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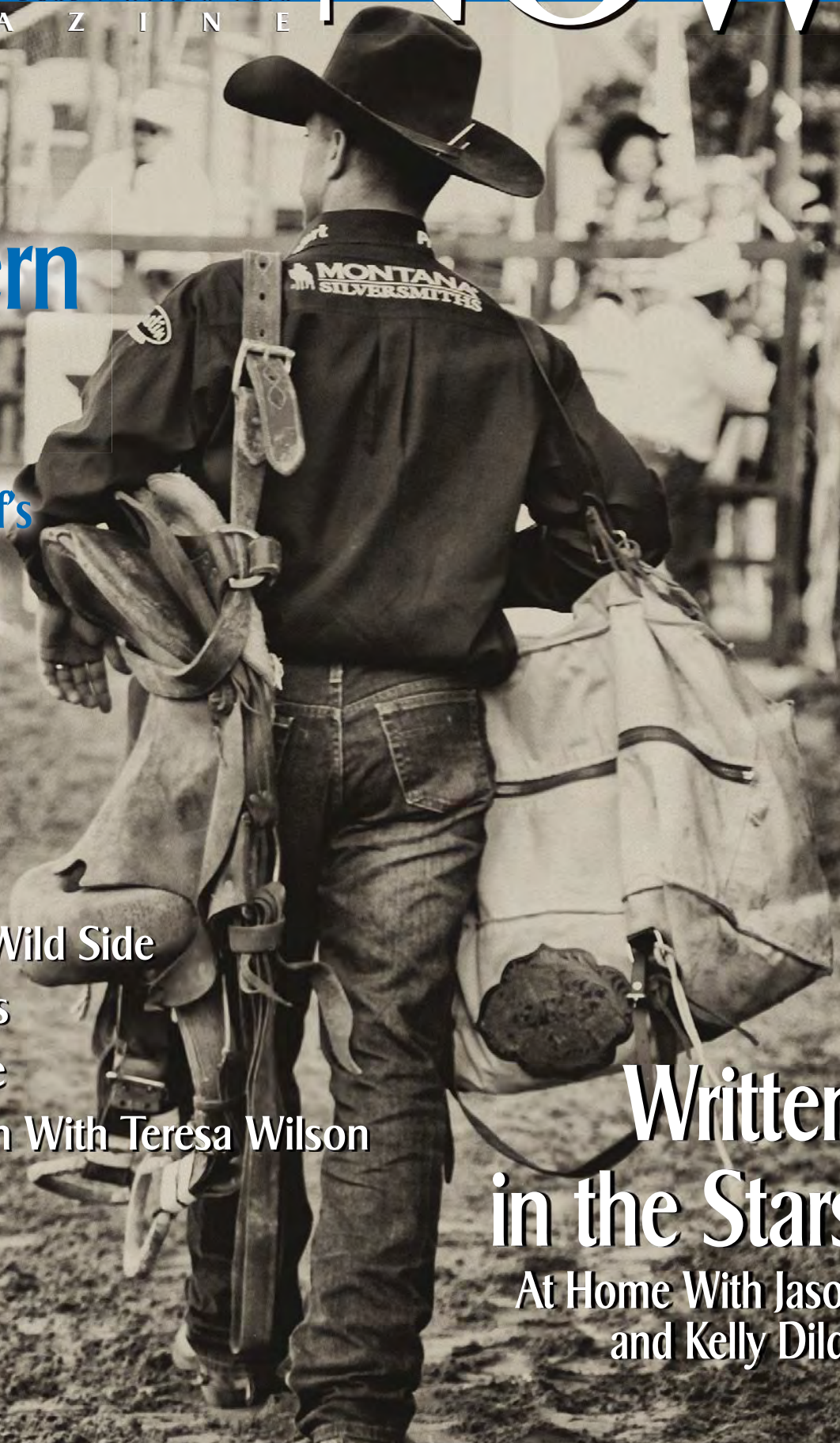
Western Pride

The Parker
County Sheriff's
Posse keeps
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history alive

Helping the Wild Side
Wagging Tails
Creative Style
In the Kitchen With Teresa Wilson

Written in the Stars

At Home With Jason
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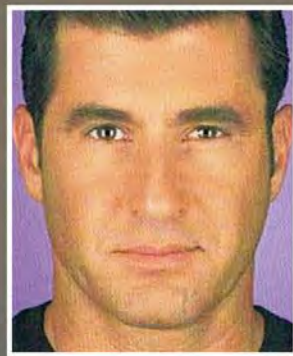
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ON THE COVER



Rodeo competitors and spectators will converge on Weatherford this month.

Photo by Sarah Claussen.

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Editor's Note

Greetings, *WeatherfordNOW* friends!

Summer is a time for fun in the sun! Local residents can take a stroll through Cherry Park or go for a dip in the swimming pool. The park has plenty of space to plop down for a picnic and enjoy a swing at the playground.

If you need a little time in the shade, why not visit the Weatherford Public Library? The library's Summer Reading Clubs for children and teenagers run from June 2 to

August 10. Students can improve their literacy skills throughout the summer, and prizes are available to those who meet their hourly reading goals. The library will sponsor several club kick-off events during the second week of June, with the Summer Reading Club Kick-Off Carnival held on June 12 for the entire family. For information on these events and more, visit the library's website at wpltx.com.

Happy summer!

Amber

Amber D. Browne
WeatherfordNOW Editor
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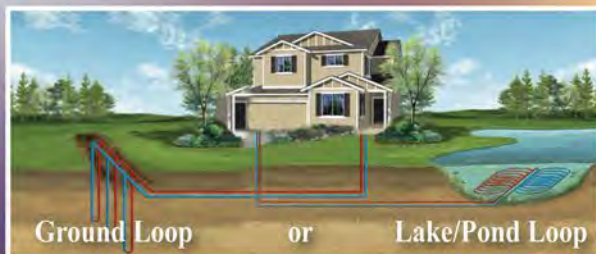
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Western Pride

— By Amber D. Browne

Born and reared in Weatherford, Bob Glenn still hangs his hat in his hometown. Bob embraces the history of Weatherford and strives to keep the city's western heritage alive. "Parker County began as a rural fruit and dairy center and livestock center, before we became part of the Metroplex — or Metromess as I call it," he joked. "My first love is my Lord. My second love is my family. My third love is Weatherford."

