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ON THE COVER



Congratulations Bray Elementary,
on your Blue Ribbon status.

Photo by Opaque Visuals.

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Editor's Note

Dear Southwest Friends,

What in the world happens in August? In past August editorial notes I have discussed the quirky calendar "holidays," returning to school, the temperature and the "B" word — boredom. This year, I'd like to address the idea of goals, even though I am not much of a goal person. We consider goals at the start of something new: the New Year, a new job, new city or home, new school year, the aspect of marriage or the birth

of a child ... or maybe even a new phase of life ... retirement or life without a long-time family member. We set goals to give ourselves something to aim for — a termination point or plan to arrive at some expected place or achievement.

Do you think it's true that if we set no goals we never accomplish anything? So what would you like to accomplish or achieve in the months to come?

Here's to good goals and meeting them!

Beverly

Beverly Shay
SouthwestNOW Editor
beverly.shay@nowmagazines.com

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Back to School - Monday, August 26 First Day

SCHOOL HOURS OF OPERATION

Elementary (Pre-K to 5th)	8:00 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
Middle School (6th to 8th)	8:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
Freshman Campus (9th)	7:30 a.m. - 2:54 p.m.
High School (10th to 12th)	7:30 a.m. - 2:54 p.m.

GENERAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Parents should review the attendance zone maps to determine their assigned campus prior to registering via the district Website or at campuses. A child must be age 5 on or before Sept. 1 to enter kindergarten and age 6 to enter first grade. Please bring the following to register your child:

- original copy of birth certificate
- immunization records
- social security card
- report cards/transcripts (if available)
- proof of residency (current utility bill)
- parent / guardian driver's license



New Student Registration (all grades)

- Registration for all students new to DeSoto ISD
- August 13-16 and August 20-23
- 8 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. at each campus

Pre-K Registration - DeSoto now offers full-day Pre-K for all eligible students. A child is eligible for Pre-K if the child is age 4 on or before Sept. 1 and:

- the family qualifies for free or reduced meals; or
- is unable to speak or comprehend English; or
- is a homeless child; or
- is the child of an active duty member of the armed forces or child of an injured or deceased member of the armed forces; or
- has been or is in conservatorship of the state.

Returning Student Information

Students returning to DeSoto ISD must bring proof of residency at the beginning of each school year and have current immunizations on file at the school. Residency proof should be in the form of a current gas, electric or water bill. Immunization requirements are online for every grade. In particular, incoming seventh-grade students have new shots required before they can attend school in the fall.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Transportation is available for students living two or more miles from their home schools. For more information, contact your school.

FLYING START FOR GRADES 6-12

Students in grades 6-12 are invited to **Flying Start** to pick up schedules, have ID pictures taken, receive back to school information and much more! Bring your shot records and proof of residency to receive your schedule.

Middle Schools Flying Start

August 14-15 9 a.m. to noon and 2-5 p.m.

Freshman Campus Flying Start

August 14-15 8 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m.

DeSoto High School Flying Start (by grade)

Sophomores Wed., August 14, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Juniors/Seniors Th., August 15, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

School Wide Orientation

Thursday, August 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

DHS Make-Up Day - Orientation & Schedule Pick Up

Saturday, August 17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH INFORMATION

The DeSoto ISD makes nutritional breakfast and lunches available for all students. Menus are available at each school and online as well as meal payment plans through Meal App Now. To apply for the free- and reduced-meal program call Child Nutrition Services at 972-230-4780.

STUDENT UNIFORMS

CHANGES for 2013!

DeSoto ISD has a student uniform dress policy for all grades and all campuses. In general, students must wear white, forest green, gold, **gray** or black tops along with **spirit and college shirts**. Bottoms must be khaki, black or DeSoto plaid. For complete details see the district Website.

STUDENT ATHLETICS

Students in grades 7-12 are eligible to participate in University Interscholastic League (UIL) competitive athletics. All students must have physicals, parental acknowledgment forms, and emergency information on file **BEFORE** the first practice. All forms are available online.



DeSoto ISD

Back to School FAIR!

**Saturday, August 10
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
DHS Academy Cafe**

HOW TO SIGN UP!

- Preregister July 31, 8 a.m.– 5 p.m. at the Belt Line Conf. Center, 200 E. Belt Line Rd.
 - Supplies are for current DeSoto ISD students only; enrollment will be verified.

JOIN US FOR:

- School supplies & backpacks for DeSoto ISD students! *(DeSoto ISD students only; limited to supply available)*
- Immunizations & health screenings
- District & local resources for families!

Eagles ready to take it to state!

After the retirement of Pam DeBorde last year, DeSoto ISD begins a new era in athletics with Larry Davis as the new Athletics Director. The Eagles Football team, under Head Coach Claude Mathis, will be part of the Southwest Showcase and Lone Star Classic multi-game events before district play begins in late September. After the deepest run in history last year, the Eagles are ready to take it all the way in 2013!

2013-14 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 20 - 7:30 p.m. vs. Arlington Martin
Sept. 7 - 4:00 p.m. Union, OK @ Dragon Stadium (Southwest Showcase)
Sept. 14 - 7:30 p.m. Euless Trinity @ Kincaide Stadium (Lone Star Classic)
Sept. 20 - 7:30 p.m. Cedar Hill @ Longhorn Stadium
Sept. 27 - 7:30 p.m. S. Grand Prairie @ Gopher Warrior Bowl
Oct. 11 - 7:30 p.m. vs. Mansfield Timberview (Homecoming)
Oct. 18 - 7:30 p.m. Midlothian @ Midlothian Stadium
Oct. 25 - 7:30 p.m. vs. Duncanville
Nov. 1 - 7:30 p.m. Grand Prairie @ Gopher Warrior Bowl
Nov. 7 - 7:00 p.m. vs. Mansfield (Senior Night)



calendar of events

June 7- Aug. 23 - Student's Summer Break
August 5-6, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Pre-register for Back to School Fair
Tuesday, Aug. 6, 7-9 p.m. - DeSoto celebrates National Night Out
August 9-11 - 2013 Sales Tax Holiday in Texas (Tax-Free Weekend)
Saturday, Aug. 10, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Back to School Fair, DHS
Monday, Aug. 26 - First Day of School for 2012-13 School Year
Monday, Sept. 2 - Labor Day Holiday
Monday, Sept. 30 - State Fair Day - no school for students; Staff Dev.
Monday, Oct. 14 - Early Release and Parent Conferences

www.desotoisd.org

New Leadership



Bobby Sims
Principal
Ruby Young Elementary

What's New for 2013

DeSoto ISD made several organizational changes and added programs for the 2013 school year.

Full-day PreK is now available for eligible students. Expanding the program from half-day will better prepare our students for kindergarten and beyond.

The DeSoto High School Collegiate Magnet Program will start with the first year of students. Selected students are on the path to earn an associates degree from Cedar Valley College while still in high school at no cost.

Middle schools will begin the first year of iTEAM3D Magnet Academy with 150 students per campus in an open floor plan problem-based learning environment. The program incorporates science, technology, engineering, and math with an arts integration. All three schools had approximately five classrooms modified for the program and teachers spent much of the summer planning lessons and attending trainings for the fall launch.

