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July 2009

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to Generation

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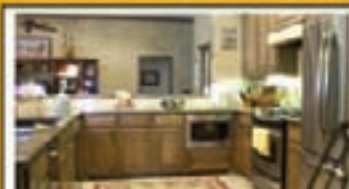
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Photo by Terri Ozymy.

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Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

Summer is definitely upon us; in fact, for most it is halfway over. There are always activities going on at most of the parks in town, and what better way to spend the day with your friends and family than playing, cooking out and just enjoying being outside?

As you plan your Fourth of July celebrations, take a moment to reflect on the meaning behind the holiday and how blessed we are as Americans. Remember to thank a veteran for serving our country and protecting our freedoms!

If you have a great idea for a story and want to see it in print, please feel free to contact me. If you need assistance with advertising please call (903) 875-0187.

Wishing you love and kindness always,

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From Generation to Generation

— By Samantha Daviss

Walking down the center aisle of St. John's Episcopal Church in Corsicana leaves you with an overwhelming sense of history, almost as if the past 100 years of its existence are resonating in the walls of the sanctuary. Dr. Robert Lang has played an important part in this church's history, as has his family. Not many families are able to claim this impressive fact, but the Langs have managed to preserve a longstanding family tradition through the eyes of God and under His protection and guidance in



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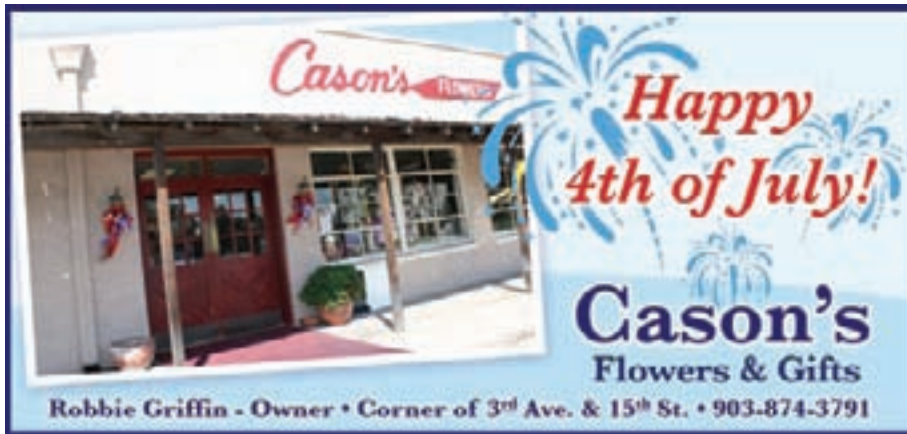
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the walls of the same church since its beginning.

"My great-grandfather, Captain Charles Henry Allyn, and a devoted group of Episcopalians established the church in 1871," Robert, known as "Bobby," explained. "Captain Allyn was a Yankee. He moved down here after he met his wife while fighting in the Battle of New Orleans." When the railroad came to Corsicana, Captain Allyn soon followed and established



one of the many mercantile stops on the route from Houston.

Regardless of his allegiance to the North, the captain made quite a lasting reputation in the young town of Corsicana. Captain Allyn began the Episcopal Church in Corsicana in 1871, before there was even a diocese (an ecclesiastical district under the jurisdiction of a bishop) in Dallas. He was also instrumental in building and erecting the original Corsicana Country Club building. In 1908, he played a key role in the building of St. John's Church on the sight where it stands today.

The Lang family's dedication to the church is still apparent in every aspect of their membership and involvement in the church. "I remember going through training as an acolyte when I was 12 years old," Bobby said, recalling

the first time he became involved in the church. "Then it was also about that time that I began to sing in the choir, which led to my choral career in high school and college, through the service and on into dental school." After returning to Corsicana in 1955, with his dental degree and Beverly, his beautiful bride of now 60 years, Bobby rejoined the church choir full time. "Before I returned home permanently, I would pop in to sing with the choir on the weekends when I was in town visiting from college and dental school," he shared.

Bobby considers himself a bass singer, although he admitted his voice has changed over many years of singing. "I just love to sing, and I



always have music running through my mind," he said. "I very rarely miss a Sunday in church. It starts my week off right for me." Beverly added with a smile, "He is constantly whistling, but the thing I remember most about him was that he had a voice like Sinatra in college. He would always serenade the sororities."

The church has enjoyed many years of Bobby's singing, as well as many generations of Lang family devotion. "We Episcopalians are very sacramental people," he explained. "I have held almost every position in the church except priest. There have been many ups and downs in the church. We have

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seen new members come and go, members pass away and members move away," Bobby continued.

The Langs' roots indeed run deep in their church. Like her husband, Beverly's involvement in the church cannot go unnoticed, as she was an active member in the church choir for over 16 years. "In fact, our granddaughter, Leslie, was married there in May of 2008. She was the fifth generation [Lang family member] to be wed in the church," Bobby said, beaming with pride. "It



just so happened to be the 100th anniversary of the church." While Bobby and Beverly were not married in the church because Beverly's father was a Methodist minister and they were wed in the Methodist church, the family members that were wed at St. John's include: Captain Allyn's daughter; Bobby's parents; Bobby's brother; Bobby and Beverly's daughter, Susan; their son, John; and their granddaughter, Leslie.

The Langs' dedication was even memorialized with three gorgeous stained glass windows that adorn the interior of the sanctuary. "One day, my cousin and her husband bumped into an architect at a function. As they sat and discussed the project [of designing a new church in Corsicana], the architect quickly sketched a design of a church on the back of a cocktail napkin. That design is actually the current design and layout of the church [St. John's] as

it stands today. So, for all of her efforts and hard work in getting the church designed and built, the church decided to immortalize my cousin in one of the beautiful stained glass windows,” Bobby explained. “Then, there is my



grandfather, who was also honored with a window because of his allegiance to the church. He was the treasurer of the church and extremely involved in every aspect.” Captain Allyn was also honored with the large circular window in the center of the church for his obvious commitment to the church.

It is quite apparent that Dr. Robert Lang is a man with dedication, a truth made apparent by his wonderful 60 years of marriage to his wife, his 70-year tenure in the St. John's church choir, his perseverance to graduate from dental school and his dedication to his children and grandchildren. Bobby is the type of man many people strive to be. With faith, honor and loyalty, he has managed to sustain the positive reputation and lineage that his family established at St. John's Episcopal Church. On March 8, 2009, the church showed their gratitude and thanks for Bobby's devotion and dedication with his very own embossed and dated choral notebook. On any given Sunday, you can visit the Episcopal Church to hear him and the rest of the choir sing some of their favorite hymns. One in particular is Robert's favorite — one he calls “The Navy Hymn.” “I don't know if that's its official name, but that is what it is known as,” he said. **NOW**

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At Home With Kyle and Rockie Glicksman



Coming Home Again

— By Joan Kilbourne

When Kyle and Rockie Glicksman moved from Kerens to Corsicana, they were coming home again. Kyle grew up in Corsicana and has family here. Rockie was anxious to move into town where school for their son, Sloan, would be closer and family members could be neighbors. “We looked for a year for a house,” Rockie said, “and then we heard about this house and Kyle said, ‘This is the one.’”