Born to a Weatherford police officer just over 72 years ago, Bob had an extraordinary life growing up in the small town. His mother, Mary Alice, died when he was 5 years old, and his father, Clyde Glenn, who worked the night shift, felt he was unable to rear his son. His father reached out to the Texas Pythian Home for help. "If you go out there today, you'll find my claw marks in those stone steps, because that castle terrified me," Bob quipped. "I threw such a hissy fit that he couldn't leave me, so he brought me back home."


Clyde consulted with his sisters, who agreed to rear his son with the help of Bob's grandparents. "I had a wonderful

life. I was a spoiled brat," Bob admitted. As a child, Bob became familiar with farming and raising cattle, while living on his uncles' ranches. "That's our fabric. It's where we started from. I think we have to remember where we came from to continue to be successful today. The values we had, the relationships, the trust and integrity and honesty that came with the western heritage — we've got to retain that."

As a Parker County Sheriff's Posse member, Bob spends many hours volunteering to keep Weatherford's western heritage intact. A member

since 1995, Bob has served in various leadership roles and on several committees. He currently volunteers as publicity chairman and serves on the Sheriff's Posse board.

The Sheriff's Posse formed in 1947 to promote, preserve and protect the western heritage of Parker County. "I look back at the members before me, and I admire those gentlemen as civic leaders and for their desire to retain our history and the traditions of early Parker County. I wanted to be a part of it," Bob said. To grab one of the 150 elite memberships, a man must live in and own land in Parker County. A member must also appreciate the western lifestyle, own a horse and ride

A full-page photograph of a man with a mustache, wearing a light-colored cowboy hat, a red and white checkered long-sleeved shirt, blue jeans, and a brown leather belt. He is standing in a large hall with wooden walls and tables in the background. The photo is framed by a decorative border that includes a rope-like element at the bottom and a star-shaped graphic on the left.

"My first love is my
Lord. My second
love is my family.
My third love
is Weatherford."

on a regular basis. "Once you join the Posse, as long as you abide by the bylaws, pay your dues and meet the probation requirements for the first five years, you're a lifetime member."

The Posse's largest event of the year occurs each June. This year's Parker County Frontier Days Celebration takes place June 11-14. The Weatherford Lions Club coordinated the first rodeo in 1947, and the Sheriff's Posse took over the following year. "It's been a social event for Weatherford and Parker County ever since. It's something we all look forward to doing." Outdoor Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association-sanctioned rodeo events are held each night, Wednesday



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through Saturday, including bull riding and steer wrestling, with live music after the rodeo. However, the fun starts on Monday. Future Farmers of America and 4-H members with the Parker County Livestock Improvement Association exhibit their crops and animals throughout the week, with sale day falling on the final day of the rodeo. "The community is such a super support coming out to that sale and bidding on and buying those crops and animals at a premium," Bob explained. "The kids learn the value of hard work and see their labor rewarded through the sale of their products and livestock."

The Sheriff's Posse also sponsors the Ranch Rodeo each September. Bob and fellow members often appear in parades locally and across the state throughout the year.



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Fun and entertainment aren't the only things Sheriff's Posse members pursue. The group was created to assist the High Sheriff in emergency situations, and that purpose still stands today. The Sheriff's Posse has combed the area on horseback for an escaped jail inmate and missing or lost children. "Once you're sworn in as a Posse member, you are sworn in as a deputy sheriff. And, your badge states that. We have no official authority as a deputy sheriff, other than if we are called on by the Sheriff to assist."

The group meets once a month and has family dinners on other nights. Bob's wife, Carolyn, encourages his volunteer efforts. "It's one meal she doesn't have to cook on the first Monday nights," he joked. Bob also serves on about half a dozen other boards and committees, including Weatherford's Municipal Utility Board and the Parker County Historical Commission. "Carolyn is always my support in all these community endeavors," he boasted. "She's always by my side."

Bob and Carolyn knew each other while attending Weatherford High School but never dated. After graduation, Bob briefly attended The University of Texas at Austin but was called into the Army. He later attended Weatherford College

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and longed to work in sales at Folgers Coffee. Instead, he was offered a job at a Weatherford bank and took it. Carolyn was working for the FBI at the time, but she moved back to Weatherford when her mother was ill and became Bob's co-worker. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year with a surprise reception at North Side Baptist Church. Bob works at PlainsCapital Bank and recognized his 50th year in Weatherford banking in 2013. "Weatherford has been super to me and my family," Bob remarked.

Their son, Jim Glenn, works as the athletic trainer at Weatherford High School, while their daughter, Jill Dunegan, teaches elementary school in Midlothian. Their third child, Joe Glenn, works in a dental partnership in Waco. Bob and Carolyn try not to miss their four grandchildren's extracurricular activities, and they love to travel, including a trip to Europe this past spring.

In his free time, Bob shows off his 1955 Chevrolet pickup with the Parker County Cruisers and plays golf. "I've hit golf balls where no man has ever been," he joked. "But, I enjoy it." He and his wife also recently purchased and renovated the Franco-Texan Land Company building on the square. He leases out the bottom level. Upstairs, he stores rustic and western artifacts he's collected over the years.

Western heritage is ingrained in Bob's character, and he doesn't miss an opportunity to tout Parker County's rural history. "The day will come when it will be time to hang 'em up," he shared, "but, I plan to be active in the community and the Sheriff's Posse as long as my health will allow," Bob said. "Weatherford has long been a part of our lives, and we're still enjoying it." **NOW**



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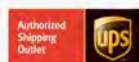


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WRITTEN IN THE Stars

— By Amber D. Browne

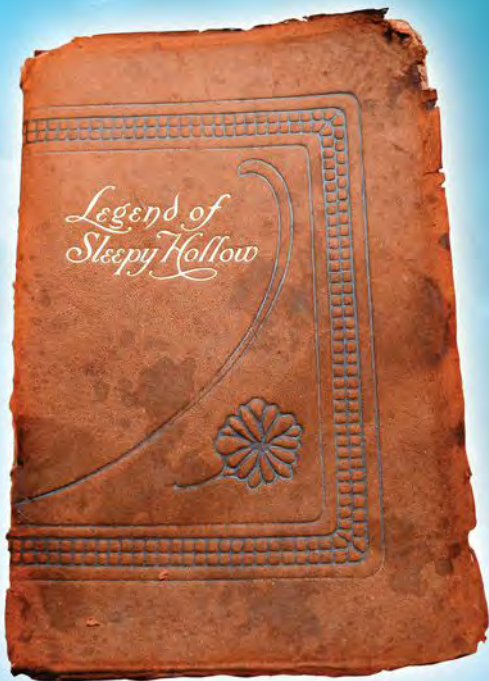
On Sleepy Hollow Lane in Weatherford lives a young family quite content with their surroundings. Jason and Kelly Dildy's home may seem like a farm house on the outside, but once inside, visitors discover unique fixtures and intricate artwork throughout the abode. Over the years, Kelly has found artifacts hidden away by the former owner, including antiques and an old, leather-bound copy of The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.

