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#### ON THE COVER



When Larisa Garza sings, she knows it is what she was born to do.

Photo by Joy Elmore.

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#### Editor's Note

Dear Friends,

Last month's showers brought on this month's flowers, and our days are all the more pleasant. Traditionally, May's flower is Lily of the Valley. In fact, the convallaria majalis uses the Latin for "pertaining to May" in its taxonomic name. Though indigenous to Eurasia, we can grow them here as an aromatic ground cover in well-drained soil where only morning sun has access. Anyone loving the cottage-garden feeling knows Lily

of the Valley do well in May, while it's still a little cool.

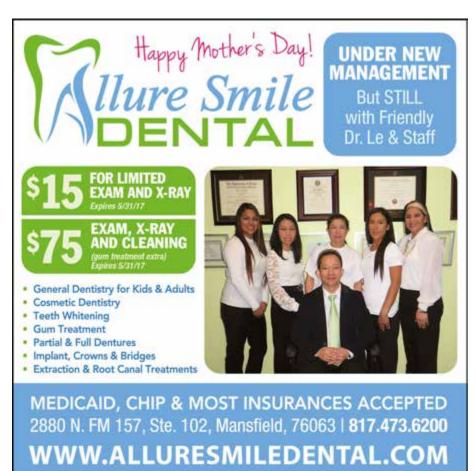
But you might have other flowers that bloom just for you in your personal garden space. For instance, this is the month that a certain yellow-and-burgundy iris on the north side of my home unfurls in honor of Mother's Day. Ten years ago, my mother and I visited Clark Gardens in Mineral Wells and purchased matching iris to remember our day together. Whenever this beauty blooms, I really remember my mother.

Enjoy your season's flowers!

#### Melissa

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









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Larisa Garza learned at an early age that she has a special talent. Now, at 20, she's discovered just how she was intended to use it. "My dad used to say I sang to the Christmas tree — you know the song — "O Christmas Tree?" Larisa said with a chuckle. "I didn't get my voice from my parents, but music is in our family. I had an uncle, who played a variety of instruments."

Now, though barely out of her teens, Larisa is a worship leader for First Methodist Church in Mansfield. She also leads children's worship, the women's Refresh Bible study group, and she started the Missions Band. "After high school, I had this push. I grew up in this church, and I truly believe it was the Holy Spirit," she said. "That first couple of times leading worship, I just knew it's what I was intended to do. High school is when I realized I first wanted to do something with my music. But, believe it or not, I've always had stage fright."

Speaking of pushes, it was at the behest of a teacher in eighth grade that Larisa overcame such fear. She worked up enough courage to compete, and of course, that led to even greater things. Now, she's on stage a lot. She and her fiancé, Dylan Peacock, also a worship leader, work with three contemporary services at the church — Saturday evenings at 6:00, Sunday mornings at 9:30 and in the church's Loft Cafe at 11:00 a.m. each Sunday.

"I was about 10 or 11 years old when I joined this church with my family, and they were just beginning to introduce contemporary services," she said. "I've always really enjoyed it, but we even do hymns in the contemporary service, sometimes. We just add a modern twist to them."









Larisa's desire to share her music and the Lord's message extends well beyond the church walls, however. As part of this desire, the Missions Band was formed. "I've always been drawn to mission work and helping people. I would always tell my parents in high school that I want to go to Africa," Larisa said.

While she hasn't made it to Africa, she has gone to Mexico. In addition to performing music, she and others did missionary health care work, such as delivering wheelchairs. "Several months ago, Larisa and I had a discussion about her desire to use her gifts to serve wherever God might place her. She was also feeling a call to move outside of the sanctuary and into the streets or homes of those who were hungry to connect to God through music," said FMCM Missions Director Teresa Sherwood. "As we spoke, I thought of our upcoming mission trip to Matamoros, Mexico, and knew that her gift would be a tremendous blessing to the people there."

Over the course of three days, Larisa shared messages of faith and hope through her songs with chronically ill people living in a medical shelter, kids living in a center for abused and neglected children and the congregation at their sister church in Matamoros. Larisa recalled one special moment when she sang for a woman named Nora. She was suffering from Huntington's disease,



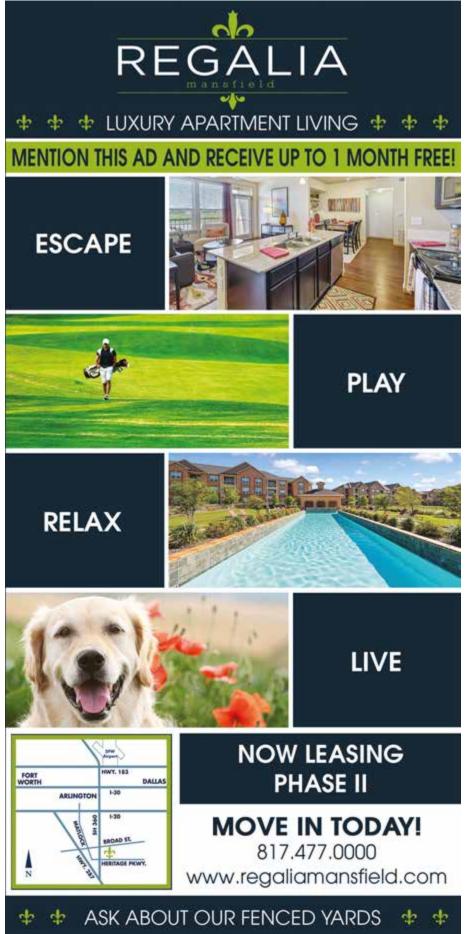
a condition in which nerve cells in the brain break down over time. "Over the course of the song, her body stopped moving, and she went to sleep," Larisa said. "It was very soothing."

