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SouthwestNOW

M A G A Z I N E

APRIL 2018

Canyon Conqueror

Jonathan Robinson
takes on the hike of a
lifetime

An Urban Retreat

At Home With Dean
and Rae Philpott

Featured Business: Camp Bow Wow

In the Kitchen With Marcos Alaniz



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ACCELERATING EXPECTATIONS 2020

DeSoto ISD to Open Second Magnet Application Window

Due to overwhelming responses of interest regarding DeSoto ISD Magnet Programs, DeSoto ISD is hosting a second magnet application period starting March 30 through April 30. This application period is open to both in-district and out-of-district scholars interested in taking advantage of DeSoto ISD's unique and wide-ranging body of programs for students in grades K-12.

Ready to take your child's educational experiences to new heights? Soar with DeSoto ISD! Visit www.DesotoISD.org/MagnetApplication starting Mar. 30!

Pre-K4 & Kinder Enrollment Opportunities Set for April

Join us from 7 am-7 pm at the DeSoto Civic Center on Apr. 2 and 3 and from 8 am to noon on Apr. 14 at Amber Terrace Discovery and Design Early Childhood Center.

Please bring your child's birth certificate; immunization record; social security information; utility bill, lease or mortgage as proof of residence; and parent/guardian driver's license.

*Families are also open to apply for tuition-based pre-k4 opportunities in DeSoto ISD at \$5,600 per year or \$560/mo. Student must reside in the DeSoto ISD attendance zone. Online payment options available.

For more information, contact DeSoto ISD Early Childhood Director Myla Wilson at 972.223.6666.

District Seeking Workshop Presenters for Annual Male Leadership Symposium

Calling all young male scholars in grades 6-12 in DeSoto, Duncanville, Cedar Hill, Lancaster and Dallas! DeSoto ISD is preparing for another groundbreaking student leadership development opportunity focused on the young men of the Best Southwest!

At the 2018 DeSoto ISD Male Leadership Symposium, young men can attend motivational talks and workshops in which professional men share insights on their successes and journeys to the top of their respective fields. Register to attend the Apr. 21 leadership development opportunity to be held Apr. 21 at DeSoto High School located at 600 Eagle Drive in DeSoto. Visit http://www.desotoisd.org/departments/staff_and_student_engagement/male_leadership_symposium to register today!

CALENDAR

- 4/7: DeSoto Living Festival at East MS
- 4/9: Regular Board Meeting
- 4/10: Social Media Safety & Awareness Workshop; 6p at DHS Academy Cafeteria
- 4/16: District Holiday
- 4/21: Male Leadership Symposium
- 4/23: Regular Board Meeting
- 4/28: BSW Everything Teen Expo

WWW.DESOTOISD.ORG | 972.223.6666
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DESOTO, TX 75115

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Editorial Coordinator, Sandra Strong
Editorial Assistant, Rachel Smith | Writers, Allison Burdick
Tim Maiden . Virginia Riddle . Zachary R. Urquhart
Editors/Proofreaders, Pat Anthony . Shannon Randall*

GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

*Creative Director, Chris McCalla | Artists, Kristin Bato . Morgan Christensen
Martha Macias . Brande Morgan . Anthony Sarmienta*

PHOTOGRAPHY

*Photography Directors, Chris McCalla . Brande Morgan
Photographer, Shane Kirkpatrick*

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ON THE COVER

Jonathan Robinson takes in the wonder of the Grand Canyon.

Photo by
Justin Robinson.

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Adam

Adam Walker
SouthwestNOW Editor
adam.walker@nowmagazines.com
(469) 285-2008

April Fool!

Everyone knows that April 1st is set aside for pranks, hoaxes and general tomfoolery. But no one really knows why. An old story floats around, which claims that it has something to do with calendar changes in the 1500s. Most European countries used to celebrate the new year on March 25th, and it was a week-long festival ending on April 1st. So, when the new year moved to January 1st, those who refused to change or hadn't heard yet were targeted for pranks. It's a great story, but it doesn't wash. There are references to April 1st as a day for foolishness that go back before that time.

Countries all over the world "celebrate" this day. In Portugal, they throw fistfuls of flour at you. In Scotland and Ireland, they'll send you on an errand, from person to person, each of them in on the joke. They call it "hunting the cuckoo." From Europe to India, people enjoy the opportunity for razzing their friends, and the newspapers often get in on the fun. But the craziest custom is in France. They call the day *poisson d'avril*, April Fish, and try to stick paper fish on your back, like a *kick me* sign! However you choose to celebrate, have fun!

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CANYON



Hiking the Grand Canyon is one of those things a lot of people hope to do one day. It's something they have on their bucket list. Jonathan Robinson will have to find something else for his list. At 8 years old, he's already been there, done that. "I knew I was going to survive," Jonathan grinned. "I knew I could do it because I walk a lot of miles mowing. I wanted to go because Daddy was going. It was really hard to talk him into it. It took 15 minutes every day!"

ON CONQUEROR

— By Adam Walker



Jonathan's father, Justin Robinson, wasn't so sure this was the best hike on which to take his son, but he was willing to let Jonathan prove himself. After all, he had started hiking with his father at about the same age. So he bought Jonathan a pair of boots, and father and son started practicing hiking several miles daily at Cedar Ridge Nature Preserve.

