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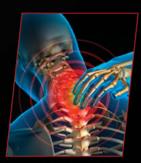
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On THE COVER



Full on Faith helps girls achieve their dreams.

Photo by Shane Kirkpatrick.

CONTENTS July 2017 • Volume II, Issue 7



Finding Their Purpose Tiffany Moody is helping to empower young girls to be the best they can be.

14 A Living House At Home With David and Deemie Naugle.

24 Growing Parks Shawn Ray and the Cedar Hill Parks and Rec Department build community spaces.

30 Furry Family Fellows Help your pets live long, healthy lives.



36 BusinessNOW 38 Around TownNOW 44 CookingNOW

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Editor's Note

July — time for sunscreen, bugs and memories!

Texas summers can get started early and linger late, but they're just about guaranteed to be in full swing by July. Thoughts quickly skip to cookouts on the Fourth and swim parties and prayers of thanksgiving for air conditioning.

One of my favorite summer memories is snow cones. When I was little, we lived just a couple of blocks from the best snow cone stand in the world. They had every flavor you could dream of and always welcomed customers with a

smile, no matter how hot the day. This was the first place I was allowed to walk to all by myself. With money in pocket, I walked the whole two blocks alone, remembered what everyone wanted, ordered it, payed for it and walked back home with all three snow cones — one for Mom, one for me and one for my little sister — all before the Texas sun could melt them into extra-sticky cool-aid!

That was decades ago, but I still like to get a snow cone or two every summer!

Adam

Adam Walker SouthwestNOW Editor adam.walker@nowmagazines.com (469) 285-2008





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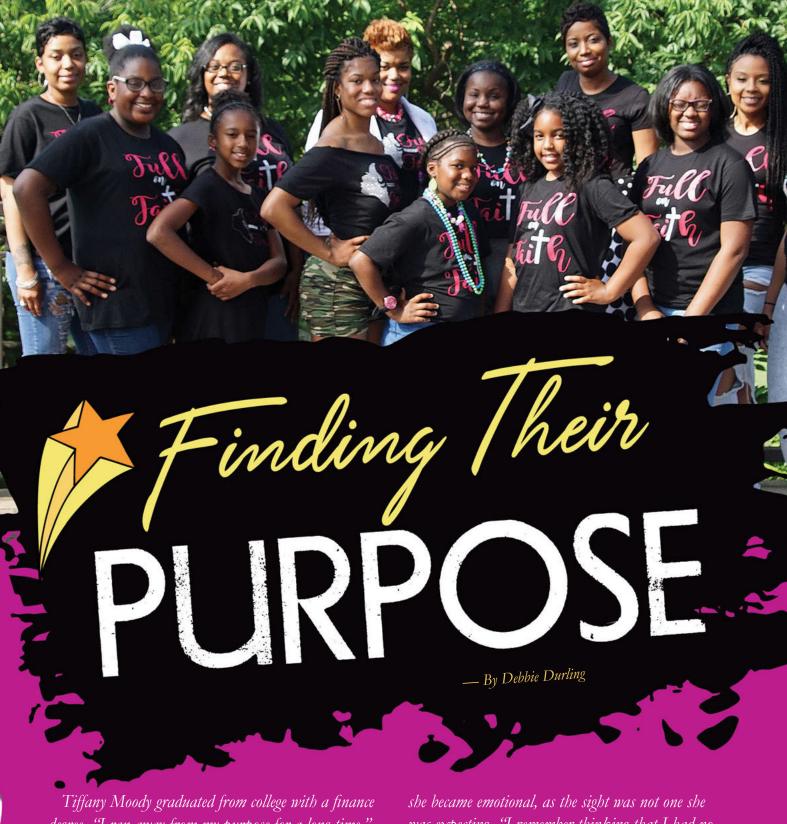


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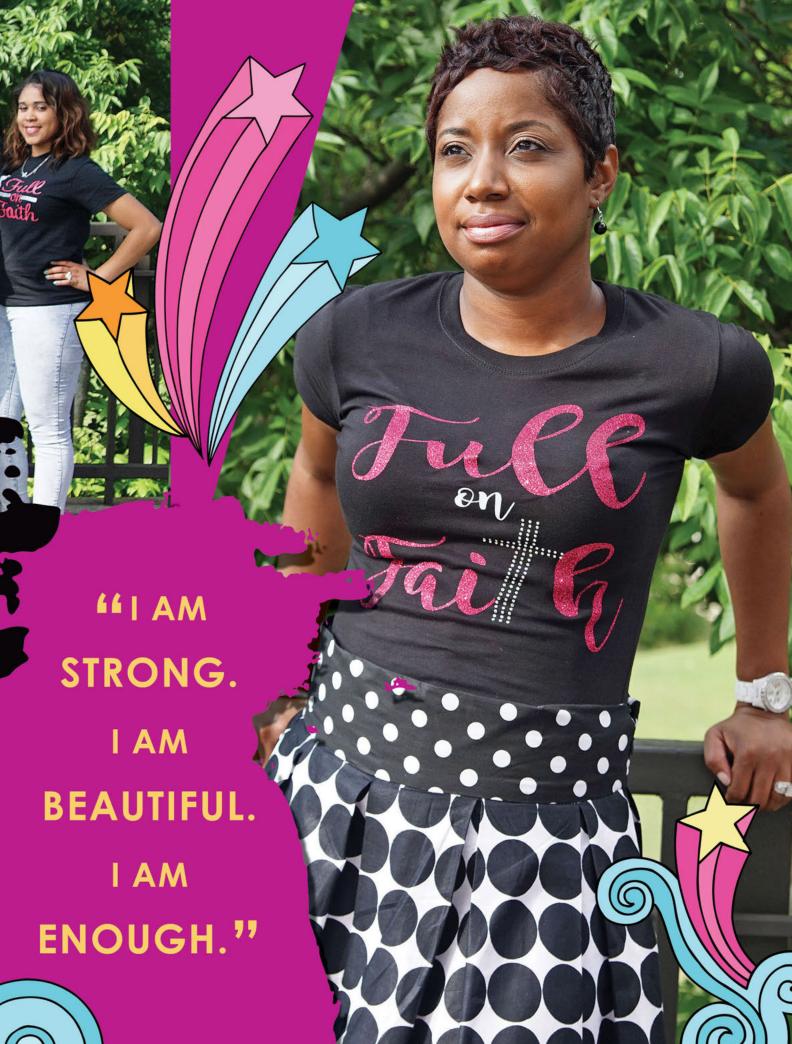