Larisa has also taken her music to the streets of Fort Worth. She teamed with another local minister to stage a concert for the homeless in Unity Park last year. "I realized they have an opportunity to worship like we do," Larisa said, "so why not bring it to them?"

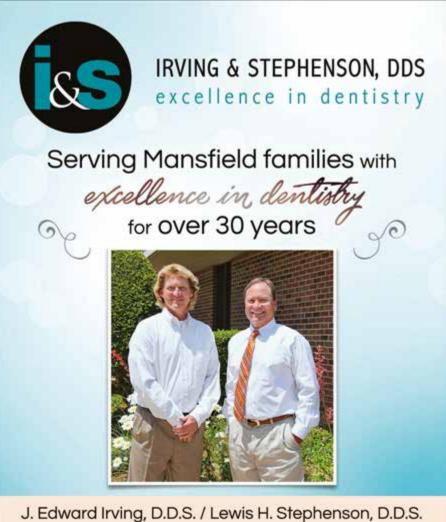
"Larisa is an incredible young servant," FMCM Pastor David Alexander said. "She has tremendous talent, but more importantly, she has a beautiful heart and deep desire to be a blessing to others. It is an honor and joy to have her as part of our faith family."

Ironically, Larisa and Dylan both went to Mansfield Legacy, but they did not really know each other in high school. Still, he remembered her when it came time to find a singer to accompany him on his own musical quest. "He Twitter messaged me, saying he remembered me from high school. He said, 'I play guitar. Do you want to sing together?" Larisa recalled. "We got asked to do communion, and it just took off from there, both musically and romantically."

Dylan later admitted that part of the reason he contacted her is that he liked her and had been interested in dating her. He joined FMCM, and they are







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getting married later this year. "Funny how things like that work out, but we're inseparable now," Larisa shared. "Around the church, we're always referred to as a couple, Dylan and Larisa. It's wonderful."

Larisa is finishing up her associate degree at Tarrant County College. She's uncertain about what field she might pursue a bachelor's degree in, but she does love working with children. "I've always had a heart for children," she said of her work with them at church. "They are so funny, and brutally honest."

Among the work she does with children at FMCM is the FX worship, an abbreviation for Family Experience. "It's a little ensemble of kids, and they are actually the worship leaders," she said. "They really wanted the opportunity for families to worship together. I basically just lead the kids, give them choreography and teach them songs."

The women's program, Refresh, is where it all started. It was through that program that she received inspiration and encouragement from a mentor, Contemporary Worship Leader Stephanie Gow, in 2014. "I'd looked up to her



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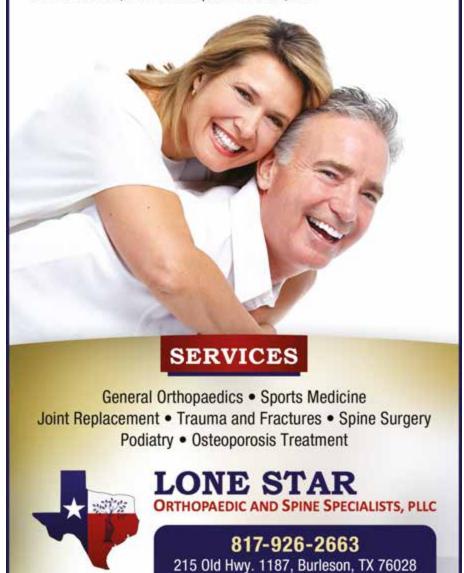


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since I was a little girl," Larisa said. "Our pastor prayed over us in Well Service, and I had this moment of clarity. So, I approached her, and my first words were, 'I'm Larisa, and I want to sing with you."

Shortly after, it was Stephanie who was called to pray over Larisa's great-grandmother while in hospice care. Stephanie also helped prepare for the subsequent funeral, at which Larisa sang "Amazing Grace." "From the beginning, I just knew God was saying to pay attention to this one," Stephanie said. "The really cool part is that Larisa is skilled, gifted and just has the heart for leading worship. God has made it all so abundantly clear. It has to be the hand of God."

With so much life ahead of her, Larisa has no plans to stop her work. Of course, where she goes isn't really up to her. "God always wants us to do more. We can't stop, and He'll give us the strength to go forward," she said. "Being that vessel for God is what I want. I'm just waiting for what's next." NOW

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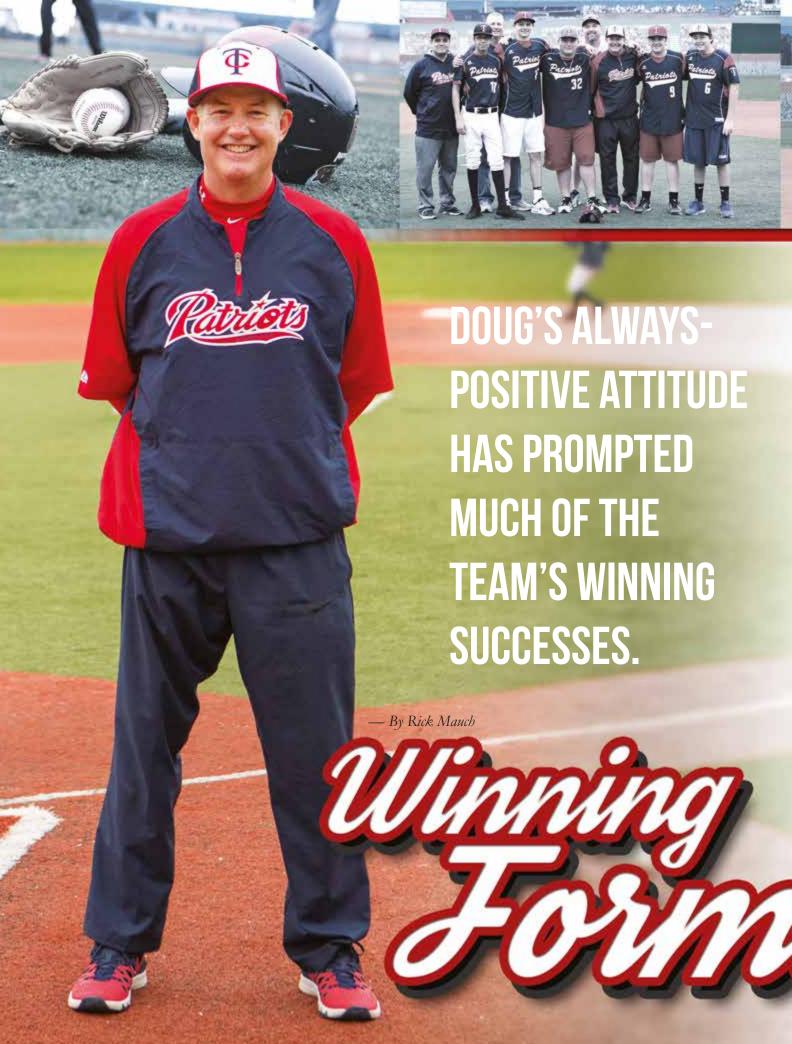
en. He's got great Southern roots and BBQ sauce running through his veins.

