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MAY 2011

Serving Up a Mother's Heart

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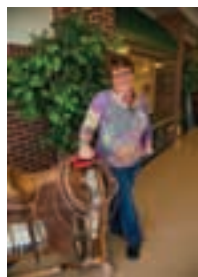
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On The Cover



Luann Hammett, the "Lunch Lady," serves the children of Bose Ikard Elementary.

Photo by Opaque Visuals.

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Editor's Note

Howdy, Weatherford!

There's a castle in town, which towers above the skyline. Its doors are always open to children between the ages of 3 and 14, whose parents voluntarily place them there when they find themselves in circumstances where they are unable to care for their child. The Pythian Home has been home to many a child since March 9, 1909, and upkeep has been totally funded by private donations. The first Saturday of this month, the Pythian Home swings its doors wide open to the public for the D&D Rockin' Rods Car Show and a '50s-themed Sock Hop. The Frito Pie Dinner will be offered for a fair donation of \$5.00, but otherwise all the games, music and fabulous cars cost nothing more than a smile, because all the funds are raised from the owners of the classic cars on display. Come on out and give these car buffs a big Texas "Thank you," and help the kids have fun!



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Serving Up A *Mother's* Heart

— By Julie B. Cosgrove

Luann Robinson Hammett helps feed over 200 children for breakfast and between 420-500 children lunch in the Bose Ikard Elementary school cafeteria. But she is doing more than making sure they key in their ID numbers correctly and get their trays. She also watches to make sure they eat well and eat all they have chosen to eat. "I ask them all the time to drink their juice and eat their fruit," Luann stated.





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Obviously it is true, because while visiting a local restaurant, three kids came up to show her they were drinking their juices. "This is why I never go out of the house without my make-up on," she laughed. "It's one of the joys of my job when kids bring their parents over to meet me."

Luann is the first to admit she had a hard time rearing her own three children. "People may wonder why I am being interviewed," she said. "But, I went through a real rough spell with mine. Because others helped me out so much, I now can help others." With glistening eyes she continued. "It helps to know, then love and eventually forgive yourself for the past. I am blessed to have my three kids." Her eldest, Victoria, age 20, is a mother herself to a boy named Caraway. Logan is 17 and her third child, Alexander, is 14.

Luann the Lunch Lady, as she is fondly called, is an LVN (licensed vocational nurse), but she has worked in the cafeteria for nine years. She decided to apply there because she'd have the same hours as her children. She has never regretted her choice. "This is my mission field. We don't just sling hash, we feed their minds and hearts," she confessed. "I tell them if there is nothing in the tank the brain will stop working, so please eat healthy and finish what's on your tray." She admitted she has always loved to

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cook. "I remember standing on tiptoe with a doll under one arm and a spoon in the other helping in my Mammaw's kitchen in Tin Top."

Weatherford ISD, as most public schools, follows the Federal guidelines of the Offer Serves Program. This means the children are not given a set meal each day as once was the practice in school cafeterias. Today, each child must be offered a choice of what they prefer to eat. This means each school must offer four to six choices in each of the food groups at every meal. Luann believes


"I ask them all the time to drink their juice and eat their fruit."

the students need guidance to help make healthy choices, and she is there to provide that instruction. "Some of these kids would eat the same thing day in and day out. I encourage them to try new things, especially fruits and vegetables. I tell them, just try a bite and then decide.


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Expand your horizons.” She laughed as she continued. “To me it’s personal victory when they quit bringing the lunch box. I had one mother tell me her child liked the cafeteria food so much, I better be around to cater his wedding later on.”

She wants the children to eat well while they are at school. “I worry about them over the holidays,” she admitted. “When we had that ice storm, I prayed the whole time they wouldn’t get too hungry. I know what that can be like. There are tough times out there. It’s the mother’s heart in me, I guess.”

