

# Southwest

Cedar Hill | DeSoto | Duncanville  
MAGAZINE

MAY 2014

# NOW

## *Undelivered Revealed*

Gregory Sullivan Isaacs  
brings a cultural  
experience into the  
heart of the Best  
Southwest

## Life Abroad

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# EAGLE EXPRESS



## CROSS THE LINE: Choose to be the BEST!

### DeSoto ISD Summer Programs

DeSoto ISD offers an array of summer schools, test prep courses, enrichment programs, sports camps and free meal programs for students of all ages. Summer school and test preparation are primarily for students who need intervention based on previous results. While many programs are free, some require a minimal fee to cover expenses. Secondary students pay \$125 for summer school, grade replacement or acceleration courses.

Eagle Summer Sports Camps include volleyball, football, basketball, swimming, and tennis. DeSoto's FREE Summer Meal Program for children through age 18 will take place at four different campuses. Details for these programs and more are online at [www.desotoisd.org](http://www.desotoisd.org)

#### 2014 NEW SUMMER PROGRAMS

- **Camp Explore: The No Box Zone** (Gr. K-5) - June 9-27, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Elementary students can select exploratory camp sessions such as art, dance, creative writing, chess, guitar, robotics, science, Spanish, and more! Camp location includes free breakfast and lunch. Camp is \$50/week or \$150 for all three weeks.
- **S.W.A.G. the ARTS** (Gr. 6-8) - June 9-20, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Middle school students can explore fine arts for a two week session including dance, band, digital arts, theater, fashion, music and iSTEAM. Camp is \$50 for both weeks.

### District honors partners, volunteers

All DeSoto ISD education volunteers and partners are invited to a special Appreciation Reception on Thursday, May 22 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the DeSoto High School Academy Cafeteria. Guests will enjoy food, fellowship and special gifts and recognition from their campus and the district. Mark the date and join us for this wonderful reception.



A record eleven DHS seniors received the Texas Christian University Community Scholars Scholarship for a full four-year scholarship to the school - a value of \$2.7M. DeSoto has had a record 25 students earn the award in the past five years.

### Calendar of Events

- May 2, 5-8 p.m. - DeSoto ISD Hall of Honor Induction Ceremony
- May 5-9 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 6-8, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. - PreK & K Registration, DeSoto Town Center
- May 10 - Election Day
- May 14, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Eagle Olympics, Eagle Stadium
- May 22, 5-7:30 p.m. - Partner and Volunteer Appreciation Reception, DHS
- May 26 - Memorial Day Holiday
- June 4, 7 p.m. - DHS Graduation, Eagle Stadium
- June 6 - Last Day of School, Early Release

### News to Know



**Full Day Pre-K & Kindergarten**  
**Registration - 7 a.m.-7 p.m.**  
**Tues.-Th., May 6-8**  
**DeSoto Town Center**

**Pre-K and Kinder Registration May 6-8** from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the DeSoto Town Center. For eligibility criteria and items needed to register, visit [desotoisd.org](http://desotoisd.org)

The DeSoto ISD Hall of Honor Induction Ceremony will be held Friday, May 2 at 5 p.m. The event, which is free but RSVPs are encouraged, will honor the Class of 2014:

- Pamela DeBorde, Service Award
- Kathy Goad, Service Award
- David Plott, Alumni Award
- Casey Printers, Alumni Award

The DeSoto ISD Board of Trustees Election will be held Saturday, May 10 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Candidates by place are:

- Place 3: Inga Henderson  
Karen Daniel  
Kenzie Moore
- Place 4: Curt Krohn  
Jerry Hall
- Place 5: Aubrey Hooper  
Sandra Wheeler

Congratulations to the DeSoto Ma'At (Moo Aht) Step Team for coming home from Chicago with the Co-Ed National Step Team Title on April 11.

The DHS Athletic Training team won their third-straight Athletic Trainers Olympics title! In addition, four students earned Academic All State awards this year: Gabrielle Lewis, Tiffany Aliyu, Falom Martinez, and Jennifer Ruiz.

DHS sophomore Chris Draughn advanced to the Business Professionals of America National Competition in Computer Network Technology and the Network Design Team.





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## ON THE COVER



Gregory Sullivan Isaacs' talented ensemble will delight DeSoto on May 11.

Photo by Amy Ramirez.

# CONTENTS

May 2014 • Volume 8, Issue 5



## 8 Undelivered Revealed

DeSoto Corner Theater is hosting its first world premiere composed by local resident Gregory Sullivan Isaacs.

## 18 Robot Enterprise

Learning to promote excellence in science, technology, engineering and math is also fun.

## 28 Life Abroad

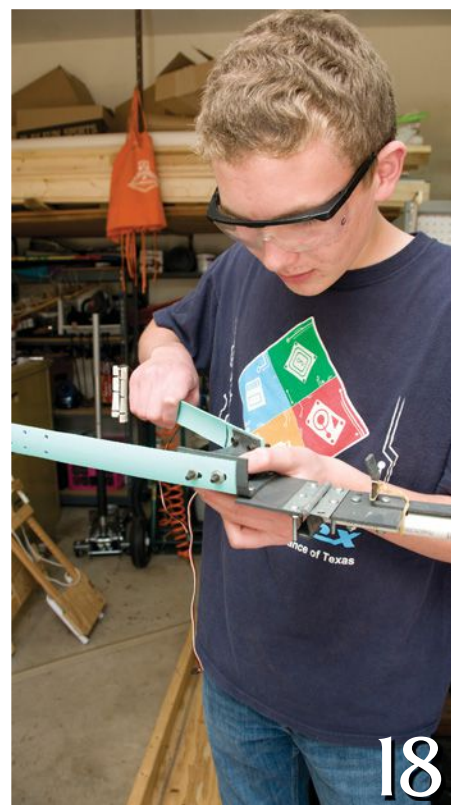
At Home With Bob and Sue Clark.

## 36 Stitch by Stitch

The Cedar Hill Quilters Guild keeps history alive.

## 44 Child's Play

From reading to camping, kids can take their pick of summer fun.



52 BusinessNOW

54 Around TownNOW

56 FinanceNOW

60 CookingNOW

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## Editor's Note

*Southwest Friends,*

Spring has sprung. I hope it lingers long and mild. I have a friend some of you know well, who delights in taking amazing photographs of the moon. Her photographs inspire my whimsy, and we have hinted at collaborating on a book featuring her photos and my yet-to-be-written poems on all things moon. Spring is such a delicious time to start things. The growth and color all around are birthing — birthing ideas and creativity, birthing youth and rekindling a sense of fun, even birthing dreams.

I have found dreaming a difficult thing. Goals and plans evade me. But spring — spring re-invigorates me, and I find myself — oddly — dreaming. I think, my fine friend of the moon, we need to wax and wane a bit, and see if between us we can shed some light on that moon of yours.

May your May be good — under the sun or the moon.

*Beverly*

Beverly Shay  
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1 PETER 5:6-8

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*God still cares that He is known as  
The Creator  
Gen 1:1*

June 11 • Robert Stapleton

*God still cares about Mankind  
2 Peter 3:9*

June 18 • Ivie Powell

*God still cares that we obey (only) Him  
1 John 5:3*

June 25 • David Rechlin

*God still cares that many teach  
false doctrine  
Titus 1:9-11*

July 2 • Robert Dodson

*God still cares WHEN we sin against Him  
Isaiah 59:1-2*

July 9 • Jim Laws

*God still cares about repentance  
Acts 17:30*

July 16 • David McElwain

*God still cares about forgiveness  
Colossians 3:13*

July 23 • Mike Bonner

*God still cares that we love one another  
Ephesians 5:30-32*

July 30 • Hubert Smith

*God still cares about marriage  
1 Corinthians 7:1-2*

August 6 • Mike Crosby

*God still cares that we worship Him  
AS HE DESIRES  
John 4:21-24*

August 13 • Willie Alvarenga

*God still cares about the Lord's Church  
Matthew 16:18*

August 20 • Bob Moss

*God still cares about baptism  
1 Peter 3:21*

August 27 • Bill Burke

*God still cares about our salvation  
Romans 5:8*







TEACHERS  
of the Year  
2013-2014

## 2014 Campus Teachers of the Year

Teachers are the single most important influence on the quality of learning that takes place within a classroom, and Duncanville ISD believes that it is vitally important to recognize and honor those who exemplify quality teaching. As part of the district's commitment to valuing teacher contributions, Duncanville ISD conducts an annual Teacher of the Year program in conjunction with the Texas Teacher of the Year program. Meet this year's recipients:

Karen McQuaid, Duncanville HS	Steven Pettit, Brandenburg Intermediate
Moses Pena, Duncanville HS	Janson Cato, Daniel Intermediate
Margaret Thomas, Duncanville HS	Ida Garcia, Hardin Intermediate
David Womack, Duncanville HS	Daneen Douglas, Acton Elementary
Karen Wilson, PACE	Shanea Branch, Alexander Elementary
Stan McConnell, Summit	Kendall Graves, Bilhartz Elementary
Kevin Graham, Byrd MS	Maria Nava, Central Elementary
Nyadia Thorpe, Byrd MS	Susan Wildman, Fairmeadows Elementary
Gerald Burnett, Kennemer MS	Kristi Mullins, Hastings Elementary
Tiffany Mason-Taylor, Kennemer MS	Jamey Cosper, Hyman Elementary
Ashley Harper, Reed MS	Emily Britt, Merrifield Elementary
LaJeanna Howard, Reed MS	Krystle Gomez, Smith Elementary



Cathy Self-Morgan

## Pantherette Coach and Player Receive National Awards

Duncanville High School Athletic Director and Head Girls Basketball Coach Cathy Self-Morgan was recently honored with three Coach of the Year awards. She was named the 2014 Naismith Girls High School Coach of the Year, one of the most prestigious awards for high school basketball. She was also selected as the 2014

Russell Athletic/Women's Basketball Coaches Association District 6 Coach of the Year, and went on to be named as the 2014 Russell Athletic/WBCA National High School Coach of the Year with the inaugural Pat Summitt Trophy.