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Doug Mumme loves it when his baseball teams win. For the director/coach of the TC Patriots, however, winning is a lot more than what his players do on the field. The Patriots is a select baseball program with teams for players ranging in age from 7 to 16. They win a lot, but the victories are secondary to the feeling of belonging that permeates the program. "My dad was a Lutheran minister, and my mom was a special education teacher," he said. 'I grew up liking sports and wanted to be a coach, but also knowing there's a lot more to sports than what you do during a game. I like working with kids. They are so innocent."

Doug doesn't put profits first with his program. In fact, he and his wife, Marie, are known for helping players participate, sometimes even footing the entire bill themselves. "It's expensive for a lot of families, especially to play as many games









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as we play," Doug said. "One season, we had a team play 69 games. Not everybody can afford that."

But Doug and Marie work hard to make sure they can. To them, it's taking care of family. "Doug doesn't just look at them like they're playing baseball and that's all," Marie said. "He's looking at their life and being happy."

Their son, Chandler, a freshman in high school and a multisport athlete, recently made a difficult decision. He chose playing golf as his primary focus over baseball at his school. It's what made him happy. "I'm trying to prepare them for the future, and that includes my own son," Doug said. "He had to ask himself, "What's best for me?" I'm proud of him for thinking it through. But, he's still going to have baseball this summer."





Doug will also visit the homes of players. For example, he will bring them new jerseys and make a presentation in front of the families. "We make a little 'wow' moment. It makes them feel special, because they are special," he said.

Doug got his degree in kinesiology from Lamar University in Beaumont in 1992. Though he has never coached in a school setting, he did get his chance to lead a team when the Mansfield Youth Baseball Association needed coaches in 2008. He coached a team called the Reds. "I just got 11 or 12 kids who hadn't played that much," he said of the first season. "Then, my son got some kids with experience, and we did better."

After the Reds finished third in a state tournament, Doug had the idea to start his own organization. The Patriots were born and several of his players from the Reds joined him. The name, "Patriots," is, in fact, a joint effort between Doug and Chandler. They wrote down around 30 names, including that one, and it just seemed right. "My reason is more military. I'm a patriot. After college, I thought about applying to Officer Candidates School," Doug said.

The younger Patriots teams still play in the MYBA through the 12-Under level. The older teams play strictly an independent tournament schedule. The program's success over the years includes winning a Super National Invitational Tournament, finishing second in another and winning a Triple Crown state championship. "The longer I've done this, families have become more important," Doug said. "You grow close when you are together so much. We drove to McKinney for a tournament. We had an 8:00 a.m. game to start, which we finished in second. We didn't leave for

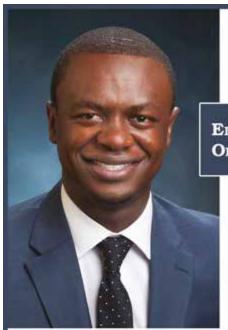
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home until after midnight. That's a long time being together in one day."

Doug and Marie have been in Mansfield 18 years. He is originally from Lumberton, Texas, where he played high school baseball. She is from Salt Lake City, Utah. They own and operate the staffing agencies PDQ Temporaries and Ad-A-Staff, which makes sense, given their penchant for always wanting to help.

They met during a Houston Astros vs. Chicago Cubs baseball game at Wrigley Field in Chicago, Illinois. "I grew up watching the Cubs on WGN when I'd come home from school," Doug said. "Marie was one row behind me at the game." Doug is proud of the supportive wife and mom she's become over the years. Marie moved from Salt Lake City to be with Doug, and they married. Since then, the two have worked to make youngsters and families happier. "He wants to give any kid who desires to play baseball a chance to do just that," said friend Ray Keck, who left another team to bring his son to play for the Patriots because he was so impressed. "In fact, I have never heard him call it a club. It's a family, and the players know it."

Doug and Marie provide an indoor hitting and pitching facility in nearby Venus. He also makes sure his teams practice on some of the best fields in the area, and he designs all uniforms, because as Ray said, "He takes pride in having





Ryan Plyter masters his pitching skills.

the best-looking ballplayers in the park. He has great passion for the game and a high enthusiasm for the kids when they play ball. Coach Doug cares for each one of his Patriots." Doug teaches his young charges to treat others in the same way they want to be treated.

That care shows in the attitudes of the players. They love their coach and work hard to make him proud both on and off the field. "The Patriots players are some of the most respectful kids I know of," Ray said. "My son, Tyler, will not consider playing for anyone else, except his high school, of course."

Doug's always-positive attitude has prompted much of the team's winning successes. Once, when they were in a World Series, he responded to an upset loss in the early round of a tournament by giving each team member a poster he and Chandler had picked up at that year's College World Series. "No one saw that loss coming," he said. "Giving them the posters changed everything, and they responded by winning five more games. We didn't win the tournament, but we made a great comeback."

