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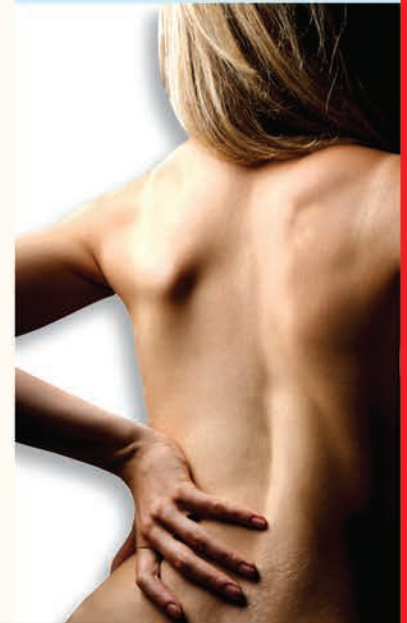
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Sisters Lily and Rebecca
Peters enjoy being
part of Girl Scouts.

Photo by Opaque Visuals.

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Editor's Note

Hello, Friends!

This year, Burleson celebrates its centennial. Burleson was officially incorporated on May 21, 1912. When Burleson became a town, the boundary was less than one square mile. Now, the population is estimated at 37,000 within 26.4 miles.

The city of Burleson has packed 2012 with events celebrating the centennial, and I recommend visiting its Web site for announcements. You can help the Centennial Web Site Committee prepare by sending it pictures of scenes from your neighborhoods, families, businesses, churches and events. March 30th is the last day for folks with high-quality images of historic places and people in the area to submit their photos, either online at www.burlesontx.com, or in person at Burleson City Hall. As I see it, while everyone memorializes each other's successes, the community will come together and strengthen itself for another courageous hundred years.

Have fun digging through your crates!

Melissa

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*"Girl Scouting
changed my life.
It taught me to
have opinions,
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trust myself and
to be a leader."*



Changing Lives

— By Carolyn Wills

Terra Peters joined Girl Scouts of the USA in 1984, shortly after she entered the first grade at Nola Dunn Elementary School. “I was painfully shy,” she said. “I didn’t make friends easily and was uncomfortable around others. Girl Scouting changed my life. It taught me to have opinions, to express and trust myself and to be a leader.” Terra ultimately earned Silver and Bronze awards, the second- and third-highest honors bestowed by the organization. She progressed through the Girl Scout program from first grade through high school, earned scholarships to pay for her college books and served as an ambassador at Texas A&M University-Commerce. Today she leads her daughters’ troop, volunteers with the local service unit and serves as a delegate to the area council.

The first Girl Scout troop met in Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912. Over the next 100 years, founder Juliette Low’s dream of empowering girls to develop strength, confidence and independence grew into the world’s largest educational organization for

girls. Girl Scouts of the USA now serves 3.4 million members and is estimated to have influenced more than 50 million girls. “This is a huge year for us,” Terra said. “In honor of our 100th anniversary, 2012 has been declared the ‘Year of the Girl.’”

Terra’s mother, Jody Johnson, remembers her daughter’s transformation from a little girl sitting nervously in the corner to a vibrant, confident young woman. “The Girl Scout program is based on learning through progression and experience,” Jody explained. “Year by year, as the girls were given more responsibilities and choices, I could see the changes in Terra.”



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As it happened, Jody experienced her own changes. "After the first year, a few parents decided to form our own troop," Jody said. From Terra's second grade through high school, Jody was her troop leader. "Training and experiences as a troop leader helped me to uncover qualities about myself," she smiled. "Girl Scouting was something I had always wanted to do but never had the opportunity. Not only did I get to do it as an adult, but I got to do it with my daughters!" Her daughter, Jessie, is four-and-a-half years younger than Terra and, while the girls were in different troops, being Terra's troop leader helped Jody relate to both of her daughters' experiences.

The Girl Scout program encourages personal journeys and shared experiences as it embraces diversity, inclusion and change. In 2008, the organization introduced the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and designated "discovery, connection and action" as keys to promoting the Mission: "Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place."

"Girl Scouting taught me to be a leader," Terra said. "Over time, I gravitated more and more toward leadership roles. I also learned to set boundaries and take on only the things that I can commit to 100 percent. That's what I want for my girls. I want them to have their own minds."

Terra's oldest daughter, Lily, is an 8-year-old in second grade. Her youngest, Rebecca, is a 7-year-old in first grade. "They are 13 months apart," Terra said. Lily is a Brownie and Rebecca is a Daisy and, though at different levels, they belong to the same troop. At least five girls are needed to form a troop and levels are often mixed.

"Many people are surprised to learn that there is no level called 'Girl Scout,'" Terra said. "We are all Girl Scouts." The number of levels has increased over the years. Currently, Daisies include kindergarten and first grade, Brownies are second and third, Juniors are fourth and fifth, Cadettes are sixth through eighth, Seniors are ninth and 10th and Ambassadors are 11th and 12th.



