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Publisher, Connie Poirier

General Manager, Rick Hensley

EDITORIAL

Managing Editor, Becky Walker Weatherford Editor, Melissa Rawlins Editorial Coordinator, Sandra Strong Editorial Assistant, Beverly Shay Writers, Amber D. Browne . Gregg Davis Erin McEndree . Betty Tryon Editors/Proofreaders, Pat Anthony Teresa Maddison . Angel Morris Pamela Parisi

GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

Creative Director, Chris McCalla Artists, Julie Carpenter . Martha Macias Connie VanderBeek . Allee Brand Marshall Hinsley . Arlene Honza Brande Morgan

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Director, Jill Rose Photographer, Natasha Franklin Thomas Freylack . Opaque Visuals Jim Turner

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On The Cover



The Campbell family enjoys glorious views of Indian paintbrush amid lingering bluebonnets.

Photo by Opaque Visuals.

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Editor's Note

Hello, Friends!

Durant Auditorium at Weatherford High School hosts Weatherford College's commencement on May 12. Since 2010, the ever-growing community college has needed two events due to over 300 graduates and their guests. I recall my college graduation, another May afternoon many moons ago in Houston. Hope and excitement filled my heart and body. But only a few years ago, when I



received an advanced degree from Texas Christian University — which had given me a scholarship — I was astounded by the deep understanding that much would be expected from me, since much had been given to me. You, too, can inspire such dedication in tomorrow's movers and shakers. On the evening of May 17, take your date to Parker County Sheriff's Posse Clubhouse. Sample the finest in area restaurants, caterers and vineyards while donating to Weatherford College Scholarship funds. It's a great investment in Parker County's future.

Melissa

Melissa Rawlins WeatherfordNOW Editor melissa.rawlins@nowmagazines.com (817) 629-3888













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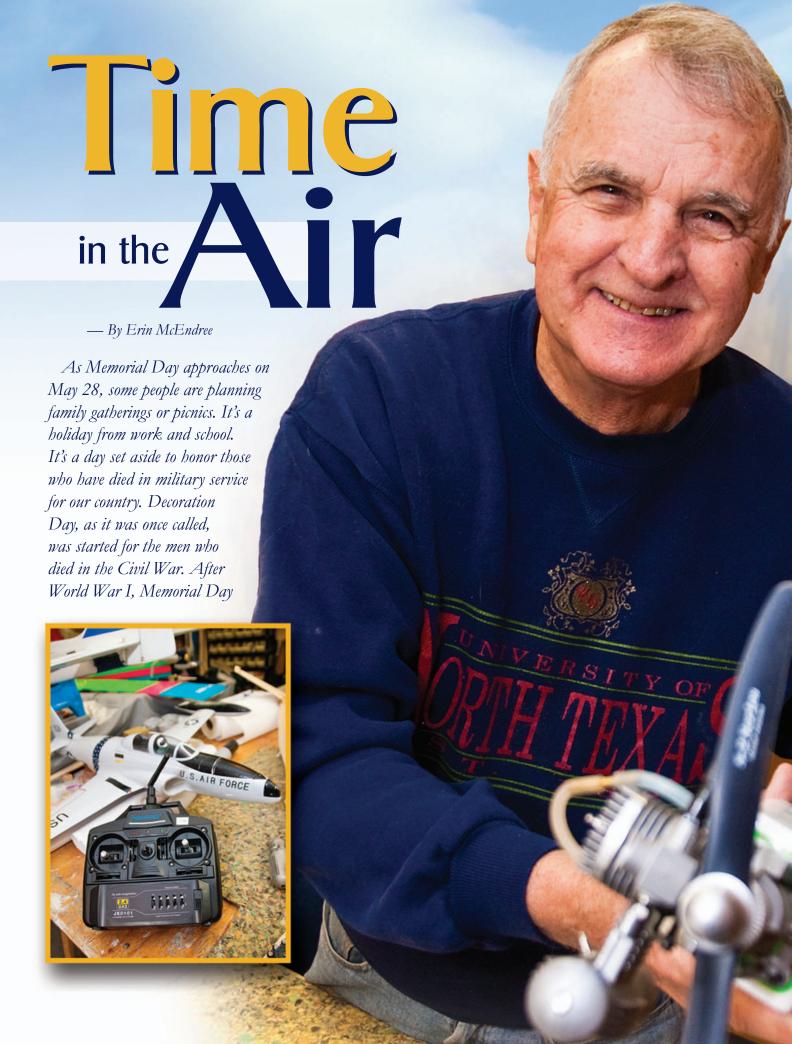




Before

After

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The goal of WAMS is to enjoy the family aspect offered by model aviation.

became a federal holiday. Many spend the day outside grilling and playing with the kids. Jim Pope, a veteran fighter pilot, will also be outside. He will be on a large grassy lawn looking up at the sky. Jim flies remote control airplanes and is the safety officer for the local Weatherford Aero Modeling Society.

> As a young boy, Jim was interested in model airplanes. They were glued together and had to be painted. "I don't know how many I finished," Jim said, "but I started a lot of them." Jim was born in Mineral Wells, Texas, and had family in Weatherford. His dad worked in radio, and their family moved often. He lived in Cincinnati, Indianapolis and St. Louis.

