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ON THE COVER



Phillis Alexander joins her husband, Willie, for a cappella moments in a call-and-response pattern.

Photo by SRC Photography.

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Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$35 per year or \$3.50 per issue. Subscriptions should be sent to: NOW Magazines, P.O. Box 1071, Waxahachie, TX 75168. For advertising rates or editorial correspondence, call (817) 477-0990 or visit www.nowmagazines.com.



Editor's Note

Hello, Joshua, Crowley and Burleson!

Forward-thinking people have achieved great things in our community. Not just the outward signs, like the three-story modern icon at Renfro and I-35 representing the economic development in process all over our map, but especially the inward progress, like the collaborations between the Burleson Ministerial Alliance and the Burleson Police Department. Through Ministers and Officers for a

Greater Burleson, praying people partner with officers to better serve families and even officers in the aftermath of traumatic events. The beauty of these efforts is they are building relationships with the city's faith-based community to serve as a community resource, to raise educational awareness and to work together to solve community issues.

I believe the community is a larger version of our nuclear families. Who are we working with to solve our problems? Are we humble enough to seek wise counsel when we are experiencing difficulty? It takes courage, but it's worth every moment of vulnerability.

Here's to your family's success!

Melissa

Melissa Rawlins
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-Dr. John Young, M.D.

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HOLDING HARMONY TOGETHER

— By Erin McEndree

Everyone has skills and talents, but not everyone knows how to utilize them. Willie and Phillis Alexander have a passion for using their gifts and enlightening others about the different ways they can make use of their own talents. They are leaders in their community and in their church congregation who use harmony, teaching and a little barbecue to inspire others to have a closer relationship with God.

Music has been part of both Willie and Phillis' lives since they were very young. Willie grew up in a musical family. "We sang with my mom and had two piano players in the family. I sang in a quartet in high school, but it did not stay together because people were not committed," Willie said. "At my home church in Tyler, I started a family tradition where the family would perform two musicals a year — one at our home church in Tyler and another at a selected church, both for fundraisers." Willie has continually organized and managed this program for 26 years.

Through the years, his job with Johnson & Johnson took him from San Angelo, Texas, and Chicago, Illinois, to Somerville, New Jersey, and Cincinnati, Ohio. Even with these moves, he always came back to put the musicals together and coordinate the a cappella-style singing at his home church. He continues to be dedicated to finding others who have the talent and desire to sing traditional Gospel without musical accompaniment.



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Singers have come and gone over the years. Both the original cast and the name changed from the Midwest Travelers to Gospel Ambassadors. Keeping an ensemble together and available has always been part of Willie's mission. He is selective when he chooses members. "Willie has an exceptionally keen ear," Phillis said. "Once he heard a man named Glen talk at church. He said his voice might be good for the group. He was right, and Glen sang with the group for the first two years."

"Not just anyone can become a part of the Gospel Ambassadors," Willie said. "I want to make sure they have a love for Jesus and know they are doing God's work, while creating harmony consistently. This ministry is not for show." Over time, family members have rotated in and out of the group. Willie's daughter, Tunya, and niece, Angelia, have performed, along with Phillis' father.

In 2000, Willie was in a group that was invited to go and sing in a musical event in Prague. The group accepted the invitation, but then 9/11 happened and most of the members of the group declined the offer. Then in 2002, Willie organized an a cappella group to perform in churches, concert halls and theaters throughout Europe. "Large posters announced our performances," he said. "It was an amazing opportunity."

Phillis grew up in Brownwood, and then in San Angelo, where her dad was the pastor of a Pentecostal congregation for 45 years. Phillis played clarinet in school. She also took piano lessons and played the piano for the congregation as a teenager. She was a shy girl and did not like playing. "I, too, grew up in a musical family. My uncle played the organ. My dad played the guitar, and my younger



**WILLIE AND PHILLIS
ARE INVOLVED IN
MANY ACTIVITIES
THAT ENHANCE
PEOPLE'S LIVES.**



sister played the drums, too,” Phillis explained. Her family moved to the Fort Worth area in 2004, when her mom became ill, to be close to larger hospitals. Phillis also worked for Johnson & Johnson and had met Willie many years ago. They reconnected when Willie was living in Alabama. “He came to Texas to get me,” Phillis laughed. They married in 2008, and lived in Alabama for a year before returning to Texas.

In 2010, Phillis began singing with the ensemble. “I listened and hummed along with the guys as they practiced. Willie told me I could sing the top part,” she said. “He told me to try the tenor. I love music and liked the sound of a cappella because it was different from what I experienced growing up. I also enjoyed traveling.” The ensemble has traveled to many states including Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Mississippi and Louisiana.