Tiffany Moody graduated from college with a finance degree. "I ran away from my purpose for a long time," she said. A few years ago, she had a very humbling experience while volunteering at The Salvation Army. She signed up to feed the homeless. "To be honest, I only signed up to get away from the office and never considered the potential impact volunteering could have on my life," she confessed. As she arrived at the facility,

she became emotional, as the sight was not one she was expecting. "I remember thinking that I had no idea how many people are without money, food, shelter and family."

As she served plates with the other volunteers, she began to think about the small portions being given. So, she began adding a little extra to the children's plates. Before long, a staff member noticed what she was doing and reminded her that the food had been rationed so it would last throughout the day. Tiffany









recalled how heartbreaking it was to hear men, women and children asking if they could have more because they were still hungry. Due to the scarce food supply, it was difficult to ration first helpings and impossible to hand out seconds. She left that day saying, "Lord, please position me to be able to help people in need." She remembered, "I wanted to feed the entire world that day."

It was only a short time after praying that prayer that Full on Faith, a 501(c)(3) organization, became an idea. Her vision was to provide spiritual food to feed the soul and work toward feeding the world both spiritually and mentally, one child at

Full on Faith is a Christian-based service organization. Its mission is to enhance the development of young girls, ages 12-18, and to provide a forum to expose them to the benefits and the importance of a positive self-image. They also encourage the girls to exhibit responsible, personal conduct; have respect for themselves and others; and to strive for educational achievement. The mentors also provide cultural enrichment, while standing on Christian principles.

Across the top of their brochure are the words, "I am strong. I am beautiful. I am enough." These words echo the wish that every young lady grows to feel empowered and ready to take on life's challenges with grace and dignity. FOF fosters this empowerment by teaching girls to love themselves and believe they can do anything; teaching them to take care of themselves, so they have something to give to others; and helping them to discover themselves for who they are.

They are also taught to be helping hands in the community. Opportunities are created for the girls to volunteer their time and talents, get involved in a project that addresses a problem and show that they care about the needs of their neighborhood. A 10-year-old in the program, Alaia, has already started her

own charitable organization called Let's Start Giving Foundation. She has started gathering donations from local residents and businesses to provide essential items to families and individuals in need.

Another aspect of FOF is helping girls find vision for their futures. Seeking out information about careers, keeping an open mind about possibilities and exploring ways to make their dreams come true are just of few of the activities to help the mentees develop goals and work toward them.



Tiffany focuses on building relationships with others as a core trait the girls must master. She teaches them to appreciate people who are different from them. The importance of communicating with kindness and respect is stressed, as this is a trait of diplomacy they will need in order to make a difference in the world.

Recalling an event in which the girls made vision boards, Tiffany was reminded of a young lady who had put qualities of friendship and how she admires friends on her board, along with positive traits that she herself exhibited as a true friend. "It wasn't long until this young lady's circle of friends gave friendship necklaces to everyone in the group, except her," Tiffany recalled. "She told me that before she joined the group, this would have devastated her." However, when she felt the initial pain of being left out, she immediately turned to her vision board.

Reminded of who she was and her dreams for the future, suddenly being left out didn't affect her self-esteem as much as it would have in the past. She was grateful to be in the accepting and loving Full on Faith organization. In just two short years, testimonies of encouragement and success, like the one above, are already pouring in.

The organization usually meets in the DeSoto Public Library but has been invited to do workshops for girls in other places, as well. They offer a wide range

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of workshops on topics such as: loving myself, peer pressure, bullying, hygiene, etiquette, respect of self and others, inner beauty, domestic violence awareness, effects of social media and career development.

Each year, the FOF organization is invited to participate in the Everything Teen Expo, which is held in the DeSoto Civic Center. Last year, FOF was given the Favorite Exhibitor award by the teens who attended — an honor that was precious to Tiffany because of the teen lives she has seen enriched by the organization.

Tiffany believes that what a woman believes about herself reflects in how she views and treats others. FOF is more than just a mentoring organization. It is an opportunity for girls to create a way of life that will benefit them and the way they interact with others. "At Full on Faith, we care about what we do and strive to empower the lives of youth in the community through relationships and providing important programs for growth," Tiffany explained. "We are shaping our youth into young leaders of the future, so they walk out of our doors prepared to take on whatever comes their way."

Her hopes and dreams for the future of the program include young men, also. She envisions one day having a center with computer labs; tutors; science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM); meeting rooms; and places to build relationships with a mentor, so young people have someone to go to, rely on and just to be their guide through those tumultuous teen years. It is Tiffany's dream to see the girls who come through the organization graduate from high school and college and be the confident, positive change they wish to see in the world. NOW

Editor's Note: For more information, visit www.fullonfaith.org.



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Living House A House By Adam Walker





Walking the rock path to the brick and limestone house of David and Deemie Naugle, visitors are greeted with hints of what lies within. Under a tree near the house, a park bench invites relaxation and conversation. Only a few steps away, on the porch, a grouping of white rocking chairs repeat the invitation to sit and talk, or maybe just enjoy the flowerbeds of dusty miller and pots of blooms.

Entering the Texas star door to their home, the first thing that catches your eye is the keystone arch separating the tile entry from the carpeted, open-plan living space beyond. But just off to the left is a room that says a lot about who lives here — the library. Drums, various percussion instruments and guitars take up one end of the small room lined with built-in bookcases. There are plenty of books overflowing the shelves, biographies and academic tomes, but on the shelf just in front of the Harvard Classics sits a

AT HOME WITH David and Deemie **Naugle**





stuffed book worm. Whimsy is hidden all throughout the house of these university professors. David and Deemie are both teachers at Dallas Baptist University, where Deemie is also associate provost. He's been teaching there for 27 years, and she's been working there in one capacity or another for 33.