"My dad, aka 'Pops,' and Uncle Scott had been planning this trip for over a year," Justin remembered. "Three or four people had backed out at the last minute. Jonathan wanted to go. I tested him out, and he was doing fine. I agreed, because I didn't know when we'd be able to get three generations together to do this again."

So that's what happened. Jonathan, his dad and his Pops, Jeff Robinson, packed up and left for the Grand Canyon where they met up with a couple of Jonathan's uncles and a cousin to start a three-day trek from the North Rim to the South Rim.



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“Right when we started, it was cold,” Jonathan recalled. He and his relatives started their hike down into the canyon loaded with supplies. Jonathan’s backpack weighed 14 pounds and included plenty of snacks packed by his mom and older sisters back home. “They wrote notes on our snacks to encourage us. The first day we went seven miles! Before we left, Gran said, ‘Don’t get near the edge. Don’t leave the trail, and don’t run,’ and I did everything the opposite!” He spent the day exploring the different kinds of rocks, chasing lizards, walking down side trails to see the view and scaring himself looking over the edge. That might explain why Jonathan managed to get overheated on the first day, which his dad said was the easiest day of the trip. But his dad had a solution for an overactive, overheated boy. He took Jonathan’s shirt off and tossed him in the creek! Then Jonathan built a seat out of rocks before sleeping on the hard ground. “It was hard sleeping on the ground,” Jonathan said.

The second day, Jonathan led his family another seven miles across the bottom of the canyon. “I was concerned after the first day,” Justin confessed, “but the second day, he was out in front all day!”



In the morning, Jonathan got cold water from the creek, and made dams with stones. "Daddy made me be careful, so I wouldn't get swept away. The second day was really hard," Jonathan confessed. "It was up and down, up and down all day. And we crossed a lot of bridges. Then Daddy said we were just about through with the up and down, but there was still another one more mile!" But Jonathan kept going, in between snack breaks, because he knew what was waiting at the end of the second day — dinner at the Phantom Ranch. "Eating was the most fun part!" he said.



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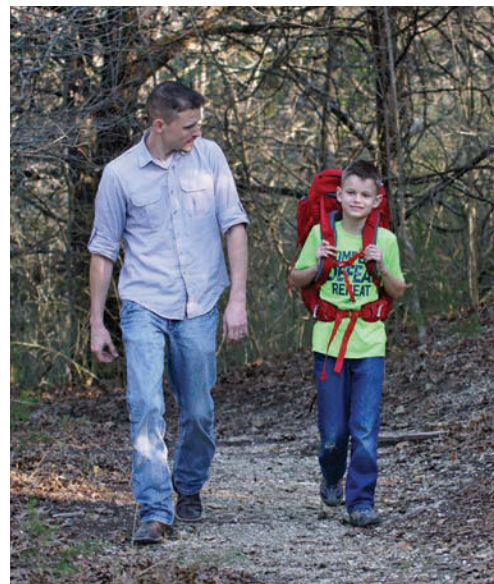
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"He likes to eat!" Justin agreed. "All day, he kept saying, 'Dad, I think it's time for a snack break!'"

Their third day, they covered 9.2 miles and climbed to the South Rim. "It was hard," Jonathan admitted. "But I knew that before I started." Jonathan wasn't kidding about the third day being hard. A rafting group got overheated. "One guy kept yelling for help, even though help was already there. A rescue helicopter came in. There was a lot of dust," Jonathan remembered.

Pops was grim. "I didn't know if that guy was going to make it. But we heard later that he did."

Even one of their own group got in trouble. "Uncle Bryan drank four gallons of water and got water poisoning!" Jonathan exclaimed. But Ranger Sally showed up to take charge of Uncle Bryan and walk him out of the canyon slowly.

Despite all the drama, Jonathan still had fun. "I got to see a snake!" he said.

That's when his mom, Amber, piped in, "He left saying the only thing he wanted to see was a snake!" A lot of moms might be upset about that, but Justin proposed to her on a wilderness hike on Mt. Hope, and they used the mountain as their first daughter's middle name, so snakes and hiking are family lore.

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Coming up the South Rim, the hikers couldn't call each other on their cell phones, but they could call Dallas. So, they were relaying messages back and forth via Duncanville! Justin admitted that it was nice not having any devices, no TV or such. "Yeah, it's called family time!" Jonathan declared.

And this was Jonathan's favorite day! "The last day was the most fun because we walked the most miles *and* we got to have a really big meal after we got to the South Rim Café," he explained. "I ate pizza while we waited for Uncle Bryan. Obviously, you can't go to a trip and it not be fun!"

All the aunts and uncles reunited at the top. "I was glad to finally get to call mom. I missed her," Jonathan admitted. But boys have their own perspectives on things. "The best part was I got to sleep in a real bed."

His dad disagreed. "No, the best part was you got a bath!" Justin teased. "His Pops wasn't sure this was the right trip for him, but he did fine."

