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ON THE COVER



Aaron and Jessica Taylor met by chance and have made a life together.

Photo by Opaque Visuals

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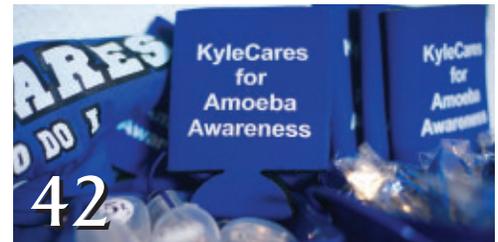


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Editor's Note

Hello, Mansfield!

Every autumn, the leaves begin to turn to brilliant shades of red, orange and yellow, causing country roads to look like an artist's creation, reminding us of the works featured at the 2012 Music and Arts Festival, sponsored by Discover Historic Mansfield. The event, which has been expanded to seven days, runs from October 8-14 and features great music, great local artists and delicious food. It's a wonderful way to get out with friends, meet strangers and enjoy

all that historic downtown Mansfield has to offer.

October is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I'm sure you know someone who has, or perhaps you yourself have battled this disease. Whether displaying a pink ribbon, participating in a 5K or some other way, please support research that will hopefully find a cure for breast cancer soon.

Also, we would like to note the cover photo on our September issue of *MansfieldNOW* was taken by Kyle Powell, which we mistakenly attributed to another of our fine photographers.

Until next time,

Jeremy

Jeremy Agor
MansfieldNOW Editor
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Before he settles into the blocks for collegiate competition track for the first time, he might be among the eight best runners in his events
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GOLDEN

DREAM



— By Jeremy Agor

You wouldn't know it just by looking at him, but A.J. Bailey is one of the fastest people you will ever meet. He is a freshman sprinter at Texas A&M, who is on the brink of competing at the highest levels of track and field, and he relentlessly trains to get even faster, even in the middle of a Texas summer.

“If I can make big drops in time like I did this year, the sky is the limit. I took 1.5 seconds off my 400-meter time last year, and if I can do that this year, I’ll be in good shape,” A.J. said.

He was just 8 years old when he tried running competitively for the first time, encouraged by a cousin who saw how fast he was on the football field. As it turned out, A.J. was “pretty good at it” and stuck with it. “I was getting better and better, until I broke my leg playing football in sixth grade. Rehab took a while, and I went up to the 800 meters. I did that for a couple years and came back to sprinting in my junior year in high school and took off,” he said. “Training for the 800 is much, much harder. A full workout would take me an

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**“The competition
for the world team
was the best time
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hour and a half. My workouts now aren't as tough, even though I've been running really hard.”

Now, A.J. focuses on sprint events: the 100 meters, 200 meters and 400 meters. He is known for his 400, especially since he broke the high school national record (for times posted against high school competition only) with a time of 45.19 seconds in the Region I-5A meet in April. By comparison, the 2012 Olympic champion ran a 43.94. A.J.'s high school success led to attention from college coaches.

“Short sprints are the money-making events,” A.J. explained. “There's more attention than in the 800. Once I got back into the 400, I had a lot more opportunities to run meets and got a lot more attention from colleges. I got my first recruiting letter when I was a



freshman, but when I started sprinting again last year the recruiting took off.” He received over 60 offers from colleges all over the country, including every school in Texas, University of Southern California, Stanford and UCLA, which gave him his first offer from a big school. After much research and input from his coaches, he narrowed his choices down to five: Alabama, Baylor, Florida State, Louisiana State and his eventual choice, Texas A&M. “The process got hectic. Everyone wants a shot at you, but with my times I was able to be selective. I tried to give people a chance and look at their program,” he said. “You have to look at each program, see how their practices fit what you do and see if you can relate to the coach and the team. I give credit to my high school coach, Coach Ross, who gave me good advice through the whole

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process, and also to my coach with the Dallas Gold track club, Coach Hart, who worked with me all summer to prepare me for the next level.”