David and Deemie built their house to be close to work and provide a space for entertaining students, friends and guests of the university. "At our previous house,







when we tried to have students over, it was just bursting at the seams," Deemie remembered. "Here we've had as many as 100 people inside. Normally it's only 50. We even had a full wedding for a couple of students here!" Over the years, the Naugles have frequently hosted speakers and performers in their house for gatherings with students and faculty from DBU. "Students become our friends, and then they become family," Deemie said. Lately, they've scaled back their hosting duties, but remain busy with plenty of other things.

Sitting in the living room where a brown leather sofa, love seat and recliner contrast with the ecru carpet and blend with the decor Deemie describes as Texas Hill Country eclectic, the Naugles like to talk and trade stories. The metal and wood coffee table and slate-front fireplace with its big mantel, displaying armadillos and horned toads, help the cozy atmosphere.

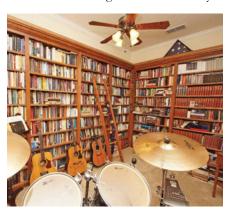
Like many couples, David and Deemie met at work, but not over the coffee pot. "She fell in love with me through my writing," David said.

"He was asked to write a textbook for a class, and he asked me to edit it for him," Deemie explained. "I really did fall in love with his writing. But I had to chase him because he was 39 and had never been married!"

Certain themes show up throughout the house. Art, especially paintings by local artists and students at DBU, is one of those themes. A pair of paintings, one of a yellow rose that becomes the state of Texas and another of bluebonnets that become the Texas flag, which hang over the hall table are an example. Other

examples are found in David's study, alongside golf balls from the courses he's played and many more books. Another is in the master bath, where Deemie has displayed a cross she had made from her mother's jewelry after her passing. "I had one of these made for my sister, my sister-in-law and my daughter, as well," Deemie said.

Stars are another motif that runs through the house. The Texas star in the front door, is repeated in the back door. Stars show up on the walls in the living room. And above the window seat in the breakfast nook hangs a star with a story.



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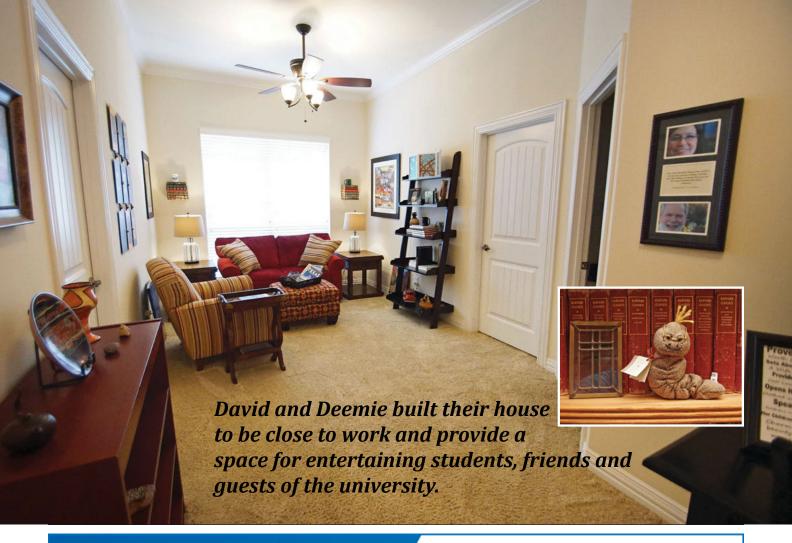


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"That star is from Halifax, Nova Scotia," David remembered.

"Yeah," Deemie agreed. "We went on a cruise about the time we were building the house, and we just found that. It seemed like the right place for it."

The kitchen countertop is one solid piece of granite, cut to fit. The cabinetry is knotty alder. "We had to cut our budget in other places to get that wood," David recalled.

"We prayed over every decision during the building," Deemie added.

The open plan design means the kitchen has to stay clean, but also that anyone in the kitchen is still able to see and take part in everything going on in the living room and dining room. Just at the end of the dining room, before you circle back into the living room, is a conversation pit with wicker furniture. "We didn't want separate rooms," David explained, but we did want separate areas."

The conversation pit highlights another of those themes that run throughout the house. The one thing you can't miss here is the big painting of a lion. "That's Aslan," David smiled, referring to the lion in the Chronicles of Narnia books. C.S. Lewis holds a special place for both David and Deemie, and there are connections and tributes everywhere. His books, fiction and nonfiction, and biographies are in the library and on other shelves. A chair in the master bedroom is known as "the C.S. Lewis chair" because it looks like one at The Kilns, C.S. Lewis' home in England, where David spent time as a





scholar-in-residence in 2011 researching the man and his writings. Both David and Deemie are on the board of the C.S. Lewis Institute.

Behind a curtain lies an area the Naugles refer to as the "flex space," since it can be used as a guest suite or opened up to provide more room for hosting large gatherings. The guest room boasts a map of the Republic of Texas and Texas tiles from the State Fair and a mosaic of the Texas flag. The attached sitting room has mounted shelves made of books displaying a C.S. Lewis mug and a rock from The Kilns. There is also a mosaic by a former student on the wall showing Creation, the Fall and Redemption, and more student art on a ladder shelf. On the way to the exit, visitors pass a hall tree made of a repurposed old door with mirrors in the panels and a trunk for the seat.

C.S. Lewis once said, "A pleasure is not fully grown until it is remembered." David and Deemie Naugle seem to have taken that fully to heart, filling their house with memories of places, people and times, letting the memories grow into full pleasures. **NOW**



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Shawn Ray started working for the Cedar Hill Parks and Recreation Department as a seasonal job when he was a teenager in high school. "I needed a summer job," Shawn remembered. But that summer job became a career and a long-term commitment to the community life of Cedar Hill. Now, after years of training and education, he is the parks superintendent who played an important role in the recent opening of two new neighborhood parks for the citizens of Cedar Hill.