They sold the house in Kerens so quickly that they lived for a while at their camp house located outside of Kerens. “The camp house sat on a hill and had a great view of the lake and the land all around it,” Kyle said. When the camp house was sold, most of the furniture went with it, so Rockie and Kyle’s stepmother enjoyed the task of helping furnish and decorate the new house in Corsicana. A few pieces of furniture are family treasures, including a child’s wooden rocker that belonged to a grandmother and an antique



wooden painted chest that holds Sloan's toys.

Built in the 1950s, the home appears from the street to be a standard single-story ranch house, but surprises wait inside. When you step through the front door, your eyes are drawn up to the two-story cathedral ceiling of a large room. The ceiling is supported with massive wooden beams. The walls are finished with wide mahogany



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planking and a gun cabinet is built into the wall opposite a row of windows overlooking the patio. A massive stone fireplace extends floor-to-ceiling at one end of the room. The Glicksmans refurbished the floor and converted the gun cabinet into attractive display shelves.

Lewis Foster, the builder, included many custom features that were not typical of ranch houses built in his time. Before energy costs were a prime consideration in home construction, Lewis included three-zone electricity and double-paned windows. The narrow tan bricks on the exterior of the house are also an uncommon type of brick. The dark green square tiles in one bath have a glass tile finish that, atypical of the style of the '50s, is now popular in custom installations.

"Except for a new kitchen, only minor changes were made to the house," Rockie said. Some windows were replaced, but four

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Ryan Douglas
Tax Preparer



Vicky Croom
Tax Manager

Vicky is our employee of the month. I'm sure you all know Vicky, but here's a few things about her you might not know: She graduated high school in Longview and graduated from Navarro College with a major in accounting. She has worked in a CPA firm for 25+ years in all capacities: secretary, bookkeeper, tax preparer and now Tax Manager in this firm. She has vast experience in financial statement preparation, client interviews, payrolls, etc. She also was key in bringing a local tax preparation franchise to Corsicana and Ennis and worked there for a while as tax preparer and instructor. She has kept up with the numerous changes in both tax law and accounting principles through continuing education. On a personal note: She is married to David

Croom for nine years, who has worked for Collin Street Bakery for 23 years. She has two children, Alison Mahoney, who teaches in Alvarado and Ryan Douglas, who also works at this firm. Ryan is a recent graduate of UTA with a degree in accounting and will soon sit for the CPA exam. Vicky also has two stepchildren, Brenna and Jonathan.

CURRENT MONTH TAX TIPS: ***Small businesses only have a few more months this year to take advantage of the extended, created or expanded variety of tax deductions and credits (i.e., bonus and increased section 179 deduction; expanded net operating loss carryback — up to five years instead of the normal two years — this option is only available up to September 15, 2009 for corporations and October 15, 2009 for individuals); 75-percent exclusion of capital gains for qualified small business stock acquired after Feb 17, 2009 and before Jan. 1, 2011 and held more than five years; many individual small business taxpayers make smaller estimated quarterly tax installments (under some conditions); some energy incentives; etc.)*

*** First time homebuyer credits still available for 2008 and 2009 on homesteads bought before December 1, 2009.*



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large picture windows were kept as desirable features of the home. The original floors were refinished and crown molding was added all over the house. The bathrooms were updated with countertops and fixtures, but the tile walls were untouched. "We gutted the kitchen," Rockie said, "replacing the metal cabinets and adding granite countertops and new appliances." At one end of the kitchen, a pleasant eating area brightly lit by windows reveals the patio and a beautiful new pool in the backyard. "We use the patio a lot in the summer," she added. "It's a great place for family gatherings." Jake, the family's Weimaraner dog, is perhaps a surprising feature of the adjoining laundry room. The friendly pooch likes to enter through his doggie door and sit on the counter, waiting to kiss the first person that comes into the room.

The formal living room off the entry hall is now a spacious dining room featuring a long table which easily seats eight people.

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“We needed a big table,” Rockie explained, “because we often entertain our family and guests. A family holiday dinner means around 20 people will sit down to eat.”

At one end of the house is a bed/sitting room combination and bath, home to Rockie’s mother, Sandra Lewis, a second-grade teacher. Along one wall, built-in painted cabinets and shelves provide storage. The room is attractively designed with a furniture arrangement that creates both sleeping and sitting areas. Another large room off the hall is designed as an office that




is easily converted to a guest room when family and friends come to visit.

The most engaging room belongs to 4-year-old Sloan, where a colorful train table provides hours of fun and enough stuffed animals to populate a zoo climb all around the walls. With a teacher-turned-stay-at-home mother and a grandmother who still teaches,

it is not surprising that Sloan has already learned a few words in Spanish and uses current technology like a Nintendo DS game system which he recently requested for his fourth birthday.

Rockie was not planning to teach when she attended Texas State University at San Marcos, where she majored in




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psychology and criminal justice. After graduation, however, her mother told her about a teaching position that opened up in the school where she was teaching second-grade students. "I didn't expect they would be interested, since I had no teaching classes or experience from college," Rockie said. She proceeded to enroll in the proper courses and soon received the necessary teaching certifications. "I got the job in the middle school, and I taught there for four years," she recalled. "I changed to teaching prekindergarten for another four years after that. I also had some training in the Scottish Rite program for dyslexia."

"We plan to enroll Sloan in the pre-K class at Collins Catholic School," Kyle said. "That's were I went





to school.” With a laugh, he added, “I told Rockie to tell them Sloan doesn’t act like I did in school, so they would let him in.” Kyle must have behaved well enough to graduate, because he went on to earn a certificate in business at Navarro College, thus allowing him to start up various companies of his own. “I’ve been in business since I was a kid,” he said. “I had a yard business when I was young. And as I got a bit older, I hung around with Buster Brown [a local oil man and the mayor of Corsicana] where he taught me a lot about the oil field business. Now I own my own oil field business.”

Kyle went on to say, “Real success is about my family. That’s number one.” Rockie agreed that Kyle looks after Sloan with her and gives her time to do things she enjoys. “Kyle looks after his grandmother, too, sharing evening meals with her on occasion,” Rockie added.

