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On the Cover: The charm of bluebonnets announces that spring is here.

Photo by Rod Cordsen.

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# Corsicana

#### Editor's Note

#### Hello, Corsicana and Navarro County,

Well this is now my third month as Corsicana community editor, and I cannot thank all of you enough for the joy and pleasure I have received out of this position. All the positive feedback and great story ideas! I love that you are so involved and interested in our publication.



This issue is filled with a lot of love, attention and dedication. The At Home With feature is about the love

between an amazing couple, Atwell and Lesa Goins, and the love they have for their family and their family home.

Our education feature is about a woman who is so amazingly connected to her students and their achievements. Christi Tekell takes the time every day to bond with her students and ensure they succeed in school as well as life.

The dedication you will read about lies in the walls of Corsicana High School. Lavon Denson is the attendance truancy specialist, who dedicates each and every day to the attendance and motivation of her students.

Thank you all so much for your kind words and dedication as readers. I certainly hope you enjoy the stories you find amongst these pages.

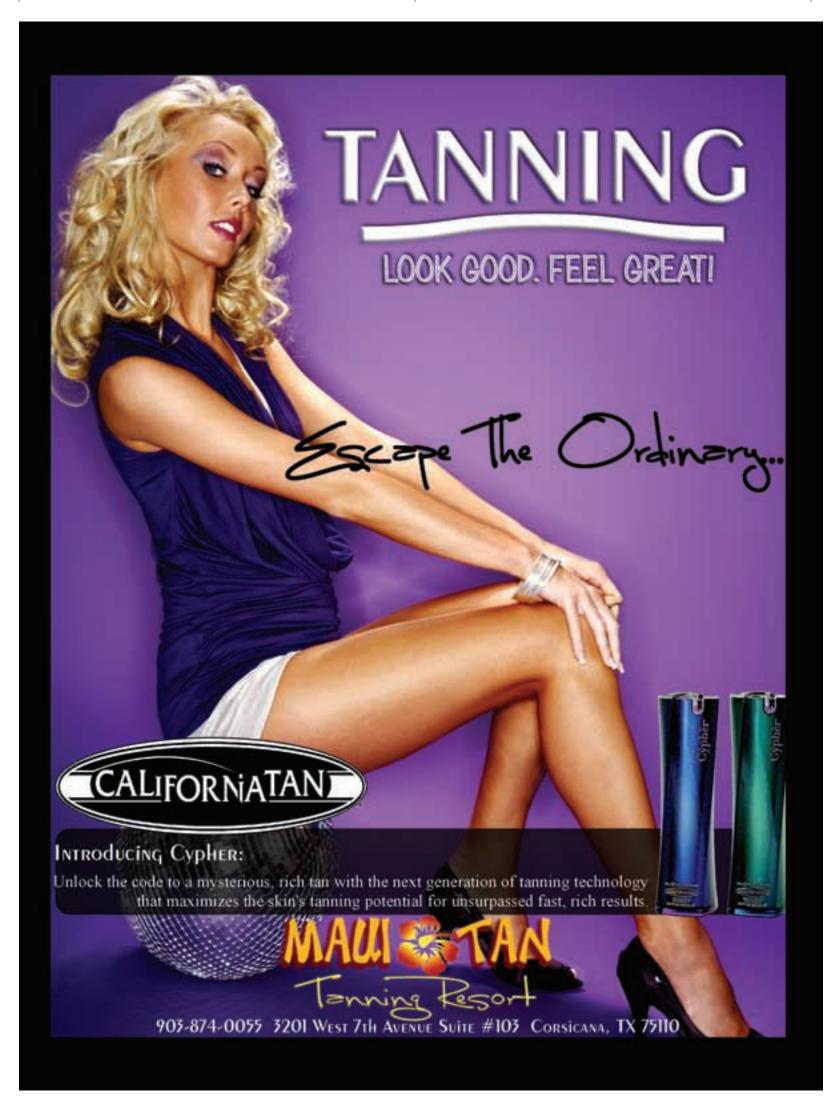
I wish you love and kindness always. And remember, if you have a great idea for a story or feature and want to see it in print, please feel free to contact me.

Samantha Stroube, CorsicanaNOW Editor

samantha@nowmagazines.net









Corsicana High School students are awarded T-shirts as a reward for perfect attendance.

From the moment she walks in the doors of Corsicana High School (CHS), until the last bell rings for the day, Lavon Denson does not stop working. "It's a full-paced day as soon as I walk in; never a dull moment," Lavon stated. Lavon is the attendance truancy specialist for CHS, and is in charge of

ensuring that each and every student is present and accounted for at the high school. If they are not there, she is in charge of finding them and the reasons they are absent.

Lavon loves working with the students on a daily basis encouraging them to stay in

school and ensuring that they understand the importance of attendance. She has even gone so far as to put an attendance incentive program into play for students

who obtain perfect attendance. "The

first semester of this year, we had 114 students with perfect attendance; the same semester last year, we only had 58 students with perfect attendance,"

Lavon stated proudly.

The incentive program she created is precisely that; she rewards the students with perfect attendance with gifts offered by businesses from around town. "I feel sometimes that the kids that work hard just get a pat on the back, [while] the others who don't work as hard get more attention than those that do [study hard]," Lavon explained. But with the incentive program, students receive gifts on a



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# The Face At The Front



Meet Val Boales, the newest addition to the firm. Val joins the team as the new office manager and brings great organizational skills to the table. A native of Corsicana, Val is married to Kim Boales, who serves as the project manager for an electric company in Dallas. She looks forward to meeting all of our clients and is at the front, ready to help!



### Always Bright & Helpful!

Richelle Blackwell is now Richelle Perry! On October 20, 2007, she married Kacy Perry of Mildred. Richelle continues to work for us, helps run Roy's Cafe and is attending college. We wish her all the luck in the world!



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Ryan Douglas, is an accountant you can "count on!" He has been with our firm for 6 years and will graduate from UTA in May 2008. Soon after graduation, he will obtain his CPA license.



Justin Lewis, a CPA candidate, should be sitting for the CPA exam early in 2008. He is a 2005 graduate of Sam Houston State University, and is quickly becoming one of our sought after and asked for tax preparers.



Vicky Croom, tax manager, has worked in the CPA business for 23 years, and has experience in all areas of accounting. She will be more involved in tax work for 2008 and thereafter.



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monthly basis for perfect attendance, and each business's gift is slated for a different month.

Some of the gifts the students will receive this semester include: CHS T-shirts from Custom T's (January); a \$10 gas card from Johnston Oil & Tiger Den (February); free buffet from CiCi's Pizza (March); a car kit and socket set from O'Reilly Auto (April); and a fix-a-flat kit and 18V cordless drill from Auto Zone (May). All of these are fantastic gifts that are not only fun, but practical as well.

"At the end of the year, I will hold a big drawing. I will put all this semester's perfect attendance names in and draw one student's name for a huge prize at the end of the year," Lavon explained with great excitement.

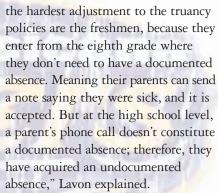
Lavon stays on top of all 1,413 students currently enrolled at CHS. If



CHS student Triston Jones with Ms. Levon Denson.

she finds out that a student is absent, she immediately searches all campus areas, including ISS (In-School Suspension) and any other place she may think to search for a student before contacting the parents. An absence is only considered a documented absence if it is authorized by a doctor, dentist or proof of an immediate family member's death through an obituary or certificate of death.

"I have found the students having



The point of truancy and the students' understanding of its importance is not just an issue that will follow them through high school — it will follow them through life. Multiple absences appear on transcripts for college, and most colleges pay attention to attendance records. Their feeling is that if a student does not see the importance of attending high school classes, why would they have enough motivation to attend

college courses? "If they can't discipline themselves now, how do they expect to do it in college and hold down a job? Their professors don't care if they come to class; they are just a number in college," Lavon explained.

In addition, the truancy issue also highlights lack of self-control. If a student is skipping school or classes, then

this would probably set off a red flag with an employer, because all prospective employers constitute it as laziness and lack of dependability.

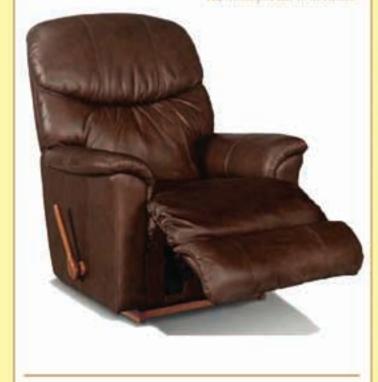
Truancy in the state of Texas requires students be present in school 94 percent of the days that classes meet each semester. If this is violated more than three times, they must attend on Saturdays or in summer school where they are able to make up their absence credits, not the truancy. When students obtain more than 10 undocumented absences, they become truant, and as a result, must appear in

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court with a parent or guardian present.