Dress code changes for 2013 include the addition of gray uniform shirts as well as spirit and college shirts. Students are prohibited from wearing leggings, tights or jeggins as outerwear and no slide shoes are allowed. Schools will also be implementing Power Mondays with professional, leadership focused dress.

All students must have up-to-date immunizations to attend school. Incoming seventh-grade students have new shots required before they can attend school in the fall.



Fun, BLUE-RIBBON Style

— By Beverly Shay



Bray Elementary School has been doing things well for about 112 years now, but in November 2012, it joined the ranks of some 500 Texas schools designated National Blue Ribbon Schools, the only one in Southwest Dallas. The distinguished ranking is awarded in one of two manners: for dramatic improvement in student performance on state tests or students scoring in the top 10 percent on state tests. Bray received its Blue Ribbon status due to consistent high achievement.

They were informed of the award in early May 2012. Only two people were allowed to attend the award ceremony. One, of course, would be the principal, Dr. Denise Roache-Davis. Not knowing which of their many brilliant teachers to send, the faculty decided to vote, and Bridgett Smith, a third-grade teacher, was chosen. The three-day trip to Washington, D.C., was in November and consisted of breakout sessions and workshops addressing such things as how principals can work with their staff to plan improvements. “They told us about a school from a low-economic area with poor academic scores and how that school made a complete turnaround. It was very inspiring,” Bridgett recalled. “We also discussed the types of changes we would like to see. And we were given advice on how to involve the media in spotlighting the positive aspects of our schools and students.”

And, of course, they received the award. “I have worked for this school for six years, and we have always had high



Bridgett Smith, Melony Booher and Ginger Reid exemplify the blue-ribbon status of Bray Elementary School.

expectations. We don't feel we have arrived and want to merely maintain. We want to go forward from here," Bridgett reflected. "The students really enjoyed watching the live-streamed award ceremony. Both the students and the teachers were motivated to continue the legacy of success the Bray family has always pursued." Parents are very active and supportive, so they are considered just as much a part of the school family as the staff, faculty and students.

Bray's blue-ribbon qualities aren't limited to national recognition. The community takes a definite ownership in this public school. Take, for example, a lady named Ginger Reid. She considers Bray *the* school for kids. When her first child went to kindergarten here, Ginger learned there were no art programs at any of the elementary schools in Cedar Hill. Ginger's background included a degree in fashion design. She felt strongly that kids need art developmentally, so she went to Carolyn Hunt, the PTA president at the time, and some teachers to ask if she could set up a volunteer art program with the help of other parents. Initially, classes were held in a portable building where there was no running water. "You must have water for projects and for cleanup," Ginger remarked. So she asked for the seldom-used room that backed up to the maintenance closet. Tapping into the plumbing in the closet, they were able to install a sink in the newly appointed art room. "We've been there ever since," Ginger beamed.

Ginger is very good at beaming. She's vivacious and bright and enthusiastic. And she always comes up with fun art projects. "I get ideas for art projects from books, and I did have the best art teacher in Dallas. My mother and sister were both very creative teachers. I also get lesson ideas from teachers from other



"We want to go forward from here."





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*"One time when we were
learning about Michelangelo,
I taped art paper to the
underside of their tables and had
the children lay on their backs,
so they could paint
above their heads!"*

schools, I watch video art lessons, and the Internet is a good source, as well. Mostly, I try to plan age-appropriate projects and introduce students to various artists," Ginger remarked. "One time when we were learning about Michelangelo, I taped art paper to the underside of their tables and had the children lay on their backs, so they could paint above their heads!" Needless to say, Mrs. Reid is a favorite among the children.

Ginger is very quick to acknowledge both she and the children appreciate the help she receives from other parents. "I have a core group of 12 dedicated parents who come in weekly and another 20 or so who come as their schedules allow. The kids wear smocks made from donated men's shirts. We teach them all the basics of art, like cutting and gluing, as well as using many different mediums, such as clay and washable paints," Ginger



said. Paper is donated by Olmsted-Kirk Paper Company. "The kids really like to paint on easels, make gingerbread houses, using papier-mâché and going outside to do sidewalk chalk. One of my favorites," Ginger smiled, "is self-portraits, which we do in February to commemorate President's Day. We hang the students' portraits as future presidents!"



Melony Booher, who worked as a counselor for Bray Elementary for six years and has been serving as the teacher coordinator (somewhat like an assistant principal), is another example of the blue-ribbon quality evident throughout the school. "Bray has really pushed to incorporate fine arts into the school program. We were able to spearhead getting an orchestra in the school through

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a grant from the Cedar Hill Education Foundation. In September 2009, grades K through four began playing cellos, violins and violas, and the second-, third- and fourth-graders, who keep passing grades and display good character, can be part of the after-school vocal motions choir.”



*Only three schools in DFW
have received this award: one is
a magnet school, one is a private
school, and then there is Bray!*

Melony is also proud of the increase in their scores: In the spring of 2011, 100 percent of the third- and fourth-grade students passed the reading and math portions of the TAKS tests, and for 13 years the school has maintained an exemplary rating, where 90 percent of the students or higher passed the TAKS test. “Receiving the Blue Ribbon status is really a big accomplishment, especially since we are a Title I school (meaning that the majority of our students are economically disadvantaged.) Only three schools in DFW have received this award: one is a magnet school, one is a private school, and then there is Bray!” Melony enthused. “Our kids are a great heterogeneous mix: about 50 percent

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"Winning the Blue Ribbon status was a national affirmation of what Cedar Hill residents already knew about Bray."

are African-American, 26 percent are Hispanic and 20 percent are white."

Schools in Texas are now switching over to the STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness), which is a more rigorous rating system beginning in the third grade. "We know that we will most likely experience an initial drop in our scores, and we will adjust our prep time to meet that challenge. But school is about more than scores. Our goal is to provide a whole, well-rounded education for each child by incorporating music, arts, choir, pillars of character and guidance counseling. We address things like bullying, victimization, kindness and caring," Melony stated. With such dedication among the faculty, staff and parents, winning the Blue Ribbon status was a national affirmation of what Cedar Hill residents already knew about Bray.

When Bray Elementary opens its doors this fall, there will be some changes. Dr. Roache-Davis has been transferred to Bessie Coleman Middle School, so Melony Booher will be the interim principal. Now both schools will benefit from the Blue Ribbon training instilled at Bray. **NOW**



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New-to-district families will use the new-to-district student online registration module. Follow instructions on the district website.
- 3 Attend Registration Document Review
 Registration Document Review for the 2013-14 year will be held for each campus in August. District families are required to verify residency each year. This will require parents to attend Registration Document Review to finalize the registration process by submitting current utility bills and other needed documentation such as updated immunization records. A full calendar with dates, times, and locations is available online.