The style of performance Willie prefers includes a call-and-response pattern. Willie, the lead singer, will sing a phrase and the other members in the group will echo the accompanying phrases. Willie searches for music and makes the selections that align with the group. “We keep the selections as close to the artists as we can but make it fit the personality of the group,” he explained. “Since we sing a cappella, we have to add to and take out some elements to make it fit our style.”

They do their best to accept any invitation. “But, our real mission is found in the Great Commission located in Matthew 28:18-19. We go where we feel God tells us to go,” he shared. “We don’t charge for our services, but we do let invitees know that we do need help, especially when traveling a significant distance or to other states.” The group sings at many venues including anniversaries, nursing homes, weddings, funerals and retreats.



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Encouraging others and helping people find their own talents in business and life is a common theme they share. They are extremely compatible in that respect. "I have always worked in human resources, starting as an intern and working my way up to director," Phillis said. "I have a passion for people, and I enjoy writing and developing policies and procedures."

Other activities Phillis enjoys are reading and sewing, but she admitted there is not enough time since she started a catering business called Sunday Dinner Catering. "It's difficult to organize two groups at a time," Phillis said, "but we coordinate schedules and make it work."

Another venture Willie feels led to pursue has been leadership development, team building and business coaching. His 27 years at Johnson & Johnson involved developing leaders, creating super teams and coaching for increased performance. After retiring, his love for leadership development and team building led him to establish his own company, but his real desire is to grow spiritually.

Willie and Phillis are involved in many activities that enhance people's lives. They both teach Sunday school and acknowledge they have a desire to lead people. They enjoy those teaching opportunities and will continue to guide others in their spiritual journeys. They keep their music, teaching and businesses held together on faith and will continue to wait on God's direction for each decision they make. **NOW**



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EMBRACING TRADE-OFFS

— By Erin McEndree

• At Home With

Don and Varina

Sometimes trade-offs are good. Sometimes they are bad. Don and Varina Denman and their five children decided, good or bad, the trade-offs they made when they moved to Burleson were worth it for the value they provided. Although their kids had to leave friends and gave up an extremely spacious backyard, the family fell in love with the twice-as-big house and their new neighborhood's amenities, while making new friends quickly. Don and Varina started their family elsewhere and have lived in three other locations, but they like Burleson for many reasons. For 12 years, they have called it home, made memories and grown in the process.

"My parents were part-time antique dealers, and when our children were young, they offered to buy us a house," Varina said. "They are very generous." Varina had only two requirements. She wanted four to five bedrooms and a large living area for their large family. The family knew they would have to change homeschool co-ops and their church, but it was nice to be closer to family, as well as to Fort Worth.

"A friend from church who was a Realtor showed us this house," Don said. "He is also the man who affirmed that working with children was one of my gifts and helped me transition into teaching." Don is a special education teacher in Everman in the inclusion classrooms. "This is a really good fit for me," he said.

The home they found was also a good fit for the family of seven. With a striking red door, white trim and black shutters, the two-story gray home has great curb appeal. "The neighbors said this home was originally white stone with black spots on it many years ago," Varina laughed. "When we moved here, it was olive green. Two years ago, Joanna Gaines from the show *Fixer Upper* inspired me to paint it gray. She is always painting houses gray."

"When we moved here there were only 10 houses," Don said. "Now the whole development is full, and they are making more space



Denman

by removing trees to add more.” The Denmans have seen many changes. “We could see the lake from our backyard before the houses were built behind us. The neighbors pitched in to fund a tall fence for our backyards.”

The yard became smaller when they moved to Burleson, but “the kids love the pool, the park and the basketball court nearby,” Don said. “We can also go fishing in the nearby lake, so it is a win-win for our family.”

Family is very important to the Denmans. Varina and the two girls still at home completed a family tree project from Pinterest in the foyer. Children’s photos next to black and white photos of grandparents are displayed atop a painted tree with many branches on the wall. An heirloom icebox that Varina’s

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grandparents had sits at the base of the stairs. “My dad’s job was to empty out the water when he was a kid, but he didn’t, and the water ran over often,” Varina laughed. “One day they came home and the icebox had fallen through the rotten wooden floor.” So many pieces in their home hold fun memories. They are also creating their own, and the family is growing. Their three oldest kids are now married.

The large living room has a dark brown sectional couch that is big enough for all the kids and their spouses. More family photos are in an old window frame from Abilene Christian University. Surrounding the photos are special items like Varina’s violin she played when she was young and her brother’s old BB gun. A large television sits on an antique buffet. A quilt made by Varina’s great-grandmother hangs above the fireplace mantel with primitive decorations like chicken feeders and Mason jars.



“We have quilts from both sides of our family. I remember a huge quilt rack my grandmother used,” Don shared.

The master bedroom has French doors that provide a view of the two-tiered backyard and rose bushes. “We enjoy spending time outside. Don likes to grill,” Varina said. “Our



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son-in-law built the tall fence, so we would have more privacy."

