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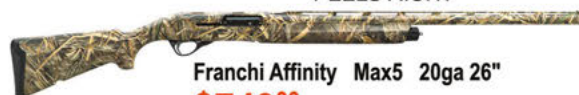


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## ON THE COVER



*The Uplinger family combines IBM with PTA in their sophisticated yet fun home.*

*Photo by Vanessa Polozola.*

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## Editor's Note

*Dear Friends,*

Do you ever feel so grateful, so relaxed, so peaceful that you need to share what you've got? We've got a couple of interesting days coming up this month when you can do just that.

September 22 is North Texas Giving Day. Pick your favorite charity and give money above and beyond what you usually give. Communities Foundation of Texas will match your gifts made that day at [www.northtexasgivingday.org](http://www.northtexasgivingday.org).

September 27 is Family Day in Texas. Several years ago, the governor proclaimed the 27th of September a day to gather with your children or your elders to celebrate and encourage each other, thereby strengthening the bond between each of you.

Whatever you do, don't stop counting your many blessings, naming them, as the old hymn goes, one by one. In this way, you banish discouragement and welcome joy, so that it's easier and easier to be a blessing to others.

Thank you all, by the way, for being a blessing to me!

*Melissa*

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# Believers Not Beggars

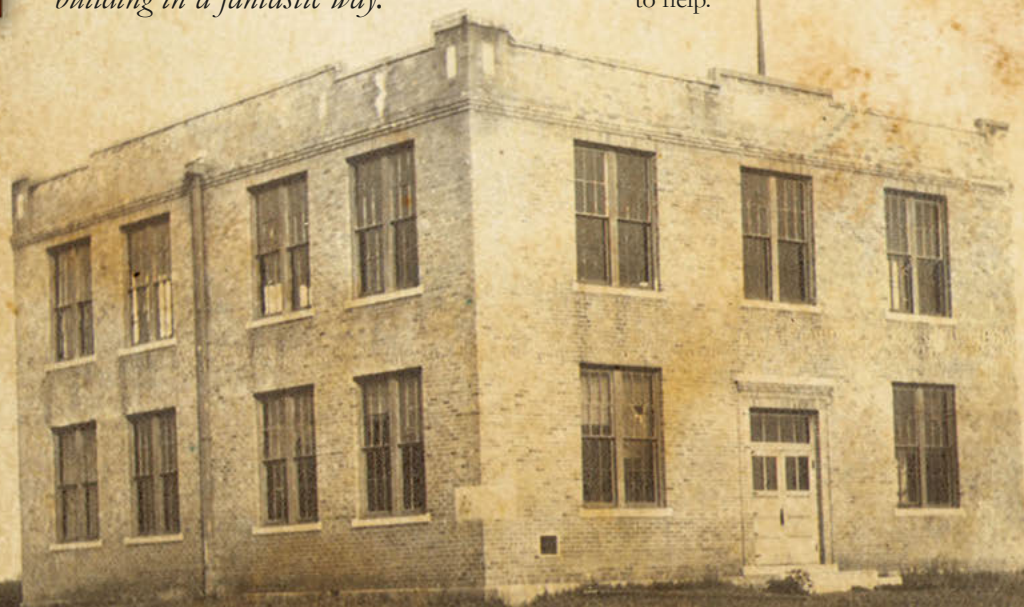
— By Melissa Rawlins



*Two buildings at FM 1187 and Gertie Barrett Road represent the free spirits of those who worship with Liberty Church, which now sits on property where settlers of Irish and Scottish descent built Bludworth School, the first in Mansfield, in the 1850s. When Liberty Church took ownership, the Bludworth District No. 98 structure had not been designated a historic building. "If it had been, the renovations inside wouldn't have been legal," Pastor Marvin Raines said. But as the church motto goes: "Where the spirit of the Lord is ... there is Liberty!" So multiple members of the church freely poured their creative spirit, talents and resources into decorating this 100-year-old building in a fantastic way.*

Variously referred to as the Youth Building, the Fellowship Hall and even the SWAT Building, so-called when Students With a Testimony met there when Pastor Raines' son was youth pastor and gave the kids tactical training in the spirit, the Bludworth Building is a moniker that stuck. Originally two stories with an exterior stairway, a new structure was built in 1916 when Bludworth School District No. 98 was created by consolidating three little school districts: Pool No. 72, Gibson No. 73 and Wyatt's Chapel No. 75. Mansfield Historic Society's excellent records show that in 1961, the school was merged with Mansfield ISD. The building housed students until December 1963. Afterward, Southridge Baptist Temple occupied the property and a new sanctuary was added about 50 years ago.

When Liberty Church arrived in 2004 with 30 members and a couple hundred dollars, the old school building was in shambles. Randy and Cindy Hennard saw its potential. Though the church had no budget for renovations, as the Hennards led the way, other members pitched in to help.







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Kathy Wall smiles with the beloved children's church puppets.

Requiring little reconstruction, the walls are made of a substance like adobe brick. Its floor is part concrete, part wood. “Certain parts are solid concrete offering no crawlspace,” said Pastor Raines, who worked in construction most of his life. “The structure is incredibly strong. In those days, if you had a two-by-four, it was a real 2-inch by 4-inch beam of wood.” The church roofed the Bludworth Building with shingles and expertise from a member who is a roofer.

Resources are always on hand when the congregation is called to provide outreach or embark on renovations. From the food given away to 50 families every Wednesday and Sunday, to the wood floors in the Bludworth Building and the tile floors in the sanctuary's children's



Staven Corey's paintings grace the walls of Liberty Church.



hall and foyer, if Liberty Church has a need, they pray about it and wait. "I teach that we're believers not beggars," Pastor Raines said. "We obey Him, and leave it up to Him how He'll do it."

As Cindy decorated Liberty Church, other members saw her vision and did whatever she needed. Staven Corey painted the murals throughout the Bludworth Building and even in the children's hall. A son of a preacher Pastor Raines knew, Staven sells cars for a living. "I didn't even know he was that talented until he said, 'I can paint that,' and immersed himself into it. We gave him freedom to do whatever he wanted to do, creatively," Pastor Raines admitted.