One of Coach Self-Morgan's players also received a national award. Duncanville High School senior Ariel Atkins was named the 2014 Morgan Wootten Player of the Year, an award that recognizes the best McDonald's All American basketball players for their accomplishments both on and off the court. This season, Ariel averaged 17.9 points, 5.8 rebounds, 4.8 steals and 3.9 assists. She is ranked as the number four prospect in the country and has signed to play basketball at the University of Texas. During her career at Duncanville High School, she helped the Pantherettes clinch two Texas state championships and win 105 consecutive games over the course of three seasons.



Ariel Atkins

## Important Dates

- May 10 – School Board Election Day
- May 23 – Weather Make-up Day, Regular Classes
- May 26 – Memorial Day Holiday
- June 5 – Last Day of School
- June 5 – Graduation, 7:30 pm at Dallas Convention Center
- June 13 – Report Cards Issued

## District Launches New YourVoice Webpage

At the core of Duncanville ISD's beliefs is profound learning through purposeful engagement. We believe that purposeful engagement is the most effective way to learn, for both students and adults. We also believe engagement is one of the most powerful ways to strengthen an organization and a community. That's why we've launched YourVoice, an online tool where our community can share ideas, suggestions or concerns. Every submission will be read, reviewed and taken into consideration. This communication channel is always open, so the district encourages you to visit this page when you have an idea that could transform our schools and classrooms, or if you need to ask a question or share a thought. We want to hear from you. Visit the YourVoice webpage at [yourvoice.duncanvilleisd.org](http://yourvoice.duncanvilleisd.org).







# MUSIC IN THE PARK SERIES



**ALL CONCERTS ARE FREE!**



**Don Diego**

**Thursday, May 15th**

**7:00 P.M.**

Town Center Ampitheater  
211 E Pleasant Run Rd  
DeSoto, Texas 75115

Don Diego is a contemporary jazz fusion saxophonist, vocalist and keyboard player who mixes instrumental covers of modern and classic R&B with rap and pop vocals.



**R. L. Griffin**

**Saturday, May 17th**

**7:00 P.M.**

Town Center Ampitheater  
211 E Pleasant Run Rd  
DeSoto, Texas 75115

R.L. Griffin is a major figure on the Dallas blues scene. Not only is he a fine entertainer and recording star, but he has his own club, R.L.'s Blues Palace #2. He is also a disc jockey on KKDA 730 AM where he spins classic blues and R&B tunes.



**K. Avett**

**Thursday, May 22nd**

**7:00 P.M.**

Town Center Ampitheater  
211 E Pleasant Run Rd  
DeSoto, Texas 75115

K. Avett recently completed her debut solo CD, K. Avett: Revelations. She also lends her sound, a mix of "fancy fruit salad of rock, beat-up funk, juke-joint flavor, and old soul," to a variety of local Dallas-based bands including TOP, The Signature Band, Fingerprints and the Walton Stout Band.



**Evelyn Champagne King**

**CREEKFEST ★**

**Saturday, June 7th**

**4:00 - 10:00 P.M.**

Town Center Ampitheater  
211 E Pleasant Run Rd  
DeSoto, Texas 75115

Evelyn "Champagne" King is the legendary entertainer behind two number one RB hits during the early '80s, "I'm in Love" and "Love Come Down. She managed to survive as a star well past the '80s and is still recording and touring frequently today.



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# Undelivered

— By Beverly Shay

*What if you found an undelivered speech written 50 years ago, yet incredibly current and apropos to life today? What if the magnitude of this timeless speech was expressed by setting it to music? Who would even conceive and then give birth to such an undertaking? And who would think such a dramatic cantata performed by exceptional musicians and singers of*

*world renown would make its world premiere at DeSoto Corner Theater? What if you discovered the undelivered speech used as the basis for a libretto written by Suzanne Calvin and set to original music composed and conducted by Gregory Sullivan Isaacs was none other than the speech scheduled to be*



Suzanne Calvin, Gregory Sullivan Isaacs, Jacquelyn Lengfelder, Jeffrey Snider, Karen Hall and Virginia Dupuy are some of the stars of *Undelivered*.



# Revealed

*delivered by President John F. Kennedy on the day he was so tragically killed?*

“This cantata was conceived as a means of exploring an apparent contradiction: how a nation that has changed so dramatically over the past five decades continues to grapple with many of the very same questions,” Gregory and librettist Suzanne wrote regarding the world premiere of *Undelivered* on May 11, 2014, as part of the Uptown/Downtown/DeSoto Concert Series. Many issues addressed in the speech are still apparent today: budget deficits, overgrown government, officials seeking influence without responsibility. Gregory noted that President Kennedy “warned that freedom could be lost by ‘ballots as well as bullets.’”

Suzanne incorporated additional texts to surround the speech, which include a stanza from *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* by Lord Byron, lines from a speech by Daniel Webster and *The Oxford Book of Prayer*, as well as poetry composed specifically for the piece. Gregory, in a masterful move, decided the speech itself would be sung by a mezzo-soprano “in order to separate these words from our deeply ingrained mental images of the late president and allow them to stand or fall on their own merits. The other commentary texts are sung by a soprano and baritone, functioning as a Greek chorus.”

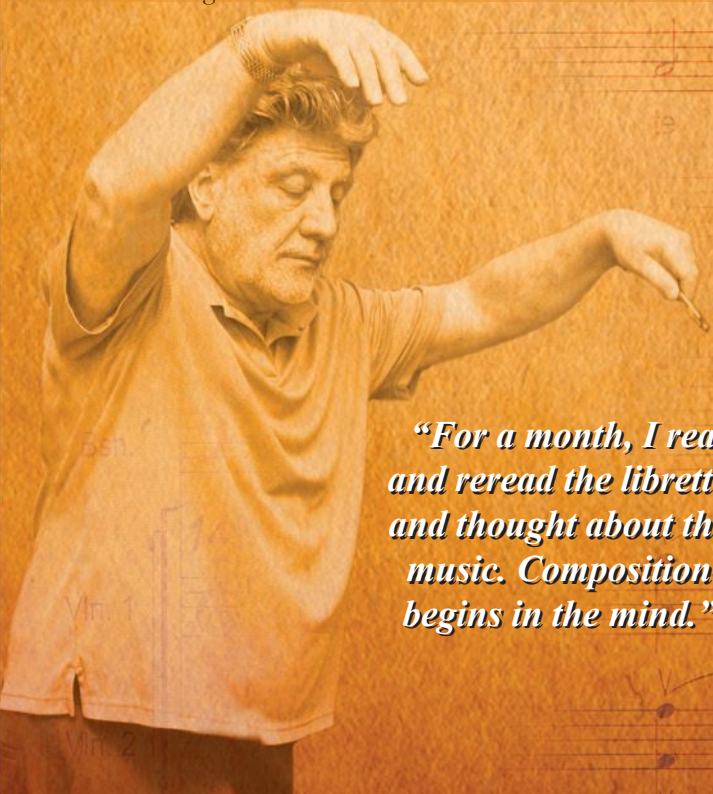
The piece is written in five scenes, the first being introductory, the second is based on the speech itself, the third is a caricature of a clueless politician, the fourth uses part of the speech as a benediction, with the final section featuring an anthem of celebration, followed by an original poem about the riderless black horse. “Woven throughout are relevant bits of the Catholic Latin Rite Requiem Mass,” Gregory elaborated.

While the production is not intended to be a political commentary, it is “a meditation on the timeless wisdom and warnings contained within the undelivered speech of President John F. Kennedy,” the composer and librettist wrote, and as such, it “reaches across the decades to deliver a message we still need to hear.”

Not only is the piece a marvel of incredible talent, but those who conceived it and will be performing it are people of exceptional skill. The story of the work's evolution is well worth the telling. Gregory, a classical music critic, and Suzanne, publicist for the Dallas Opera, who met about five years ago through his work with *TheaterJones*, an award-winning site focused on North Texas performing arts news, had spoken, casually, of a possible collaboration. Gregory had been commissioned to create a piece, *In the Hall*, for the Hall Ensemble, a group of locally based, acclaimed musicians who perform subscription concerts in intimate settings.

Meanwhile, Suzanne, a former news anchor, playwright and classical music programmer, came across the speech Kennedy had never delivered and thought setting it to music would be a very interesting concept. “For this work, I consider myself more of a compiler than an author, sort of like a chef in the kitchen,” Suzanne stated with a smile. “I stumbled across the speech online while researching something else entirely. Gregory got very excited about the idea, but there were definite challenges. Even after writing the text, months passed before we received permission from the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston to use the undelivered speech. Needless to say, it was a tremendous relief.”

“I also wanted to include one of Robert Frost's



***“For a month, I read and reread the libretto and thought about the music. Composition begins in the mind.”***



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poems, but that is virtually impossible,” Suzanne explained. One of the work’s more interesting elements is a patter song, a fast-paced, witty, tongue-in-cheek interlude like those of Gilbert and Sullivan fame.