"But Weatherford was always home. My sister and I would always spend our summers in Weatherford with our cousins," Jim explained.

"Weatherford was always the place I came back to."

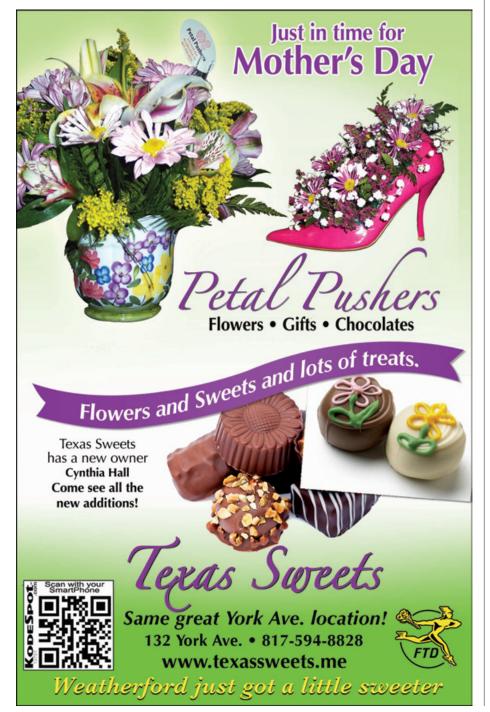
Jim attended Washington University in St. Louis and then North Texas State University (now University of North Texas). He was in the Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) and commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. He trained at Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock. While in the Air Force, "there were times when there was not much for us boys to do, so we went to the BX (base exchange) and got model airplanes. We put them together and flew them," Jim said. Four of his buddies informally started Eagle Pass Air Force. It was a model airplane club.

After the service, Jim became an engineer and managed operations for Williamson-Dickie for 13 years. They are the largest manufacturer of work wear in the world. He also started Quickprint on the southeast corner of the square. "I became interested in sailing for five or six years in the '70s. I helped a buddy work on a boat that we then sailed from St. Augustine, Florida, to Sint Maarten in the West Indies. We sailed over 1,500 miles on a 43-foot sailboat. It took us 16 days."

Because of his interest in flying model planes, Jim was a founder of a local chapter of the Academy of Model Aeronautics in 1986. The local club is called Weatherford Aero Modeling Society (WAMS). The goal of the club is to enjoy the family aspect offered by model aviation. "Now, kids have technology and want instant gratification. It's hard to get kids interested in [model airplanes]," Jim said. "We want to help establish a hobby for kids." Jim also writes and edits for the WAMS newsletter every month.

The WAMS' flying field is located on Tin Top Road just a few







miles past the high school. Flyers come every Sunday afternoon and activities continue year round, weather permitting. The field includes a runway, parking area, permanent shade structures and a security area to protect pilots and spectators.

Safety is very important to Jim. As WAMS' safety officer, he enforces rigid and precise rules, and keeps up with insurance and changing guidelines. One of the most important rules he stresses is, "Don't go flying alone. Anything can happen. I enforce our rules by reminding the WAMS membership to be careful all the time," Jim explained.

Since retirement in 2000, Jim spends much of his time in his workshop building remote control planes. This hobby is very flexible. "You can go from design to construction to flying, or you can buy kits that are ready to fly (RTF) or almost ready to fly (ARF)." Jim has several planes in his shop in various stages of completion. He has blue prints rolled up in a corner. His F-4U Corsair WW2 fighter plane is in pieces. A T-33 in a box is waiting to be started. The planes are made of light balsa wood. They are then covered in thin plastic called MonoKote applied with a hot iron. This hobby is also unique in the fact that "we can do it all," Jim explained. "For instance, a baseball player does not make his own ball. A basketball player does not make his either, but we can go from design to operation. It could take months, but time is not a problem for me since I'm retired."

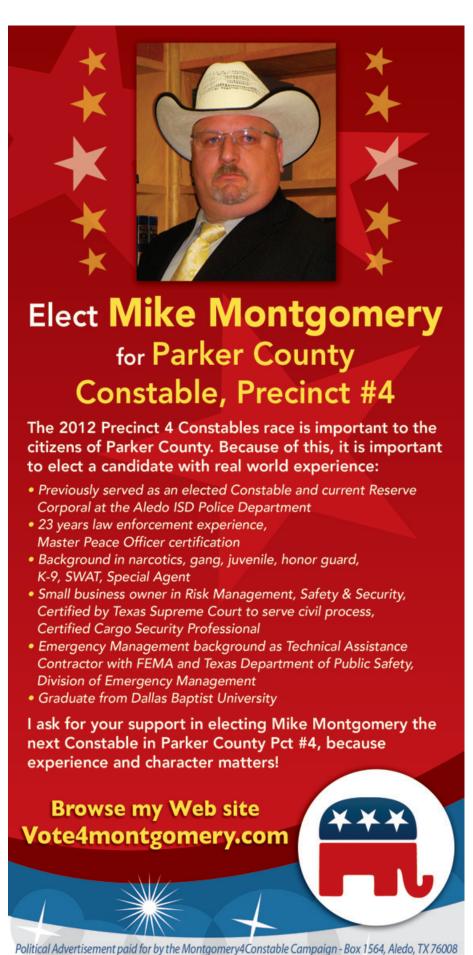
National competition involves three categories — scale modeling, pylon



racing and precision pattern flying. "Locally, WAMS has a Float Fly twice a year at Cartwright Park," Jim said. "We also have an annual swap meet held at Hall Middle School. It's like a reunion for two days, as well as a swap meet." Classes are provided on different subjects, drawings and actions. Dues and swap



meets help to finance the club operations and improvements to the facility. Swap meets are considered the life-blood of the club. "A child can experience flying using a 'buddy box' we bring. This is a controller for two. An instructor can take over at any time, and the child can start







learning how to fly a model safely," Jim explained.