“It’s something I want to do,” Kyle explained. “I had many good years spent at my grandpa’s farm.” Clearly, Kyle and Rockie are ready to open their beautiful new home to create wonderful memories for the next generation. **NOW**

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Poetic Thoughts

— By Samantha Daviss

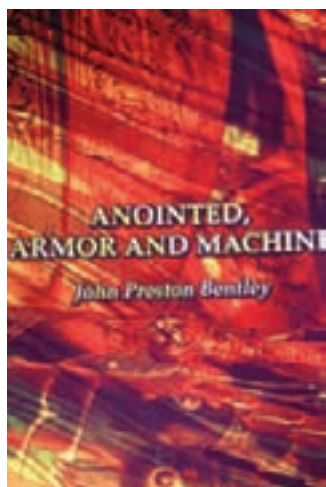
Many people have goals and dreams that reside in their hearts their entire lives. Some individuals are quite vocal about them, while others like to keep them to themselves. Regardless of your position, some goals are met and some, unfortunately, are nothing but dreams. John Preston Bentley is one of the people who made his dream of becoming a published author a reality.

"I love to write. It is just who I am," John stated. His 77-page paperback book of poetry, called *Anointed, Armor and Machine*, is filled with poetry of various styles that primarily reflect the daily activities of his life. This book of thoughts and memories tells the stories of John's life — past and present — as well as his future aspirations. It includes memories of his parents and grandparents in

addition to the activities he was involved in as a child.

Not only does the book give you insight into who John Bentley actually is, but it also leaves you with a pleasurable feeling of sharing in someone's personal life. This collection of words and thoughts is currently available in over 200 countries, including the United States and Canada, through Publish America publishing house. "It took me six weeks to get it published," John said. "I researched numerous publishers on the Internet and found one that I work really well with. Then, in April of 2008, my book came out."

John admitted to having a special fondness for some of his poetry. "Some of my most favorite poems from this book are 'Cotton Chopping Mother,' which tells the story of my mom and her days of working with my grandparents on various people's farms, and 'Circuit Rider.' That is the synopsis of a preacher that rode the church circuit, telling his Word of God, but [earlier in] life he was at one point a Texas Ranger," he said. While John attributes most of his works to personal experience in life, there is no doubt that he is a deeply religious man, a man of character with a strong belief in God. "I was



completely inspired by God to write this book," he stated.

Many of the tales that unfold within this book are those of personal actions and encounters, while others were born through research and the inquisitiveness



"I was completely inspired by God to write this book."

of the author. Not only does the book reflect John's thoughts on life, but it also reflects the various stages of his life. "You will see a section in there that is heavily weighed towards cars," he explained. "That is when I was going through my 'car phase.' I loved everything about cars, and loved to work on them." There is also some poetry from John's childhood. "I was in the third grade when I started jotting down my thoughts," he added. "I still jot my thoughts down. I have small pieces of paper just stacked up on my desk that are scribbles of my poems. I also wrote one play and numerous songs, and those were also written on scrap pieces of paper. While at work, I will just stop, jot a thought down and it turns into a song or a poem," he said, referring

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to his full-time job at Lance's Foods.

Like many writers or artists, John often has numerous projects going on at one time. His artistic nature will not allow him to remain still for any length of time. "My second book of poetry, *At the Waterside*, has been available since the beginning of June, but, of course, I am already working on my third book, which is a Bible study on the armor of God," he said with great pride.

Aside from writing, one of John's greatest passions is history; therefore, he decided to focus on the historical making and evolution of armor through the ages. "Even though my first two



works are collections of poetry, my third piece is a non-fictional, historical book," John explained. "It will talk a little about the actual process it takes to make a sword and how the steel is twisted and melted together to make the magnificent pieces of armor. I related the creation and twisting of the steel to our lives. The metal is twisted the way our lives are twisted."

John's writing is currently a hobby, but he would love nothing more than to make his passion into a full-time job. "I want to move into every aspect of writing I can," he said. John is a man who is not afraid to try new things and be adventuresome in his endeavors. **NOW**

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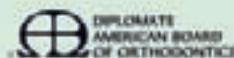
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Summertime Celebrations!

— By Kelly Kovar

By the time July comes, summer seems to stretch out ahead of us in endless days of sizzling heat. Independence Day celebrations offer a welcome outlet, and Mexia certainly knows how to do the Fourth up right! "Our fireworks show is sponsored by the city of Mexia and Mexia Fire Department," said Linda Archibald, executive director of the Mexia Chamber of Commerce. "It is one of the largest in the tri-county area." Whether you are looking for family fun or a fabulous date night, you can find the answer at Hughes City Park, on the corner of Tyler and South Bonham Street. "We will kick off 'Booming on the 4th in Mexia' at 8:00 a.m., but come to register for the Firecracker 5K Run/1M Walk at 7:00 a.m.," she said.

The Mexia Car Show will also be a part of the July Fourth celebration. "The car show is at the Parkside Full Gospel Church's parking lot, which is on the other side of the park from the hospital," Linda said. "The day will be filled with a wide assortment of games and activities for the whole family. The H-E-B Kids Karnival is a wild and wonderful time, and the pool will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., free of

charge that day," she added. "We should have a packed park."

Other events include: a pet show; a bike parade, featuring patriotically decorated bikes; and ball games. "There are 366 kids playing in ball games that day. At 9:00 p.m. the games will finish, the lights will be off and the evening will culminate with the dazzling SkyFire 2009 fireworks extravaganza. It is pretty amazing," Linda enthused.

In August, keep cool with a dip in the Mexia Public Swimming Pool or head over to Lake Mexia Marina for camping, picnicking and boating. Call (254) 562-2387 for fishing information.

For a last family vacation before school starts on August 24, visit Fort Parker State Park, at 194 Park Road 28. If you need more information, call (254) 562-5751. The state park has campsites, shelters, an activity center, a learning center, swimming, biking, canoeing and boating.

To provide information about September and October events and activities in the Mexia area, e-mail kkovar@nowmagazines.com and put "Mexia" in the subject line.




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On Top of Her Game

— By Joan Kilbourne

Proud father, Allen McCain, said about his daughter, Tessa, “She was always athletic. She played soccer and tennis during her junior high school years. When she was 12, she was on a soccer team that won first place at the Invitational Tournament of Champions.” He might have added that Tessa is always busy working toward a goal. “I guess I don’t think about how many things I’m involved in until I talk about it,” she said about herself.

“When I was in sixth grade, my best friend and I didn’t want to take general physical education in seventh grade. She suggested we sign up to play tennis instead,” Tessa recalled. Not content to enter the class as a beginner, Tessa spent that summer attending tennis camp. Her very full schedule of activities began when school started and Tessa played on both the soccer and tennis teams. “Every afternoon after school, I ran around in soccer practice, and then I ran to tennis practice. I had soccer games every weekend, and when that season ended, I joined the indoor soccer team to play in a different set of meets with different schools,” Tessa added. “I also took some private tennis lessons



Coach Jason White encouraged Tessa McCain's love for tennis.

after school or on a weekend and then in the summer, too.”