Staven painted a scene of a city skyline in the auditorium, another of the



The Brantley family stands at the entrance of the theater room named in their honor.

interior of a train station in the hallway, a country setting in the kitchen, and a 1950s-era billiards room in the pool hall. The restrooms are themed in *I Love Lucy* for the women and motorcycles for the men.

Staven had so much fun in the Bludworth Building. He then turned to the hallway for the children's church, which he painted in a jungle theme. Inside the children's room, Kathy Wall has been doing an incredible job remodeling.

One family has had a major role in all the renovations. As owners of Brantley Drywall Company, Steve and Doris Brantley, with their sons, Jessie and Chris, prepared the Bludworth Building's 28-seat Brantley Theatre Room. Here, people enjoy teachings or films. Inside the

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sanctuary, the family built the stage and added visually appealing acoustic panels left over from one of their jobs building a bowling alley.

Throughout both buildings are stainless steel countertops installed by two brothers, Ronnie and Russell Scarborough. They ground a circular brushed design in each counter, from the kitchen and bathrooms to the billiards rooms and the children's arts and crafts room.



Three years ago, after the renovations were complete, the Bludworth Building caught on fire. Smoke damage was repaired by homeless men from a ministry called The House of Peace. One of those men, Billy Holder, now contributes mightily as a member of Liberty Church. "Billy is a leader in our church with his wife, Michelle," Pastor Raines said. "He's one of those guys that nobody wanted, yet now *everybody* wants."

Billy headed up the workday last spring to paint the buildings and add shutters in preparation for this fall's celebration of the Bludworth Building's centennial. During the open house, food will be served and people's stories will be shared. Pastor Raines is hoping locals with really good memories will talk about their early education at Bludworth School.

It's to honor the old-timers that the church members gave their day off, their tools and their talents to spruce up the church. The other result of such teamwork over 12 years is that





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the membership, now 100 strong, has bonded. Each individual's sense of ownership helps them know they are important.

Reminding people of their value is at the core of Pastor Raines' ministry. A Texan by birth, he moved from West Texas to Kennedale in 1968 and lived in a shack in a wrecking yard with a mother who died of cancer and a father who had a heart attack at a young age. "We were hardworking, but weren't church going," he recalled. They found J.D. McBrear to conduct Mr. Raines' funeral at Oakdale



Baptist, located at Debbie Lane and FM 157, where the QT is now. Young Marvin began attending that church. "From there I gave my life to the Lord and then entered the ministry. My heart has been to reach people most churches don't have time for — the hurting. That's who Jesus ministered to," Pastor Raines said.

His wife, Debbie, started dating Marvin when he was 16 and she was 14. Married 46 years now, the couple has made their mark in different ways. Debbie quietly works in the background. When she inherited her grandmother's furniture, she and Corla Smith, one of her best friends, decorated the prayer room.

Their goal is to teach people necessary skills, so they don't have to stay poor. "God's bigger than that and will change their lives," Pastor Raines said. "They just have never been told they're valuable, nor loved and accepted. We don't accept that they're worthless." Kind of like that old Bludworth School. **NOW**



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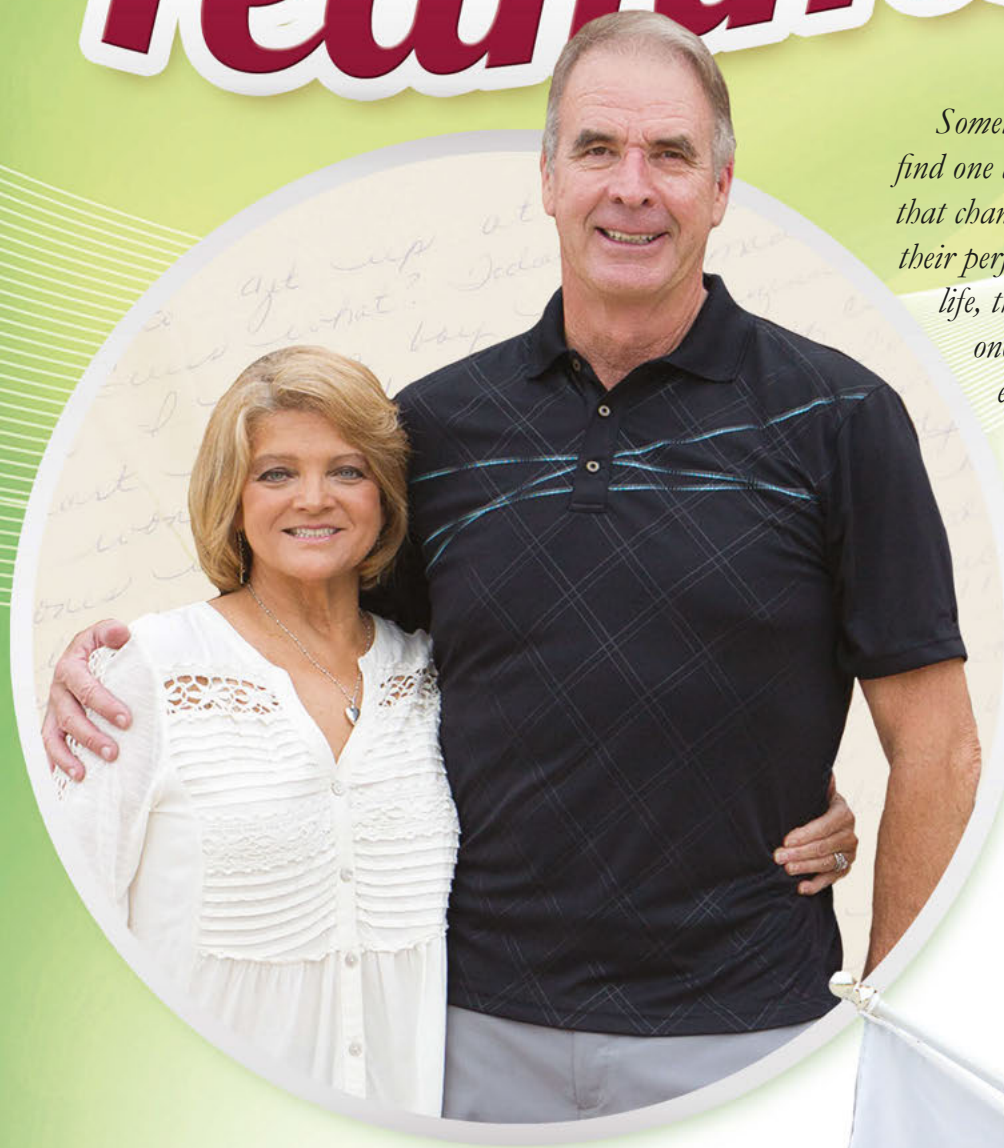
# Teammates