Photographer Linda Medford built the home in 1997, and when she passed away, she left her house and belongings to Ash Creek Baptist Church in Azle. Before she passed, she mentioned to Kelly's mother, Marsha Hardin, that Kelly might want to purchase the 40-acre property. A single woman at the time, Kelly thought the house and land might be too much space for her, but fate had a different plan. Kelly's mother purchased the property and sold her the house and just over an acre of land. "When I bought this, I never expected to be married and have two kids," Kelly admitted. "I am sure Linda would be pleased to know the home she built is a home filled with happiness and new memories every day."

Jason and Kelly knew of each other while attending school in Azle but didn't officially meet until they were introduced by a mutual friend in 2008. "After a couple dates, he told me he was going on a fishing trip in Alaska with some buddies," Kelly explained, "and he wanted to know if I would fly up there and meet him. With my love of travel and adventure, I was all in." The two married in May 2009, and they now share stories of times when their paths crossed throughout high school and college. "I guess the stars finally

AT HOME WITH Jason and Kelly Dildy





aligned, and we did get together,” she said. If their future was written in the stars, then living on the property once known as Star Hollow Ranch isn’t just another coincidence.

Stars are carved into woodwork throughout the home. In the dining area, the previous owner painted a colorful border of celestial bodies on the concrete flooring around the table. Curtains hanging on copper wire cover the windows in the dining room, but when they’re pulled back, visitors observe the perfect view of the land and the sun setting over the tree line. The master bedroom also gives Jason and Kelly a great view of their property. They remodeled the original dining room into their master bedroom by knocking out one wall. They kept the original windows to retain the view.

Jason and Kelly purchased the remaining acreage from Kelly’s mother



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after marrying, and over the years, the couple has grown into the property. Jason, Kelly and their two children, Parker, 4, and Emmarae, 2, enjoy the country living. "I like the privacy. I like that the kids can run, and I don't have to worry about them," Kelly shared.

The children's rooms upstairs are filled with toys. Parker's room is painted in brown, tan and baby blue stripes and houses a big boy bed covered in camouflage bedding. A collection of baseball caps hangs on one wall, with

framed horse pictures displayed on the others. Emmarae's room is decorated in pink and beige with African animal decorations adorning the walls.

A narrow staircase leads back into the kitchen. It's decorated in a rustic, western theme, which is apparent throughout the home. The base of the kitchen island was originally a wood shop table at the junior high school in Azle. The former home owner painted a blue and yellow rug underneath the island, which has plenty of counter space for mealtime with the

children. Copper accent tins are installed on the ceiling above the island, and a kitchen wall has become home to Kelly's collection of crosses. A pot rack hangs above the stove, and an old dinner bell is displayed on one wall, providing the



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children with a medium to call Daddy in for meal time.

In the early 2000s, the former owner added a foyer, living area and bathroom off the kitchen. Although there is no fireplace in the living room, parts of an antique piano were installed as a mantel, showcasing family photographs. A built-in bar is great for entertaining and gives Jason a good view of the living area to watch the children as they play with their toys. "With two young children, our house is totally unpredictable, but I like to think of it as a beautiful mess," Kelly said.

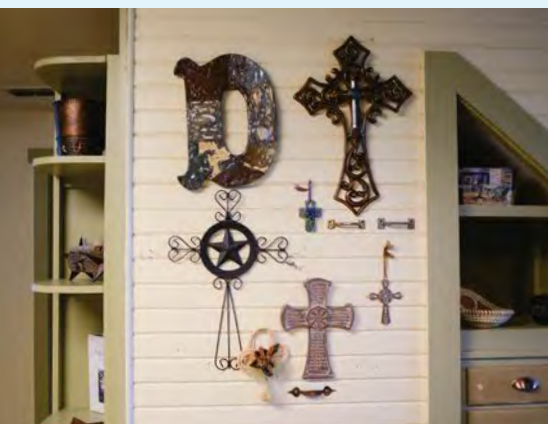
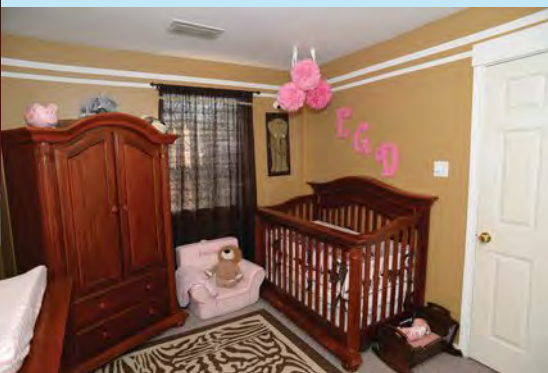
The property also houses a wood shop, storage shed and green house. Foundation has been poured for a second shop, where Jason plans to store the 1955 Chevy that belonged to his late father, Joe Dildy. "We were going to redo it together, but we never had a chance before he got cancer," Jason shared. "Once I get the shop built, I'll bring it in and start tinkering with it. Hopefully, Parker will join in with me, as well."

They also plan to renovate the wood shop into a party barn. The wood shop now houses supplies for their horses, Blackie and King. The family dog, Raider, patrols the property. He got his name from the Red Raiders at Texas Tech University, Kelly's alma mater. Jason attended Sul Ross State University.