As a result of all that effort and discipline, when she was ready to graduate, Tessa’s middle school coach recommended her to the high school varsity coach. “There are no tryouts,” Tessa explained. “The coach chooses players who play well, are disciplined enough to attend all the practices and are motivated to win games.” She took her place on the varsity tennis team as a freshman and began to play other members of the team to establish her ranking among the 16 players. “I ranked seventh that first year,” Tessa said. By her senior year, she was ranked second.

A certain number of top players are eligible for the district, regional and state tournaments in which Corsicana High School competes. During the four years she played on the varsity team, Tessa maintained a high enough ranking that she was able to play in



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every tournament. "I'm close to other members on the team, so I can easily find partners to play with when the high school courts are open in the summer," she said. "The boys hit [the ball] so hard, I can beat some of them in practice games and some not. I



"I focus on planning a strategy and on placing the ball."

don't try to hit the ball harder. I focus on planning a strategy and on placing the ball." Tessa demonstrated that ability to focus when she injured her wrist in play.

"I think I would have continued to play soccer in high school," Tessa said, "but there just wasn't enough time." Every day after school, she went to tennis practice from 2:30 to 4:45 p.m. From there, she had to go directly to her job at Sirloin Stockade, where she worked the 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. shift. Schoolwork was still ahead when she returned home late in the day. Tessa maintained an ambitious course schedule. She enrolled in an English course in



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which she earned both secondary and college credit. Tessa worked twice a week as a volunteer teacher's aide in her younger sister, Ashleigh's, class to earn credit in her Ready, Set, Teach class. "Until my sophomore year, I planned to be a teacher," Tessa said. "My plans changed then, and I took integrated physics and chemistry, biology and chemistry in preparation for the nursing program at Navarro College. I want to be a nurse and work at Children's Hospital."

When her sister, Kara, was in eighth grade and Tessa was a sophomore in high school, Kara suffered a neck injury and spent a year in and out of Children's Hospital. Tessa was impressed with the attentive care provided by the nurses. "I wanted to do what they were doing to take care of their patients," Tessa said. "I'm enrolled now in the Certified Nursing Aide (CNA) class, and I will be able to work at nursing homes or clinics when I graduate." Tessa plans to continue nursing studies at Navarro College and then attend a four-year school to complete work on a nursing degree.

Tessa's parents, Allen and Wendy, are enthusiastic boosters of the tennis teams. Kara plays on the junior varsity team at CHS and Ashleigh, who is nine, is beginning to practice tennis, too. "My parents encouraged me to continue playing tennis when practice became difficult to sustain. It's the matches that I like. They are the most fun part. I stayed for that, and I stayed because Coach Jason White was so encouraging. It was fun to work with him," Tessa recalled.

Graduation always brings a change in direction. "I'm done with tennis now," Tessa smiled. "I may play for fun, but I have a new focus. I want to be a nurse." She will take online classes at Navarro College this summer, so she can hit the ground running once the fall semester begins. **NOW**

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From the Ground UP

— By Samantha Daviss

Don Boyd is no stranger to the construction business. In the 1970s, while he was a member of the Dallas Fire Department, he managed to balance a little remodeling of homes during his time off. “It was about 22 years ago that I completed my very first home,” Don recalled. It is obvious that Don is a knowledgeable general contractor “who handles everything from the ground up.”

“I grew up in Blooming Grove,” he said. “But my wife, Brenda, and I have lived in Corsicana for about 31 years. I build homes for customers all around Navarro County and the surrounding areas like Richland Chambers Lake and Cedar Creek Lake.

Don helps people build their dream homes from the ground up, making the building process easy and painless for his customers. “I help my customers build, design and locate the lot of their dreams,” he explained. He does it all during a project, from

organizing and managing the installation of electricity and tile work to any interior cosmetic needs or exterior landscaping needs.

Currently, Don is working on a project called Boyd Properties, which he has been developing for a couple of years. “It is a new duplex complex that I am working on,” he said. “It is near

Mamie and Gorman, and there are two- and three-bedroom duplexes currently available for customers to come take a look at.” He also completely developed and built every house in the Willow Creek subdivision.

Don begins every project with a consultation period with the buyer, whether they are adding on, remodeling or building their dream home. If you know exactly what you want your next home to look like or you only have a vague idea, Don can help you every step of the way. “I definitely welcome architectural plans from my clients, but typically, we design their home from scratch,” he said. “Most people



walk in with a 'box design,' and I show them how they can add a wing on, or increase a bathroom in size, but, regardless, I always design to their specifications. A home is just you," he added, explaining his belief that his designs should always fit his clients' standards.

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"My favorite thing to see is the 'Wow factor' when my clients walk into their new home for the first time."



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It is easy to see that Don loves his work, a fact that brings positive results in his product and craftsmanship. "I really like what I do for a living," he said. "My favorite thing to see is the 'Wow factor' when my clients walk into their new home for the first time."

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Out From Behind the Podium

— By Samantha Daviss



A Σ A teacher is someone who will forever shape and mold the minds of our youth and the future of our society. At an early age, Teresa Parker knew this was the career path for which she was destined. “I always played school when I was younger,” she said. “Teaching to my ‘classroom’ at such a young age always seemed to bring my bossy side out. My little sister hated it,” she added with a giggle. “The reason I became a teacher was also because of the influence I had from some very good educators.”

Rounding out her 35th year of teaching English at Corsicana High School (CHS), Teresa still remembers what it was like in the beginning. “I did my student teaching with Marianne Anderson, a former English teacher at Corsicana High School, and I learned a lot from her,” she said. “One influential and pivotal thing that I learned from her was to enjoy teaching, walk around the room, and mix my knowledge of the subject with my passion of the subject. The first year I taught, I remember just standing behind the podium reciting the subject matter.” It may have taken a little convincing from Marianne as well as time to find her niche, but Teresa finally found her groove and her style of teaching changed. “Then, about a year later, I remember running into Marianne, and I told her that I finally ‘came out from behind the podium,’” she added.

Like her dedication to teaching English, Teresa’s roots run just as deep in Corsicana and Corsicana Independent School District. “I moved here my junior year of high school,” she recalled. “In fact, my class was the very last class to graduate

high school from Drane [what was the original high school].” Then, in the fall of 1974, Teresa headed off to Stephen F. Austin, where she received her bachelor’s degree in business administration, with multiple hours in English. “I was torn between business and teaching,” Teresa admitted, “but I taught the summer after [college] graduation, and so I went straight into teaching because of that. Now I am teaching my second generation.” With a smile, she added, “It is fun to teach a second generation because I see so much of their parents in them.”