"Each level has a uniform and color," Terra explained. "Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors share the same basic design." These days, girls tend to wear either the vest or sash over their clothes instead of a full uniform.

"Our troop wears sashes," Terra said. "Adrienne Owen and I co-lead a troop of 18 girls. We meet on Monday evenings at the Burleson First United Methodist Church. We help the girls decide what badges and patches they want to earn and what activities best reflect their interests and the troop's budget."



The \$700 million Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led business in the United States. Proceeds stay in the area where the cookies are sold and are used to benefit girls. "Every troop sets a cookie goal to fund their yearly activities, including community service and leadership projects," Terra explained. "We're so fortunate that the Fort Worth Zoo hosts an annual Zoo Cookies event, allowing our baker to bring truckloads of cookies to the zoo's parking lot for the girls to pick up."

"The girls have a lot of fun," Jody said. "Activities are based on their needs and interests. Terra's troop loved camping, so that was a big part of our schedule. My favorite memory is the time we went primitive camping at Camp Cedar Brake. The girls had to carry everything in and out, dig their own latrines, sleep under the stars or pitch tents and whittle spoons out of cedar."

"Girl Scout Camp was the thing I most looked forward to," Terra said. "Last summer, at 7, Lily went to Camp



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Timberlake by herself for three days. She fell in love, and going back to camp is all she's talked about since!"

Of the 3.4 million Girl Scout members, about 880,000 are adult volunteers. "Service units provide support to troop leaders," Terra explained. The organization is led by a chief executive officer, national board of directors, headquarters staff, volunteers and staff in more than 100 local councils. "Our greatest need is for more adult leaders. They can be mothers, grandmothers, women with grown children or with no children," Terra said. "People lead full lives these days, but being a leader is only as difficult and stressful as people allow it to be. There's help from parents, mentors and the service unit and, really, it's about the girls who need us. With a deficit of leaders, we have more girls than troops."

Girl Scouts of the USA seeks to create independence and allow girls to become strong, confident young women, so they may choose to become the leaders of tomorrow. "Lily wants to be a scientist and build the first colony on the moon," Terra said. "So many prominent, successful women in our country were Girl Scouts and, with my whole heart, I believe the program gives back to each girl and to everyone she will meet on her journey." **NOW**



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A Champion in the *Making*

— By Rick Hope



“To become a champion, you must train like one, act like one, believe you are one and fight to become one!” That quote is from Jimmy Pedro, one of the most decorated judo players in American history. It’s written on Madison Montgomery’s bedroom wall, right above her bed, and all indications are that it is her motto as well. If she has her way, the whole world will know her name when she competes in judo in the 2016 Olympics.



Madison's mother, Candice, was working out at her gym a few years ago when she noticed a poster advertising a 2004 Olympian who had trained there. She pondered whether or not this would be something her 7-year-old daughter would enjoy. It wasn't long after that Candice saw a flyer advertising the Ruben Martin Judo Training Center that would soon be opening in the Burleson area. As far as Candice was concerned, these two things were the signs she needed to sign Madison up for lessons. That was June 1, 2006.

Up until that time, Madison had only had brief stints with ballet and tap dancing, but neither really held her interest. Judo definitely did. Her first year in judo, Madison took top honors in the Texas State Junior Olympics, and she placed second at the USJA (United States Judo Association) Junior Nationals in

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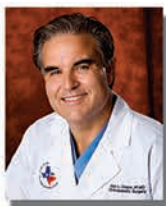


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Madison discovered the first year “how good it felt to win.” She resolved that she would keep training and working harder in order to keep enjoying that winning feeling. To date, she has competed in 67 tournaments and has brought home 37 gold medals, 22 silver medals and nine bronze medals. Madison’s career in judo has taken her all over the United States and always with either her mother Candice, or her father, Eugene, at her side. “We decided a long time ago that she would never travel without us,” Candice said. “One or both of us is always going with her.”

So far, judo has taken the family all over Texas, as well as Oklahoma, Indiana, Florida, Washington and Colorado. In December 2011, Madison traveled to France for a tournament and training camp. This was the first time overseas for the entire Montgomery family.

Being only 12 years old, Madison often surprises her competitors. They don’t expect much from a wiry-framed preteen. She usually teaches them that judo is one sport where looks may be deceiving. Just this year, Madison took on a 21-year-old opponent from Texas Tech University.

To everyone's surprise, except her coach, Madison threw her within seconds and won the match.

Recently, Madison decided to take that feeling of winning to the next level. She plans on competing in the Olympic Games in 2016. Her parents and coach believe it's something she definitely could do and are willing to support her. To do this takes a lot of hard work and dedication, neither of which are absent in Madison's life. Currently, she works out three days a week with both adults and children. Two days per week are devoted to lifting weights and classroom instruction. Madison started homeschooling recently to allow for more training, but recently expressed her desire to return to her private school and graduate eighth grade with her class. Following the graduation, she will return to homeschooling in order to resume a rigid training schedule.