Luann believes it all boils down to feeling good about yourself. If you are eating right and healthy, you will do better in school and on the playground, be less grouchy and run down and have better self esteem. Couple that with loving, yet stern discipline and manners, and she believes the kids are headed down the right path. “There will be less drugs and alcohol and trouble if they feel good about themselves. When the brain heals, your life heals.”

Many of the younger ones don’t know how to peel an orange, open a carton of milk or properly use a fork. Her job may only be serving the children, but since she is there with them she feels obligated to assist them in learning to eat properly, both nutritionally and in mannerisms. She realizes she has them longer than any of the teachers because she has them every day for five or six years. She tries to teach



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From left to right: Luann with Tammy Mote, Laura Martinez Melody Wilhite

them real food can taste just as good as chips and soda. She also tries to teach them not to waste food. "When I see a child getting ready to toss a piece of fruit in the trash I call them over. I show them two quarters and a dime and ask them if they'd throw that away. When they figure out that food costs money, they are less likely to waste it."

The school provides a summer program in which any child can come to eat breakfast or lunch even if school is not in session. That also speaks to Luann's heart. She then knows "her kids" are eating healthy and not getting into trouble when they show up during the summer. She looked away with new tears in her eyes. "I often wonder where these kids will be 15 or 30 years from now. I tell them to always respect the person who serves you food. Even if you end up in some big job, be nice to the people who work in restaurants, even the drive-throughs. They're working hard and deserve respect."

Luann also helps others outside the cafeteria. One 22-year-old professional bull rider named McKennon Wimberly was severely injured in competition. Luann organized a fund raiser in late March to help pay for his medical bills. The silent auction, regular auction and other events held brought his family significant financial relief. "It's a miracle he is alive," she added. "It's the least I can do. He's a fine young man." **NOW**

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Three KiDS^{in a} CANDY Store

— By Melissa Rawlins

What's a home without a hearth? Plenty of songs have been sung right in front of Jake Jones' fireplace. Surrounded by hand-decorated lampshades, furniture and wall art his wife, Sarah, custom-created, Jake and his 9-year-old son, Kade, pull out their guitars and worship their creator in the center of their home. "The other morning we had church here," Sarah said. "I read out of the Bible and prayed, and they sang."



The family had not missed a single Sunday at Willow Park Baptist Church in at least three years, because Jake is on the worship team for all the services, and Sarah is involved in multiple women's functions. "We finally got the opportunity to just sleep in one morning, and we just did. Sarah came up with the idea to have church here," said Jake, whose regular job in the oil and gas industry helps to support his ministry of traveling to



At Home With Jake and Sarah Jones



churches across Texas to lead people in worship. “The hardest thing to do is sit down and read your Bible or take time to pray together, but we want Kade to understand you still need to celebrate God — that it’s not about a church of 1,000 people, but that it’s about a relationship.”

Thanks to their trusting faith and encouraging relationships with each other, both Sarah and Jake, and even Kade, are free to be relaxed and creative.

Their space is a testament to Sarah’s powerful nesting instincts: color and function unite inside the walls of the place they call home, a 1,600-square-foot brick home in what feels like a normal suburb. “I’m not sure if there is a piece of furniture in our home that was purchased and left as is,” Jake said. “For that matter, most was either handmade by my brother or bought from Goodwill and recrafted by Sarah.”

When the couple moved in just last

year, Sarah went into overdrive to try to make the family’s new place feel comfortable. The dogs, a Yorkie named Freddie Mac and a mini-Australian Shepherd called Pinky, hung out with her while she worked on craft projects out in the garage or in the house. Sarah laid the funky door, found behind the couch, over two sawhorses in the kitchen, while she antiqued it.

For a woman who lives with the



fatiguing effects of lupus, diabetes and compromised kidneys, Sarah's do-it-yourself approach is almost more amazing than the ambience she has created in her home. "Where do I get my energy to do all this? I think it's my mind," Sarah said. "I analyze certain things and want to create certain things, and then I have to do it and have to finish it right away. Because of my illness, I don't have a lot of physical energy, but I think knowing what it's going to look like gets me excited so I get the energy to do it."

