is a wide variety of choices available. We are very particular about the eyeglass lenses and prescription fitting of our patients. We make the extra effort to provide good service and quality."

And the Rugwanis are sure to include the staff at All Eye & Optical Care when they speak of offering the best. "We are very particular about customer service," Dr. Rugwani explained. "We offer a very personal touch with all our patients." The atmosphere at All Eye & Optical Care is one of family. So what are you waiting for? Make your appointment and be part of the family today.





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Education NOW



TEENRookies

— By Sydni Thomas



Bomb threats, burglaries, high-speed car chases and crime scenes fill living rooms across America through nightly television, but a group of students in Ellis County get a taste of the real thing every Tuesday night. When Sheriff Johnny Brown ran for election in 2009, he committed to bringing in

fresh education opportunities for young people. Once elected, he instituted the Ellis County Sheriff's Office Explorers program. "This is not just a police program," Sergeant Matt Murrey said. "Yes, we introduce them to what a career in law enforcement is, but our main goal is to give them life skills."

Matt helps lead the program along with fellow volunteers Sergeant Alvin Sims, Dr. David Gardner and Professor Bruce Stayments of the Southwestern Assemblies of God University's Criminal Justice Program. The leaders bring their own experiences in the law enforcement sector to the program to give students a better understanding of how each part contributes to the whole of law enforcement. "We have officers come in and show students how to make traffic stops," Matt said. "We even set up crime scenes and teach them how to collect fingerprints and evidence."

Students in the program undergo weekly simulations of events that a law enforcement officer would experience. They receive the same physical training that a new recruit for the department would and go through a six-month

probationary period before they are allowed to participate in real-life events. They become certified in Texas Criminal Information Center, National Criminal Information Center, CPR and Automatic Electric Defibrillator. They must also participate in an ethics class and Youth Protection, a course that teaches students how to protect themselves and look for other youth in trouble.

A merit system is in place and determines what activities a student can participate in. After the probationary period is over, a student is given five merit coins. From that point on, each has the opportunity to earn or lose coins based on behavior, knowledge, skills and participation. Once 20 coins are collected, the student has the chance to trade them in for a ride-a-long with a deputy for an entire shift. During the ride-a-long, students must use what they have learned in their training and assist deputies.

Due to the sensitive information and situations a student may encounter on ride-a-longs, not every applicant is accepted. To be considered for the program a student must be between the ages of 14 and 21, have passing grades in school and demonstrate good moral character. The Explorers welcome new recruits year-round. "Other than when kids are in trouble, this is the only countywide group like this for kids," Matt said. "It's taken off and become a life of its own. Through this program the students, along with their families, have formed one big network that has become a support system."

Explorer students learn all sides of a law enforcement career including that of community service. An important part of the program is to have the students give back. They are at a majority of community functions including National Night Out, Salute the Troops, Ovilla Founders Day and Midlothian's Balloon Festival.

The Explorer program is funded mainly through donations and fundraisers. They are in the process of becoming an official nonprofit program. Through SAGU's generosity, the group meets on campus and has access to equipment that they otherwise would not have. "Even the SAGU Theatre Department has volunteered to help our students," Matt

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Education **NOW**

said. "They come in and act the part of criminals so that our students can get a sense of what really happens."

To test their knowledge and skills, the Explorers participate in contests all over the country. Each challenge is a real-life scenario where students role-play as law enforcement officers. This summer they traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, for a national competition against 5,000 other students and 300 agencies from across America. Tyler Bonner brought home a third place trophy for his driving in the emergency vehicle challenge; a feat he says would not have been possible without his team members and leaders. In this year's state competition held in Lake Jackson, Texas, the team placed



second in the domestic crisis intervention challenge and third in the burglary in progress challenge. "The kids learn a lot about discipline in this program," Alvin said. "They are working hard as a team to achieve a common goal. It becomes apparent once they get to competition whether or not they have learned how to work in a team."

As a young organization, the group was not expecting this amount of success so soon, but through the support they have received in the community they believe anything is possible. "I've seen agencies do what it takes to have just a local program to say they have one," Alvin said. "But actually sending them to a national competition? No way. The level of support we receive is unreal."

"We have been fortunate," Matt added, "that Sheriff Brown, the department and our community have given us their complete support, so our students can succeed."

Editor's Note: There are two other explorer groups in the area. They are the Red Oak Police Explorers and the Waxahachie Police Explorers.