Now, with 35 years of teaching under her belt, Teresa’s dedication to her craft is obvious. You can rest assured that she definitely has a style all her own, and an effective one at that. Teresa has a way of connecting with her students. She is able to pull them inside a story and really engage them in the subject matter at hand. She is currently the Pre-AP II (Advanced Placement) English teacher for sophomore level students and is completing her eighth year as the English department’s chairperson. “I am extremely proud of our English AP program; it is definitely a program that works,” Teresa boasted. “In fact, most of my students who return from college for a visit, or they are returning home to live, always tell me that because of the English program, they never missed a beat in their English classes in college.”

Over the years, Teresa has managed to successfully hone her craft into an effective and beneficial literary and comprehensive program. “The structure of my classroom is extremely group-involved,” she said, explaining that there are

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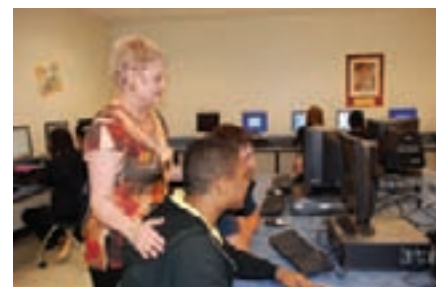
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many group discussions, which take place with her advisement and encouragement. "I have always pushed my students to be successful; I want them to be the best they can be," she added.

While Teresa is dedicated to her students and passionate about her subject matter and her work, her other love is for her colleagues at CHS, a love and appreciation that is returned in full. When she recently went through some rough personal times, her fellow teachers were there for Teresa, and everyone really stepped up to the plate to support her in any way they were able.



Aside from her passion for English, Teresa lives for her "kids" and this love keeps her coming back year to year. "They [the students] keep it fresh for me; I find myself learning from them on a daily basis," she said. "It excites me to see them learning." Although she has more than paid her dues to the academic world, Teresa admits that she is not ready to "throw in the towel" and retire. "Even though I am not ready for retirement, I just take it one year at a time," she said. "The kids are the ones that keep me young at heart."

The love Teresa has for both her job and her students is apparent every single day in what she does. "I couldn't imagine being anywhere else Monday through Friday," she stated. "I feel that literature is a reflection of life, and life is never boring." With teachers like Teresa, we are all assured of bright futures for ourselves, society, and most importantly, our children. **NOW**

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• Mrs. Stevens' fourth-grade class, top left, clowned around. • The Angels softball team, top right, took a little break in the dugout. • Larry Morrison, owner of McKee Lumber, second row left, was a participant at the ABWA Golf Tournament. • Derrick Days, second row center, offered bull riding for the children. • Jennifer Farmer, second row right, gave out several awards to her students. • The home of Jimmy D. Coker, bottom left, has become a popular Thursday night gathering place. • The Candy Cane Summer Camp children, bottom right, posed for the camera.



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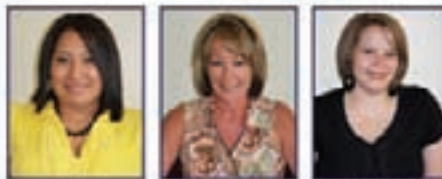
• Several men, top left, meet at the Quick Mart every day for coffee. • Evonne Blackwell, top right, mixed the names before Judge Jackson drew for the winner of the TV given away in a drawing sponsored by Roy's Café. • Devan and Brayden Lindsey, second row left, shopped with their dad at Pack-n-Mail. • Tiger Cub Peyton Duncan of Pack 253 and Eagle Scout Sergei Larson, senior patrol leader, second row right, took part in a crossover ceremony held at Ivie Ranch. • A soldier of the South, bottom left, was one of many characters seen at a recent Preservation Society event. • A ribbon cutting, bottom right, was held at Quick Mart Shell Station.



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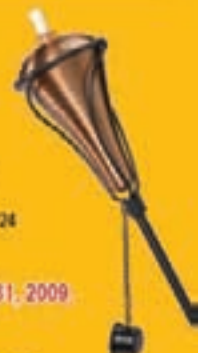
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Look Who's Cooking

— By Faith Browning

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EASY CHICKEN DIVAN

2 10-oz. pkgs. frozen broccoli
2 cups cooked chicken, sliced
2 10.5-oz. cans cream of chicken soup, or 1 family-size can
3/4 cup mayonnaise
1 tsp. lemon juice
2 oz. cheddar cheese, shredded
1 cup soft bread crumbs or enough to cover top
1 Tbsp. or more butter, melted
Cook broccoli according to package directions in salted water until tender; drain. Pour into a greased 9 x 13-inch baking dish. Layer chicken evenly over broccoli. Combine soup, mayonnaise and lemon juice; pour evenly over chicken. Sprinkle with cheese. Combine crumbs and butter; sprinkle over all. Bake for 35 minutes or until thoroughly heated at 350 F. For added color, trim with pimiento strips, if desired. Serves 8 to 10.

HERB-SEASONED CHICKEN BREAST

8 chicken breasts, boneless and skinless
1 1/2 cups herb-seasoned stuffing mix
1 Tbsp. butter, melted
1/4 cup orange juice
Arrange chicken in a lightly greased 13 x 9 x 2-inch baking dish. Sprinkle with stuffing mix; drizzle with butter. Pour orange juice over chicken; cover. Bake for 1 1/4 hours at 350 F. Serve with wild rice and Sweet Orange Sauce.

SWEET ORANGE SAUCE

1 6-oz. can frozen orange juice, thawed and diluted
1/2 cup orange marmalade
2 Tbsp. steak sauce
Combine all ingredients in a microwavable container. Microwave

on high for 6 minutes until hot; stir once.

MEXICAN LASAGNA

1 lb. ground beef, cooked and drained (optional)
14-oz. can diced tomatoes
15-oz. can black beans, drained
1 clove garlic, minced
1/4 cup cilantro, chopped
4-oz. can green chilies, chopped
14-oz. can corn, drained
2 green onions, chopped
1/2 tsp. cumin
1/2 tsp. oregano
8 corn tortillas
1 1/2 cups Monterey Jack cheese, grated
sour cream
Combine first 10 ingredients; mix well. Grease a 2-quart baking dish; line with 4 overlapping tortillas. Spread half of mixture over tortillas; sprinkle with half of cheese. Repeat process with remaining ingredients. Bake for 15 minutes at 350 F; cut into squares. Top with sour cream. Serves 6.