To spread interest in flying planes in the community, WAMS helped at a local day camp for Cub Scouts last summer. The theme for the camp was aviation. All week WAMS members helped kids build



and decorate a kit plane. The kids flew their planes under supervision. WAMS provided a simulator so the kids could experience flying. "The highlight of the week was when we had the kids fly their plane in the gym on the last day ... all at the same time," Jim laughed. "There were 68 kids and 68 planes." You can just imagine the chaos, collisions and laughter involved in that event.

"Our planes are all doomed, it's just a matter of time," Jim said. "The equipment is almost fool proof. Problems are most often not electrical or structural failures. It is usually pilot error." That is a sad prospect and could potentially be an expensive one, too, since planes range anywhere from \$70-\$600. Instructors are always on-site to help and provide advice.

The organization's motto is: Be polite, be sportsman-like, be a good neighbor and if you brought it with you, take it home with you. But most of all enjoy your hobby! Jim will continue to pursue his childhood hobby into adulthood. As he laughingly said, "We're grown men playing with toy airplanes."









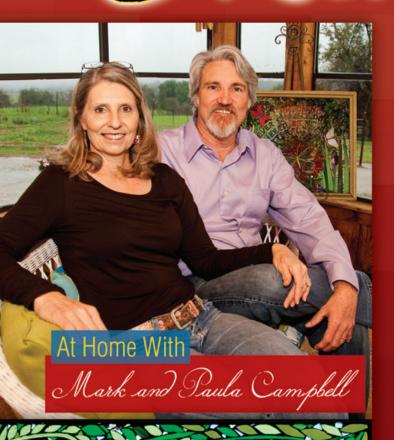
1 Maries

— By Melissa Rawlins

Two high school friends waited until college to become sweethearts. Nearly 37 years since their wedding, Mark and Paula Campbell enjoy semi-retired life from a sandstone-and-yucca-studded hilltop north of Weatherford. Their deep, gentle eastern view makes morning coffee both comforting and dramatic—especially when bluebonnets bloom. At the end of each day the friends' meeting place is their west-facing, 35th anniversary bench. At their feet are four mosaic tiles, one of Paula's early glass creations. Watching the sun set is a ritual they will not miss. For these two talented people—he, a writer and she, a fused-glass and mosaic artist—finding time might not be easy. But they agree that by focusing on the important things—like family—everything else will sort itself out.

"It's corny and true that we revolve around our grandkids," Mark said. Every Thursday the couple welcomes 5-year-old Link and 5-month-old Jubilee and their parents, Micah and Hayley Stotler. "Micah loves to cook," Paula said. She helps him in the retro kitchen while Mark plays with Link in the family room. Hayley and Paula pass Jubilee back and forth, sometimes sharing news of the Campbells' eldest daughter, Julie, who married David Duren and lives in Oklahoma with their children, Kevin and Alicia.

The Campbell home is all about kids, family, change and creativity. As caretaker for multiple generations, including her parents, Paula still manages to find time for her artwork. In her garage-turned-studio directly behind the kitchen, she cuts and arranges glass. She





is a member of the Texas Glass Artists Association and has been preparing for a very special exhibit at the Doss Heritage Center this summer. "There's so much going on in my head that I want to do," Paula said. "God keeps telling me there will be a time that you can do it, and right now if you can catch little windows of time, then do it."

Years ago, she spent at least 50 hours creating the glass-on-glass mosaic displayed in the sun room overlooking the rolling hills of northern Parker County. Inspired by a little saying, "If nothing ever changed there'd be no butterflies," this kaleidoscopic dynamo contains over 1,000 pieces of glass. The easel holding up the butterfly rests on the same sagegreen linoleum that covers most of the home's floors.

A widow had lived here with her brother, keeping gardens out back while he fought fires. With safety in mind, he had originally built the home with two exits from every room. When the Campbells left Hurst in 1994, this place called out for change. They took the bars off the windows and turned them into







a fence to keep deer out of their new garden. They blocked off the redundant exits and rearranged their home for their own convenience.

Now the welcoming sunroom contains rough cedar paneling, '60s-style loveseats and a seagrass area rug. Fresh flowers adorn the side tables, along with Paula's collection of glass bottles and plates she fused in her kiln from broken pieces of antique Ball jars. From this room — if they sit long enough — the family sees all sorts of wildlife, from bluebirds to deer.

Their home is a great place for grandchildren to run and romp. The little ones love to play in the toy room, which also serves as Mark's writing alcove. Mark is one of three editors of the North Side Baptist Church quarterly newsletter, *Magnify*. Sometimes, Paula's photos get published on the back cover.

