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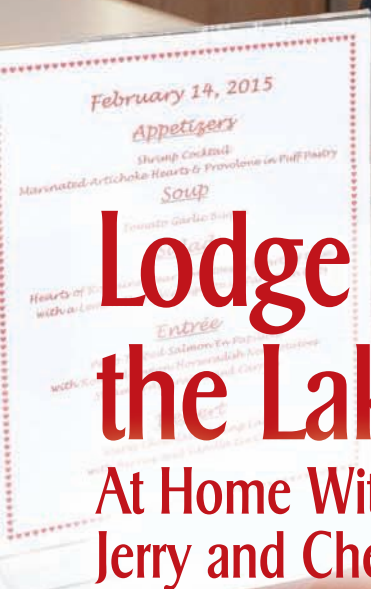
Kiss the Cook

J.B. and Lori Gross
create meals and
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Photo by Sarah McVean.

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Editor's Note

Greetings, friends!

Love is in the air! I look forward to Valentine's Day every year. It could be because of the tasty treats gifted to me by my children, sharing a romantic meal with my husband or receiving greeting cards that offer thoughts of admiration. Maybe it's all three! I wish you much love this month and all year long.

As we think of sharing our hearts with loved ones, it reminds me that we need to take care of our own heart health. February marks American Heart Month, and tips to stay heart healthy are available at www.cdc.gov.

Here at *WeatherfordNOW*, we're celebrating our fourth anniversary. Our hearts are filled with gratitude! We appreciate the support we've received from our readers and advertisers over the years. And to all of the residents who have shared their stories with us — we say thank you!

Take care!

Amber

Amber D. Browne
WeatherfordNOW Editor
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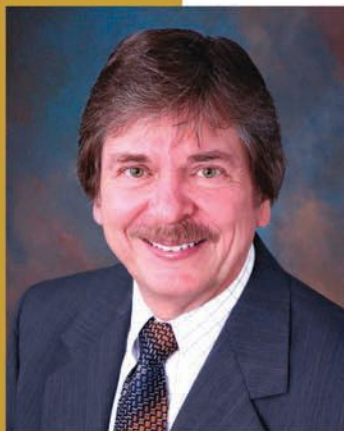
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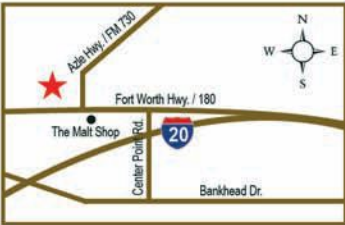
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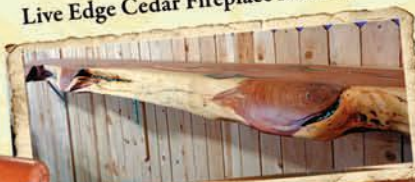


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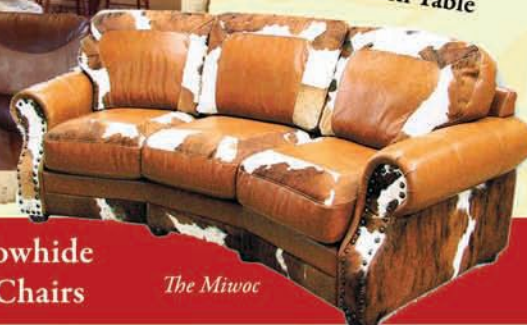


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More than half a decade before Will Goodwin, D.D.S, opened his own office at Goodwin Dental, he had been applying three words to the way he provided his dentistry: compassion, trust and understanding. Together, Dr. Goodwin and his handpicked team members are carrying out these standards in their modern dental office and positively impacting families all over Parker County one smile at a time. "We want our families to enjoy a first-class experience in a warm and relaxing environment," Dr. Goodwin said. "We are committed to knowing every patient by more than just a name, so we don't get in a rush around here. We take the time to listen and customize our care to fit your needs."

Dr. Goodwin also believes excellent dentistry can still be convenient, comfortable, and affordable. To do those three things, he has implemented office norms such as:

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- Good jokes, told poorly by Dr. Goodwin himself

Serving as president for the Fort Worth Academy of General Dentistry and member of a Parker County study club, Dr Goodwin recognizes there are other exceptional dentists to choose from.

"When selecting a dentist for you or your family, don't be afraid to 'interview' a few dentists and meet their team at a consultation visit. Ask for any specific advanced training background they have beyond weekend courses and ask for before and after photos or testimonials of their patients." Dr. Goodwin adds, "Recommendations from social Sally or connected co-worker Cliff are always good, but remember your dental care is a very personal and intimate service that



necessitates a strong trust and lifetime relationship between you and your dentist."

Dr. Goodwin feels, "Dentistry is an amazing platform where I have the daily opportunity to impact someone's life by improving their health, reducing their risk of oral diseases, or enhancing their smile." He goes on, recalling Matthew 5:16, "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

"I care for our patients with compassion, trust and understanding because I serve a loving Heavenly Father that first loved us, and it glorifies Him. So, while we'd like to take full credit for the smiles we've created or diseases reversed, we remember the greater artist and physician, the ultimate Creator and Healer, God. I truly love what I do because I take John 15:5 to work with me every day." In fact, his wife put that scripture on his keychain as a wedding gift.

If Dr. Goodwin and his team are not designing stunning smiles or fighting plaque, they are having fun and giving back in support of areas they have a personal affinity for such as science, technology, art, baseball and softball, cancer patients, the sick, poor, or abused.