Antiques from her parents complete the room's decor. "We haven't needed to buy any furniture," Varina said. "We honestly didn't buy anything ourselves. It all came from our families." A small desk that belonged to Don's grandfather sits in the corner. Don remembers him living in the Crazy Water Retirement Home in Mineral Wells.

The master bathroom is a deep maroon color with three western pencil art pieces displayed on the walls in barn wood frames. The artist, Paul Cameron Smith, lives in Weatherford. "We have painted almost every room with an accent wall," Varina said.

The two youngest girls are still at home and have colorful rooms upstairs. Jillian, 17, has a white bedroom suite that belonged to her great-grandmother. Her accent colors are purple, pink and aqua. She writes positive sayings and Bible Scriptures on a wall of mirrors. Janae, 15, decorates with black and red coverings for her bed and windows. Don made her floating shelves in the corner. She covered a coffee table in red velvet to create a bench under her window. One wall is dedicated to her favorite quotes from books like *Harry Potter*, *Hunger Games* and *Divergent*. It reaches from top to bottom. "I think she put some quotes from my books on her wall, also," Varina said.

The office is where Varina spends much of her morning writing contemporary fiction. She is beginning her fifth book. She has a three-book series and her fourth book, *Looking*

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Glass Lies, is about the lies women tell themselves. “The story is about a woman struggling with low self-esteem after a divorce from an emotionally abusive husband. She returns to her hometown of Canyon, Texas, looking to heal,” Varina explained. “It has tools to help women learn to like themselves again.”

Next to the office is another bedroom painted dark green and blue. It is the extra space they need when the older kids and their spouses come to visit. Another DIY project is on the wall that Varina created when they moved in. She painted each member of the family in a large silhouette with a frame around it. “I used to do more crafts,” she said. “Now, I focus more on my writing. If I have a project, the kids help.

“We’ve made this house even homier than our others,” Varina stated. “It’s truly ours.” Don and Varina and all their children soon realized that their new life in Burleson outweighed what they relinquished. The memories created and new friends gained are priceless. Not every trade-off was welcomed, but they were worth the blessings that came after. **NOW**



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EVERY OPPORTUN

This year, Old Town Burleson has been the scene of a host of new faces engaged in creative activities. Twice, the OTBA Art Walk has featured different artists — painters, musicians, street artists, wood sculptors — stationed throughout Old Town. On July 8, patrons and employees of businesses in Old Town gathered for the Old Town Summer Sweep, raising litter awareness amongst people who walk in Old Town frequently. And this month marks the Third Annual Old Town Picture Show. Like last year, on three beautiful Saturday evenings, three free movies will be projected onto a gigantic, inflatable movie screen at 124 W. Ellison St. Guests are invited to bring their own blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy some good family time watching The Goonies, Sing, and Rogue One: A Star Wars Story.

The volunteers producing these events are all members of the newly formed Old Town Business Association, a not-for-profit organization of business operators who care about the people and place where they work. “The Old Town Picture Show is for the community. It’s not about us,” Monica Sheehan, studio manager of Painting with a Twist, said. “But it gives the people who are in Burleson a reason to stay in Burleson and shop local.” The city coordinates the movies and offers OTBA members sponsorship opportunities, so their business names will be in front of people during the event.

That type of promotion is exactly what Art Brucks was looking for when he made an appointment with City Manager Dale Cheatham a couple of years back. A self-made mover and shaker who has worked a full-time job since he was 15 and got his start throwing newspapers at age 12, Art has always helped communities grow. He’s had his hands and heart in almost every local chamber of commerce. In the early ’80s, Art was building his State Farm insurance business from scratch in Crowley. Before he was 30 years old, he was elected president of the Crowley Area Chamber of Commerce. Later, Art headed the Burleson Area Chamber of Commerce. Now that he is in his early 60s, the business Art started 38 years ago operates from an impressive, remodeled structure on the curve in Renfro Street, at the intersection of Johnson Avenue.

Once established in that spot, he wanted to create a website to promote Historic Old Town Burleson as a destination. “I asked the city manager for a listing of all the businesses in the Old Town overlay, so that I could create a directory, as well as a food page and an entertainment page, so people who like live music could find out what bands are playing each week here at Old Texas Brewery or Spice Rack or Dalton’s or Fresco’s,” Art said. The city gave him the listing and the map, but Art got busy and set the project on the back burner.

“Next thing I knew, the city had hired a person to be the Old Town & Tourism Coordinator,” Art recalled. “I thought, *Hey, great, I can accomplish my original purpose but have the city’s help, through Drew Pennynwell, to make that come alive.*”





— By Melissa Rawlins



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Chris Hughes and Jonathan Williams provided the soundtrack for the OTBA quarterly mixer hosted by Fresco's.