In her downtime, while relaxing in the dramatic master bathroom she decorated, or when drinking coffee while perched on the living room couch, Sarah concocts her plans for the next project. She is usually doing something, whether making jewelry or refinishing furniture. Jake will come home to find rooms rearranged or an entire wall painted a whole new color and react with pleasure. "He likes my style. He goes along with whatever I do because he knows that's what I like to do. I pick it out, I'll ask him if he would

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like that, and he says he trusts me," said Sarah, who met Jake because she was the receptionist at the place where he worked as a salesman. They dated about a year before he proposed at the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens.

Ever since they married in 2006, they have blended their lives in inspiring manner. Their son, Sarah's stepson, lights up their world. "Kade spends part of his time in North Richland Hills, where his mother lives, and fits right in to our creative home," said Jake, adding, "It has truly been a blessing only God could create." Sarah became stepmother to Kade when he was 3 1/2 years old, and there is peace between everyone. "Sometimes I call him 'son,' but most of the time, especially when he's with me, I say 'stepson' because he has a mother, and she's awesome," Sarah said.

Jake empathizes, "Kade's stepdad is really good to my son. We're so blessed," Jake said. "We're all so secure in our relationship and how it all works. And Kade is such an old soul he just really gets that we're all in it for his best interest." The families help each other, and the Joneses are involved in the lives of Kade's little brother and new baby sister. Sarah just helped decorate the baby's room. "It's a God thing to be able to get along in all that stuff."



When you are in the Joneses' home, you can count on playing board games, eating and watching movies together in the kitchen and the family room. Their house has an open-door policy for friends and family. Sarah's friends come over to drink coffee and get her opinions, and she helps them do crafts. Jake's

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friends come over to talk about real-life issues and plan travel to churches outside of Willow Park to provide worship and help for other musicians. "Sarah and I don't hide anything from our friends," Jake said. "They know us inside and out. There are arguments that go on with us, yet we're pretty see-through because we want people to know we're real. That's what our faith is all about. It's not necessarily about your works. It's about your faith. It's a work in progress.

"Our prayer every day is just to be an example to other marriages, and to be an example to other people who are struggling who maybe do not have a perfect situation," Jake said. "That's one reason God has blessed us with the situation He's given us. It's not that we were handed everything on a silver platter. We just turned everything over to the Lord."

And now, like three kids in a candy store, Kade and Sarah and Jake have so much joy when they are at home in their crazy-creative space. When he comes home from his workday, Jake has a lot of choices to make. Should he grab the long-handled

fork and spatula and a couple of steaks and head to the grill? Should he put his fingers around the neck of his Gibson Hummingbird acoustic electric guitar and melt into song? Should he romp with his two puppies? Or, should he just wrap his arms around his son and his wife and relax into a big warm thank-you smile? **NOW**



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Launching in Cyberspace

— By Julie B. Cosgrove

Jeremy Lane has found a way to revive the short story, which seemed to be going the way of the dinosaur as more and more magazines turn to e-zines on the Internet. The answer for those who love to read something short, action packed and character driven is Smartphones.



"Reading brings out the imagination. You are no longer being spoon-fed as you are with TV."

Father to three young children and husband to April for 10 years, Jeremy admitted, "Sometimes the only time I have to write is on the couch while my wife is cooking dinner and my kids are watching *SpongeBob* at full volume." Jeremy began to seriously write about two years ago, and as a result, he is already published. That is an unusual feat. Many authors write for years before becoming accepted by a publishing house. Jeremy's secret is the niche he found in writing short stories. Then he looked for a medium that would publish the genre. They are becoming few and far between in the printing world. More and more magazines, which once ran sequential stories to keep their readers' interest at a peak, are no longer publishing in print. "That [the publishing of sequential short stories] was what made Truman Compote famous," he said.