From his highly shellacked desk in the toy room, Mark wrote most of a soon-to-be-published novel called *Sense Versus Soul*. "In my former career as a firefighter in Arlington, I worked with an atheist, a wiccan, an agnostic and a guy who didn't care," Mark said. "I got tired of all my firefighter friends asking how you can be a Christian if you're educated. My goal was for the book to answer their questions in a funny way." Since 1992, he has been sports editor







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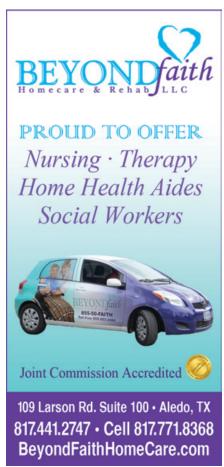
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for the Azle and Springtown newspapers, where he also publishes a weekly column, as well as a movie review. Despite the seeming busyness, Mark insists that family always comes first. "I can record movies and watch them later."

He learned these family-friendly habits the hard way. While a career firefighter he missed 2,000 nights with his family. After their children grew up and left home, he and Paula began wandering through Texas, preparing travel stories that he wrote and she documented with her camera. They started in 2000, after helping their families at Lake Whitney recover from devastation by a tornado. "We'd head off on weekends with only 48 hours to do the whole trip, whether it was to Mustang Island or to Big Bend National Park," Mark recalled. "I always had to get back to the fire hall."

In 2003, Mark made a decision to retire from firefighting and focus on writing. Five months later, he and Paula lived through a nasty automobile accident and were forever changed. "Surviving the wreck was an inspiration to quit lollygagging and go for it," Mark said.

Paula's inspiration was not only the wreck, but also a friend. Caroline Dickerson, who is now deceased, stopped to chat while Paula worked the compassion fund desk at Grace First Presbyterian Church. "I remember saying, 'I'll be an artist when I grow up,' and she looked at me and said, 'Do it now. That's what's wrong with your generation: you put things off.' Well," Paula said, "you'd be surprised at what I can get done in 15 minutes of time with the glass.

"It's not about the artwork, it's really about your relationships," Paula said. For a few more years after the wreck, she and Mark continued their photo-journalistic summertime travels — until Link was born.

"We noticed after the car wreck that everybody works to accumulate more, yet we really need to prioritize and get done what is important."

The Campbells' home, with its repurposed garden fence and toys that were their girls' 30 years ago, models a nonmaterialistic approach for their grandchildren. "Making the place homey for kids is important," Mark said. "That is why we have a toy room twice as big as my writing alcove. We want to be the fun grandparents."

Hence the family room's childproof, brown microfiber couch and lounge chair, which face Hayley's painting of a snowy forest. Paula's grandfather built the cabinets that now hold the television and books. The dark wood dining table was purchased when Paula's dad was just a boy. Heirlooms and memories will be the Campbells' gifts to their grandchildren. And between their visits, the two friends make their own memories out in the country surrounded by peace, quiet and stars. Now





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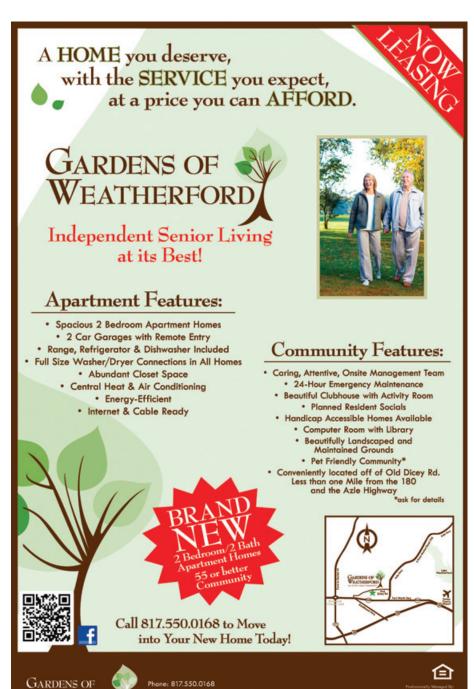


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His daughter, Joanna, ran her first half-marathon at White Rock when she was just 10 years old. "That was a major accomplishment. That's something no one can ever take away from them," he said of his children running their first long races at such a young age.

Greg and his family participate in several local races each year. They run in the Aledo AdvoCats 5K and bike

"It just helps you get out in the morning — to have a reason to get up."

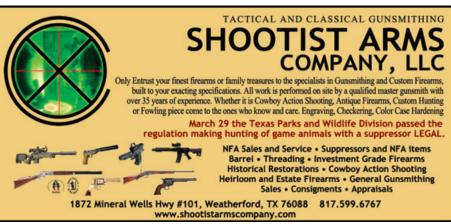
during the Ride for Heroes in Aledo. They also support the Hemispherectomy Foundation each year by competing in the Dreams on Wings Race in Weatherford.

The Hemispherectomy Foundation started locally after a kindergartner was diagnosed with a disease that forced doctors to remove half of her brain in 2008. Little Jessie Hall went to Stuard, where Janet teaches. "She's such an inspirational little girl. She never, ever gave up," Janet said of Jessie. "She came back to school in first grade and did not let anything stop her. She tried everything, and it's so moving to see how hard she tried."