For more information about Goodwin Dental or to schedule a visit, call 682-312-5260 or go to aledodentistry.com

I am pleased to have chosen Goodwin Dental for my oral health needs. They have a lovely office and relaxing atmosphere. Lynn, the receptionist, was very friendly and professional. I initially went for a visit to have my teeth cleaned but ended up having cavities filled. Dr. Goodwin and Chazleigh were so gentle and patient with me. Dr. Goodwin has the best bedside manner I have experienced in a VERY long time. If you are shopping around for a dentist who truly cares about your level of comfort and well being, then give Goodwin Dental a try. You will not be disappointed in the care that he provides for you. - Kelly

Both of my visits at Goodwin Dental in Aledo were very pleasant visits. I needed some work on some of my back teeth, and he fixed me up with little to no discomfort. His team is great at making you feel comfy and explains everything well, so no surprises. Love the modern, clean feeling office and convenient hours. I think I finally found a dentist I trust, and now I just need to get my husband over there! - Gaby

Dr. Goodwin is great! He is very personable and easy to talk to. He doesn't seem to push procedures on you — he gives you all the information and lets you decide how you want to proceed. I highly recommend him to anyone who wants a good dentist! - Tim

Kiss the Cook

By Amber D. Browne

Romance can be discovered in many ways. Some may find it in simple gestures of love with a quick embrace or a stolen kiss. Others may enjoy an evening out or a romantic weekend getaway. For J.B. and Lori Gross, romance is found in their kitchen nearly every day, as they create and share scrumptious dishes together. "It's something we've liked to do as a couple since we first met," J.B. stated.

Part of what drew Lori to J.B. was talk of his interests in cooking and entertaining. They were introduced to each other on that premise by a mutual friend. "When we first started dating, we probably went out to eat two or three times, and then we always cooked at home," Lori recalled. When they go out to eat, they often get ideas for dishes to try at home. J.B. and Lori have a knack for deciphering what ingredients are in a dish simply by tasting it.

Their love of food stems from their childhoods. Lori's mother, Gwen Kieley, was a great cook and enjoyed baking. Her father, Don Kieley, enjoyed entertaining guests. "I can remember my dad doing brunches with Bloody Marys and sausage balls," she said.

J.B.'s mother, Lois Gross, was a caterer and also enjoyed entertaining guests at home. His father, Birney Gross, always helped out, so J.B. learned early it was OK for a man to be in the kitchen. When J.B. first met Lori's family, he made brunch for them at her Dallas condominium. The spread included dishes ranging from casseroles to blueberry muffins. "My brother said, 'Oh just wait. If you ever get married, he won't do that,'" Lori grinned. However, that hasn't been the case. J.B. continues to excite her with new dishes to experience and old favorites to enjoy.



“There will be nights when we’ll cook and have nice music on. We’re not going anywhere, and we’ll just have a fun evening.”

Lori met J.B.’s parents as they hosted nearly 60 people for their 45th wedding anniversary celebration. “She said, ‘Hi honey. Nice to meet you,’ handed me a tray and asked me to walk around and serve the guests!” Lori laughed. Over the years, J.B.’s mother passed down beautiful serving dishes, china, silver and, of course, family recipes. They’ve collected hundreds of recipes over the years. Many are kept in a box, but more are saved on the computer. When his mother became ill, J.B. began to organize her recipes. “I had the whole room covered in stacks of recipes,” he said. She passed away the next day.

J.B. and Lori have been married for 20 years. They carry on the tradition of entertaining friends and family. Together, they’ve hosted large gatherings and intimate dinners. One year, they donated a six-course meal to be auctioned at a local fundraiser, and then hosted the highest bidder at their home.

Themed dinners are their specialty. “Lori has the imagination. She comes up with ideas for the menus, and I help.” For the past seven years, they’ve been part of a monthly dinner club. Membership has fluctuated over the years, but the Grosses and Bill and Lisa Wathen have participated consistently. Every other month, the Grosses host the Wathens for a six-course meal,





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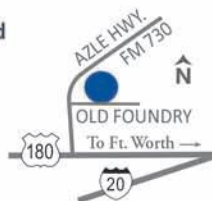
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and the Wathens host the other months. The meals include an appetizer, soup, salad, entrée with side dishes, dessert and a cheese platter to end the evening. The dishes are paired with wine.

For each meal, Lori creates a customized menu, which she prints on themed paper. Many of the dishes are made ahead of time. Cooking times are written on their copy of the menu to ensure that each dish is ready to eat as scheduled, although, occasionally, the timing is off. They clean the kitchen as they cook and make time to visit with their guests.

Menus include mostly poultry, fish and shellfish, because J.B. and Lori don't eat beef and only occasionally eat pork. That doesn't limit the quality of the menus. "We've never had the same thing twice at either house," she said. Lori would like to find a sign that reads *Friends Make a House a Home*. "We'd be just as happy to have a group of people and do a casserole and a salad." They've also hosted parties with a hired caterer or have asked their guests to bring dishes to share.

"The whole idea is getting friends together," J.B. said. "We have a good time."

Creating and sharing delicious dishes seems to run in the family. "My daughter and her husband are great cooks. J.B.'s son is a great cook. Everyone in the



family is a great cook,” Lori boasted. Their 10-year-old twin grandchildren, Gavin and Kieleigh, also enjoy the art of cooking. “My daughter came back from a run the other day, and Kieleigh brought her a tray with a flower on it and an egg white omelet with spinach and cheese,” she shared.