— By Sara Edgell

*Sometimes in life, two phenomenal people find one another by chance, and because of that chance meeting, they ultimately find their perfect partner, their teammate in life, their fate. In turn, they also find in one another the characteristics that enhance their intrinsic abilities.*

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***"Building and maintaining relationships is what coaching and teaching is really all about."***





This sort of chance meeting is exactly what happened when Terry Cron met Leslie Hammer at Eastern New Mexico University, and the meeting occurred in a rather peculiar way. Leslie, former Miss Roswell 1967, had dated a young man for a short period who ended up rooming with Terry. Terry, originally from California, was the school's star tight end. The ex-boyfriend/new roommate immediately saw how perfect Terry and Leslie would be together, so he encouraged them both to meet one another. "It was love at first sight," Leslie lovingly recalled. "I even wrote home to tell my parents I met a boy."

When Timberview High School opened for its very first school year in 2004, it was a feat achieved because of the diligent and dedicated efforts of a dynamic team of educators, administrators, coaches and countless staff. Terry and Leslie Cron just so happened to be two members of that team. Previously, the couple had traveled all over the great state of Texas making a name for themselves in the classroom and library, as well as on the basketball court and football field.

Leslie had worked at the elementary level teaching fifth grade and the special



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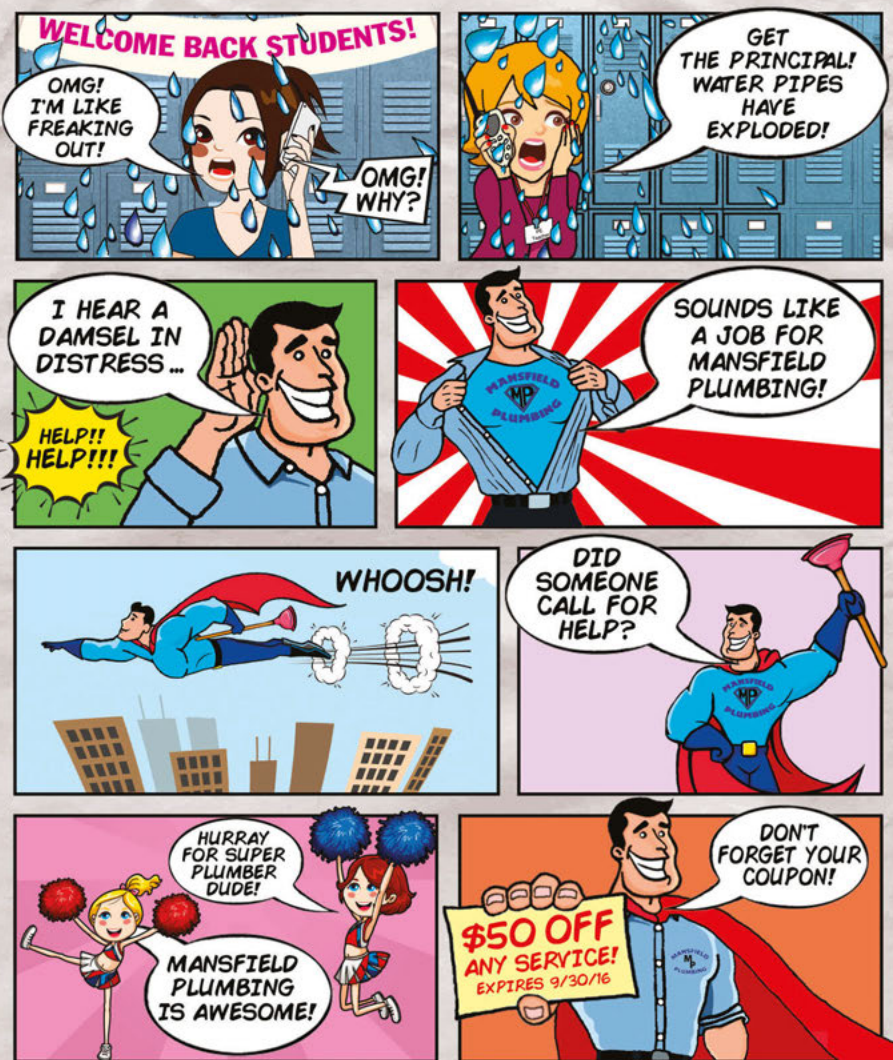
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education classes. She went back to school several times obtaining degrees in many areas, including library science, and she ultimately became a librarian. "As a coach's wife and educator, I basically did something new every time we moved districts," she explained.

Terry experienced much success in his career as a head football and basketball coach. He led Mart to the 1999 Class 2A state title, Commerce to a 3A title and Bartlett to a Class A championship. He was also inducted into the Hall of Fame at his alma mater in 2012 and has been nominated for the Texas Coaches Hall of Fame. "The accomplishment I am most proud of is being named one of Dave Campbell's 50 Most Memorable Coaches in Texas," Terry stated. But honestly, the fame and notoriety was just a perk. The real satisfaction of the job came from working with the students and players. "Building and maintaining relationships is what coaching and teaching is really all about," he explained.



Terry was hired as athletic coordinator and head football coach when Timberview opened. He led the football team through the rough beginnings of combining players from two rival schools into one team and brought them to a place of solidity and unity. "Everything we did there was a first — the first game, the first touchdown, the first win, all of it was the *very* first," Terry reflected. "We went from a 4A school to a 5A school in the first year. The growth in both size and progress was amazing!"