Jessie's parents, Cris and Kristi Hall, started the foundation and the annual Dreams on Wings Race to raise funds for other children and families impacted by a hemispherectomy. The Halls were familiar with running and races when they started the local 5K. "They knew what runners looked for in a 5K, and right from the get-go it was a very successful race," Greg explained. The race is held in Weatherford each May.

The Bastian family prefers running local races. "It's the community feel of all these local races that make them that much more special," Greg said. "It's your neighbors and your kids out there early in











the morning supporting the race." This is due to more visibility about where the money raised is going, plus, they know the race organizers and volunteers.

Although Greg is helping a good cause by running in various races, he is also helping himself. When Greg ran his first race, he was beginning to have health issues. He was overweight and had high cholesterol. "It was a wake-up call for me," he said. "I have lost 50 pounds. My cholesterol is easily within a manageable range. I was able to cut my medications in half," he said. Greg just turned 50 in April, and he is in the best shape of his life. "When you get to that age, typically doctors see people start going downhill, as well as dealing with more issues." That is not the case with Greg. "Everything is looking good," he said.

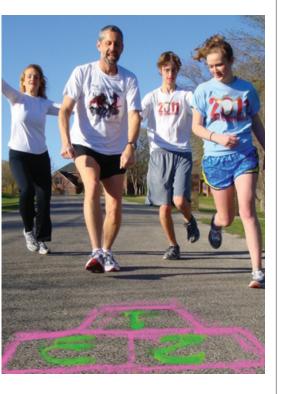
Running has its long-term benefits. "You get into a whole different community of people, whose mindset is being healthy," Greg said. He likes the camaraderie of the races, and the health benefits that come with running. Being healthy has now become a way of life.

His family has also benefitted from running, although they may not run together in as many races as in previous years. Janet has knee issues, but she enjoys running local races with her family. She also enjoys biking and will get up



early on summer mornings to ride 20 miles with her friends. "It's just fun to get it done. You feel invigorated afterwards," she explained

Greg's son, Alexander, keeps busy playing the tuba in the marching band at Aledo High School and traveling for concert band competitions during the off-season. He will run local races with his family, but running has taken a back



burner for him. "I guess you could just call me retired. I still do it now and then, and it just shows how well I've taken care of myself," the 16-year-old said.

Greg's daughter is now 13 and attends

Aledo Middle
School. Joanna stays
busy with volleyball,
soccer and cross
country, but she
runs every now and
then. "It's a sense of
accomplishment at
the end. It just helps
you get out in the
morning — to have
a reason to get up,"
she said. "It helps
you get your
day started."

Although the family may not run as many races

together these days, they support Greg in his love of running. He begins training for long races months beforehand. "If I'm training for something, it's a regimented schedule," he said. He often plans for races nearly a full year in advance. Races fill up quickly now, because of running's



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growing popularity. "It means planning around vacations and holidays," Greg admitted. "I've got four or five races planned all the way through September."

He has traveled the country to race. Greg has participated in the Air Force Marathon in Dayton, Ohio, a couple of times. Often, he will plan a race to meet up with his brother and sister, who are also runners. "We try to pick one event



a year to meet up, wherever that is, and do a long-distance endurance race," he said. "Not to go out for any personal best time, just to meet up and run together."

Besides 5Ks, half marathons and marathons, Greg has also competed in triathlons and an ultra marathon, which is 31 miles. "Even though I've taken it to a level of where I kind of go overboard," Greg said, "it is beneficial to have a supportive family for me to do this."

Janet supports her husband's lifestyle, even though he is often on the road for races and traveling with his work for Lockheed Martin. "When he travels on business, he'll call me and say 'I'm running on the beach.' Well, I really don't appreciate that," she joked.

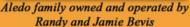
"I never imagined in a million years I would be doing stuff like this," he admitted. "It's something I fell into and progressed along," Greg explained. It's about the challenge, too. "I set a race goal, and it gives me something to go after, while keeping me motivated," he said. "I always try to see what else I can do."





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Leesha Milner opened her fashionably fun boutique north of the Square almost a year ago.

Inside Her Closet

Uptown chic meets downtown cool at Leesha's Closet.

— By Melissa Rawlins

Under two wrought iron chandeliers, surrounded by the brick walls and white trim of Leesha's Closet, hang brilliant blouses, slinky slacks and frilly frocks. Dressy pieces are front and center in this boutique, located two blocks north of the courthouse. Good-quality leggings and T-shirts are as fun to try on as the classy pieces women can wear in evenings.

Leesha's Closet invites a bit of Fort Worth style into Weatherford. "I brought in a lot of unique designers," owner Leesha Milner said. "Like my classic, tailored and dressy Samuel Dong line. Many of his coats can be worn as a dress or over jeans." She keeps his electric blue, stretch material blend, trimmed with silver zippers, hanging right in the middle of the

store so clients could see how playful it is. "A lot of his collars have wire in them so you can play around with the shape, taking it from dramatic to calm."