Both Jason and Kelly now work in

their families' businesses. Jason works in mechanical contracting at Dildy and Associates. Kelly previously taught agriculture classes in Azle and now works part time at Marsha Hardin Real Estate. "Right now, I'm focusing on being a mom," Kelly shared. In their free time, the family enjoys spending time together hunting. At home, they set up a feeder to catch glimpses of deer and turkey snacking on the corn. Kelly enjoys running 10Ks and often straps the children in their stroller for a quick jog.

The Dildys like to entertain, frequently having family and friends over to grill and



shoot skeet. They added a stone patio to the back of the house and enjoy spending evenings outside in the peace and quiet of the country. "It's nice to sit out on the porch near the fire pit," Jason said. "We'll make some s'mores and look at the stars. I can tell a big difference from being in the city where you have more city lights. You don't see the stars there, like we have out here."

The Dildys plan to spend forever in their home out in the country, where they can watch the sun set and wish upon a star. "No one has a house like mine. It has rustic charm. We feel blessed to be here," Kelly shared. "There really is no place like home." **NOW**

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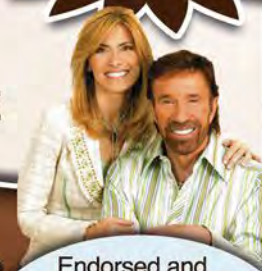
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HELPING THE *Wild Side*

— By Erin McEndree

Many people do not know about the wild side of the feline population also known as feral cats. People see cute cuddly kittens in the pet stores awaiting adoption to good homes, but they aren't aware of the plight of the cats on the street where food, water, shelter and medical attention are scarce. Ro Williams, Realtor and owner of an estate sale company, is one such person who provides for the needs of several feral cat colonies in the community.

Quite a difference can be noted between stray cats and feral cats. Stray cats are those that are lost or abandoned by their owners but could still be accustomed to humans. Stray cats, when caught, are easily adoptable to good homes. Feral cats are born in the wild. They do not adopt well, unless they are caught very young and acclimated to humans. Ro focuses on the latter, and her heart goes out to all the homeless felines that would be doomed for euthanasia. Ro and Kari Breen, a photographer in Fort Worth, started a nonprofit organization called Cattailz that focuses on the welfare and rescue of the unattended cats in Parker and Tarrant counties.

"When my family and I moved to the area, I noticed a kitten at the grocery store and started feeding it," Ro said. "Then I noticed one at a fast-food place and started feeding it. When my

husband, Terry, would see a cat around a restaurant or dumpster, he would look at our kids and say, 'Don't tell Mom.'"

Ro started feeding at several stations around the area. One morning when Ro fed, she noticed some different cat food had been set out for the animals. She left a note for that person, which was how she met Kari. They have the same heart for cats and decided to split the route. Now they feed at seven stations every morning. They get permission from business owners to feed the cats. But Ro does not stop there.

She also traps the cats and has them spayed or neutered so they cannot reproduce. Ro also educates people on the benefits of the trap, neuter, release program (TNR), noting it improves the overall health of feral cats. When they no longer have litter after litter of kittens, they are no longer loud and causing fights over mating rituals. Sick cats are helped with medication or removed, and fleas and mites are being controlled. What's tricky is trying to treat feral cats you cannot touch. "I use Ester-C for their immune system and diatomaceous earth to control fleas and mites," Ro said. "Helping the cats is so rewarding. It makes me feel like I'm giving back and doing something good that day."



Helping feral cats can be approached in several different ways. "I named one cat Peach Tail, but I can't catch her to have her spayed. She is so quick, and we have tried several kinds of live traps," Ro explained. "When her kittens are old enough to be weaned, I trap them and take them to be adopted." The colony does not continue to grow, and some sweet white and orange kittens get good homes. Cattailz sponsors the adoption facility in Petco near Ridgmar Mall. Kari manages the adoption side of the organization. Volunteers go to the store every day to clean cages and feed. "It takes a lot of volunteers," Ro said. "We always need more."



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Ro also helps feral cats find permanent homes by introducing them into a safe and welcoming environment through the Barn Cat Program supported by the Weatherford Animal Shelter. Dustin Deel, director of animal services, supports the TNR program in Parker County and coordinates the Barn Cat Program with Ro. "We have many of the same goals, which makes a partnership just common sense," Dustin explained. "There is



nothing more satisfying than giving a second chance to an innocent animal." People who are willing to care for the felines by providing food, water and shelter are considered to receive cats. The cats help control the rodent population, and the program saves the life of a cat by giving it a second chance.

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ed enough to rescue, I have been rescued."

until they get a permanent home through Petfinder or Adopt-A-Pet. Ro has two cats of her own but admits she is not a good foster. "I get too attached," Ro explained. "But sometimes college students who have a project or a paper to write become fosters for a while. People don't usually stay long-term, so volunteers are always appreciated.

"People also have a different feeling toward cats [than other animals]," Ro



said. "They don't see them as cute and cuddly like they do dogs." In Ro's experience, people donate more to adoption centers for cats' needs like food and toys, but people don't tend to donate to feral cat organizations. Ro used to pay for the food, spays and neuters herself, but now she writes grants and gets donations from sources like Big Heart Pet Brands, Petco, Pets

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West and the animal shelter. "In the future, I'd like to write [a proposal] for a larger grant to help with more traps, food and medical care," Ro said.

Some people feel all feral cats should be removed. However, another colony would take over that source of food, creating an endless cycle. According to the Humane Society website, if you want to help, look for an organization caring for these cats in your community and get information about how to participate and care for the needs of homeless felines. Most caregivers have a feeding schedule and know each cat personally. The Humane Society encourages people to become a caretaker of a colony they know is not currently being cared for. Trapping, neutering and releasing, offering food, water and shelter, monitoring health and attempting to adopt out new kittens are essential for a colony to stay healthy and small.

Ro recalls relocating some cats that lived close to the police station in Fort Worth. She placed them in a safe location in Willow Park, but soon they did not show up to be fed. Ro was worried about them. One day, she talked to a fireman who thought he had seen the cats. "Those cats followed the sound of the sirens," Ro said. "They relocated themselves to what was familiar."