Lavon represents CHS students in court at least once a month. "I give a list (provided by Mr. Paul Ross, attendance coordinator for CISD) of students that have become truant to Judge Connie Mayfield, and she reviews each individual case," Lavon stated, as she continued to explain the

#### "This has really allowed parents to become more involved in their children's education."



Lavon and her assistant, Brittany Watkins, work hard to fight truancy and motivate students throught incentive programs.

severity of truancy. "I keep detailed notes of each student, as they apply to their individual cases. For example, if a student is having troubles at home, I document it in [his or her] file just so it is noted with the judge." If the case is not dismissed or excused by Judge Mayfield, the student must do a set number of community service hours, in addition to paying a fine for their absences, according to Judge Mayfield's strict instructions.

Lavon is extremely involved with her students on a daily basis. She offers them professional wisdom and advice, in addition to wearing her "mom" hat at times. Sometimes, she brings students into her office to discuss any problems they may be having personally or at home. She is completely dedicated to her students, their success and well being, but also makes clear the importance of their attendance in school — with no exceptions.

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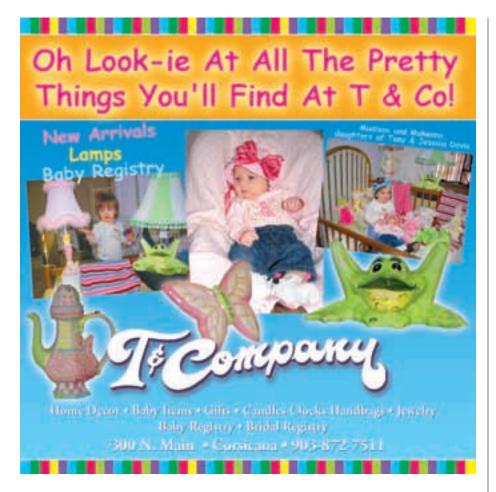
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Lavon recognizes that her position and responsibilities are not a soul proprietorship. "It is everyone under this roof that makes all this work," she explained. "I work extremely close with Mr. Newton and Mr. Ross on a daily basis, in addition to the teachers [who help] resolve this problem by motivating their students and encouraging them to stay in school and not skip classes."

There have been two assets put in to play this year that have really cut back

Lavon Denson is completely dedicated to her students, their success and well being, but also makes clear the importance of their attendance in school — with no exceptions.

on the number of absences. "Last year, we had an attendance rating of 93 - 94 percent, and this year our average has been 97 percent," Lavon stated proudly. The first helpful program was created by Dr. Moore. It is called the "Attack Squad" program. This is where each employee has 10 students they are responsible for, all the way from their grades, to attendance, to overall attitude and performance. Each employee meets with their assigned students at the start of each year, and keeps close tabs on them throughout the year. The other tool that has recently come into play is "Skyward," the family access online portal that allows parents to monitor their students' grades and attendance levels. "This has really allowed parents to become more involved in their children's education," Lavon stated.

Lavon wants the students and parents to understand the importance of violating the truancy policies. It is an issue that goes beyond the walls of CHS; it goes to the courts and state education levels. "I need the community to understand and know what is expected of the students and how important it is for each and every one to attend school," Lavon said.



## 



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# If Walls Could Talk

— By Sandra McIntosh

If walls at the home of Atwell and Lesa Goins could talk, what a wonderful story they would tell. The home was built in the mid-to-late 1920s by the Glascock family. After two decades, they sold it to Atwell's grandparents, Atwell A. and Rosalie Cox. The Coxs lived in the house until the spring of 1978 when they sold it to Drs. Jack and Mary Bankhead. Twenty-five years later, the house came back to the Cox family by way of their grandson. "We've lived all over the world," Lesa said, referring to Atwell's position with Exxon-Mobile. "This was our third time back to Corsicana. I told Atwell I'd only move back if we could live in his grandmother's house."





As high school sweethearts, the memories of the old homestead included Lesa long before she and Atwell married on May 22, 1981, just two weeks after they both graduated from Texas A&M University. Lesa's parents were called overseas the summer prior to her senior year at Corsicana High, and needless to say, she wanted to finish school here at home. "So she moved in with my grandmother," Atwell added. Today, the four-bedroom, four-bath cottage is home to the couple and their two sons, Atwell Jr. and Clayton, four dogs, four cats and two horses.

To go back in time and get the family history correct, Lesa called in the expert when it came to compiling the history on the eclectic style home. "I called Laura Love, Atwell's mother, because she grew up in the house," Lesa said, "and now her son is raising his family here. How special is that?" As Laura, an only child, sat on the antique Duncan Fife sofa that first



belonged to Atwell's grandmother, she reminisced about her childhood. "I was here in my bedroom when President Roosevelt announced the country was going to war on the radio," Laura said. "I just love coming back and remembering the old days.'

When Laura's parents bought the house, it was much different than it is today. "It was just a small house with an open porch," she laughed. "The kitchen used to be a screened-in porch and the garage only housed one vehicle."











As the Coxs spent time in the home, they began to make changes, while also adding living space. "Every time daddy made a little extra money," Laura said, "mom would knock a wall out."

The layout of the house may have been altered since the Coxs lived in the home, but the only two add-ons that the Bankheads made during their stay



was to construct a breezeway to what the family likes to call the "new den," thus connecting the garage apartment to the home. Other notable changes made by the Bankheads, thanks to the interior expertise of Kathryn Corley, include: fabric walls throughout the house, mirrored panes above the existing windows in the master bedroom and the study and special window treatments in the formal living room that allow the windows to look as if they reach from floor to ceiling.

The home that Atwell and Lesa

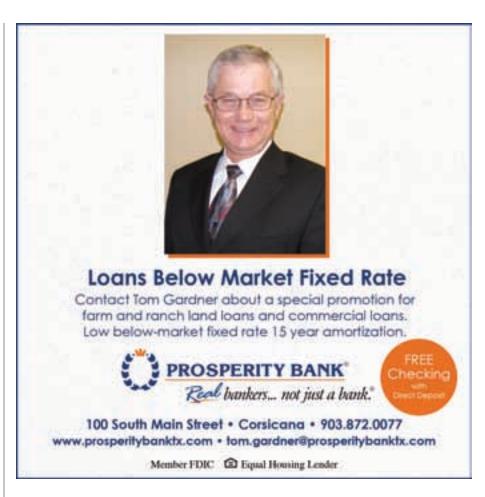


share today is steeped in rich history. They have no plans of changing a thing. In fact, when asked about moving furniture, Lesa said she leaves everything in its place. "I may move a photograph from one spot to another," she quipped, "but I don't

move the furniture." The reason being is because so many of the old pieces that belonged to Atwell's grandparents and mother were kept in storage, and they, too, have returned home. "I have put the furniture back where I remember it being when I lived here. The what-not shelf is right where it used to be," Lesa said, pointing to a unique, antique shelf along one wall in the living room. The antique Duncan Fife card table, the pair of matching Windsor-back chairs in the bay















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window, the kitchen table and the dining table have all made their way back. "We also have Laura's Civil War trundle bedroom suit that was bought when she was 11 or 12 years old," Lesa said. "The pieces are scattered between two rooms, but one day I hope to get them back to their original setting in the room Laura grew up in."

The built-in, lighted-wall china cabinet is home to the majority of



Lesa's massive collection of Blue Willow, which she first started collecting when she and Atwell lived in England for the first time. "I've been collecting since 1993," she said. "It's hard to say how many pieces I have." Blue Willow is scattered and displayed elsewhere throughout the home. She uses her collection, as well as Rosalie's crystal, Pink Vista and Wedgeworth china on a regular basis for entertaining. "Why have it," she interjected, "if you are never going to use it?"