8

Bear Creek Park and Highlands Recreation Area are the two newest parks in Cedar Hill. Both of them held their dedications in April. "The city acquired the land for Highlands from Cedar Hill ISD," Shawn explained. "It was being used as a soccer field, but the community expressed interest in having it developed into a real park."

"This wasn't the city's idea," William Ford, the new director of Parks and Recreation, explained. "The neighborhoods come to us and request something," he continued. "Then together, we determine what that park should look like." A series of meetings between citizens and Neighborhood Services start the process of turning an idea into a community space.



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The new Bear Creek Park was created on land that the city acquired years ago but hadn't developed. "This neighborhood is out of the way," Shawn explained. "It's not connected to other communities in Cedar Hill by sidewalks or trails." So when the HOA met with the city last year, and they explained what they wanted from a neighborhood park, it was not a run-of-the-mill proposal. They wanted an outdoor exercise area like a rec center with elliptical machines and bench press stations. Eventually, they hope to add a basketball court, but that will be in a later phase of the project. "The HOA contributed \$25,000 to this project, so the community is deeply invested in their own park," Shawn reported.

"We continued getting input from the neighborhoods for a couple of months," Shawn explained. "Then we hired Dunkin, Sims and Stoffels as the landscape architects to draw up plans for the parks." The bidding process to find the contractors who would do the actual building and installation of the two new parks, revealed what everyone knows — construction is expensive in today's markets, with the current building boom. So, the projects have to be completed in stages, as the funds are available. "The bids were high, so we had to prioritize. We'll add the other pieces the communities want as we can."

The actual construction started just after school let out last year. After seven months of construction, there were still some things that weren't complete at the time of the dedications the first week of April. They were still waiting on the arrival of the pergolas, some irrigation and trees and landscaping. But that didn't stop the citizens of these neighborhoods from enjoying their new spaces. "The citizens at Highlands were already using the park before construction was finished. That's not what we want people

doing. It's dangerous," Shawn warned, "but it does show how much the people wanted this park."

William was pleased that Cedar Hill built these new parks with all the latest standards in mind. "The play areas all have pour-in-place rubber composite fall areas," he said. This helps the play areas comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. "It's more expensive to install, but the rubber doesn't have to be raked up every morning like the engineered wood fiber, which has to be replaced every year. And the rubber lasts 8-10 years."

According to Shawn, "The actual construction aspect is kind of boring, as long as it goes according to plan. Then if it doesn't ..." Some of Shawn's duties during the construction phase include inspecting irrigation installation and being sure the structural engineering is up to code. He has to be sure that what was on the plans is what ends up in the field. And they continue meeting with the citizens about how they want the parks laid out, to be sure the neighborhoods are getting the parks they want.

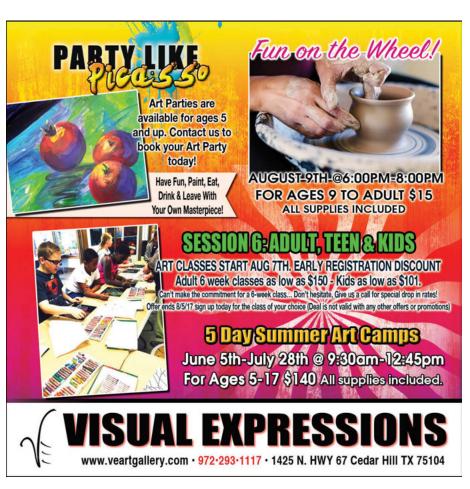
Just before the dedications, Shawn was focused on getting the project closed out, finishing the paperwork and planning maintenance schedules for mowing and other tasks, like winter maintenance of the equipment, using the current Parks staff. "The crews take a lot of pride in our parks. Even while they were still under construction, the crews were coming to me asking, 'Do you need us to mow now? The grass is getting high.' And I'd tell them, 'No, that's still the contractor's responsibility.' But they were ready to take ownership." For Shawn, "The rewarding part comes after the dedications, when you see the people



















using the parks, talking to their neighbors, exercising, doing yoga — these spaces provide the opportunity for that."

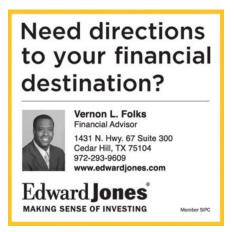
Today, both parks are in full use with walking trails looping the playgrounds, so parents can keep a constant eye on their children as they enact their adventures on the equipment, while getting in a walk to relieve the day's stress. In the next months, shade structures will be added to the play areas at both parks. And the neon green exercise stations at Bear Creek are doing their job of keeping the community fit, offering both strength training and aerobic exercise under the open sky. Shawn and the rest of the Parks Department plan to continue identifying needs for additional amenities and adding landscaping until these new neighborhood parks are the best they can be.

William is looking forward to future projects. "It's important to acquire land for parks now, before it's developed. Businesses relocate to places with high quality of life, and our parks are an important part of life in Cedar Hill."

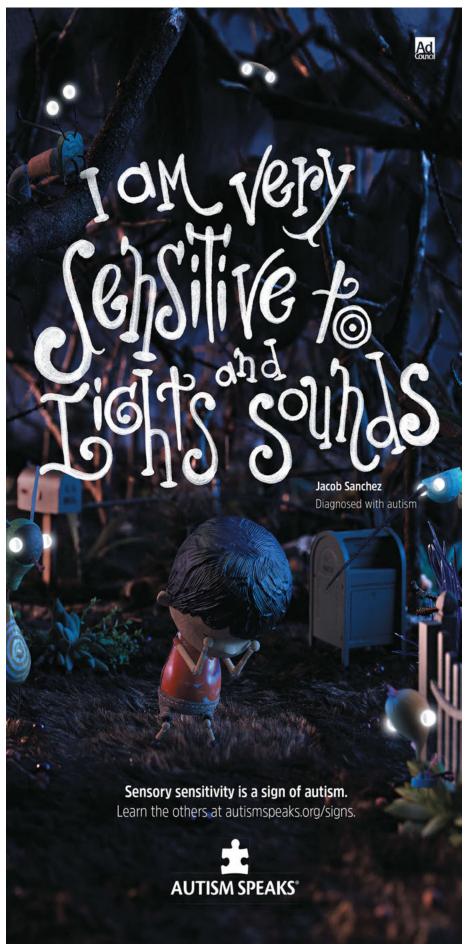
"The Parks and Recreation Department is charged with connecting the community. Our neighborhoods are our greatest assets," Shawn explained. "People expect a bunch of bureaucracy, but we don't want to kill your ideas. We want to help. Small, neighborhood parks play into the overall picture of Cedar Hill spaces for community."