"Every day when I feed, I think this might be the last time I see a particular cat. So, I love on every one of them today." Ro takes every opportunity she can to help improve the homeless cats' predicaments and show them a little love each day. **NOW**

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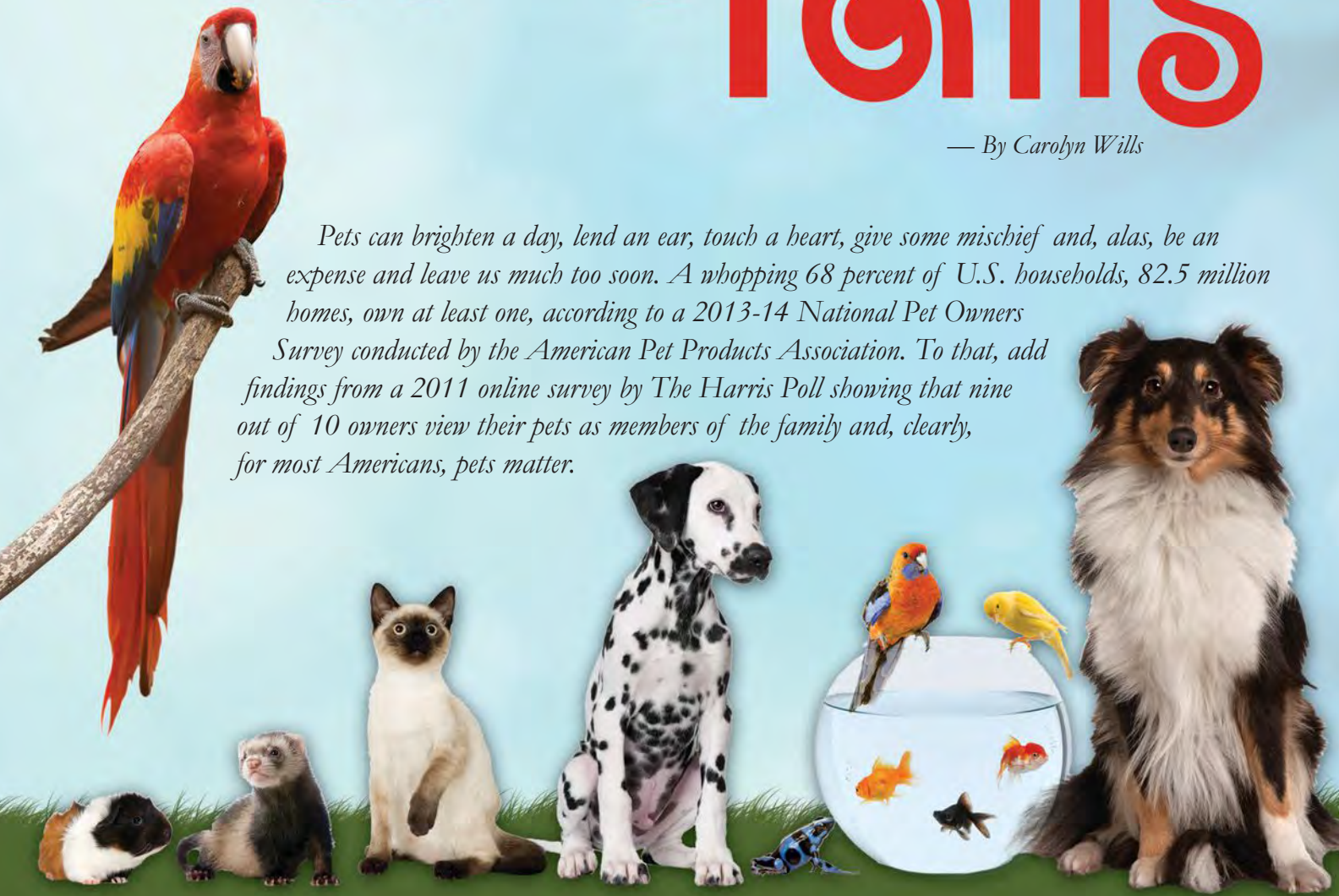
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WaggingTails

— By Carolyn Wills

Pets can brighten a day, lend an ear, touch a heart, give some mischief and, alas, be an expense and leave us much too soon. A whopping 68 percent of U.S. households, 82.5 million homes, own at least one, according to a 2013-14 National Pet Owners Survey conducted by the American Pet Products Association. To that, add findings from a 2011 online survey by The Harris Poll showing that nine out of 10 owners view their pets as members of the family and, clearly, for most Americans, pets matter.



Anyone who has marveled at a cat, enjoyed the perfect horseback ride or looked into the eyes of an old dog knows the special language between human and animal. On the simplest level, pets are our companions, but they can also be conduits to physical, competitive and/or social outlets. Today, labels like “horse people” and “dog people” are familiar, and clubs, training facilities and activities exist for just about every breed, talent and interest.

Remarkably, Americans care for an estimated 20.6 million birds, 95.6 million cats, 83.3 million dogs, 8.3 million horses, 158.6 million fish, 11.5 million reptiles and 18.1 million small animals. That’s a lot of millions supporting pets, particularly against the realities of their expense and shorter life expectancy.

What, then, draws us to become “pet parents”?

1. Having a pet is an opportunity to care for something outside of ourselves. Pets personify unconditional love and a wondrous connection to nature. They’re also great entertainers,



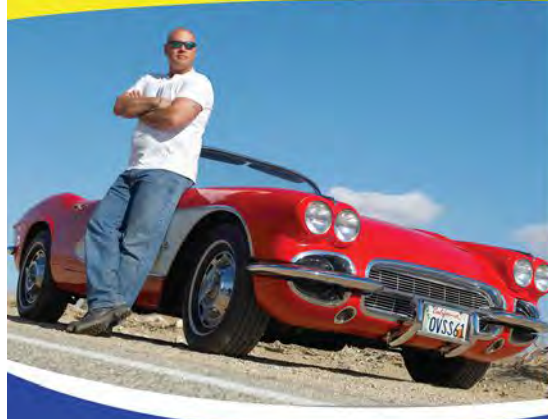
and as creatures of habit, can serve as a grounding force in our lives.

2. Health and welfare benefits can be found in pet ownership, too. APPA cites several studies supporting the pet connection as being good for us:

🐾 People with hypertension who adopted a cat or dog were found to have lower blood pressure readings in stressful situations than those who did not own pets. (Dr. Karen Allen, State University of New York at Buffalo.)