Leslie was hired as Timberview's first head librarian. One task she aimed to accomplish was to have the gigantic white wall in the library painted, so she convinced her principal to let her son-in-law, Deon, paint a 64-foot mural on

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it. The mural is still there, along with the thousands of books she obtained for the school. "In the past, I had always come into an established, functioning library that was full of books and resources. This was a completely different scenario, because I was coming into a brand new library. It literally had nothing," she remembered. "I had to build it from scratch, and while it was challenging, I loved every minute of it. I still think of it as *my* library and *my* school."

Terry and Leslie's daughter, Brooke Robinson, followed them to Mansfield, working first at Timberview and then as a head track and cross-country coach at Lake Ridge. Most recently, she has been hired as the head girls' basketball coach in Cleburne. In high school, she was the state 3-point champion and wanted to coach the sport she loved so much in her youth. Their son, Chris, also joined the Cleburne coaching staff as the assistant basketball coach, working alongside his sister.

After long and fruitful careers, Terry and Leslie both realized the families they had built together at home and at school were thriving, and thus, they could step away to take care of the families they had come from. Leslie retired in 2007 in



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order to spend time with her ailing father. Terry followed suit shortly after in 2009 in order to spend time with his mother who was also ill.

Today, the couple's five grandchildren keep busy by playing basketball, football, baseball, golf and the trumpet. "We never miss a game or a performance," Leslie said with a smile of pride. Watching their grandkids shine is one of their favorite pastimes. Leslie has always documented her family's important life events, including filming football from the sidelines of the games Terry coached. In retirement, they find joy in watching from the sidelines



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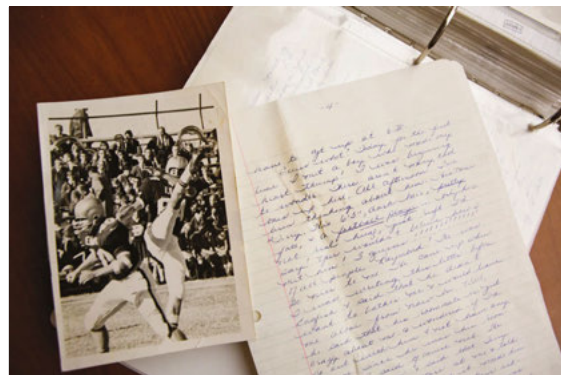
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in a different manner, instead of as head coach or videographer, but she does continue to video, photograph and catalog her grandchildren's games and accomplishments.

Leslie also enjoys scrapbooking and following the careers of her and Terry's past students. "Just the other day we had a former student over for dinner, and while we were visiting, another former student called just to catch up," Terry laughed. From her father's war letters to her mother and her husband's coaching career to the games in which her children and grandchildren played, Leslie makes every effort to capture the memories the family makes. She also keeps busy with a newfound hobby: rehabbing old furniture. "I just love it!" she beamed.

Terry now spends most of his time on the golf course, riding his Harley and working out. He enjoys the stimulation of a friendly competitive 18-hole game and the freedom of the open road. But even more he enjoys helping his daughter and son by training the girls' basketball team in the off-season.

With a coach as the patriarch of the family, life in the Cron family has always been centered on their strong faith in God, teamwork and sportsmanship, both on and off the court or field. Together, they have carefully crafted an infrastructure built upon a foundation of supporting one another. In retirement, they are reaping the rewards of their hard work and dedication, two things they instilled in the lives of the students, players and children they have worked with during their careers. **NOW**

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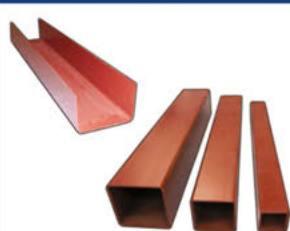


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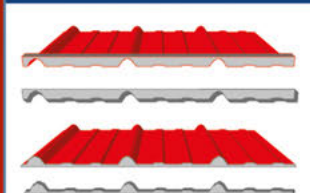


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"We entertain a lot. We have made great memories in this home with our family and friends," Erica added, referring to Jordan and his sister, Abby. "We like to host play dates and holidays here," she said.







# ERING PLACE

— By Virginia Riddle

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The couple bought their home in 2008 and made the move from Austin to Mansfield, Erica's hometown. "This home was the second home we looked at in Mansfield. It matched what we wanted — the master bedroom and baby's room on the same floor and a yard that would be great for kids," Erica explained. "We looked at one more house and then came back to this one."

A software engineer with IBM's World Community Grid, Keith telecommutes from his home office with French doors. His volunteer work is directed toward his

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kids' activities, primarily. He coaches soccer, basketball, football and baseball teams. "I go from one sports season to another," Keith said. "It lets our kids try everything and find what they love to do." Keith also likes to play basketball whenever he can.

"He is a great coach and is great with kids," Erica said proudly.

She is a stay-at-home mom after a career with a lobbying firm in Austin. She loves volunteering, having served six years on the board of Mansfield Early Childhood PTA, including two years as president. With both children now in Willie Brown Elementary School, Erica is volunteering with that PTA. She is active at First United Methodist Church Mansfield, the family's home church, and has a little brother with whom she meets once a week through the

Big Brothers Big Sisters program. She also attends Bible Study Fellowship. "Keith supports my volunteer work," she said.

Together, the couple joined the Mansfield Citizens Police Academy and completed the 10-week class with Erica's brother, Matt. "It is a fun, interesting course, and it has helped us have a better understanding of what police officers face," Keith said. "We continue to volunteer in service to the Mansfield PD, and we have made friends through the class."

Keith is a Florida native, but grew up in Austin, Texas, and he graduated from Texas Tech University. Erica is a Texas A&M University graduate. The couple met through Erica's brothers who were friends with Keith. They have been married for eight years. "Our kids go to the same school as Matt's kids," Erica noted.

It's not a coincidence that their home has Old World, relaxed elegance with walls finished with a faux Tuscan scroll design. Keith and Erica have traveled to southern France, Italy, Germany, London and Hong Kong. "We enjoy

traveling and experiencing the world," Keith explained. They also visit Austin and New Mexico, where family lives, and enjoy camping with the kids. "We like to drive, not fly, across the U.S.," he added.

A broad avenue leads to the family's traditional English Tudor-style home with stone, brick and wood accents. The central, small rotunda serves as the intersection to different rooms, beginning with Erica's office with built-in desk and storage.