Registration Document Review Dates

Grade Level	Date / Times	Location
Pre-K	August 5 9:00 am – 7:00 pm August 6 8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Duncanville HS Shine Performance Hall
Elementary & Intermediate Grade K & 5 Grade 1 & 5 Grade 2 & 6 Grade 3 & 6 Grade 4, 5, & 6	August 7 8:30 am – 3:00 pm August 8 8:30 am – 3:00 pm August 12 8:30 am – 3:00 pm August 13 8:30 am – 3:00 pm August 14 12:00 – 7:00 pm	Campus Campus Campus Campus Campus
Middle School Grade 7 & 8	August 7 8:30 am – 3:00 pm August 8 12:00 – 7:00 pm August 9 8:30 am – 3:00 pm	Campus Campus Campus
Duncanville High School Grade 9 Grade 10 Grade 11 & 12 All Grades 9-12	August 7, 8, 13, 14, 15... 12:00 – 7:00 pm August 13, 14, 15 12:00 – 7:00 pm August 7, 8, 15 12:00 – 7:00 pm August 17 10:00 am – 2:00 pm	DHS West Campus DHS East Campus DHS East Campus DHS East/West Campus

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iCAN

— By Sara Edgell

The world of today is widely characterized by drive-through dining and convenient culinary devices. Instant, if not immediate, satisfaction is commonplace. Very rarely do we stumble across those who enjoy the laborious tasks related to home cooking, which marked the days of old. And even more rarely do we cross paths with those individuals who embark on these tasks — not for profit — but for sheer joy and fulfillment. Current trends do not include nor encourage preparing food by way of canning, which is simply unheard of in the households across our community. Who has the time? Who has the know-how? Kathryn Lay, that's who!

Not only does Kathryn enjoy canning jams, jellies and pickles, it is a time-honored family tradition, which she is proud to carry on. And while there are many vendors and individuals who offer their

canned goodies for sale online and at local markets or festivals, it is highly doubtful you will find a jar of deliciousness parallel with Kathryn's award-winning preserves.

"It all began with my grandmother," Kathryn said. "Back then the family lived on their Proctor farm, where Bernyce Crowover, my dearest aunt, grew up learning the art of canning. They used their own home-grown garden produce to can what they ate throughout the year. Naturally, Bernyce became an avid canner and continued making jams, jellies, pickles and other vegetables throughout her life."

Bernyce often gave away her tasty creations to the local fire and police stations as a way of showing her gratitude. She also gifted her jellies, jams, pickles and other preserves to church members, neighbors and various others in the Waxahachie community. More impressively, however, is the fact that Aunt Beace, as Kathryn lovingly called her, submitted her canned goods in the State Fair of Texas Arts Contests and Competitions for over 25 years, and was a well-decorated canning veteran bringing home a minimum of seven to eight ribbons each year.

Having learned the art from her own mother, canning was something Aunt Beace, in turn, encouraged Kathryn to learn.

"Canning provided the women with the valuable chance to bond," Kathryn recalled. "Aunt Beace would tell me, 'You can



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do it! I'd go to her house, and she'd show me what to do. She was a real special aunt to me. I enjoyed working with her, being with her and her helping me. I was always really impressed with her."

In 2009, when Aunt Beace fell ill and was unable to submit entries for the annual competition, Kathryn's journey began. She submitted a single jar of bread-and-butter pickles at the last minute, with much encouragement and support. Lo and behold, that single jar



won fourth place. The family tradition had been successfully passed along to the next generation. The family was clearly doing something right with those famous bread-and-butter pickles.

The Creative Arts Department of the State Fair of Texas annual competition judges jellies, jams, vegetables, fruits, butters, marmalades, relishes, pickles and preserves from all over the United States. Individuals are allowed to enter up to 10 different items, and each are judged based on consistency,



color and taste. “Seeing your very own preserves on display, along with the other winners at the State Fair of Texas, is just thrilling,” according to Kathryn. “There is nothing like it. You just feel so good, so proud!”

Since that first entry in 2009, Kathryn has won a multitude of awards. The popular bread-and-butter pickles passed down from Aunt Beace have placed high over the past three years earning ribbons for fourth place in 2009, second place in 2010 and 2011, and first place in 2012. In fact, seven of Kathryn’s 10 entries earned ribbons in last year’s competition. Clearly, her love for canning has paid off. While the ribbons and acclamation are gratifying, Kathryn doesn’t do it for the fame and fortune. In fact, she keeps all of her ribbons stuffed in a sack in a drawer.



The road to seasoned canner has not been struggle-free for Kathryn, however. She has learned the tricks of her trade through trial and error. Last year, she found herself in somewhat

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of a pickle — she needed cucumbers to make her award-winning bread-and-butter pickles, and fast. With limited options, she purchased cucumbers from someone new without tasting them first. After a few phone calls several months later about bad bread-and-butter pickles, she immediately learned never to use an unknown merchant again, and to always taste the produce before using it. Thinking about that learning experience, Kathryn said, “As soon as they started putting them in their mouths, they started spitting them out! I tried some myself, and they were so bitter because the cucumbers were bad. I had to toss the whole 24 jars! But that happens.”

Lessons such as this are important. “She is a great cook,” her husband, Bill remarked. “If she isn’t in the garden, she’s in the kitchen. I like those pickles, and the jelly — all of it is good!”

Kathryn uses traditional methodologies for creating her jams, jellies and pickles. “There are no newfangled devices in my kitchen, just the general supplies and my jar tightener,” she said. She cooks all of the fruit and vegetables on the stovetop and stores the finished products in her home. She does admit to using the Internet to explore for new recipes, but when it comes down to business, technological advances don’t stand a chance against her tried-and-true methods passed down from several generations.

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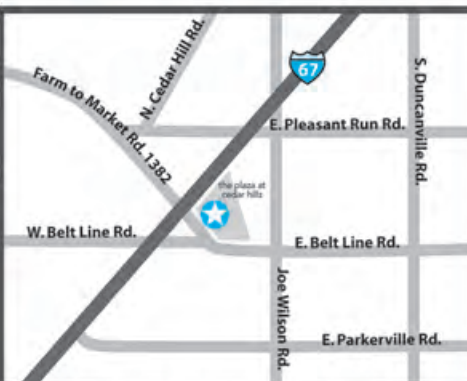


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Kathryn and Bill, her husband of 47 years, have two children and four grandchildren who all enjoy the fruits of her labor. She hopes one day to pass the canning family tradition to her daughter, Gina, and her granddaughter, Amber. "I

"Seeing your very own preserves on display, along with the other winners at the State Fair of Texas, is just thrilling."

would love for either of them to continue with this," she admitted.

Kathryn carries on this family tradition, because it pleases her giving spirit, which is somewhat of family tradition, too. Not only did her dear Aunt Beace pass on the lost art of canning, but also the joy of doing for others. Just as her aunt did, Kathryn gives her tasty treats to others and plans to visit the local police and fire stations in her community of DeSoto to show her gratitude. She says the biggest reward for giving to her family, neighbors and community is the feeling she gets when someone truly enjoys something she has made. "It just makes you feel good!" **NOW**

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ARTISTIC *Enclave*

— By Katrina D. Lewis

Nestled on a small rise along a street crowded by lush trees, David and Vicki Harper's home is one of the largest on their street. That's lucky, because it has had room for three generations of their loving family.