Lesa is well-known in the community



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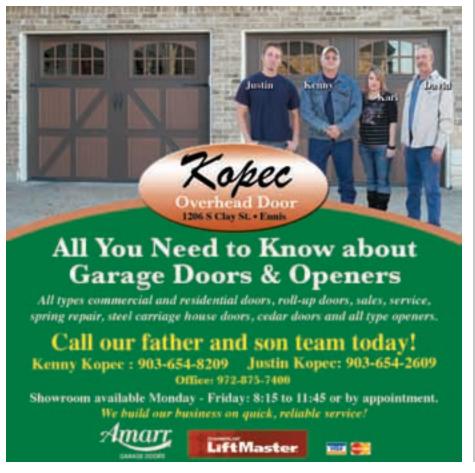


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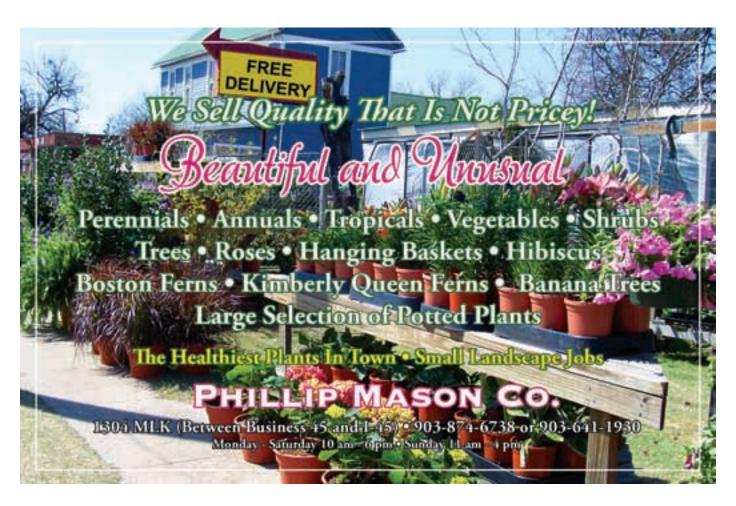


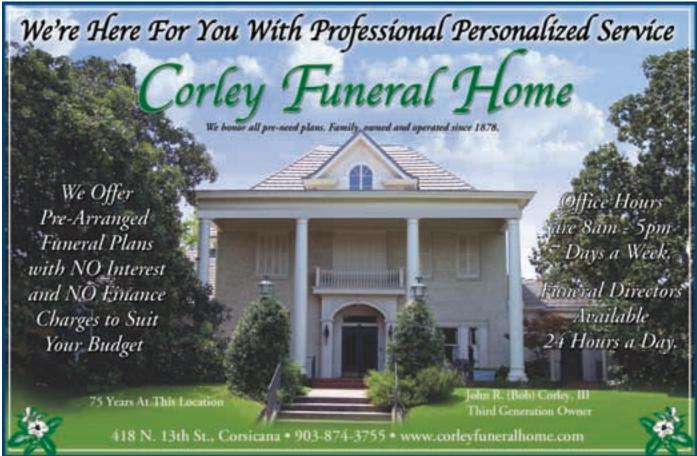
for her cooking, so some evenings Atwell comes home after a long day at the office to home-cooked meals. Lesa will set the formal dining room table with the antique pieces. "She makes it very special," Atwell, a man of few words, said. Lesa added that he really does enjoy the older things in the home.

The memories of life-changing events that have taken place in the home are considered priceless, and also worth the retelling. "Laura was married to Atwell's father right here in front of the fireplace," Lesa said, pointing to one of the two wood-burning fireplaces found in the home; this one just happens to be in the formal living room. "Both Laura's boys, Atwell and his brother, John, were baptized in front of the fireplace, too."

Lesa has been able to successfully









merge the past with the present and ever-growing future in family portraits done by local photographer, Charla Holmes. The portrait over the fireplace mantle pretty much says it all. Lesa, in a black dress, sits atop a horse while the three men in her life sit or stand in chairs around the horse. "That one tells you who's the queen," she laughed. What makes the photographs even

more special for Atwell and Lesa is knowing they were taken right here on their three acres, among their 25 pecan trees.

"We love being outside," Atwell said, as Lesa mentioned all the areas outdoors including the pool, the raised garden area, the stables and the landscaping that she is unable to care for alone. "Gary Chandler is my



number one man, after Atwell," she said. "He helps me with the flowers and all the planting, while Bill Young mows the grass."

Coming home again has never felt better for the Goins family. "Mrs. Cox would be happy knowing we're back in the house," Lesa said. "She'd be thrilled to know we were keeping the old 









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# Navarro County



Many of us wake up in the morning wondering what we should wear, or we go out to our car and realize that the gas tank is on empty, and so our day gets off to a rocky start. But this amazing woman wakes up every morning wondering if her cancer has returned. As a two-year breast cancer survivor, Jamie Kitchens is the portrait of strength and determination.

Jamie is currently the vice president on the Navarro County American Cancer Society board. Her main objective is to raise awareness of the fast onset cancer has in our society today, in addition to trying to make the community more aware of all the goings on and events the American Cancer Society provides within our community.

One of the main ways Jamie has tried to raise awareness in the county is through the Navarro Cancer Survivors

e-mail list that she created last spring. "The main reason I created the e-mail address was to inform people of the activities going on, things like the Relay for Life coming up and Survivor Day that we started last September," she stated. "We

also use the e-mail to remind people to get the health checks on a routine basis, and reminders that we may need to send to the community or members, and any new cancer-related research or information

that we may have come across."

Jamie is constantly researching information on cancer, in addition to paying close attention to herself and her body. With great apprehension and concern, she is scheduled to go in for another checkup very soon, but the strength inside her has allowed her to be strong and know that everything is going to be OK. "Even though I am certain it is going to be fine and I have



# Navarro County

been free of cancer for two years now, it is still scary going into the doctor for another examination," Jamie said.

As she went on to discuss the American Cancer Society "Relay for Life" that will be taking place on May 16 and 17, she beamed with pure excitement. As co-chair with Rhonda Davis, she explained their goals and wishes for this year's relay. "We are working really hard this year to make the community aware of the benefits of the walk. We are also trying to get local business support and possibly some underwriters for the event. After all, all the funds raised go directly to the American Cancer Society for research purposes," Jamie stressed. "Additionally, we are trying to raise awareness in the youth around the community, not only to get them involved by supporting us through the walk, but make them

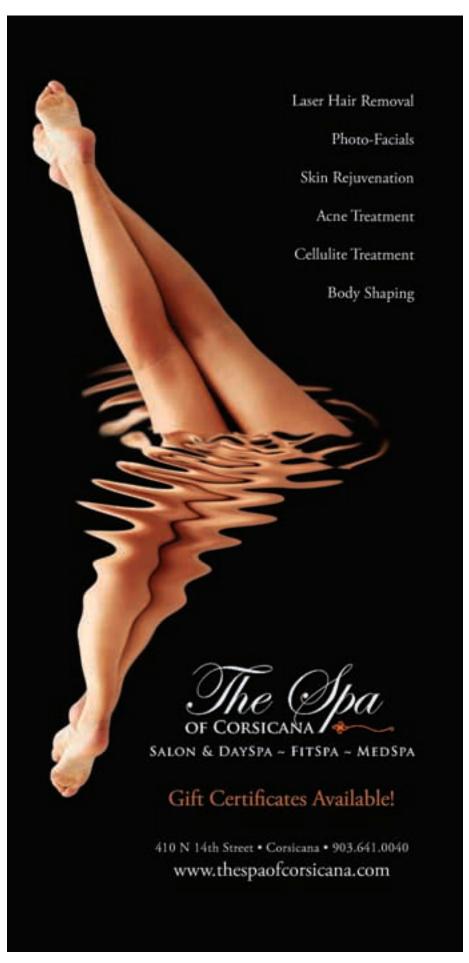


aware that they, too, need to monitor their health and bodies."

Last year, the "Relay for Life" walk was held at the old Tiger field, but Jamie explained they will be holding it at the community park by the YMCA this year. "It is just a little easier, since we will be walking through the night, and the YMCA is there to support us and offer us electricity and other needs necessary."

Jamie is an amazing woman. Not only has she survived and beat cancer, but she continues to spread her strength on to others through her work with





# Navarro County

the Navarro County American Cancer Society. She became involved last year when she saw an ad in the paper that there was going to be a High Tea for the board members, and she was very interested in joining the group. Once she became involved, she was really



interested in trying to get a Survivor Day together. "The YMCA was kind enough to donate Camp Wanica for the day. We had music, food, dancing; it was just a great day for everyone," Jamie said. "It gives survivors, relatives, friends, anyone who has been touched by cancer a chance to come out and just relax, have fun and enjoy themselves for the day."

Jamie is a woman of strength, fortitude and admiration. She looked at breast cancer head-on and fought it; she never once thought of giving up. It is a battle that most women fight in silence, but Jamie, who initially was timid of her condition, decided to open up to the world, ask for support and fight back. "I would go to meetings or see women out on the streets without their wigs on; I was never that proud, but I look back now, and I don't know why I didn't," Jamie said. "It is nothing to be ashamed of."