“Essentially, OTBA is an effort between the city and a steering group of Old Town business owners to collectively promote the district as a whole in order to help Old Town grow,” said Drew, who organized the meetings for the past year. Now, OTBA has its 501(c)(3) charter and over 20 members. Some have home offices outside of Old Town, but the appeal for each is the same thing that excited Art.

“If you’re a part of Old Town, it behooves you to gather with everybody else,” he said, “to help promote this area as a place to get your teeth cleaned or buy your insurance or eat your chicken, because in Burleson these days, there are a lot of choices.

“One thing the OTBA does not attempt is to control the look and feel of Old Town,” said Art, who is an appointed member of the board of the Old Town Standards Committee. But he does foresee that a large OTBA membership could exert influence on development.

As a brand new organization, OTBA adopted the vision from the city of Burleson to promote and encourage businesses to move here and make Old Town a vibrant place to live, work and play. “The city certainly helped us,” Art said. “As time goes on, the membership will have to organically grow the vision away from the city.” In Art’s estimation, OTBA will one day grow big enough to behave like a chamber of commerce and will hire its own director.

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OTBA hosts fundraisers to help achieve its mission. By the beginning of this summer, its bank account had accumulated \$1,200. The organization is offering limited edition Christopher Radko Christmas ornaments called *The Pride of Burleson* in many Old Town locations this month and expects to add more than \$3,000 to its funds.

Membership is open and is an affordable \$60 annually. "You get out of it what you put into it," Art explained. "We offer opportunities like our quarterly networking, where you can get to know



Connor Morrow gets a lesson on how to use a lightsaber from Chewbacca during the Old Town Picture Show.

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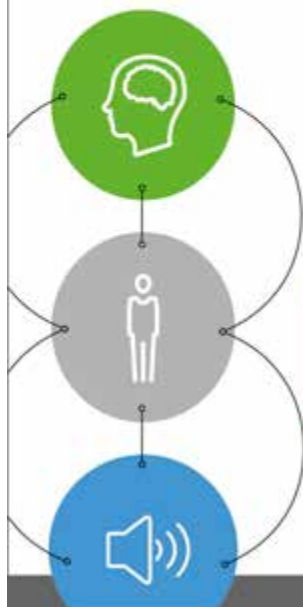




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Drew Pennywell and Art Brucks visit Mary Penney, owner of The Market Emporium and board member of OTBA.

other business owners and find out about opportunities to support all the different outdoor events the city plans.”

Monica, who lives in Fort Worth but drives into Old Town daily to manage Painting with a Twist, finds many benefits to membership in OTBA. “You pay membership dues and get all kinds of exposure to people who don’t know about the business or just need reminding,” she said. “Also, the events they sponsor are discounted for OTBA members. The networking has also worked in our favor. Being at the meetings, I’ve found ways to work with the other businesses and get people to think of Old Town as more of a community.”

Joining with others to accomplish good things is all part of a day’s work for businesspeople who excel. So is leadership. Art’s instinct to lead developed through a childhood that taught him success would not be handed to him. Art learned to make order out of chaos, while working to pay his way through college. He drove an ambulance for the city of Fort Worth and frequently was the first first responder to the scene of an accident. His sense of belonging to community compels him to make the best of his surroundings. With a day timer featuring an “Adapt or Die” sticker and a mantra of “Shop Local, Sell Global,” the president of OTBA is teaching Old Town business leaders to take every opportunity to reach out to a global market. **NOW**

Editor’s Note: For details about the Old Town Business Association, visit www.ot-ba.com/about/.

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— By Zachary R. Urquhart

While spring may be the time for a deep cleaning of your house, autumn is a natural time to give things around the house a facelift. School, television shows and fiscal years are all starting anew, and the end of the extreme heat is perfect for starting those labor-intensive projects you have been putting off all summer. Here are some ideas for home improvement projects, big and small, you could do this fall.





Change Simple Things

• *Keep with the times.* Trends and styles change frequently, so think about swapping light fixtures and faucets. Chrome and oil-rubbed bronze are popular now, and changing fixtures can be a simple way to update your look. If you are working with electricity, be sure to turn off your power and test to ensure your breakers were labeled correctly before working with what could be live wires. If you are changing pipes, consider swapping your old connections for push-to-connect fittings that will make future plumbing work easier. And if cost is an issue, there are lots of metallic spray paints that will allow you to alter the look of your existing fixtures.