Jeremy turned to what he knows, the Internet. He found a developing company out of London, England, called Ether who publishes only to Smartphones like the iPod, iPads and newer digital tablets. Though they are not yet Droid compatible, the company is edging in that direction to expand their market. "Most stories sell for a download price of 99 cents to \$1.99 each. There are hundreds to choose from,

and the amount is growing all the time." Purchasing eBooks for Kindle can run over \$15, so this is good news to many consumers. "Plus, they don't have to buy another device," he said. "They probably already have a phone."

For those who have a Smartphone, the app itself is free. They can browse by author, name or subject matter. Jeremy hopes this will encourage more and more in his generation and his kids' generation to become readers again. "I ask my 8-year-old, Abbie, after she does her homework, to tell me what she has read. At first she couldn't, so I'd tell her to go back and read it again. On average, she only gets 20 minutes a day reading in school. I have been teaching her how to absorb the content and help her see that reading can be fun."

Jeremy believes that many people today think they are too busy to read a 400-page novel. "They just have to want to make the time. They think nothing of watching TV for three or four hours each night," he stated. What he says is backed up by statistics. The average American will buy three books this year, yet not finish even one of them. He smiled, "Right now, I'm reading *War and Peace*." He hopes he will set an example for his children, Abbie, Allie (age 3) and Corbin (age 7 months). "Reading, like writing,



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activates the creative component of your brain. It is good to escape,” he explained. “Reading brings out the imagination. You are no longer being spoon-fed as you are with TV.”

When asked why he writes, he stated for a long time he didn’t. His wife, April, pushed him into it, saying she thought he had a hidden talent. He shrugged. “I had no creative writing course in school. I was an average student, I guess,” he said. He went to The College of Southwestern in Fort Worth. “If you have a calling and you don’t embrace it, I don’t think you can ever fully be happy. Writing is what makes me happy.”

Jeremy believes short stories are his favorite genre, even though right now he is in the process of writing his first novel entitled *Portraits of My Neighbors*. “Everyone asks me if I’m really writing stuff about the people who live around me. That is just a generalization,” he admitted. “They aren’t my real neighbors or anything like that. I wouldn’t do that. It’s more about the character, who’s a college graduate, who strikes out on his own and builds relationships along the way. It deals with the social problems of today.” He admits he is out of his comfort zone in writing a fictional novel. “I’ve discovered it’s totally different than writing short stories.”

His published collection of 10 short stories in *Here and Gone* are mostly written in the third person with a familiar style,

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the most popular style of writing for contemporary authors. That way, the reader shadows the characters, learning what they do when they do it instead of a narrator explaining it to them like a Greek god in the clouds, who is omniscient (overseeing and hearing everything).

However, Jeremy stated one short story in the collection, entitled "That Winter," is in first person because it just made more sense that way. "City on a Hill," another short story, is currently being serialized through Ether. This means the story is published in sequential pieces, similar to what magazines like *Ladies' Home Journal* and others did a generation ago. His characters are living in today's world in rural Texas. All of his stories are character-driven, which means they are fully developed with problems, challenges, failures and successes. "I can't

"I can't get into anything that does have strong characters in it."

get into anything that does have strong characters in it," he confessed. "There has to be action, yes, but the characters make the story."

Jeremy and his wife have lived in the Weatherford area for eight years. They moved back to be near family. Jeremy was reared not far away, in the Granbury region, and now works in Fort Worth. He shares his stories through social media, such as Twitter and Facebook, as well as cyberspace press releases. His following is beginning to grow as a result. He admitted he is glad he found Ether who was willing to publish his stories. *Here and Gone*, as well as other authors' works can be accessed by Smartphone app only. "For my novel, *Portraits of My Neighbors*," he confessed, "I am going to try and go traditional — find an agent or publisher and go from there." No doubt, this young writer will become even better known as time goes on. **NOW**



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From left:

Liz, Cason and Kevin Carnley.