A.J. looks forward to his time as a collegian, because he feels like he can be among the nation’s best. Before he settles into the blocks for collegiate competition track for the first time, he might be among the eight best runners in his events in the nation. He and his high school rival, who lives in Florida, are already in the top eight in the country, but time will tell. All that he has done so far has prepared him for a college career and, hopefully, success against international competition as well. He has

A.J. IS NOT AFRAID TO DREAM BIG IN HIS TRACK PURSUITS.

competed for the United States world youth and junior teams in Spain and France, and will likely do so again. “The competition for the world team was the best time of my life! I made the team in the 200 meters and 400 meters. I ran the 200 two years ago and finished sixth, then finished third in a dead heat in the 400 last year. It wasn’t my best race, but at least I got on the medal stand,” he said. “Juniors are fun, but when you watch the sprints in the Olympics, there are 80,000 people there cheering.”

In his quest to achieve his ultimate goal, A.J. had a chance to qualify for the 2012 Olympics but finished 14th at the United States Olympic Trials in June, in cold, rainy weather. At the meet, he was able to speak to Olympic gold medalists and world champions, Jeremy Wariner and LaShawn Merritt. “Seeing those guys warming up next to me wasn’t as big a deal as I thought it would be. I wanted to compete. I didn’t want to be starstruck just to meet them. They told me to keep up the good work. Neither of them tried

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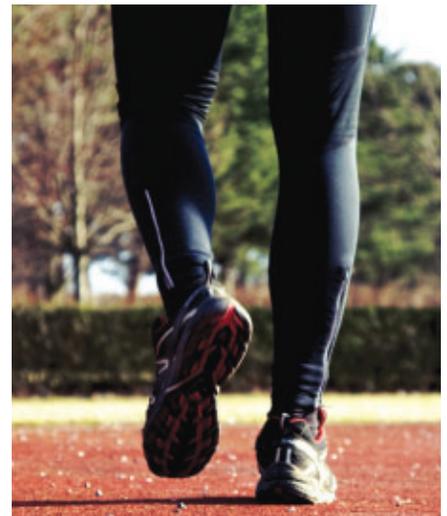
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out for the Olympics at my age. Next year, I should see some improvement because I haven't touched weights yet, and they said it makes a big difference," A.J. said. "I keep moving up, from the youth world team, to juniors — I want to make it! No Americans made the finals of the Olympic 400 meters, but two guys I ran against in Spain did."

A.J. is not afraid to dream big in his track pursuits. Every statement he makes is framed in terms of his future success: a world junior championship, an NCAA championship, and maybe even Olympic glory. "If I can make the medal stand for the world team, big things will happen. It's possible to be an NCAA champion,



too. The only thing standing in the way is dropping time, and having a training partner to push me when I don't feel like running hard will help with that. You don't want to be embarrassed out there on the track, so you have to work hard every time," he said.

Ultimately, A.J. dreams of running professionally. With many opportunities for sponsorship by major shoe companies and plenty of competition, A.J. has his sights set on reaching that level. "There are big meets every year, not just the Olympics. There are also overseas circuits, and it's crazy how much money you can make and how much of the world you can see. If I had made the Olympic team, it's possible I wouldn't be at A&M because a different opportunity might have come out of that," he said. "I'm going to stay motivated and train hard, and hopefully, the chance to turn pro will happen soon." **NOW**