Fresh ingredients seem to make their way into most of the Grosses’ dishes, but they have an entire drawer full of dried herbs, too. Vegetables are a staple in their meals. J.B. enjoys making shrimp scampi with garlic and pesto or grilling fish on a cedar plank. Lori recently began incorporating *en papillote*, or cooking in parchment paper, into their meals. “We’ll put wilted spinach on

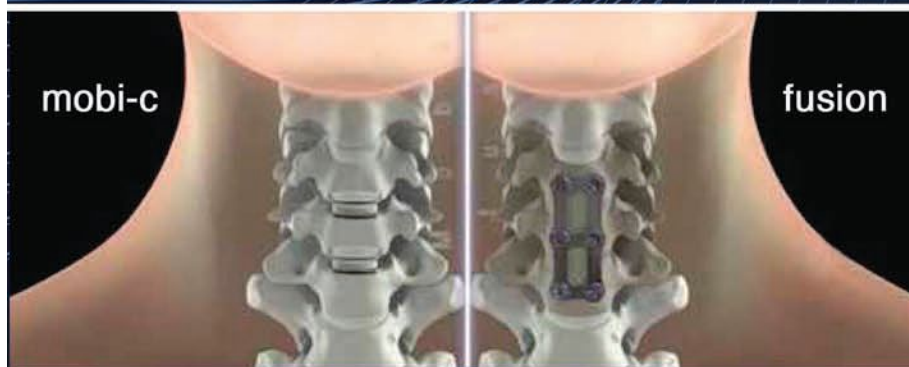


the bottom, then the piece of salmon, topped with caramelized onions. You fold it all together so when you put it on people’s plates, it’s a complete meal,” Lori explained.

“We’ll cook just for the two of us. We’ll also bring food to the office and share with the people who work with us,” she said. J.B. and Lori own J.B. Gross Insurance, where Lori works as an agent. In their free-time, J.B. plays tennis, and Lori is involved in a monthly Keno group. They enjoy their greenhouse when time permits.

Every Sunday, they sit down to make a grocery list of items needed for their weekly menu. “We’re not gourmet. We look up recipes on the Internet or pull them out of a magazine or our recipe box,” J.B. said. “Things can be very simple.”

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They are self-proclaimed home bodies but enjoy traveling and trying out different restaurants. "It could be months ahead of time, and he's online picking out everywhere to go to eat." If they enjoy a dish, they may ask the chef for the recipe, which they add to their growing collection.

Cooking is their passion, and J.B. and Lori truly enjoy sharing the kitchen together. "There will be nights when we'll cook and have nice music on," J.B. shared. "We're not going anywhere, and we'll just have a fun evening." With their appetite for delectable food and love of cooking, they plan to share many more fun evenings together in the kitchen. **NOW**

Happy Valentine's Day!



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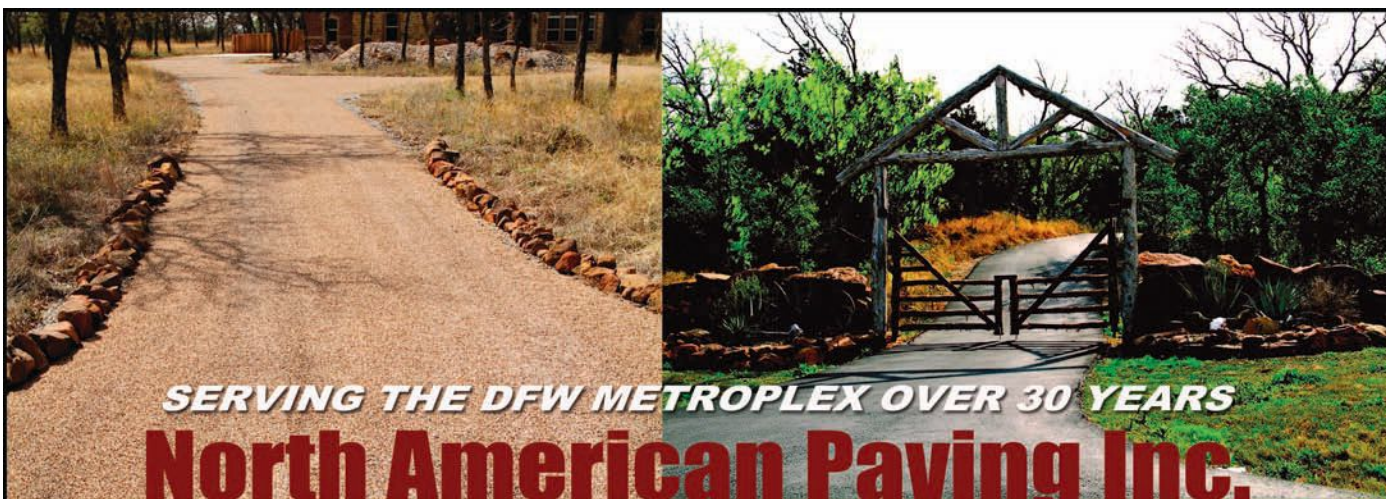
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Lodge on the Lake

— By Amber D. Browne



At Home With Jerry & Cheryl Cassels

When you think about a log cabin on a lake, your mind may wander to the deep woods of Wyoming. However, Lake Weatherford has a log cabin of its very own. Jerry and Cheryl Cassels always dreamed of owning a house on the lake, but they didn't want a "cookie cutter home." They decided on a cabin with an open floor plan, vaulted ceilings and ample windows to view the water below. "We wanted to be comfortable," Jerry shared.

