

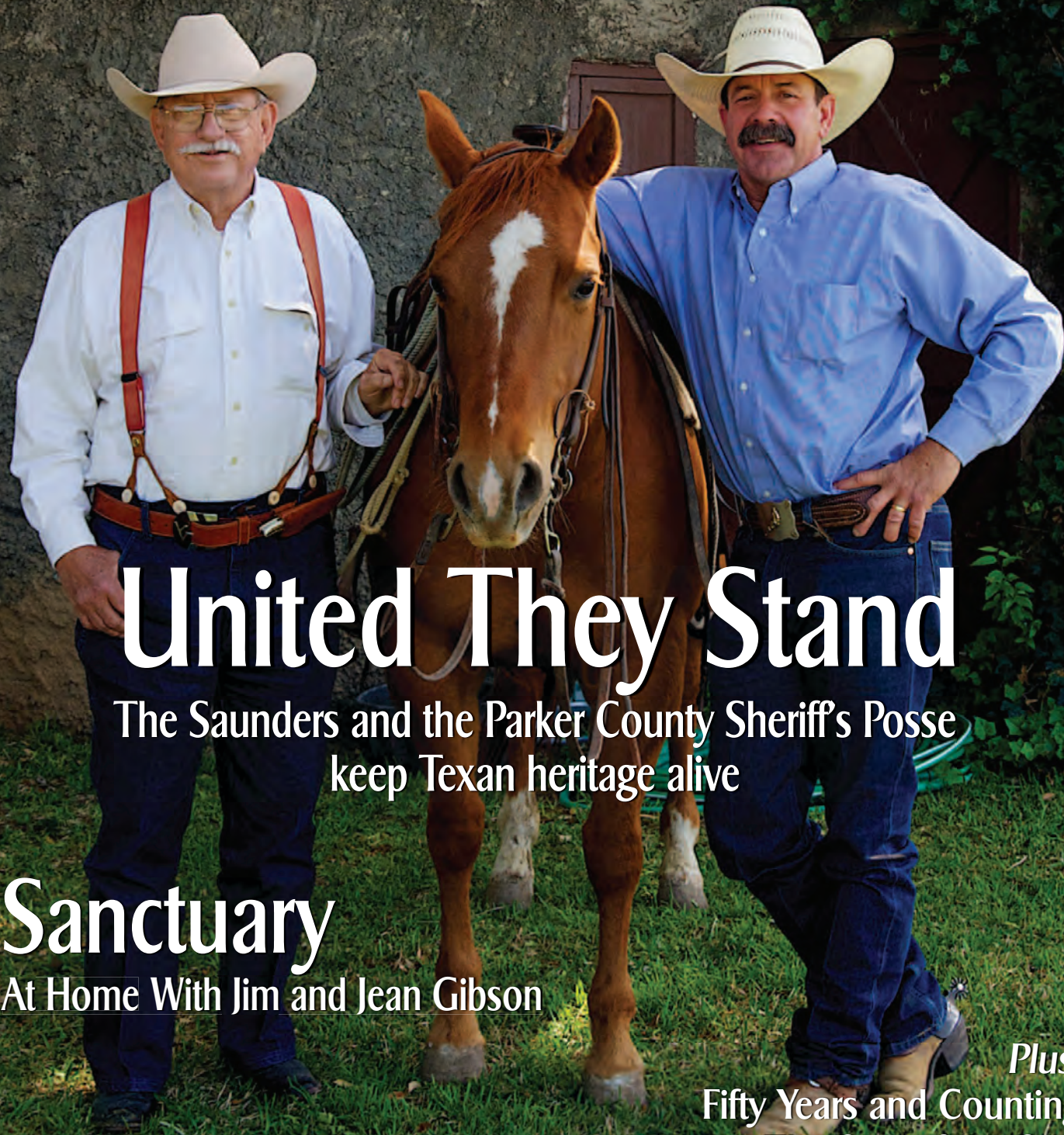
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ON THE COVER



The love of rodeo keeps the Saunders family close.

Photo by Amanda Rooney.

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Editor's Note

Hi there, WeatherfordNOW readers!

June is a time for fun in the sun. It's also a time to celebrate fathers. I grew up in southeast Texas, and my father would often take my brother and me fishing along the Gulf Coast. One of my fondest memories is hooking a nearly eight-pound Red Drum. My father gave me encouragement and direction, but he let me reel in that fish all by myself. I'll never forget it.

My children are now making their own memories with their Pop Pop. They are also crafting special one-on-one times with their father. My husband loves spending time with them playing catch outside or just cuddling up to read a book at bedtime. Children never forget those times with their parents.

Father's Day is June 16, so plan something fun with your little ones. They grow up fast, so make the most of the time you have.

Enjoy yourselves!

Amber

Amber D. Browne
WeatherfordNOW Editor
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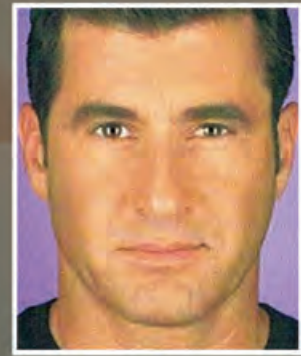
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UNITED THEY Stand

— By Melissa Rawlins





Believe it or not, Tom B. Saunders IV never competed in the Parker County Sheriff's Posse Rodeo. By 1956, the thrill of reining contests and bull riding couldn't compete with the prospect of sharing his life with Ann. "I got married and had to make a living, so I quit doing that rodeo business," Tom B. said, with a wink. While Ann taught school in Weatherford, Tom B. ran his family's ranches in South Texas, West Texas and Oklahoma and eventually expanded their cattle interests internationally.