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Who's Cooking MOW

In The Kitchen With Linda Hutchins

– By Adam Walker

Linda Hutchins cooks food she loves. "Many of my recipes have been used over and over because they are family favorites." Linda remembered coming home from school with her brother. "We would come home from school and smell potato bread baking."

Her mother taught her how to cook "with a pinch of this and a pinch of that." She associates certain foods with the certain seasons. "Spring has ham and

fruit salads, and summer brings fresh vegetables from Dad's garden. Baked apples are for fall; soups and casseroles are for winter. The holidays bring our traditional turkey, ham potato casserole and corn casserole. Cooking cranberries adds to the holiday excitement and the wonderful smells." When Linda's three grandchildren come over, "The first place they head is the kitchen."



FROZEN CRANBERRY SALAD

2 cups fresh cranberries

2 cups sugar

2 cups finely diced celery

2 cups chopped pecans

2 cups crushed pineapple (drain and reserve juice)

2 3-oz. pkgs. lemon Jell-O

Mayonnaise

- 1. Grind cranberries; mix with sugar and let stand overnight in refrigerator.
- 2. Add celery, nuts and crushed pineapple the next morning.
- 3. Dissolve Jell-O in 2 cups of hot liquid (Use the reserved pineapple juice and add water to make 2 cups.) Boil mixture and then cool.
- 4. When mixture has thickened some, add nut and fruit mixture, put into a mold or rectangular Pyrex dish and freeze.
- 5. When ready to serve cut into squares and let stand a few minutes. You may garnish with a teaspoon of mayonnaise. Serves 12.

CRANBERRY SAUCE

1 cup water

1 cup granulated sugar

1 pkg. fresh cranberries

1 Tbsp. grated orange rind

1 Tbsp. orange juice

1/4 cup pecans

- 1. Bring water and sugar to a boil. Solution will appear clear when sugar is dissolved. Add the remaining ingredients to the liquid and simmer for 10 min. Cranberries will begin to pop open.
- 2. Cool; then refrigerate.
- Remove from refrigerator 1 hour before serving.

CRANBERRY CHUTNEY

1 cup fresh orange sections

1/4 cup orange juice

4 cups fresh cranberries

2 cups sugar

1 cup chopped, unpeeled apple

1/2 cup raisins

1/4 cup chopped walnuts

1 Tbsp. vinegar

1/2 tsp. ginger

1/2 tsp. cinnamon

2 cups water

1 large pkg. cream cheese

Crackers

- 1. Combine all ingredients, except cream cheese and crackers, in a large saucepan and bring to a boil.
- 2. Reduce heat and simmer 5 minutes or until berries begin to burst.
- 3. Chill.
- 4. Warm chutney slightly and serve over a large block of cream cheese along with your favorite crackers.

HOLIDAY PUMPKIN BREAD

1 cup cooking oil

3 cups sugar

1 can pumpkin

4 eggs beaten

3 cups flour

1 tsp. salt

1 tsp. baking powder

1 1/2 tsp. soda

1 1/4 tsp. cinnamon

1 tsp. cloves

1/2 cup golden raisins

1/2 cup dried cranberries

- 1. Mix all ingredients together.
- 2. Grease and flour 2 loaf pans. Pour 1/2 of mixture into each.
- 3. Bake at 350 F for 1 hour. Loaves will rise as they cook. *NOTE*: Be creative and use 1-pound coffee cans or vegetable cans for smaller portions to use for gifts. Freezes well!

MOM'S PECAN PIE

3 eggs slightly beaten 3/4 cup sugar

1 cup light corn syrup

1 tsp. vanilla

1/4 tsp. salt

1 cup chopped pecans

Pastry shell

- 1. Mix ingredients 1-5 together.
- 2. Place chopped pecans in bottom of unbaked pastry shell. Pour mixture over pecans and bake at 350 F for 40 minutes.

MOLASSES COOKIES

A holiday favorite.

3/4 cup shortening

1 cup brown sugar 1/4 cup molasses

1 egg

2 1/4 cups sifted all-purpose flour

2 tsp. soda

1/2 tsp. salt

1 tsp. ginger

1 tsp. cinnamon

1 tsp. cloves

- 1. Combine all ingredients. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto cookie sheet.
- 2. Bake at 375 F for 12 minutes. Yields 3 dozen cookies.