Shawn and the rest of the Parks Department do a lot to keep Cedar Hill green and active. And most of that work happens behind the scenes, keeping everything in tip-top shape at the shared community spaces. "We're lucky in Cedar Hill," Shawn admitted. "Both the City Council and the citizens are very supportive of the parks, and they get lots of use." NOW









Pets are part of the family. Whether dealing with an ambivalent feline, or a dog that truly is man's best friend, taking care of your pet means more than just refilling a food and water bowl. To make sure your family pet has as long and healthy of a life as possible, follow these simple steps.

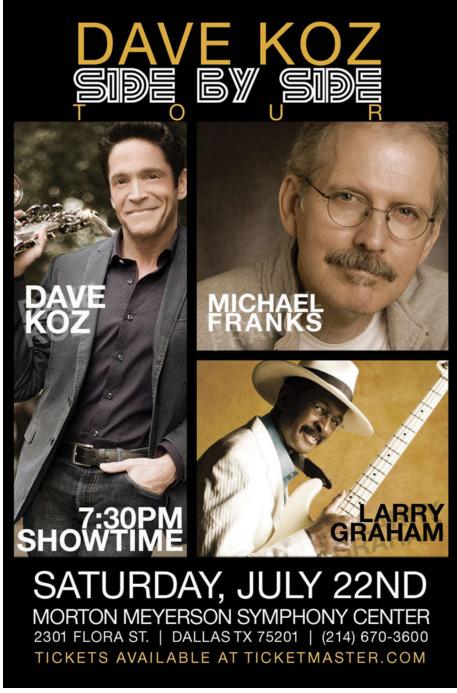
VACCINATIONS AND VET VISITS

• They would thank you if they could. One of the hard things about caring for pets is that they cannot tell you when they feel bad. That is part of the reason it is so important to keep up with regular vaccinations. Most vaccines for things like influenza and rabies require yearly boosters, but the list of vaccinations is numerous and varied, so be sure to check with your veterinarian for specifics.¹

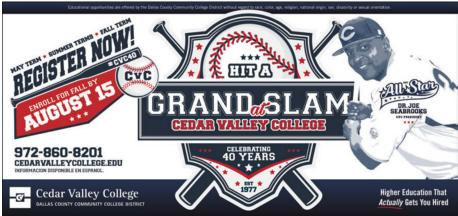
— By Zachary R. Urquhart



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- Use a vet you trust. Finding a good veterinarian is like finding a good doctor. Whether you are taking your pet in for a routine visit or because you think something is wrong, you need someone whose diagnosis and treatment plan you feel confident in. If you need to find someone, ask friends, check for specializations and think about choosing someone who is accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association. Before you decide on a vet, tour the practice, so you can meet the staff before you are trusting your loved ones to their care.²
- *Do not wait.* Dogs, cats and, yes, even fish benefit from yearly checkups with your trusted vet. Aside from going once a year, if you notice something wrong with your pet, you should head in. Lethargy is a common sign that something is wrong. Your dog or cat will likely lay around more than normal, and your fish may be swimming a lot less than is typical. If you think there is a problem, the best option is to let your vet take a look.

DIET AND EXERCISE

• Exercise for fun and for fitness. No matter what kind of pet you have, there are things you can do to encourage and ensure plenty of exercise. While you may not be inclined to take your ferret or iguana on a walk, making sure they have fun climbing equipment and toys in their living space is important. The same idea goes for cats, who generally cannot be leashed and taken on walks unless trained from their earliest days. You can invest in climbing and





your canine, the options for exercise are endless, and offer you a chance to improve your own personal fitness as well. Aside from a traditional dog walk, you can go for a jog on a trail, play in the park or leash up your dog and let them decide every turn to come up with a new route.4

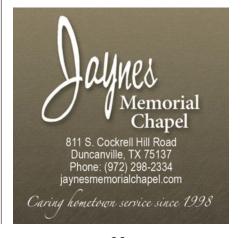
- Diet is important, too. People have gained an incredible understanding of nutrition and diet over the last few decades. Just like you need to balance your starchy carbs with plenty of protein, fruits and vegetables, pets need a balanced diet, as well. That can mean giving your furry friend pet food with all the nutrients they need, or giving them a variety of foods. You probably do not eat the same meal every day, so remember that your pet may enjoy a variety, too. Be sure that over the span of several days you are feeding them the full spectrum of nutrients they need to grow and thrive.5
- Some pets need special diets. Most pets will thrive with a standard, balanced diet appropriate for their breed. Some, though, will require a special diet for issues including, but not limited to, heart and liver disease, weight problems or bladder stones. Some pets even have allergies, so you may have to find or make special food to keep them going and growing. If you suspect your pet is having dietary issues, get a detailed diet from your vet.

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

• No one likes to sneeze. In addition to potential food allergies, dogs and cats can also suffer from seasonal allergies. If you notice your pet scratching, licking or rubbing its face on coarse surfaces, it is probably trying to satiate its itchiness much like people will move their backs on a door frame to get those hard to reach places.6









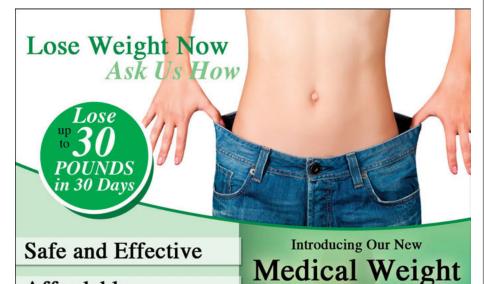




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A less common symptom for allergies left untreated is hair loss. When you see any of these things, get to the vet, so you can get medication quickly. In the meantime, give your pet baths more regularly, and keep floors clean by vacuuming and by washing your pet's feet frequently.