Besides her parents and her coach, others who have watched Madison compete could tell she has Olympic potential. One such moment of unexpected support came in 2006. This is when Madison met judo champion AnnMaria De Mars in Wichita Falls.



The champion and the prodigy hit it off immediately. At the end of camp, AnnMaria posed for a picture with Madison slung over her shoulders. "I later found out that AnnMaria often holds her daughter the same way," Candice said. After the picture was taken, AnnMaria turned to Madison and told her, "When you make the Olympics, send me the picture and be sure to sign it for me!"

Although originally going into judo because of her mother's wishes, it has quickly become Madison's love. "The

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worst part of it," she admitted, "is getting hurt, but these [injuries] are quickly outweighed by the benefits I receive."

For one thing, she enjoys the mat work and the stand up combat that goes with it. "I also enjoy the friendships that I've made with other judo students all across the country," she explained. "I look forward to seeing them at each tournament. Not everyone is at every tournament, but I still get to see them all at least once a year."



And what does her coach have to say about this particular student? "When she first enrolled," Ruben Martin remembered, "she was very shy and very aware of pain. But now she has all the makings of a champion. She's stubborn in her willingness to not give up on learning a technique; she's methodical; and she has a heart. Unless she falls in love," he added with a smile, "she will go to Brazil for the Olympics in 2016!"

In spite of her achievements in the field of judo, Madison is still your normal preteen in so many ways. Her interests are very broad, ranging from judo to photography to makeup to hanging out with friends in youth group at Cowboy Way Church in Alvarado where the family regularly attends. Though only 12, she already envisions herself working as a judo coach and in the beauty industry when she reaches adulthood.

There is no real way to know what the future holds for young Madison Montgomery. However, it's safe to say that this is one young lady who knows how to act, believe and fight like a champion. That type of attitude is what makes her a winner. **NOW**



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AT HOME WITH RON AND JILL NOBLE

— By Melissa Rawlins

Have you ever heard of “The Noble Planetarium”? That’s what Jill Noble dubbed the sky over the section of Burleson she and Ron call home. On their corner lot east of town, the couple can sit by their pool most any night of the year and stargaze into the 360-degree

panorama overhead. This is but one of many attractions that drew the Nobles from Fort Worth in 2005. Since then, Burleson’s population has grown, but the quiet, peaceful feeling remains the same.

After 29 years of marriage, two daughters and two granddaughters, a grandson is on the way — and Ron is finally going to get a boy. Until he can have fun with the boy fishing, hunting, go-karting, and other grandfatherly things, cars and guitars are Ron’s toys. And as always, Jill is his joy. He has helped her through a couple of hard-fought medical battles, both of which prompted her to create glass art as therapy. Now, sculpting with fused glass has become her passion. And if it comforts, it has a place in the Nobles’ home.

Jill has a knack for selecting colors that calm. The sage green in the den was already on the walls when they moved in.

All she had to do was add the bright purple glass sculpture, *Metamorphosis*, above the fireplace. Jill painted the golden mustard on the guest room walls so they match the orange satin bedspread and the vanity top, which she papier-mâchéd herself. Fit for a prince or a princess, this room holds all the family portraits, as well as an aquarium filled with Jill’s homemade glass fish and sea jellies, arranged as though they are playing over a piece of real coral.



The Nobles are beach lovers. As soon as they met, they indulged their common interest in deep sea fishing and taking trips. Throughout their marriage, sand, sun and water have been the common elements in every vacation. At home, surrounded by a horseshoe-shaped privacy fence made partly of thick and healthy red-tip photinias that Ron keeps trimmed, the Nobles still lay out in the sun and swim in their pool.

The two have a few other common interests. "When we met, we both had GTOs and restored cars together," Jill said. Even now, Ron often calls her out to the shop and borrows her slender hands, so she can reach into holes he cannot penetrate while fixing his vehicles.

Alongside the Italian Pantera and the Dodge Viper, there is 1928 Model A Ford Coupe, which took Ron three years to rebuild. A street rod done up like a California Highboy, its big V-8 nestles in with Corvette valve covers. "That's a trick



from 1955-1968," Ron said, pointing out that the Model A's radiator shell is from a 1932 Ford, its headlights are from a 1934 commercial truck, its dashboard is from a 1932 Ford. "You didn't have any money back then, so you took whatever you could find and used that. Like these hinges, off a Triumph, and this license plate light, off a 1964 Airstream travel trailer."