FLUFFY PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

1 pkg. cream cheese
1 cup canned pumpkin
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
1 8-oz. tub Cool Whip, thawed
1 9-inch graham cracker pie crust
Beat cream cheese, pumpkin, sugar and spice with electric mixer on high speed until smooth. Gently fold in Cool Whip; spoon into crust. Refrigerate 3 hours until set. Garnish with additional

As long as Frances Breazeale can remember, she has loved to cook. Being reared by her grandmother and uncle gave her many great memories to share with her own seven grandchildren. "My grandmother was Italian and she loved to cook," she recalled. "She would let me cook dinner with her, and when I got a little older, she would let me do it by myself."

These days, Frances enjoys running her own catering business, raising orchids, sewing and attending all her grandchildren's activities. Besides having her grandmother's recipes, she loves the thrill of discovering new ones. "I can spend hours going through magazines, cookbooks and getting recipes from friends," she claimed. "My favorite foods to cook are cakes and desserts, but I also love to cook just about anything, especially new recipes!" **NOW**

whipped topping and sprinkle with cinnamon if desired. Store leftover cheesecake in refrigerator.

TOFFEE CHEESECAKE BAR

2/3 cup butter
3/4 cup packed brown sugar
2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 cup pecans, chopped
2 8-oz. pkgs. cream cheese, softened
3/4 cup sugar
2 eggs
1 Tbsp. lemon juice
2 tsp. vanilla extract
1 7-oz. pkg. toffee candies, crushed
Beat butter at medium speed until creamy. Gradually add brown sugar, beating well. Add flour, beating well; stir in pecans. Set aside 1 cup of flour mixture. Press remaining flour mixture into a greased 13 x 9-inch pan. Back at 350 F, for 14 to 15 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove from oven; set aside. Beat cream cheese at medium speed until smooth. Gradually add sugar, beating until mixture is light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating until blended. Stir in lemon juice and vanilla. Pour cream cheese mixture over crust. Sprinkle reserved flour mixture evenly over batter. Bake at 350 F for 25 minutes. (Mixture may not be completely set; it will become firm when chilled.) Sprinkle immediately with crushed candy. Cool at room temperature in pan on a wire rack. Cover and chill 8 hours. Cut into bars. Yields 3 dozen.

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Beef Tips & Rice	7.95	Chicken Fried Steak (Beef / Pork)	7.95
Meatloaf w/ Tomato Sauce	7.95	Roast Beef	7.95
Fried Catfish	7.95	Fried Chicken (2 pcs White or Dark)	7.95

Choice of 2 Vegetables	Green Beans	Mashed Potatoes	Cole Slaw
	Black-eyed Peas	Fried Okra	Potato Salad
	Corn on the Cob	Macaroni & Cheese	Lettuce Salad
	Steamed Cabbage	Baked Potato	

Dessert of the Day Banana Pudding or Cobbler

Tuesday

Chicken Spaghetti	7.95	Chicken Fried Steak (Beef / Pork)	7.95
Chopped Steak w/ mushroom sauce	7.95	Roast Beef	7.95
Fried Catfish	7.95	Fried Filet of Codfish	7.95
Fried Chicken (2 pcs white or dark)	7.95		

Choice of 2 Vegetables	Green Beans w/ New Potatoes	Mashed Potatoes
	Cole Slaw	Pinto Beans
	Potato Salad	Lyonnise Carrots
	Lettuce Salad	Broc & Rice Casserole
		Baked Potato

Dessert of the Day Banana Pudding or Buttermilk Pie

Wednesday

Meatloaf w/ Tomato Sauce	7.95	Chicken Fried Steak (Beef / Pork)	7.95
Fried Catfish	7.95	Roast Beef	7.95
Fried Filet of Codfish	7.95	Fried Chicken	7.95

Choice of 2 Vegetables	Green Beans	Fried Okra	Cole Slaw
	Navy Beans	Macaroni & Cheese	Potato Salad
	Mashed Potatoes	Baked Potato	Lettuce Salad

Dessert of the Day Banana Pudding or Bread Pudding

Thursday

Chicken & Dumplings	7.95	Chicken Fried Steak (Beef / Pork)	7.95
Fried Catfish	7.95	Roast Beef	7.95
Fried Filet of Codfish	7.95	Fried Chicken	7.95

Choice of 2 Vegetables	Green Beans	Fried Okra	Cole Slaw
	Butter Beans	Macaroni & Cheese	Potato Salad
	Mixed Greens	Baked Potato	Lettuce Salad
	Baked Potato Casserole		

Dessert of the Day Banana Pudding or Cobbler

Friday

Grilled Chicken Breast over Rice with Vegetables	7.95	Chicken Fried Steak	7.95
Fried Catfish	7.95	Roast Beef	7.95
Fried Chicken (2 pcs white or dark)	7.95		
Fried Filet of Codfish	7.95		

Choice of 2 Vegetables	Green Beans	Mashed Potatoes	Cole Slaw
	Baked Beans	Fried Squash	Potato Salad
	Sweet Corn	Macaroni & Cheese	Lettuce Salad
	Buttered Spinach	Baked Potato	

Dessert of the Day Banana Pudding or Bread Pudding

Saturday

Smothered Hamburger Steak	7.95	Chicken Fried Steak	7.95
Fried Catfish	7.95	Roast Beef	7.95
Turkey & Dressing	7.95	Fried Filet of Codfish	7.95
Fried Chicken (2 pcs white or dark)	7.95		