The bottom level of the three-story cabin can house four vehicles, but right now, it's full of boxes that Jerry and Cheryl need to rummage through. They moved into the home in May 2014, after nearly two years waiting for its completion. Once some room opens up in the garage, Jerry plans to restore a 1965 Mustang for his daughter, Chessa Cassels, and a 1965 Mustang Fastback for himself.



Chessa opened her home to her parents after their house sold quickly. They lived with Chessa and her daughter, Kayleigh, and Chessa's friend, Dyan Ritter, during the building process. Jerry was the contractor on the house and hired subcontractors to complete some of the work, including the framing, electric, plumbing and A/C. Jerry did most of the interior work with help from family members.

They stained the outside of the home, which is made of log siding purchased from Simms Lumber in Weatherford. The 20-foot ceiling and most of the interior walls in the living area are covered with

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natural finish, tongue- and groove-wood siding. Jerry's brother, Harold Cassels, built scaffolding to install the paneling. Harold passed away from cancer last March, but Jerry is glad the two were able to spend quality time together working on the house.

Their daughter, Vanessa Cludius, and husband, Andrew, also worked on the home. Jerry called on Andrew to help install logs on the lakeside interior wall. The split logs weighed about 500 pounds each. Jerry and Andrew used a pulley system of chains to maneuver

them into place, adding reinforcement and log accents to the natural wood paneling. "Any time I need a strong back, somebody a little younger," Jerry said, "I call Andrew." The wall has just shy of a dozen windows and a sliding glass door that leads out onto the covered deck overlooking their waterfront backyard.

Neutral colors of beige and brown are prominent in the second-floor master bedroom and bathroom. Antler hardware on the bathroom cabinets exudes the feeling of a mountain cabin. The sliced pebble shower floor mimics a dry creek

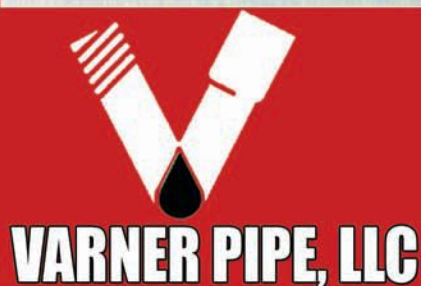
bed as it flows up the center of one wall. Jerry's brother, Gene Cassels, made several trips from New Mexico to help him install the tile in the master and guest bathrooms. Jerry's late father, Vernon Cassels, worked in construction, so as children, Jerry and his brothers learned a lot about the industry. Their knowledge was put to good use finishing the interior of the home.

Instead of using wood paneling in all rooms, Cheryl decided on Sheetrock for the interior walls in the bedrooms, bathrooms and the wall leading upstairs.

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Chessa laid the tile backsplash in the kitchen and added hand-troweled texture to the Sheetrock. She and Cheryl painted all of the rooms in neutral colors.

Cheryl's eye for interior design is apparent throughout the home. Her main contribution on the house was coordinating the selection of all finishes including cabinetry, light and plumbing fixtures, flooring and paint, as well as materials, doors and surface textures. The dining table sits atop a longhorn rug, and turquoise accent pieces add color to the room. The kitchen features stainless steel appliances and copper light fixtures above the island. Rustic decor, including a horse sculpture, gives visitors plenty to view as they relax on the rust-colored leather sofa in the living area. An elk mount purchased at an estate sale is a focal point on the lakeside wall.

Jerry assembled a log staircase leading to the third floor. It includes a stringer made from an entire tree that was cut lengthwise. Their Doberman Pinscher, Jack, sleeps under the staircase in a four-poster bed custom-built by Jerry. The third-floor loft includes a pool table for guests. A door leads to a covered deck that displays an American flag and overlooks the front yard. A guest bedroom features mountain cabin decor, complete with a stuffed moose and black bear.

Although Cheryl must head off to work at First Financial Trust and Asset Management Co. in Fort Worth each morning, Jerry spends his retirement enjoying the view. "I'll drink a whole pot of coffee before I even think about trying to do anything," he admitted. Deer and families of opossums often surprise Jerry as he enjoys his mornings on the lake.

The mood of the home is relaxation. "We just like the feel of it," Jerry said.





And, Jerry is ready to relax. He retired from his position as vice president of parts operations from Southwest Ford in December 2013. Although he's been living at the lake for just under a year, Jerry's only been fishing once. He's ready to change that fact soon, possibly this summer when their grandchildren, Kayleigh and Kaleb visit.

Jerry and Cheryl enjoy spending time with their family and attending their grandchildren's sporting events. They reared their daughters in Weatherford, after moving to the area from Carlsbad, New Mexico, in the mid-1970s. Both of their daughters graduated from Weatherford High School and still live in Weatherford.

The Cassels have been married for 42 years. They met in New Mexico when Cheryl went to the auto parts store where Jerry worked to purchase parts for her parents' automotive repair shop. Jerry has worked in the auto parts business for his entire adult life, including his time in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. He initially attended school to be an architect. He's enjoyed using that knowledge to plan for and build the log cabin they now call home. Cheryl has consistently worked in the banking industry, including at First National Bank and TexasBank. She recently took about three years off to care for her mother, Jessie Gough, who passed away last August.