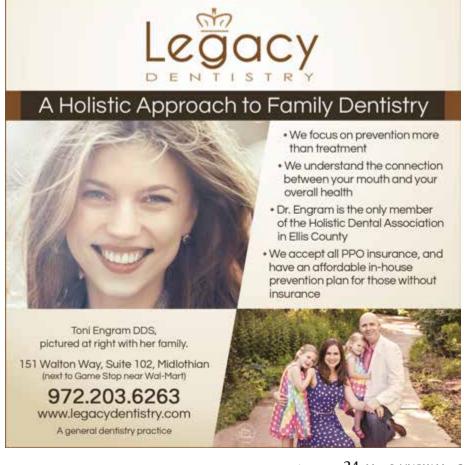
This is the second season the Patriots have a 15-16 age group. Doug noted that in a recent high school baseball preview magazine, about a dozen of his players were on the "players to watch" list.

Though he once thought that he might turn the program over to someone else once his original players reached high school, Doug now will be more involved than ever. "I won't be coaching my players in the spring because they will be on high school teams," he said. "So, I'll be even more active with teams like the 7U and up. It's difficult to give it up because I continue to evolve and be better." NOW













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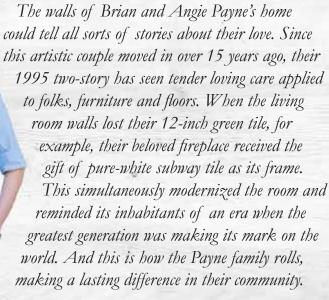




### What We

# TOULE\_By Melissa Rawlins

### · · · · · At Home With • • Brian & Angie Payne







. . . . . . . . . . . . . . .



They married 24 years ago this month. When it came time to select the right schools for their children, they had heard only good reports about Mansfield ISD. Once they settled on a neighborhood, they got down to the business of renovating and restyling their fairly new home. They both prefer the furnishings of earlier generations. "She likes the appearance," Brian said. "I enjoy working with wood. To me, to see the grains in the wood as it ages just nails my heart."

"The only things we buy brand new are mattresses and couches," said Angie, who was the first to adopt the styles their parents had in their homes. "Everything else we'll either build or buy at estate sales, auctions or trade days like Canton."

There was a time early on when the family room was the scene of their mutual passion. "Originally we'd put a tarp in the middle of the family room.



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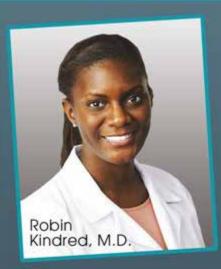
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She'd put on a movie, and we'd restore furniture," Brian recalled. One of the first beneficiaries of their effort was their son, Tyler. He sleeps in a platform bed hand-built by his father. Angie found the mid-century modern furniture holding his lamps, clothes and comic books at Goodwill. The pieces work well in this boy's room, and they saved the family a lot of cash. Ever since repainting Tyler's set, Angie has been hooked on repurposing furniture.

Their daughters each have rooms filled with good-quality, reimagined furnishings

that will be here a long time. Lacey just graduated from Aveda and apprentices at a salon. For her teal, yellow, gray and white bedroom, Brian built a table, and Lacey set an old drawer on its top for flexible storage space. Her sister, Katelynn, has a few more years until graduation, and Lacey painted the high-backed headboard of her bed black to match one of Katelynn's other favorite colors — pink.

After refinishing a few things at their house, their friends admired their work and asked them to refinish furniture for them. This inspired Angie's now-thriving, shabby-chic furniture boutique, Vintage Vibe, located in Mansfield and operated by the whole family. "I saved up a bunch of substitute teaching checks, bought a lot of furniture and began painting in a small warehouse," she said.

Her goal and Brian's is to spend as little as possible while creating functional furnishings that can be passed along through generations. They have made space for their wedding china alongside their grandparents' in the dining room on a reclaimed-wood plate rack. For

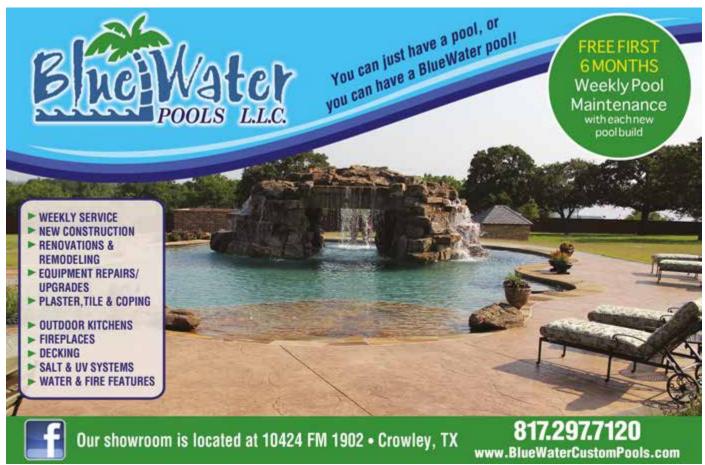








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celebratory meals, Angie sets the china on the farm table that Brian made a little taller than normal, because the Paynes are a tall family. The dent in its surface, created while he carried it in the house, just adds character. "It's not about things. It's about people," Brian said. Angie surrounded his table with two living room chairs and her 15-year-old Havertys dining chairs, repainted and recovered in gray denim. She has two buffets, one chunky-legged, solid wood piece dating to the '40s and another formerly thought of as a dresser with a mirror.

"I like that there are no rules now. If I like it, I use it," Angie said, proudly pointing to their feature wall recently covered with true 2-by-6s, 2-by-4s and original shiplap reclaimed from a house off Kimball Street in Mansfield. It looks similar to the seat on the children's desk in the adjoining office area.