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- *Look above for a simple fix.* A step above just replacing light fixtures and lamps, swapping out your ceiling fan can alter the entire look of your room. If you are changing the color or style of the lighting in a room, it is probably a good idea to get a new ceiling fan to match. While you could technically take the fan apart to paint it to match, there are so many working parts that buying a new matching one is usually a better idea. When deciding on your new fan, you can keep it simple or get fancy when picking from the dozens of styles available at any local hardware store. Changing fans can be a two-person job, so think about getting a helper, and be careful to make all the hardware and electric connections to manufacturer's specifications.

- *Make a statement.* Painting the entire house can be an exhausting, time-intensive task. But painting a room, or even just adding an accent color on one wall, is a relatively easy way to achieve a drastically different look. You can even let each child choose a color to make their room their own. The key to any good interior paint job is the preparation. Tape off the trim, get plenty of drop cloths and give yourself enough time for the paint to dry before moving furniture back against the wall.



Know Your DIY Limits

- *Carpet has a shelf life.* If your carpet is hard to clean, fraying around the edges or just getting out of date, it may be time to call the professionals. Though you can install new carpet yourself, you need to weigh the cost of materials, including the tools you will undoubtedly need if you want to tackle the project on your own. If the space requires hiding a carpet seam in the middle of the room, it is likely that you will want an experienced company to do the work. Call around and get several quotes before you settle on someone, and be sure to look for reviews online to get a good idea of the quality of each company's work.

- *Hardwood does not have to be hard.* Decades ago, your choices were essentially carpet, sheets of slick laminate or real wood. Nowadays, though, you can find a variety of manufactured, wood-like floors that offer the refined look of wood without as much expense or difficulty in installation. Any home improvement store will have a selection of vinyl planks that look nearly identical to real wood, as well as ceramic and porcelain tiles offering a wood look. With any of these options, you should know your ability before deciding whether to do the work yourself or hire a company for the project. The flooring is easy enough to install in open spaces, but there is some finesse required for corners and transitioning to another type of flooring in another room.

- *Home needs a range.* While you are updating fixtures, it might be time to add a new cooking range to match the new style. If you have a combination oven

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and stovetop, it is easy enough to take out the old one and replace it with a new model. But, if you have a drop-in range, you need to be sure you know the steps involved before you end up with a hole in your kitchen counters.

Work Smarter

- *Take advantage of empty rooms.* If you have had any inking to move or change your furniture around, try new ideas while your floors are bare. Once you have taken up the old flooring, test different layouts before you put the new carpet or hardwood down. This will prevent you from scratching or tearing your new floors. This is also the perfect time to paint, as any spillage will be covered once you install the new flooring.

- *Have a plan.* If you are planning to overhaul your whole house, make a list of jobs you want to get done, and devise a plan to maximize your work time. If you are paying professionals, you will probably need to do all major work at once. If you are doing the work yourself, figure out if you need to tackle one room at a time, or if you can knock out several rooms in one fell swoop.

Whatever your home improvement plans are for the fall, planning a timeframe and detailed budget will help ensure your project stays on track. Don't rule out professionals who can achieve the look you want to do harder tasks. Updates can really give the home a new and improved feel. Plus, should you decide to sell in this hot housing market, they can dramatically increase the value of your investment. **NOW**

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Vice President Eric Fletcher, far left, joined forces with his brother, Chris Fletcher (not pictured), to head the Texas Overhead Doors team, dedicated to providing top-notch commercial and residential products and services.



Doing It Right

Texas Overhead Door has been satisfying customers for over 31 years!

— By Melissa Rawlins

When you own a garage, you need a functioning door that glides up and down on demand. Since 1986, homeowners in our area — and businesses throughout Texas — have relied upon Texas Overhead Door to provide new doors, or repairs, with integrity.

Real customer reviews on their website detail how happy customers are with Chris Fletcher's services and products. Another section gives maintenance tips to help garage doors last longer, while another educates shoppers on choosing garage doors. The Texas Overhead Door website links to the manufacturer's website, where people can actually design a door.

Lately, people are designing and shopping in the huge showroom at Texas Overhead Door's office on NW Hillery.

Do-it-yourselfers come here to purchase parts, remotes and keypads. The showroom contains samples of doors that, at one time, the company's vice president, Eric Fletcher, carried with him in a truck and trailer while he went door-to-door.

Texas Overhead Door's business has grown in accordance with Chris' philosophy, to treat customers the way he and his employees would want to be treated. Residential Manager Collin Crane, a technician since 2012, said the owner started as a one-man show with the simple motto to make the customer happy. "To this day," Collin said, "when the customer expresses a complaint, we'll make it right, and in the end, this will benefit us.

"We have the experience to do it right," Collin continued. "Eric has been here 20 years. Darrell Sanders,

our commercial service supervisor, has a total of 28 years in the business. We have two commercial technicians that have been here 15 years each, and our three on the residential side, a combined 15 years.”