The couple met while both were attending church in Oak Cliff. Although they are celebrating almost four decades of marriage this year, Vicki admits that love was not in the air during their first meeting. David had been invited to the church by a receptionist in his office, and Vicki was a member of the church. "Well, I didn't think he was very friendly," Vicki said laughing. "I remember thinking, *I'll sit with you because I told Kathy I would, but after this we're done.*"

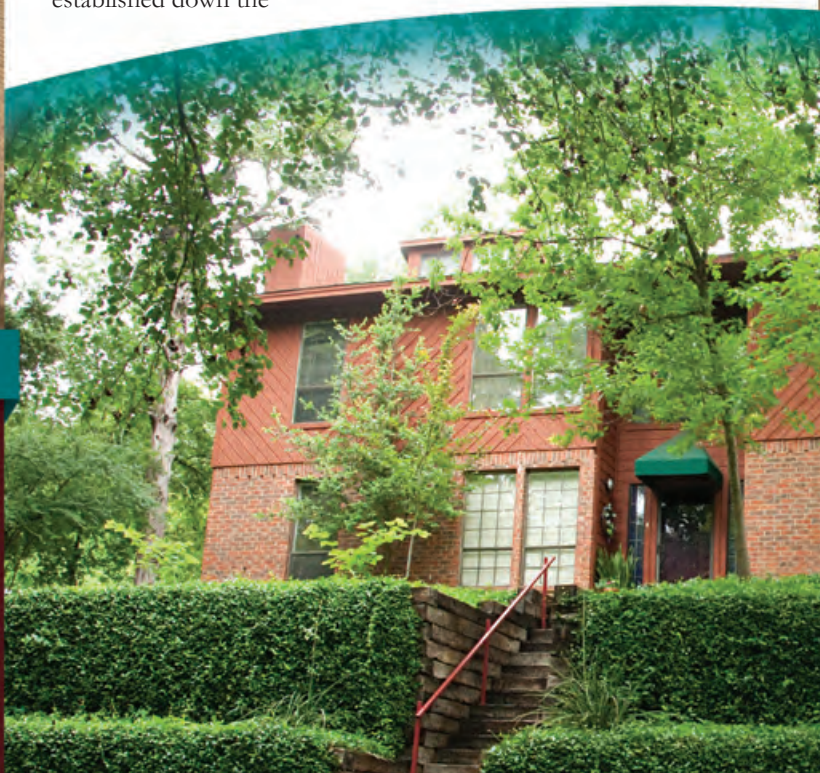
"I had just gone to visit, because I lived in North Dallas at the time," David added. "We were just friends for a while, but over time our friendship started to change." Obviously, things did change. In time, the couple became parents to three daughters, and now they have three grandchildren.

While they both call Duncanville home now, their roots were established down the



AT HOME WITH

*David and
Vicki Harper*





street and across the state line. “I’m a Dallas girl born and raised — from Oak Cliff,” said Vicki, a Dallas Baptist College (now Dallas Baptist University) graduate and former teacher who currently is a skincare consultant for a major cosmetics company.

“I was one of those kids who could draw,” David said. David came to Dallas from Alexandria, Louisiana, in search of full-time employment after graduating college. A draft notice arrived several months later, leading to a tour in the U.S. Army. In 1972, he returned to Dallas to resume a career in the design community. For the past 18 years, he has worked from his home studio. “Retirement is on the horizon, but I still enjoy the work,” he admitted.





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Luckily, both David and Vicki's careers allow them to work from their Duncanville home. "When we moved in here, we had our three daughters, from second grade through high school," Vicki shared. "It just seemed like a great house for our family."

"We spent the better part of 30 years pouring ourselves into our children," David added. "We raised them in the way they should go with God at the lead."

The home was also purchased to provide an opportunity to create a self-contained design studio. "He was spending so much more time working

late nights and thought if he could bring his work home, he could come in for dinner, see the girls and if he needed to, he could go back out and work," Vicki explained. "So, as our daughters went through school and had ball games and things like that, he could take off in the middle of the day, go to the game and then come back home and work."

"It was basically a junk room," David said. "It was just a third part of the garage, and we tore everything out and made it a self-contained space."

The home, built in 1984, was designed by an architect and to Vicki that is fitting

not only because of her husband's career, but also for the creative side she likes to indulge when she's making cosmetic gift baskets for others. "I think this house really speaks to artsy kinds of people," she said. "I came with the Realtor to view



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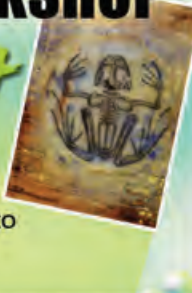
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the house, and as soon as I walked in I said, 'David is going to love this house.'"

Vicki knew David would love the house because of its atypical layout. "His main complaint was, 'I hate when you walk in the door, and you have three bedrooms over here and a kitchen right there.' He wanted something unique," she said, playfully mimicking her husband's voice. Though many homes do have the standard layout the Harpers wanted to avoid, one unique aspect of their home is something you can't even see, depending on your height and imagination. A door in the back of their youngest daughter's closet leads to a "secret passageway"—a balcony above the living room.

Stepping into the couple's home, the eye is immediately drawn to a large white quilt, a wedding gift from David's grandmother that hangs over this same balcony overlooking the living room. Its intricately interwoven color patterns would put any kaleidoscope to shame.

The home's design allows for an abundance of sunlight to wash the living room, den and kitchen in a wave of natural light. The open and airy den provides plenty of space for lounging, doing work at the computer desk or reading a book, and just enough room for a grandchild to get in a couple of cartwheels. The den leads to the couple's kitchen, which is arguably Vicki's favorite part of the home. "Even when the girls were all here, we could do fun things like the mother-daughter dance we used to do," she reminisced. "There was room for me and all the girls, and that was good."

David's favorite part of their home was the design. "As a designer, I have a laymen's interest in architecture," he said. "Had I not been flaky as a high



school student, I may have majored in architecture instead of design. I enjoy unusual spaces.”

The Harper home is full of sentimental family treasures as well. David’s grandmother owned a boarding home, and when the young couple were married, she offered them any furniture they needed. One of those pieces, a stoic and now hard-to-find brass bed, is placed in one of their bedrooms. In the front entryway, a mini rocking chair, which had belonged to Vicki’s mother, rests next to an old-fashioned sewing machine that now serves as a rustic side table, making for a perfect pair.

The backyard is a suburban dream, with a rich reddish wood lattice extending across the expansive patio. The couple has a wide view of the yard through the glass doors of the patio and on occasion, outside visitors have a view of their lives as well. “There’s a raccoon that came walking across the patio and as I opened the blinds, he kinda stopped like ‘What!’” Vicki said laughing. The Harper’s patio has also been a resting stop for other “charming” critters like armadillos and opossums.

The Harpers are thinking about downsizing one day. But just as they’ve done their entire married life, they’re waiting on God to tell them where their next steps will be. “We want to do whatever He wants us to do,” David said. “His grace and goodness have carried us through *all the times* of our life, so we’re leaving the future up to Him.”

For now, David and Vicki are exactly where they want to be. “It’s a nice neighborhood,” David said. “There are nesters like us, as well as young families. There’s just so much diversity, and it’s just a good community we have here.” **NOW**

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A Collaborative Effort

— By Angel Morris

All towns, including a community such as Cedar Hill, are richer in innumerable ways when multiple groups within the community collaborate to enhance the quality of living for its residents. These groups may be nonprofits, service organizations, schools, churches, as well as the government of the city, and they all have the same goal of being resources for people.

One of the challenges with having multiple groups serving a community is coordinating their actions to enhance collaboration and support for one another. This challenge became evident in late August 2007 when four different groups in Cedar Hill held fundraisers within two weeks of one another. As it would in many communities, these events happening so close together stretched the resources of volunteers' time and businesses' support.