"I want to hike it again!" Jonathan grinned. He may very well get his wish, but his next adventure is already planned. "I'm going to Colorado this summer. I want to hike more!" **NOW**

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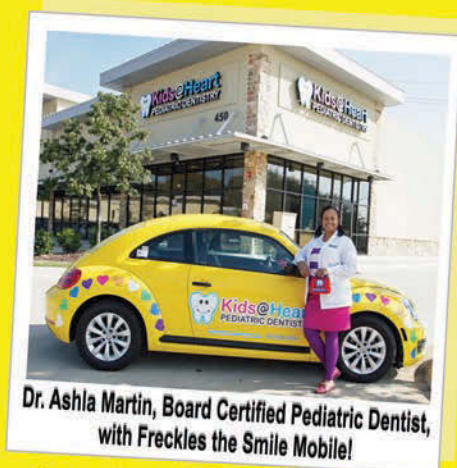
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An Urban Retreat

— By Virginia Riddle

Tucked into the hustle and bustle of the Metroplex is Dean and Rae Philpott's rural retreat in Cedar Hill. The gated community and cul-de-sac provide privacy, while broad windows across both stories allow the couple and their family and friends to enjoy hilltop vistas reaching beyond the lake. Wildlife abounds — coyotes, bobcats, skunks, raccoons and birds. "With all the windows, our life is like living full time in a resort," Rae noted.

Dean and Rae have been Cedar Hill residents since 1976, and this is their third home in the city. Both are retired from Vought Aircraft Industries where they met. Married now for 35 years, Dean was a civil engineer, and Rae was a "bean counter" working in cost analysis. Dean served as program manager for the design of both the B-2 Stealth Bomber and the Gulfstream V aircraft. "We are so proud when the B-2 flies," Rae said.

"My job allowed me to travel the country," Dean added. For the last several years, they have enjoyed traveling the world and playing golf together. Riverboat cruises in China and Europe, as well as sharing sights in the U.S. with their grandkids, have been their favorite vacations. "We have three kids, one of whom is deceased, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren," Rae said proudly. "We take a trip every year with some of them."

At Home With
Dean & Rae Philpott





A native of Childress, Dean graduated from Texas Tech University. Rae hails originally from Grand Prairie, where she was a cheerleader at Grand Prairie High School. "I had a great time in high school," she recalled. Now, they are active members of Cedar Hill Hillcrest Baptist Church.

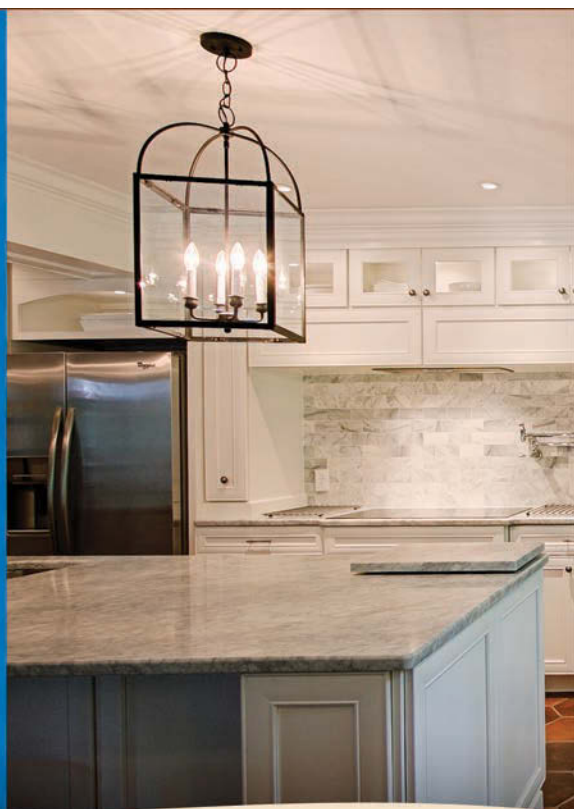
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"With all the windows, our life is like living full time in a resort."



the landscaping, which they maintain themselves. Together, this couple has achieved the resort-type atmosphere they set out to create. Their home wraps around a cliffside pool with a bubbling fountain, handy outdoor kitchen and relaxing sitting area. "We're definitely spoiled," Rae said. "It's fun living in this house, especially when all the kids, grands and great-grandkids are here. They enjoy the

pool and the pool table, and I cook a lot. We've made a lot of great memories here."

An American flag flies proudly, welcoming everyone to their home. The front door is a massive replica of a door Rae spotted while the couple was on an Atlantic City golf excursion. She took photos of it, and back home, Dean found an artisan who could re-create it. The broad entry

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opens to the winding staircase and its landing, as well as the formal living and dining room and the den with its views. A stained glass creation from a trip to Eureka Springs, Arkansas, casts colored rays of light throughout the formal dining room and living room, where Chinese artifacts and the drawings of a Chinese street vendor are displayed, along with photos from the couple's travels.

The den, with its impressive fireplace and built-in cabinetry, has a practice chipping area for this golfing couple. Centrally located, it offers access to almost all other rooms including the favorite gathering place — the rec room with its old-fashioned signs, pool table, bar and juke box that plays 1950s' vinyl oldies. Quilts hang over Rae's mother's rocking chair, and Rae's collection of Beanie Babies is gathered in baskets. "I think they are adorable," she said.

Rae wanted a roomy kitchen, and she got it. Her desk, a work island and breakfast bar that encircles the kitchen make this a very functional area. Game nights are hosted at the informal dining room table that seats six. The pantry even holds a safe room for tornadic occasions. "Our mud room collects everything, especially what I need on my daily neighborhood walks," Rae said. Her treasured classic car, a 1963 Triumph TR3, resides in the garage. "The kids love riding in it," she added.