This space was never clearly functional for Angie and Brian until this year. "At one point there were couches here, but when we got this desk, we finally figured out how we'd use this space as an area where we keep things that are interesting," he explained. The desk's patina appeals to Angie. The fact that it once was used in a courtroom in Nebraska appeals to Brian, who likes to think about what its original owners were dealing with during those times. The room's bookcase reminds him of his uncles, who once ran grocery stores.

Through white swinging doors, Brian can enter his other domain — the kitchen. He cooks the majority of the family meals, and enjoys being near the arched kitchen window and working by the light of brass fixtures originating from an old house in Dallas. The telephone box atop the cabinets came from Angie's great-grandparents' house. Old scales and coffee grinders draw attention to Angie's great-grandmother's handwritten recipe for sweet potato





casserole, memorialized on wood by Mansfield artist Jackie Meyer. For Angie's birthday, Brian built the kitchen island from a former coffee table, and then she distressed it in blues, grays and whitewash with white and dark wax. Here, as in every room in the Payne's home, is a bouquet of cotton.

"Cotton is big right now," Angie said, adding that her grandmother used to pick cotton. The Paynes made their living room just as cozy as it is useful. The L-shaped couch fits every member of their family, including their big, beautiful black Labs. Brian built the coffee table, and a pre-Civil War dresser provides sturdy storage space. Angie repainted the white dresser in the corner before adding an unexpected ladder adorned by three quilts made by Brian's mother and grandmother.

In the hallway, she keeps an old sewing table holding her grandfather's Masonic souvenirs. The wreath hanging over the mirror adds texture. "I like to see something in different ways," Angie explained. "I'm highlighting the mirror by hanging the wreath over it."

The piano lid on the wall of the master bedroom held a similar appeal to Angie. She used reclaimed sewing machine bases covered with dark walnut as nightstands, matching the bed Brian made. Barn doors salvaged in West Texas create a unique entry into the master bathroom renovated with shiplap walls from Galveston and marble-top sinks purchased from a manufacturer specializing in reclaimed pieces. One of Brian's first refinished pieces is a dresser with hand-carved, circular-jointed dovetails in the drawers. The two oval mirrors were easy finds from Hobby Lobby, and the chandelier came from Amazon.

Mixing old and new hasn't cost the Paynes a lot of money. And it's been fun finding, revitalizing and using what they love while they give each other that all-important TLC.



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# Faces of Sleep Apnea: 'JOE THE FAT BOY'

Sleep apnea has many faces. The first and most well-known face is the face of fat boy or sleepy Joe, a character in the novel, "The Pickwick Papers" by the famous English author Charles Dickens. The term 'Pickwickian Syndrome' was used to describe a patient with sleep apnea symptoms in 1956, which remains the original description of sleep apnea.



Originally it was thought that only obese individuals suffered from Sleep Apnea (or 'Pickwickian Syndrome'). We now know that it occurs in ALL BODY TYPES, including lean and thin individuals.

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# Summertime S Easy

— By Zachary R Urquhart



Every year, kids excitedly await the last school bell before vacation begins. And every year, a week after school is out, kids all around can be heard saying parents' least favorite two words, 'I'm bored." But using this helpful guide, you can fill your summer with new, fun and, sometimes, free activities.



## Sign up for camps!

• *Dance around town.* Every summer, there are dozens of local dance, cheer and art studios that offer one-week camps. These camps often double as a trial for prospective new patrons, so they are a great way to spend a week



and, at the same time, to see if there is long-term interest. Ask your friends what weeks they are signing up for, so your child will know some people when they arrive the first day.

• Be a good sport. Most high schools offer sports camps for youth up through middle school. These camps are a good way for high school coaches to meet future athletes, but they are also great for kids to learn fundamental skills,



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technique and strategy. While seeing kids that may eventually play for them is a bonus, schools do not limit attendance to those in their zones, so you can get football speed training from recent state champion coaches, or technical work from some of the most esteemed soccer coaches in the state.

• Check dates. With the number of studios, schools and private entities offering camps for all different ages and skill levels, you will want to spend some time looking for the right fit. Whatever else you do, though, make sure you know when the registration deadlines are. While some might extend registration with an added payment up until the day of the camp, staffing and equipment considerations may make others hold to a solid deadline, so do not let missing a postmark date keep your kid from the camp they want.

### VBS, by many names.

• Look for schedules. With so many churches offering vacation Bible schools to the public, the first step needs to be looking for a calendar of the offerings. While you will not always find one codex with every option, you might call your city hall to see if they have something consolidated. You can also reach out on social media. There are Facebook pages where people throughout the area post



their church's activities. VBS may be in the morning, afternoon or evening and, generally, goes for four to five days, with some churches using the following Sunday service as a grand finale.

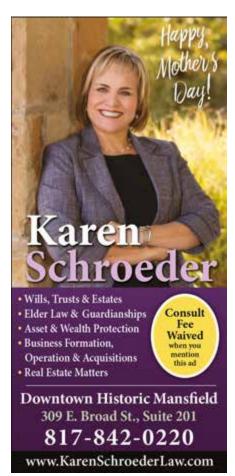


• Ask your friends. There are literally hundreds of programs offered by local churches throughout the summer. It is not difficult to schedule a different vacation Bible school every week for a few months, if you are so inclined. Ask friends which ones they have tried, and find out what types of activities each one offers. Some churches do simple activities in the park, and you can show up for just a few days. Others, though, will require registration ahead of time, as they have professional instructors in various fields come to make the activity portion as great as possible.













• Figure out the code. These days, different churches take different philosophies when it comes to VBS. VBX typically means the kids will have one specific activity that takes a lot of their time. Kids' Camp denotes more of a camp atmosphere, with varied activities mixed with the study portions. VBS in the Park is often an outreach seeking to bring in guests from nearby areas throughout the week. And traditional VBS normally blends Bible stories with songs, crafts and large group games.