But Tom B. never stopped his loyal service to the Sheriff's Posse his father co-founded in 1947. In his 40 years of membership, Tom B. has been a director and through the years has preferred helping Posse members welding the arena, building gates and maintaining the grounds. Tom B. and Ann had a son, Thomas Saunders V, who goes by Thomas, whom they have trained to carry on all the family traditions. Thomas also joined the Posse, of course.

Spurred by his natural humor, Thomas has taken it a step further. Every night of the rodeo, this fifth-generation cattleman rides in the grand entry and afterward storms the arena as his alter ego, Lupe Flores. Changing out of his starched white shirt and cowboy hat into the costume of a Mexican bandit, Thomas grabs pistols and a live chicken and rides his horse into the arena before the bareback riders have made their escape.

At the same time, the announcer cries, "The prize rooster has been stolen from the livestock pavilion!" But before he can say anything else, the PCSP (Parker County Sheriff's Posse) members come with guns ablazing and the chase is on — ending with the dead thief (Thomas) being shot off his horse. Of course, the triumphant Posse members exit the arena, celebrating their success at saving the day once again.

Thomas and his sisters, Ann Catherine Williams and Amy Haydon, have quite a family history to carry on. Their grandfather, Thomas Saunders III, was vice president of the Fort Worth Stock Show and in 1946 helped to organize the National Cutting Horse Association. Their great-granddad, Thomas Saunders II, was the first cattle dealer at the Fort Worth Stockyards, in 1902. Their great-great grandfather, W.D.H. Saunders, was born in Sedalia, Missouri, and came to Texas in





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covered wagons in 1850. He and his brother, George W. Saunders, grew up on a remote ranch in Gonzales County, in southern Texas.

By 1888, George W. owned a ranch near San Antonio and had built the stock pens that became known as Union Stock Yard. Every one of his seven sons was a trail driver, and he was president of the Texas Trail Drivers Association until he died. Ask Thomas Saunders V, and he'll tell you training and riding good cutting horses, moving cattle to tanks, jerking calves off cows and mending fences is just in his blood.

His father's cousins participated



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in cutting contests at the Fort Worth Stockyards in the '30s, and by the time Tom B. was 12 — when his first pair of Levi's blue jeans cost \$1.25 — cowboys itching to prove their right to brag over their cutting horse started talking about having some cutting contests. "Thirteen of them founded the National Cutting Horse Association, and out of the 13, seven were from Parker County. "Ray Smith of Aledo was the first president, and Dad was the first secretary and then the second national president," Tom B. said. The Parker County Sheriff's Posse was organized about the same time, and he also was one of the original members. Originally the annual PCSP rodeo was hosted on members' ranches. In 1948, it was on the Saunders' ranch in an arena that has long since rotted and been rebuilt.

T.B. Saunders III and Jack Borden wrote the PCSP's charter and mission statement, which was to encourage "interest among members in keeping alive the true traditions of the Old West, a sacred heritage to all Texans, to promote good fellowship and good sportsmanship and greater interest both socially and civically in their community, to assist the sheriff upon his request to quell a riot or any emergency deemed necessary by the sheriff in calling upon the Posse to protect his jurisdiction, and at all times be in harmony with policies of other towns and counties and horse breeding associations for the mutual promotion of good Texas horses."

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After the Frontier Days celebration came into being, the Posse began sponsoring the rodeo and livestock show annually as a nonprofit institution created for education and entertainment of members of the livestock industry and citizens of Parker County and the general public. T.B Saunders III wrote the program for the Frontier Days Rodeo until his death in 1974, often embellishing the truth.

Tom B. won the junior bull riding competition at the newly founded cutting horse futurity in Fort Worth when he was about 12 or 14 — his son, Thomas, wore the buckle he won when he was a youngster. When Tom B. was about 17, he entered a colt he broke in a reining contest and tied for first place with world champion Matlock Rose. The judge was Pine Johnson, one of the legends in the early cutting business as a trainer and rider. “He made us work it off,” Tom B. remembered. “I got so nervous, I didn’t beat Rose. It was still an honor to get beat by him!”

In 1949, an accident turned Tom B.’s attention off of bulls for good. His father was practicing roping when his horse fell, pinning his left leg under the horse, crushing his knee. “As you can imagine, after staying in a cast plumb to his waist, Dad had a limp,” Tom B. said. “He still rode, but Mother said to me, ‘Son, you’re not riding any more bulls. You can be anything you want to, but you’re not going to ride motorcycles or bulls.’ I rode broncs, and wish I hadn’t done that. Probably wouldn’t be in the shape I am now.”

It’s not a bad shape to be in, however. His memory is sharp as an arrow. Tom B. has been interviewed on Red Steagall’s radio show about Texas history and culture. He still works side-by-side with his son on the property his dad started ranching in 1929. Tom B. and Ann live in its 130-year-old, tin-ceilinged house. Over the years, the rock fences and rock barn have not been torn down, merely replaced. Tom B. rebuilt a lot of the corrals in the 1950s, and Thomas Saunders V has done a lot of rebuilding and improving since. Together, the two Saunders protect the family’s interests and unite with the Posse to keep every Texan’s sacred heritage alive and well. **NOW**



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— By Amber D. Browne

AT HOME WITH

Jim and Jean Gibson



The old adage, birds of a feather flock together, rings true for Jim and Jean Gibson. Jean met Jim through a friend after moving from Florida to Texas about three decades ago. “I said, ‘Hey Jim, if you ever want to fool around with an older woman, give me a call!’” she joked. The couple married in the mid-1980s. “We are absolutely unreliable on dates,” she laughed. “Before, now and next. That’s pretty much how my world goes.” When meeting them for the first time, it seems like they have been together a lifetime. They finish each other’s sentences and share plenty of laughs at their home, which also serves as a bird sanctuary.