Dean's office sports a unique mesquite wood floor and custom cabinetry. Memorabilia from his career lines the walls. Photos of planes decorate the walls of his shop area.



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The railing on the upstairs landing offers a display of quilts created by Dean's mother. Rae's grandmother's chair holds another quilt. The guest and/or grandkids' bedrooms are connected by a Jack-and-Jill bathroom. Rae's exercise room opens onto the upstairs wraparound balcony and has a window seat with a two-way view.



The isolated master bedroom holds several surprises. Decorated in restful gray and white, it has an elevated sitting area with the home's highest lake and hillside view. "We spend a lot of time in this sitting area in front of the view and fireplace," Rae said. A private balcony patio area is accessed from the master. "My walk-in closet is fabulous," she added. Dean's handiwork shows in the master bathroom's design with its full view and sunken tub.

"We love living close to our doctors, Uptown shopping and our church, while still being in this beautiful rural setting," Dean said. "The population boom Cedar Hill has seen has changed the area. When returning home from Dallas, this area used to be dark because it was all rural. Now, there's lights and traffic all the way home. However, being retired, we can choose when we travel into the Metroplex."

Regardless of the changes from an almost totally rural Cedar Hill to a more urban life, this couple enjoys their own private paradise and loves to share it with others. Rae explained her joy of living within this space. "My walks are wonderful, and the sunsets across the lake are beautiful." **NOW**

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Fill 'Er Up With Knowledge

— By Adam Walker

Cedar Hill's library is turning 70! When established in April 1948, as part of the Dallas County Library System, it was in the old gas station on the corner of Cedar and Main. The county paid for one librarian to work 12 hours a week, and for a few books a month. Over the next few years, the library moved to a Quonset hut where the Cedar Hill Museum of History now stands, and then to one room in the old movie theater. "There was an evaporative cooler on the awning above the door that blew cool air way up above our heads," former librarian Traphene Hickman remembered. "And in the winter, we had a space heater with a hole above it, so all the heat went straight out!" Traphene was the librarian from 1959 to 1976. When she started in Cedar Hill, the library had accumulated \$90 in fines. She

loaned the library another \$30 to buy a set of encyclopedias for the collection!

When the library moved into the old City Hall, the city added a small budget for the library, providing for another nine paid hours. There was even an office for the librarian, in a closet. "We were so excited. We finally had air conditioning, a water fountain and access to a bathroom! The teens of that generation all came to the library to cool off and get a drink in the summer. Everyone was in and out of there."

Once Cedar Hill was ready to move the library out of City Hall, into its own building, Zula B. Wylie stepped up, purchased four lots and gave the land to the city to build the current building. She phoned Traphene. "She told me, 'Go get the city manager, and bring him over here.' When I found him and got him there, she just signed over the deed to the land." Other years, she gave \$90,000 checks to support the library. "She wouldn't let us put her name on the library while she was living. She was of a mind that when you do something good, you shouldn't let your

left hand know what your right hand is doing.”

When the building was ready, people all over town came and checked out whole boxes of books to take home, so the shelves would be empty. “That was so we wouldn’t have to hire movers,” Traphene remembered. “Then all of what I called ‘the old whittlers’ came with their long trailers and loaded up the shelves to take them down to the new building. Then the families came in, one by one, to return their boxes of books, so we could set up.” That was in April 1986. The next year, the building was dedicated. “It was rainy and cold, but everyone in town showed up. This town has always loved the library.”

Today, the Zula B. Wylie Public Library is still going strong, offering dozens of activities for all age groups, interests and language groups in the community. In addition to books, the library offers free access to a large variety of paid-service, online databases, and 21st-century services like 3-D printing. Whether you’re wanting to find your ancestors or find a job, they can help.

And bigger things are coming. Just a few months ago, Cedar Hill passed a bond election to build a new library. “It will be a place for lifelong learning,” Elaine Cook of the Friends of the Library explained. “A place to learn how to sew, or use a skill saw or plant a pansy. It’s a place of everyday discovery. Library buildings of the future have to be flexible enough to evolve as the purpose of libraries changes. We’ll have an A/V room suitable for taking depositions, a kitchen and an eco-friendly system with access to the outside. The library is a real-life place. It’s not about silence. Learning can be noisy!” **NOW**



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CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

MARCOS ALANIZ

— By Adam Walker

Marcos Alaniz grew up in Corpus Christi. “That region tends to have a huge influence on my cooking and guides me as I cook. My family heritage guides me to a certain extent, but I try to make it my own when I cook.” His favorite kitchen tool is a cast-iron pan. As a firehouse cook, Marcos enjoys teaching the new crew members. “I feel if I am able to teach them the fundamentals of cooking and get them comfortable in the kitchen, it will benefit all of us at the fire station.”

As a father of two young boys he stays busy with them on his days off. “I like watching and playing sports with my wife and kids,” he said, “as well as fishing, camping and bike riding.” **NOW**

Bacon-wrapped Pork Tenderloin

1-2 lbs. pork tenderloin
1 tsp. steak seasoning
5 slices bacon, cut in half

1. Preheat oven to 425 F. Remove silver skin from pork tenderloin, leaving a thin layer of fat covering the pork. Sprinkle with seasoning. Wrap with bacon slices; secure with wooden toothpicks.
2. Place on a lightly greased wire rack in an aluminum foil-lined roasting pan. Bake for 25 minutes or until a meat thermometer inserted into thickest portion registers 155 F.
3. Increase oven temperature to broil. Broil 5 inches from heat for 3-5 minutes, or until bacon is crisp. Remove from oven. Cover with foil; let stand 10 minutes or until thermometer registers 160 F.