Jamie is not only filled with conviction but with the power to survive. "Never give up hope," she demanded. "There are so many advances being made today in the medical field to help you fight the disease. There is so much physical and emotional help; just know that you are never alone. It is true; it is an extremely dark day when you find out you have cancer. And









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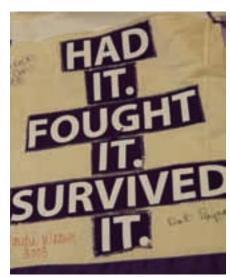
Kevin A. Williams, MD

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# Navarro County

that is why we are trying to make more people aware, especially our youth."

This disease truly is a fight that we must fight together. We need to unite and stand strong. Jamie Kitchens is just one example. She works hard all day, and still makes time for American Cancer Society meetings, steering the "Relay for Life" walk and maintaining all the information that goes out to the e-mail members through the Navarro Cancer Survivors e-mail list.

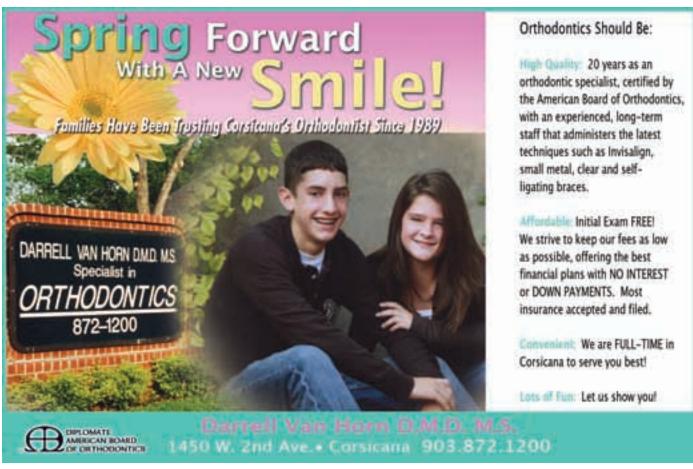


In addition to her work with the American Cancer Society, Jamie will also be participating in this year's 3-Day Walk in Dallas with the Susan G. Komen foundation, another fantastic cause in the fight against breast cancer.

Just know that cancer is a scary word and feels like a cloud of darkness is looming over your head. But you are never alone in the fight, and attitude is everything. Ask Jamie, she is living proof, as not only a survivor, but an amazing human being as well. WOW

Note: If you are interested in joining the Navarro Cancer Survivor e-mail list, please e-mail navarrocancersurvivors@yahoo.com. Additionally, if you would like to support the fight against cancer, you may visit one of these Web sites for more information: http://events.cancer.org/rflnavarrocotx or www.3day.org.









Who was the petite little girl with the full-size voice, who sang in last year's Christmas Parade? She was Corsicana's very own fifth-grader, Brooke Adams. The small package of God-given talent was belting out songs for everyone's enjoyment like "455 Rocket" and "You Ain't Woman Enough" on the Goco Trucking float. "It was really fun," Brooke exclaimed, with excitement over her first parade. "I got to see a lot of people I knew."

Her dad, Mike Adams, and her grandma, Pat Haba, remembered her singing as young as age 2. It is hard to believe Brooke has never taken singing lessons. "I just started singing," she said. Her earliest memories are singing "Jesus Loves Me" at Trinity Baptist Bible School.

Brooke has competed for five years

in talent shows held by the Corsicana Lions Club. She won second place in her first talent show, and she has excelled to first place and the top honor of Best of Show from that point on. She has competed and won Best on Show against teenagers 17 years old. Her Grandma Pat remembered the first time Brooke won the prestigious award. "All the other awards were given out and they never called her name," she recalled. "We didn't think the judges knew what they were doing. You should have seen our faces when they announced she had won Best of Show."

After Brooke's first talent show, she started getting requests to perform at various events. She has performed at anniversary parties, several weddings and other social events. She also sings for special occasions at her church. Her

performance venues include The Palace Theatre, Star Hall, Martin Hall and the Lions Club. "I want her to sing as much as she wants," Mike said. "I don't want her to feel like she has to sing; I want it to be her choice."

"I like to entertain," she said with a grin. "I'm not shy at all." Since Brooke's audience varies in generations, she

## "I like to entertain ... I walk across the stage, I point and I wink. I like to make the crowd feel pumped up."

enjoys singing older songs so everyone can relate to them. "I want the crowd to enjoy what I sing," she said. "I like to have fun with them." She does not like to perform sad songs; they depress her. "I like fast songs, because you can get into them," she said. "I walk across the stage, I point and I wink. I like to make the crowd feel pumped up."

Brooke professed to like all kinds of music, with her dad closely monitoring her choices. "She's not allowed to listen to music with bad words," Mike said. Country singers Carrie Underwood and Taylor Swift and rap artist Fergie, are on the top of her favorites list. Just as most young-teen girls, she also loves Hannah Montana and Miley Cyrus. "She is down to earth," stated Brooke, who is drawn to celebrities who have good morals.

Her favorite song to perform is "Suds in a Bucket." She also enjoys singing "Harper Valley PTA" and "Rose Garden." Her favorite Christian songs are "I'll Talk to the Father," "Jesus, Name Above All Names" and Alan Jackson's version of "I'll Fly Away."









# ARTS

Entering sixth grade next year will give Brooke the opportunity to take art classes. "I love music, but I don't want to just do music," she acknowledged. "I like drawing designs on my computer." She enjoys designing patterns, and has created her own screen saver for her computer. She admitted flowers and animals are not easy for her to draw. "I'm not very good at drawing horses, because they come out with a big body and little legs," she laughed.



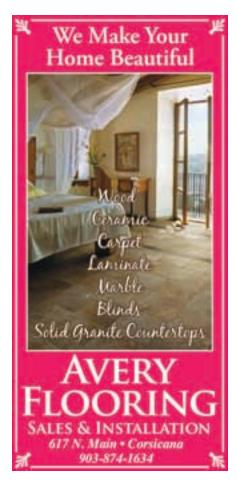
Writing songs, playing the piano and acting can be included on Brooke's already extensive résumé. She has only written one song, but she knows with all the ideas in her head she will produce many more. She has had several years of piano lessons, three years of acting lessons and has performed in one musical. She is looking forward to being in additional musicals when she gets into high school.

Although Brooke's artistic gifts seem to be endless, she is still a typical young girl. The normal parts of her life include collecting Webkinz (stuffed animals) and University of Texas Longhorn memorabilia, texting on her phone, hanging out with











# ARTS

friends, getting her nails done with her mom, Lisa Jones, playing Rock Band on her Wii, riding horses, playing tennis, competitive cheerleading on a Corsicana Tumbling Academy team, riding four-wheelers and hunting 400-pound wild hogs with her dad. "She is a well-rounded little girl," Mike proudly stated.

Brooke really enjoys school, with recess, lunch and science being her



favorite classes. Her dad stated that she is a good student, making very good grades. "I like researching things online and going to the library," she said, referring to several reports she has worked on in the past.

Future plans include traveling to Nashville to meet talented stars, recording in a studio, attending college at the University of Texas and becoming a model or kindergarten teacher.

"I do plan on being on *American Idol* someday," Brooke said, with a glowing smile. Keep your ears alert and your eyes open to watch the heights to which her talents will soar. Someday, this rising star will be too radiant for Corsicana to contain.





# Sports

– By Samantha Stroube

For many, there was no doubt that Danzell Lee was going to go pro. As a 1981 graduate of Corsicana High School (CHS), he was a varsity member of the football, basketball and baseball teams throughout his high school career. "I was always sort of tall (at 6'2")

and gangly (at 190 pounds) in high school," Danzell recalled. "After high school, my freshmen year of college, I started to grow into myself, I guess." Following high school graduation, he headed off to Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas, on a full football scholarship. "I remember never being more scared than I was my freshman year," he explained. "It wasn't because of college or football, it was because

I knew if I failed out and lost my scholarship, my parents would be upset."

Danzell chose the football route for his college career, because basketball really was not an option due to his height. "I really enjoyed the physicality of football anyway," he said. After arriving at Lamar, he was able to play all four years. "I

got a lot of play time in my sophomore year," he recalled. "Then my junior and senior year, I became the full-time tight end starter."

After finishing his final season, Danzell was approached by some NFL scouts in the spring of 1985. The day drafts were to be announced on the national news, Danzell went to his morning classes and returned to his dorm for a nap. When he awoke, he went to visit a friend. Upon arrival, Danzell's friend, who had been watching the press coverage of the drafts, said that the Washington Redskins

wanted him. So Danzell ran back to his dorm, and as he entered his room he received the call that would change his





life. He had, in fact, been picked up by the Washington Redskins. He was their sixth round pick, number 163.