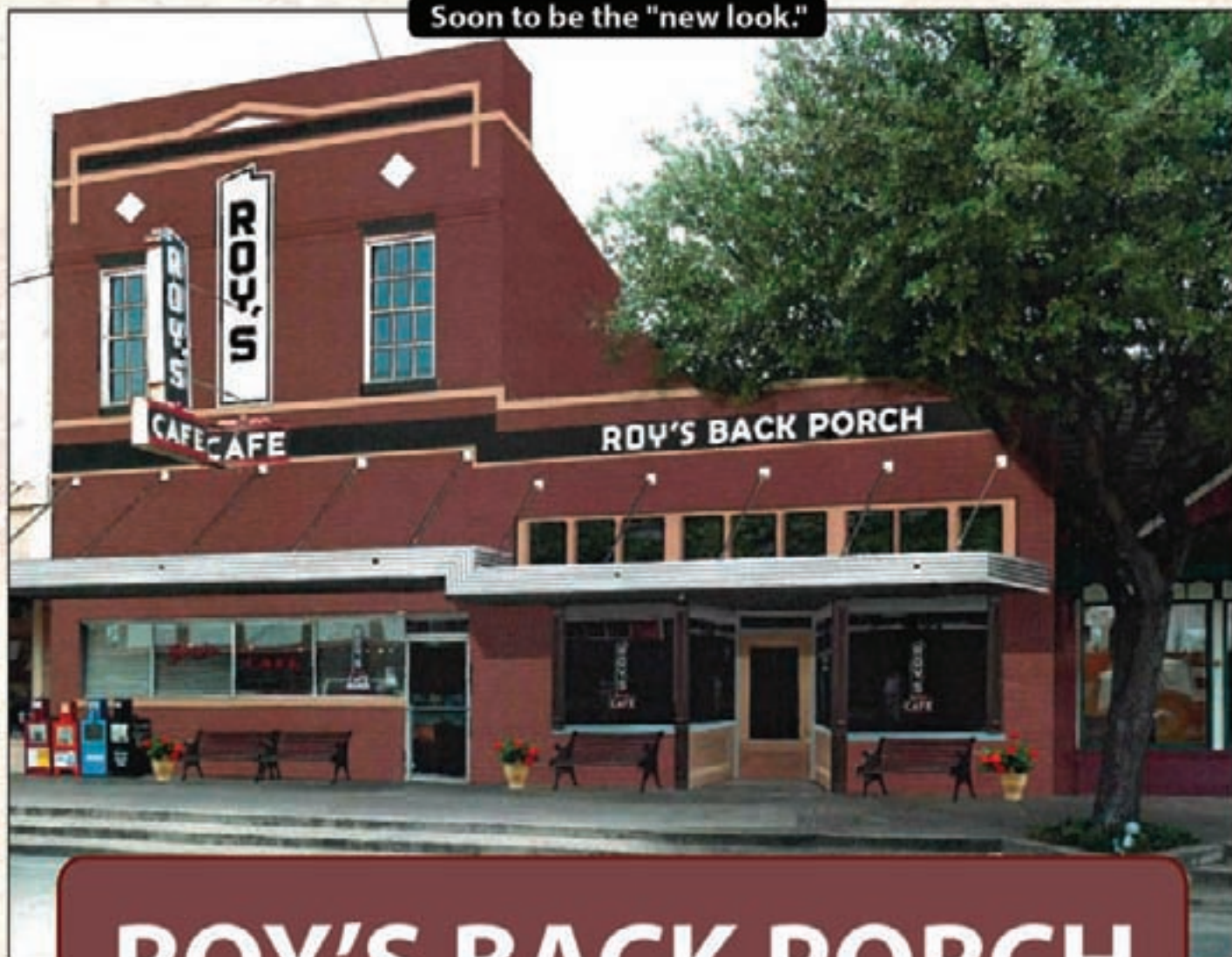
Choice of 2 Vegetables	House Vegetables — Ask server	Mashed Potatoes
	Green Beans	Macaroni & Cheese
	Cole Slaw	Lettuce Salad
		Potato Salad

Dessert of the Day Banana Pudding or Cobbler

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Photo to right: Andrew Blackwell, Payne Sharpley and Hank Kirkpatrick
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Life Insurance Through Life Stages

— Provided by Gary Hayden

You have taken the first step, and have selected a life insurance policy that meets your coverage goals. Before you put that policy in a drawer to gather dust you must remember that life insurance needs change when you reach life's various milestones. In order to ensure your coverage continues to meet your needs and stays current, you must review your policy throughout the years on a regular basis.

Clearly, you recognize the importance of life insurance and the role it can play in protecting the financial security of your loved ones. And yet, are you reviewing your policy on an annual basis? Doing so becomes particularly important whenever you reach any of life's milestones. New additions in your life such as a spouse, homeownership, or a child make reviewing your policy a necessary component of planning your financial future. You may need to give your policy extra consideration in the event of:

Marriage. In addition to determining whether or not your coverage amount is still appropriate, you may also consider insurance for your spouse. Updating your beneficiary list to include your new spouse, as well as correcting your policy to reflect a name change, if applicable, are important aspects of your plan.

Children. With added responsibilities comes the need for additional coverage. Keep in mind that the skills of a child's primary caretaker are not easily replaced, and childcare can be expensive. As your family grows, be sure to update your beneficiary list.

New Home or Refinancing. Owning your own home is an unbeatable feeling, but extra coverage may be necessary

to help ensure that mortgage requirements continue to be met.

Start a College/Retirement Savings Plan. Review coverage amounts to supplement a potential loss incurred before your financial goals are met. Know the coverage periods of your policy to ensure you are covered for a length of time that meets your current needs and future objectives.

Starting Your Own Business. If you leave your old job to start your own business, make sure that you do not sustain a significant loss in coverage when you leave your employer's benefit plan. You should again review your policy objectives and consider the ways in which life insurance can be a useful business tool. For example, for business continuation purposes, you may now be interested in obtaining coverage for financing a buy-sell agreement. In certain circumstances, you may consider placing business partners on your beneficiary list.

New Job. If you change jobs, pay attention to the benefits. Coverage amounts will often vary greatly from employer to employer, and this must be factored in to your personal policy.

Perhaps one of the most secure feelings in life is knowing that you have covered your bases and are prepared for whatever may happen. Through annual checkups you can plan for coverage that will provide for your loved ones, and help ensure that financial goals and obligations will be met. As you approach each one of life's many milestones, you will find that additional consideration and planning are well worth the effort. **NOW**

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Watch Those Summer Scrapes - Antibiotic-resistant staph (MRSA) are on the rise

— By Joyce Hagens, BSN, RN, CIC

With the dog days of summer and warm-weather sports in full swing, it is important to pay special attention to cuts, bruises and rashes that occur along with the fun. Close contact with others, sports involving skin-to-skin contact and warm, humid environments are a fertile breeding ground for staph infections. Staph bacteria can live harmlessly on many skin surfaces, especially around the nose, mouth, genitals and anus. In fact, without knowing it, 25 to 30 percent of people carry staph bacteria without being infected by it. But when the skin is punctured or broken for any reason, the bacteria can enter the wound and cause an infection.

A more serious, drug-resistant version of staph known as MRSA (methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus) can lead to dangerous, life-threatening infections. Both staph infections and MRSA are on the rise, and health experts attribute the increase to improper hygiene and overuse of antibiotics, among other factors. Most staph infections are minor and can be treated with oral antibiotics; however, others can be very serious and cause wound and bloodstream infections and

pneumonia. MRSA is even tougher to treat than most types of staph infection because it is resistant to some of the commonly-used antibiotics.

MRSA infections are particularly common among young children, prison inmates, military recruits and high school, college and professional sports teams and other athletes who frequent health clubs — namely, individuals who are in close contact and have an opportunity to share contaminated personal items.

MRSA often starts as a small lesion, cut or boil that fails to heal, then gets progressively worse. MRSA can live on surfaces such as handrails, tabletops and skin. It can spread by skin contact or by sharing items such as pencils and sports equipment with an infected person.