For Gregory, the challenge was setting prose to music. He asked the



Hall Ensemble if they would be willing to switch out *Undelivered* for *In the Hall*,







and they agreed. With permission to use the speech, the composing began in earnest. "For a month, I read and



re-read the libretto and thought about the music. Composition begins in the mind. I was mentally writing music for the voices and the violins, viola and cello of the Hall Ensemble, and I decided a horn was needed. The final ensemble is



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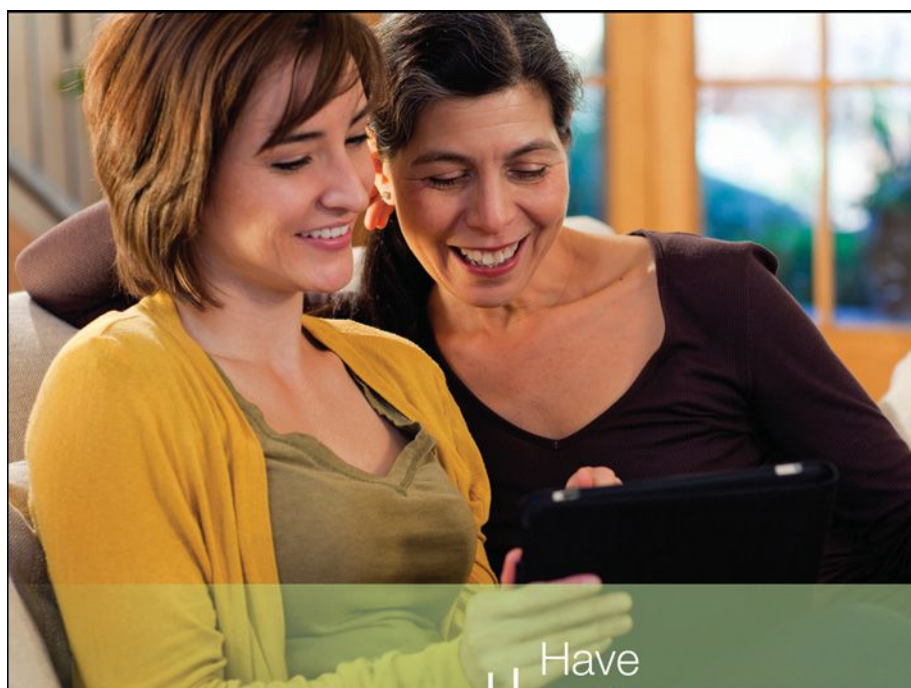
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a string quartet, bassoon, horn and three singers." He asked Virginia Dupuy, an internationally known mezzo-soprano to sing the speech, with equally known baritone Jeffrey Snider and soprano Jacquelyn Lengfelder to sing together in the manner of a Greek-style chorus.

"Securing such astounding musicians, whose schedules are set years in advance, was no mean feat, especially as they were already in the middle of their seasons," Gregory noted. Both the ensemble and the singers have remarked on the beauty and the complexity of the music, which has become an organic whole. Watching Gregory direct and encourage the singers is pure delight, as he coaches them to give more expression to the words than clarity to the tone, saying such things as, "Remember, these comments are only whispered, you guys."

And their response, "Did you forget you originally wanted us to all sing







# CEDAR HILL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*Learning to lead.*

## *A message from our new superintendent ...*

I am excited about this incredible opportunity to lead the students, staff and teachers of Cedar Hill into our 110th year as an Independent School District.

I am honored to become a part of this remarkable and engaging educational family, and I am looking forward to working together to write a new chapter in the history of Cedar Hill ISD.

I would like to take an opportunity to briefly discuss five priorities, which will help guide our work:

**Priority 1: High Quality Staff** The district will provide a competitive, total compensation package to attract quality teachers and work to develop a culture that promotes a sense of belonging and encourages the retention of staff.

**Priority 2: High Academic Standards** All students will have access to a challenging and rigorous instructional program that ensures they are prepared for college and that also embeds 21st century skill demands.

**Priority 3: Safe School Climate** The district will support and sustain a safe, nurturing, respectful environment, where staff and students are supported to bring out the best in each other.

**Priority 4: Community Involvement** The district will engage parents and the community in meaningful ways, so as to foster support of district programs and services.

**Priority 5: Fiscal Prudence** The district will provide an educationally sound and fiscally responsible budget that supports students in achieving the mission of the district and is reflective of the community's support for our schools.

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Sincerely,  
Orlando P. Riddick

### Mr. Orlando Riddick, CHISD Superintendent

#### Previous Experience

- Assistant Superintendent for Career and College Readiness, Houston ISD
- Chief of High Schools, Houston ISD
- Director of High Schools, Austin ISD
- Principal, W. T. White High School in Dallas ISD
- Assistant Principal, Rosemont Middle School, Meadowbrook Middle School, as well as Eastern Hills High School, Fort Worth ISD
- Academic Dean, Edison High School, San Antonio ISD



#### Get to Know Mr. Riddick:

- Married to his childhood sweetheart, Yvette Riddick for 17 years. They have three children: Alejandra, 16; Diego, 14; and Aaron, 12
- Played rugby in college
- Attends Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship Church
- **Favorite foods:** Italian and Mexican – especially cooked by his wife and mother-in-law
- **Favorite sports teams:** Texas Longhorns and the Dallas Cowboys
- **Favorite quote:** "It's not about the size of the dog in the fight, it's about the size of the fight in the dog," (Coach Cashman, Mr. Riddick's little league football coach).
- **His Hero:** Jesus Christ



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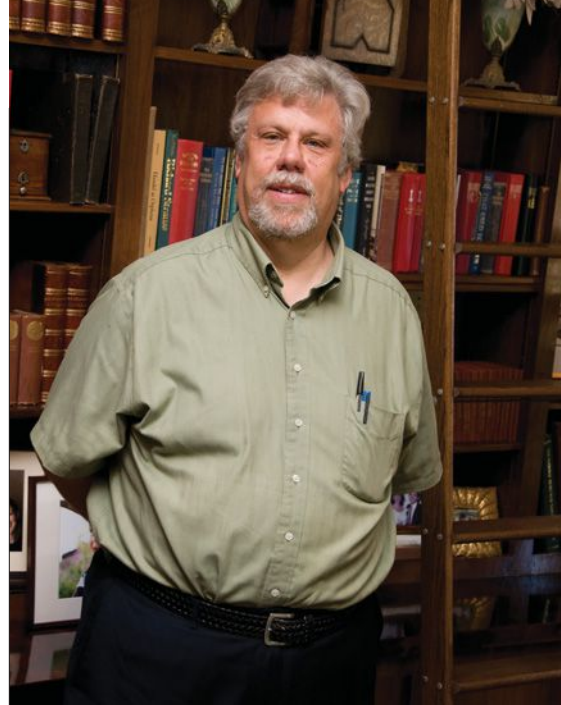
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this together, or did you just change your mind?"

"I forgot," he laughed a bit sheepishly. "Really and truly, I simplified and simplified and took out all the parts where I was showing off." Then he followed up with, "Ah, you guys sound wonderful!"

Together, the strength of the words, the depth and breadth of the musical score, the quality and clarity of the voices and the acuity of the



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instrumentalists will achieve their goal of bringing their audience into the experience and emotion of the speech, stunning them with the relevancy of the message today. The ending is emotional, and Gregory has been both surprised and pleased with the reaction to various portions he has presented publicly. "The piece may be greater than the sum of its parts," Suzanne remarked. "We are hoping this work will spark intelligent conversation about the stalemate in which we seem to find ourselves today — on so many levels." **NOW**



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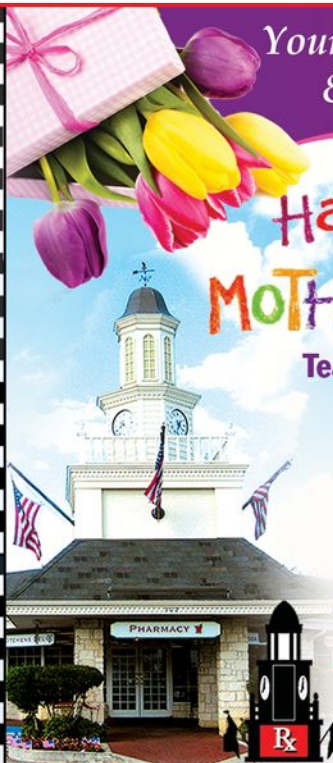
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# ROBOT ENTERPRISE

— By Sydni Massey



*From Pixar's WALL•E to Star Wars' C-3PO and R2-D2, robots have been inspiring young minds for decades. Now a group of students with the Christian Homeschool Alliance of Texas are bringing the robots of their imaginations to life, competing with kids across the nation through BEST Robotics Inc.*

BEST (Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology) Robotics, a volunteer group of engineers and technologists, developed the BEST Competition to promote STEM learning, a plan promoting excellence in science, technology, engineering and math. Nearly 30 students in the homeschool alliance make up the RoboTex team, and they have been competing in BEST for the last seven years. "Each year, we are given a set of challenges and told to create a robot that can overcome them," said high school junior and RoboTex member Dillon Carroll. "We only have six weeks to get everything to work before presenting it at competition."





Building the robot is the foundation of the contest, but creating a business around the robot is the largest part of the competition. Each team competing for a BEST award creates a business that manufactures, markets and sells the robot. The team is judged on the building of a booth, creating a project notebook and delivering an oral presentation. The notebook, consisting of engineering specs, as well as a marketing and business plan, counts for the majority of the team's score. The team also designs a website, commercials and marketing materials as if they were an established business. High school senior and RoboTex member Monica Duitsman leads the creation of the notebook. "Sometimes, the hardest part of the project is the notebook," Monica said.