Such obstacles can lead to a solution if someone takes the lead in resolving the issue. For Cedar Hill, the solution was the formation of an informal organization called the Council of Service Organizations (COSO) by community leader Jerry White in September 2007.

"Cedar Hill has a rich history of people and organizations working together. We realized we needed some structure, some group, to formally help all the organizations within Cedar Hill

The Whites believe all communities need an organization like COSO.



be successful,” Jerry explained. “An outstanding example of the impact of collaboration is the Cedar Hill Government Center where the city of Cedar Hill and Cedar Hill ISD joined together to build a center where financial efficiencies could be realized and community collaboration could be enhanced.”

W.S. Permenter was one of the leaders in Cedar Hill who valued collaboration and consensus building. Over many years, W.S. served as superintendent of schools, Chamber of Commerce president and as

“All communities really need something like COSO. There is no downside for groups to be in communication with one another, to share advice.”



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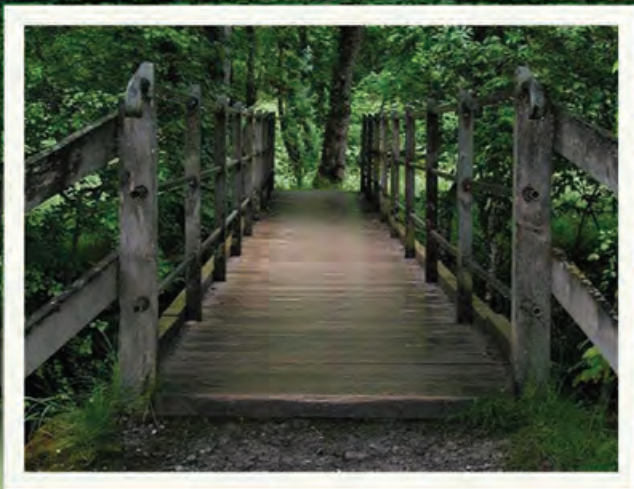
mayor of Cedar Hill. Jerry considered the formation of an organization to guide all service groups toward success a way to follow W.S.'s leadership. The goal of all organizations is to deliver programs and services that will benefit residents of their community, so why wouldn't these groups also want to help one another succeed?

"Many of the groups who belong to COSO are entirely run by volunteers who are sustained by the energy, enthusiasm and financial support of the residents of Cedar Hill and our surrounding areas," COSO coordinator and Jerry's wife, Mary White, said.

COSO enhances communication and support between member groups, so they can spread their efforts out over a year, better allowing those who volunteer and those who contribute to give of their time and monies. COSO has also developed into a networking group of sorts, allowing member organizations to learn from one another which events are most successful and encourage partnerships to build off one another's events.

"We look at the calendar and see which event will complement another and what activities make sense to take place at the same time," said Patty Bushart, Cedar Hill's Neighborhood Services/Main Street manager. "Sometimes, a large event can help drive people to smaller events when they are held nearby and are attractive to people with similar interests but who might not otherwise have known about the small event."

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Collaboration between groups like Bridges Safehouse and Hope Mansion, with respect to their annual fundraisers, and between the Chamber and Cedar Hill ISD Education Foundation regarding their annual fundraising galas, keeps large events from overlapping on the calendar. And helping the city of Cedar Hill coordinate events around other nonprofits' fundraisers can only serve to drive community support of city events.

"By carefully planning these events at different times of the year, the organizations, the city and its residents all benefit. And it's not about keeping business, government and faith groups separate, rather it's about helping them all succeed with their shared resources," Corky Brown, Cedar Hill's public information officer, said. "Nonprofits are more successful with their fundraising efforts, because resources aren't stretched



Aranda Bell and Terri Nelson of the Zula B. Wylie Public Library participate in a COSO meeting.

so thin. And more citizens can attend city events when they don't overlap with fundraisers, so planning through COSO is a win-win!"

The Cedar Hill Rotary Head for the Hills Bike Rally is a perfect example of the collaboration between groups within Cedar Hill. Numerous organizations, all of whom belong to COSO, run the rally's different rest stops and help with all aspects of the event. In return, the Rotary Club donates monies to them. Members of COSO know when they have need of volunteers to run an event or supporters to attend an event they can

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put the word out through COSO that they are looking for help.

"It's not just a matter of keeping each group's events separate from one another. It's also about allowing member organizations to be aware of how they might share another group's resources to make their own event more successful," Mary explained. "Various groups help Rotary man their huge fundraiser race, then Rotary gives some of those funds to help the causes of those who volunteered for them. It's a cycle of help and a real sense of community spirit."

COSO meets quarterly and requires no dues. Besides those already mentioned, other Cedar Hill COSO members include: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Building the Kingdom Community Church, Cedar Hill Action Team, Council of PTAs, Economic Development Corporation, Cedar Hill ISD, Food Pantry, Cedar Hill Pet Memorial Project, Museum of History, Optimist Club, Citizens Police Academy, city of Cedar Hill, Neighborhood Services, Country Day on the Hill, Dogwood Canyon, Zula B. Wylie Public Library and its Friends Group, Keep Cedar Hill Beautiful, Lions Club, Mission Cedar Hill, Neighbor-to-Neighbor, Northwood University, Rotary Club, Transformation Vision, Tri-City Animal Shelter Friends, Trinity Christian Church and School.

"We support all organizations trying to benefit Cedar Hill, and we realize communication and getting the word out is so essential. That's why we encourage all groups to join COSO — so the collaboration and cooperation between them continues," Mary said. "All communities really need something like COSO. There is no downside for groups to be in communication with one another, to share advice.

"Ultimately," Mary said, "COSO works because it puts those who are or who want to be involved in Cedar Hill in touch with one another. COSO is better than social media — it's human media. If you come to a meeting, you can take advantage of the hundreds of years of combined experience you will find in one room, but you'll also discover there's always room for new ideas!" **NOW**

Editor's Note: To learn more about COSO and its next meeting, e-mail Mary at Whitetraining@aol.com or call her at (972) 291-1140.



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Nestled between wildflower-covered hills in the heart of the Texas Hill Country, Marble Falls sits at the middle of the largest chain of lakes in Texas — the Highland Lakes of Buchanan, Inks, LBJ, Marble Falls, Travis and Austin. While the rest of Texas heats up, Marble Falls is the coolest place to be — from the relaxing verandas of local wineries to the refreshing waters of Lake LBJ. With hundreds of miles of waterway, this part of the Hill Country offers recreational activity for every type of lake-lover.

Dozens of Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) and state parks can be found along the waterways, along with unique jewels featuring everything from caverns to delicate ecosystems. Two RV campgrounds are near Marble Falls, and area marine facilities offer rentals, sales and service. Marble Falls has beautiful city parks and an outdoor amphitheater, which is a perfect setting for community events.

Shoppers and history buffs alike will appreciate Marble Falls' Main Street District founded in 1887, where shopping for treasures among charming antique shops, gift and clothing boutiques and local restaurants is relaxing. For those who have the History Channel programmed on their remote, this town brings history to life. Marble Falls and nearby areas have 17 museums and historical sites that can be taken in. A visit to the town isn't complete without a visit to the 84-year-old Blue Bonnet Café, famous for its classic cooked foods and Pie Happy Hour where visitors can join locals for the fun of choosing from the 14 varieties baked daily.