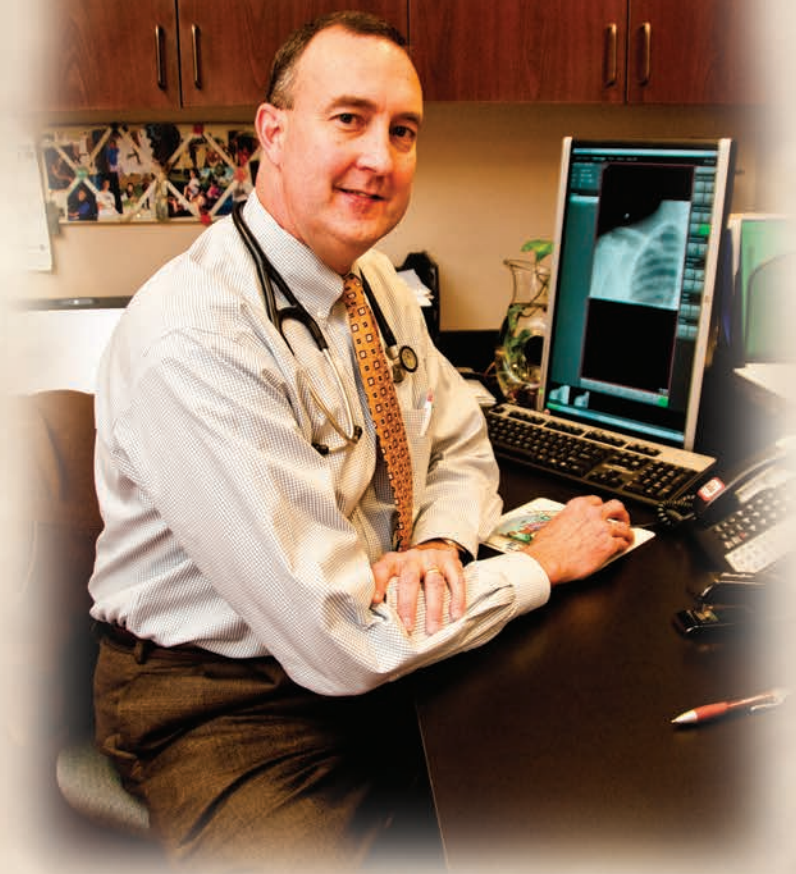
After 18 years as a drag racer, Ron sometimes gets an urge to pull his old



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car out of storage, put his fire suit on and race again. But he knows that will never happen. Great satisfaction comes with getting in his hot rod and driving it on the street to join up with the men's club that meets on Sunday mornings in Fort Worth. So, getting his cars in and out of his shop easily was one of Ron's conditions when the couple moved from Fort Worth. This corner lot and the garage with doors on two sides allows



Ron to enter or exit from either side he chooses.

Watching him take off for the day, Jill happily turns to the studio she shares with *Madame Butterfly*, a bright yellow mosaic and papier-mâché girlfriend that Jill made after rescuing the lady mannequin off the side of FM 1187. She's creating something similar, using a huge longhorn skull as a foundation, for her next exhibit at Doss Heritage and Culture Center in Weatherford. Working on a humongous table over a zebra-print rug, Jill cuts glass and arranges it into colorful layers, which she'll later fuse into a solid piece in one of her kilns. An admitted perfectionist

— part of the reason why she has been invited to sell her work at Uncommon Angles in Fort Worth for the past 12 years, and is proud to donate her fine glass sculpture to fundraisers for such organizations as Child Advocacy Center in Johnson County — Jill draws patterns and relies on Ron to weld metal mounts behind each shape she creates.

One of the first pieces they made together is the dragon in the dining room. If stretched out, it would be 9 feet long, and its tail could touch the exquisite gold and mother-of-pearl Asian-style dining table. Made in the 1940s for a movie star who changed her mind, the

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table ended up with one of Jill's great-aunts. Once she inherited the family heirloom, Jill surrounded it with square satin cushions.

Although the couple has never been to Asia, Jill loves Oriental decor and has filled her house with furniture and art reminiscent of the Far East. Gracing



the master bathroom counter are tiny, antique Siamese kitties with jeweled eyes, tucked away from the beaded parrot and orchids surrounding the bathtub. Frogs that could be from a jungle somewhere,



play peek-a-boo throughout the home. In the frivolously fun living room, a bronze tree frog, created by an artist known as Frogman, is positioned to look like it is scaling the hearth. On a marble-topped side table next to an ornately carved chair stands a glass peacock that Ron bought for Jill. She calls the peacock

“Pretty Boy.” Nearby is a tiny orange ceramic puppy. Jill’s sister made the ceramic puppy in honor of Tinker, the Brussels Griffon, who was a gift from Jill to Ron.

In this home — so open and full of light — Jill grows orchids, Ron plays his guitars and creative visions abound. As time goes



by, Jill finds that open spaces inside or outside inspire her to create something for that spot. When they first moved in, she immediately built a flower bed in the shape of the Rolling Stones’ lips-and-tongue logo. “Now, I’m envisioning really large pieces of glass and steel in a sculpture garden that will be in front of my studio,” Jill said. “I’ll try to do it in good taste.”