CORN CASSEROLE

1/2 cup margarine

1/3 cup onion chopped

1 17-oz. can whole kernel corn, not drained

1 17-oz. can creamed corn

3 eggs, well-beaten

1 1/4 cups corn muffin mix

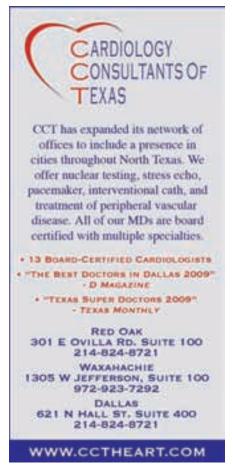
1 cup shredded cheese

- 1. In a small skillet, melt margarine and sauté onion until tender.
- 2. In a large bowl, combine both corns, eggs and muffin mix. Blend well then add onion mixture.
- Pour into a greased casserole dish. Sprinkle with cheese.
- 4. Bake at 350 F for 55-60 minutes or until lightly brown on top. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Serves 6. *VARIATIONS*: 1 can of chopped green chilies, or add sautéed green bell pepper. You can also add 1/3 cup of shredded cheese into mixture.

To view more of your neighbors' recipes, visit our Web site at www.nowmagazines.com.



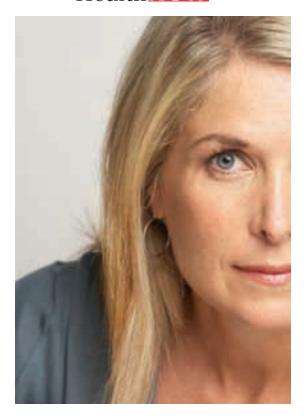






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Health NOW



HEALTH Inside and Out

— By Paul Kare, M.D.

Having healthy skin and a rejuvenated appearance requires a regimen of more than one thing: proper hydration, quality cleansers and moisturizers and a healthy lifestyle. If these things are ignored for long periods of time, the skin begins to look tired and not as youthful. The same can be said about inner health and wellbeing! Ignoring your body's needs for a long period of time can leave you feeling tired all over and feeling much older than your age.

Symptoms like chronic fatigue, sleep disturbances, night sweats, headaches, PMS, constipation, mood swings, irritability or just not feeling like yourself could be signs that your hormones are not working in sync. Just like the skin, your body will begin to age faster on a cellular level when it doesn't have a proper balance. Aging doesn't just show up on the outside, it also shows up on the inside as decreased bone mass, vaginal tissue thinning, metabolic syndrome, hair loss, high blood pressure, loss of collagen and more. We don't lose our hormones because we age; we age because we lose our hormones.

Saliva testing is one of the preferred methods for monitoring your hormone ratios; it's an easy at-home test that you can take throughout the day. The frozen samples are mailed into the lab, and your results are sent to your doctor in as little as seven days. Once the results are received, your doctor can help you

determine if you need to supplement or replace your hormones in addition to any diet and lifestyle changes.

If conventional hormone replacement hasn't been successful for you or you are not a candidate because of risk

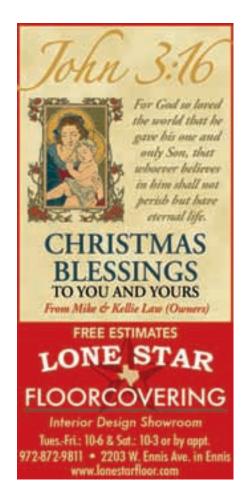
We don't lose our hormones because we age; we age because we lose our hormones.

factors, bioidentical hormones might be a great alternative. These hormones are identical to the hormones produced in the body and are compounded by a pharmacist into a custom formulation made specifically for your body. The prescription is usually in a cream that is applied once or twice a day and may contain one or more hormones. Bioidentical hormone replacement therapy has been helping women all over the country feel more alert, alive and confident again by restoring a healthy balance of hormones. Balanced hormones can lead to balanced health. Patients deserve to look and feel their best at any age! Take time for yourself, and use the time to take care of yourself! NOW

Paul Kare, M.D. Millennium Laser and Medical, and Kare Family Clinic



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Finance NOW

Is a Rollover in Your Future?

— By Adam Rope

Have you recently left one employer to begin working for another? Were you covered by an employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 401(k)? If so, you may be wondering about the future of your account. In the event of a job change, there are many options available to you regarding your employersponsored retirement account assets. The options you have will depend on the provisions of your former employer's plan. Sometimes your money can stay in the plan with your previous employer until you reach a specific age and you then can begin taking withdrawals without a tax penalty.