Always sensitive to their customers’ needs, Texas Overhead Door employees care enough to work around the customers’ schedules to have as little impact on their lives as possible. On the commercial side, technicians will arrive to service security shutters, warehouse doors, rollup doors or scissor gates within minutes after the normal closing time, so that business’ customers experience no interference.

Technicians are trained in-house to fix what is broken, sometimes with little or no new parts. Every service call involves a tune-up on the garage door, including lubricating the door and looking for any problems. “We’re not just there to fix the problem. We’re there to prevent further issues, and we always maintain the door. Technicians don’t get paid for warranty calls, so our pay system makes technicians want to do the job right the first time,” Collin said. “We will recommend what we think you need, and then you can choose.” Each personable technician communicates well, explaining the reasons for their recommendations and also how to prevent future problems.

Texas Overhead Door is pleased when people get second opinions. “Usually our quote is less than the others,” Collin said. Able to work on any brand of door and opener, technicians have new product available for the eventuality that a customer’s existing system is too old to get replacement parts. “If we determine it’s not cost effective to repair it, it’s a free quote for a new residential garage door or opener. There is no trip fee on residential calls, and we are happy to come back to do it at the proposed price. We’re very understanding that people work hard for their money.”

All Texas Overhead Door residential technicians are trained to give estimates, install and make repairs. If you’re considering renovations, even conversion from two garage doors to one, call Texas Overhead Door. Collin would love the opportunity to tell you your job can be done. **NOW**

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New resident Mark Saenz brings his boys, Mark Jr. and Magnus, into Crowley's Family Dollar to prep for BBQ time.



The Richardson family enjoy some QT with Minnie Mouse at Disney World.



Richy Bodnar, guest speaker at the Burleson Lions Club 4th of July Wrap Up Party at Jellystone Park, gets a hug from Yogi Bear.



Anna Holaway and her family enjoy a fine evening at Reata with their friends Bill and Tricia Taylor, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.



Marci Spencer, from Burleson, and her friend Cristal Jones, from Crowley, meet up at Bailey Lake Park on Hidden Creek Parkway.



Fire Marshal Stacy Singleton, left, and Fire Chief Ken Freeman, second from right, enjoy lunch at Pandan with their staff.



Marley Harris basks in the generational love, held by her mother, Ashley Harris, while her grandmother, Karen Harris, gives the keynote presentation at the Power of Heels Luncheon and Runway Fashion Show.



Working to replace a broken computer, Cody Steen sells cool lemonade on a sunny day.



Kari Griswell, Angela Lourenco and Kristi Rowan, friends since high school, enjoy the splash pad in Joshua.

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Brighten Your Grandchildren's Financial Future

Mother's Day and Father's Day may get more attention, but National Grandparents Day, observed on September 10, has gained in popularity. If you're a grandparent, you might expect to receive some nice cards, but if you want to make the day especially meaningful, you may want to consider giving some long-lasting financial gifts to your grandchildren.

What might come to mind first, of course, is helping your grandchildren pay for college. You can choose from several college savings vehicles, but you may be especially interested in a 529 savings plan. With a 529 plan, your earnings accumulate tax free, provided they are used for qualified higher education expenses, such as tuition, books and room and board. (Keep in mind that 529 plan distributions not used for qualified expenses may be subject to federal and state income taxes and a 10-percent IRS penalty on the earnings.) You may be eligible for a state income tax incentive for contributing to a 529 plan. Check with your tax advisor regarding these incentives, as well as all tax-related issues pertaining to 529 plans.

One benefit of using a 529 plan is contribution limits are quite generous. Plus, a 529 plan is flexible: If your grandchild decides against college, you can transfer the plan to another beneficiary.

Generally, a 529 plan owned by a grandparent won't be reported as an asset on the Free Application For Federal Student Aid



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(FAFSA), but withdrawals from the plan are treated as untaxed income to the beneficiary (i.e., your grandchild) — and that has a big impact on financial aid, a much bigger impact than if the plan was listed as a parental asset. Beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year, however, FAFSA now requires families to report income from two years before the school year starts, rather than income from the prior calendar year. Consequently, it might be beneficial, from a financial aid standpoint, for you, as a grandparent, to start paying for college expenses from a 529 plan in the year in which your grandchild becomes a junior. Contact a financial aid professional about the potential financial aid impact of any gifts you're considering.

A 529 plan isn't the only financial gift you could give to your grandchildren. You might also consider giving them shares of stock, possibly held in a custodial account, usually known as an UTMA or UGMA account. One possible drawback: You only control a custodial account until your grandchildren reach the age of majority, at which time they can use the money for whatever they want, whereas distributions from a 529 savings plan must be used for qualified higher education expenses.