"At that moment, it was like all of my childhood fantasies became reality," Danzell reminisced. "I couldn't believe I had been drafted. I thought it was

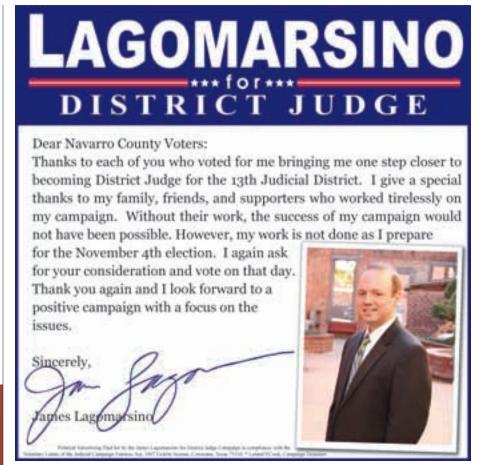


"At that moment, it was like all of my childhood fantasies became reality. I couldn't believe I had been drafted. I thought it was for someone else; I was just a kid from Corsicana, Texas."

for someone else; I was just a kid from Corsicana, Texas, not a Roger Staubach or any of those guys. I wasn't really sure if I was going to be drafted; I thought I was a decent athlete, but possibly not good enough for the pros."

His first step onto a professional football field was for the Redskins' mini-camp in Redskins Park to gear up for the 1985/1986 season. "At that very moment, I knew I wasn't the best," Danzell recalled. "I looked around the field and staring back at me were superstars like Joe Theismann, Art Monk and John Riggins."

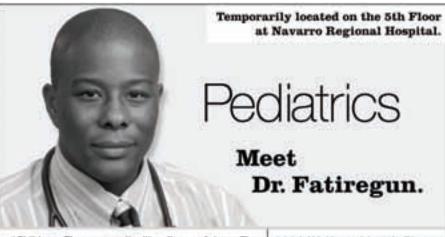
"The first thing we learned after we entered the NFL was that, more often than not, players come and go. Then, in the late '80s, the average lifespan of an NFL football player was 3.32 years," Danzell said, stating that he was waived from the Redskins during the 1986 season.







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# Sports

He was picked up by the Pittsburg Steelers for their 1987 season. That year, the NFL strike occurred over a collective bargaining agreement. "Most players went on strike, but I decided to stay around and play, to really show the league I was dedicated," Danzell said.

During the three games of the strike, Danzell was the starting tight



end. When the strike ended, the big name players started coming back to take the place of the "strike players" on the roster; however, Danzell remained the Steelers' starting tight end for the remaining 13 games of the season. He had proven himself as a worthy player.

One particular game stands out in Danzell's memory. Right after the Steelers picked him up, they played the Redskins in a pre-season game. To his amazement, all the Redskins (including the coaches) came over saying how happy they were for him that he had found a new home. "I knew right then that I was a NFL athlete, after the way they greeted me and treated me on that field," Danzell stated with pride and admiration for his former teammates.

In a 1988 game, againts the New York Giants, Danzell incurred a fore foot injury leaving him unable to play for four or five weeks. Soon after the injury began to heal, "I told the coach that I was fine and ready to play," he recalled. He prepared to play against











Dr Amber Johnston is dedicated to serving the children of this community by providing comprehensive, family centered care. She will be joining Dr. Jahnke on 2nd Street temporarily until their permanent location is complete this December. The Johnston family is very excited to return to their Texas roots, and they look forward to being a part of the community.

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# Sports

the Dallas Cowboys, but the Steelers waived him following that game due to the injury. He was immediately picked up by the Atlanta Falcons to finish the season. "At that time, the Falcons were an incredibly young team," Danzell said. "At 27 years old, I was probably one of the oldest players on the team. Most of the guys at the time were 21 or 22 years old."

Danzell's time with the Falcons was successful, but during the 1989 training camp, he was waived one final time in the Falcons' last cut release. They suggested that he hang around Atlanta for a while in case they needed him, and during his time off, his agent called with an offer to play for the Los Angeles Rams. But Danzell knew that his time in the pros had come to an end.

"It was time to take care of business, so I went back to school," Danzell stated. He completed his bachelor's in kinesiology at Lamar University, graduating in 1991. He returned to Corsicana to pursue his career as a teacher and coach at Collins Middle School, and completed his master's during the summers at Stephen F. Austin University.

After many years in the field of education, Danzell Lee has certainly put his mark on the future of our community. He is currently the executive director of administration for Corsicana Independent School District, a position which he has held since 2005.

Danzell has led an amazing life, but always knew he would one day come back home. "I knew I wanted to work with kids, raise a family and be a part of this wonderful community," Danzell said with great pride. "I have a beautiful wife and two beautiful girls; I was happy to come back."

Photos in this article of Danzell Lee's NFL career used courtesy of the Pittsburgh Steelers/Mike Fabus.



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# Business



planned venture. "Growing up, I never had any plans to own my own business," said Kendall Walker, owner of the establishment that has anything and everything a homeowner, builder or remodeling expert could want in the line of flooring. "I just sort of fell into it." Looking back to his high school years, Kendall remembers how it all began. A friend of his needed help one weekend, and that one job turned into several weekend and evening assignments, until the two decided to go into business for themselves. "We worked together for about a year," Kendall said, explaining the short time line that brought him where he is today - celebrating his eighth year in Corsicana. "I had a little store and

Hometown Flooring was not a

When he moved to his present location six years ago, Kendall's flooring

warehouse on the other side of town

when I first opened for business."

choices took up just a small area of the building owned by his father-in-law, Max Taylor. "I'd have to say we've grown over the years," Kendall added with a smile, looking around to see that his business now encompasses a

good portion of the lower level of the building. "We've even built a new warehouse right next door." Since the beginning, Kendall has offered a large

variety of choices in flooring, from carpet, vinyl and hardwood to laminate, ceramic and granite. Hometown Flooring also offers custom showers and countertops, too. The newest addition to the business is carpet cleaning.

As the owner, Kendall could easily sit behind a desk and let the contractors

do all the work. Longtime contractor, Heath Bell, could lay all the carpet and Kendall's younger brother, Cody Gantt, and co-worker Gabriel Garcia, could be the only ones in charge of hard surface and tile installation, if that

> was the way in which Kendall chose to operate the business. "I oversee each and every job," he said, "but I've always liked the work of it." Since tile floors have become so popular, Kendall has come

into an artistic side of himself he never knew he possessed, as evidenced by the detailed entryways, custom showers and kitchen counters found throughout Navarro County and as far away as Fairfield. "Give me an idea," Kendall said, as he mentioned the Texas stars made of inlaid tile that have become so



# Business

popular, "and I'll run with it!"

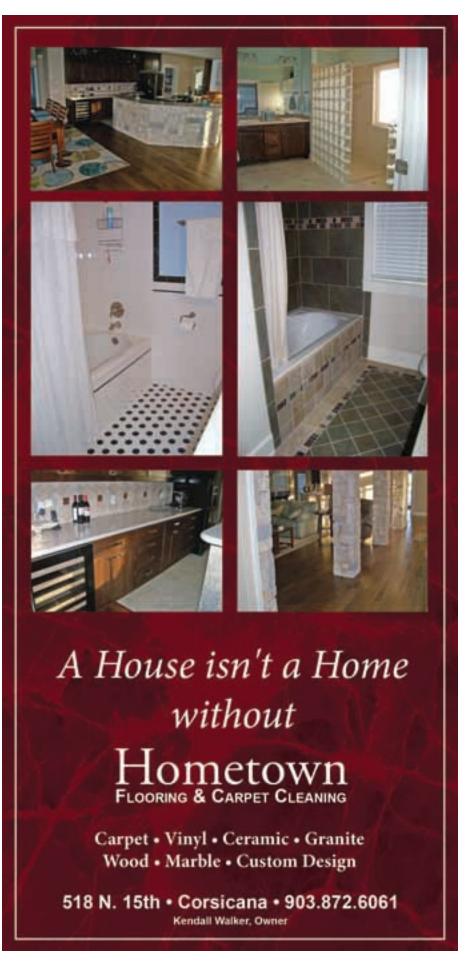
Regardless of the size of the job, Kendall's priority is to give honest customer service to each client that comes his way, regardless of whether they are a builder constructing a home from the ground up or a homeowner who is looking to update and remodel



an existing home. Kendall laughed as he recalled the early years. "We came in offering lower prices than the competition, and we ended up with more business than we were able to handle," Kendall said, further explaining that this overflow in work caused a breakdown in customer service. Kendall did not waste time revamping the company. "I quickly learned I had to offer competitive pricing in order to be able to offer great customer service." When time restraints do not allow Hometown Flooring to do the job, Kendall has no problem referring clients to other businesses in town. "I'm up-front and honest," he added. "We stand behind our work."