• Consider pet health insurance. One of the reasons people sometimes neglect to take a pet in for a visit is the cost. While emergencies can be costly, and long-term care can seem daunting, pet insurance is a great way to offset potential expenses. If you do not have pet insurance, the easiest first step is to go online to get quotes and compare rates. Many familiar companies like GEICO and Progressive offer various plans, so you can decide how much coverage your pet needs.

It is never easy to say goodbye to your beloved pets, but the fact is that most pets will pass on before their owners. With these helpful tips, though, you can help the furry members of the family live a long full life. NOW

Sources:

1http://pets.webmd.com/pet-vaccinesschedules-cats-dogs 2https://www.aaha.org/pet_owner/ about_aaha/why_accreditation_matters/ about_accreditation/how_to_choose_ the_right_veterinarian.aspx 3http://www.petmd.com/cat/wellness/ evr_ct_exercising_with_your_cat_a_ how_to_guide 4http://www.animalplanet.com/pets/ healthy-pets/10-fun-ways-to-exerciseyour-dog/ 5http://www.whole-dog-journal. com/issues/15_7/features/Home-Prepared-Dog-Food-Nutritional-Information_20568-1.html

6http://iheartdogs.com/10-signs-your-

dog-has-seasonal-allergies/5/





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Daniel Haydin (center), Melony Young and Michael Lemmon can't wait to help you find the policy that's right for you.

Insuring Customer Service

The Haydin Insurance Group works to provide the right plan for your needs. — By Adam Walker

The Haydin Insurance Group focuses on employee benefits for small- to medium-sized employers. "We can provide anything an employer needs, from life insurance to health and dental to ancillary care coverage," Daniel Haydin explained. "We are independent brokers for life and health insurance contracts, so we can go to any carrier that works for your needs and find the most competitive prices available." Daniel believes that "service is the name of the game," so he and his fellow agents are willing to do as much or as little as you want. "Some HR managers or employers are very hands on, others want someone to take care of everything for them. We can help either way."

Daniel started in this field back in 1978 as a life insurance salesman with a big firm in the Park Cities dealing with individual policies. "I learned from the best in the business, at the No. 1 agency in that company," Daniel remembered. That experience gives Daniel a unique perspective on how the insurance industry has changed over time, and he's seen how fads can come and go. "If a new product comes along, something I need to study, I'm glad to do that. I need to be able to educate customers, so I can give them the proper information to make the best choice." He makes being informed regarding the changes in the industry such a priority that he keeps up with

Business NOW

programs, like the Medicare Advantage and other government programs, which require spending a lot of time on yearly re-certifications.

Some changes, like the reduction in the number of companies providing insurance products, make it more difficult to provide the level of service the agents of the Haydin Group strive to give their clients. "Claim adjudication is not as easy as it once was, but I go to bat for my clients and help them understand billing. HIPAA reduces our ability to act as intermediaries, but we do everything we can."

"We focus on having a wide variety, a comprehensive range, of life and health products to choose from."

Daniel said, "I like the freedom of being independent. I don't have to try to fit a round ball in a square hole. I don't have to sell company X, if it's not the best fit for the customer. My philosophy is to be with the best, only the top 2- to 3-percent, no B-rated companies. I think very strongly about what's best for my customers on a long-term basis." And when it comes time to renew, Daniel wants his customers to stick around. "Servicing an account before it runs out is important. We try to find a better deal for renewal and help our clients understand their options. If that means renegotiating with the current provider or finding a new provider, that's what we do."

He also believes in long-term involvement in his community. The Haydin Insurance Group has been in Cedar Hill since 1999. His fellow agent, Michael Lemmon, and Melony Young, who is both an agent and office manager, share his dedication to service. "We focus on having a wide variety, a comprehensive range, of life and health products to choose from. And we strive to always have the best customer service and knowledge of the field. From A to Z, we do everything in our field. And we care. Once we get you as a customer, we want to keep you as a customer. We always want to try to be somebody's answer." NOW



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Best Southwest Everything Teen Expo 2017 celebrates its teen volunteers.



Francis Cedilla models new Brighton handbags at And Everything Nice.



Duncanville Design Studio Members recently completed a permanent art feature on the walls of Ben Franklin Apothecary.



Duncanville's annual firetruck pull raises money for Special Olympics.



DeSoto ISD students stop to take a selfie on Academic Signing Day.



Lynn Crossland mans the register at Tuesday



Maggie Craven helps customers at White Rhino.

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Planning for retirement: Is it ever too late?

Time is money.

Ben Franklin may not have been thinking about the effect of time on the accumulation of money back when he reportedly made this observation, but his words hit home for anyone saving for retirement these days. That's because time is precious for anyone who wants to prepare for the financial realities of retirement.

Obviously, the earlier you begin saving for your retirement, the more time you have to contribute to your retirement fund. An early start on retirement savings also puts the power of compound interest on your side — the ability of your earnings to grow on each other — until you withdraw funds from the account. In fact, say financial counselors, regularly saving even modest amounts beginning when you're just starting out can help you accumulate more for retirement than waiting several years and saving larger amounts.

Even so, life gets in the way for some of us. Before we know it, we've procrastinated our way through our 20s, 30s, even our 40s, with little or nothing saved for retirement. If you've waited out decades to get started on saving for your retirement, you may be wondering, Did I wait too long?

No doubt about it, say the experts, you'll be behind the eight ball, but it's never too late to start saving for retirement. With diligence, some strategic moves, and professional help, you can likely make up some of the ground you've lost. Plan and save with focus.