From Dirty to Fresh

Family-run C&C Water Well Services keeps your family in the flow of things!

— By Melissa Rawlins

Cool, clear water for drinking, bathing or recreation comes, not from the end of your hose or faucet, but originally from deep in the earth. Folks whose water runs up from the aquifer through a well may not even realize how deep their well goes or how hard their pump works to keep fresh water flowing for their family. But the family running C&C Water Well Service knows everything there is to know about pumps, pipes and pressure — plus pitfalls of well maintenance.

On homesteads and cutting horse farms throughout Weatherford and the county, Kevin Carnley inspects wells and services and repairs systems, in order to keep the water in the houses and the horse troughs. “When you don’t maintain the water well, you can have all kinds of problems,” said Kevin, who

grew up around water wells with family who worked in the same business.

Playing in the dirt every day, plus meeting new people on every service call, translates into great job satisfaction for Kevin. After working in the industry almost 10 years, then apprenticing for two, Kevin was certified by the state of Texas in 2001. He and his wife, Liz, started C&C Water Well Service in October, 2003. They are rearing their son, Cason, around the well-servicing business. Now 8 years old, Cason goes on jobs with his daddy and fetches tools. Liz takes care of C&C’s invoicing, ordering and billing.

On days when Kevin needs help, Liz gets dirty, too. For wells deeper than 200 feet, Kevin will have Liz help him pull pipe, wire and run the pulling unit or pump hoist. “It’s actually not a river of

water down there,” Kevin explained. “It’s just a lot of sand with water in it. You just pump water up through the pipe and filter it. It’s very simple.” Still, for newcomers to wells, Kevin and Liz are happy to come out and answer any questions in order to save you money and grief by explaining what to pay attention to.

Wells that work a lot begin to show symptoms of wear and tear in the pumps, the water lines and the electrical system. The majority of Kevin’s work this summer will be service and repair, plus new installation of wells and water softeners. For people buying and selling houses, Kevin also inspects wells — focusing on the well head, the pressure tank, the pressure switch, all the electrical and the valves.

Kevin pointed out three maintenance pitfalls: “In the summer, watch out for fire ants, which will get into the electrical components. Keep a bug repellent around them.” Kevin warned. “Watch for leaks in your well house. Get things fixed as

C&C sells equipment for every need pertaining to water wells.

soon as you notice a problem. Finally, it is wise to know how old your pump is. As a pump ages, people should watch for whether the water kicks on or off — that’s definitely the time to call and have it checked out.”

C&C sells equipment for every need pertaining to water wells. Parts come with warranties for different periods of time, based on the piece of equipment. Kevin is available at any time for service within Parker County, and his work is guaranteed.

Liz has created a Facebook page, C&C Water Well Service, where customers can ask questions and learn about new specials for each month or season. She and Kevin are offering *WeatherfordNOW* readers \$15 off their first service call. Once you have a relationship with a good water well company, you will not have to worry about where your water comes from — you will have someone to keep your water flowing. **NOW**

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Mathew and Lavanda Nuncio read fun books at the public library.



Jack Phillips pretends he is a pirate at McGratten Park.



Paul and Kaye Martino stand in front of the storm-patterned rug they donated for the exhibit "Along the Navajo Trail" at The Museum of the Americas.



The Chamber of Commerce holds a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Tackett Pharmacy.



Rotarians raise a wall on the home being built for Melissa Herrera Mellow by Habitat for Humanity.



Community comes out to celebrate the groundbreaking ceremony for Weatherford Regional Medical Center: L to R- Lonna Leach ("L"), DeAnna Krier (Baker's Ribs), Christy Monteith (CompuDoc) Joanne Parker (Wallace Insurance).



Weatherford's Relay For Life team captains organize this month's fundraiser, which also serves as a memorial for cancer survivors.