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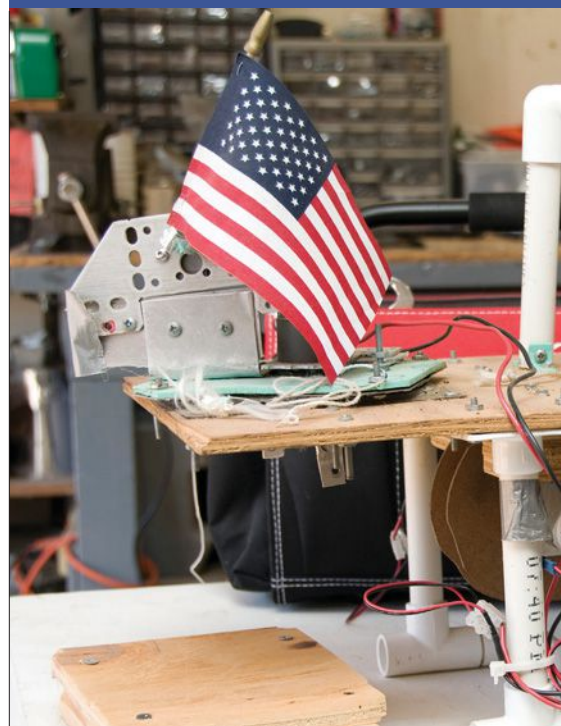
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March, 2014: Theresa Patton, MD, partner at Kessler Women's Healthcare, Dallas, announced as the first area OB-Gyn certified to perform Single-Site robotic surgery. Robotic surgery is minimally invasive with several small incision sites instead of large incisions, reducing patient risk and allowing a faster recovery time. While many OB-Gyn specialists now perform da Vinci robotic surgery in the area, advances in technology have now made it possible to increase the already remarkable benefits of robotic surgery. Dr. Patton was the first general OB-Gyn in Dallas certified in Single-Site Surgery, reducing incision sites to one!

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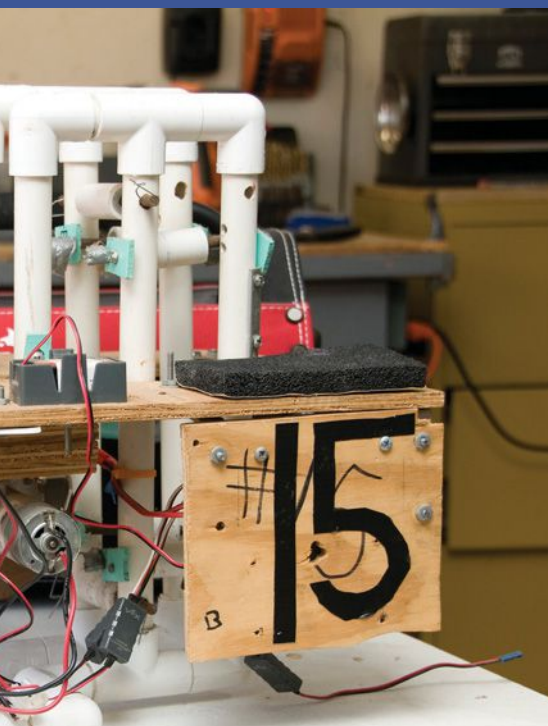


"We have to be able to explain it to the judges. Most years, we are working on it through the middle of the night the day before it is due."

The judges come around to each booth, and the teams have a limited amount of time to convince them they should invest in their companies. The judges look at the students' notebooks and quiz them on the contents. "Even if our robot fails," Monica related, "we could still win based on our notebook and booth."

BEST has three levels: Hub, Regional Championship and National Championship. The Hub level consists





of two divisions: Robotics and the BEST Award. Winners in both divisions advance to the regional competition, where they compete against 10 or more other Hub winners. The winners of the Robotics and the BEST Award at Regional Championships advance to the National Championship in the spring. The BEST Award is the highest award and most difficult to achieve at competition. Only the top three teams embodying the concept of promoting engineering, science and technology receive the ultimate award.

"RoboTex has advanced to the regional competition four times in the seven years we have competed," Dillon said. "We have won in the past, because we reached first or second place in the BEST Award."

Each year brings a new challenge for the teams. In the past, they have had to build robots that can climb ropes, build computers or pick up hex bugs. The teams start receiving hints and teasers as to what the next game holds for them in the spring prior to the competition. The parameters of the game and the playing field are introduced at the Kick-off Day ceremony in August. From that point forward the teams only have six weeks to design and develop a functioning robot along with their notebooks. "We have seen a video that is sort of a teaser for what we will have to build next year,"

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Dillon explained. "It showed a truck transporting windmills, so I think it will have something to do with renewable energy."

Unlike most of the competitive teams, which are comprised of junior high- and high school-level students, RoboTex allows students as young as kindergarten to participate on their team. Each member is given a responsibility once game details have been released. One of the first things the team does is to sit down and discuss how they want to proceed. No decision is left up to an individual, but agreed on as a team. One student is selected to lead the team, and next year it will be Dillon's turn. "It takes a lot of talking to get things done," Dillon admitted. "We throw our ideas out there, and sometimes the team can't agree. That's one of the hardest parts of the competition. We try to reach a consensus and give everyone a job they can enjoy and accomplish."

The RoboTex team has faced many challenges over the years, but has learned, despite opposing views, that it will all work out in the end. One year, team members discovered their robot was not functioning two weeks before competition. Another year, they showed up at the competition, and their robot was not working at all. "When our robot didn't work, we panicked," Dillon recalled. "We got to work and ended up building a robot that was way better than the first in a short amount of time. Luckily, the robot is only 15 percent of the score, and the year it didn't work at competition, we advanced for winning a Best Award."



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Building a robotics business isn't a cheap task. While BEST sponsors provide them with the materials they need to make a functioning robot, the team still must raise money for printing T-shirts, booth construction and any bells and whistles they want to add to their robot. From selling chocolates to accepting donations, the team has raised over \$1,000 in past years.

"Being in the competition has also taught us about fundraising," Monica said. "It's an important part of the contest. The money we raise from local businesses, friends and family goes toward building our booth."

Dillon's father, Craig Carroll, is one of the team coaches. The parent coaches stand by to help with the occasional power tool, but don't give a lot of input. If the team can't figure out a problem, members will ask questions until they get back on track. "It's fun to watch as a coach," Craig confessed. "The whole process is hands-on and a great way for the kids to learn. We get to watch them grow as they face the pressures of competition and when they overcome issues as a team."

Both Monica and Dillon have learned through their involvement with the RoboTex team. Dillon plans to continue down an engineering path once he leaves the team. "Most of our team is young," Monica shared. "A lot of the older members are in their final years. It's our responsibility to not only lead the team in competition over the next few years, but to train the younger ones to take over." **NOW**



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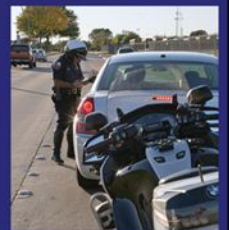
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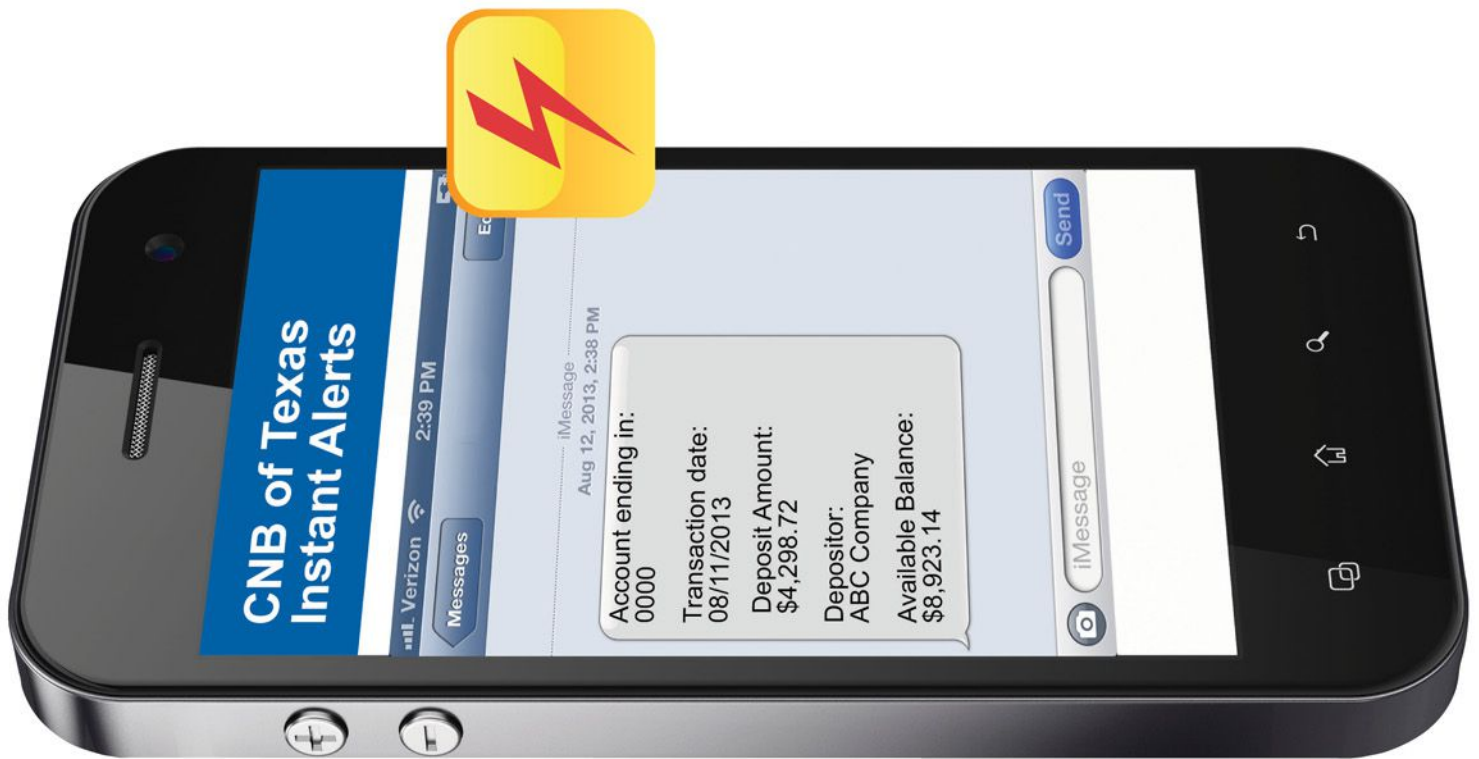
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# Life