Since last June, women from all around Weatherford have come to Leesha's Closet to prepare for weddings, birthdays, baby showers and other special events where they want to look different than the other guests. "I have a lot of business women who are going to awards ceremonies or benefit parties, and they love my Samuel Dong for that," Leesha said. She also caters to students who shop her boutique for clothes they can wear to both school and graduation.

Upbeat music — mostly wordless — makes it an easy place

Business NOW

to shop, whether you are a 15-year-old daughter or a 40-year-old mother. Leesha's customers love what she offers. With Samuel Dong, Mesmerize, and a few other select lines, Leesha special orders sizes or colors customers request.

This spring, women are asking for flowy blouses in bright blocks of color. "We've got a lot of sheer dresses and tops with camisoles underneath," Leesha said, "giving you that resort feel, which is nice when it's so hot outside." Throughout the summer, sheer and colorful tops can be paired with shorts, capri pants, even skorts. Everything in Leesha's Closet is fun and fresh, and they are careful to offer extended sizes up to 3X. "To me, no matter how old you are or what your size is, you still want to dress fun!"

Accessories like wide-brim Sunday hats and fedoras add to the fun. So do Brighton flip-flops. On a wooden rack near the register, Leesha displays her ever-growing selection of Brighton charms. She has been buying Brighton for her mother ever since she became a self-confessed shopaholic. "The charms are great conversation starters. They're so fun, and affordable." The most expensive is \$22, made of a mixed metal that will not tarnish. When customers spend \$100 on Brighton, they get a free bag or umbrella.

Another joy for Leesha is helping people. She uses Facebook to share news about good causes — from blood drives to garage sales to community theater performances. Last October, she produced an outdoor fashion show called Fashion with a Passion, with proceeds going to Performing Arts Foundation in Weatherford. This year the money will go to Theater Off The Square.

Originally from New Mexico, Leesha came to Weatherford seven years ago and fell in love with the Square. She often shopped downtown during Ladies Night Out. "I'm good at making three outfits work several different ways," she said. "People always joked with me, I'd love to see your closet." Now, with inspiration from her father and lots of help from her mother and sister, Leesha's giving everyone a chance to see the inside of her closet. **NOW**







Around Town NOW



Members of CASA's first annual golf tournament team pose for a picture.



Misty Shorter with CSI sports a new hat from Leesha's Closet during a ribbon cutting with the East Parker Co. Chamber.



Chris, Greg and Gino pose for a quick picture at the Friend's of the NRA Banquet held at the Parker Co. Sheriff's Posse Grounds.



Kriston, of Bowie Drive Animal Hospital and Pet Resort, and Gizmo, the bird, say hello!



Debbie Cook with Aledo's Fido & Friends gets Ginger looking her best.



Craig Swancy shuts down the soundboard after the Michael Martin Murphey show.



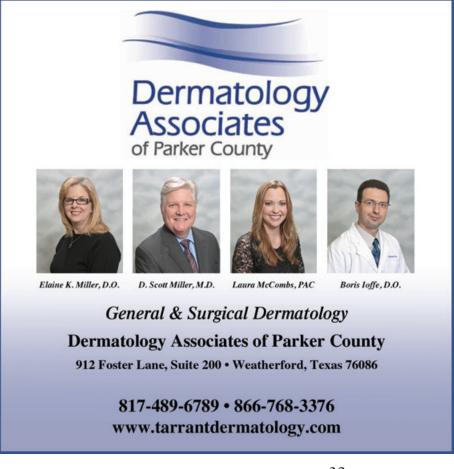
Friends gather to celebrate Betty New's birthday.













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Give Your Portfolio a "Spring Cleaning"

Springtime is here. If you're like many people, the arrival of spring means it's time to spruce up your home. But why stop there? This year, consider applying some of those same spring-cleaning techniques to your investment portfolio.

Here are some ideas you may want to put to work:

- Get rid of clutter. You probably don't have to look too far around your home to find things that are broken or simply no longer useful to you. If you poke around your portfolio, you might make similar discoveries: an investment that has chronically underperformed, duplicates another investment or met your needs in the past but is less relevant to your current situation and goals. Once you identify these types of investments, you may decide to sell them and use the proceeds to take advantage of opportunities that may prove more valuable to you.
- Consolidate. Over the years, you may have accumulated multiple versions of common household items brooms, mops, hammers which pop up mysteriously in various parts of your home. You might find it more efficient, and even less expensive, if you consolidated all these things in one centralized location. As an investor, you also might find that consolidation can offer you some benefits. Do you have one Individual Retirement Account (IRA) with one financial services provider and a second IRA with another? Do you have a couple of old 401(k) accounts with former employers? And have you scattered investments here, there and everywhere? By consolidating all these accounts in one place, you can cut down on paperwork, reduce fees and, most importantly, unite your investment dollars so that it's easier for you to see what you have and then follow a single, coherent investment strategy.
- Prepare for turbulent weather. As you know, springtime can bring heavy rains, hail, strong winds and other threats to your home. As part of your overall spring cleaning, you may want to check the condition of your roof, clear branches away from your house, clean your gutters and downspouts, and take other steps to protect your property from the ravages of Mother Nature. And just as you need to safeguard your home, you'll want to protect the lifestyles of those who live in that home namely, your family. You can help accomplish this by reviewing your life and disability insurance to make sure it's still sufficient for your needs.
- Get professional help. You may find that you can't do all your spring cleaning by yourself. For example, if your carpets and rugs are heavily soiled, you may need to call in a professional cleaner. Or if your tree branches have grown out of control, you might need to bring in a tree trimmer. Similarly, when you decide to "tidy up" your portfolio, you'll need some assistance from a financial professional someone who can study your current mix of investments and recommend changes, as needed, to help ensure your holdings are suitable for your risk tolerance, time horizon and short- and long-term goals.