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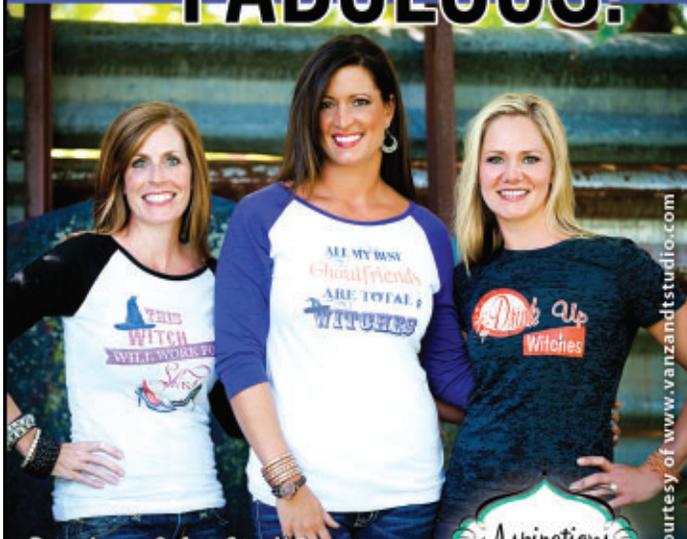


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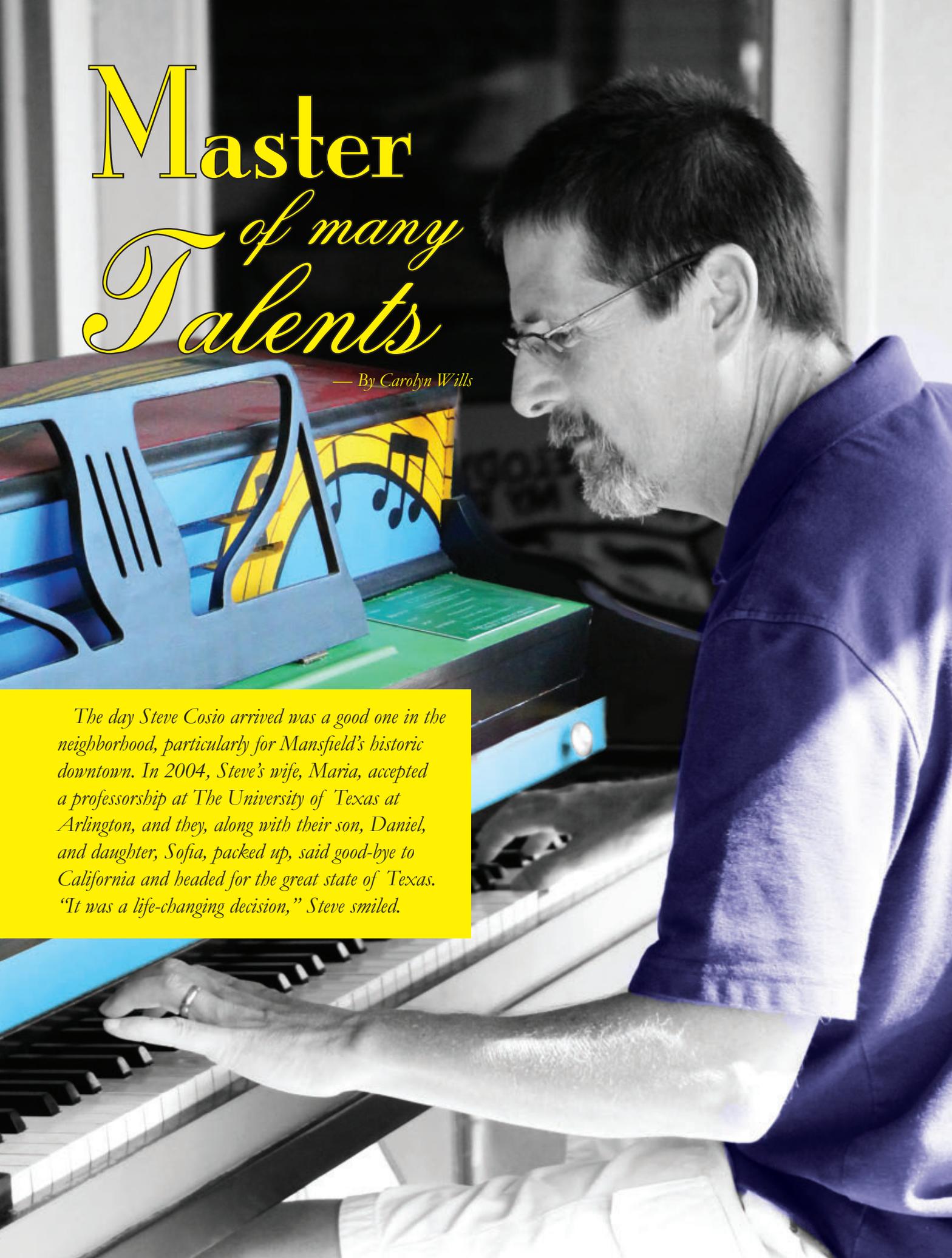
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Master of many Talents