Although they haven't had much time to socialize recently, their lakeside community has been welcoming. "In between building and our garage sale," Cheryl explained, "we've met a lot of our great neighbors."

Work continues on their cabin on the lake. Jerry has extended the backyard deck and built a pergola and picnic table with leftover lumber. He plans to use the other half of the staircase log to build benches for an outdoor fire pit. They are settling into their new home. "Living at the lake," Cheryl shared, "feels like we're on vacation." **NOW**

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POSSIBILITIES

— By Amber D. Browne

Holding on to the past can be just as important as moving forward into the future. Weatherford is rich in history, and its historic value can be seen daily during a leisurely stroll through downtown. Growth is apparent throughout the city as new businesses pop up and town favorites expand. For Kathy Wylie, preserving the city's history and working toward growth are both important and necessary.

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As a child, Kathy and her family briefly lived in the country. “My mother dragged me through every abandoned house in the county that year. We found all sorts of treasures. We would imagine who lived there and what their lives were like,” Kathy explained. “All things historic have some emotional connection with someone. For me, it was the way it made me feel to imagine those old places new again with my mother.”

Kathy, her husband, Joe, and their two daughters moved to Weatherford from Fort Worth in 1991. The couple worked in real estate investments, with Kathy’s





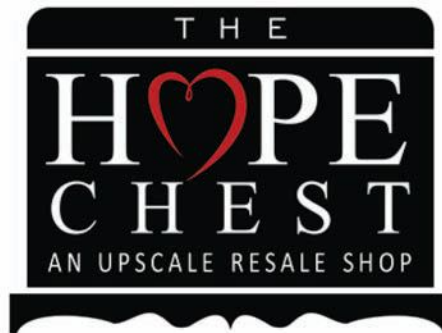
experience in the industry stretching back to her early 20s. She has enjoyed renovating historic homes and “flipping” them. “I love taking old stuff and putting life back into it,” she stated.

In 1996, Kathy met Sharon Mangum, and they opened Manlie Construction, Inc., which was in operation until 2008. “Sharon and I were the first people to go to the north side of Weatherford, the most east quadrant.” They purchased an entire block on Liberty Street. They tore down one house, restored another and built four new homes. “We tried to keep them aesthetically true to the era of the neighborhood.” They restored other historic homes that were in grave condition. History cannot be replaced, but it can be resurrected. “If you ever lose an old home, it’s gone.”

Through their work renovating the northeast side, Kathy built relationships with city employees and officials. “They are there to help us all.” Kathy’s attitude is that if people work together, things get accomplished.

During the process, Kathy also learned more about her neighbors in Weatherford. The community came together with the city’s help to accomplish a goal — to restore history and build new homes for community members to enjoy. “We got the job done and created homes and safe neighborhoods for policemen, teachers and firemen to raise their families in,” Kathy said. Historic homes are being restored across the downtown area, and plans are in the works to continue that trend.

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Kathy serves on the Weatherford Parks and Recreation Board and as the chair of the Weatherford Downtown Committee, which worked with community members to create Weatherford's Path to the Future Consolidated Vision and Plan. Last fall, the proposal won the American Planning Association Texas Chapter's 2014 Comprehensive Planning Award. The plan includes park improvements. The Patsy Hooks Dog Park and the Food Court at Heritage Park are now open, and hike and bike trails and a reflection pond are in the planning stages. An amphitheater at Heritage Park will host concerts and theater performances. "All funds for park improvements come from royalty money provided by the landfill, not tax money. This is thanks to the insightful planning of the Utility Board years ago. It was really, really progressive thinking and a very smart decision that will enhance the quality of life for Weatherford residents for years to come."

Other improvements from the Path to the Future plan are in place at Heritage Park. An information center with restrooms has been erected. New walkways replaced gravel for First Monday Trade Days visitors checking out what vendors have to offer. The improvements add to the tradition that has been part of Weatherford for more than 155 years.

In addition to park improvements, the Path to the Future plan would have created a bypass and enhanced



parking in downtown Weatherford. Those improvements were part of a bond initiative that failed to pass in the November 2014 general election. State officials are working with local leaders on a plan to tackle the transportation issue and make the downtown area more pedestrian-friendly.

As a member of the Citizens Capital Advisory Council, Kathy gets insight working with other community members and the city on what plans are in place to accommodate growth. Growth isn't expected to end any time soon as people continue to move farther west. "Everybody wants the same thing. Working together, we can accomplish anything."

Kathy stresses the importance of a Weatherford Community Action Network. She would like to pull together proactive community members to create a committee of representatives of every age. The committee would meet to discuss and prepare for the future of Weatherford.

Although her real estate career at Century 21 Judge Fite keeps Kathy busy, she still has enough energy for her volunteer work. She tirelessly educates the public about what's new for the city. She also serves as a member of the Steering Committee with Trinity Habitat for Humanity and is a member of the Parker County Heritage Society.

Kathy and her husband spend much of their time with their two daughters and



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their families. Sarah Gomez, her husband, Scott, and their son, Jack, are just a short drive away in downtown Fort Worth. Kathy enjoys visiting them as often as possible. She also values time spent with her other two grandchildren, Annabelle and Wylie, who belong to her daughter, Abby Pine and husband, Ryan.