## Free is a great thing.

• Movies in different places. While many movie theaters offer cheap summer showings once a week, usually for films that have been out for a year or longer, cities often run special movie days and nights throughout the summer, sometimes in local parks or at other outdoor venues. Most local libraries show movies as often as once a week in the afternoons. Because these city events are planned well in advance, they are advertised weeks before showings, so a quick check of your city's website will give you all the details you need.



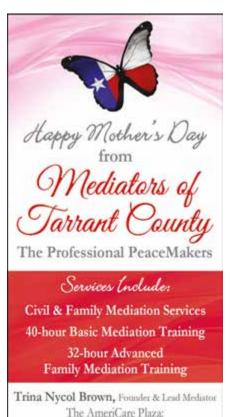
• Libraries have more than just books. In addition to family-friendly movie showings, most public libraries ramp up a full slate of summer activities. From bringing in magicians and other performers, to presenting informational sessions on a variety of topics, your local library is probably a great spot for



free family fun, while you get out of the sweltering Texas heat. If nothing else, you can grab a summer reading log and have your kids earn treats and prizes for opening books during their months off from school.

• Free events with memberships. If you have passes for local zoos, botanical gardens or museums, be sure and check out their catalogue of events. While they always offer exciting exhibits, most places add a few seasonal specials to entice new families. If you are not a member yet, it may be worth spending \$100 or so for a yearlong membership that lets your entire family have access to special activities, concerts and, usually, even gets you passes to bring friends along for a visit.

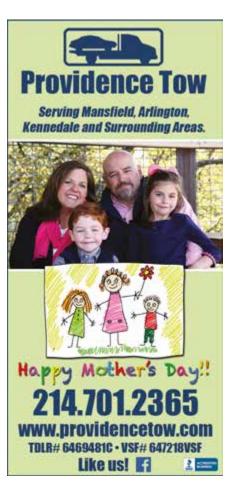
The summer can be a great, relaxing time to break from the routine of school and work, but it can sometimes turn into an exhausting endeavor trying to keep your kids from the doldrums of too much free time. With trips to these great local spots, you can be sure your summer is one to remember.



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Dr. Man Le, his dental assistants and his office staff are building trust by treating your family like their very own.

# Real Transformation

Discover your attractive face with services from friends at Allure Smile Dental. — By Melissa Rawlins

Since 2005, this family dental practice has served people who may very well have whistled the Bobby McFerrin tune, "Don't Worry, Be Happy," as they waited for their appointments. The contemporary design makes people feel comfortable and hopeful. "It's artistic, vibrant and not boring," Office Manager Leslie Le said, "and gives life to the office."

And that is why her husband, Dr. Man Le, has practiced all dentistry here since 2011. For 10 years prior, he was a software engineer. His younger brother, Dr. Brian Le, opened multiple practices and, beginning in 2005, Dr. Le helped him run this office. Observing the joyful result of good dentistry in patient after patient, he decided to change careers. "We see a lot of people coming in saying they don't want to smile, and asking me

to help," Dr. Le said. "I love interacting with patients and seeing how happy they are when their dental work is done."

Offering general and cosmetic dentistry, Dr. Le and his four assistants perform work from total, full-mouth restorations to cosmetics, like veneers. "Our goal is for them to have a smile like other people they see on TV, or their friends and family," Dr. Le said. "We provide all types of services, except for certain cases requiring specialists. I take pride in always trying to take care of each patient's desire to achieve their goal instead of trying to force work on them. I will send them to the specialists necessary to help them get the work they need." When referring patients, he tries to send them to specialists with locations that are convenient for the patients.

#### Business NOW

Allure Smile Dental sees all ages, from 6 months old to 100 years old. This means entire families of four generations — 90, 60, 30 and teens — rely on Dr. Le to keep their mouths healthy and attractive. "One time, great-grandmother, grandmother, mom and daughter came for treatment all at the same visit," Dr. Le recalled, "and then went out to have lunch together." When adults come for adult care, their grandkids see that they have confidence in the care here. When kids are happy and not scared, they come back and become patients of Allure Smile Dental.

"We're taking care of patients like they're our own family," Leslie said. "We value their presence and don't doublebook, nor make them wait for long times."

"I love interacting with patients and seeing how happy they are when their dental work is done."

Dr. Le added, "We don't like waiting ourselves, and know how valuable each patient's time is. We keep their time in the lobby and the chair short." Allure Smile Dental always has time to see someone on an emergency basis. "That makes a lot of patients happy because sometimes they have a toothache, and they couldn't get somebody to see them. But we always reserve a spot to be able to help those in need."

Spending as much time as possible with each patient, Dr. Le explains in detail what treatment they need. "Some patients come here for a second opinion, having not understood what they need until they hear my explanations of the pros and cons of their situation." Only when they understand it thoroughly will he send them to the front to meet with Leslie, who will explain in detail their insurance coverage and acceptable payments. Allure Smile Dental offers monthly payments through Care Credit and sees all patients from most PPO insurances, as well as Medicare/Medicaid.

Whatever you need in order to smile with confidence, make a connection with Allure Smile Dental. Their goal is to make you happy.





#### Around Town NOW



Karol Johnson, far right, receives a check for Cook Children's Health Foundation from Maaco's president, Jason Ryan.



Homeschooled students engage in art with help from Yolanda Botello, Manfield Public Library Youth Services Librarian, and teaching mom, Michelle Valenzuela.



Philip Smith, Claudine Pascal and Dave and Susie Goodwin meet up during an open house in 2CB Builders' brightly decorated model.



Cliff Gupton takes good care of Dooley while walking near McClendon East Park



Darryl Haynes, Felix Wong and Kim and Montie Slawson celebrate Eddie Phillips' newest mural, a painting of Stevie Ray Vaughn on the west wall of Mellow Mushroom.