— By Carolyn Wills

The day Steve Cosio arrived was a good one in the neighborhood, particularly for Mansfield's historic downtown. In 2004, Steve's wife, Maria, accepted a professorship at The University of Texas at Arlington, and they, along with their son, Daniel, and daughter, Sofia, packed up, said good-bye to California and headed for the great state of Texas. "It was a life-changing decision," Steve smiled.





Upon their arrival in Texas, they discovered the bustling community of Mansfield with its mix of old, new and family-friendly attitude, and knew it was the place to be. Preferring an older, established neighborhood, they bought a home within five minutes of the historic downtown area.

That was eight years ago. Today, Maria remains on staff at The University of Texas at Arlington, Daniel is 15, Sofia is 11, and Steve does many things. The curious thing about Steve is his amazing mastery of multiple talents. Devoted husband and father, he is also a self-taught, actively performing musician, an entrepreneur serving national clientele and a 30-year veteran talk-show radio program director, producer and host. He is a marketer with abilities to negotiate radio buys in markets across the country. He is also a tireless worker and natural leader with the uncanny gift of balancing creativity, detail and organization.

When Steve is not buying broadcast time for clients, he is often seen performing with friend and fellow musician, Scott Welmaker. The popular duo, known as Scott and Steve, regularly appears at Mansfield's Steven's Garden and Grill. "I sing and play guitar and flute," Steve said. "Scott and I perform an acoustic variety of rock, country, folk and blues, all bundled under Americana. Sometimes, we're serious, but mostly we have a lot of fun."

About four years ago, Steve's love of music, proximity and interest in historic Mansfield, and depth of experience led him to a group known as Discover Historic Mansfield, Inc. (DHM). Today,



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he is the organization's president. "DHM was formed by local business owners and community leaders," he explained. "We celebrate the present and promote the future of historic Mansfield."

Nearly six years ago, DHM launched the Historic Mansfield Music and Arts



Festival. In its second year, the festival jumped from a one-day format to two days. "We also added headline talent," Steve said. "We started with Delbert McClinton in 2009, and when that worked, we hired Jimmy Vaughan in



2010, Joe Ely in 2011 and The Band of Heathens is slated to perform this year.”

The risk paid off and, as the sixth season approached, it was time for another leap. “This year, we’re merging three events,” Steve said. “The festival has been expanded to seven days beginning October 8, and is really three festivals in one.” Local entertainers or bands will perform at different locations each of the

“We celebrate the present and promote the future of historic Mansfield.”

first four nights. “The idea is to present one distinct music genre like jazz, blues or country in an intimate setting of maybe 30 to 50 people,” he explained.

Then, as the weekend approaches, a second, bigger festival will come to life on historic Main Street. “In August 2011, the Chamber of Commerce debuted Wurst Fest, and it was hugely successful,” Steve said. “Since its German theme is ideal for October, DHM has now adopted Wurst Fest.” Then Wurst



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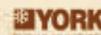
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Fest will make way for the substantially larger Historic Mansfield Music and Arts Festival. "Main Street will literally transform into a city of tents, housing artists' works and great food," he said.

"Performances will ping-pong between two stages, so the music will be nonstop," Steve said. "We're blessed to have board members so musically inclined and knowledgeable about Texas music that variety and quality are also nonstop."