Festivals and fairs are as abundant as the wildflowers in Marble Falls. The area's special events offer something for everyone, from the thrill of drag boat racing in the summer, to the beautiful sights and sounds of the Walkway of Lights in winter. Every year, visitors flock to LakeFest Drag Boat Races, the Lone Star Soap Box Derby, the Howdy-Roo Chili Cookoff, MayFest and the Walkway of Lights. Artists and art lovers canvas around our citywide art celebration, Paint The Town Plein Air Competition and Sculpture on Main. Located in downtown



TOAST THE DAY

Marble Falls, this festival unveils the new sculpture displayed around town, while local artists enjoy setting up their plein air paintings throughout the area resplendent with auctions, artist receptions and more!

Pass a lazy afternoon by touring the wineries around Lake LBJ — nine in all — and they all have awards and honors in common. Uncork a crisp Sauvignon Blanc or a chocolaty Tempranillo in a scenic setting and toast the day. If you prefer for someone else to do the driving, take advantage of a company that provides chauffeured tours while pouring on vineyard trivia and insights to the area en route.

Marble Falls is surrounded by the best Texas has to offer nature lovers. Many country and farm-to-market roads wind gently through the Texas Hill Country. If

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you don't mind slowing down and getting lost for a little while, you might see some scenery that makes a vacation worth taking. Take a tour of a nearby cavern or a boat tour and look to the skies to catch a glimpse of a bald eagle. If birdies and other types of eagles are more your style, hit the links on one of 12 golf courses within 20 minutes of Marble Falls — many with designer names like Jack Nicklaus, Tom Fazio and Robert Trent Jones III.

Canoes are another great way to get around in the Hill Country. You can take a guided canoe tour, or set out on your own for a relaxing day trip. Find yourself at one with the outdoors on a fishing expedition to any one of the seven Highland Lakes, either on your own or with an experienced fishing guide. And the Texas air is never fresher than in one of our nearby state parks. Hunting, fishing and camping activities are popular here. Native game fish abound in lakes and streams. Fall and winter hunting seasons offer plentiful wildlife and excellent wing shooting of migratory and native game birds.

At nearby Enchanted Rock State Park, you can climb to the top of the second-largest granite dome (batholith) in the United States, while a short drive to Longhorn Cavern opens an opportunity for you to descend to the cool depths of limestone caves cut by prehistoric rivers.


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By Alisha Workman. Photos courtesy of Marble Falls/Lake LBJ Chamber of Commerce & CVB.

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Stephen Young, professional liaison patient advocate; Carolyn and Larry Legg, owners of Infinite Care Home Health; and Sharon Dell, administrator, are committed to caring and serving seniors with compassion.

Service as a Calling

Infinite Care Home Health specialists believe in caring for those they serve as if they were their own family members.

— By Beverly Shay

“Infinite Care Home Health’s mission is to participate as an active part of the community by helping seniors remain independently in their homes for as long as possible,” remarked Sharon Dell, the administrator of Infinite Care Home Health. “When situations, such as: accidents, injuries, surgeries, failing health or simply aging require additional care prescribed by their physician, we offer highly skilled nurses, therapists, social workers and home health aides to provide quality care. In some cases, the care will be temporary until the patient can once again manage for themselves. Other times, the care needs to be ongoing. As necessary, we serve as community liaisons by informing patients of resources available to meet their needs and provide help for family members serving as caregivers,” Sharon added.

With a staff of 11 skilled nurses, Infinite Care can provide care for the following: diabetes, stroke, IV therapy, energy conservation, post-op recovery, heart and lung disease, fall prevention and medication management, as well as wound care, in-home lab work and various forms of therapy. All of the employees have Alzheimer’s certification. “But really, the service we enjoy most is listening to our patients,” Sharon stated. “Each of our seniors has lived a lifetime of adventure, and they love to share their stories with us. By listening to them, we gain valuable insight that enables us to provide better care for them. When an RN is in their home, she can observe their living conditions and assess their needs, recommending such things as grab bars in their bathrooms, so they can safely care for themselves.”

Sharon never dreamed she would one day work with seniors, but she credits it to her close relationship with her grandparents. "I have always been a caregiver, and I love working with seniors!" she said. Infinite Care puts their patients first. "When they live away from family, we might be the only people they see regularly, which is why we like to give them a little extra time. Families who are part of the care team might need a little extra time, as well. We help them

"I have always been a caregiver, and I love working with seniors!"

understand what kind of care is needed and how their loved ones are progressing, as well as inform them of other programs they can avail themselves of."

The owners of Infinite Care are Larry and Carolyn Legg. Their goal is to enable their staff to give each patient the quality time and care they deserve. Carolyn is a certified senior advisor, so she can help family members find facilities should the needs of the patient exceed what home health care can provide.

While in-home health care must be prescribed by a physician, some things you can be aware of in determining if your loved one could benefit from such care include: decreased activity and/or increased weakness, recent surgery, exacerbation of a diagnosis, memory loss or a new diagnosis.

Infinite Care Home Health serves Dallas, Ellis, Johnson, Navarro, Tarrant, Henderson, Hill and Kaufman Counties. With their 24/7 on-call service, care can be provided quickly and efficiently, whether the need is pain management, post-surgery recovery or disease management. These services are covered by Medicare, Medicare replacement or insurance. Find out how these smiling, caring health care providers can help you or your loved one. **NOW**

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Hopkins Senior Center hosts a baby shower for the Jones quintuplets. Pictured are the 9 month olds to the 90 year olds!



West ISD administrators, Jana Pratka and Jimmy Grmela, hold check with Jason Miller, Inass Barnes and Alison Gravelly of Plummer Elementary School in Cedar Hill.



Shamika Anderson; Ryann Campbell; Carolyn Campbell; Kim Coles, star of the TV sitcom, Living Single, and Charla Griffin at DeSoto's 2nd annual Nappiology Fro Fest.



DeSoto High School valedictorian, Kiara Rhodes, who accepted a scholarship to Vanderbilt University, poses with Brianna Neal-Gipson, who accepted a scholarship to TCU.



Two happy patrons don't mind having their picture taken outside the Cedar Hill library.



Mr. and Mrs. Burrell Anderson enjoy an evening at Creekfest in DeSoto.



Best Southwest Partnership officers pose with Senator West, Lt. Governor Dewhurst and Senator Hancock during the Day at the Capitol event.



Young patrons of the Duncanville Public Library have fun playing games in the Children's Learning Center.



Duncanville ISD community celebrates consecutive girls basketball state championships for the Pantherettes, led by Coach Cathy Self-Morgan.



Kindergarten students enjoy presentation and activities about dinosaurs by Norm Bodily from the Perot Museum at First Methodist School Duncanville.



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Tips for Setting — and Pursuing — Financial Goals

You can get lucky by finding a parking meter with time left on it. You can “luck out” by having nice weather on your vacation. You can even be lucky at love. But when it comes to financial matters, you’re better off not counting on Lady Luck — and focusing instead on setting and pursuing goals.