# Abroad

— By Sydni Massey



## At Home With Bob & Sue Clark

*World travelers Bob and Sue Clark made Duncanville their home base 12 years ago, but setting down permanent roots didn't slow down this couple, who have been married for 40 years. Their home has become a collection of memories and treasures from all over the globe.*

Upon entering the four-bedroom, three-bathroom home, the faint ticking of clocks can be heard. After years of collecting, the Clarks have lost count of how many clocks they have. But point one out, and they can tell the story behind it. One was inherited from Sue's father, and another is a pocket watch from Bob's dad. A clock in the den has







traveled almost as much as Bob and Sue have. "Our Sessions clock was made and purchased in Connecticut," Sue said. "It then made the trip to England, where its owners decided to pack up and move to Australia." The former owners made another cross-global move to Saudi Arabia, where the clock was finally donated for a charity auction. That is where Bob found it.

Treasures from Bob and Sue's trips or family heirlooms decorate most of the rooms in the house. The den is the couple's favorite space, where they spend most of their time. On a slow day, Sue sits in her chair, crocheting for CASA Quilters, an organization that makes blankets for children in foster care, and Bob will be at the piano practicing his part in Duncanville's First United Methodist Church's choir. Each nook of the room holds a cherished item from a vacation or an antique passed down for generations. The fireplace is practically a vignette from travels in Saudi Arabia. A tray typically used for serving lamb






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at an evening meal rests on the hearth, surrounded by baskets woven by the Red Sea. "They pour rice on this type of tray and then set a roasted lamb on it," Bob said. "Then you sit out on the ground and eat it by scooping up the pieces in your hand."

Bob retired from the oil and gas industry seven years ago after being



stationed in Saudi Arabia for over 15 years. Sue only lived there for two years, but when she was stateside she made frequent trips to places like Turkey, Jordan, Greece, Ireland and Scotland to meet up with Bob. "When I had time off it was quite a commitment to do other things," Bob said. "It would take 24 hours of flights to get back home. Sue would hop on a plane, and we would meet to go tour places."

"Bob lived in an apartment since it was mostly just him there," Sue recalled. "The compound was like a west Texas town. We met an array of people from all over the world while living there and are still

friends with many of them."

Even though Bob and Sue are enjoying their retirement, they still have a home office, converted from one of the bedrooms. Sue retired as an accountant almost two years ago. She had studied accounting at Loyola University when they lived in New Orleans and finished her degree at The University of Texas at Arlington. "We started having children when we were young," Bob said. "Sue stayed home with all five of them and put college on hold. After they were grown, she went back to school and became an accountant."

Five adult children led to 16



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grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Bob and Sue could not be more proud of them. While the pair still makes several treks across the globe a year, they are putting those on hold this year to see several of their grandchildren graduate from college and graduate school.

A few of the grandchildren live within driving distance, but many are spread out as far away as Hawaii. But that's what guest rooms are for. Sue has placed many family pieces in the guest room. Her grandmother's bedroom suite is the focal point of the room. An old doll belonging to her grandmother rests on the bed.

In the master bedroom, a wall of old photographs is the first thing seen. Photographs of Bob and Sue's parents and grandparents from childhood through adulthood and a wedding certificate make up the arrangement. Across the room and above the headboard is a painting of bluebonnets done by a friend — a lovely reminder of springtime in Texas. Sue's mother's cedar chest rests at the foot of their bed, along with a rug from Turkey. "We have rugs from all over the world in this house," Sue pointed out. "We picked them up when we traveled to places like Turkey and Jordan and had them sent home."

Sue collects collections and is the first one to admit it. From tiny glass boxes and crystal to dolls and duck stamps, she makes treasures of many things. The formal living room holds many of these collections and is usually only used when there are guests. Above the mantel



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is a brass rubbing from a headstone in Great Britain. Bob worked there for three months in the late 1970s. One of the greatest conversation starters in the Clarks' home is a camel saddle that sits by a chair and is often mistaken for an ottoman. Sue had the opportunity to ride camels and elephants during their many trips. "I am a collector of many things, and I like old stuff," Sue said with a grin. "That's why I keep Bob around."

While many of their traveling opportunities came because of Bob's job, the Clarks also traveled to support Sue's powerlifting hobby. In the late 1980s, Sue was approached in the gym by trainer John Tyree about trying powerlifting. She had been into fitness her whole life, but hadn't thought about lifting. After discovering she liked it and was good at it, Sue began traveling for competitions. "I went to competitions across the country and world," Sue enthused. "When I went to Helsinki, Finland, in 2009, I won best woman lifter at that particular world meet."

Even though Bob and Sue travel far and wide, they love being at home, too. Apart from Saudi Arabia, they've lived in Houston, New Orleans and Dallas. From their first trip, a honeymoon to Mexico, to their latest trip to Australia, these seasoned travelers love the place they hang their hat at the end of the day.

"Coming home to the states took some adjusting to after so many years abroad," Bob said. "Things that cost \$5 when I left, now cost \$25. It's interesting how fast things can change when you're gone."

"We have seen and experienced some great things during our travels," Sue added. "And there are no plans to slow down anytime soon." **NOW**

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— By Abby Rich

"Each and every quilt is different  
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*Historically, women quilted because they had to. They would hand-stitch by candlelight at the end of a laborious day. Today, women of the Cedar Hill Quilters Guild, from those in their early 30s to those in their 90s, share a love for quilting as they*







*encourage and spur one another on throughout the quilting process. When people ask why someone quilts in this day and age, members of the Cedar Hill Quilters Guild are all of one mind, "Because we want to!" they declare in unison. Gloria Irving, Rhonda Hughes-Montee, Barbara Sessions and Maryln Zelenz are just four members of the guild, who enjoy the fruits of their quilting labor and the encouragement and support they receive from one another.*

The guild was founded by Helen Carr and her daughter-in-law, Christenna Carr, in the late 1980s. With just a few charter members, the women put an advertisement in the local paper for fellow quilters to meet in the Cedar Hill Library. Now boasting 83 members and growing, the guild shares its quilting knowledge to continue the legacy of the craft. They gather to "show and tell" their latest quilting endeavors, as well as to exchange traditional and modern techniques at the Cedar Hill Recreation Center on the third Tuesday of every month.

With only so many family members and friends to give their treasured quilted items to, the guild has found additional opportunities to give back to their community. They donate hats, quilts and

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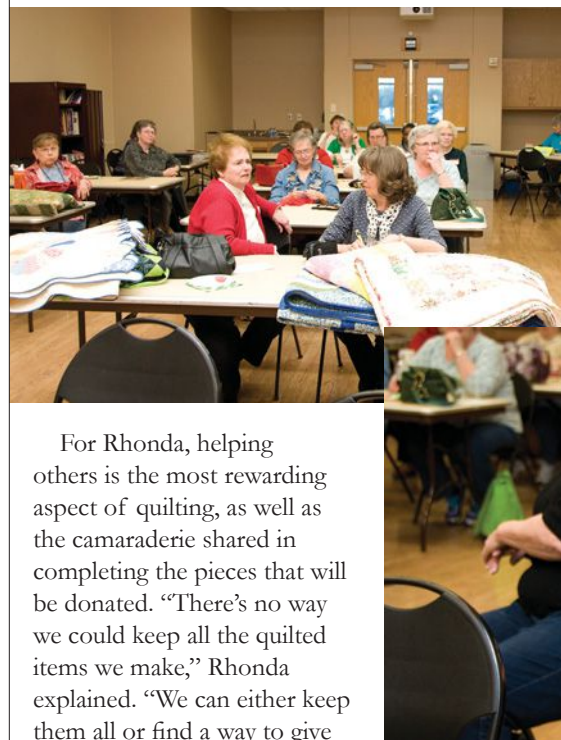
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blankets to Children's Medical Center and Parkland Hospital, and auction other handmade items for local charities throughout the year.



For Rhonda, helping others is the most rewarding aspect of quilting, as well as the camaraderie shared in completing the pieces that will be donated. "There's no way we could keep all the quilted items we make," Rhonda explained. "We can either keep them all or find a way to give back." Through the American Patchwork & Quilting's One Million Pillowcase Challenge, guild members donate pillowcases to women's shelters and foster homes where children don't own luggage. The kids can then carry their belongings to each foster home, and have something permanent to hold on to along the way. Another way the guild gives back is through sales of their quilted items, profits from which benefit the Cedar Hill Food Pantry and other local charities.