Family and friends are always welcome at the Wylies' home on West Lee Street. The Wylies are the third owners of the house, which was built in 1919. Kathy and her husband renovated the historic home and worked diligently to keep its integrity. They kept the original windows and restored the hardwood floors. With a little cleaning and a few improvements to the drywall and ceilings, they transformed the home into a beautiful, historic treasure. "It is an asset you cannot recreate. You have to hold on to it and take care of it," Kathy said.

Kathy cherishes the days spent exploring old buildings, barns and houses with her mother, Sylvia Clements, who passed away in 1988 after a 13-year battle with cancer. They would often create playhouses out of cardboard boxes and decorate them. "It's funny when you ask people the question, 'What did you play when you were young?' It usually reflects what they do in their careers as adults, but it always reflects some positive emotional connection made early in their lives."

Maintaining historic beauty through restoration and working with others to obtain the ultimate goal of growth within Weatherford remain top priorities for Kathy. "People who are passionate about what they do are always a joy to be around. I learn from them," Kathy shared. "I've realized that if you work with people, you get things done." **NOW**

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Before You Tie *the* Knot

— By Shannon Pfaff

From the dress to the favors, the cake to the invitations, a wedding has many components that need to come together. There are countless options to choose from. You may find yourself overwhelmed trying to narrow down the scope of your choices in order to help you decide on the individual pieces of your big day. A great way to do that is by choosing a theme for your wedding.

A theme ties all of your ideas together, so your ceremony and reception flow with each other. You can choose a song, season, pattern, color, etc. around which to build your wedding. What type of wedding do you want to have? Would you prefer a more modern wedding or something rustic? Maybe your dream-come-true wedding is a fairy-tale style affair. Perhaps you would like to create your special day around your favorite color. Maybe you have already found the perfect dress, and you'd like to design the wedding around its style. The theme of your wedding can be anything you desire it to be.

Choosing a theme can also be a creative way to

illustrate who you and your husband-to-be are as a couple. Are you an adventurous pair? Did you meet in an unusual way? Do you have a mutual passion, such as music or food? The things you enjoy together can create a unique theme. Your individual family heritage can also be a beautiful backdrop for your wedding.

Once you have decided on your theme, you can have the wedding professionals you employ help you incorporate that theme into each aspect of your wedding. When you are choosing your wedding gown, a bridal consultant can help you with dress options that coordinate with your theme. They can also help you with



attire options for the wedding party that will complement your dress. The consultant can also advise you on hairstyles and accessory choices for your gown. Your hairstylist can offer hair options, as well as showing you how to pair those options with any desired accessories.

If your theme is related to color, a florist can help you incorporate that shade into flower arrangements, bouquets and table settings. Even if your theme is not based on color, the florist can advise on color choices to complement your theme. They will also help with seasonal floral options and can offer advice on low-cost options for your decor.

You will want to be sure the theme you choose will fit the time of year you desire for your big day. If you have an idea about the season for your nuptials, you will want to be certain the venue is appropriate. If you don't have a wedding

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planner, you can contact the person who coordinates events at your chosen venue. They can inform you of the ideal seasonal conditions for their location.

After your theme has been selected, there will still be several decisions to make about the wedding. You will,



however, have a better understanding of what your selections should look like. Here are a few theme examples to get you started:

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and invitations, engraved, black ink on white paper is the most classic selection. You will want to choose a simple, A-line dress or a ball gown to complement your theme. Consider dramatic lighting for your venue, such as candlelight or tiny lights strung across the ceiling or around potted trees. Formal wedding cakes are generally elegant with multiple layers to create a focal point for your reception.

Vintage-style

If you love the style of eras gone by, then a vintage wedding could be perfect for you. Selecting a genuinely vintage wedding dress allows you the opportunity to have a unique design versus a modern mass-produced dress. Family members may be a good source for vintage items to use for your decor. They may also be a valuable source for vintage jewelry. Lace can add a vintage touch to your decor and your attire. Keep the colors and decor simple to stay true to simpler times.



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However you decide to define your special day, there will be no shortage of wonderful options to create your perfect wedding. The wedding professionals you choose will provide options and show you examples to help you along the way. Selecting a theme is an important step to making the planning process more manageable and can be the best way for you to tie your ideas together before you tie the knot! **NOW**

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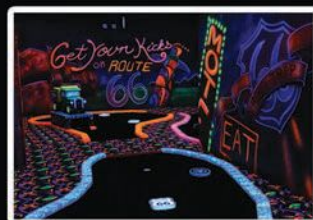
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Hours:

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Laverne Manire, South Bowie Day Care and Pre-School owner and director, and her staff offer part-time and full-time care for area children.



CARING FOR THE FUTURE

South Bowie Day Care and Pre-School serves families in Weatherford and surrounding communities.

— By Amber D. Browne

Since opening its doors in Weatherford in 1985, South Bowie Day Care and Pre-School has been committed to serving local youth and their families. The state-licensed facility provides part-time and full-time child care for children ranging in age from 6 weeks to 12 years.

Laverne Manire, director and owner, purchased the land off S. Bowie after retiring from child care at First Baptist Church. She built the Christian-based day care center to serve the community. "I've always liked kids, and I knew there was a definite need for child care," Laverne shared. Laverne's daughter, Brenda Carter, came onboard to do the bookkeeping when the facility opened. She now serves as assistant director.