Jean started Birdlink Sanctuary, Inc. a quarter of a century ago, and she now houses more than 100 birds on their property. Jim has built several aviaries in the back, so the colorful birds can find a place to climb tree branches or chat with visitors and volunteers. Jim constructed a waterfall in one of the aviaries that houses many small birds and an



Amazon parrot that greets the Gibsons each day. Two macaws, Major and Lani, make their home in another aviary on the five-acre property.

As a builder, Jim has transformed half of the barn on their property into a place for dozens of bird cages, some of which include feathered friends undergoing rehabilitation. It also includes a kitchen, so they can cut up fresh fruit and vegetables for the birds. Goats, alpacas and a miniature horse live in the

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other half of the barn and are free to roam the backyard.

Jean enjoys whistling and talking with the birds. "The whole thing has taken on a life of its own," she said. But, Jean wouldn't have it any other way. Bird cages line their covered back porch. Jim added a pulley system for

some canvass tarps that Jean bought to enclose the porch in the colder months.

Besides being a handyman at home, Jim makes his living as a green builder with Gibson Homebuilders. He built their home in Weatherford about three years ago. "Building is actually a science," he said. "You've got to understand how to put a house together. If you build it right, it will run like a smooth engine. If you build it wrong, you've got maintenance problems the rest of your life."

Jim is proud of the work he's done on their two-story, 2,800-square-foot, high-performance house. "All the exterior walls are six-inches thick. They are filled with foam. It's like a

giant ice chest," Jim said. The home is heated and cooled with one 3 ton unit that regulates temperatures in four zones — three downstairs and one upstairs. Jim can control each zone with a master remote. "Our electric bill averages less than \$100 a month, year round."

Concrete floors in the living area, kitchen and bathrooms are stained a dark brown, with carpet in the bedrooms. Instead of a typical mirror above the sink in the half bathroom downstairs, a built-in display case houses hand-carved wooden and jade pieces purchased from China and Indonesia, when the Gibson's lived for a while in Guam. "We brought back things that were small," Jean explained. "It's just another spot to show off some of the things that we love."

Built-in shelves on one wall in the living room give Jim a place to display his collection of vases. "These are cinnabar. These are carved, and they're mirrored," he explained. "These are brass.



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They're dipped and fired in red enamel. Then they dipped it and fired it in black enamel. Then they carve it out."

The Craftsman home has white wooden trim around the doors and windows. "That's the overall theme you will see in the details," Jean said. Double crown molding is featured in the main areas of the home, with single crown in the bedrooms. A restored, cloth steam ship route map from 1825 is proudly displayed above the couch in the living room. Wooden trunks throughout the home serve as storage space and an inventive way to display photos and other collections.

The kitchen is the heart of the home, with plenty of space to entertain. "I do all the cooking, so I designed this kitchen myself," Jim explained.

All of the lower cabinets are actually drawers, giving them more space for storage, access and organization. One side of the eight-foot island lends bar stools for visitors to rest their feet, and a round wooden table sits in the large sunshine-filled dining area. All of the appliances are stainless steel, and Jean has included her own touch with Craftsman-style cabinets. "For parties, the design flow facilitates movement on the first floor," she said.

Jim, a Graduate Master Builder and a certified green builder, offices out of an adjacent room. "This is where I spend my time," he said. Masks carved out of coconut shells from Java add a little mystery to one wall.

The only television in the home is in the taupe-colored master bedroom. The Gibsons received it as a gift. "That's my corner. I can read. Watch what I want to watch," Jean chuckled. The master



bathroom has an open walk-in shower, with no door necessary because of the concrete floors. Jean has added the washer and drier to her huge walk-in closet — to keep all of their clothes in one place.

A wide staircase leads up to the second floor to two guest bedrooms and a third room Jim has transformed into a large cedar closet. The “secret to the entire house” is also upstairs. “It has an air purification system, which kills all bacteria and germs,” Jim said. The unit changes out all of the air in the house every 24 hours. The room also includes a small, tankless water heater and is home base for the house’s networking system. Each room is wired to provide television and data. The entire attic is lighted. “You can get access and work on anything,” Jim explained.

The outside of the home is built of HardiePlank, a concrete composite that looks just like siding. “They don’t hold the temperature,” he said. “It’s not just about saving energy, it’s about saving money.”

Their energy-efficient house isn’t all about saving money, though. The Gibsons have saved countless birds over the years and have opened their home to rescue dogs and cats. They relax at home when they can, but only after a few conversations with their colorful bird friends. In their free time, they also enjoy toting around their feathered companions to educate school children or visitors at First Monday Trade Days in Weatherford. **NOW**



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Fifty Years and Counting

— By Lisa Bell

Not quite a native Texan, Fred Werner moved to Weatherford at the ripe age of 3 1/2 — with his parents, of course. With family and friends nearby, the then-sleepy town became home, a place he never wanted to leave. As Weatherford blossoms into a larger community, he still loves it and can't imagine living anywhere else — other than perhaps just outside of town with a place to fish.

Born in Kansas City, Missouri, Fred spent his first few years on a farm in Kansas City, Kansas. After his grandfather's death, Fred's father transferred to Fort Worth. His mother's family lived in Weatherford, so it seemed like the perfect place to live.

One day, his dad came home from driving around with his mother's brothers. He asked her, "Do you think you could run a grocery store?"