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drives guild members to work on pieces collectively, sharing in an endeavor that may take years to complete. "Each and every quilt is different and was made possible using several different methods," Maryln, charter member of the guild, shared. "I enjoy combining the old and newer techniques. Also, it's good for the brain. You're visualizing patterns and calculating numbers." Maryln has been working on a quilt project that will take three



years to complete. She has two years under her belt thus far.

For Barbara, inspiration hits when she eyes must-have, beautiful fabrics. "If I find a particular material I like, then I can visualize something great," she beamed. "And then I look for my pattern, in that order. I just went on a retreat with the International Guild of Knot Tyers and found some gorgeous fabric with ocean blues, so of course, I have to create something out of that."

Guild members attend quilting

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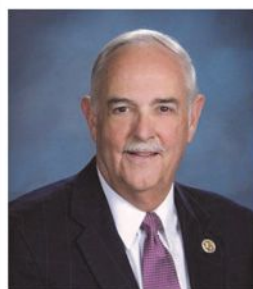
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retreats and several state, national and international shows. Quilts rarely get thrown away. More often than not, they are handed down from generation to generation. Pieces often travel the world to offer inspiration to fellow quilters. And because most pieces include the creator's name and date, the historical significance of certain quilts is inspiring. Some of these, like Civil War- and even World War II-era quilts, are displayed at quilt museums, where quilters can copy the patterns and make replicas of the designs.

Gloria, whose career includes previous employment in Hallmark Cards' art department, feels the creative process is the biggest thrill of quilting — from the inception of an idea to the completed project. "Getting an inspiring idea, figuring out the pattern, finding the material and then choosing the colors are my favorite parts," Gloria admitted. "Then cutting it out, working through it and finally seeing the finished product really gives me a sense of accomplishment."

With stores popping up all over the place, providing crafters with the latest tools and materials, quilting is a multibillion dollar industry. And the Internet has been a positive promoter of the craft, providing a wealth of information and tutorials for novices and established quilters alike. In fact, the guild recently held a monthly meeting where members showcased quilting projects made from online quilting tutorials. YouTube lessons by Missouri Star Quilt





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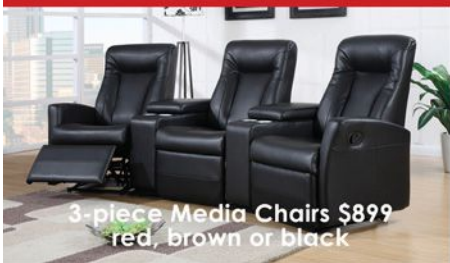
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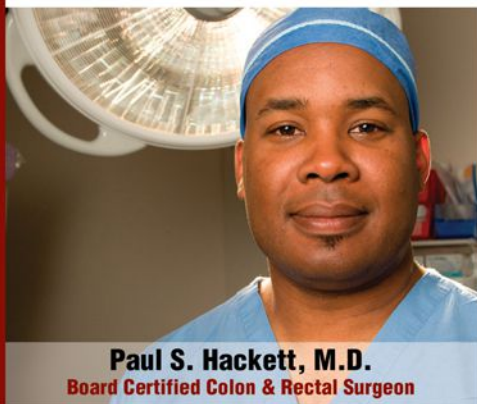
Company's Jenny Doan and websites like Heirloom Creations claim they can teach anyone to quilt. Though such tutorials emphasize the use of precut fabrics and other shortcuts, they also regard the traditional techniques of quilting. Guild members welcome the progress these online classes promote, as well as the newcomers the programs attract in order to continue the legacy of quilting.

Originally sewn to serve a purpose, like stamping out the frigid temperatures of winter, quilts were made out of old feed sacks and worn dresses. The reason was simple — women who quilted out of necessity in those days didn't have the luxury of purchasing new fabrics and materials. Although this situation doesn't usually apply to modern-day quilters, members of the guild try to repurpose some designs by using old quilt blocks combined with new fabrics, merging history and modern techniques.

Members of the guild point to current projects on their plate as proof that quilting is not a dying art form. Included are decorative iPad and tablet covers made with the latest colors like bright oranges and chartreuse greens, geometric designs and bold chevron prints. The guild's quilting endeavors creatively blend tradition and art so beautifully that the results deserve to be displayed on walls for all to see, not merely tucked away in a closet for overnight guests.

For the Cedar Hill Quilters Guild, the original motivation behind their craft may have changed, but the art of quilting has not only reemerged but is in full swing. With multiple opportunities for creativity and philanthropy, members of the guild will continue learning and passing on their legacy of skill and friendship. **NOW**

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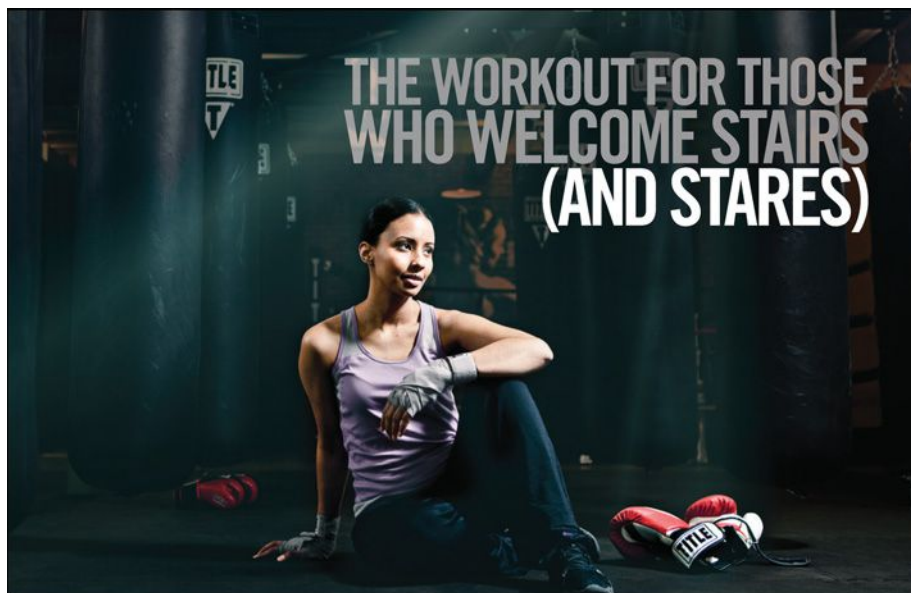
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# Child's PLAY

— By Randy Bigham

*With summer around the steamy corner, moms and dads everywhere are considering ways to keep their kids cool, entertained and challenged until school activities rev up again. Busy parents, especially, want safe options for amusement and education they can depend on for their children during workday hours.*

## Summer Camps

For many parents, grandparents and guardians, the tried-and-true youth camp offers an ideal solution to boredom and inactivity for their kids. As schools close their doors for summer break, camps around North Texas open their, drawing children of all ages to the same games, sports and campfire sing-alongs, which have provided fond memories for older generations. But, as the website for Ultimate Camp Resource makes clear, “there’s more to camp than kickball or four-square.” Modern summer camps offer a wide variety of both age-appropriate and inclusive outings, games, art projects and theatrical skits. “We







encourage you to plan all activities using the ‘everybody plays, everybody wins’ philosophy,” the site suggests, adding by changing the rules to give a personal touch and not keeping score helps make competitions upbeat and fun.

Susan Merrill, director of programs for Camp Fire Camp El Tesoro in Granbury, believes in the importance of reaching children through activities for all tastes and skills. In her 25 years in the camp industry, Susan has observed the positive effect the interactive enjoyment of work, play and team building has had on young campers. “Going to camp should be a part of every child’s life,” she said. “The experience develops their independence and confidence, and it provides the opportunity for children to learn decision making.”

At large camps, some extraordinary features include: horseback riding, canoeing and kayaking, hiking,





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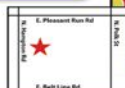
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basketball, tennis and soccer. Whatever children's interests might be, Misty Luttrell, director of overnight and family camps at Camp Fire, recognizes a common denominator: togetherness. "With all the electronics out there, kids spend more time plugged in and less time interacting face to face," she pointed out. "But camp fosters an atmosphere that allows kids to build relationships with peers and their counselors."

## Vacation Bible Schools

Another staple, yet ever diversifying, alternative for meaningful summer activity for children is Vacation Bible School. Nearly every church sponsors a program blending faith-based instruction with challenging amusement, covering a range of ages.

Nora Beane, a contributor to the online clearinghouse Yahoo Voices, cites five good reasons for parents to consider VBS as a viable outlet for kids' entertainment and education:

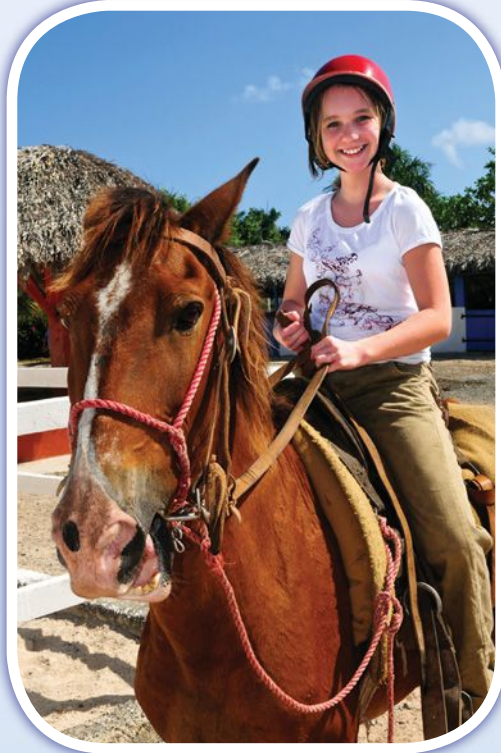
1. Scheduling: "The majority of VBS programs run for a single week and many only operate for a half day during that week. Almost every family can plan around that."