Here are some suggestions for establishing and pursuing your financial objectives:

Be specific. You probably have a lot of ideas about what you want to do, but if you’re going to turn these wishes into reality, you need to get specific. So, for example, instead of telling yourself that you want to retire early, set a goal of retiring at, say, 62. You can then use this target number to help guide your overall investment strategy. To illustrate: You can determine that you need to invest a certain amount of money each year, and earn a certain rate of return, to be able to retire at 62. You can also estimate about how much money you can afford to withdraw from your investment accounts each year to sustain a retirement that begins at 62.

Prioritize your goals. Of course, you want to achieve all your financial goals — and you can have a better chance of doing so if you rank these goals in terms of both importance and timing. For example, you may want to send your kids to college, purchase a vacation home and still be able to retire at age 62. How should you allocate your resources to each of these goals? Should you invest more at any given time for a specific goal? What types of investments are best for each of these goals? Prioritizing your goals can help you answer these and other questions — and help direct your overall investment strategy.

Be prepared to change your goals. Over time, your family and financial circumstances can change considerably — which means you shouldn’t be surprised, or alarmed, if you have to change your goals accordingly. And you’ll find it easier to maintain this flexibility if you’ve worked diligently to create an investment portfolio with sufficient resources to allow you to change direction, as needed.

Review your progress regularly. If you’re going to eventually achieve your goals, you absolutely need to measure your progress along the way. Are your investments performing the way you had anticipated? Are your goals becoming more expensive than you had initially envisioned? To achieve these goals, are you taking on too much — or too little — risk? To answer these types of questions, it’s a good idea to review your overall progress at least once a year and then make whatever adjustments may be necessary.

As you can see, it will take considerable effort to set, review and (hopefully) achieve your goals. And it can be somewhat complex, too, so you may want to work with a financial professional — someone who takes time to talk with you about your goals, understands your risk tolerance and family situation, and has the training and experience necessary to help you work toward your objectives.

But in any case, think hard about your goals and how you might accomplish them. And don’t delay in taking action — because goals are generally easier to attain if you have time on your side. **NOW**

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Darryl Fenton is an Edward Jones representative based in Cedar Hill.

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Tick Fever

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

Summertime means many things to creatures. For insects, warm weather signals a time to eat and breed. When they go about their business, far too often they cross paths with humans to our detriment. One species that can wreak havoc is ticks — specifically the American dog tick and Rocky Mountain wood tick. With their bite, they can transmit Rocky Mountain spotted fever, a bacterial disease, to humans. The infected ticks carry the bacterium *Rickettsia rickettsii*.

When campers and hikers go to forested areas or fields, they are at a higher risk of coming into contact with these ticks. Where the dog tick is common, owning a pet increases the risk. Many times a person does not even know they have been bitten, as the bite is usually painless. The longer a tick is attached, the higher the risk of becoming infected. If crushed while still attached or if crushed between the fingers, there is a possibility of the secretions causing an infection.

Initial symptoms occur within two to 14 days after being bitten, and the person may feel as if they have the flu. Not all of the symptoms are experienced by everyone. Some of the symptoms experienced are: headache, high fever, muscle aches, nausea and vomiting, fatigue and rash. The rash usually begins on the wrist and ankles spreading into the palms, feet, up the arms and legs and into the torso area.

Early diagnosis is very important. Rocky Mountain spotted fever can cause serious complications and can be fatal if treatment has not begun within the

first five days of symptoms. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends Doxycycline as the first line of treatment for this disease. With clinical examination and medical history, hopefully your health care provider can get enough information to begin treatment even before the rash begins.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases lists these prevention guidelines: “To help prevent Rocky Mountain spotted fever, you should avoid walking in areas of tall grass and brush where there may be ticks. If you do go into these areas, be sure to:

- Wear light-colored clothing.
- Tuck your pants legs into your socks so ticks can’t get up inside your pants legs.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt and tuck it inside your pants.
- Spray insecticide containing permethrin on boots and clothing. The effects will last several days.
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET to your skin. Because DEET lasts only a few hours, you may need to reapply it.
- Look for ticks on your body, including in your hair, when you return from hiking or walking.
- Check children and pets for ticks.” **NOW**

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

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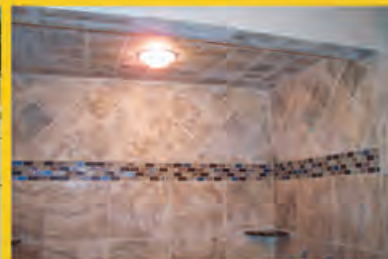
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Through August 11

Crawford Park Pool daily hours: 1:00-5:45 p.m. Cost: \$2/person or \$50/individual season pass.

Through August 25

Shoes for Orphan Souls Collection:

Monday-Friday, 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-4:00 p.m., Eastridge Baptist Church, 732 E.

Ovilla Rd., Red Oak. Eastridge Baptist Church and Buckner International are receiving donations of new shoes for children in need. The greatest need is for athletic shoes, sizes youth 1-adult 8. (214) 206-7509 or bonniebellbond@gmail.com.

August 1

Children's Summer Reading Program Finale: 2:00 and 6:30 p.m., CH library. Celebrate your completion of the summer reading challenge with a variety of cultural stories, African dancing, prizes and more!

August 2

Something Beautiful: A Ladies Enrichment Colloquium: beginning at 8:30 a.m., Lake Ridge Baptist Church, 624 W. Parkerville Rd., Cedar Hill. Continental breakfast: 8:30 a.m.; music and speakers: 9:00 a.m.; lunch: 1:00 p.m.; evening meeting: 7:00 p.m. Speakers: Ms. Lynette Green, Mrs. Denise Moore and Mrs. Elizabeth Ogdie. Free event: (972) 293-6822.

Free Movie in the Park: 8:30-10:30 p.m., outdoor amphitheater at DeSoto Town Center: *Madagascar III*. Bring your own lawn chair. (972) 230-9648.

August 2 and 9

The whole family is invited to check out board games for all ages: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., DeSoto library. Throughout the library, you can sit down at tables and enjoy games such as Candy Land, Chutes and Ladders, Monopoly, Uno, Catch Phrase and many more! You can also check out your favorite books, movies, and magazines. (972) 230-9663.

August 2, 9, 17

JAM to Give Concert Series (free): 7:00-9:00 p.m., Uptown Village, Cedar Hill. **August 2:** Havana NRG (salsa, Latin) benefiting DeSoto Food Pantry: bring canned soup; **August 9:** The Project (party, variety) benefiting Lancaster Outreach Center: bring school supplies; **August 17:** Buster Brown Band (funk, soul): benefiting Two-Wins Foundation: bring school supplies and backpacks. (972) 637-6300.

August 2, 9, 16, 23

Best Southwest Partnership TGIF Legislative

Breakfasts: breakfast/networking: 7:15 a.m.; program: 7:30 a.m., Methodist Charlton Medical Center (1st floor auditorium), 3500 W. Wheatland. Speakers: **August 2:** Senator Royce West; **August 9:** State Rep. Yvonne Davis; **August 16:** State Rep. Jim Pitts; **August 23:** State Rep. Helen Giddings. RSVP with your Chamber.

August 3

Computer Basics 102: 11:00 a.m.-noon, Duncanville library computer room. Learn about basic computer software, Word, Excel, Microsoft Publisher, PowerPoint, games, YouTube, browsers, online tutorials and basic trouble shooting. Free. (972) 780-5052.