This year's festival will include a Bubble Run for the kid's area and a Segway obstacle track for a "stand-up" ride on a personal transport. "A 1K/5K fun run and chili cook-off are planned as is the World's Smallest Car Show for Sunday," Steve added. "We've invited the MINI Cooper club back, plus other groups of diminutive cars."

Surrounding the festival, Steve will encounter organizational challenges that, for many, would seem insurmountable. "Everyone on our board is a volunteer, and for the most part, the festival is organized by these nine board members," he smiled. "At first, I had no experience with large-scale festivals but quickly learned the value of hiring professionals. Still, I wear lots of hats and come festival day, I'm the emcee who will issue heartfelt thanks to Ann Smith, Felix Wong, Jan Hurlbut, John Humphreys, Terry Radzwion, Stacy Williams, Scott Welmaker and Daryle Perez for the amazing amount of work they've put in. Before joining DHM, I didn't know any of these people," Steve smiled. "Now, I know them all as good friends."

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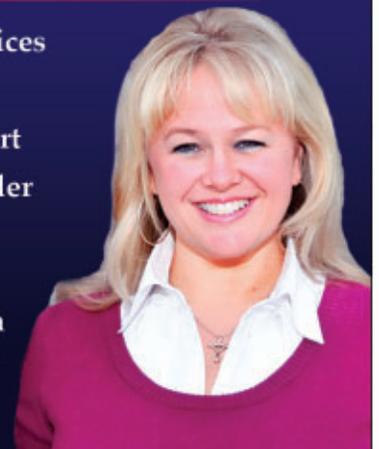
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The annual festival isn't the only DHM project. "We're always looking for ways to bring people into the historic district," Steve said. The inspiration for a recent project is especially interesting. "I was in New York, and Felix Wong was vacationing in Colorado," Steve said. "We returned with the same idea of displaying interactive art." They named the project "Mansfield 88" and selected pianos as the medium. "Turning pianos into public displays of interactive art isn't a new idea," Steve admitted. "Ours, though, is the first piano in Texas to be placed by a Texas organization."

Supported by a grant from the city of Mansfield, a beautifully painted piano now stands on Main Street in a small alcove near the Chamber of Commerce and is available for anyone to play. "The artist is Rick Sales," Steve said. "We're very proud of the first piano. Piano No. 2 was unveiled in late August at Steven's Garden and Grill. Pianos No. 3 and No. 4 are already in the hands of artists. Ideally, we'd like to unveil one each month." Another recent accomplishment by DHM resulted in replacing all of the incandescent lights on Main Street with energy-efficient LED bulbs, allowing the lights to stay on year-round.

Steve and Maria, who have been married for 25 years, enjoy family time and road trips. "I like to see how other communities, especially those in Texas, are promoting their histories," Steve said. Clearly, the day was good when Steve Cosio rolled into town loaded with humor, easygoing charm and a habit of getting things done. **NOW**

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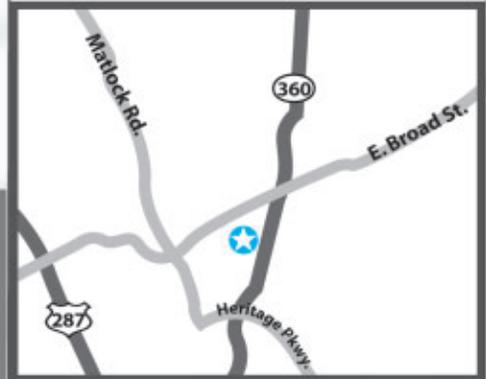