2. Content: "There are a million sites where kids can go to learn how to play baseball, but considerably fewer places where kids can learn to respect others and have faith in God."

3. Quality companionship: "Parents can guess that their child will be







attending VBS with other kids who come from families where values are important and faith is central.”

4. Engaging entertainment: “Kids at VBS don’t just spend time reading the Bible. VBS programs have curriculums built for and around kids that are full of adventure.”

5. Economic value: “Because they are church based, most VBS programs are not set up to make a profit. They are set up to share a message.”

## Library Programs

An increasingly varied venue for parents seeking relief from the heat for their kids this summer is the local



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library. Not only can the little ones (and the older ones, too) hone their reading skills, but they also acquire valuable social sensibilities and teamwork through contests and other interactive programs. From talks by authors to magic shows and clown acts, children learn to associate books with fresh new experiences and exposure that will aid their future reading development and desire for knowledge.

According to the American Library Association, 95 percent of public libraries offer summer reading initiatives for children, so there's no shortage of programs for which parents can sign their kids up. Many





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libraries select themes each summer for their programming, which involves not only literature but special events. Local themes for summer reading programs in the recent past have included tie-ins to popular family movies, cartoons and comic books.

The ALA lists the three main benefits for youth-oriented summer reading programs as:

1. Maintaining reading skills between grades.
2. Attracting reluctant readers by activity-oriented events.
3. Encouraging reading as a lifelong habit.

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More fun in the sun opportunities for kids this summer at local YMCA centers or other community recreation facilities include: basketball and football, swimming, outdoor art installations, tie-dyeing T-shirts and numerous other craft projects.

One North Texas area YMCA craft idea proved especially popular last summer with young children returning from a field trip to a popular water park, and it promises to entertain many again this year. Boys and girls created a souvenir of their outing by gluing sand and shells onto a wooden or particle board backing in the shape of a starfish or dolphin. These were then affixed to a painted stick or straw, which girls in particular enjoyed waving around, calling the toy their "mermaid wand."

Whether camping out or taking a dip, curling up with a new book or displaying artistic creations, the summer sky's the limit. There are plenty of choices available for exciting recreational and educational opportunities for your kids this year! **NOW**



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Dr. Albert Boyd and his aesthetician, Chelsea Pollock, find great satisfaction enhancing the natural beauty of every client.



# Enhancing Natural Beauty

*Dr. Albert Boyd has multiple state-of-the-art treatment plans to grant you a look you will love.*

— By Beverly Shay

Dr. Albert Boyd imagines what most women looking at themselves in the mirror each morning may be thinking. He hopes they like what they see. But should they feel a need to boost or improve their appearance, he would like to help. “My main interest,” Dr. Boyd stated with a twinkle in his eye, “is enhancing natural beauty.” He is especially interested in reaching the goal without creating an unnatural appearance.

Dr. Boyd is both a medical practitioner with 30 years of experience and a member of the American Academy of Aesthetic Medicine. He is also a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Care. Dr. Boyd and his aesthetician Chelsea Pollock believe enhancing beauty is the main order of each day at

Chameleon Medical Spa with its consultation room and four treatment rooms. “I’m especially pleased to offer fractional laser treatments with our Palomar Icon,” Dr. Boyd informed. “This cutting-edge laser is used to treat such things as stretch marks for all types of skin pigmentation. And the best part is the Icon actually helps the body to regrow healthy skin where once there was only scar tissue. With the Icon, there is no downtime after treatments.”

Dr. Boyd is abreast of and certified in the latest technology, so he is prepared to provide quick results with nearly painless hair removal, even from large areas of the body in just a short period of time. “We have proven results — with just three treatments, there is significant improvement, although we recommend at least



five sessions," he explained. "The laser light 'sees' the hair follicles and removes them." Very light blond or grey hairs prove a bit more difficult for a laser to "see."

The spa also uses radio frequency, which emits heat to both stimulate collagen growth for smooth skin tone and can also mobilize circumscribed areas of fat "to melt it away." Dr. Boyd reports good results with nonsurgical options for face lifts. "With aging, there is a natural descent of facial fats, so we use semipermanent fillers to add support and provide rejuvenation, especially for the 'parentheses' around the mouth area," Dr. Boyd pointed out. "I'm very meticulous about treatments." Ample proof of the claim is that in the seven years he has been enhancing clients' natural beauty, there have been no fallen eyebrows with Botx/Dysport injections.

Microdermabrasion treatments and light chemical peels are also administered at the spa, and the client can return to work with no downtime. "And it's all done with soothing classical music playing in the background," Dr. Boyd noted.

Chelsea has already endeared herself to clients with her prompt and professional service. "I have always been interested in skin care, because I had skin issues," admitted Chelsea, who formerly worked as a model. "I want to help people to feel better about themselves." Chelsea graduated from aesthetic school in 2011. She is also laser-certified through the Texas Laser Institute. Later this year, Dr. Boyd is planning to offer laser-assisted lipoplasty for permanent removal of fat deposits and the latest laser-based permanent treatment of cellulite.

"Seeing the results motivates me," Chelsea said.

Dr. Boyd is convinced the most rewarding thing is to hear, "Wow!" when a patient looks in the mirror. He explained that fillers provide an immediate transformation, using Botox is like wiping away wrinkles and intense pulsed light photofacial treatment can virtually eliminate skin discoloration. "Your mirror won't disappoint you," Dr. Boyd observed, "when you see how enhancing your natural beauty improves the well-being of both your mind and body." **NOW**

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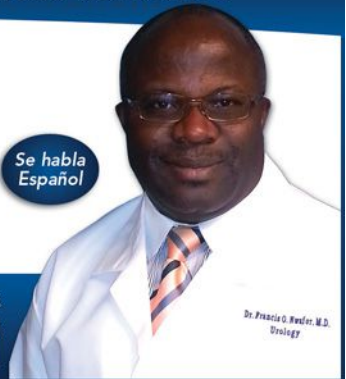
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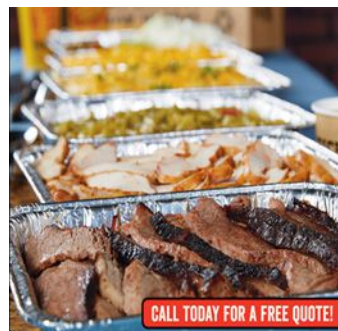
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*Cedar Hill's Tammy and Greg Williams support Canterbury Episcopal School's annual gala, Seashells and Sanddollars.*



*Dr. Frank Alegria, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Duncanville, works in the church's community garden.*



*Duncanville Coach Dicns teaches these young men more than just football — 230+ young men have signed the pledge to Stand Up Against Domestic Violence.*



*Nicole Thibault, Attorney & Counselor at Law, a Professional LLC celebrates 10 years of practice with a ribbon cutting by the Cedar Hill Chamber of Commerce.*



*David Malone MCs the Duncanville Awards Dinner as only he can.*



*Kindergarteners Darnesha Butler and Sydney Tennyson from Highland Meadows Elementary School in DeSoto show off their plants for the Teaching Garden.*



*Cedar Hill City Manager Alan Sims and Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price represent the joint venture at the Red Oak Creek Trail dedication.*



*DeSoto's Elvia and Eloy Zamora support Canterbury Episcopal School's annual gala, Seashells and Sanddollars.*



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# Steps You Can Take to Lessen a Market Decline

Recently the current bull market celebrated its fifth birthday. Will this bull market see its sixth birthday? No one knows for sure. Regardless of when it does end, there are things you can do now to lessen the effects of the inevitable market decline and still have good long-term returns.

## First, diversify your holdings.

A well-diversified portfolio invests in a number of asset classes that have low correlations with each other, e.g. different industries, international stocks and different types of bonds. While owning five different technology funds may seem diversified, chances are they are highly correlated. If the technology sector declines, they will probably all decline. In a well-diversified portfolio some of your investments may be up in value even when the market is down, allowing you to sell those investments that are up to buy those that are down.

## Don't follow your emotions.

Research shows many investors will sell off their stocks and mutual funds when the stock market declines substantially.

Emotions are telling them to sell when they should be buying. These same investors may stay out of the market until it has risen substantially and then start buying. Here again emotions get the better of them, because they don't want to miss out on the gains. This creates the cycle of selling low and buying high.

## Set realistic return expectations.

We all want to make big returns investing in stocks, however, finance theory tells us that return and risk are directly related with each other. That is, if you want the possibility of higher returns, you have to be willing to accept more risk.

By following these principles you can lessen the declines in your portfolio. Diversifying your holdings allows you to sell funds that are doing well and invest in those that are down, thus taking emotion out of investing. Setting reasonable expectations for returns from a diversified portfolio will also keep you from taking too much risk and selling out when the market declines. **NOW**

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# Silence in Loss

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

“What did you say?” In a louder voice you ask again, “What? I can’t hear you.” It may not be the speaker’s fault you did not hear something as well as you used to. Maybe your hearing needs your attention. Your hearing is a valuable sensory commodity you have used since before you were born. How well you continue to hear will affect the quality of life you enjoy. So it’s important to have any problems with your ears investigated by a physician to prevent hearing loss.