Crispy Chicken Costoletta With Lemon Sauce

Lemon Sauce:

1 Tbsp. vegetable oil
2 cloves garlic, minced or pressed
2 cups heavy whipping cream
1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
1/3 cup fresh lemon juice
1/8 cup chicken stock
Salt and pepper, to taste
2 Tbsp. butter (divided use)

Chicken:

Zest of 2 lemons
3 Tbsp. flour
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. black pepper
2 eggs
2 Tbsp. water
1 cup plain breadcrumbs

3 Tbsp. grated Parmesan cheese
4 chicken breasts, cut horizontally and pounded to 1/4-inch thick, if needed
2 Tbsp. olive oil

1. For lemon sauce: Heat vegetable oil in a medium stock pot. Add garlic; cook on medium-low heat, about 3 minutes.
2. Add whipping cream; boil until reduced by about a third. Add Dijon, lemon juice, chicken stock and salt and pepper to taste. Simmer 5 minutes.
3. Remove from heat; add 1 Tbsp. butter. Cover with lid to keep warm or simmer if needed.
4. For chicken: Preheat oven to 200 F. Bake lemon zest on a baking sheet, about 5 minutes or until dry.
5. In a bowl, combine flour, salt and pepper. In a second bowl, whisk together eggs and water. In a third bowl, combine zest, breadcrumbs and Parmesan. Dredge each cutlet in the flour, then egg, then breading.
6. Heat olive oil and remaining butter in a large pan over medium heat. (Add more olive oil and butter as needed.) Cook chicken on each side, about 5 minutes, or until cooked through. (Chicken can be kept warm in oven set at 200 F until ready to serve.) Serve with generous amount of lemon sauce.

Shredded Pork Tacos

1 Tbsp. cumin
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. chili powder

- 1 tsp. onion powder
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 1 tsp. oregano
- 1 Tbsp. salt
- 1 3 1/2- to 4-lb. pork shoulder, rinsed and cleaned
- 1 16-oz. jar mild salsa
- 1 pkg. corn or flour tortillas

1. Place the first 7 ingredients in a bowl; mix. Place the pork shoulder in a Crock-Pot or slow cooker; rub all over with the seasoning mixture. Pour the jar of salsa around the pork shoulder. Cook on low heat for 8-12 hours.

2. Remove the pork to a plate and using 2 forks. Shred the meat into bite-size pieces. (I like to remove the visible pieces of fat.) Pour a scoop or two of the juices into the pork and stir to combine. (If you want to remove the excess fat from the juice you will use, pour it into a cup and refrigerate it until the fat solidifies and can be easily scooped out. Only the juices will remain.) Place the pork into the tortillas. Serve with desired fixings.

Grilled Asparagus

- 1 lb. fresh asparagus spears
- 1 Tbsp. olive oil
- Salt and pepper, to taste

1. Preheat a grill to high heat. Lightly coat asparagus with olive oil; season with salt and pepper to taste. Grill 2-3 minutes.

Chicken Tortilla Soup

- 2 Tbsp. oil
- 1 cup onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 1 14.5-oz. can diced tomatoes and green chili peppers
- 1 9-oz. can yellow hominy
- 1 8-oz. can tomato sauce
- 1 15.25-oz. can black beans
- 1 envelope taco seasoning
- 1 1/2 lbs. boneless, skinless chicken breast meat, cubed
- 1/4 cup Mexican blend shredded cheese
- 1 Tbsp. fresh cilantro, chopped (optional)
- Tortilla chips

1. Add oil to a large saucepan; sauté onions. Add garlic, and then add next 6 ingredients. Bring to a boil over medium heat.

2. Stir in chicken; reduce heat to low. Cover; simmer until chicken is no longer pink, 4 to 6 minutes.

3. Bring soup to a boil over medium-high heat; cook, stirring occasionally, until thickened, about 1 minute. Top with Mexican cheese, cilantro and tortilla chips.

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Camp Bow Wow

— By Adam Walker

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Located in Duncanville, Camp Bow Wow SWDallas also offers overnight boarding for dogs, while their people are away on vacation. “They join the other dogs for day camp during the day. At night they receive a special campfire treat. Then they have a fleece-padded cot to sleep on in their individual cabin.”

The day care service is designed to provide socialization, lots of exercise and nonstop supervision. They offer additional services like one-on-one snuggle time. One of the certified camp counselors will spend time playing with just your dog, giving them the special attention you want them to have. “We want your dog to be well cared for and safe at Camp Bow Wow, so all our certified camp counselors are trained in dog behavior, pet first aid and CPR for dogs. Plus, there is monitoring 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We try to get to know

every dog by name, which other dogs are their friends and where they like to be scratched.”

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“Customers can feel good about leaving their dogs in our care.”