Spring cleaning can reinvigorate your home and your overall outlook. And by tidying up your investment portfolio, you can help gain some of that same optimism — for your future.

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









May 2

Status of Women Luncheon: 11:30 a.m., Doss Heritage and Culture Center, 1400 Texas Street. Zonta Club of Parker County welcomes Texas State Representative Kay Granger, guest speaker, and honors the 2012-13 ZCPC Scholarship recipients and the ZCPC Clubwoman of the Year for 2011-12. For reservations visit www. zontaparkercounty.org or call Soraya Joslin at (817) 304-0799 or Linda Bagwell at (817) 598-6274.

May 3

61st Annual National Day of Prayer: 7:00-8:30 p.m., Doss Heritage and Culture Center, 1400 Texas Street. Pastors lead Parker County in prayer and worship on behalf of our city, county and nation. Contact Craig Beaman at Bethel Baptist Church at (817) 458-8502 or visit www.ndpparkercounty.org.

May 4-6

Greenwood Farm Horse Trials: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., 2390 Greenwood Road. Competitions for horse and rider in dressage, show jumping and cross-country rides. Contact Christie Tull at (817) 307-9307 or greenwoodfarmonline.com.

May 5

Literary Gardens Educational Program: 10:00 a.m.-noon, Weatherford Public Library, 1014 Charles Street. Parker County Master Gardeners offer public tours through the Literary Gardens at the library's entrance. Contact Patti Lankford at (817) 598-6096.

7th Annual North Texas GospelGrass: 10:00 a.m., Harmony Baptist Church, 242 Harmony Road. Bluegrass gospel music plus concessions all day to raise funds for the Harmony Youth Group. Supervised activities for children include a bounce house and snow cones. Free breakfast served between 8:30-9:30 a.m. www.gospelgrass.com or (817) 901-7100.

May 11

Parker County Women's and Newcomer's Club Fundraiser Scholarship Luncheon: 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Doss Heritage and Culture Center, 1400 Texas Street. Style show features fashion by Chicos. Meet the recipient of Weatherford College scholarship for 2012-13, and raise funds for future scholarships. Make reservations by **May 6**: (817) 594-0125.

May 12

Dreams on Wings 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk: 7:00-11:00 a.m., Parker County Physical Therapy, 879 Eureka. Join the fun, honor Jessie Hall and donate to the Hemispherectomy Foundation. Register: www.hemifoundation.org or (817) 594-9200.

Weatherford Christian School First Annual 5K Fun Run: 8:00 a.m.-noon, 111 E. Columbia Street. The walk/run will be followed by fun family activities: face painting, a balloon artist, bounce houses and more. Contact Leslie Chalmers at (817) 596-7807 or leslie.chalmers@wcslions.org.

May 13

Mother's Day Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Clark Gardens, 567 Maddux Road. Buffet created by Judy, at City Kitchen, admission to the gardens and a digital photo for each mother included in your reservation. Contact www.clarkgardens.com or Beverly at (940) 682-4856.

May 17

Quilter's Guild of Parker County Quilt Auction: 6:30 p.m., Weatherford Senior Center, 1225 Holland Lake Drive. Quilts and quilting/sewing-related items will be on display and offered in a live auction: 7:00 p.m. Also, the QGPC 2012 Raffle Quilt will be unveiled! (817) 441-2471.

Taste of Parker County: 5:00-8:00 p.m., Parker County Sheriff's Posse Clubhouse, 2251 Mineral Wells Highway. Sample the finest in area restaurants, caterers and vineyards. Proceeds benefit Weatherford College scholarship funds. Tickets: \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. (817) 598-6275.

May 18

Hats Off to Heroes: 6:00 p.m., Clear Fork Station, 4971 East I-20 Service Road North, Willow Park. Proceeds benefit Careity Breast Care Center in Weatherford. (817) 882-4100 or www.careityfoundation.org.

May 19

Great Strides: 8:00 a.m., Holland Lake Park. This family-friendly 5K walk/run raises funds for the fight against cystic fibrosis. (817) 249-7744.

Walk for Lupus Now: 9:00 a.m., Texas Pythian Home, 1825 E. Bankhead Drive. Lupus Foundation of America, Inc. invites people to help find a cure for lupus, a chronic and potentially life-threatening autoimmune disease. (469) 374-0794.

May 22

Celebration of Life: 5:30-10:00 p.m., North Side Baptist Church, 910 North Main Street. Dinner served by Rosa's Café accompanied by bluegrass music, followed by guest speaker Pam Tebow. This event benefits Grace House Ministries (www.gracehouseministries.net). For more infomation call (817) 599-9080.