Give Your Grandchildren the Gift of Life

— By Craig and Kim Bagley

When you are trying to choose just the right gift for your grandchildren, you can have a tough time sifting through the newest trends and fads. Last week it was this pop star, next week it may be a new cartoon character. On top of that, you don't want to get something that won't last 10 minutes out of the package. One gift that will last for many years is a life insurance policy. There are many reasons why it can be an excellent gift for your grandchild.

- **Affordability** — The younger the child's age, the lower the premiums.
- **Protection** — Illness or injury may affect a child's ability to purchase life insurance coverage later in life. Coverage purchased now will continue to provide protection, even if a child's health changes, provided premiums are paid as required by the policy.
- **Financial Security** — Life insurance can be the foundation for a strong financial plan. The child may be able to borrow against the accumulated cash value (with interest charged) to pay for future expenses. While loans decrease death benefits and cash surrender values, the proceeds can be used for important



expenses such as a college education or the purchase of a home.

Giving a gift of life insurance to your grandchild can be one of the most significant things you do during your lifetime. He or she may not understand at the time how important the gift is, but should grow to appreciate it in the future. Take the guesswork out of your gift shopping. Life insurance is a gift that will last a lifetime. **NOW**

Craig and Kim Bagley are State Farm agents based in Weatherford.



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Kick Colorectal Cancer

— By David D'Spain, D.O.

Texans can kick colorectal cancer by encouraging friends and loved ones to go for a routine colorectal cancer screening. Colorectal cancer is the second-leading cancer killer of men and women combined in the United States, and it is estimated that the disease will claim the lives of 3,082 Texans in 2011.

Colon and rectal cancers occur with equal frequency in both sexes. It is vital that both men and women age 50 and over, and those with increased risk factors, be screened regularly for this deadly disease. Despite the high likelihood of detection with screening, it is projected that 40 percent of the over-50 population in the United States will not be screened for colorectal cancer. If all people over age 50 were screened routinely, research shows at least half of colorectal cancer deaths could be prevented.

Colorectal cancer often lacks symptoms in its early stages. Because almost all colorectal cancer cases are diagnosed in patients ages 50 and up, regular screening helps lead to early detection, which increases the five-year survival rate from the disease to 90 percent.

Risk Factors

Besides age and race, other risk factors for colorectal cancer include:

- **Family History:** People with a family history of colorectal

cancer have a greater risk of being diagnosed with the disease.

- **Diet:** A lower chance of being diagnosed with colorectal cancer is a good reason to stay in shape. Overweight and obese people have a higher risk of developing the disease.

- **Lynch Syndrome:** This inherited condition affecting the body's genes increases the likelihood of a colorectal cancer diagnosis. In many cases, the disease occurs before age 45.

- **Other Health Problems:** Diabetics and people who have a history of polyps and inflammatory bowel disease also have an increased risk for colorectal cancer.

Screening Types

Physicians can recommend several different screening tests for colorectal cancer. Among them, a fecal occult blood test (FOBT) or a fecal immunochemical test checks for blood in the stool. Another option is a sigmoidoscopy. During this procedure, a physician uses a tube with a light connected to a tiny video camera to analyze the rectum and lower part of the colon. The most common screening test is a colonoscopy, where the rectum and entire colon are examined through a scope to detect growths or polyps that could potentially pose a threat. Everyone over age 50 should make routine colorectal cancer screenings a priority to kick colorectal cancer before it strikes, or catch it early when it's most treatable. **NOW**

Dr. David D'Spain is a medical oncologist at Texas Oncology-Weatherford 911 Foster Lane • Weatherford, Texas.

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Imran Patel, M.D.

Imran Patel, M.D., an endocrinologist, runs the Institute of Diabetes and Endocrine Disorders at Huguley. Dr. Patel has extensive training in glandular conditions including diabetes, thyroid disorders, metabolic disorders, male reproductive health, and abnormal production of hormones.