But if day camp services aren't quite what you're looking for, or your doggy doesn't play well with others of his or her kind, Camp Bow Wow also offers in-home services. If you have a blended household with some dogs and some cats, or if you even have some farm animals that need a bit of looking after, they can help. They will come to your house to walk your dog, take care of feeding and poop scooping and make sure everything and everyone is safe and sound. All of Camp Bow Wow's in-home service providers are fully bonded and insured. “We have a few customers who have us look after their horses or come feed their chickens while they are away!” Stacey reported.

“We opened in 2009, so we've been here a long time. We do an interview with your dog before they come to camp, just to see how he or she does with the other dogs and the people,” Stacey explained. “All dogs over the age of 6 months must be spayed or neutered before they qualify as campers. And all dogs must be current on all their vaccinations.”

Camp Bow Wow offers all-inclusive pricing that includes most of their services. There are discounts for the second dog. Several multiday package deals are available, including 5-, 10- and 20-day packages. **NOW**



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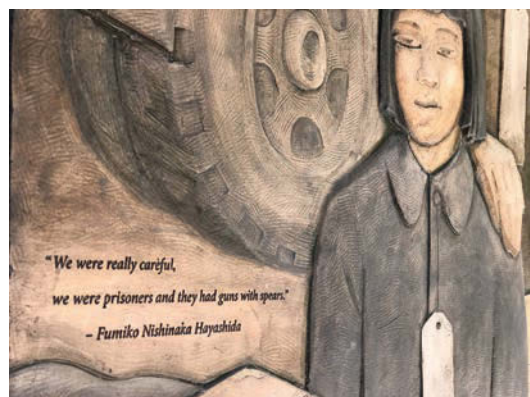
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TravelNOW Hidden Gems

— By Allison Burdick

What do gold, Bruce Lee, and strawberries have in common? They're all part of Seattle's heritage shared through not one, not two, but three National Park Service sites that explore the area's history, culture and community.

History: Pioneer Square

All hail to the Klondike!

Situated within historic Pioneer Square (Seattle's original neighborhood) is a restored building known as the Cadillac Hotel. Constructed in 1889, it is now the home of Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, which shares stories from the 1897-98 gold rush in the Yukon Territory of Canada that swept gold-seekers through Seattle and up toward the Klondike gold fields. History buffs are exposed to Seattle and the Pacific Northwest's past through the eyes of stampedeers looking to strike it rich, including John Nordstrom and how

he managed to start a shoe empire. Kids can earn Junior Ranger badges by completing activities, while they explore the park. Short films and rotating exhibits are also part of the experience and help visitors delve deeper into the impact of the gold rush on Seattle.

Culture: Chinatown-International District

Enter the Dragon!

A short walk from Pioneer Square is the Chinatown-International District, a neighborhood rich in restaurants, shops and public art. The Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, an affiliated area of the National Park System, celebrates the art, history and culture of Asian-Pacific Americans through vivid storytelling and inspiring experiences. Learn how the neighborhood shaped Seattle's most famous martial artist and world icon, Bruce Lee. Take a historic building tour and catch preserved scenes of the everyday lives of the

hundreds of Chinese, Japanese and Filipino immigrants who once made this building their home. A menu of other guided tours takes you through the neighborhood — including one led by your stomach — with different seasonal dishes that may include dumplings, noodles, rice and barbecue.

Community: Bainbridge Island

Nidoto Nai Yoni — "Let it Not Happen Again."

A short, and extremely scenic, ferry ride from Pioneer Square takes visitors to Bainbridge Island, a community that encourages us all to learn from a dark chapter in our nation's history. Japanese immigrants first began arriving on the island in the 1880s, and strawberry farming was introduced in 1908. Many Japanese Americans went on to own and operate farms on the island and became integral to the community. However, immediately following the attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States government began arresting and facilitating the mass removal of all individuals of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. The Bainbridge Island community was the first to have its members of Japanese ancestry forcibly removed from their homes. The Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, a unit of Minidoka National Historic Site, is an old-growth red cedar, granite and basalt memorial that honors all 276 Japanese and Japanese Americans who were exiled from the Bainbridge Island community. These were the first of what would become 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry — two-thirds of whom were United States citizens — forcibly removed from their homes and incarcerated during World War II. Visitors can check regularly for tour schedules.

Whether you are looking for stories, activities or new cuisine, the Seattle area is your destination with three National Park Service sites to visit, all easily accessible through public transit. For maps and other planning tools, visit www.nps.gov/state/wa/index.htm. **NOW**

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Better Safe Than Sorry

— By Zachary R. Urquhart

If it has not happened yet, you can expect to get the first tornado scare of the year any day now. Late spring to early summer is the height of storm season in North Texas, and you will want to be sure you are prepared for an emergency situation. Here are some ideas for what to stock up on and how to be as ready as possible if severe weather comes your way.

Have a Plan

- *Know your home's safest spot.* Depending on your house, this could be a simple one. You want to stay away from windows, ideally staying close to interior walls without much that could fall on you. Most importantly, make sure everyone in your home knows where to go in case of danger, so you do not have children panicking and missing if storms are happening.



- *Know how to leave.* One of the saddest sights when major storms hit are the thousands of cars along the freeways trying to find refuge. Be sure you know the major evacuation routes, so if you have to evacuate, you can get somewhere to stay for a while.