June 1, July 6, August 3

First Friday Outdoor Concert: 7:00 p.m., Aledo's Historic Downtown. Aledo City Council and Aledo Economic Development Corporation host these free concerts to promote Aledo's businesses. **June 1** features Katy Keenie and her band. Bring your lawn chairs for the elaborate fireworks show! Contact Angela Kell at (817) 704-8223.

June 2

Mid-Way Regional Airport Annual Pancake Breakfast Fly-in: 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., off Hwy. 287 between Midlothian and Waxahachie. Event and parking are free. Breakfast tickets: ages 8 and above, \$6; ages 3-7, \$3; 2 and under, free. Classic airplanes/ fighters, helicopter rides, kids' trackless train, face painting and more! Call Tammy at (972) 923-0080.

June 4

23rd Annual Project Graduation Celebration: a drug- and alcohol-free celebration for the 500 Weatherford graduates (and a guest) at the high school. All entertainment, food, games, prizes and scholarships provided through generous donations from individuals, community businesses and fundraising activities. Contact Lonna Leach at (817) 929-3864.

June 8 and 9

Weekend At Kate's: Friday: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., 2410 White Settlement Road. A uniquely curious art and antique fair held inside a 1905 farmhouse and outside on 2.5 acres. Admission: \$1.00; all proceeds go to Grace House Ministries. Contact Michele JuVette at (214) 535-7022.

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



In The Kitchen With Norma Dunnington

— By Melissa Rawlins

Known for her mouth-watering home cooking, Norma Dunnington's likely to bring blueberry salad to potluck meals any time of the year! She began cooking when she married in 1962. Chuck was a technical sergeant in the United States Air Force, and Norma prepared menus centered on casseroles and inexpensive cuts of meat. While stationed at Wheelus Air Base in the African country of Libya, Norma remembers cancelling a ladies' shopping trip on September 1, 1969, when her husband telephoned to announce he was bringing home 15 of his staff for breakfast after the king of the country had been unexpectedly overthrown by Colonel Qaddafi. Today, she cooks for Chuck, family, friends and special events at New Hope Baptist Church.

Rosemary Baked Chicken Thighs

10 medium or large chicken thighs Nonstick cooking spray

- 1 1/2 tsp. McCormick Perfect Pinch Mediterranean Herb Seasoning
- Coarse ground black pepper, to taste I 10.75-oz. can Campbell's cream of mushroom soup
- 1 10.75-oz. can Campbell's cream of chicken soup
- I medium or large onion, quartered 6 or 8 pieces fresh rosemary or 1 1/2 Tbsp. dried rosemary
- **I.** Wash and pat dry chicken thighs, lay in roaster pan; spray chicken with nonstick cooking spray.

- **2.** Sprinkle herb seasoning and pepper on chicken. Broil chicken until brown. Remove chicken from oven, turn over and repeat above on unbroiled side.
- **3.** Remove chicken from oven, pour each can of soup over chicken, place cut up onion in between chicken thighs.
- **4.** If using fresh rosemary, place pieces between chicken thighs. If using dried rosemary, sprinkle on both sides of chicken.
- **5.** Bake at 350 F for 1 1/2 hours.

Blueberry Jell-O Salad

1 6-oz. box raspberry Jell-O 2 cups hot water

- 1 22-oz. can blueberry pie filling
- 1 #2-size can crushed pineapple with juice or 20-oz. can crushed pineapple

- 1 6-oz. block cream cheese, softened1 8-oz. sour cream1/2 cup sugar3/4 cup pecans or walnuts,finely chopped
- **1.** Dissolve Jell-O in hot water. Add blueberry pie filling and crushed pineapple with juice. Mix well; refrigerate in a 9x13 pan until set.
- **2.** Cream together the cream cheese, sour cream and sugar. Spread on top of set Jell-O mixture; sprinkle with finely chopped nuts.

Creamy Hominy Casserole

2 Tbsp. margarine
Salt and pepper, to taste
2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1/4 cup pimiento, chopped
1 cup milk
6 oz. American cheese
2 Tbsp. onion, chopped
1 29-oz. can white hominy

1/4 cup cracker crumbs

- **1.** Melt margarine in saucepan. Add next 6 ingredients, stirring constantly to keep smooth. When thickened, add well-drained hominy.
- **2.** Pour into 1.5-quart buttered casserole dish. Sauté cracker crumbs; sprinkle on casserole. Bake at 350 F for about 20 minutes.

Gingerbread

6 Tbsp. shortening
3/4 cup sugar
1 cup dark syrup
3 eggs or 2 eggs plus 1 egg white
3 cups all-purpose flour
2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. allspice
1/2 tsp. cloves
1 tsp. ginger
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 cup buttermilk

- **1.** Cream shortening and sugar together. Add syrup. Beat in eggs, one at a time.
- **2.** In a separate bowl combine flour, spices and soda. Add buttermilk; combine with creamed mixture.
- **3.** Oil 13x9-inch square pan. Pour mixture in pan, bake at 350 F for exactly 45 minutes.

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



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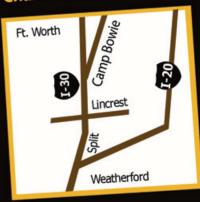
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