The formal dining room has a full wall of windows and is open to the living room. A children's art table is set nearby and serves as a craft and dining table when needed. The living room's focal point



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is the fireplace. Erica's quilt collection is hung nearby with pride. The wall of windows overlooks the backyard kitchen, fireplace, sitting area and the children's wooden playscape. "We have really enjoyed the outdoor kitchen," Erica said of their addition. "It's a true living space."

Lily, the family's Border Collie, is a constant companion whether the family is inside or outside. "She is a retired ranch dog who did not want to ranch, but she is perfect for us," Keith admitted.

The kitchen is command central, overlooking the living room and the two dining rooms. Beautiful cabinetry and granite countertops create a functional island and breakfast bar. The family eats at Erica's grandmother's informal dining table set. "We make an effort to sit together at the table for meals," Keith explained. Natural light floods the cheerful room.

The master bedroom suite with its bay window and large bath offers a quiet and elegant retreat for this busy couple. The Old World-style bed is graced with a brown spread with teal accents. Matching





chocolate brown floor-to-ceiling drapes complete the cozy feel of the room.

From the central rotunda, a media room features comfortable, theater-style tier seating. The National Basketball Association's mascots are displayed along the wall. "Keith and Jordan enjoy watching basketball together in our media room," Erica revealed.

A commander's coin commemorates the couple's participation in the Bataan Memorial Death March at the White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. "It honors the memory of the march and the survivors," Erica explained.

Down a short hallway, which features the family's photo gallery, are Abby and Jordan's bedrooms and their shared bath. Five-year-old Abby's room is decorated in pink and purple, her favorite colors. She has an array of jewel treasures, and her favorite princess is Rapunzel. Abby is quite the talented gymnast and soccer player.

Jordan, age 7, loves his room that's decorated in a sports and Texas theme. His grandparents helped create the ceiling art mural. Texas stars, a John Wayne sketch and a photo of Jordan participating in rodeo mutton busting complete the look.

A guest bedroom is decorated in patriotic red, white and blue. A saber hangs over the bed, which sports a U.S.-themed pillow atop a red spread. "This room honors my first husband who served in Iraq and died shortly after his return. Some of these things are his," Erica said.

She recalls the Mansfield of her youth, but now Erica gets the opportunity to help create the new Mansfield. "I love this city and its residents. It is great to be so very connected through multiple generations of my family's life together here. I know that Mansfield is changing and becoming something very different from when I was growing up," she said. "I like being able to be a bridge from the old Mansfield to the new Mansfield." **NOW**

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# Controlled Creative Chaos

— By Sara Edgell



*If you ever get the chance to visit Dallas Williams' art classroom at Timberview High School, be prepared for an experience that will delight and stimulate all of the senses. The sound of students discussing technique and detail followed by Dallas' expert, yet open-ended and encouraging feedback, fills the room, while other students move freely about the colorful large space, gathering supplies and working on projects. Every inch of wall space is covered with a mixture of student work and directive reminders,*





*including collages, paintings, sketches and doodles. Amid the plethora of images are phrases to keep students on track and in the zone: Only one ear bud in. All technology on the table. Never give up. There is a carefully constructed and balanced buzz of focused, intentional work and personal, creative freedom. This organic energy is the design of Dallas' classroom climate and teaching style.*

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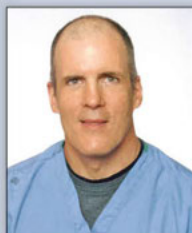


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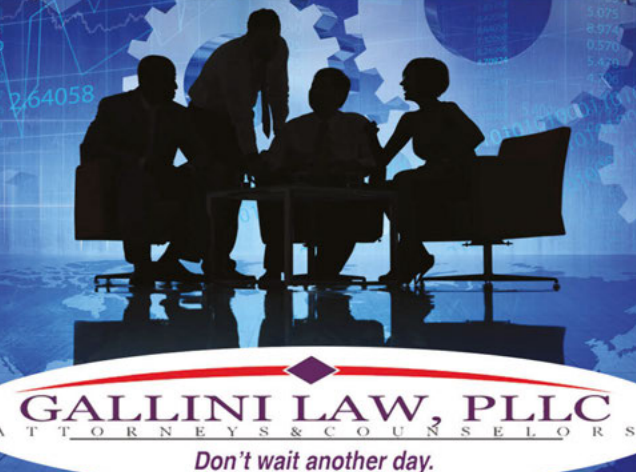


Dallas has a very casual and comfortable energy that both welcomes and encourages students to feel confident while creating original artwork. This is due in part to her undeniable love for all things art, which first developed during her senior year in high school. "I've always had a passion for art," she declared.

High school was not a priority for Dallas until she took an art class. Prior to that, she was more preoccupied with her friends and having a good time. She ended up having a child, which saved her life. Although she gave her daughter up for adoption, with this one life crisis came opportunity. Dallas turned her focus onto Marilyn Melton, her art teacher. "I had dropped out of school when I was a junior. When I came back at the end of junior year, I met my art teacher, and she changed my life," Dallas explained.

The once at-risk young woman who lacked direction and had no real vision for her future blossomed into a straight-A student. She went from not caring or trying to being genuinely concerned about her education to peer mentoring. It is often said that a piece of art has the power to transform one's

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outlook on life, which is true. But a piece of art also has the power to transform the artist who creates it, which is exactly what happened to Dallas.

Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, Dallas realized her future when she was awarded her school's Boot Strap Award, which was presented to her by her beloved art teacher. "Basically, the award was given to the student who had made the most progress, the student everyone thought might not make it, but did," she said. "When my teacher gave me that award, it solidified my desire to become an art teacher because I wanted to give someone else what I'd been given. I wanted to show kids that they could do it, too."

Growing up in tiny Washougal, Washington, right on the Columbia River, Dallas was constantly asked if she was from Texas, perhaps in part due to her noticeable (and ironic) name, but more so because of her undeniably spunky, take-charge personality and laid-back demeanor. "I loved my little town, but after a divorce I applied for a job in Texas, interviewed over the phone and flew here the night before school started," she recalled. It was a whirlwind of transition, but looking back, it was one of her best decisions. Now, married for 16 years to her husband, Jeff, with a blended family of four kids and five grandchildren, Dallas has spent the last 10 years of her 20-year-long teaching career completely content at Timberview High.