Over the years, Kendall has learned to balance his workload with quality time spent with his wife, Jill, and their 2-year-old daughter, Maycie. He credits his newfound knowledge to the support Jill has always given him, even in the busiest of times.

Hometown Flooring is conveniently located at 518 N. 15th Street. For more information, call Kendall at (903) 872-6061, because as his motto states. "A House Isn't a Home Without Hometown Flooring." NOW



# Education

# It's Not a Job – It's a Calling

- By Samantha Stroube

As a product of the Corsicana Independent School District (CISD), Christi Tekell takes her passion for her students extremely personal. She graduated from Corsicana High School in 1976 and then headed off to Baylor University to obtain her bachelor's degree. But at that point, Christi was not sure just what she wanted to do. "I was extremely shy and reserved, and [because] I attended First Baptist Church at the time, I thought Baylor would be a place of security," she recalled. "When I first went to Baylor, I had no clue what I wanted to do."

It was during her sophomore year at Baylor that Christi finally figured out what her calling in life was. She took an educational class, out of curiosity, and absolutely fell in love with it. Her professor suggested that she take some more classes the following semester, and as she did that, she began observing classes. "I remember during one of my classes, my professor told us of this little girl. She was in the third grade, and she was the product of being a rape victim." Christi said that, that was the day she knew she wanted to be a teacher, to help those who could not help themselves.

Once she got into her studies at Baylor, she decided to become an elementary teacher. "I felt you could either teach a subject in high school or teach students in elementary school," Christi stated. So in 1980, after graduation, she returned home to begin her teaching career with CISD, as a fifth grade science and math teacher at Lincoln Elementary (now Carroll Elementary), and begin her life with her husband, Craig. In 1984, Christi received her master's degree in education to further her teaching and career capabilities.

Joyously, her life changed in 1990 when she decided to become a stay-at-home mom after her son, Tyler, was born.



Then just two short years later, her beautiful daughter, Ashley, arrived to bless their family. So from 1990 to 1999, Christi reveled in her duties as a full-time mom. "All I ever wanted growing up was to be a mom. I wanted to have kids and get married, not in that order of course," Christi smiled.

But during her hiatus from planned school teaching, Christi did return to the world of educating young minds. "Terry McCalroy and I started a private kindergarten at Westhill Church of Christ," Christi recalled fondly. "I did that for two years. It was great because Ashley got to be there with me."

Then upon returning to the public side of educating in 1999, after both of her children had started school, Christi began working at Bowie Elementary School as a kindergarten teacher, which she did for one year. Then after that, she moved on to the third grade for a year. And finally, she returned to her place of refuge, as a fifth grade science teacher, where she is still currently molding and shaping the minds of our future.

Even after 20 years in the field, Christi feels unbelievably blessed to have been given this opportunity to teach young

# Education NOW

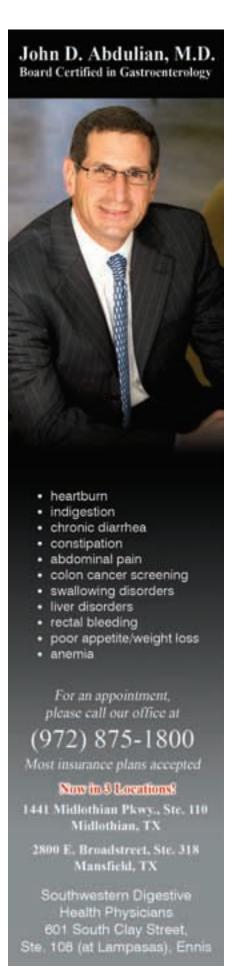
children and help them both inside and outside of the classroom. "It's not a job — it's a calling. I have always found myself drawn to the less fortunate student, the ones that need a hug on a daily basis, or just the ones that need interaction," Christi proclaimed. "I feel extremely blessed."

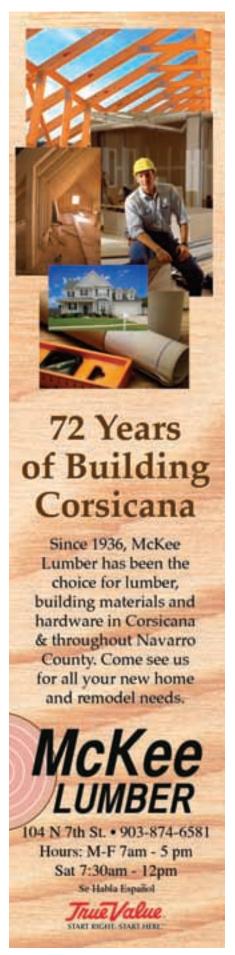
It was true, not only did her words of compassion and love for each individual student reach for miles, but her heart



spoke the truth as well, as tears streamed down her face. Her thoughts of each individual student running through her mind were evident, as she tried to decipher which memory over the past 20 years was her favorite. "I don't know if I really have a favorite memory. All my favorite times of teaching revolve around the kids themselves," Christi explained. "I love to watch children experience new things."

One memory she did mention that really stands out in her mind took place when she was teaching at Lincoln Elementary, and her fifth grade science class received 22 chicken eggs from Texas A&M University. Upon receiving them, Christi planned to crack open an egg every week to show her students the embryonic process of the fetus. Once the gestation period of the remaining eggs was over and the baby chickens had arrived, she offered the baby chicks to her students to take home. She did, however, insist that the children first get permission. One student in particular was allowed to take hers home, with her parents











# Education

thinking it would only last a month or so. But in the end, Christi's student came back to visit her, after her freshman year at Texas A&M University, saying her chicken had just passed away. With amazement, Christi still tells the story of her student who managed to love and care for her chicken for seven wonderful years.

Christi's joy and passion lies in the subject she teaches. "I love it because it is so hands-on; it leaves the kids with a more personal touch," Christi stated. She watches over 120 children a day a Bowie Elementary. There is a teacher for each subject, and each teacher has 90 minutes to teach his or her group the subject matter. In 90 minutes, Christi is able to connect and encourage each and every one of her students. "I am able to be used by God to touch a lot of people," Christi explained as she stressed the fact of how blessed she feels she is to be in her position.

Christi is a teacher with a mission. She is there to love and encourage while still pushing her students to do their best. "That is probably the biggest challenge a teacher has, and that is to find the balance between compassion and pushing them beyond their limits to succeed," she stated.

As a 20-year veteran in the educational system, Christi said that she could not imagine doing anything else but teach. "I never thought I wouldn't be teaching," she said. With all the love to give and all the knowledge to offer her students, Christi Tekell, has managed to educate, encourage and love all of her students on their own individual levels, all the while making time for her family.

She truly is an educator, one of science and of compassion. If you have ever had the opportunity to be taught by Christi, or if your children will be or are being taught by her, consider yourself lucky. She is definitely one of a kind.

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## IN THE KITCHEN WITH JANICE KING

anice remembers sitting on her grandma's kitchen counter with the smell of hot tea steeping and red beans simmering. "Grandma always took time to talk to me and show me how to do things," said Janice who feels that cooking completes her. "My daughter, Keri, says that it's how I express myself; actually, it calms and relaxes me," Janice added.

Inspiration stems from Janice's mom and grandma, as they are "who inspired me in all things in my life." Recent photos of her granddaughter, Katie, helping her mom cook give Janice the satisfaction of knowing "Little Miss" Katie will be, "sittin' on her Grandma's counter and cookin'." Janice cannot choose between cooking or baking, but admits she does more baking these days. WOW

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

### DANA'S BEST EVER OATMEAL COOKIES

- 1 cup butter flavored Crisco
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 3 cups of old fashioned oats (can be browned slightly - do not use instant)
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 cups powdered sugar

Mix all except the powdered sugar well. Roll into 1-inch balls; then roll each in powdered sugar until well-coated. Place on cookie sheet sprayed with Pam. Bake 350 F for approximately 12 minutes. Enjoy!

### MOM'S HOMEMADE CRANBERRY RELISH

- 4 crisp apples, cored and chopped (peel 2; leave the skin on 2)
- 2 3 oranges, segmented and seeded
- 1 20-oz. can crushed pineapple
- 1 6-oz. box strawberry Jell-O 2 cups sugar, or to taste
- 1 1-lb. bag fresh cranberries,
- shredded or chopped extremely fine

Mix all and put in pint jars and store in refrigerator. I usually make two recipes at a time because it keeps so well. It will keep 4 - 6 weeks in the refrigerator. If desired, just before serving (on special occasions) I'll roast about a half of a cup of chopped pecans and sprinkle over the top of the sauce. Everyone loves it, but do not add pecans until ready to serve. If added before then and kept a few days, the pecans will taste green and will shorten the life of the sauce.