Students begin each day with a morning assembly at 9:00. Starting with the Pledge of Allegiance, the assembly includes information about the daily weather, the lunch menu and birthday announcements. Students also recite the South Bowie School cheer.

Classrooms are divided by age, and the student-teacher ratio is above minimum standards. The educators have 24-hours of training and are first-aid certified. Parents can find each classroom's daily learning objectives posted outside the door, along with a list of books read during the week. The curriculum may include handwriting practice, sight words, math and art.

Each day in their classrooms, the students enjoy a light breakfast, hot lunch and an afternoon snack. Weather permitting, the

students play outside in age-appropriate playgrounds under mature trees. "It's one big sand box. We don't have anything they can climb on. It keeps down the accidents," Brenda said. The school-age students have a place of their own dubbed the Bobcat Den. South Bowie Day Care and Pre-School provides transportation from Weatherford ISD schools, with the exceptions of Mary Martin Elementary and Bose Ikard Elementary. Once at the after-school program, the children can play video games or board games, watch TV and compete in pool tournaments.

Throughout the year, students participate in themed events. One of the facility's most memorable and engaging events is held each February. Throughout the month, Pre-K students study space. Once their studies are complete, Brenda sets up a makeshift space capsule. Students don helmets as they climb into the space shuttle and strap themselves in with seatbelts. They watch a portion of *Apollo 13* as stars shine above them. Their creative imaginations are on overdrive. "It's an experience for the kids," Brenda explained.

Camps are offered during the summer months. Various activities are planned for the older children, including swimming three days a week. Campers can also accumulate tickets they can use to purchase toys, games and candy during camp.

Safety is a top priority at South Bowie Day Care and Pre-School. "We are strict on who can pick up the children," Laverne said. Staff members ask for identification and only release the child to those who are listed on the paperwork. Security passes are required to pick up the child from class.

Affordability is also a priority. Pricing depends on the age of the child, and payments can be made weekly. "On January 1, all the parents get 20 days of vacation time," Brenda said. There is no charge for days the day care is closed for holidays or inclement weather. "We don't charge them for days they're not here."

At South Bowie Day Care and Pre-School, teachers and staff care about the children and their families. "We are a blessed day care, and we have the mentality to serve," Brenda shared. **NOW**

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Sarah Stevens and Rocquel Schaechtel sip hot beverages at Eats Rustic Market.



Nathan Lee, Chad Street, Mike Rudd and Seth Bolling with the Weatherford Fire Department grab a bite at Palio's Pizzeria Cafe.



Weatherford Christian School Lady Lions basketball team members Hannah Burks, Kaithyn Fell and Keighley Parsons are named to the All-Tournament Team at the Hill School Holiday Classic Tournament.



Chuck, Logan and Avery Lovelace enjoy dinner at Big John's Burgers and Beer.



Several dental assistant graduates are recognized at the Weatherford College Workforce and Continuing Education Winter Graduation Ceremony.



Seguin Elementary sixth grade students Tison Smith, Kevin Martinez and Skylar Lindsey enjoy warm beverages during the Latte in the Library event.



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What Does 2015 Hold in Store for Investors?

If you're an investor, you probably had a pretty good year in 2014. But what's in store for 2015?

It's essentially impossible to make precise predictions about the performance of the financial markets, but it is possible to identify those economic conditions and market forces that may help shape outcomes in the investment world for 2015. By paying close attention to these conditions and forces, you can gain some valuable insights as to what investment moves might make sense for you.

Here are a few of these moves:

Consider adding stocks. With stock prices having climbed higher and higher for more than five years, you might be wondering if it's time to scale back on your ownership of equities. After all, no bull market lasts forever. Still, some factors point to continued strength for stocks over the long term. First, we are seeing signs of improving economic growth. Employment gains and low oil prices are giving consumers more confidence, leading to a boost in spending. Second, corporate earnings — a key driver of stock prices — were quite strong in the second half of 2014, and companies appear poised to show more good results in 2015. Third, stocks — at least large-company stocks — are still reasonably valued, as measured by their price-to-earnings ratios (P/E). Given these factors, you might want to think about adding quality stocks to your holdings — assuming, of course, these stocks can help meet your needs for a balanced portfolio. And be aware that even the most favorable conditions can't assure a continued run-up in stock prices, which can and will fluctuate.

Prepare for rising interest rates. For several years, interest rates have been at, or near, historical lows. Given the strengthening economy, and the decreased need for

stimulus, the Federal Reserve may well raise short-term interest rates in 2015, perhaps as early as this summer. But long-term rates may start rising even before then, so you may want to take a close look at your bonds and other fixed-rate investments. As you probably know, when interest rates rise, the value of existing bonds typically falls, because investors won't pay full price for your bonds when they can get newly issued ones that pay higher rates. One way to combat the effects of rising rates is to build a "ladder" consisting of short-, intermediate- and long-term bonds. With such a ladder, you'll be able to redeem your maturing short-term bonds and reinvest them in the new, higher-paying bonds.

Look for investment opportunities abroad. Although economic growth has been slow in parts of the world, especially China, many countries have now initiated policies to spur economic growth. These actions can create opportunities for international equity investments. Keep in mind, though, that international investing involves particular risks, such as currency fluctuations and political and economic instability. So if you are considering foreign investments, you may want to consult with a financial professional.