Still, your grandchildren might be particularly interested in owning the stocks contained in the custodial account — most young people enjoy owning shares of companies that make familiar products. And to further interest your grandchildren in a lifetime of investing, you may want to show them how a particular stock you've owned for decades has grown over time. Naturally, you'll also want to let them know that stocks can move up and down in the short term, and there are no guarantees of profits — but the long-term growth potential of stocks is still a compelling story.

You'd probably do whatever you could for your grandchildren. And with a smart financial gift, you can make a big difference in their lives. **NOW**

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, its financial advisors and employees cannot provide tax or legal advice.

Lynn H. Bates is an Edward Jones representative based in Burlleson.

Meet Your Groomer/Stylist ...

Kimberly King

Master Groomer/Stylist



Kimberly is a Certified Master Groomer with 30+ years of experience in the Animal Services Industry, which includes grooming, training, breeding, etc. Raised from humble beginnings in California, she established her first business, 'Kim's Critter Sitters' at age 12. Next came 'Kim's Wash & Walk' when she was 18 years old. Since 2008, this entrepreneur has grown her business to include storefront locations and mobile services on Maui, HI., and now in Mansfield, TX.

Her philosophy of "Every Pet, Every Time!" and her dedication to continued education ensures that her staff & facilities consistently provide professional, convenient,

high quality, fully inclusive services for your furry & feathered family in a safe, fun, friendly environment. Her wellness programs & partnerships with local veterinarians aid awareness of the overall health & welfare of your beloved pets.

Active in both Maui and DFW communities, Kimberly frequently volunteers her time and is dedicated to the well-being of both animals and children. 'Bubbles & Bows' is very excited to become part of the Mansfield community, and Kimberly cannot wait to meet your special pets. She is hoping that 'Bubbles & Bows' will soon become YOUR pet's favorite salon experience!



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Before After



Before After

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Loss of libido can also be caused by physical factors, such as hypothyroidism.

Other factors include the availability of testosterone in the blood in both men and women, and this is where testosterone would help. Testosterone can be compounded into many dosage forms for both men and women.

Medications can reduce libido. The class of medications that will cause the biggest problem with libido are birth control pills.

We offer complete evaluations, including saliva tests and confidential health evaluations that can help determine the underlying cause of libido loss. If lack of libido is due to low testosterone or to hormone imbalance, we can compound a customized formula for you. Call us and we can answer your questions and set up an appointment for you.



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September 8

Friday Night Dance: 7:00-9:30 p.m., Burleson Senior Activity Center, 216 S.W. Johnson Ave. Dance the night away with the country band Faster Horses. \$5 includes food and refreshments. (817) 295-6611.

September 11

Blessing of the Badges: 6:30-7:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 114 Paula Dr., Joshua. All first responders attending in uniform will be blessed and their badges will be prayed over by church pastors and ministry leaders. Contact Dale Wilbanks, pastor@joshuamc.net.

September 14

Crowley Area Chamber of Commerce 3rd Quarterly Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Crowley Recreation Center. \$20 for Members. \$25 for Non-Members. RSVP to Chamber at (817) 297-4211.

Meals-on-Wheels Golf Benefit: 1:30 p.m., Cleburne Golf Links, 2501 Country Club Rd., Cleburne. Help pay for meals for residents in Johnson and Ellis counties who need help. Contact Lisa Deese at (817) 558-2840.

September 16

Woolard's Jewelry Store Customer Appreciation

Day: Noon-4:00 p.m., 437 S.W. Wilshire Blvd. Live bands plus door prizes. (817) 295-6361.

BAM Fest: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Burleson Senior Activity Center, 216 S.W. Johnson Ave. Enjoy fun events you'd find at a full-scale comic convention, including cosplay contests for kids and adults. mmorrison@burlesontx.com.

September 16, 23, 30

Old Town Picture Show: 6:00-10:00 p.m., Corner of Ellison and Wilson Streets, Old Town Burleson. Free outdoor movies beginning at 8:00 p.m. Come early to enjoy one of the local restaurants or food vendors and bring a blanket or chair to get a great seat under the stars. Call (817) 426-9638.

September 19

Genealogy Club meeting: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Burleson Public Library. Free for people interested in learning from each other and from expert researcher Norman Harrell. For more information, call (817) 680-1933.

September 29

Crowley Area Chamber of Commerce 24th Annual Golf Tournament: 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Hidden Creek Golf Course, 555 E. Hidden Creek Pkwy. Register your team and support the CACC. (817) 297-4211.

JACC Golf Tournament: 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Hidden Creek Golf Course, 555 E. Hidden Creek Pkwy. Shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. for teams of four or individuals at \$100 per person. Register at www.joshuachamber.com.

Power of Heels Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 590 McAlister. \$20 for BACC members, when tickets are purchased before **September 27**; \$25 for non-members. (817) 295-6121.