"Well, I don't know," she said. "I never have, but I guess I could."

"Well, you got one." Suddenly, the family owned a grocery store, which his mother indeed learned to run. The Werner family made their mark as part of the community, and Fred continued the tradition as a young adult when he joined a bank family.





At a time when most young men change jobs every few years, finding someone loyal to one company for life is rare. Yet in March 2013, Fred celebrated his 50th anniversary with First National Bank. Next year, he'll celebrate the golden anniversary of marriage with his wife, Donna. Ironically, he sought

The Werner family made their mark as part of the community, and Fred continued the tradition as a young adult when he joined a bank family.

the bank job because of her. "I knew I couldn't go to school full time and get married," he said. He took the job filing checks and went to school at night. Ten years later, he graduated from Southern Methodist University Southwestern Banking School.

Although Fred takes his job seriously, a twinkle in his eye suggests a mischievous



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side, now subdued by years of wisdom. As a young teller, he liked joking around, in spite of a bank president who was all business. One day, he taped another teller's window with scotch tape so it



wouldn't open easily. Sure enough, the bank president came to that teller's window, needing a cashier's check. She couldn't open it. "It's lucky I lasted through that deal," he said with a chuckle. "I don't think the bank president thought it was too funny. I imagine he guessed who did it, but he never said anything to me."

At one point, Fred decided his banking career wasn't moving fast enough. He pursued training as a police officer and applied for a position in Fort Worth. They hired him, but on his intended last day at the bank, Felix Jones, bank president at the time, told him he didn't need to be a police officer. He needed to stay at the bank. They offered Fred a promotion to junior officer and matched the anticipated salary. He accepted, but feared going to Fort Worth for a while, in case a certain sergeant might be looking for him. He felt bad about the time and money spent on training, but didn't regret the decision to stay. "I've been blessed with a lot of things," he said. "They've been good to me."

Fred met his wife on a blind date. When his close friend moved from Weatherford to Granbury, the two boys stayed in touch. His friend soon met a girl. In order to date the young woman, he had to find a date for her cousin, Donna. Fred agreed. "I liked her real

well from the first time I saw her," he said. They began dating. Still young, he enjoyed her company but felt uncertain about being ready for marriage. When he accompanied her to a friend's wedding,

however, she started discussing the subject. Eventually she threatened to join the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services in the Navy), and Fred didn't like that idea. Several times, he tried to break up with her but never could. He finally told a friend, "Looks like I'll be getting married here pretty soon."

"You're too young to get married," his friend said. "See if she'll get me a date, and then we'll join the Air Force Monday." Fred wasn't sure exactly what his friend

had in mind, but he figured they'd try it. Donna set up the double date. His friend fell in love that night. The Air Force forgotten, Fred's friend ended up getting married before he did.



Not complaining, he took the bank job at 18 and married his young love a year later. At 20, he became a dad. When his oldest son turned 20, he had a son, and 19 years later, Fred welcomed his great-granddaughter into the world. Family

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was always important to Fred, and he still spends much of his free time with his two sons, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

After such a long time, the love he feels for his wife is stronger than ever. When she became ill, and he thought she might not make it, he realized how much she means to him. "I think she's a special person to put up with me," he confessed.

Outside of work and spending time with family, Fred enjoys piddling around in his workshop where he repairs and makes things. Although he once took care of some car repairs, he prefers other projects now.

His favorite pastime includes lingering around water with a rod and reel, especially when he finds an abundance of fish. Sometimes he takes his



grandchildren fishing with him, passing on a hobby he always enjoyed with his father and grandfather. His favorite part of fishing is definitely not cleaning the day's catch. "I guess eating them is what I love best about fishing. You can't buy fish that taste as good as fresh," he said.

Once he went to check on the water well at his lake house. He accidentally left lights on at the end of the dock, and when he walked out to turn them off, a bunch of big fish swam around, begging for something to nibble. In spite of the cold weather, he ran to the well house and grabbed a rod and reel with a crappie jig attached. Back at the end of the dock, he looked down, disappointed at seeing none of the fish. I missed 'em, he thought. Nevertheless, he pitched in the line and immediately got a hit. Storing the fish in a basket, he continued reeling in the hybrid stripers he didn't know lived in the lake. "I learned going fishing in cold weather is a good idea," Fred stated.

In no hurry for retirement, Fred likes his job and loves his family. Perhaps he has another 50 years in store, doing the things he enjoys most. And that's success by any standard. **NOW**



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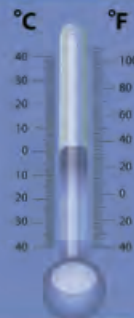
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The Grace Museum, in a beautifully restored 1909 hotel, actually houses three museums. The Abilene Historical Museum consists of displays showing the founding and growth of Abilene; the interactive Children's Museum is great for children of all ages; and the Art Museum displays world-class exhibits. The Mallouf Boot Shop highlights the unique craft of custom cowboy boots.

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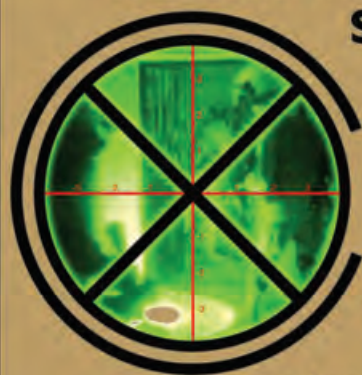
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Since 1851, the military has played a major role in Abilene. Built in 1851, the ruins of Fort Phantom Hill still stand north of Abilene along the Texas Forts Trail. The fort, manned by Bluecoats of the United States cavalry and infantry, was part of a chain of forts built to





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protect the frontiersmen and their families against Indians raids. The fort burned shortly after abandonment.