“It’s scary when she’s talking about doing metal sculpture for the yard,” Ron said with a grin. As he did with the life-size steel agave in the cactus bed surrounding his shop, Ron will figure out some way to build whatever Jill designs. And then, she’ll be on to the next vision. **NOW**

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TOASTING the Children

— By Julie B. Cosgrove



Gary Miller is a local businessman and president of the Burleson Toastmasters. The public service club normally meets weekly on Thursdays at 7:00 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce building near Burleson High School. However, last fall, elementary school counselor Sherrie Smith suggested the club meet elsewhere — at The Academy at Nola Dunn Elementary where she works.

“Sherrie joined our club in 2011. She did so because she thought the public speaking and leadership skills we offer would help her career,” Gary stated, with a grin. “It wasn’t long before

she told us this would really benefit her kids at the school. She caught on fire with the idea and has been instrumental in making it happen.”

The club set up an informational booth at the school’s open house night last September. Gary, along with fellow Burleson Toastmasters, Neal Jones, Travis Prescott, John Duke Smith and



Fernando Gonzalez Sr., as well as Sherrie, talked with students in the fifth and sixth grades and their parents about the idea of starting an after-school Toastmasters Club. “Fear of death and fear of speaking in public are two of the top-ranked human fears,” Gary explained. “If we can help a few kids overcome one of those, we can really influence their futures.”

Eight children attended the first meeting in October. “These kids are amazing. At first they were all timid. I’m sure the idea of standing up and speaking in front of their classmates and some old men was scary,” Gary laughed. “But now, they’re into it.”

Toastmasters encourages youth clubs, though most are at the high school level. “Can you imagine when you were in fifth and sixth grade, or even in junior high, how much a boost of confidence would have made your life easier? It would have mine,” Gary said.

Founded more than 80 years ago, Toastmasters International is an organization that helps individuals overcome fear of public speaking, while also developing leadership skills in the close-knit, supportive environment of a

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local club. The Burleson Toastmasters, Club 706449, has been in existence for several years. Club numbers are assigned in numeric order, meaning at the time this club chartered, there were already more than 70,000 clubs worldwide. The club is in District 25, which encompasses close to 140 clubs from Waco north to Denton, and from San Angelo to Wichita Falls.

The club at The Academy at Nola Dunn is an auxiliary to The Burleson Toastmasters Club. Run like a regular Toastmasters club, only on a smaller scale, it will be an ongoing training ground for the students. "We start out with the rudimentary elements," Gary said. "Every child achieves the first step, and then we move on. So at the end of the school year, they will all have helped each other advance. They gel as a club and learn the importance of supporting each other."

In each meeting, the children learn several life skills. They are taught how to stand up and give a three-to-four minute prepared speech; however, they also discover how to positively evaluate each other's speeches. "We use the sandwich method of constructive critiquing, which Toastmasters teaches. You tell the person the great things they did right, then perhaps some ways they can improve, because we all learn from doing," Gary explained. "We always try to end on a positive note, so it encourages them to try again. Then we do what is called Table Topics. The kids are asked a



question, and they have to respond off the cuff for one minute. Sherrie is great about gearing the questions to their age level and interests."

According to Gary, learning to think and speak on your toes is a valuable life lesson. "With all the peer pressure and all the bullying that goes on, if these kids can be confident enough to speak up and articulate what happened, then the authorities, and maybe even the bullies, will stop and listen."

Gary pointed out that in our society intelligence is associated with the ability to communicate well. Studies show that people who can articulate their thoughts and show leadership skills get better jobs. "Sherrie is to be commended for having the insight to recognize the benefits our organization can offer these kids," Gary stated. "Speaking well and intelligently — what a gift to give a child."

The Burleson Toastmasters have geared the meetings to the students in many ways. The topics on which they are asked to speak are ones which interest children, not adults. "Sherrie writes them out on large Popsicle sticks and the kids draw for their subject matter. Neal Jones even built them a size-appropriate lectern," Gary pointed out. The adult club also purchased a gavel and other tools the elementary school-sponsored club would need. "Our investment was minimal. So is our time, when you think about it. Sherrie, John, Neal and I meet with these boys and girls for less

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This businessman-turned-student sponsor went on to say, "I think everyone who joins Toastmasters joins for selfish reasons. They want to learn to speak better, so they can get a promotion at work or move into management. They might want to learn to become a better leader. All that's fine, but there comes a time when you realize the real benefit of Toastmasters is helping others reach their goals as well. Then, like Sherrie, you begin to see the value. She has helped the rest of us see that as well. We are seeing it in the kids as they develop."

Gary hopes that the Toastmaster Club at The Academy at Nola Dunn will continue next year. Even though half of the club will graduate and go on to middle school, it is hoped that more



students entering the fifth and sixth grades will want to join. "The other students are already seeing the club has its benefits. The child who wins as best speaker that week gets to give the announcements over the loud speaker," Gary explained. "Sherrie thought of that as well." A large part of the positive reinforcement Toastmasters offers, according to Gary, involves recognition and reward for efforts.