YMCA Zumba Instructor Lizzette Rivera hangs with a cool cat before retrieving her like-new T-shirt from Lucy's Alterations in downtown.



Jennifer Rine graciously accepts honor from BrightStar Care as their Nurse of the Year for the Southeast Region.



The MISD School Board gives recognition to the Nancy Neal Ambassadors for focusing on leadership in addition to their studies at Nancy Neal Elementary School.



Michelle Willis signs a copy of her new book, Family Secrets.



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The issuing company or government entity will outline how much money it would like to borrow, for what length of time and the interest it is willing to pay. Investors who buy bonds are lending their money to the issuer and thus become the issuer's creditors. Bonds are sold at "par" or "face" value, which is the price at which the bond is issued, usually in denominations of \$1,000 or \$5,000. Sometimes bond prices are more than par or priced at a premium, and sometimes they are less than par or priced at a discount. The purchase price can have an impact on taxes, so be aware of the price you are paying. Also, keep in mind that you could lose principal if you sell a bond prior to maturity.

By purchasing a bond, you are lending the debtor money. In exchange, you receive a note stating the amount loaned, the interest rate (the "coupon" or "coupon rate"), how often the interest will be paid and the term of the loan. The principal (the amount initially paid for the bond) must be repaid by the issuing entity on the stipulated maturity date. Before that date, you (as lender) receive regular interest, usually every six months. The interest payments on a bond are usually fixed.

Before 1983, bondholders would receive coupons that they would clip and mail in semi-annually to receive the interest payments. Presently, all bonds are issued electronically in book-entry form only.

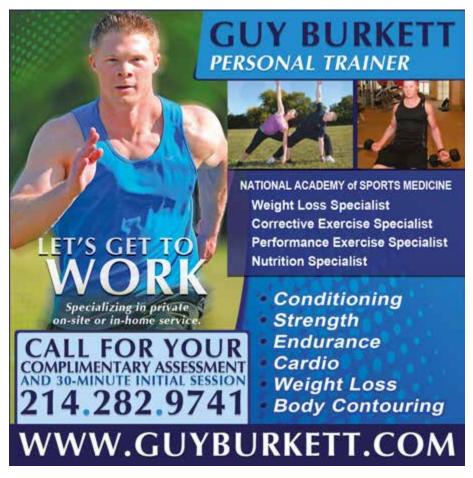
If you are considering buying a bond, remember that the market value of a bond is at risk when interest rates fluctuate. As interest rates rise, the value of existing bonds typically falls because the interest rate on new bonds would be higher. The opposite can also happen. Of course, this phenomenon applies only if you decide to sell a bond before it reaches maturity. If you hold a bond to maturity, you will receive the interest payments due, plus your original principal, barring default by the issuer. Additional considerations are a bond's maturity date and credit quality. Investments seeking to achieve higher yields also involve a higher degree of risk.

While some investors consider bonds to be less risky than stocks, there are several factors to consider when buying bonds, such as:

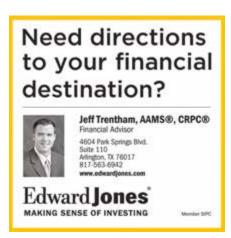
- What is my income tax bracket?
- What is the rating or quality of the bond?
- Is the bond insured?
- What is my current exposure to bonds in my portfolio?
- How long am I planning to realistically hold the bond?

You should always seek the advice of your tax consultant and your financial advisor before investing in a bond. This material is for general information only and not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual. **NOW** 

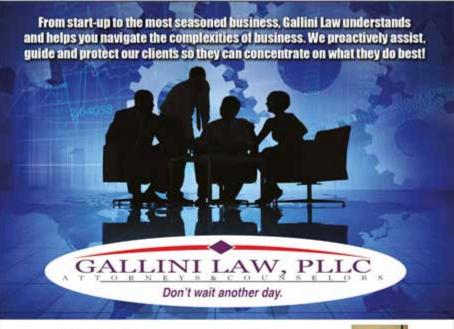
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#### Through June 5

Journey Through Grief: 6:30-8:30 p.m., First Methodist Mansfield, 777 N. Walnut Creek Dr. Visit www.firstmethodistmansfield/.

#### **Through October 28**

Mansfield Farmers Market: 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 703 E. Broad St. Contact Rex Wenger, (817) 501-6027, or www.mansfieldtxfarmersmarket.com.

#### May 2, 16

Widowed Persons Fellowship: 3:00-6:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 777 N. Walnut Creek. Contact Jane Morton, (817) 473-2437.

#### May 4

Annual Classic Golf Tournament: 10:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Southern Oaks Golf Club, 13765 Southern Oaks Dr., Burleson. www.mansfieldchamber.org.

#### May 6

Creekside Cleanup: 10:00 a.m.-noon, 620 S. Wisteria. Details available by email, water@mansfieldtexas.com.

#### May 7

Project Moses: 6:00-7:00 p.m., First Methodist

Mansfield, 777 N. Walnut Creek Dr. To help prevent, protect and advocate, call (817) 477-2287, ext. 231.

#### May 11

Business After Hours: 5:30-7:30 p.m., La Quinta Inn & Suites, 1503 Breckenridge Rd. RSVP to (817) 473-0507 or info@mansfieldchamber.org.

Baseball and Books: 6:00-8:00 p.m., The Historic Farr Best Theater, Downtown Mansfield. The Mansfield Public Library hosts Scott Cain, Mayor of Cleburne and the author of *Cleburne Baseball*. (817) 728-3692.

#### May 11 — 13

Household Hazardous Waste Collection: **Thursday** and **Friday**, 3:00-7:00 p.m.; **Saturday**, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Mansfield Environmental Collection Center, 616 S. Wisteria. Contact David Macias, (817) 276-4239.