The stone commissary, a guardhouse, a powder magazine and numerous chimneys and foundations remain.

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Linear AirPark can be toured for free. The 12th Armored Division Memorial Museum allows you to learn about the men who risked their lives for the future of yours.

Abilene offers an assortment of fun-filled activities that will make great memories for you and your children or grandchildren. PrimeTime Family Entertainment Center is a 43,000-square-foot indoor facility that features bowling, NASCAR simulators, laser tag, X-D theater, bumper cars, billiards and over 70

arcade games. Play Faire Park, known for its colorful appeal and considered a staple in Abilene entertainment, offers



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With a history of cattle, railroads and oil, Abilene is proud of its heritage. Buffalo Gap Historic Village is a unique collection of historic buildings filled with artifacts from historic West Texas. The Historic Village presents the history of the last 50 years (1875-1925) of the Texas frontier with a variety of interpretive programs, including: static exhibits, historic structures and living history interpreters.

The annual spring Western Heritage Classic and Ranch Rodeo promotes Texas-style excitement, including a chuck-wagon cook-off, cowboy poetry, the largest bit and spur show, cowboy, dances and horse races. Five months later, the 10-day West Texas Fair and Rodeo features food, rides, exhibits and amusements celebrating West Texas. And year-round, Abilene hosts numerous cutting horse and western equestrian events at the Taylor County Expo Center.

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The employees at Express Employment Professionals work together to meet their clients' needs.

THE *Best* OF THE BEST

Express Employment Professionals finds the right applicant for the job.

— By Amber D. Browne

At Express Employment Professionals in Weatherford, they find the best of the best employees for their clients. “We match the best applicants to the clients who are asking for specific jobs,” said Junell Mauch, who serves as senior staffing consultant and office manager with Express Employment Professionals.

The staffing company serves Parker, Palo Pinto, Wise and Hood counties, and clients from all professions come to them for help. Some of Express’ largest clients are production companies and manufacturers, and they are always looking for applicants for office work, professional jobs, general labor and

more. Because of liability issues, Express doesn’t supply clients with nurses or similar professions.

Job searchers can apply for available positions on Express’ Web site. The staff checks the Web daily for applicants and follows up with an e-mail. So, if a job is no longer available, applicants could still be contacted in the future if a similar job is posted. “We get applications from all over, but we try to start here when giving jobs out,” she explained. Express typically receives 50-75 applicants each week and places about 20 percent of those applicants. “We always need people.

“We do background checks. We do drug testing. We call

references and see how they did in the past," she said. "We try to put the best people with our clients, because they're paying for it. We want our clients to get their money's worth."

The business pays Express, which then pays the employee during the 90-day evaluation period. At 90 days, the client can then hire the employee or determine if the employee is not the right fit for the job. "You'll know by the third month what you're going to get." One reason a staffing company might be an option for a business is it will save them time, if a new hire doesn't work out. "They start over. They have to put an ad in the paper. They have to look at 200-plus résumés," Junell explained. "If you get someone from us, you still get that 90 days to figure out if that person's going to work." If the Express employee isn't working out, the staffing company can instantly replace that person.

Express takes care of everything for their clients. "We provide medical insurance for that short period." Express will also pay any unemployment and workman's compensation. Some businesses prefer to keep the employee with Express, so the staffing company continues to issue checks to the worker and provide benefits.

CareerBuilder recently named Express Employment Professionals to Inavero's 2013 Best of Staffing Client list. Express, which has 600 offices across the globe, was recognized for exceptional service and its commitment to client satisfaction, becoming part of the 1 percent of staffing firms that made the final list. The Weatherford office, owned by Robert and Linda Harris, has been helping area residents find jobs since 1997. Besides Junell, the local office has three other staff members — Angela Babbitt serves as a staffing consultant, Kim Marinaro is the front office coordinator and Edwina Himes is in marketing and sales.

Junell has been with the company since 2006 after owning a Christian bookstore. She finds her work very fulfilling because she can help people get back on their feet. "If I couldn't sell them a Bible, I'd give them a job." **NOW**



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Elizabeth and Tucker McGee get a tasty dinner while helping raise money at the Meals On Wheels Benefit BBQ.



Lataya Runnels of Carter Blood Care helps Alice Gillham donate blood at Weatherford Regional Medical Center.



The Last Supper is portrayed by actors at the Capernaum Passover Experience.



Weatherford High School senior Michael Bellah gets his groove on with WHS Assistant Principal Donna Schoonover at the ISD's Special Programs Department's annual Spring Fling.



Jean Gibson, Alayna and Tyler Diaz and Jim Gibson of Birdlink Sanctuary share their colorful birds at First Monday Trade Days.



Julius "Jay" Jayroe, who survived five years as a POW, receives honors during the Vietnam Veterans Day celebration in Burleson.



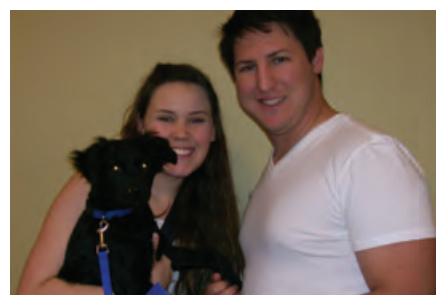
A ribbon cutting is held for the Gamerztagz Entertainment and Education Center.



Billie June Cox is crowned Ms. Senior Parker County.



Taylor Hall and Jennifer Williams, with the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce, are busy planning for the Parker County Peach Festival.