The Burleson Toastmasters hope this elementary school club is just the beginning. Their goal is to take the concept into Burleson ISD junior high schools and high schools over the next few years as the children at The Academy at Nola Dunn advance in grade level. They want to establish ongoing Youth Clubs which, with the help of guidance counselors and teachers, will perpetuate year after year. Gary smiled. "I can think of nothing more rewarding than to help kids become more confident speakers and leaders. It will really help prepare them for the future." **NOW**

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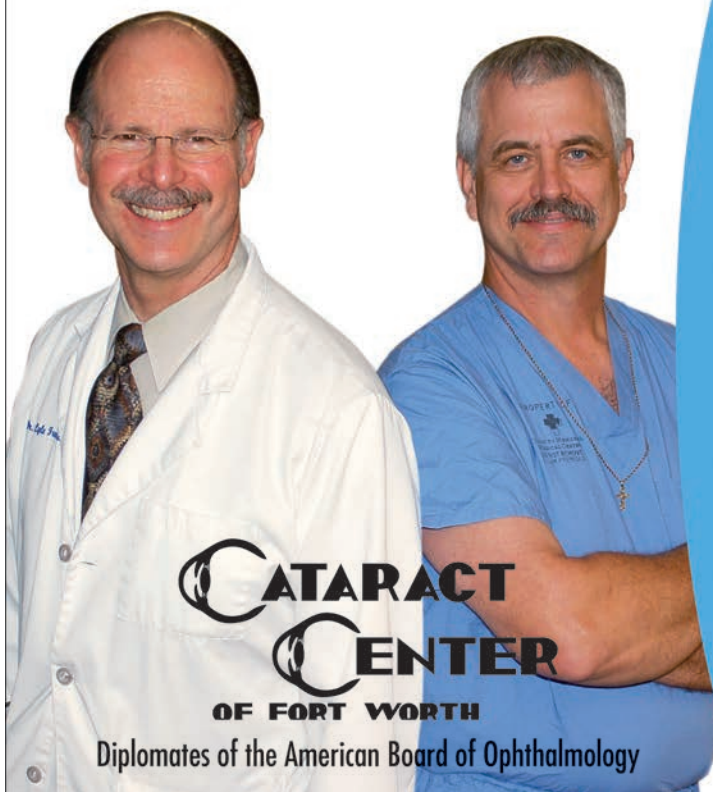


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When Delight Justice first moved to Burleson in 2000, she immediately noticed that it was a city of character. “I saw the way the community supports the local festivals in Old Town, through coming out for all the parades and for celebrations like Founders Day and Cinco de Mayo. The residents have taught me something,” Delight said, “and I’d like to see it continue: the commitment to each other and to the community and to supporting the local businesses here.”

Through the comprehensive insurance products sold by her company, Justice Insurance, Delight helps people safeguard what they have worked so hard to acquire. “Things like motorcycles, boats, houses, mobile homes, cars and businesses do not come easily,” Delight said. “When you’re fortunate enough to have those things, after working so hard for them, I can help you protect those investments.”

Ask the professionals at Justice Insurance to review your recreational, residential or commercial insurance and you can depend on Delight’s independent agency to provide the coverage desired at competitive rates. “I can be most effective in adaptability to market fluctuations,” Delight said. “Because of that, I’m extremely competitive all the time, not just when one company decides they want to be competitive.

“All companies’ rates are going to go up and down. That is the nature of life and the nature of business. At renewal every year or even in-between, as things change, I’m able to adapt to that change because I have many, many different A+ carriers I’m able to choose from to serve my customers’ needs,” Delight said.

Justice Insurance is a member of the Ann Gibson Insurance Group, which Delight’s grandmother opened in Keller in

1964. The family business, with offices in Keller and Burleson, has five professionals serving the North Texas community with personal lines of insurance and three servicing other businesses.

Whether you are a commercial customer or an individual, you will always know the person you are talking to on the other end of the telephone line, because Delight is invested in building relationships in her community. "The relationship itself helps me form a dialogue with the customer to give them exactly what they need," she said. "It gives me a strong sense of place to live and work here and provide a service to fellow community members who need insurance."

Another reason it made sense for Delight to open Justice Insurance in Burleson is the town is seated in the Cross Timbers area, for which Delight has such a passion that she founded the Center for Western Cross Timbers Studies. "It's all about earth stewardship, service above self and trying to do those things in your community both in the natural world and with people to provide good customer service and to take care of the world around you," Delight said. She is a devoted Rotarian, an international service club whose motto is "Service Above Self." The Burleson Area Midday Rotary Club recently established trees in Burleson Meadows Park at N.E. McAllister Road and Scarlet Sage Parkway. "I bought two trees on behalf of Justice Insurance and the Center for Western Cross Timbers Studies, because I think the people and our natural surroundings are very important."