Just saving as much as you can for retirement isn't the same as having a plan. More effective, create a savings strategy based on your own circumstances and goals. Then, take advantage of opportunities to maximize savings, such as increased contribution limits for certain types of retirement accounts, if you are age 50 and older.

Delay retirement.

Minimize the hit to your retirement funds by working longer than you originally planned. Extra years of income can mean more dollars saved for retirement, more years for your savings to grow, and less need to tap retirement funds.

Get professional help.

Staying on task and on target is critical, if you're getting a late start. A financial professional can guide you through financial options, point out potential pitfalls, and coach you toward your ultimate retirement goals. NOW

Investment and insurance products are not FDIC insured, are not bank guaranteed, and may

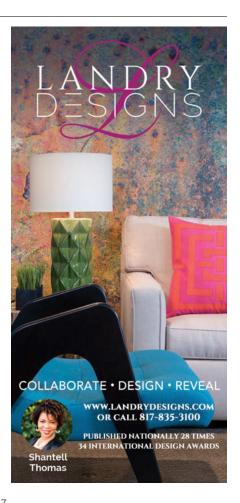
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Tim Maiden is a senior vice president for Frost Bank in Duncanville. (214) 515-4058







A Shock of a Sting

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

Those pesky bugs! They just love us, whether or not we love them in return. They bite us, sting us, stick us and scare us out of our wits. To many people, they are a nuisance, but others see the great benefits of having insects on this planet and consider the downside as a mere inconvenience. However, some bugs are crawling, flying death traps for humans. When that situation exists, great care needs to be taken.

The usual culprits that can set off an allergic reaction in humans are bees, wasps, fire ants, yellow jackets and hornets. According to the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology, "The red or black imported fire ant now infests more than 260 million acres in the southern United States, where it has become a significant health hazard and may be the number one agent of insect stings."

There is a normal reaction to insect venom that can be somewhat traumatic, but will not necessarily be an allergic reaction. Most people will have a normal reaction to an insect sting with symptoms of pain, redness and swelling. An allergic reaction is when your body overreacts to an allergen (any substance that causes an allergic reaction or specific hypersensitivity). The allergic reaction causes the same symptoms of pain, swelling and redness, only the coverage is beyond the site of the sting. You may experience itchiness or hives and/or a feeling of warmth in the area. If it progresses to the point that you begin wheezing, having trouble breathing, difficulty swallowing, swelling of the facial area, dizziness, weak and rapid pulse and clammy skin, you may have anaphylaxis. This is a serious, lifethreatening allergic reaction and requires immediate medical attention.

For someone in anaphylactic shock, there is no time to waste. Call 911. If the person carries epinephrine, sometimes referred to as an EpiPen, it needs to be administered right away. Even if symptoms improve, medical attention should still be received. Those symptoms could come back. Have the person lie down, elevate their legs and loosen any tight clothing. Cover them with a blanket or whatever material is handy. If any nausea or vomiting is present, turn them on their side. Do not have them eat or drink anything. If they stop breathing, administer CPR until emergency help arrives.

In order to avoid insect stings, do not make yourself a target. Avoid activities at dawn and dusk. When outside, wear insect repellant. Don't wear bright colors. Avoid perfumes, scented hairsprays, deodorants and lotions. If you are stung and have a generalized reaction, see an allergist for follow-up and treatment. NOW

Source:

http://acaai.org/allergies/types/insect-sting-allergies

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

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July 1

Old Fashioned Fourth Fireworks Celebration: 6:00 p.m., Meadowcreek Park, 1400 Uhl Rd., DeSoto. Carnival food, bounce houses, games and live entertainment. Fireworks begin at 9:00 p.m.

July 4

Duncanville Lions Club Fourth of July Parade: 9:00 a.m., begins and ends at Reed Middle School, 530 Freeman St. Call Don at (214) 918-9981 or Kasey at (972) 298-1147 for information.

July 5

3-D Printing for Teens: 3:00 p.m., DeSoto Public Library, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., DeSoto. Learn about the cool things you can create and print with our new 3D printer.

July 8

Star of Hope Baptist Church Women's Ministry Garage Sale: 7:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 2304 W. Wheatland Rd., Dallas. Email Frances Yvonne Benford for details at yvonnebenford@sbcglobal.net.

DFW World Series: all day, Valley Ridge Park, 2850 Park Ridge Dr., Cedar Hill. \$10 per person over age 6. For information, call (318) 356-8392 or go to dfwworldseries.com.

July 10

Magician James Wand: 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill. Families will love this fun and educational program, including clues, secret codes and lots of magic as the children help him on a top-secret mission.

July 19 — 21

Revival: 7:00 p.m., Fountain of the Living God Family Christian Center, 110 N. Lyndalyn Ave., DeSoto. Healing and deliverance service with Pastor Randy and Belinda Henderson.

July 22

Go Fish! Learn to Fish Event: 9:00 a.m.-noon, Cedar Hill State Park, 1570 FM 1382, Cedar Hill. Youth and adults learn the basics of fishing through fun, hands-on activities. Door prizes. Equipment and bait provided or bring your own. No fishing license necessary. Event is free, but park entrance may apply. Adults must accompany children. Bring sun protection and water.

July 25

Whirled on a String: 3:00-4:00 p.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville. Yo-yo tricks. Call Danene Hudson for info at (972) 780-5044.

July 27

Talent Show: 10:30-11:30 a.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill. Ages 5-18. Have a special talent or just want to see the amazing talent that Cedar Hill offers? Join us. Free.

July 29

Friends' Bag o' Books: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd., Duncanville. \$5 a bag. Fill it with as many books as you want.

Ongoing:

First Mondays

The Rotary Club of Cedar Hill: 6:00 p.m., High Pointe Baptist Church, 101 High Pointe Ln. The club consists of a diverse group of local business people and civic leaders who have completely embraced the essence of Rotary International's "Service Above Self" theme. The club is active the community, supporting many local non-profits and programs.

Third Mondays

DeSoto Public Library Book Club: 7:00 p.m., DeSoto Town Center Complex, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd. For more information, call (972) 230-9661.