There are no guarantees, but by following the above suggestions, you may be able to take advantage of what looks to be a fairly favorable investment environment for 2015. While you should make most of your investment decisions based on long-term considerations, it's always a good idea to be attuned to what's happening in the world around you — and to respond appropriately. **NOW**

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

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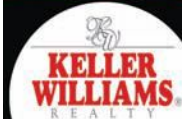
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Texas Dr. Reservations are required

for the networking luncheon. Visit

www.weatherford-chamber.com for more.

February 14

Golden Hearts Prom: 6:30-10:00 p.m.,

Willow Lake Event Center, 3220 Mineral

Wells Hwy. The event features food and

dancing to benefit the Center of Hope.

Call (817) 901-4747 or visit www.facebook.com/GoldenHeartsProm

for more.

February 17

59th Annual Weatherford Rotary Pancake

Supper: 5:00-7:30 p.m., Weatherford High

School Cafeteria, 2121 Bethel Rd. Funds

raised will help local students. Visit

www.weatherfordrotary.org or call

(817) 925-6425 for more information.

February 19

Quilter's Guild of Parker County meeting:

6:30 p.m., Grace First Presbyterian

Church, 606 Mockingbird Ln. For more

information, call (817) 594-3175.

February 20

Denim and Diamonds Awards Banquet:

6:30-9:30 p.m., Doss Heritage and Culture

Center, 1400 Texas Dr. The East Parker

County Chamber of Commerce's annual

awards banquet will honor community

members for their achievement in business

and involvement within the county. For

more, visit www.eastparkerchamber.com.

February 28 — August 1

Bison-Bison: The Magnificent

Beast of the American Plains:

Tuesday-Friday: 10 a.m.-5:00 p.m.,

Saturday: 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Museum

of the Americas, 216 Fort Worth Hwy.

For more information, visit

www.museumoftheamericas.com.

Ongoing:

Fridays

Yoga for Healing: 11:15 a.m., Indra's Grace,

131 West Church St., Ste. 200. Indra's Grace

offers cancer patients and their caregivers a

free class to help ease stress and pain. For

more, visit www.indrasgrace.com.

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

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Kim Mader-Bagley & Craig Bagley



In the Kitchen With Pam Powell

— By Amber D. Browne

For Pam Powell, her first cooking experience was shared with her mother, Brenda Gille. “She taught me to be precise with my measurements, but now I just eyeball it. It’s so much more fun that way,” Pam shared. Pam often makes family favorites passed down by her mother but also finds recipes on Pinterest. She changes the ingredients, making the recipes her own. As a professional photographer and full-time wife and mother, Pam appreciates photographs of dishes found online. “A well-photographed dish really stands out and helps me visualize my meal.”

She enjoys teaching her children, Abby and Patrick, how to cook. “We all even have aprons we wear when we bake. It is a fun family activity that we get to share together and enjoy a treat in the end!” **NOW**

Crumb Cakes

Batter:

Olive oil, as needed

1 egg

1/2 cup sugar

1/4 cup water

2 cups biscuit baking mix

2 Tbsp. flour

1 Tbsp. cinnamon

Topping:

2 Tbsp. flour

2 Tbsp. sugar

1 tsp. cinnamon

1. For batter: Lightly grease a muffin tray with oil. In a large bowl, mix next 2 ingredients; mix in water. Add remaining ingredients; mix well. Fill muffin tins half full.

2. For topping: Mix together all ingredients and sprinkle over batter. Bake 15 minutes at 400 F, or until toothpick comes out clean.

Blueberry Crumble Muffins

Batter:

3/4 cup milk

1/4 cup olive oil

1 egg

1 Tbsp. vanilla

2 cups flour

1/2 cup sugar

2 Tbsp. baking powder

1/4 tsp. salt

1 Tbsp. cinnamon

1 cup frozen blueberries

Topping:

1/2 stick butter, cubed

3/4 cup flour

4 Tbsp. brown sugar

1 tsp. cinnamon

1. For batter: Mix first 4 ingredients in a large bowl. Add dry ingredients. Stir until batter starts to stick together. Gently stir in

blueberries. Divide batter into greased muffin tins.

2. For topping: Add all ingredients to a small bowl; mash ingredients with fingers to make large crumbs; sprinkle on top of muffin batter. Bake 20 minutes at 400 F.

Tex-Mex Chops

1 Tbsp. olive oil

4 boneless pork chops

1 Tbsp. cumin

1 tsp. chili pepper

1/8 tsp. paprika

Cayenne pepper, to taste

1 cup salsa

1 green bell pepper, sliced

1 cup white onion

1. Heat olive oil in a large pan over medium-high heat. Season pork chops with cumin and next 3 ingredients. Brown both sides.

2. Add next 3 ingredients to pan and simmer on low heat for 30 minutes, or until chops are thoroughly cooked.

Stuffed Pork Chops

1 tsp. olive oil

1 medium red onion, diced

2 cloves garlic, minced

2 celery stalks, diced

2 cups chicken broth

1 cup Italian bread crumbs

1/4 cup fresh parsley, chopped

1/2 tsp. basil

Salt and pepper, to taste

6 thick butterfly pork chops

1. Heat oil in a large pan; sauté next 3 ingredients until transparent and soft. Add broth; simmer gently to reduce by one-quarter. Stir in next 4 ingredients and remove from heat.

2. Season pork chops with salt and pepper; place in a large baking dish and portion stuffing on top of each chop. If chops are wide enough, fold them in half over stuffing. Bake at 325 F for 1 hour.

To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit www.nowmagazines.com.

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