When change happens in our surroundings and our lives, Justice Insurance is here to help put lives back together. "What we pay for when we purchase insurance is the ability to keep us in a position where we don't have to continue living with no house to come home to, or no car to drive," Delight said. "From a business perspective, your business is what feeds your family and pays for your kids' college." When you need to protect your investment, the services of Justice Insurance are key to making progress toward doing so. **NOW**



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Fifth-graders, Kaleb McAnally and Daniel Martinez, along with third-grader, Danielle Taylor, have some fun at the Ann Brock After School Program.



Dave Tucker "Dave The Camera Guy" and Tina Jones get ready to take glamour shots for the Spam & Glam photo shoot.



Brandon Marsh, Garrett Crook, Landon Moore, Gunner Cash and Davis Friedman enjoy an afternoon of tennis.



Burleson's newest distinction: Burleson Harbor at Sunset Winery.



Shevin Schmitt and Jessica Lambert, representing Grump's Burgers, collect business cards at the Burleson Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet.



Joey Lee lends a helping hand by pumping gas for his mother.

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Don't Let April Showers Leave You Soaked: What You Need to Know About Flood Insurance

— By Mark Jameson

“April showers bring May flowers,” isn’t just a cute springtime saying. We experience heavier rain during these months, and this increase in precipitation raises water levels and can lead to flooding. One way to prepare for wetter weather is to purchase flood insurance.

Flood insurance 101

- Flood insurance is offered through the federal government’s National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). You can obtain flood insurance through local insurance companies.

- A standard flood policy covers the building and contents. Building coverage protects the structure of your home or business. Contents coverage protects your personal property, such as clothing

and furniture.

Know the risks

- Floods and flash floods occur in all 50 states, including Texas.
- According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), roughly 25 percent of all claims paid by the NFIP are for policies in low to moderate-risk communities.
- Floods often happen when bodies of water overflow or tides rise due to heavy rainfall or thawing snow. Flash floods may occur without warning when a large volume of water falls in a short time.
- After fires, floods are the most common natural disaster in the U.S.
- Consumers should be aware that most homeowners, condominium,




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manufactured home, renters and business insurance policies do not cover flood damage. Property owners may need separate flood insurance coverage to protect against losses from floods during hurricanes, thunderstorms or any time of the year.

Getting coverage

- Consumers can request flood insurance through their insurance agent.
- Depending on where you live, the average cost of a \$50,000 flood insurance policy is slightly more than \$200 annually, about 56 cents per day, while a \$100,000 policy is about \$500 annually, or \$1.37 per day.

• In general, a flood policy does not take effect until 30 days after you purchase flood insurance. So, if the weather forecast announces a flood alert for your area and you go to purchase coverage, it's already too late. You will not be insured if you buy a policy a few days before a flood.

Costly consequences

• If a consumer is impacted by flooding and they do not have flood insurance, the cost to rebuild their lives could be in the tens of thousands of dollars.

• Flooding is the most costly natural disaster in the U.S., causing more than \$2 billion of property damage each year.

• Just one foot of water can destroy up to 60 percent of a home's contents.

Don't let spring rains leave you soaked. You should consider your need for flood insurance now. **NOW**

Mark Jameson is a licensed Allstate sales associate based in Burleson.

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March 3

BISD Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony: 6:00-8:00 p.m., Burleson High School. Honorees are: J.W. Norwood; Brian Davenport; Coach Robert Barham; team doctors Tony Thomas and Von L. Evans Jr.; the entire BHS football teams from the years 1969 and 2000; and Bill Barkley, Elmer Lott and Fred Henkleman, the Campbell's Community Champions. After the Sports Memorabilia Auction, dinner will be catered by Tastefully Unique. The evening's emcee is Scott Murray. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at First National Bank, First Financial Bank and Community Bank or from Coach Phil Anderson, (817) 456-5613.

March 6 and 20

Partners in Progress: 7:45-9:15 a.m., Compass Bank Heritage Room, 586 E. FM 1187, Crowley. Entry fee is \$1. Networking with a punch! Contact Bethany Norton at (817) 297-4211 or info@crowleyareachamber.org.

March 12-16

Spring Break for Burleson, Crowley and Joshua Independent School Districts.

March 12

Metro Beekeepers meeting: 6:30-8:30 p.m., AA China Buffet, 1054 S.W. Wilshire Blvd. Novice and expert beekeepers in Texas will enjoy learning from each other at all Metro Beekeepers meetings. This month's speaker is the Chief Bee Inspector for the state of Texas. Contact Stan Key at (682) 459-1737 or stankey.texas@gmail.com or visit www.metrobeekeepers.net.