Remaining with your old plan may have drawbacks. Sometimes fees are charged to former employees to offset managing the account. A minimum asset balance may also be required. Other times you must take your money out when you terminate employment. You should contact the Human Resources department or benefits counselor of your former employer to determine your options. If you withdraw plan assets, you may need to find another funding vehicle.

Transferring the balance of the assets in your previous employer's tax-qualified

account to a plan sponsored by your new employer may be an option. This can be done without paying taxes if the money goes directly to the new account (known as a "direct rollover"). However, your new employer may not allow a rollover, thus you will need to look at further options. One choice to consider is rolling the balance of your account to a Traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA). With this choice, you are able to control the investment options within the IRA. You can also avoid the need to make a further rollover if you change jobs again.

Rolling your 401(k) assets into a Traditional IRA can be costly if not done correctly. If you take a withdrawal, the trustee of your old plan must withhold 20 percent of the money for federal income tax purposes. You have 60 days to roll the distribution to a new qualified retirement vehicle if you do take a withdrawal. The 20 percent withholding will count as a distribution if you do not roll over that amount to an IRA or other qualified plan. A 10-percent tax penalty will usually apply if you are under age 59 1/2 and you don't roll the entire amount into an IRA or other qualified plan.

In order to avoid the 20-percent federal income tax withholding, a direct rollover should be considered. The assets of your employer-sponsored plan are transferred directly from your former employer's plan to a Traditional IRA or other qualified plan. You don't touch the money, and neither does the government. Your assets can grow tax-deferred until you begin withdrawals.

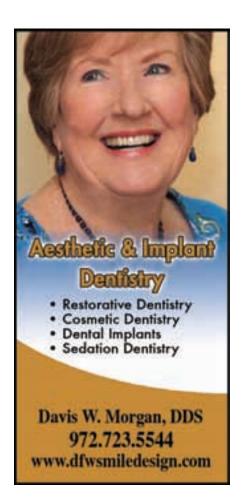
To complete a direct rollover, contact a State Farm agent to discuss your options. Once you determine where you want the money to go, the IRA custodian can request the money from your employer-sponsored plan in the form of a check or wire transfer. Your current IRA contributions are not affected by a rollover. You may contribute the allowable limit to an IRA even after rolling a substantial amount from your previous plan.

With so many choices available, it may be in your best interests to discuss a Traditional IRA rollover with a financial professional. You have some options. Take advantage of one with which you are comfortable.

Adam Rope is a State Farm agent based in Waxahachie.



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Outdoors NOW

Christmas Gifts for Your Gardener

— By Nancy Fenton



Another year has flown by and the holidays are almost upon us again! Years past have seen me with gloves, tarps, clippers, shovels, etc. high on my gift-giving list, and they are still good

choices. But there are some other fun ones I would like to mention, so I delved into the file of pictures, magazine articles and other advertisements I collected all year to find these fun, and sometimes useful, gifts.

The bottle tree is very popular this year and especially fun if you supply multicolored glass bottles to go on it — full or empty. They make charming additions to any garden area.

Of course, a gardener would love an actual tree. Texas-native trees will be cherished for years to come, and Christmastime is not too late to plant a container-grown tree. When selecting a tree, be sure to remember our alkaline clay soil, and stay away from the exotic ones advertised in the newspapers and catalogues if you want it to flourish outside.

My brother's favorite gift last year was a matching pair of "boot cleaners," one for the back door and one for the front door. I had a bit of trouble finding the ones with the brown brushes, but most farm and feed stores have these year-round. I get bulb baskets for our children's families since they are pretty easy on busy moms around the holidays. The grandchildren can plant them in the yard after the holidays and see if they will come up year after year. I usually avoid tulips for the Texas families, since they are more of an annual here in the South. Star of Bethlehem and amaryllis are both good choices that will come back bigger and stronger year after year, as do narcissi and daffodils. You can even buy your own bulbs and make your own, just be sure to chill the bulbs first!

Last but not least are color-changing solar lights that add a bit of whimsy to your landscaping. Available at some local stores and online, they are a fun and welcome addition to the dreary days of winter.

Have a great holiday; be careful; and be ready to start another year. I'm going to try to look at some theme gardens for Texas next year, so stay tuned!

Nancy Fenton is a Master Gardener.







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TravelNOW

Ring in the Holiday Season Grapevine-style!