Nikki and Andrew Gentry adopt Wiggles from Parker Paws.



Dr. Marsha Barber receives a proclamation from Willow Park Mayor Richard Neverdousky recognizing her retirement from Trinity Christian Academy.



The Weatherford High School Colorguard places first at the NTCA State Championships.

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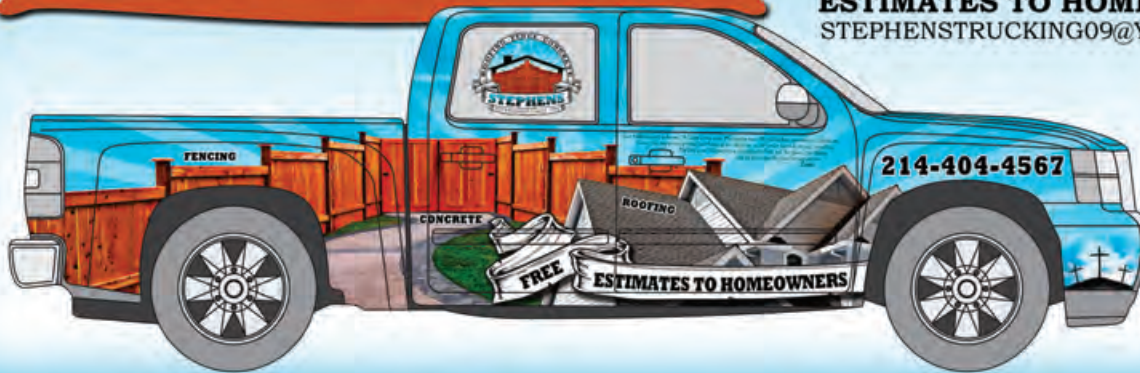
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For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. -Ephesians 2:10

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TOD Agreement Can Reduce Hassles for Heir

Among the reasons you work hard all your life may be so you can leave something to your children, grandchildren or other family members. So, naturally, you'd like to make it as easy as possible for your heirs to take possession of those assets you want them to have. And that's why you may want to consider establishing a Transfer on Death (TOD) agreement on certain accounts.

Once you've established a TOD agreement for your account, ownership of the assets held in that account pass directly to the designated beneficiaries, bypassing probate. Why is this important? Because probate has three major drawbacks:

- *It's time consuming.* If your estate has to go through the probate process, it could easily take a year or more for your assets to be distributed to your heirs.
- *It's expensive.* Attorney and court fees could devour up to 5 percent of your estate's value — which means fewer assets going to your loved ones.
- *It's public.* The probate process is open to everyone. This means anyone can obtain a copy of your will, the names and contact information for your heirs, the inventory of assets and other documents filed as part of the probate proceeding.

As you can see, you've got some good reasons to avoid probate — and a TOD agreement can help. Of course, a TOD agreement can't meet all your estate-planning needs. While it may be particularly useful in helping you bequeath specific financial assets, such as stocks, bonds and other assets held in your brokerage accounts, it can't help you deal with estate taxes or address other complex estate-planning issues.

And that's why you may also want to consider creating other

estate-planning tools, such as a revocable living trust. Similar to a TOD agreement, a revocable living trust allows you to leave assets to your heirs without going through probate. Furthermore, when you set up a revocable living trust, you can control your assets during your lifetime and determine how they will eventually be distributed to your heirs. You could, for example, have money distributed to your children or grandchildren in installments, over a period of years. Many people like having this ability, especially if they are unsure of the money management skills or maturity level of their heirs. Plus, a properly established revocable living trust will carry out your wishes if you become incapacitated. Be sure to consult with your legal advisor to see if a revocable living trust is appropriate for you.

While a TOD agreement can't take the place of all estate-planning tools, it can complement them. And a TOD agreement offers another feature that can prove valuable: flexibility. Specifically, you can revoke or modify your TOD agreement at any time in response to changes in your life or family circumstances.

To determine if a TOD agreement is appropriate for your needs, contact your tax advisor or legal professional. It's taken you many years to accumulate your assets, so take some time to help ensure they end up where you want them to go. **NOW**

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors do not provide tax or legal advice. Please consult with your qualified professional regarding your situation.

Gregg Davis is an Edward Jones representative based in Willow Park.



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Ear Infections: A Common Childhood Problem

Ear infections are common among young children. If not properly treated, they can have long-term effects ranging from hearing loss to delayed speech development. In fact, three out of four children in America will have an ear infection before age 3, according to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD). Ear infections often follow an illness, such as: a cold, sore throat or upper respiratory infection, and bacteria or a virus can cause it.

Children are at a higher risk for ear infections than adults, because their ear passages are smaller, narrower and angled differently, making it easier for germs to reach the middle ear and for fluid to accumulate. If your child isn't old enough to talk and cannot tell you his or her ear is hurting, common signs include:

- Tugging or pulling at the ear(s)
- Fussiness and crying
- Trouble sleeping
- Fever
- Fluid draining from the ear
- Clumsiness
- Trouble hearing

Certain factors may make your child more prone to ear infections, including: exposure to secondhand smoke; putting a baby down to nap or bed with a bottle; being around sick children in close environments such as school or day care; and being of Native American or Hispanic descent.

Treatment Guidelines

In February 2013, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) issued new guidelines regarding the treatment of ear infections. For children with ear infections that can't be definitively diagnosed, particularly children between the ages of 6 months to 2 years, treatment guidelines include antibiotics and pain relievers or observation, and close follow-up for 48 to 72 hours before beginning antibiotics.