🐾 Pets have also been found to be effective at reducing human stress and anger. Walking a dog, riding a horse, petting a cat or any number of

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activities soothes nerves, provides physical release and promotes relaxation.

 Pets inspire greater psychological stability, which for humans, may add a measure of protection against heart disease. Studies indicate pet owners tend to make fewer doctor visits. (National Institute of Health Technology Assessment Workshop: Health Benefits of Pets.)

 APPA also notes that autistic children tend to be more responsive when a pet is in the area, and children who have pets often perform better in school.

 Senior citizens and dementia patients have shown a tendency to react more positively around pets. Baby boomers have the largest instances of pet ownership, and as they transition to empty nesting are keeping pets longer.

These benefits and privileges come with responsibilities. Truly there is no such thing as a free puppy, and although according to the National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy (NCPSP), about 65 percent of pets are acquired from friends and family for free or at low cost, pet owners must provide medical care and prevention for their pets.

Advancements in veterinarian care, education and training are allowing animals to live longer and healthier. Medical care includes such basics as vaccinations,





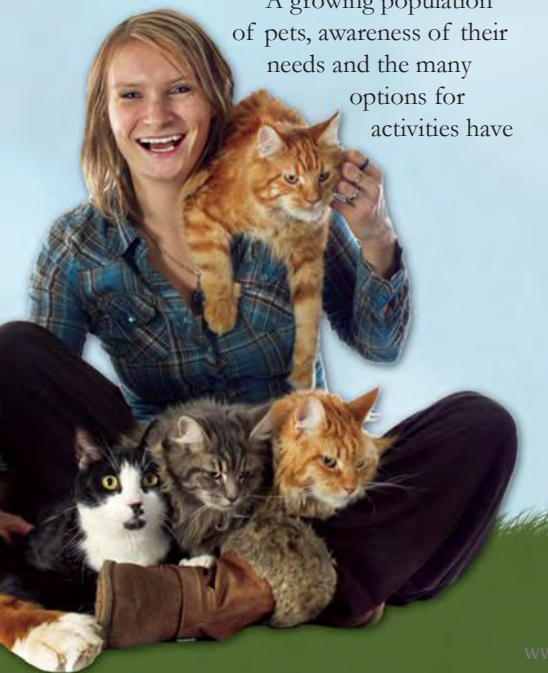
heartworm preventative (in Texas nearly 1-in-45 heartworm tests in dogs are positive), spaying/neutering and might also include microchipping, vitamins and pet insurance. Much, too, has been learned about the importance of dental maintenance.

Currently APPA estimates that, at most, 3 percent of dogs and 1 percent of cats are insured. Investing in pet insurance is on the increase, though, at an expected annual rate of 10 percent and may especially be pertinent for horse owners considering the cost of equine surgery. Annual medical expenses for a dog are generally just under \$1,000 and for a cat around \$650.

Annual costs of pet food, including treats, begin at around \$300. Where this investment ends depends on the sizes and quantity of pets in a household.

Grooming is also essential. Horses need farriers. Dogs and cats require regular grooming and nail clipping and some breeds are best groomed by a professional.

A growing population of pets, awareness of their needs and the many options for activities have



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spurred development in America's pet industry. In 2014, an estimated \$58.51 billion will be spent on pets in the U.S., and that's a lot of billions. Today's pets are being treated to orthopedic dog beds, designer clothing, IQ-raising toys, seat belt systems, automatic water and food dispensers plus a myriad of foods from basic to breed-specific to organic. Travel-related pet services, after-care (burial) services, pet day care, dog parks, pet portraits and products are all in demand.



More than at any time, people have access to pet-specific information via specialized broadcast programming, publications, social media, clinics and events, breed associations, veterinary journals and pet industry studies. Individual pets have gained fame as social media "stars" with their own Facebook pages, Twitter accounts and blogs. As the industry grows and people increasingly grasp the peril of unwanted animals and unscrupulous/uneducated breeders, more rescue operations and organizations are forming and tolerance is lessening toward all abuse of animals.

Thankfully, for those puppies, guppies, kittens, ponies, parakeets, hedgehogs, hamsters or gerbils, bunnies, ferrets, turtles or others fortunate to be adoptees of responsible and devoted pet parents, life in America is good. **NOW**

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CREATIVE STYLE

At Elite Salon, Connie Buchanan and her experienced stylists offer clients one-of-a-kind services.

— By Amber D. Browne

Creativity and experience are a necessity at any high-end hair salon. At Elite Salon in Weatherford, clients walk away from each appointment feeling more beautiful and confident. With services ranging from trendy cuts, quality coloring and inventive hair styles to relaxing massages and eyelash extensions, Elite Salon clients can spend the day indulging while experiencing superior results.

Connie Buchanan purchased Elite Salon from the previous owner while working as a stylist there in 2009. Connie has been in the industry for 10 years, but she has enjoyed doing hair since she was a teenager. “I was always cutting my friends’ hair. I colored their hair, even before I had any training,” Connie admitted. Her

mother thought she should go into the hair industry after graduating from high school, but Connie decided to continue schooling and attended college near Houston for business management.

She and her husband, David, relocated to the Weatherford area for his employment with Union Pacific, and once her children were in school, she received her cosmetology certification from Weatherford College. “You start assessing what you’re good at. You want to do something you like to do,” she said. Connie began working as a hair stylist at Elite Salon, and five years later purchased the salon. “I never thought when I started doing hair

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I would own a salon. I realize all those things in my life worked together for me to be where I am now."

With experience as a hair stylist and as a salon owner, Connie has seen both sides of the business. "I try to think what would appeal to the stylists to get them here," Connie stated. "I want stylists of character, of skill, someone who has been doing hair for a while," Connie said. The experienced stylists at Elite Salon know how to handle the client, how to communicate with the client and how to interpret what the client wants.

Elite Salon is one of the largest hair salons in Weatherford. The salon's open floor plan includes stations for stylists, plus several suites. Stylists specialize in cuts and color, but they can also provide other services, as well. Those services include hair extensions, color correction, styles for special occasions and perms. Connie and her stylists often attend hair shows to continue their education on new products and styling techniques. "The salon industry is ever-changing, and we try to change with it," Connie said. Massage therapists are on staff, and waxing and eyelash extension services are also available.