### **BREAKFAST CORN BREAD**

- 2 lbs, ground sausage of your choice
- 1 medium chopped onion
- 2 Tbsp. chopped bell pepper



# Who's Cooking

- 2 6-oz. packages corn bread mix (not Jiffy)
- 1 10 3/4-oz. can cream style corn
- 1 stick or 1/2 cup melted butter
- 1 small can Pet Evaporated Milk
- 1 Tbsp. pimento, chopped grated cheese, to taste

chopped or sliced jalapeño peppers, to taste

Brown sausage and set aside. Chop onion and bell pepper and brown them in the sausage drippings. Mix corn bread mix with eggs, corn, butter, canned milk and pimento. Blend sausage, onion and bell pepper into wet corn bread mixture. Add cheese and top with jalapeños. Pour into 2 7 x 11-inch greased baking pans (or 1 9 x 13-inch greased baking pan.) Bake at 350 F for 40 - 45 minutes.

### KAY WILLIAM'S MONTANA BAKED ONIONS

- 2 3 large onions, sliced thinly (pop out the rings)
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 8 oz. shredded or thinly sliced Swiss cheese
- 1 10 3/4-oz. cream of chicken (or celery) soup 1/2 cup milk
- 1 tsp. soy sauce
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 whole fresh loaf of French or onion bread (or whatever you have on hand)

Brown the onions in the butter until slightly golden. Put onions in a 1 1/2 quart baking dish and set aside. Sprinkle cheese over onions. Combine soup, milk, soy sauce and pepper. Mix well and pour over the onion and cheese mixture. Slice bread about 1/2 inch thick. Butter both sides and place on top of other ingredients. Bake at 350 F for 30 minutes or until bread is golden brown and dish bubbles.

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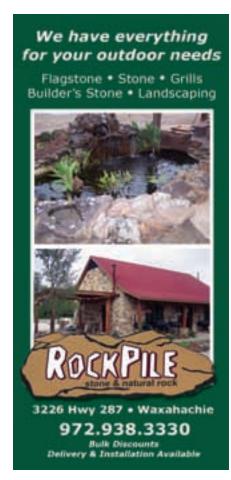


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# Around Town



















The One Act Play cast from Collins Middle School, top left, received first place accolades at the UIL competition held recently in Waxahachie. Principal Billy Snow, top middle, welcomed students to Bowie Elementary School. Joanne Newton, CHS teacher, top right, is considered by many to be a math wizard. Little Corsicana cowboy Holden Prince, second row left, wore his hat proudly. Bride-to-be Monica Algarra, third row left, took time out for a photo with Tina Magness and Ellen McKeoun. A ribbon cutting, bottom left, was held at Allied Waste. Bride and groom-tobe, Peyton Dunn and Carrie Nelson, with groom's sister, Elizabeth Dunn taking her spot in the center, second row middle, smile for the camera. Marcus Preston, second row right, taught his grandson all about bailing hay. Ellen Robinson and Keri Anderson Donica, bottom right, spent an enjoyable evening out.

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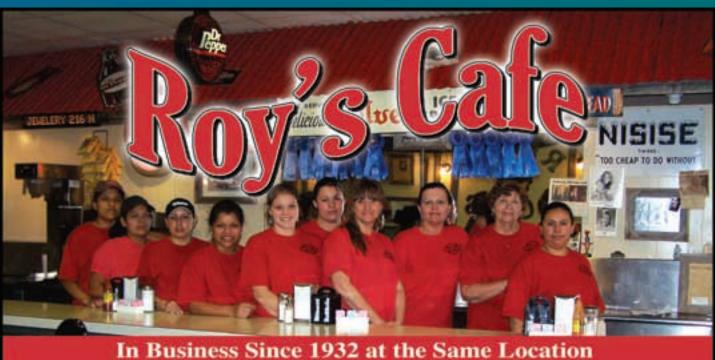


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# Dining Juide







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Ricky & Evonne Blackwell - Owners

# Dining Juide





# Great Outdoors

# How Hardy are Your Hibiscus?

Those glorious, big flowers in pots that grace patios and porches are often hibiscus, but not the "hardy" kind. The tropical ones come in assorted colors and go with the first freeze. Rose of Sharon is one of the hardy relatives, but there are a lot more, such as those known as Rose Mallows or Swamp Mallows.

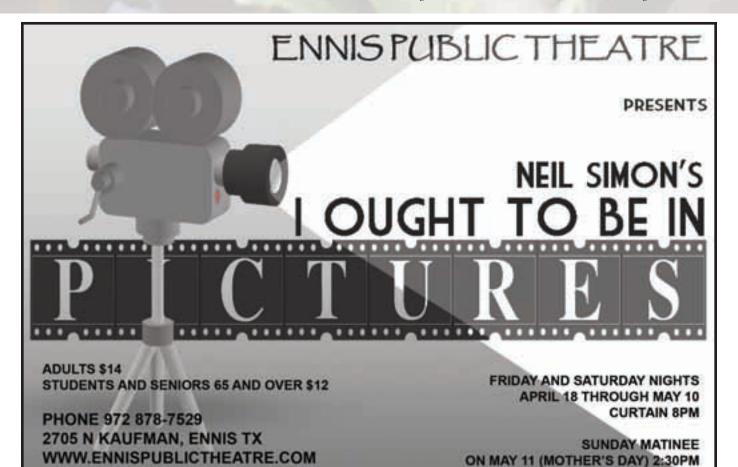
These mallows survive temperatures down to minus 30 degrees. They come back from the roots up, when temperatures hit 70 degrees, to bloom throughout the summer until the first frost. The many varieties can have blooms up to 12 inches (dinner plate size). Even though each bloom lasts only about a day, the profuse blooming habit of these hibiscus gives you blooms all summer long.

Lord Baltimore and Flare are both Texas superstars tested by Texas A&M University for our area conditions. They stand four to five feet tall with 10-inch flowers. There are

even some new hybrids, which have been created by hybridizers Jim, Dave and Bob Fleming. Kopper King has bronze leaves with pink and red-streaked flowers and Blue River II has blue-green foliage with pure white blooms. Their lemon-colored Old Yella and purple Plum Crazy make it easy to create colorful combinations. You can even go for shorter plants with two new series named Carafe and Cordial. The varieties in these series top out at three feet. Whatever the size of your hardy hibiscus, they need lots of sun, good soil, extra nitrogen to support the many blooms and regular water. Try them! Ask for them in local nurseries or go on the Internet. They will come back better and stronger year after year. No

replanting needed! WOW

Nancy Fenton is a Master Gardener in Ellis County.



# Obstetrics & Gynecology

Meet Michelle Confer, M.D.

"At age 6 I lost my best friend to cancer and have dedicated each day since to the care of women in all stages of life. After 14 years in practice, I have moved to Corsicana to share my dedication with each woman that I have the honor of caring for."

### MEDICAL ASSOCIATES

OF NAVARRO COUNTY

Dr. Confer is a member of the medical staff at Navarro Regional Hospital.

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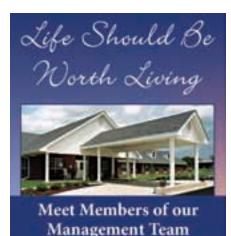
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Kim Walker, Director of ersing, was born in Cornicana and reared in Kerens. She started her career in nursing home care in 1984 as a nurse's assistant. In 1991, Kim earned her LVN license at Navarro College. As a single parent of four children, Kim courageously held down two jobs while

continuing her education, receiving her RN degree in 1996. Kim always had a tender spot in her heart for the elderly. Wherever she is, the residents love her. Mrs. Walker has been ADON for Corsicana Nursing Home, DON for Twilight Home and is currently looking forward to serving as DON for Trinity Missions of Italy. Kim's oldest child is married, residing in Ennis and is attending UT while the other three children are living at home and attend CHS.

> Alithea Brown has been a nurse, not a super-nurse, at Trinity Mission of Italy for 33 years. She started her career to be her life's work. Alithea is a single me

of two, Early in her career she worked split shifts in both the dictary and housekeeping departments. She would wash dishes one day and commodes the next but felt good at the end of the day knowing that she was on the first wrung of the ladder up. Minimum wage was \$1.60 an hour and she had chopped cotton in her teens for \$5.00 a day so she thought she was "RICH." Her "friend" base is wide, stretching across numerous cities in several counties. Alithra says, "I did not choose nursing, nursing chose me. I enrolled in every available class or in-service that was offered and I moved up. I consider my journey an American dream, making money doing something you love."

nnie Bennett, MDS Coordinator, graduated from nursing school in New York State and has continued in the nursing field for forty years. Bonnie has lived and worked in New York, Virginia and Tennessee prior to moving to Texas twenty-five years ago. She is married with two daughters and three grandchildren.