The guidelines also call for more stringent criteria for diagnosing an ear infection, which will allow providers to prescribe antibiotics more effectively. It's important to note that some ear infections will clear up on their own without antibiotics. Using antibiotics conservatively to treat symptoms helps prevent the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the ear. If your child's physician prescribes a seven- to 10-day round of antibiotics for the ear infection, it's important to finish all of the prescribed medication.

If your child experiences any symptoms of an ear infection, don't delay in seeing a pediatrician. Your doctor will check for fluid behind the eardrum, redness or swelling in the eardrum or perform a test known as tympanometry. **NOW**

Kim Hilmer, F.N.P., is a board certified nurse practitioner at Lone Star Family Care and a member of the allied medical staff and Weatherford Regional Medical Center.

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June through August 3

Beads and Rawhide: Heritage of the Plains Indians: **Monday-Friday** 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and **Saturday** 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Museum of the Americas, 216 Fort Worth Hwy. Enjoy an overview of the Plains Indians stretching back to the period of the horse and buffalo. Visit www.museumoftheamericas.com for more information.

June through August 25

Photographing the West: **Tuesday-Saturday**: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., **Sunday**: 1:00-5:00 p.m., Doss Heritage and Culture Center, 1400 Texas Dr. Visitors will catch a glimpse of the work from renowned western photographer David R. Stoecklein. You can get more information, by visiting www.dosscenter.org or calling (817) 599-6168.

June 1

East Parker County Library Garden Party: 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., AJ Hood Pioneer Home, 1279 Jenkins Rd., Aledo. Help raise funds for the East Parker County Library while enjoying a BBQ lunch, music, a book sale, silent auction and plenty of fun for the children. Call (817) 441-6545 or visit www.epclibrary.com for more information.

Trinity Habitat for Humanity Orientation: 10:00-11:00 a.m., Weatherford Public Library, 1014 Charles St. Area residents interested in becoming a Habitat for Humanity homeowner are invited to attend this orientation to learn more. Call (817) 926-9219, Ext. 116 or visit www.trinityhabitat.org to find out more.

Parker Paws Adoption Event: 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Weatherford PetSmart, 138 E. Interstate 20. Stop by and add another member to your family. Furry friends will be available for adoption. Please call Parker Paws at (817) 694-5718 or visit www.parkerpaws.org for more information.

June 8

Mansfield Animal Shelter's Doggie Dash 5K Fun Run: 9:30 a.m., Rose Park, 409 N. Walnut Creek, Mansfield. Vendors will also be there before and after the race. For more information, contact Kathy LaKatta at (817) 905-3229.

June 12 – 15

Posse Frontier Days PRCA Rodeo: 7:30 p.m. nightly, Parker County Sheriff's Posse Arena, 2251 Mineral Wells Hwy. Attendees can enjoy various events including bull riding, calf roping and steer wrestling. General admission for 12 and over is \$12, and the charge is \$6 for children ages 6-11. Call (817) 598-5402 or visit www.parkercountysheriffsposse.com for more information.

June 14

Parker County Women's and Newcomer's Club meeting: 10:00a.m., Texas Hall, Alkek Fine Arts Center at Weatherford College, 225 College Park Ave. Meg Hacker, director of the Regional Archives, will speak about "The Life of Cynthia Parker" and is the author of a recent book about her. Lunch will be provided. Cost is \$10. Call (817) 594-0125 by **June 9** to make reservations. You can get more information at www.pcwnc.org.

Golf Fundraising for Brock Youth Program: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Sugartree Golf Course, 251 Sugartree Dr., Lipan. Come and enjoy a day of golf while raising funds for the Brock Youth Program. Cost is \$50 per person or \$200 per team. You can find out more by calling (817) 205-2356 or visiting www.brockumc.com.

June 15

Buddy and Beyond with Johnny Rogers: 7:30-10:00 p.m., The Texas Opry Theater, 319 York Ave. His "Buddy and Beyond Show" features music by Buddy Holly and other artists, including Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis and Johnny Cash. VIP seating is \$25 per ticket, and general reserved seats are \$20. Contact (817) 341-1000 or visit www.texasoprytheater.com to find out more.

June 19

Dr. Fred Potter 30th Anniversary Celebration: 5:00-7:00 p.m., Bowie Drive Dental Care, 601 S. Bowie Dr. Dr. Fred Potter is celebrating 30 years in dentistry. A ribbon cutting will kick off the fun, followed by food and prize giveaways. One prize is a \$15,000 dream mouth makeover. You can enter to win by uploading a video to YouTube and visiting www.bowiedrivedentalcare.com to tell Dr. Potter why you or your family should be chosen. Call (817) 594-8761 for more information.

June 20

Spring into Summer Safety: 5:30 p.m., Willow Park Baptist Church, 129 S. Ranch House Rd., Willow Park. The free event will give women of Parker County more information about a range of topics, including skin care, skin cancer, pool safety and summer sports safety. The event will also feature vendors and door prize giveaways. RSVP at www.weatherfordregional.com/healthywoman or call (817) 341-PINK.

Quilter's Guild of Parker County meeting: 6:30 p.m., Great Hall of the Grace First Presbyterian Church, 606 Mockingbird Ln. Sandy Klopp of California will speak about the American Jane story. There is a \$5 charge for non-members. For more information, visit www.quiltersguildofparkercounty.org.

June 21

Power of Heels: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Texas Health Huguley Fitness Center, Burleson. Includes boxed lunch, networking and inspirational presentation by Officer Jack Goleman with a special message for women and girls; bring your daughter to hear his speech, Women's Safety. \$15 BACC Members; \$20 Non-Members. Call Burleson Area Chamber of Commerce, (817) 295-6121, to RSVP.