Everyone has difficulty hearing or understanding another person at some time or another. Here is a list from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders to help objectively determine if there is reason for concern. If you answer yes on three or more, consult with your physician for further guidance.

1. Do you have trouble hearing people on the phone?
2. Do you have a problem following a conversation when two or more people are talking?
3. Do people complain that the volume is too high when you watch TV?
4. Do you have to strain/try hard to understand conversation?
5. Do you have trouble hearing in a noisy background?
6. Do you find yourself asking people to repeat themselves?
7. Do many people you talk to seem to mumble or not speak clearly?
8. Do you misunderstand what others are saying and respond inappropriately?
9. Do you have trouble understanding the speech of women and children?

10. Do people get annoyed, because you misunderstand what they say?

Even if you score the requisite three points, do not panic. Your hearing may be affected by something treatable. An excess amount of ear wax will dull your hearing. An ear infection, certain diseases and/or medications can interfere with the normal operation of your ear. Your first course of action should be to consult with your primary care physician, who may refer you to a specialist such as an otolaryngologist, sometimes called an ENT (ear, nose and throat) doctor — a medical doctor who specializes in those areas. You may be referred to an otologist, who is a highly specialized otolaryngologist focusing mainly on matters of the ear and balance.

Treatment for hearing loss depends upon its cause. If loss of hearing is permanent, then hearing aids or hearing transplants may be necessary. The goal is to improve hearing and communication. Protect your hearing and seek professional help when warranted. **NOW**

#### Source:

Excerpt from NIH Publication No. 01-4913, [www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing/pages/10ways.aspx](http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing/pages/10ways.aspx).

*This article is for general information only and does not constitute medical advice. Consult with your physician if you have questions regarding this topic.*

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### May 1

DeSoto Library celebrates Authors Who Go Green!: 4:30-5:30 p.m. Ages 4-9, featuring Kermit, Frog and Toad and Froggy. (972) 230-9666.

### May 3

Foster Care Awareness Walk in the Park: 8:00 a.m., Armstrong Park, DV. Proceeds used to provide 200 beds for foster children, open 10 transitional living homes and/or recruit, screen and train quality foster parents. To register/donate: [www.2014fostercareawareness.eventbrite.com](http://www.2014fostercareawareness.eventbrite.com) or [www.amazinggracecfs.com](http://www.amazinggracecfs.com).

Mother & Son Dance: 7:00-9:00 p.m., DeSoto Recreation Center, Bluebonnet Room. Tickets: DeSoto Recreation Center, **no tickets sold at the door.**

### May 4

Uptown/Downtown/DeSoto Concert featuring Andrew Griffith Quartet: 3:00-5:00 p.m., DeSoto Corner Theatre. Cost: \$10. (972) 230-9648.

### May 4, 5

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*Beauty & the Beast* (July 18-20): **May 4:** 3:00-9:00 p.m.; **May 5:** 5:00-9:00 p.m., Trinity Church. To schedule auditions for ages 8-adult: (469) 454-8456. [www.loveyourcitytheater.com](http://www.loveyourcitytheater.com)

### May 5

Look Good ... Feel Good: 5:30-7:30 p.m., Methodist Charlton Medical Center. Free program by American Cancer Assoc. for women dealing with hair loss/skin changes due to chemotherapy/radiation. Must RSVP with Vicki: (214) 947-5479.

### May 9

Dog Days N DeSoto: 9:00 a.m.-noon, Zeiger Park, 400 Eagle Dr. \$10 covers: fashion show, obstacle course, photo contest. Rabies tag required. (972) 230-9653.

The Cruisers, U. S. Navy Band kicks off Texas concerts: 8:00 p.m., Valley Ridge Park Amphitheater, 2850 Park Ridge Rd. Free.

### May 15, 17

Music in the Park Concert Series: Don Diego (15) & Blues Legend R.L. Griffith (17): 7:00-8:00 p.m., DeSoto Outdoor Amphitheater. (972) 230-9651.

### May 16

Duncanville Senior Dance: Gold River: 7:00-9:30 p.m., Hopkins Sr. Center: \$5.

### May 17

Cedar Hill Star Party: Sunset-11:00 p.m., J.W. Williams Park. (214) 800-6000.

### May 28, 29

DeSoto Art League Annual Art Show (June 6-August 6) entries received: **28:** Noon-5:00 p.m.; **29:** 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., DeSoto City Center Atrium. (469) 337-8367 or [dalspringshow@gmail.com](mailto:dalspringshow@gmail.com)

### May 31

Cedar Hill Pet Memorial War Dog Monument dedication: 9:00 a.m. U.S. Marine Brass Quintet from New Orleans and K-9 demonstration. (972) 754-9996.

Try Scuba: 9:30-11:30 a.m., Crawford Park Pool, 401 Strauss Rd. [cedarhilltx.com/swimlessons](http://cedarhilltx.com/swimlessons) or (972) 291-5130. (Other swim programs available.)

*Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to [beverly.sbay@nowmagazines.com](mailto:beverly.sbay@nowmagazines.com).*



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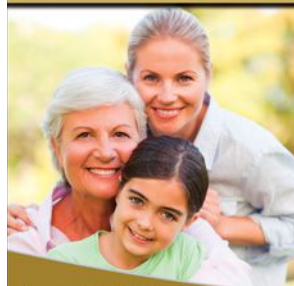
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Some signs to look for:

No big smiles or other joyful expressions by 6 months	No babbling by 12 months	No words by 18 months
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## In the Kitchen With Lee Burton

— *By Beverly Shay*

“For the first Thanksgiving after Jeff and I were married in 1972, I tried my hand at making a pumpkin pie,” Lee Burton reminisced. “It didn’t turn out well at all, but Jeff was a good sport and ate it ... with a spoon!” She admits her mother taught her to cook, and Lee uses her mom’s recipes and those she has acquired from family, friends and a recipe club. “I mostly fix down-home, good food,” Lee said. One of her favorite things to make is the homemade ice cream that Jeff’s father always made.

“One year for Christmas, I made cookbooks with all our family favorites for my daughters, mostly so they would stop calling and asking for recipes,” Lee joked. “Although I like to garden, I’m not very successful at growing vegetables.” **NOW**

### Burton Homemade Vanilla Ice Cream

*Makes one gallon.*

- 5 medium eggs
- 5 cups sugar
- 1 Tbsp. vanilla extract, or to taste
- 1 tsp. butter extract
- 1 tsp. almond extract
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 can evaporated milk
- 1 gallon whole milk
- 20 lbs. crushed ice
- 1 box rock salt

1. Beat eggs with a mixer, gradually adding sugar. Add extracts, salt and evaporated milk; mix until thoroughly blended.
2. Pour mixture into gallon cylinder of ice cream maker. Fill with whole milk to line indicated on cylinder.
3. Pack crushed ice around cylinder, layering with rock salt several times. Keep adding ice and salt until ice cream maker stops, about 45 minutes.

### Gazpacho Dip

- 2 Tbsp. oil
- 1 1/2 Tbsp. cider vinegar
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. garlic salt
- 14 oz. black olives, chopped (with liquid)
- 14 oz. chopped green chilies (with liquid)
- 2-3 tomatoes, finely chopped
- 4-5 green onions, finely chopped
- 2 avocados, chopped
- 1 pkg. corn tortilla chips

1. Blend first 5 ingredients. Add next 4 ingredients. Chill.
2. Add avocados when ready to serve. Serve with chips.

### Easy Homemade Salsa

- 1 28-oz. can tomatoes
- 1 small onion, chopped

- 1 jalapeño, chopped (Leave in a few seeds, as desired.)
- 1 garlic clove
- Small handful cilantro
- Salt, to taste
- Garlic, to taste
- 1 Tbsp. lime juice

1. Mix all ingredients; blend or process to desired consistency.

### Mexican Chicken Casserole

*Serves 6-8.*

- 12 flour tortillas
- 1 chicken, baked or broiled
- 1 4-oz. jar chopped pimientos
- 1 cup onion, chopped
- 1 4-oz. can chopped green chilies
- 1 10.75-oz. can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 10.75-oz. can cream of chicken soup
- 1 14-oz. can chicken broth
- 12-16 oz. Colby Jack cheese, grated

1. Tear tortillas into pieces. Bone and chop chicken; set aside.
2. Mix remaining ingredients, except cheese.
3. In a large baking dish, layer tortilla pieces, chicken, soup mixture and cheese. Repeat, ending with cheese.
4. Bake at 350 F for 1 hour.

### Easy French Onion Soup

- 2 large onions, sliced 1/4-inch thick
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 2 cloves garlic, pressed
- 2 10.5-oz. cans beef broth
- 1 10.5-oz. can beef consommé
- Dash Worcestershire sauce
- 1 cup Swiss cheese, shredded
- 4 slices French bread, toasted

1. Place onions and butter in a saucepan; sauté on medium heat until tender. Add garlic; sauté 1-2 minutes more. Add next 3 ingredients; bring to boil for 1 minute.
2. Place 1/2 of cheese in the bottom of 4 oven-proof bowls. Fill bowls with soup, leaving room to place bread on top. Top bread with remaining cheese. Place under broiler until cheese is bubbly. Serve immediately.

To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit [www.nowmagazines.com](http://www.nowmagazines.com).





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A close-up photograph of a man and a woman embracing. The woman, in the foreground, has short dark curly hair and is wearing a yellow top. She is smiling broadly, showing her teeth. The man's face is partially visible on the left, leaning his head against hers. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with greenery and a bright sky.

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