Board certified in internal medicine and board eligible in endocrinology, Dr. Patel has ten years' experience as an endocrinologist, most recently with John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth. Along with patient care, Dr. Patel's career has included research and teaching. Dr. Patel worked on the landmark diabetes prevention study with world-renowned endocrinologist Dr. Abbas Kitabchi at the University of Tennessee.

Dr. Patel was given the best resident award during his internal medicine residency at Hurley Medical Center, Michigan State University in Flint, Michigan. He completed a two-year fellowship in endocrinology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, then continued for additional training in metabolic bone diseases and lipid disorders.

Dr. Patel accepts Medicare and most insurance plans.

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In The Kitchen With Irene Glover

— By Melissa Rawlins

Growing up on a farm in northwest Iowa, Irene Glover worked in the barn and fields but didn't do any of the cooking. However, she learned responsibility and appreciation for the food we get from hardworking farmers. During college, she decided to become a nurse.

Between duties as a registered nurse, as well as wife and mother, Irene crocheted doll clothes and doilies — for her two granddaughters and two great-grandchildren, as well as for other little boys and girls via Children's Miracle Network. She also cooked holiday meals, desserts and candies, and developed a recipe for truffles. She has taught classes on how to make them. During the seven years she's lived in Weatherford with her second husband, Joe, Irene has continued pouring her love into crocheted masterpieces and culinary delights. **NOW**

Pavalova

This elegant dessert, named for the famous Russian ballerina, Anna Pavalova, originated in Australia. Anna requested that this dessert be made for her at the hotel every time she performed in Australia.

2 egg whites
1 cup sugar
3 Tbsp. boiling water
1 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. vinegar
1 tsp. baking powder
Assorted fruits, fresh and/or canned, drained well (optional)
2 cups whipping cream, whipped and sweetened (may substitute 1 large container of Cool Whip)
Pudding (optional)

- 1.** Pour egg whites onto sugar in a mixer bowl. Let stand for 1 hour at room temperature.
- 2.** Preheat oven to 300 F.
- 3.** Beat egg whites and sugar on high for 2 minutes. Add boiling water, vanilla, vinegar and baking powder. Beat on high for 7 minutes, until stiff peaks are formed.
- 4.** Line either one 20-inch round pizza pan, or two 12-inch pizza pans with parchment paper. Pile the meringue on the pan, shaping it evenly and then building up on the outside of the circle. Bake 10 minutes. Turn oven temperature down to 250 F. Bake 80 minutes (no less). Turn oven off. Leave the *Pavalova* in the oven until it cools completely.
- 5.** After meringue has cooled completely, place on serving plate. Add any fresh and/or canned fruit and whipped cream, or any pudding and whipped cream. Chill before serving.

Chocolate Cherry Truffle Pie

1 14-oz. can sweetened condensed milk
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 21-oz. can cherry pie filling
2 Tbsp. cherry brandy (may substitute 1 tsp. vanilla or almond flavoring)
1 9-inch pie crust, baked

- 1.** In a saucepan or double boiler, combine condensed milk and chocolate chips. Cook over low heat, stirring frequently until all of the chocolate is melted. Once chocolate has melted and blended into the condensed milk, add brandy.
- 2.** Remove from heat and stir in the cherry pie filling, blending well.
- 3.** Pour into a baked pie crust. Chill 2 to 3 hours.