Fourth Mondays

Living with Diabetes: 6:00 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, Cedar Hill. Learn life skills suggested in living with diabetes.

Tuesdays

DeSoto Senior Center Golden Voices Choir: 9:00 a.m., Senior Citizen Center, 204 Lion St., DeSoto. For more information, call (972) 230-5825.

Duncanville Rotary Club: 7:00-8:00 a.m., D.L. Hopkins Jr. Center, 206 James Collins Blvd., located across from Duncanville Public Library.

Second Tuesdays

Dallas Area Writers Group (DAWG), 7:00 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, Cedar Hill. DAWG meetings are open to all writers who want to improve writing skills, meet other writers and get published. Free to attend. www.dallaswriters.org

American Business Women's Association: 7:00 p.m., Magnuson Grand Hotel DeSoto,

1515 N. I35, DeSoto. Dinner \$25. Currently accepting new members. For information, call (972) 224-3049.

Second and Fourth Tuesdays

Caregiver Support Group: 2:00-3:30 p.m., Friends Place Adult Day Services, 1232 W. Belt Line Rd., DeSoto. For more information, call (972) 274-2484.

Wednesdays

Pre-school Storytime: 10:30 a.m., DeSoto Public Library.

First Wednesdays

The Cedar Hill Citizens Fire Academy Alumni Group: Fire Station 211, 1212 W. Belt Line Rd. The Citizens Fire Academy began in 2006 and is a 10-week program designed to teach citizens about the inner workings of the fire department and the services they offer. For more information, call (972) 291-1011 or visit www. cedarhilltx.com/506/Citizens-Fire-Academy.

Thursdays

The Quilters: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., DeSoto Public Library. New quilters are welcome. If you or someone you know has a quilt top they would like hand quilted, call (972) 230-9661.

Tiempo de Historias en Espanol: 5:30 p.m., Duncanville Public Library, 201 James Collins Blvd. For more information, call (972) 780-5050.

Texas Hold'Em Tournament: Noon., Senior Citizen Center, 204 Lion St., DeSoto. For more information, call (972) 230-5825.

Line Dance Classes: 12:15 and 1:00 p.m. Free. Senior Citizen Center, 204 Lion St., DeSoto. For more information, call (972) 230-5825.

Second Thursdays

Business on the Hill: 7:30 a.m., Texas Trust Credit Union, 109 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill. Networking and meeting new neighbors.

Third Fridays

Senior Dances: 7:00-9:30 p.m., Hopkins Senior Center, 206 James Collins, Duncanville. Cost \$5. For more information, call (972) 298-0667.

Third Saturdays

Duncan Switch Saturday Street Market: 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Main and Center streets, Duncanville. The event will include vendors, food and fun.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current events to adam.walker@nowmagazines.com.



In the Kitchen With Patricia Samuels

— By Adam Walker

Patricia Samuels learned to cook by helping her mother and grandmother as a little girl. "I grew up in Port Arthur on the Texas/Louisiana border, which is largely inhabited by people originally from Louisiana," Patricia remembered. That's why she enjoys cooking Southern Louisiana Creole style. But she didn't start cooking on her own until college. "When I went away to Texas A&M University and got an apartment, I was no longer on the dorm's meal plan, but I realized that I needed to eat!"

When she isn't cooking, Patricia works at an international employment law firm, is an ordained minister who used to teach on her father's Gospel radio program and serves as the literacy chair of the James Campbell Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Delicious Sweet Potatoes

6 medium sweet potatoes, whole with skins on

I cup granulated sugar

1/2 stick margarine

2 eggs, beaten

1 tsp. vanilla

1/2 can evaporated milk

Topping:

1/4 cup flour1 cup brown sugar1 cup pecans, chopped1/2 stick margarine

I. Boil sweet potatoes. Remove skins and mash, removing the stringy part; cool.

- **2.** Add granulated sugar, 1/2 stick margarine, eggs, vanilla and evaporated milk. Pour mixture into casserole dish.
- **3.** For topping: Mix flour, brown sugar and nuts. Combine flour mixture with margarine; spread on top of potato mixture.
- **4.** Bake, uncovered, at 325 F for 45 minutes to 1 hour, until golden brown.

Sopapilla Cheesecake

2 8-oz. pkgs. cream cheese, softened 1 1/4 cups sugar (divided use) 1 tsp. vanilla extract 2 8-oz. cans crescent dough 1/4 cup melted butter 1 tsp. cinnamon Honey (optional)

- **I.** Beat cream cheese with 1 cup of sugar and vanilla extract in a bowl until smooth.
- **2.** Unroll both cans of crescent dough, using a rolling pin to shape each can of dough into a 9x13-inch rectangle. Press 1 piece into the bottom of a 9x13-inch baking dish.
- **3.** Evenly spread the cream cheese mixture over the dough in the baking dish. Cover with the remaining piece of dough.
- **4.** Drizzle the melted butter evenly over the top of the dough covering the cheesecake.
- **5.** Stir together remaining sugar and the cinnamon in a small bowl and sprinkle over the cheesecake.
- **6.** Bake at 350 F for about 45 minutes until the crescent dough has puffed and turned golden brown. Drizzle honey on top after it's baked, if desired.

Mrs. Yennie's Secret Ingredient Carrot Cake

Cake:

2 cups sugar

2 cups flour

2 tsp. baking soda

2 tsp. salt

2 tsp. cinnamon

4 eggs

 $1 \, 1/2$ cups oil

2 large jars junior baby carrots (Makes cake very moist!)

Frosting:

1 1-lb. box confectioner's sugar

1 8-oz. pkg. Philadelphia cream cheese

I tsp. vanilla

1 stick margarine

3/4 to 1 cup pecans

- **I.** For cake: Combine sugar, flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, eggs and oil to make a batter.
- **2.** Fold in carrot baby food. Bake at 350 F for 30-45 minutes; cool.
- **3.** For frosting: Combine confectioner's sugar, cream cheese, vanilla and margarine.
- **4.** Spread frosting on cake, and sprinkle nuts on top.

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