#### May 13

Night on the Town: 4:00-8:00 p.m., Town Park, 500 N. Main St. (817) 276-4200.

Party with Purpose: 7:00 p.m., J. Gilligan's

Bar & Grill, 400 E. Abram, Arlington. Local nonprofit Scared Sidless presents Concert/ Auction/Raffle benefiting Camp Cullin, a retreat from grief. www.scaredsidless.com.

#### May 18

North Texas Chopped Culinary Competition: 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., The Center for the Performing Arts, 1110 W. Debbie Ln. (817) 299-1252.

#### May 18

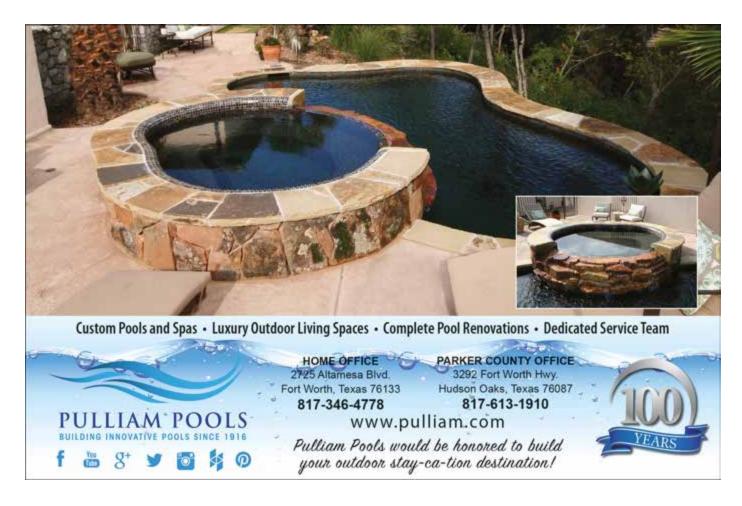
Quilting With Heart: 1:00-3:00 p.m., Bldg. C, Rm. 10, First Methodist Church Mansfield, 777 N. Walnut Creek. To make charity quilts and learn about the art of quilting, email qwhinfo@gmail.com.

#### May 20

Wisteria Street Market: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Mansfield Activities Center, 106 S. Wisteria. Plus, market bags will be gifted to the first 50 shoppers. For more information, contact Mary Jones at (817) 728-3680.

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











### Cooking NOW



#### In the Kitchen With René Matula

— By Melissa Rawlins

"I'd rather have a glass of wine with my dinner than to have a piece of cake after," René Matula said. Still, making sweets is part of her Czech heritage. Her husband, Mark, also of Czech background, enjoys her dishes, which are becoming healthier now that their daughters are grown. When René's mother, Gene Marie Bohuslav, visits from Hallettsville, the duo get busy in the kitchen making recipes like those below. "I love preparing them with my mom and sharing them with family and friends. Making these special treats — and homemade egg noodles — is a lot of work, so the family and friends who get to partake are special!" René credits both her mother and grandmother with mentoring her from an 8-year-old's by-the-book cooking style to a mature woman's taste-and-adjust awesomeness.

#### Nanny's Rosettes

Requires rosette iron(s) and makes 4 dozen.

Rosettes:

2 tsp. sugar

2 eggs

1 cup milk

l tsp. vanilla

1 cup flour

1/4 tsp. salt

3 to 3 1/2 quarts Crisco oil

Icing:

1/2 tsp. vanilla
1 egg white
Powdered sugar, to taste
Finely ground, dried coconut

**I.** For rosettes: Add the sugar to the slightly beaten eggs; add milk and vanilla. Sift flour

with the salt; stir into the liquid mixture. Beat until smooth. Let the batter rest for 2 hours.

- **2.** In an 8-quart pot over medium-high (300 F) heat, heat enough oil to fill the pot halfway. Dip the rosette iron into the hot fat to heat it, and then drain the excess oil on a wet cloth.
- **3.** Dip the iron into the batter, being careful not to let the batter cover the top edge of the iron. Quickly immerse the battered iron into the hot oil without touching the bottom of the pot. Cook each rosette 2 to 3 minutes, until golden.
- **4.** Remove the rosette from the iron using a knife to nudge it off of the iron, if needed. Drain the rosettes on paper towels and drain the excess oil off the iron onto a wet cloth.
- **5.** Repeat until all of the batter is used. Let the rosettes cool.

- **6.** For icing: Add the vanilla to the beaten egg white. Add enough powdered sugar to create a creamy consistency. Dip the topside of the rosette into the icing and then into the coconut.
- **7.** After all of the rosettes have been iced and dried, toast them in a 250 F oven for 45 minutes. When cool, store in air-tight tins.

#### Homemade Egg Noodles

4 egg yolks 2 whole eggs 2 to 3 cups flour

- **1.** Mix eggs together with approximately 2 cups flour, adding more or less as necessary to form a thick dough. Knead, adding flour until the dough is not sticky. Cover and let stand for 30 to 45 minutes.
- **2.** Knead dough again until smooth, flexible and shiny. Make golf ball-size dough balls.
- **3.** Roll out each dough ball until paper-thin and let dry. Cut into really fine strips, or use a pasta cutter to create noodles. Dry and store in a gallon jar, or cook immediately in Chicken Noodle Soup.

#### **Chicken Noodle Soup**

I large chicken
Water
Salt and pepper, to taste
3 to 4 stalks celery
I large onion
3 large carrots
I bunch parsley
2 Tbsp. soup base
Homemade Egg Noodles

- **1.** Place cut-up chicken in a large soup pot. Fill with water to about 3 or 4 inches over the chicken. Add salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a boil while chopping celery, onion, carrots and parsley. Add vegetables to soup pot with soup base. Cook on mediumhigh until done.
- **2.** Remove the chicken and de-bone. Dice meat and place back in the pot of juice and vegetables. Bring to a boil and add the noodles. Cook until done.

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