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But traditional teaching in the classroom isn't all Dallas does at Timberview. She also leads the school's art club. The club meets each Thursday after school to plan community events and create cool artwork. Each year, the club consists of anywhere from 15 to 20 members and a few officers. The great thing is that the members aren't just art students. They are from all areas of the school.

The club works events in the community, such as Third Thursdays in historic downtown, the Pickle Parade, the Cinco de Mayo celebration and various events at Mansfield Methodist Medical Center. “The club typically sets up art and craft tables for the kids,” Dallas said. “They also do face painting and balloon animals.”

The most rewarding events the club organizes are the various art camps they host for kids throughout the year. The camps originated eight years ago as a way for the art club to raise funds for trips, materials and other expenses the budget does not cover. The club has traveled to Washington, D.C., New York City and Los Angeles for art experiences.

Several camps are offered throughout the year, including both day and week camps. Day camps are offered on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in the fall, winter and spring, and are open to children in kindergarten through

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sixth grade. A weeklong camp is offered Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in the early summer, where children entering grades one through five are welcome. "The camps are all run by the art club. They pick the projects and plan everything," Dallas said.

The one-week camp is designed to provide campers with diverse art-making experiences, including a community art project. "The campers learn the fundamental elements and principles necessary for making original art using various mediums such as painting, sculpting, drawing, printmaking and fiber work. It's a blast! It's messy and creative and full of play," she explained with a slightly devious grin. "We are able to do all the time-consuming projects that we're unable to do during the one-day camp."

Mediums like ceramic, papier-mâché and glasswork are all highlighted during the week. Past campers have made papier-mâché hot air balloons, Eric Carle-inspired animals, fused glass sailboats and various clay pieces. Each project requires skill and time, which the art club members help campers with. "All of the kids are so respectful," Dallas added. "They are just good kids."

Ultimately, sharing her love of art with students is her main goal. Working with them and building relationships just makes the job even better. "I love what I do here. Working with high schoolers is the best. The processes we go through and the relationships that are formed," she said, "that's what it's all about. They renew my passion daily!" **NOW**



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— By Zachary R. Urquhart

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starting everywhere in between. There are several animals with multiple or split seasons, so be sure you are hunting your prey legally, as the penalties include loss of license, hefty fines and can even involve jail time. If you want to try your hand at bow-hunting, your season will start about a month before rifle hunters.

- *Pick Your Spot*

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### • Blend In and Stand Out

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before you pull the trigger. Make sure your gear is right for the natural environment that will surround you. On the other hand, there are clear laws requiring hunters on public lands to wear at least 400 square inches of hunter orange, in addition to orange headgear. So, when you are packing your camouflage, do not forget your orange vest and hat.

• *Bring Your Vittles*

You will probably be in the field for a while, so be sure to pack some food and drinks. Avoid odorous things like garlic, as



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well as fibrous foods like beans or broccoli that may lead to discomfort while you are trying to hunt. The best options are foods that have carbs, protein and a little fat. A peanut butter sandwich is easy and will keep your body ready when that deer or bird comes into view.



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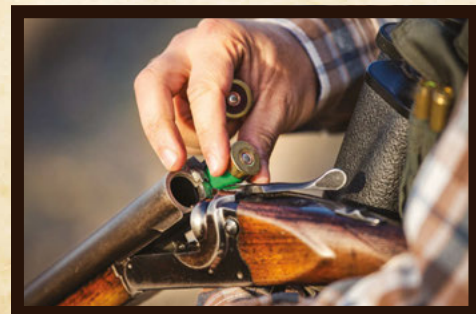
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#### • Staying the Night

If you are planning on making an entire weekend of your hunting trip, you will have to add another level of preparation. Research what camp grounds are available. If you are planning to go on the season's opening weekend, you will want to reserve a spot ahead of time. If you are pulling your tent from a pile of things you rarely use, set it up and check it for leaks before your trip. Bring a flashlight and extra batteries, and be sure to bring a warm enough sleeping bag for potentially cold temperatures. Lastly, be mindful of local wildlife. If bears or other animals are a potential threat, take precautions to keep food and trash sealed and out of reach from such critters.





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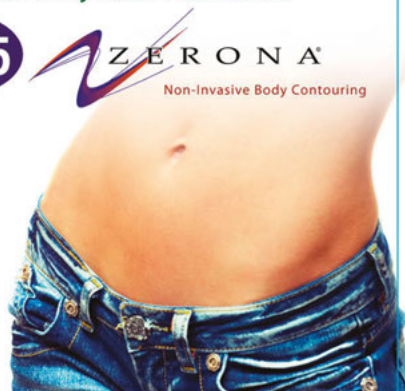
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## SAFETY FIRST

### • Fire When Ready

Guns can be dangerous if not handled correctly. The state of Texas requires a hunter's education course for every hunter, which is good for life, after completion. You can get a one-time deferral good for a year, but it is highly recommended that you go through safety courses before operating a gun.

### • Beware of Snakes

Most likely, your hunting site will be home to slithery critters, as well as the prey you are there to hunt. Only about 10 percent of Texas' snakes are dangerous for humans, so the first step to safety is identification. Bring a field guide, and be on the lookout for copperheads, cottonmouths and rattlesnakes. If you or a companion are bitten, the best solution is to get to a nearby hospital. Do not try to cut around the puncture or try to suck out the venom. Instead, clean around the wound with disinfectant soap, take off jewelry or items that may restrict the area, and try to limit movement of the extremity until you can get to a doctor.

Whether you are hoping to bag meat for the winter, or you want a 16-point buck over the mantel, a great trip starts with the right equipment and preparation. Staying safe while you are out will ensure a successful hunt is not overshadowed by injury or tragedy. With these tips, you are ready to aim and fire. **NOW**

*Editor's Note: License purchasing, laws and general hunting information are available on the Texas Parks & Wildlife Hunting Page at [www.tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/).*



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Glenn Smith leads Mouser Electronics, which provides world-class e-commerce, customer service, distribution and new product introduction.