- *Know if you can bunk with a friend.* If your house does not offer a good safe spot, plan ahead to have a place you can go when severe weather is expected. You might

have friends who have a bunker, or at least a better safe spot than you do. Storm shelters are not the norm in this part of the country, but more and more contractors are offering to build or install them.



Have Supplies

- *Get food and water now.* If you want to avoid the price gouging that sometimes happens in a storm's aftermath, go ahead and stock up on bottled water and canned foods. One easy plan is to always have a surplus of those items, and every few months, consume what you have and buy replenishment. Be sure to include food for your pets when you are making your grocery list. And remember that your pets will increase the amount of water you need.

- *There are other useful items.* If you lose power, you may not be able to do much about your refrigerator and cold food, but you can be ready to stay warm with plenty of blankets. And just like you should have a stock of sustenance, be sure you have a supply of the



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Childcare provided with pre-registration. Email prosperity@dc3online.org to sign your kids up.

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batteries you will need for flashlights and any items that are essential for your family.



Have Information

- *Use the radio in the mornings.* Each morning, before you press play on your favorite CD or turn to your satellite music station of choice, tune into a station that includes regular news and regular updates. Forecasters never know exactly when storms might sprout up, but they usually have an idea at least a few hours in advance. In the same vein, keep a television turned on and tuned to a major network. You don't have to do anything more than watch for a break from regularly scheduled programming to bring a breaking weather update.

- *Download a Weather App.* There are many options, so many in fact that the only bad choice is not having one at all. Apps like WeatherBug or AccuWeather will not only warn you of tornadoes and extreme conditions, they also track lightning, so you know whether it is smart to be outside in less severe conditions.

Hopefully, you will never need any of these tips. But, if the worst does happen, your best plan is to be prepared. **NOW**



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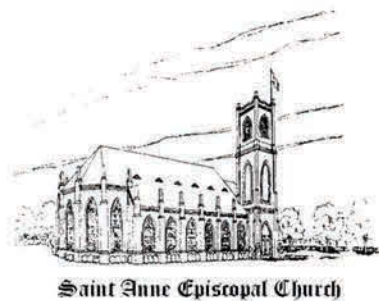
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Zoomed In: Pritul Sarker

By Adam Walker

Cedar Hill resident Pritul Sarker is a student at Canterbury School in DeSoto who is fully engaged in serving the community. The White House has taken note. He received the President's Volunteer Service Award from the Corporation for National and Community Service.

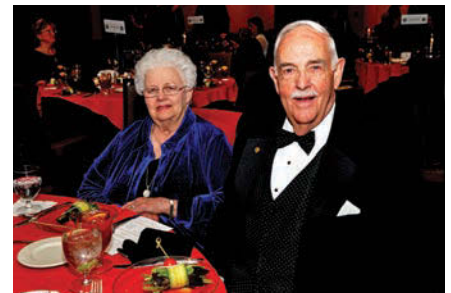
He helps out at Methodist Mansfield, shadowing doctors, working with nurses in admitting and pre-op and helping with paperwork. "I want to be a cardiothoracic surgeon, so I can help people. My father says that you find happiness through helping others." This might be enough to keep most students busy, but Pritul also volunteers time, through the National Honor Society, helping younger students with their studies. Pritul also enjoys sports. He plays soccer, basketball and tennis. "I mostly study, volunteer and play sports," Pritul said.



Expedition Rangers at Crossroads of Life work on projects for merit badges.



DeSoto ISD elementary schools congratulate their first-ever elementary National Honor Society.



Mayor and Mrs. David Green attend Celebrate Duncanville.



Lasbonda Price of LP Dance poses with some of her students at the Cedar Hill Neighborhood Block Party.



Chief Costa and the DeSoto Police Department receive honors at the First Responders Appreciation Luncheon.



DeSoto ISD alumna, assistant AD and head track coach June Villers is the newest Coach of the Year and Hall of Fame inductee.



Citizens on Patrol volunteers Bill Pierce and Sterling Burns are awarded for helping catch a kidnapping suspect.



First Methodist School students learn about dental health from Dr. Natalie Nickerson, DDS.



SouthwestNOW Community Editor Adam Walker welcomes his newest niece, Shyloh Elyse.

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Calendar

5

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast: 7:30-8:30 a.m., Alan. E. Sims Recreation Center, 310 E. Parkerville Rd., Cedar Hill. Free.

7

DeSoto Living! Festival: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., DeSoto East Middle School, 601 W. Beltline Rd., DeSoto. Free. Live music, food, health and wellness, car show, something for everyone.

8

Zula B. Wylie Public Library 70th Anniversary Celebration: 2:00-4:00 p.m., 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill. Free. Come party like it's 1948. Big band music, dancing, food and crafts.

13

Just the Girls Night Out: 5:00-8:00 p.m., Hillside Village, 305 W. FM1382, Cedar Hill. Free swag bag. Register for a ticket good for a free drink and \$100 gift card.



14

Miles for Milson Charity Run: 7:00-10:00 a.m., Cedar Hill High School, 1 Longhorn Blvd., Cedar Hill. Fun Run and 5K honoring Coach Milson, benefiting Cedar Hill Lions Club Charities.

Native Plant Sale and Plants for Birds Workshop: 8:00 a.m. (workshop), 10:00 a.m. (sale), Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center, 1206 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill. Register for free workshop online.