Bailey's Irish Crème Cheesecake

Crust:

1/4 lb. unsalted butter, softened
1/4 cup sugar
1 1/4 cups flour
1 egg, beaten
1 tsp. vanilla or almond flavoring

Filling:

4 8-oz. pkgs. cream cheese
1 3/4 cups sugar
5 eggs (room temperature)
1 cup Bailey's Irish Crème
1 tsp. vanilla
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Topping:

1 cup chilled whipping cream, whipped
1 tsp. instant coffee powder
3 Tbsp. sugar

- 1.** Make crust by mixing all of the crust ingredients well.
- 2.** Press into a 9-inch springform pan.
- 3.** Refrigerate 30 minutes before baking 10 to 15 minutes at 350 F.
- 4.** Cool.
- 5.** Make filling by beating cream cheese in mixer until smooth. Add sugar, mix well. Add eggs, one at a time. Blend in Irish Crème and vanilla.
- 6.** Sprinkle 1/2 cup of the chocolate chips over the baked crust. Spoon in filling. Sprinkle remaining chips over top of filling.
- 7.** Bake at 325 F about 1 hour and 20 minutes, until puffed and springy in the center. Cool completely.
- 8.** Remove from springform pan and place on a plate.
- 9.** Fold topping ingredients together gently and spread on top of cheesecake.

Calendar

MAY 2011

May-August

Along the Navajo Trail — A Look at Culture, Tradition and Craft: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The Museum of the Americas, 216 Fort Worth Hwy., Weatherford. Admission to the museum is always free. Contact Harold or Elizabeth Lawrence, (817) 341-8668.

May 1-31

Jane Doe Campaign: South Main Church of Christ has joined the Parker County Sheriff's Department, the Center of Hope and the family of the lady in Whitt who was kidnapped and lost everything she owns, to establish a fund for providing goods and services that will enable her to heal and overcome. Contact Loree Ellis, (817) 597-0482.

May 7

D&D Rockin' Rods Car Show and Sock Hop: noon-7:00 p.m., Pythian Home, 1825 E. Bankhead Drive, Weatherford. Features classic car show and '50s-themed sock hop, plus a Frito pie dinner (for a donation: \$5.00). This fundraiser enables children who need a home to have a home. Contact Cinde Watson at (817) 594-4465 or cwatson@pythianhome.org.

Weatherford ISD Education Foundation Golf Tournament: 1:00-8:00 p.m., Split Rail Links & Golf Club, 2151 Old Annetta Road, Aledo. Call (817) 598-2956.

May 8

Happy Mother's Day!

May 14

Dreams on Wings 5K & 1-mile Fun Run: 8:00 a.m.: 1-Mile Fun Run; 8:30 a.m.: 5K at Parker County Physical Therapy, 879 Eureka, Weatherford. Hosted by The Hemi Foundation and dedicated to providing emotional, financial and educational support for individuals and their families who have undergone or will undergo brain surgeries. You may register online at www.hemifoundation.org. Contact Tracy Payne at (817) 594-9200, ext. 56.

The First Annual Walk for Lupus: Registration: 8:00 a.m.; start: 9:00 a.m., Pythian Home, 1825 E. Bankhead Drive, Weatherford. Benefits local lupus education, support services, programs and research. Tours of the Texas Pythian Home are available on walk day (donations appreciated). Contact Jan Scoggins (866) 205-2369 toll free or walk@lupus-northtexas.org or visit <http://weatherfordwalkforlupus.kintera.org>.

3rd Annual Firefighter BBQ Cook-off fundraiser: 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Weatherford 1st Monday Grounds. All proceeds support Parker County firefighters and their families during times of need. Visit www.PCFFamily.org. Call Michael Baldwin (817) 304-5987.

May 19

Annual Quilt Auction: 6:30-10:00 p.m., Weatherford Senior Center, 1225 Holland Lake Drive, Weatherford. Contact (817) 304-5681.

May 20

Giggles Therapy's Fight Against Autism Open Golf Benefit 2011: 7:45 a.m.-noon, Lost Creek Golf Club, 4101 Lost Creek Blvd., Aledo. Funds will assist families in need with scholarships for therapy. Call (817) 598-0290.

American Cancer Society's Relay For Life Weatherford 2011: 6:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. Hall Middle School track. Call Loree Ellis at (817) 597-0482 or Kelly Waller (817) 578-1015. www.relayforlife.org/weatherfordtx.

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