## Doing It Right

*Mansfield's largest private employer, Mouser Electronics, focuses on satisfying every customer, every time. — By Melissa Rawlins*

People dreaming, designing and developing new products for the rest of us to enjoy usually need help accomplishing their mission. That's where Mansfield-based Mouser Electronics Inc. comes in. "Our customers design everything from smart phones and tablets to robotics and automobiles," President and CEO Glenn Smith said.

For design engineers from Singapore to Stockholm to San Antonio, a digital storefront called Mouser.com is open 24/7. Running off 400 servers carefully stacked inside a glassed-in, air-conditioned room, their 63 websites intuitively communicate in the language of the visiting engineer and promise to supply the specific components each customer needs for the project he or she is building.

Each component ordered resides about 1,000 feet from the server, within a newly expanded 750,000-square-foot warehouse and

corporate headquarters containing 705,000 different products. Here, the pleasant hum of well-designed conveyor belts supports focused, diligent men and women who pick and pack the newest technologies. Each domestic customer receives just what he desires the next day after completing the online checkout. International shipments arrive in just two days.

It's no wonder Mouser earned 18 awards last year alone for their best-in-class e-commerce, customer service, distribution, customer growth, sales performance and growth plus new product introduction. What is a wonder are the employees working on the Mouser team. Starting in Mansfield — where Glenn moved the operations base in 1983 — and extending to 22 offices worldwide, Mouser's 1,615 people work hard, pay attention to details and give every customer a great experience.



"I tell new people we hire: 'Nobody goes to a restaurant because the food is average,'" said Glenn, who started with this company in 1973 while working his way through college. From the warehouse to the boardroom, Glenn figured out what Mouser was good at and devoted his attentions to getting the newest components to engineers designing the newest products as fast as possible.

Mouser does no manufacturing. Rather, the company's supply chain professionals build trustworthy relationships with the world's best and brightest high-tech manufacturers. The global leader in new product introduction, Mouser's suppliers, such as Intel, unveil their cutting-edge technologies solely to Mouser, which then offers the next generation components according to Glenn's "glocal" philosophy.

"We want to have a global reach but we want to do it locally, so customers in other countries will see our website in their local language and currency, and then receive their package in days, as if they ordered locally," he said.

Following his lead, Mouser's 700 warehouse representatives, 130 electrical and computer engineers, and nearly 300 customer service members focus on performance in order to give the customer more than they expect. This approach enabled Mouser to grow so quickly they are now almost five times as big as only nine years ago, and are constantly hiring as the world's need for electronic devices and systems increases.

The Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce recognized in 2014 how extensively Mouser Electronics Inc. stimulates our community, when they named Mouser Outstanding Large Business of The Year. The MISD Foundation receives support, as do MISD teachers and students focused on STEM initiatives. "I'm very interested in inspiring young people to consider engineering as a career," Glenn said. Contributing to programs and expansions within the city of Mansfield, citizens will note Mouser's name on plaques and signage at Elmer W. Oliver Nature Park, The MAC as well as Mansfield Public Library.

Such generosity testifies to Mouser's mission to empower innovators across the globe, starting right here at home. Want to invest in the future, both globally and locally? Start with a visit to Mouser.com. **NOW**

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Mansfield Police Officers Association, represented by Detective Allan Hudson, is grateful for Monogram Pro's Phyllice Holly, who designed the Back the Blue shirts for the Chamber's luncheon.



Liquor Stop's owner Raymond Masella, second from left, hangs out with friends at La Gondola.



Joe Barton and colleagues at Mansfield Methodist Hospital celebrate Dr. Alan Taylor, who was named DFW Hospital Council Physician of the Year.



First Methodist Church turns into an underwater adventure for children and adult volunteers at this year's vacation Bible camp.



Helping people help themselves, the MAC and businesses provide back-to-school supplies to students.



The community gets into the spirit of Mansfield Methodist's first annual Health Festival at Katherine Rose Park.



Over 350 middle school and high school students and adult volunteers served Mansfield and the surrounding communities during First Methodist's United Mission Week.



Henry, Cam and Tony Ngo and, in white, Nhi Pham, share their peace at Zen Pedi Spa.

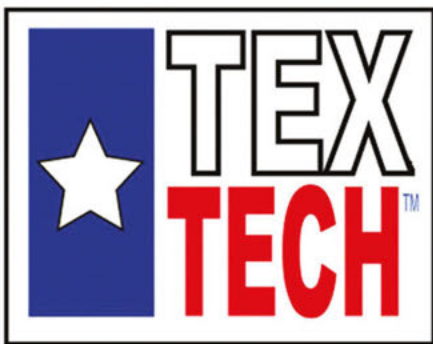


Tania Salgado and Yajaira Estrada prepare Pina Pequeno for a festive afternoon at Don Julios.



Steve Armstrong and Kenny White sort donations for adult rehabilitation centers run by The Salvation Army.





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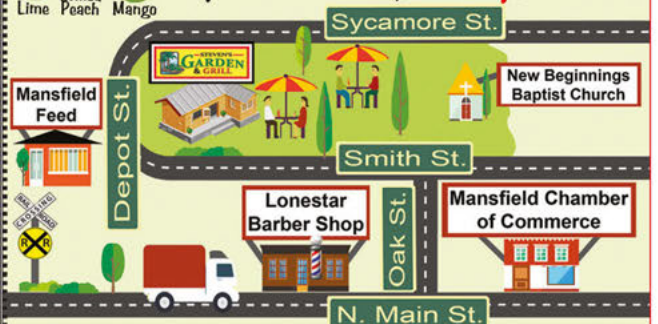
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### September 6

Family Pickleball Night: 6:30-8:00 p.m., The MAC, 106 S. Wisteria. Only \$2 per person, 8 years old and up. All ages will love this racket sport. All equipment provided, or bring your own. (817) 728-3680.

### September 10

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Mansfield Environmental Collection Center, 616 S. Wisteria. Free. (817) 276-4239.

Wurstfest: 2:00-10:00 p.m., Historic Downtown Mansfield. Contact Angie Henley, City of Mansfield Cultural Arts/Special Events Supervisor, at (817) 804-5795.