Elite Salon is a Paul Mitchell Signature Salon, but the stylists use their preferred products, which they also retail to clients. If the client prefers a different product line, the stylists will try to accommodate the request. Although most of the clientele are women, stylists offer hair services for men and children, too.


Elite Salon was recently voted Best Salon of Parker County by the *Weatherford Star Telegram* and also took home the award for Best Salon of 2012 in the *Weatherford Democrat's* Reader's Choice Awards. Building on that recognition, the stylists consistently strive to maintain quality customer service and stunning results. Connie appreciates the support of the Weatherford community and often gives back by donating services for fundraisers, including Project Graduation at Weatherford High School. "Weatherford has grown so much, but it still maintains that small-town feel," Connie said. "People are just very loyal here." **NOW**




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Parker County Women's and Newcomers' Club President Lorena Friddle wins the Woman of the Year Award. Jo Cheatham takes home the Marjorie Roach Award at the group's Celebration of Women Tea.



Steve and Tricia Heflin join family and community leaders to break ground on The Brooks at Weatherford set to open this fall.



Friends of the Weatherford Public Library board members join guest speaker Vicki Hitzges at the group's 28th Annual Spring Luncheon.



Kathy Funderburg with Facial Cosmetic & Surgical Center adds literature to the lobby.



Olin Horne and Ariana Rojas join Aledo's Eric Austin to celebrate their friends at Wings of Hope Equitherapy.



Kenton Harvey, Gary Snow, Jamie Bodiford Brinkley and Vicki Durant, Alumnus of the Year, are recognized with the Weatherford College 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award.



Ms. Senior Parker County winners Selma Johnson, 2012; Billie June Cox, 2013; and newly crowned Kaye Albanese, 2014, take the stage after the pageant.



Cisco finds a new home with Zac Chapman at a Parker Paws adoption event.



Staci Tharp, Weatherford High School English teacher, is recognized as Weatherford ISD Secondary Teacher of the Year and WHS Campus Teacher of the Year by Jerry's GM General Manager Donna Dickinson.



Charlie Bean and K.W. Gibbins prepare to tee off at Squaw Creek Golf Course.

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Turn Your Retirement “Vision” Into Reality

Retirement can be an exciting, active time of your life. But if you’re going to get the full benefits from your retirement years — which could last two, or even three, decades — you’ll need to have a vision for what you want to do. And to transform this vision into reality, you’ll need to take a “holistic” approach — one that involves a financial strategy, clear communications with family members and an awareness of the challenges that may stand in your way.

To articulate and achieve your vision, ask yourself a series of questions, such as the following:

What do I want to do? When you retire, do you plan on traveling around the world? Purchasing a vacation home? Pursuing your hobbies? Or maybe you’re even thinking of opening a small business. Clearly, you have many options, and you’ll need to be aware that some choices are going to be more costly than others. If you can identify how you want to spend your retirement years and then put a “price tag” on your goal — or at least come up with a pretty good estimate of how much money you’ll need each year — you can then create an appropriate investment strategy. Such a strategy will include both your need for growth — during your preretirement and retirement years — and your need for income, especially during your retirement years. Your investment strategy will also need to be based on your risk tolerance, family situation and time horizon — how many years you have until your retirement.

What roadblocks might I encounter? As you work to achieve your retirement vision, you may well encounter some roadblocks along the way. One significant roadblock is the amount of health care expenses you might

face during retirement. Many people think Medicare will cover everything, but that’s not the case — in fact, you could easily spend a few thousand dollars each year, out of pocket, for health care costs. And since these costs typically rise as you move further into retirement, you’ll need a reasonable portion of your assets to be allocated to investments with the potential for rising income. Even beyond normal health care costs, though, you’ll need to be aware that you could eventually need some type of long-term care, such as a stay in a nursing home or assistance from a home health aide. These costs can be enormous. To cope with them, you need to prepare well ahead of time, so you may want to consult with your financial advisor for possible solutions.

How can I protect my family? Your retirement vision can’t just involve yourself, or even just yourself and your spouse. To fully enjoy your retirement years, you’ll want to know that you are helping to protect your grown children from financial and emotional burdens that could fall on them should you become incapacitated in some way. Among the steps you might consider taking is establishing a durable power of attorney, which allows you to appoint an agent to manage your financial affairs, make health care decisions or conduct other business for you during your incapacitation. Consult with your legal advisor about creating a durable power of attorney.

You will find that having your retirement vision come to fruition can be a great feeling. So, do whatever it takes to make it happen. **NOW**

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

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Complexity in Lupus

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

Leslie Hunt, a contestant on the *American Idol* TV show defines lupus as the biggest hindrance in her life. She is only one of the 1.5 million Americans with lupus. Lupus erythematosus is an autoimmune disease where the body targets its own cells for destruction. The cause of this devastating turn of events is unknown. Some scientists, however, believe any one or a combination of these triggers may precipitate it: hormones, stress, genetics, sunlight, some medications and the environment. Because it is an autoimmune disease and possesses the ability to occur and create havoc to any organ in the body, it is very complex in its actions, diagnosis and treatment.

When lupus manifests itself, common symptoms are: pain, swelling, fatigue, inflammation and a characteristic butterfly rash on the face. Other symptoms will be specific to the organ affected. Lupus can be a challenging disease to diagnose because of its possible wide-ranging effects. The disease can be mild or life threatening, short-lived or protracted. Some symptoms can have a rapid onset with a short duration, or there can be a progression of symptoms over years. If all of that were not challenging enough, the disease can be confused with other diseases, because early symptoms are not distinct enough and can mirror many other diseases or disorders. Symptoms also vary from person to person.

Diagnosis might be difficult, but it is not impossible. Being

treated by a physician who is very familiar with lupus, such as a rheumatologist or immunologist, is important. Your doctor will take an in-depth medical history and do a very thorough physical examination. This can establish a baseline for symptomatology for the disease, as well as give the doctor a clue as to what triggers or exacerbates symptoms. Some of the laboratory work done is a complete blood count (CBC), urinalysis, blood chemistry, tests for specific antibodies and erythrocyte sedimentation rate.