March 13

Business After Hours Networking: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Food, drinks, door prizes and networking. Chamber members/free; nonmembers/\$10. Call Sara Pryor at (817) 999-0823 or Allan Tidwell (817) 798-5008 for location.

March 16

Power of Heels: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Huguley Fitness Center. Lunch, networking with other wonderful women and fundraising for worthy causes in our community. Contact Burleson Chamber of Commerce, (817) 295-6121.

March 26

Burleson Mayor's Youth Council meeting:

7:00-8:00 p.m., City Council Workroom, Burleson City Hall, 141 West Renfro Street. Call (817) 426-9600 for details.

March 31

Aqua Egg Hunt & Bunny Daze Easter Eggstravaganza: 10:00 a.m.-noon; noon-2:00 p.m., BRiCK, 550 N.W. Summercrest Boulevard. Call (817) 426-9104.

RETRO: A Timeless Gala Celebrating 1912-2012: 6:00 p.m., Crowne Plaza, 100 Alta Mesa Blvd., Fort Worth. Celebrate a century of Burleson and American culture with friends at RETRO, where you'll step into a ballroom that will transport you to 1950, or maybe 1912. Wear a period costume. Get your picture made in the old Photo Booth. Bid on amazing prizes at the Silent Auction (to help the Chamber). Play Texas Hold 'Em, and enjoy the sounds of Gala favorites, Trey & The Tritones. Tickets start at \$75. RSVP to Christie at Burleson Chamber of Commerce, (817) 295-6121.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your event details to melissa.nowmag@sbglobal.net.



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In The Kitchen With Tracy Moralez

— *By Melissa Rawlins*

Eating as a family was a nightly occasion in Tracy Moralez's childhood home. Her mother taught school full time, and then took time to cook the traditional meat, vegetable and starch for every plate. First setting the table, then cooking with her mom, Tracy realized she was a good baker in junior high school. She frequently makes her grandmother's Chocolate Crinkle Cookies, which won the blue ribbon at the 1982 Guadalupe County Fair.

It was only natural that Tracy became an Independent Team Leader with The Pampered Chef, since she shares their vision for families to know the joy and rewards of family mealtime. After 18 years of marriage, Tracy cooks fast, budget-friendly and yummy meals, inviting her husband and three growing children around the table. **NOW**

Layer Salad

- 1 cup Miracle Whip
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- 1 head lettuce, chopped
- 1 bunch green onions, sliced/chopped
- 1 head broccoli, chopped
- 5 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 1 cup cheddar cheese, grated

1. Mix Miracle Whip with sugar, and set aside.
2. Layer lettuce, green onions, broccoli, bacon and cheese in a serving bowl, placing Miracle Whip mixture between broccoli and bacon.
3. Chill for at least 1 hour. Toss before serving.

Grape Salad

- 2 lbs. green grapes

- 1 20-oz. can crushed pineapple, drained
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 2 Tbsp. margarine
- 3 Tbsp. flour
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 25 large marshmallows, halved

1. Mix fruit and nuts in mixing bowl.
2. Melt margarine in a small saucepan. Stir in flour to make paste. Add milk. Cook until thickened. Add marshmallows, stir until melted, pour over fruit and nut mixture and mix well.
3. Pour into serving bowl and chill 1-2 hours before serving.

Tuna Melts

- 2 5-oz. cans tuna, drained
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 tsp. cumin
- 1/2 tsp. black pepper

- 2 bunches green onions, chopped
- 4 English muffins, split
- 8 slices sandwich cheese
- 8 lettuce leaves
- 2 tomatoes, sliced

1. Mix first five ingredients. Spread on open muffins. Broil until warm.
2. Top with cheese. Broil until melted. Top with lettuce and tomato.

Moralez Family Salsa

- 1 jalapeño
- 1/8 to 1/4 onion
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 14.5-oz. can diced tomatoes
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 cup cilantro, loosely measured (to taste)

1. For hot salsa, use the whole jalapeño. For mild salsa, scrape membrane and seeds out.
2. In a manual food processor or blender, chop the jalapeño and onion.
3. Add garlic and about 1/4 of tomatoes, and then chop some more.
4. Add salt and cilantro, and then chop well.
5. Add rest of tomatoes and finish chopping.

Chicken Tetrazzini

- 1/4 cup margarine
- 1/2 onion, diced
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1/2 tsp. poultry seasoning
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1/2 tsp. poultry seasoning
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1/2 cup cream
- 3 cups chicken, cooked and diced
- 8 oz. spaghetti, cooked
- 1/2 cup sharp cheddar cheese, grated

1. Melt margarine, add onion and cook until golden brown.
2. Add flour, salt, pepper and poultry seasoning. Cook until bubbly.
3. Slowly add broth then cream. Stir until mixture begins to boil, and then add chicken.
4. Place half the spaghetti in a casserole dish, layer on half of chicken mixture, and then repeat. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake at 400 F for 20 minutes or until bubbly.



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