### September 13

Jobs for Life: 6:00-8:30 p.m., Mansfield Church of Christ, 580 Pleasant Ridge Dr. This free 8-week program is for individuals searching for strategies to launch a new and higher paying career. Meals and childcare are provided. Register with [amberg@wesleymissioncenter.org](mailto:amberg@wesleymissioncenter.org).

Multi-City Mixer: 5:30-7:30 p.m., Walnut Creek Country Club, 1151 Country Club Dr.

Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce. (817) 473-0507.

### September 17

MISD Book Festival: 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., The Center for the Performing Arts, 1110 W. Debbie Ln. Families are invited to explore reading for free.

The Yacht Rock Revival: 8:30-10:00 p.m., The LOT Downtown, 108 S. Main St. The smoothest hits of the '70s and '80s, the greatest show on surf and the finest tribute to '70s light rock. [www.theLOTdowntown.com](http://www.theLOTdowntown.com).

### September 20

Faith & Finances: 6:00-8:30 p.m., Mansfield Church of Christ, 580 Pleasant Ridge Dr. This \$15, 12-week program includes books, meals and childcare. Register with [marinag@wesleymissioncenter.org](mailto:marinag@wesleymissioncenter.org).

### September 22

North Texas Annual Giving Day: 6:00 a.m.-midnight. Donate money online for North Texas nonprofits. [www.northtexasgivingday.org](http://www.northtexasgivingday.org).

Small Business Council Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Walnut Creek Country Club, 1151

Country Club Dr. Everyone is invited to hear a panel of local business experts. RSVP to (817) 473-0507.

### September 28

MISD Digital Citizenship event: 6:00-7:30 p.m., The Center for the Performing Arts, 1110 W. Debbie Ln. Free information about cyber safety presented by MISD Technology Department. [www.center.mansfieldisd.org](http://www.center.mansfieldisd.org).

### Ongoing:

#### Second Mondays

Keep Mansfield Beautiful Commission meeting: 5:30 p.m., Mansfield Service Center, 620 S. Wisteria St.

#### Saturdays Through November 19

Mansfield Farmer's Market: 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 206 Smith St. at Oak Street For more information, contact Rex Wenger, (817) 501-6027.

*Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your event details to [melissa.rawlins@nowmagazines.com](mailto:melissa.rawlins@nowmagazines.com).*



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## In the Kitchen With Deborah Gery

— *By Melissa Rawlins*

Friends describe Deborah Gery as a gourmet cook. During childhood summers spent at a small dairy farm on the Shenandoah River in Virginia, she learned to cook as she helped her grandmother milk cows and prepare each day's main meal. Over the past 45 years, Deborah learned the value of experimenting while developing tried-and-true recipes for her husband.

She shares at potlucks and Bible studies for First United Methodist Church Mansfield, where she also volunteers as a Stephen Minister. With United Methodist Women, Deborah recently produced a special tea. Her fun menu included hot and cold tea served with a trio of sandwiches accompanied by a veggie cup and a fruit salad. To top it off, there were lemon snowball cookies, scones, a lemon raspberry loaf and shortbread cookies. **NOW**

### Cucumber Tea Sandwiches

**3 oz. cream cheese**  
**2 Tbsp. real mayonnaise**  
**1 tsp. minced garlic**  
**2 tsp. dry Italian seasoning**  
**6 slices bread**  
**Salt and pepper, to taste**  
**1 cucumber, thinly sliced**

1. Mix first four ingredients in a food processor. Spread mixture evenly on 6 slices of your favorite bread. Sprinkle with salt and pepper.
2. Top 3 slices with thin slices of cucumber, peeled or unpeeled.
3. Close with the other 3 slices of bread, cut into quarters and serve on a pretty platter.

### Chicken Salad

*Courtesy of Carol Johnson.*

**1/2 medium onion**  
**1 stalk celery**  
**1/2 cup dried cranberries**  
**1/2 cup chopped pecans**  
**3 cups cooked chicken, chopped**  
**1 cup mayonnaise**  
**1 tsp. prepared mustard**  
**1/2 tsp. salt**  
**1/2 tsp. pepper**  
**1/2 tsp. dill weed, or to taste**  
**1/4 tsp. garlic powder**  
**1 loaf bread**

1. Chop onion and celery in a food processor; set aside.

2. Chop cranberries and pecans. Mix chicken with onion and cranberry mixes.
3. Add mayonnaise, mustard and seasonings. Mix well, adding more mayonnaise if needed. Refrigerate.
4. Spread evenly between two slices of your favorite bread.
5. Cut sandwiches into quarters before serving.

### Avocado Egg Salad

**12 large eggs, hardboiled**  
**2 Tbsp. onion, finely chopped**  
**3 Tbsp. Dijon mustard**  
**1 Tbsp. mayonnaise**  
**1 tsp. dried basil**  
**Salt and pepper, to taste**  
**3 avocados, diced (divided use)**  
**2 baguettes**  
**1/4 cup olive oil**  
**1/8 cup Italian spices**

1. Peel and chop eggs. Add onion, mustard, mayonnaise and seasonings. Mix to combine.
2. Add 2 diced avocados and stir to incorporate.
3. Cut baguettes in half lengthwise. Spread with olive oil and Italian spices, and then toast lightly.
4. Spread avocado egg salad evenly atop the 4 baguettes, slice the open-faced sandwiches into as many servings as necessary, and top each off with several chunks from the third avocado.

### Daphne's Scones

**2 cups flour**  
**1/4 tsp. baking soda**  
**2 tsp. salt**  
**4 Tbsp. sugar (divided use)**  
**1/3 cup butter**  
**1 large egg**  
**1/2 cup buttermilk**  
**Pam Cooking Spray**  
**1/4 cup milk**

1. Combine flour, baking soda and salt with 2 Tbsp. sugar. Cut in butter. Add egg and buttermilk. Mix until a ball is formed, but do not overmix. Roll out to about 1/2-inch thickness. Using a 2-inch biscuit cutter, cut out about 18 rounds.
2. Place on baking sheet sprayed with Pam. Brush with milk and remaining sugar. Bake at 425 F for about 10 minutes until they begin to brown.

**To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit [www.nowmagazines.com](http://www.nowmagazines.com).**



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