Star Watching Party: Sunset-11:00 p.m., J.W. Williams Park, 1605 High Pointe Ln., Cedar Hill. Bring your telescope or enjoy the sights through provided telescopes. For status and cancellation information call (214) 800-6000.

June 22

2013 Miss Parker County Peach Pageant: 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Harberger Hill Community Center, 701 Narrow St. Girls ranging in age from infant to 21 years will compete in various events. Contact Norma Crutcher at (817) 596-9415 or peachpageant@att.net to get more information.

June 28 – 30

First Monday Trade Days: 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Corner of Santa Fe Dr. and East Oak St. Dozens of vendors will sell home-made crafts, livestock, food and other items on several acres. Please visit www.ci.weatherford.tx.us or call (817) 598-4351 for more information.

June 29

Last Saturday Gallery Night: 6:00-9:00 p.m., 100 W. Pearl St., Granbury. Artists will be on hand, some giving demonstrations, while you enjoy hors d'oeuvres, wine and music. Contact (817) 579-7733.

June 29 – 30

Weatherford Gun Show: **Saturday** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., **Sunday** 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Parker County Sheriff's Posse Grounds, 2251 Mineral Wells Hwy. Vendors will sell various firearms and more. Cash only admission of \$8 per person; children 12 and under free. Parking is also free. Call (817) 793-3757 or e-mail info@weatherfordgunshow.com for more information.

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



In The Kitchen With Cindy Hanna

— By Amber D. Browne

Cindy Hanna learned recipes from three generations of women in her family beginning at a young age. She shares recipes with teenagers at Crossroads Youth Ministries of Parker County. When she began working there three years ago, she noticed most of the meals were fast food. “I realized I could prepare home-cooked meals for more people at a lower cost,” she explained.

Always experimenting with different recipes found online or in cookbooks, Cindy isn’t afraid to make a mess in the kitchen. “I have been known to use every pan, pot and dish in the kitchen.”

The life-long Weatherford resident pours a bit of her heart into every meal. “I know this food is going to nourish young people who need healthy, well-balanced meals, while nourishing their spirit.” **NOW**

Oriental Coleslaw

- 1 16-oz. pkg. coleslaw mix**
- 10-15 green onion stems, chopped**
- 1 3-oz. pkg. ramen noodles, chicken flavored**
- 1 3-oz. pkg. ramen noodles, oriental flavored**
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil**
- 2/3 cup white vinegar**
- 1/4 cup sugar**
- 1/2 cup almond slivers**

- 1.** In a bowl, combine coleslaw mix and chopped green onion stems.
- 2.** In separate bowl, mix together ramen noodle seasoning packages with next 3 ingredients. Pour over coleslaw mixture; mix thoroughly. Refrigerate until serving.
- 3.** Before serving, crush both packages of uncooked ramen noodles; add to refrigerated coleslaw mixture; add almond slivers.

Quick and Easy Chicken à la King

- 1 26-oz. can cream of mushroom soup**
- 1 26-oz. can cream of chicken soup**
- 1 cup chicken broth**
- 1 cup milk**
- 1 2-oz. jar pimentos, diced**
- 1 4-oz. can mushroom stems and pieces, drained**
- 1 tsp. salt**
- 1 tsp. pepper**
- 1 16-oz. bag peas and carrots, frozen**
- 1 22-oz. bag Tyson Grilled and Ready, Fully Cooked, Oven Roasted Chicken Breast**

Cooked rice, noodles or biscuits

- 1.** In a 5-quart stock pot, mix together first 4 ingredients. Stir occasionally.
- 2.** Add next 4 ingredients; bring to slight boil; decrease to simmer.
- 3.** Add frozen vegetables and chicken.

Simmer until the chicken and vegetables are warm.

- 4.** Serve over cooked rice, noodles or biscuits. (Note: recipe can be made with regular 10.5 ounce cans of soup. Decrease all other ingredients by half.)

Chicken Dorito

- 1 large pkg. cheese Dorito chips, crushed**
- 1 large fryer, boiled and boned or 1 22-oz. pkg. Tyson Grilled and Ready, Fully Cooked Oven Roasted Frozen Diced Chicken Breast**
- 2 10.5-oz. cans cream of chicken soup**
- 1 10.5-oz. can cream of mushroom soup**
- 1 10-oz. can Ro-Tel**
- 8 oz. cheddar or American cheese, grated**
- Cooked rice (optional)**

- 1.** Cover bottom of 9x13-inch baking dish with 1/2 of the crushed Doritos.
- 2.** In sauce pan, mix soups, Ro-Tel and chicken; heat until bubbly. Pour mixture over chips.
- 3.** Bake at 350 F until bubbly around the edges. Top with remaining Doritos and cheese. (Optional: may be served over rice.)

Cindy’s Famous Cheesecake

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese**
- 1 cup sugar**
- 12 oz. Cool Whip**
- 1 graham cracker pie crust**
- Fresh berries, sliced (optional)**

- 1.** Blend cream cheese and sugar with mixer. Once the mixture is creamy, add Cool Whip; mix thoroughly.
- 2.** Pour into pie crust; refrigerate overnight. (Optional: top with sliced fresh berries of your choice.)

Granny’s Peanut Butter Cookies

- 1 cup Karo syrup**
- 1 cup sugar**
- 1 cup peanut butter**
- 6 cups cornflakes**

- 1.** Bring syrup and sugar to a boil in a medium sauce pan over medium heat; do not overcook. Add peanut butter; stir until well-mixed.
- 2.** Pour over cornflakes; mix well. Spoon onto wax paper to cool.

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