August 4

Mosley Pool Annual Special Needs Challenge event: 3:00-5:00 p.m., Mosley Pool, 1300 Honor Dr., DeSoto. Fun for special needs children and adults will include: musical squirt, hula hoop contest, water freeze tag, limbo, bubbles and chalk. (972) 228-3553.

August 5

Poetry in Progress: 6:00 p.m., DeSoto Civic Center, Pecan I Room. Bring a poem or two to share or just come and enjoy. (972) 965-3125.

August 5 — 8

Hoop Workshop Basketball Camp for ages 6 and over: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Cedar Hill Rec Center, 310 E. Parkerville Rd. \$150. (972) 293-5288 or cedarhilltx.com.

August 13

Dallas Area Writers Group: 7:00 p.m., CH library. Author of historical and contemporary Western novels of romance and adventure, Carline Clemmons, will speak on layering your novel to help writers of longer works in any genre.

August 15

Fashion with Flair Luncheon and Style Show benefiting CH Food Pantry: 11:30 a.m., CH Rec. Center, featuring fashions from New 2 You with entertainment by Kay Seamayer. Tickets and information: (972) 293-2822 or (972) 293-0411.

August 17

Computer Basics 103: 11:00 a.m.-noon, Duncanville library computer room. Learn about flash drives, information storage and resources. Free. (972) 780-5052.

Teen Anime Club: 3:00-5:00 p.m. CH library. Watch Anime films, discuss popular manga, create art, comics and more. (972) 291-7323 ext. 1315.

August 26

Southwest Dallas County Parkinson's Group monthly support meeting: 6:30-8:00 p.m., Trinity United Methodist Church, 1302 S. Clark Rd., Duncanville, presented by lawyer Marilyn Blethen: "Planning Wills and Estates — Related Matters." Exercise and speech classes are also available. (972) 298-4556.

August 27

Deadline to register for CH Senior Center Trip to Biloxi & New Orleans: **November 3-9** \$565/person (double occupancy). Info and registration: (972) 291-5353.

August 29

Southwest Dallas/Northern Ellis County Lupus Support Group: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Trinity United Methodist Church, 1302 S. Clark Rd., Duncanville. Call (972) 291-8786 or email deheus@sbcglobal.net.

August 31

Remembering Katrina, eighth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina: 5:00-9:00 p.m., South Dallas Cultural Center. Includes a screening of the National Geographic film *Deadly Floods*, with a special appearance of Imani Williams, a Katrina survivor featured in the film. Event includes book signing by Lynette Norris Wilkinson, author of *UNTOLD: The New Orleans 9th Ward You Never Knew*, Q&A with Wilkinson, Williams and other Katrina survivors, presentation by choreographer/performing artist Michelle Gibson, exciting prizes and New Orleans-style refreshments. No cost. (972) 283-0586.

Ongoing:

First and Third Mondays

Dances from around the world for adults: 7:00 p.m., CH library: learn the dances or just enjoy the music.

Wednesdays

Juggling class for children 2nd grade and up: 4:30-5:30 p.m., CH library.

Third Fridays

Duncanville Senior Dances: 7:00-9:30 p.m., Hopkins Senior Center, 206 James Collins. **August 16:** Gary Lee (ballroom). **September 20:** Final Showdown (country & western). **October 18:** Bill G. (ballroom). (972) 298-0667.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to beverly.shay@nowmagazines.com.

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In The Kitchen With Eve Winters

— By Beverly Shay

“I consider cooking both a creative outlet and an act of love for my family and friends,” Eve Winters shared. Eve’s real interest in cooking developed through learning to cook healthy for her family. She finds inspiration from the types of food and preparation in the four countries she lived in while growing up. “As a voracious reader, I find intriguing recipes in magazines, newspapers and cookbooks. I love trying anything that piques my interest — ethnic, vegetarian and classic holiday foods.”

Eve finds fresh garlic “a must” whether raw or sautéed. “I had to ‘recreate’ from memory the one recipe I inherited from my mom — rice pilaf — because she never wrote it down.” **NOW**

Broccoli Salad

- 1 lb. (5 cups) broccoli, cut into flowerets**
- 1/2 cup red onion, chopped**
- 3/4 cup raisins or dried cranberries**
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds**
- 8 slices bacon (I use turkey bacon), crisply fried and crumbled**

Dressing:

- 1 cup mayonnaise**
- 3 Tbsp. white vinegar**
- 6 Tbsp. sugar**

- 1.** Toss all salad ingredients.
- 2.** Beat dressing ingredients until well-mixed. Pour over salad, mixing until well-coated. Refrigerate at least 2 hours before serving.

Chicken Tetrazzini

- 1 8-oz. pkg. spaghetti (or pasta of choice)**
- 3 large chicken breasts**
- 2 Tbsp. olive oil**
- Salt, white and black pepper, to taste**
- 4 Tbsp. butter or margarine**
- 3 Tbsp. white flour**
- 2 cups chicken stock**
- 1 cup heavy cream, warmed**
- 3 Tbsp. sherry**
- 1 medium onion, chopped**
- 3 celery stalks, chopped**
- 1/2 lb. mushrooms, sliced**
- 8 Tbsp. Parmesan, grated**

- 1.** Cook pasta according to package directions. Preheat oven to 350 F.
- 2.** Sauté chicken in olive oil. Season with

- salt and pepper; remove from pan and let cool. Cut into bite-sized pieces.
- 3.** Melt butter and stir in flour. Add chicken stock slowly; stir continually until sauce thickens. Remove from heat; add cream and sherry a little at a time, stirring slowly. Set aside.
- 4.** Sauté onion, celery and mushrooms, until soft; season with salt and pepper.
- 5.** Grease 9x13-inch baking dish. Layer pasta, chicken, cheese and sautéed vegetable mix. Pour cream sauce over everything and sprinkle with more cheese.
- 6.** Bake for 25 minutes, or until top is lightly browned. Serve with garlic bread or dinner rolls.

Louisiana Gumbo

- 2 cups onion, diced**
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped**
- 2 Tbsp. olive oil**
- 2 oz. butter or margarine**
- 1 lb. fresh or frozen okra, chopped**
- 2 green peppers, finely chopped**
- 1/4 cup white flour**
- 1 16-oz. can chopped Italian tomatoes**
- 2 16-oz. cans chicken broth**
- 2 cups water**
- 2 bay leaves**
- 1 tsp. thyme leaf**
- 1/4 tsp. hot pepper sauce**
- 1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce**
- 2 Tbsp. salt**
- 1/2 tsp. fresh black pepper, finely ground**
- 1 lb. fresh shrimp or crab meat (or 1/2 lb. each)**

- 1.** Sauté onions and garlic in oil and butter until soft. Add okra and green pepper. Cook approximately 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Sprinkle mixture with flour; stir until slightly browned.
- 2.** Add remaining ingredients, except shrimp/crab. Cover; simmer for 40 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add seafood, cook 5 minutes more. Serve with steamed rice or corn bread.

To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit www.nowmagazines.com.



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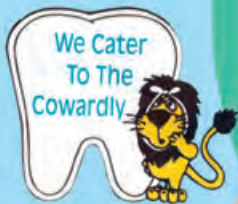
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