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# Finance

Here is our current situation: Oil is hovering around \$100 a barrel, the dollar is experiencing weakness, the bursting of a housing bubble and the sub-prime woes are sending tremors to the economy, and the Fed is aggressively cutting interest rates.

These events and others are causing a lot of uncertainty and speculation. Clearly, the markets could go in just about

any direction in 2008 and well into 2009. This is not the first volatile market, and it will most certainly not be the last. The months ahead will be filled with both landmines and treasures for the investor.

The current conditions are being fueled by the negative news surrounding the sub-prime mortgage meltdown. The problem keeps growing with each new update or reassessment and will continue to influence the economy for the near future. So what is a person to do in these unsettling times?

### **Here are a few suggestions:**

As you examine your current financial strategy, remember that your objectives do not operate in a vacuum. Your approaches to investments, taxes, insurance, estate preservation and retirement planning must intersect

# Get Keady for a 1/1/2/2008

and intertwine. Always keep the big picture in mind, and it will help you weather the various economic storms.

Now is an excellent time to re-examine your portfolio's asset allocation, not so much in light of the current volatility, but rather in regards to your overall game plan and long range objectives. It is very tempting to reduce your equity

> exposure and increase your position in stocks or cash in response to these trends. Not only do you risk missing out on a rebound in stocks, but you also will have difficulty knowing how and when to get back into the market.

With tax time upon us, investors of all ages and income brackets should take advantage of any means they have of sheltering their investments from taxes. Increased contribution limits in many retirement-type accounts such as 401(k)s and IRAs encourage everyone to set money aside for our retirement years.

Conclusion: Safety First. A widely diversified portfolio among stocks and

bonds is always a sound strategy. As the drumbeat of bad news regarding the housing market and the economy grows





## Finance NOW

louder, remember to keep your big picture in clear focus. One of the few things we have control over is how much we save. Increasing how much we save or invest, even in small increments, is by far our biggest lever when it comes to amassing wealth. Past financial messes were great investment opportunities although very painful at the time. So, stay diversified and hold on because rallies can be as sudden as sell-offs.

Gary Hayden is a registered representative of and offers security, investment advisory and financial planning services through, MML Investors Services, Inc. Supervisory Office: 777 Main Street, Suite 2260, Fort Worth, Texas 76102 • 817-332-4451. Hayden Financial Partners is not an affiliate or subsidiary of MML Investor Services, Inc.

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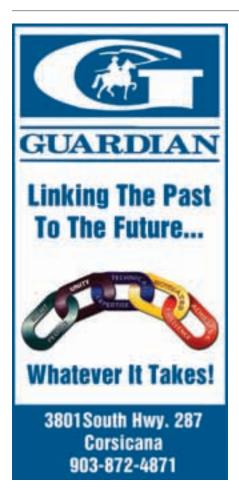
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# The Benefits of a Healthy Breakfast

Your mother always told you that a healthy breakfast was the best way to start your day. Based on Harvard Medical School research, she was right. It has been confirmed that regular breakfast eaters tend to weigh less, consume more vitamins, have lower cholesterol and have better morning-time concentration than those who skip breakfast on a regular basis. The key to breakfast is choosing healthy options, just like your other meals. Even if you do not like traditional breakfast foods, there are other options that provide the needed nutrients without a lot of calories.

There are two theories as to why breakfast eaters are usually healthier than breakfast skippers. One theory is that eating breakfast helps control hunger, which leads to lower caloric intake throughout the day. Those who eat breakfast are not as hungry at lunch and can make smarter eating choices for the remainder of the day. However, if you are hungry, a growling stomach may have more influence over meal decisions than personal willpower. Also, those who eat breakfast maintain a more steady level of blood sugar throughout the day. Without breakfast, blood sugar levels may drop, which can lead to a loss of concentration or poor memory. That lack of concentration could also sabotage personal goals of choosing healthy food options.

The second theory as to why breakfast eaters are healthier is that people who plan what they will eat for breakfast are also more likely to plan other meals. Planning meals ahead of time makes choosing healthy food easier. Without meal

plans, a hunger attack could derail even the best of intentions. Cravings for unhealthy foods will not have as much control over someone who has planned ahead to eat healthy foods.

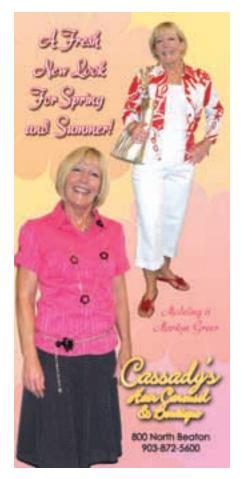
To make breakfast a beneficial meal, it must provide energy, a feeling of fullness and essential vitamins and nutrients. Otherwise, you will experience the same problems as the breakfast skippers. Healthy breakfast options should contain fiber and protein to achieve a sensation of fullness, without containing too many calories. Breakfast does not have to be a bowl of cereal with cold milk. For the breakfast lover, foods such as eggs, fruit, dairy and oatmeal are good options. Other options are an English muffin egg sandwich, a veggie omelet, salmon on a whole-grain bagel, a fruit smoothie or a hard-boiled egg. Trying different menu items will keep breakfast interesting and, hopefully, make it a habit.

For those people who dislike breakfast foods, there are options beyond the traditional eggs and bacon combination. Try leftover, low-fat veggie pizza, fresh fruit, yogurt, a breakfast taco with beans and salsa or cheese and whole-wheat crackers. Disliking breakfast foods does not have to derail your plans to make healthy food choices.

Breakfast not only helps get your day started, but it provides an opportunity to introduce needed vitamins and minerals into your diet. By taking the time to plan your breakfast, you can set yourself up for success and lay the foundation for a healthier lifestyle. **NOW** 

Dr. Fatiregun, Pediatrics, Navarro Regional Hospital





# Gastroenterologist

## Meet Dr. Syed



Dr. Syed is committed to improving the health and well-being of his patients and our community by providing high-quality service aimed at the prevention and treatment of gastrointestinal related illnesses. He is a Board Certified physician in both Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology. Dr. Syed and his family are excited about becoming part of our community.

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# April 2008 community Calendar

Spring is almost here and the time is drawing near for Fishing Tournaments! Contact the Corsicana Chamber of Commerce at chamber@corsicana.org

### **Second Thursdays**

Corsicana Education Foundation board meetings, 4:30 p.m., CISD Administration Building board room. (903) 654-2838.

### **Fourth Thursdays**

Corsicana Chamber of Commerce meetings, 11:00 a.m., Corsicana Chamber of Commerce. (903) 874-4731.

First and Third Tuesdays Corsicana City Council Meetings, 6:00 p.m., City Hall board room.

### April 6

Discover beautiful Texas Gardens as you stroll through the elegant neighborhoods and grand lawns of five private homes in Corsicana. Proceeds from this event benefit Women's Club House Association of Corsicana. Tickets may be purchased at the Corsicana Visitors Center or Chamber of Commerce.

Contact Barbara Jones at (903) 874-0848 or mallie22@sbcglobal.net or visit the Web site at www.BarbaraJonesFineArt.com.

### April 12 and 13

Waxahachie Trade Days will open to the public on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. The event is held at the Ellis County Expo Center, located next door to the Cowboy Church of Ellis County at 2300 W. U.S. Highway 287. For more information, contact Les Clemons at (972) 617-8156, Gerald Huckabee at (903) 865-1385 or Dean Worley at (903) 286-0183.

### April 25 - 27

Derrick Days! Contact the Corsicana Chamber of Commerce or the Corsicana Main St. Project at mainst@ci.corsicana.tx.us.

### May 16 - 17

Navarro County Relay for Life Race, benefiting the Navarro County American Cancer Society, at the Community Park next to the YMCA. www.events.cancer.org/rflnavarrocotx. Community Transit Service (part of Community Action Services) is partnering with Relay for Life to provide transportation. Starting at 5:00 p.m., buses will run to/from the Cornerstone Baptist Church parking area, 801 N. 13th Street, to the YMCA. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to ride! Those requiring special transportation will need reservations. Contact Jamie Kitchens no later than April 15 at (903) 875-9729 or navarrocancersurvivors@yahoo.com.

### May 24

Second Chance Prom, sponsored by Gowns Galore and benefiting the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, 7:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. at the Cook Center. This is a black tie, formal event featuring a silent auction, raffle and music from the '60s, '70s, '80s and '90s. Advance tickets are \$45 per person or \$50 at the door. Call (903) 874-3377.

> To have your events posted on the community calendar, e-mail us at: samantha@nowmagazines.net.

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







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