Blanketed with millions of lights, a multitude of decorations, animated characters, a myriad of holiday events and great shopping for everyone on your list, Grapevine truly is the "Christmas Capital

of Texas." Throughout the season, you can experience the holiday magic at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center's "ICE!" display. This extraordinary and magical display of elaborate, life-sized ice sculptures, ice slides and ice monuments with dramatic lighting effects is created from nearly 2 million pounds of ice. This year's exhibit will feature Charles Schulz's A Charlie Brown Christmas.

Grapevine's Palace Theatre will entertain audiences for weeks with a one-of-kind Broadway-style musical titled *Home for the Holidays*. The holiday revue combines live music, singing and dancing

with beautiful costumes and sets to paint the picture of a classic American family Christmas.

Children will enjoy the magical North Pole Express® for an adventure-filled

train ride. Cozy in their favorite holiday pajamas, passengers will experience the enchanting excursion and participate in fun activities from ornament making and caroling to pictures with Santa and more. Regardless of age, this once-in-a-lifetime journey will make a believer out of anyone!

After the trek to the North Pole and back, be sure to enjoy Christmas on Main in Historic Downtown

Grapevine. The event features Santa, jolly Christmas characters and decorations adorning the mile-long stretch of road. Special guests include Ellie the Elf, Frosty the Snowman, Santa on stilts and children

can play Reindeer Games. Hop aboard tractor-drawn wagon rides for only \$1 per person! The North Pole Express and Christmas on Main run Dec. 3-5, 10-12 and 17-19.

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the holidays by enjoying your family's favorite Christmas films on the big screen at the Palace Theatre starting Dec. 4. Evening and matinee shows are available; tickets are \$5 per person.

In addition to all the holiday festivities in Grapevine, you cannot leave without experiencing shopping on Main Street! Shoppers can stroll along and marvel at the holiday lighting while checking off their holiday shopping list with all the charming gifts local stores have to offer.

For additional information contact the Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau at (800) 457-6338 or (817) 410-3185 or visit www.GrapevineTexasUSA.com/Christmas.

Photo courtesy of Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau.









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Happening M

Through February 15

Master Gardener Photo Contest is currently underway. Deadline for entries is February 15, 2011. Entry categories include "single specimen" and "in the garden." Think about vegetables, summer gardens and fall and winter when taking pictures. There is no cost, and individuals may enter as many as five photos. Prizes will be awarded. Enter online at www.ecmga.com.

All Month

Waxahachie Faith Family Academy is enrolling for a new 3-year-old Pre-K program, 701 Ovilla Road. Contact the school office at (972) 938-3996 for more information.

Weekends in December

Bethlehem Revisited, 402 N. College Street, Waxahachie, December 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11 and 12, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Free admission. Performances repeated every 30 minutes. "The Supper Quilt" by Dr. Locke, DDS will also be on display. For more information, call (972) 937-2390.

Ennis Public Theatre presents *Light Sensitive*: December 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20 at 2705 N. Kaufman Street, Suite C, Ennis. Friday and Saturday evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m., afternoon matinee performances begin at 2:30 p.m. For information or to order your tickets, call (972) 878-7529.

Fourth Mondays Creative Quilters Guild of Ellis County: 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Waxahachie Bible Church, 621 Grand Avenue. The annual Christmas party will be celebrated in lieu of a guest speaker.

Tuesdays

Waxahachie Sunset Lions Club: 6:00 p.m. at The Dish in the Rogers Hotel, downtown Waxahachie. Questions may be answered by contacting Laura Hargrove at (817) 673-0356 or by attending a meeting.

Third Tuesdays Skyblazers of Waxahachie R/C Club: 7:30 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Building in downtown Waxahachie.

Wednesdays

GriefShare Recovery Seminar and Support Group: 6:15 p.m. at Palmer Christian Child Care and Day School, located at 510 S. Dallas Street. For more information, call Vivian Saladino at (214) 802-2256 or e-mail griefshare@fbcpalmer.com.

Third Wednesdays

The Ellis County Christian Women's Connection, affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries, monthly luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Waxahachie

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Happening MOW

Country Club, located at 1920 W. Hwy. 287 at I-35 East (Exit 401B). The cost is \$13, inclusive. Contact Kay at (972) 937-2807 or windchime423@yahoo.com or Margaret at (972) 937-1016 or pmestepp@yahoo.com.