One of the simplest — and most effective — prevention techniques is proper hand-washing. Washing hands with soap and warm water or using an alcohol-based hand rub, is key, especially after physical contact and before meals. Keeping skin abrasions and wounds covered and avoiding contact with open wounds also helps prevent the spread of

infection. You can also prevent infection by maintaining a clean environment by cleaning surfaces with anti-bacterial products. Sharing personal items such as clothes, towels or razors is not recommended, as infectious bacteria can spread on these surfaces.

MRSA is generally treatable if caught early, so it is important to know how to recognize an infection and get treatment. An infection on the skin's surface looks like a pimple or boil that can be red, painful and full of pus that must be drained. These can progress into deep, painful abscesses. Seek medical attention immediately if skin symptoms last longer or are more painful than common bug bites. Seek medical attention anytime you experience a fever of more than 104 degrees as an adult, or when an infant experiences a fever of more than 100.4 degrees.

Because medical practitioners may not immediately recognize an infection is caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria, it is important to seek medical attention if prescribed antibiotics have no effect after four days. *******

*Joyce Hagens, BSN, RN, CIC Assistant
Director of Quality Management, Infection
Prevention and Control Coordinator
Navarro Regional Hospital*

Sources: Centers for Disease Control. www.cdc.gov.
Mayo Clinic. www.mayoclinic.com.
WebMD. www.WebMD.com.
Fox News. www.foxnews.com.

The advertisement is for the "Full Circle Alcohol & Drug Education Program". It features a yellow background with a brown border. At the top, the words "FULL CIRCLE" are written in large, white, serif capital letters. Below this, there is a silhouette of a person on a horse, with a cross behind them. Underneath the silhouette, the text "Alcohol & Drug Education Program" is written in white on a black rectangular background. In the center, the address "512 North Main, Suite A, Corsicana, TX 75110" and phone numbers "Office: (903) 872-6727 • Direct: (903) 641-2075" are listed. Below the address, there is a list of programs: "• Alcohol Education Program For Minors (AEPM)", "• Texas DWI Education Program", "• Texas Youth Tobacco Awareness Program (TYTAP)", and "• Anger Management". On the left and right sides, there are red starburst shapes. The left one says "Please Call To Register For All Classes!" and the right one says "Classes Taught in English and Spanish".

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Crape Myrtles

- the Lilacs of the South

— By Nancy Fenton

It is July already! I hope you have driven through the area and admired the beautiful crape myrtles. They have been called the lilacs of the South, and they are blooming like mad. If you do not have any, it is not too late. They bloom for three months or more and are available in many colors and sizes. They love the sun and are perfect for a hot, dry spot. They need water the first year or two, but after that, they do well on their own. A little nitrogen in the spring and fall will support the growth and give you fat and sassy blooms.

The main problem with the crape myrtles around here seems to be the powdery mildew, which gets on the new growth and turns the leaves gray to white. You can always spray with a good fungicide if you already have it, but the best solution to this disease is prevention. Sun and lots of air circulation will help, but choosing a variety that is resistant is even better. The good guys at Texas A&M, in conjunction with the good guys at Louisiana State University, have come up with a list of varieties that are extremely hardy and disease resistant for our area of the country.

Their favorites are as follows:

- h **Natchez** - a gorgeous plant with "weeping" branches reaching 30 feet tall with white blooms
- h **Basham's Party Pink** - upright to 30 feet with lavender-pink blooms
- h **Tuscarora** - upright to a height of 25 feet with coral pink blooms
- h **Muskogee** - upright plant reaching 20 feet with lavender blooms.
- h **Sioux** - vivid pink blooms reaching to 15 feet
- h **Tonto** - smaller plant reaching 12-14 feet with deep red flowers
- h **Acoma** - smaller "weeping" plant with white blooms reaching to 14 feet.

Notice all the different sizes. This will help with the need to prune and prune and prune. Crape myrtles do not need a lot of cutting back if the plant is the right size to begin with. I like mine upright so I lop off the suckers at the bottom as soon as I see them. Like many other plants in my garden, anywhere the branches rub on each other is a good place to consider pruning. The severe cutting back in the spring is not needed to promote blooms nor is the trimming of the spent blooms. This is my kind of plant, one that loves the heat, blooms and does not require much other than my admiration. **NOW**

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July 2009 Community Calendar

Third Thursday

Corsicana Education Foundation board of directors meeting, CISD Administration Building. Executive: 4:00 p.m. General Board: 4:30 p.m.

ABWA Empowering Women Express Network meeting: 5:45 p.m., Midlothian Conference Center, 1 Community Circle, Midlothian. Guests welcome. www.abwa-empoweringwomen.org.

July 9

Ticket sale for BJ Thomas show at the Palace Theater on August 8. Call the box office at (903) 874-7792.

July 4

IOOF Park Freedom Festival. Vendors, bounce houses and more. For more information, contact Mark Jordan at (903) 872-5235.

City of Kerens Old Time 4th of July Celebration.

O'Reilly Bracket Series #7: Texas Motorplex, Ennis. No fireworks. (972) 878-2641. www.texasmotorplex.com.

July 11

Ellis County Equine Association Horse Show: 8:00

a.m., Navarro County Exposition Center. Public invited to watch. Free admission. For more information, contact Brenda Escamilla at (972) 483-6175 or (214) 354-7245.

July 17

Fast Friday Test and Tune: Texas Motorplex, Ennis. (972) 878-2641. www.texasmotorplex.com.

July 18

"Learn to Love for Life" Together in Texas free marriage management classes: 8:45 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Navarro College. \$60 off your marriage license. Call (903) 874-0077 or register online at www.marriagemanagement.org.

Texas Youth Ranch Association Rodeo, Navarro County Exposition Center. Free to the public. For more information, call David Massey at (903) 388-8834 or (903) 389-6324.

O'Reilly Bracket Series #8: Texas Motorplex, Ennis. (972) 878-2641. www.texasmotorplex.com.

July 24

Fullerton Garitty Amphitheater. Shakers and Scrapers, Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA), Kiwanis Club, Kohl's volunteers. For more

information, contact Vicki Scoggins at (903) 872-3772.

July 30, 31 and August 1, 2, 4, 6-8

A Bad Year for Tomatoes, presented by the Warehouse Living Arts Center, 119 W. 6th Ave. (903) 872-5421. www.warehouselivingartscenter.com.

August 16

Pooch Paddle at the Jester Park Pool. Free swim for your dogs to enjoy.

September 26

10th Annual Hooked on Fishing tournament at IOOF Park. Registration: 6:00 a.m. Tournament: 7:00 a.m. For ages 16 years and under. Free refreshments, T-shirts and fantastic prizes. Poles and bait are provided, or you may bring your own. Tournament Coordinator: Pro-Angler Sam McCollum.

For more community events, visit our online calendar at www.nowmagazines.com.

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 - Diabetes
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