Treatment will depend on where and how lupus manifests itself. As symptoms progress, other clinical professionals may be called upon for assistance or consultation, such as a cardiologist if lupus is in the heart, a nephrologist if the disease is in the kidneys or a dermatologist for the skin. Other professionals who may be included on the health care team are psychologists, nurses and social workers. Your health care team will create the best treatment plan for your age, symptoms and your general health. Coming up with a plan will take much observation, tests and time. Putting a conscientious effort into finding a way to live your best life with lupus is the first step toward good health. **NOW**

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

June 6

Fourth annual First Fridays Summer Concert Series: 6:00-10:00 p.m., downtown Aledo. Families are invited to attend the event, which will include a car show, live music and a petting zoo. A Fireworks Extravaganza will end the evening. For more information, visit www.aledo-texas.com.

June 7

Walk to End Lupus: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Texas Pythian Home, 1825 Bankhead. The casual walk around the Pythian Home will raise funds for people diagnosed with Lupus. For more information, visit www.lupuswalk.kintera.org or call (817) 992-5353.

June 7, 14, 21, 28

Movies in the Park: 9:00 p.m., ball fields at Holland Lake Park, 1419 Holland Lake Rd. Free, family-friendly movies will be shown each night. Lawn chairs and blankets are advised, and a concession stand will be available to purchase food and beverages. For more information, please call (817) 598-4034 or visit www.weatherfordparks.com.

June 11 — 14

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. Visit www.parkercountysheriffposse.com for more information.

June 13

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 RSVP or find out more information by calling (817) 205-2356 or visiting www.brockumc.com.

June 21

2014 Miss Parker County Peach Pageant: 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Weatherford Community Building, 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.

K-9 & Kitty Karnival: Noon-3:00 p.m., Pets West, 102 Bear Cat Rd, Aledo. Families are

invited to bring their dogs to enjoy the day. Contests will be held for Look-A-Like, Best Trick and Next Top Model. Refreshments will be provided by PlainsCapital Bank. For more information, call (817) 694-5718.

Ongoing

First and Third Thursdays

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Family Support Group: 6:00 p.m., South Main Church of Christ, 201 S. Main St. The free support group will provide information and encouragement to families and friends of those suffering with PTSD. Call (817) 594-3030 for more information.

Fridays

Hope: Yoga for Healing: 11:15 a.m., Indra's Grace, 131 West Church St., Ste. 200. Indra's Grace is partnering with The Center for Blood and Cancer Disorders to offer cancer patients and their caregivers a free class every Friday to help ease stress and pain. For more, visit www.indrasgrace.com or call (682) 241-5020.

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

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In the Kitchen With Teresa Wilson

— By Amber D. Browne

No matter what type of mood Teresa Wilson is in, she always finds inspiration and comfort in the kitchen. “My family says I cook when I’m happy, when I’m sad, when I’m stressed — I cook all the time!” Teresa’s mother always had a large pot of something cooking on the stove, and she shared her wisdom of food with her daughter. Most of Teresa’s recipes have been passed down from her mother, other relatives and friends.

Teresa enjoys incorporating a theme into her meals with matching dishes and decorations. “But, I love what I was taught — down-home, heavy-handed cooking. Heavy-handed means using lots of butter, sugar and cream,” Teresa explained. “We cook big and eat big, feeding the body and warming the soul.” **NOW**

Fried Green Tomatoes

1 large egg, slightly beaten
1/2 cup buttermilk
1/2 cup all-purpose flour (divided use)
1/2 cup cornmeal
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper
Vegetable oil
3 medium-sized green tomatoes,
cut into 1/3-inch slices

1. Combine egg and buttermilk in a bowl and set aside.
2. Combine 1/4 cup flour, cornmeal, salt and pepper in a shallow bowl.
3. Pour oil to a depth of 1/2-inch in a large cast-iron skillet; heat to 375 F.
4. Dredge tomato slices in remaining flour. Dip each slice into egg mixture and dredge in cornmeal mixture. Drop tomatoes into hot oil and cook 2 minutes on each side, or until golden. Drain on paper or rack. Season hot tomatoes with salt and serve.

Fresh Okra Gumbo

8 slices bacon
1 large onion, finely chopped
6 large tomatoes, chopped, or 24-oz.
can diced tomatoes, undrained
2 pounds fresh okra, sliced into
1/2-inch pieces
1 cup water
1 Tbsp. white vinegar
Salt and pepper, to taste

1. Fry bacon in a skillet until crisp; set aside.
2. Add bacon drippings to a stock pot; add crumbled bacon and remaining ingredients. Reduce heat and simmer for 50 minutes, or until okra is done. Do not stir often or briskly, because the okra will fall apart.

Potato Hamburger Soup

6 large baking potatoes, peeled
and cubed
2 qts. water

2 lbs. ground beef
1 large onion, chopped
2 Tbsp. parsley
1/4 cup pimento or red bell pepper
1/2 stick real butter
1 cup heavy cream

1. Boil potatoes in 2 quarts of water until soft.
2. Brown ground beef with next 4 ingredients. Do not drain drippings.
3. Add or reduce the amount of liquid per desired thickness; slightly mash potatoes, leaving some lumps. Stir in cream; add meat mixture. Serve hot.

Heavenly Quick Biscuits

4 cups Bisquick
1 cup sour cream
1 cup 7UP
1 Tbsp. butter, melted

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Butter the bottom of a 9x13-inch baking dish.
2. Mix first 3 ingredients together and pour onto a floured surface. Flatten dough to 1-inch thickness; cut biscuits with the rim of a glass or biscuit cutter. Place biscuits side-by-side in baking dish so that they are touching. Brush tops with melted butter. Bake at 325 F for 20-25 minutes, or until tops are golden brown.

Mom’s Old-fashioned Tea Cakes

1 cup butter
1 3/4 cups sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
2 eggs
3 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg

1. Preheat oven to 325 F. Cream butter, sugar and vanilla until smooth. Stir in one egg at a time.
2. Combine remaining ingredients; stir dry ingredients into creamed mixture. Knead dough a few turns on a floured board until smooth. Cover and refrigerate until firm.
3. On a floured surface, roll dough out to 1/4-inch thickness. Cut into desired shapes with cookie cutter. Place 1 1/2-inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake for 8-9 minutes only. Cool 5 minutes before moving to wire rack to completely cool. Cookies should be very soft and barely browned around edges.

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