Saturdays

Improv Comedy Night: 8:00 p.m., After Hours Improv Theater, 100 N. College Street, Waxahachie. Also this month: **December 3**, 8:00 p.m., improv benefiting Global High PTO; **December 4**, 8:00 p.m. Improv Comedy Show; **December 10**, 8:00-11:00 p.m., "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" dance; **December 11**, 8:00 p.m., Improv Comedy Show; **December 17**, 6:30 p.m., Children's Theater presents *Odon the Giant* (children's performance) and at 8:00 p.m. the Children's Theater presents *Kelly and the Internet Goblins* (teen performance); **December 18**, 8:00 p.m., Improv Comedy Show. Call (972) 937-9839 or visit www.AfterHoursImprov.com.

Second Saturdays

Songwriter Second Saturdays: 6:00 p.m., social time; 6:30-7:15 p.m., dinner and fellowship; 7:30-8:15 p.m., opening act; 8:30-10:00 p.m., featured artist. For more information, contact Randy Tredway at (972) 938-9990 or e-mail him at randy@inthemusicroom.com. Bring beverages for yourself and a covered dish to share. Seating is limited.

December 4

Waxahachie Christmas Parade: Downtown, 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Market and Gift Show: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Waxahachie Civic Center, 2000 Civic Center Lane, Waxahachie. Admission is \$5; children are free. For more information, call (214) 536-2993.

December 4, 5, 11 and 12

Candlelight Home Tour: 2:00-8:00 p.m., \$15 per weekend, children under 12 are free. The eight remaining homes will be highlighted for the holidays. For more detailed information, call (972) 937-2390.

December 4, 9 and 18

Texas Theatre: 110 W. Main Street, Waxahachie. **December 4**, Special Christmas Concert starring Vince King as Elvis: 7:00 p.m., \$15 at the door. **December 9**, Davin Jones: 7:00 p.m., \$10 at the door. December 18, Country Music Revue: 7:00 p.m., \$10 at the door. For more information, call (972) 937-1993.

December 11 and 12

Trade Days of Waxahachie: Operating hours are Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.







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Happening **M**

and Sunday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Ellis County Expo Center, 2300 W. U.S. Hwy. 287, Waxahachie. Free parking and admission. For more information, visit www.tradedaysofwaxahachie.com or call Les Clemons at (972) 617-8156, James Scott at (214) 202-1788 or Jean Davis at (972) 816-3644.

December 11

Christmas Toy Drive: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Citizens National Bank, Uptown Waxahachie. This event, sponsored by the Honda Goldwing Riders GWRRA Chapter W-2, benefits the children served by CASA of Ellis County (Court Appointed Special Advocates). Cash donations and unwrapped toys for children and teens will be greatly appreciated! Make checks payable to CASA of Ellis County and mark for: W-2 Toy Drive. All donations are tax deductible.

Lighted Victorian Christmas Stroll: 7:00 p.m. Join our walking parade, which begins at Singleton Plaza (College Street Side) and continues through historic downtown Waxahachie. For information, call (972) 937-2390.

December 16-18

The Gift of the Magi, presented by Waxahachie Community Theatre, McCafferty Hall on the campus of Southwestern Assemblies of God University, 1200 Sycamore. Show times: Thursday-Friday: 7:30 p.m. Saturday: 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and are available online at www. waxahachiecommunitytheatre.com or at the door. Seating is limited, so get your tickets early! Please note: Venue is not handicap or wheelchair accessible. For information, call (972) 646-1050.

December 24 Christmas Eve

December 25 Christmas Day

December 26 Kwanzaa

December 31 New Year's Eve

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

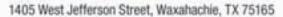
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"My breast cancer is gone. I'm back in business."

Susan Filgo was making plans to start a new business when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.
"Hearing the news literally sucked the life right out of me," she said. At Baylor Medical Center at Waxahachie,
Susan was given a treatment plan customized to her specific cancer. She had a lumpectomy followed
by five days of radiation. "The staff was absolutely wonderful and Baylor Waxahachie was very easy to
navigate." Susan resumed knitting the day of her procedure, and just two months later, opened a yarn
and spinning wheel shop. "Baylor took care of my breast cancer, so I could move ahead with my life."

For a physician referral or for more information about cancer care services, call 1.800.4BAYLOR or visit us online at BaylorHealth.com/WaxCancer.





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"The Industry Standard of Excellence"

GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY

To commemorate our 50th Anniversary, Dart Container made 50 grants of \$5,000 in the communities where our employees live and work.

The pictures below show the delivery of two of these grants to Palmer Elementary and Avalon ISD.





Dart is proud to be able to make an impact in the lives our employees, their families, and the communities in which they live.

To learn more about Dart's charitable efforts, visit our website: www.dartfoundation.org

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