September 30

Masonic Lodge Pancake Breakfast: 7:00-10:00 a.m., 209 N. Magnolia St., Crowley. For more information, contact Jim Hirth, (817) 297-1942.

2017 Crowley Lions Club Casino Party: 6:00 p.m., Crowley Recreation Center, 405 S. Oak St. Silent and live auctions and several jackpot drawings. For more information, call Jerry Bullard at (817) 480-6336 or Doug or Chris Martin at (817) 297-8887.

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



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In the Kitchen With Bill Moyer

— *By Melissa Rawlins*

Bill Moyer is a published author, art teacher, widower, father of five and a gourmet cook. People who watch carbs, and those who don't, enjoy Bill's original palate-pleasers. "Growing up, we ate fresh foods that were healthy, so dessert with lunch and dinner was fine," he said. These days, by necessity, he selects baked potatoes or pasta salads over desserts.

Bill's favorite cooks include Rachael Ray, his mother and his sister. "My mother was a simple German cook, but my sister was a head cook for a restaurant in our home town of Oil City, Pennsylvania," he said. Living in Burleson on and off during the last 30 years, Bill chose to retire to the friendliest place he's ever lived almost two years ago. Now, he likes preparing food for special occasions in his home at Mariposa @ Elk Drive. **NOW**

Crab Triangles

A hot appetizer.

- 1 6-oz. can crab meat, drained**
- 1 stick butter**
- 1 jar Old English cheese**
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder**
- 1/4 tsp. seasoned salt**
- 1 pkg. English muffins**
- Paprika, to taste**

- 1.** Combine the first 5 ingredients, spread on muffins, sprinkle with paprika and cut into quarters.
- 2.** Should you choose to freeze them for later, freeze them uncovered for 20 minutes, and then cover with plastic wrap and put back in the freezer. This keeps the topping from sticking to the plastic wrap. They'll stay good for up to 3 months.

- 3.** Broil, watching carefully, until lightly browned.

Chicken and Spinach Roll-ups

- 4 chicken breasts, boneless and skinless**
- Cooking spray**
- 1 24-oz. can Hunts Pasta Sauce Garlic and Herb**
- Salt and pepper, to taste**
- 1 lb. fresh spinach leaves**
- 16 oz. mozzarella cheese, sliced**
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese**
- 2 Tbsp. red pepper flakes (optional)**

- 1.** Pound out the chicken breasts as if for chicken fried chicken.
- 2.** Spray the bottom of a pan or casserole dish with cooking spray. Cover the bottom of the dish with 1 cup of pasta sauce.

- 3.** Lightly salt and pepper the chicken. Pile fresh spinach leaves and mozzarella slices on each breast, and then roll up. Place in pan or dish with the seam side down.
- 4.** Cover with the remaining pasta sauce; bake, covered, for 35 minutes at 400 F.
- 5.** Uncover and bake for 20 minutes more. Serve with Parmesan cheese and red pepper flakes, if desired.

Fowl Spaghetti

- 2 bone-in chicken breasts or**
- 4 chicken thighs**
- 1 medium onion, chopped**
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped**
- 1 tsp. garlic powder**
- 1 tsp. chili powder**
- 1 tsp. oregano**
- 1 tsp. salt**
- 1 tsp. pepper**
- 1 lb. spaghetti**
- 3 large tomatoes**
- 1 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese**

- 1.** Cook the chicken in lightly salted water. Cool slightly; debone.
- 2.** In a covered skillet, sauté the onion and green bell pepper; add chicken and seasonings. Allow to simmer; meanwhile, boil spaghetti in the water the chicken was cooked in.
- 3.** Cover the chicken mixture with roughly chopped fresh tomatoes; cover and heat until hot.
- 4.** Pour over the drained spaghetti and sprinkle with cheese.

Mexican Baked Beans

- 1/2 onion, chopped**
- 1/2 bell pepper, chopped**
- 2 Tbsp. olive oil**
- 1 lb. ground turkey**
- 2 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce**
- 1 Tbsp. Kitchen Bouquet**
- 1 pkg. taco seasoning**
- 1 53-oz. can pork and beans**
- 1/2 cup brown sugar**
- 1/2 cup ketchup**

- 1.** Sauté onion and bell pepper in a 3-quart pan with oil.
- 2.** Add the ground turkey and brown. Add the Worcestershire sauce and Kitchen Bouquet.
- 3.** Add taco seasoning and pork and beans, after removing most of the surface liquid from the pork and beans can. Add brown sugar and ketchup.
- 4.** Bake at 350 F, uncovered, for 55 to 60 minutes.



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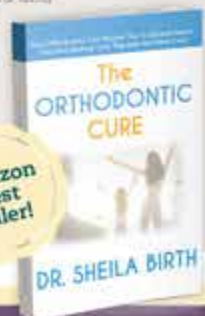


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