Help to Heal Sharing God's Love Yard/Bake Sale: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., 670 Primrose, Midlothian. The event needs volunteers, garage sale items and baked goods. For more information, email Linda Miley at ldean@helptohealtx.org or visit www.helptohealtx.org.



18

DeSoto Works! 2018 Job Fair: 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Disciple Central Community Church, 901 N. Polk #101, DeSoto.

20

Movie Night – *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*: 3:00-7:00 p.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville. Free.

21

BugFest 2018: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Backyard Wildlife Resources Center, 406 W. Belt Line Rd., Cedar Hill. Free family event.

23

Earth Fest: An Earth and Arbor Day Celebration: 5:00-7:30 p.m., Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd., Cedar Hill. Free. Eco-friendly vendors, sustainability tours, food and tree giveaways.

24

Bad Art: 3:00-4:30 p.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville. Free. Adults, come and create art. No judging. Supplies provided.

26

Duncanville ISD District Art Show: 6:30-8:00 p.m., Duncanville High School East Cafeteria, 900 W. Camp Wisdom Rd., Duncanville. Free.

27

Astarios Classical: 7:00 p.m., DeSoto Corner Theatre, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., DeSoto. Free, but make a reservation.

28

Kid's Fishing Day: 9:00 a.m.-noon, Briarwood Park, 1625 W. Beltline Rd., DeSoto. \$5. All kids 16 and under welcome. Must be accompanied by an adult.



Best Southwest Everything Teen Expo: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., DeSoto

Public Library, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd. Free.

Ongoing:

Mondays

Don't Be Cross...Stitch! 3:00 p.m.
Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd.

Third Mondays

DeSoto Public Library Book Club:
DeSoto Town Center Complex,
211 E. Pleasant Run Rd. For more
information, call (972) 230-9661.

Tuesdays

DeSoto Senior Center Golden Voices
Choir: 9:00 a.m., Senior Citizen
Center, 204 Lion St., DeSoto. For
more information, call (972) 230-5825.

Baby Storytime: 10:30 a.m., DeSoto
Public Library. For newborns to
2-year-old children.

Duncanville Rotary Club: 7:00-8:00
a.m., D.L. Hopkins Jr. Center,
206 James Collins Blvd., located across
from Duncanville Public Library.

Second and Fourth Tuesdays

Cedar Hill Lions Club meetings:
Noon, Good Shepherd Church, 915
Straus Rd.

Caregiver Support Group: 2:00-

**3:30 p.m., Friends Place Adult Day
Services, 1232 W. Belt Line Rd.,
DeSoto. For more information, call
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Thursdays

The Quilters: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.,
DeSoto Public Library. New quilters
are welcome. If you or someone you
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hand quilted, call (972) 230-9661.

Tiempo de Historias en Espanol:

5:30 p.m., Duncanville Public Library,

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Second Thursdays

Business on the Hill: 7:30 a.m., Texas
Trust Credit Union, 109 W. FM 1382,
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Third Fridays

Senior Dances: 7:00-9:30 p.m.,
Hopkins Senior Center, 206 James
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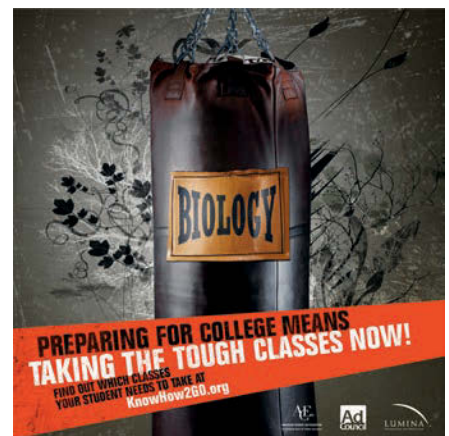
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Lesson Plan: Preparing for Education Costs

It's only a few months until another school year is over, just another reminder that if you have young children or grandchildren, they are a little nearer to college. Like most people, you want your children to succeed in life and may believe that a college education is necessary to achieve that success.

But that advantage comes at a steep cost with the average price of a college education rising each year at rates that outpace inflation, according to the College Board. In fact, Board estimates suggest that a child born in 2017 may need more than \$150,000 each year in today's dollars to attend a four-year, in-state public university, assuming even a modest annual tuition increase of 3 percent. Private schools could cost almost twice that. Even so, say financial experts, saving for college costs is possible, but families must do their homework.

• Start early.

Put time on your side and get started as early as possible. Procrastination could leave your child with fewer college options or the necessity to defer college for a few years while he or she works. Your child may have to depend on loans or grants or look for scholarships. But if you start early and save consistently, you can put the power of compounding to work and actually do something meaningful in terms of saving and investing for college.

• Find options appropriate for you.

Savings accounts, 529 plans, savings bonds, Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (formerly known as Education IRAs), UTMA's with the future student as the beneficiary and more can be useful vehicles for college savings. But, each has rules and regulations that may or may not further your personal goals or circumstances. Consider savings options that offer flexibility and liquidity without penalties.

• Get professional help.

The most effective planning requires an expert who knows the right questions to ask and understands the wide range of funding options — from tax-advantaged saving and investing to scholarships, grants and other financial aid — available to you. A financial professional can uncover issues and resources you may not have considered and help you define a clear-cut education goal and a plan to achieve it that fits your individual needs. **NOW**

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