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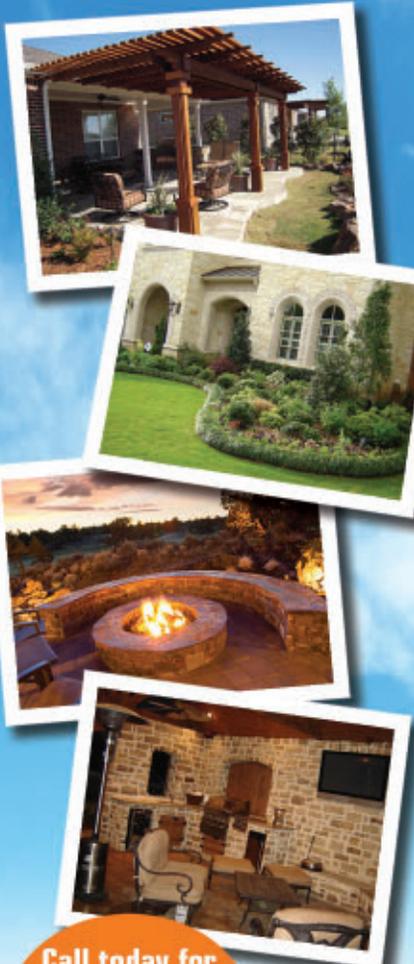


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Lives' Happy

Sometimes a chance meeting endures, and life's surprises prove to be wonderful. When they first met, Aaron Taylor was living in Arlington. Jessica had arrived in Texas four years earlier. She had grown up in Shreveport, Louisiana, married a soldier, and moved to Turkey before transferring to Texas. Her first marriage had given her four children, and when the marriage ended, her priorities continued to be her children. From this perspective and a chance meeting at a country dance, she and Aaron fell in love, ultimately married and began their lives as a family.

"We have four boys and one girl, and they're all blessings," Jessica smiled. "Julian is 12, Nicholas is 9, Ashton is 8, Gracie is 6 and Hayden is now 1. We also have Sadie, my 3-year-old

Morkie (Maltese/Yorkshire Terrier mix), who considers herself the sixth child."

The Taylors moved into Aaron's house at first, but within a year, it was clear they needed a family home. "We really liked Mansfield. The schools are excellent, and the location is perfect," Aaron said. "I work in Fort Worth, and the drive isn't difficult." In another of life's surprises, Aaron's plans to become a teacher changed when he discovered barbering and enrolled at Mid-Cities Barber College in Grand Prairie. "I work at West Seventh Street Barber Shop in Fort Worth," he explained. "It's a 45-year-old barber shop with great clientele and lots of interesting people. I'm proud to put on my barber's jacket, and I love my work."

Jessica, also, has another job. "I've started a business called Haute Nails and I specialize in designing and selling nail strips and polish and, also, hosting parties," she said. "I facilitate events such as little girl's birthdays and bachelorette parties. With a Web site and Facebook page, I can work from home and it's a lot of fun to host parties."

When she and Aaron agreed to start their house-hunt, Jessica



Surprises

— By Carolyn Wills

was ready. “I used to live about a mile from a neighborhood in Mansfield we have always loved,” she said. “Every week we would drop Julian off for his youth group in the area.” Construction on the housing development began in 2006, so when Jessica learned one of the first homes to be built was posted for sale, she quickly called Aaron.

“When she described the house, I thought it might be too small,” Aaron said. “My first reaction was ‘I don’t know, Jess’ but when I got there, it was, ‘Oh yes.’”

“We’ve lived here almost two years, and I don’t think we’ve changed anything,” Jessica smiled. “We love the traditional rooms, high ceilings, crown moldings, leaded-glass insets above the doors, the special alcoves and all of the window boxes with seating and storage. The window treatments were already here, and they are beautiful. I didn’t want a huge home to clean, and this one is the right size.”

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area, living room, game room, office, safe room, laundry and the all-important mudroom with a large built-in hall tree. The upstairs features a game and media room with TV, computer, a closet filled with games and a queen-size couch that converts into a guest bed. Nicholas and Ashton, who according to their

mother are like two peas in a pod, share an upstairs bedroom. "A room that has yet to be finished could become a fifth bedroom," Jessica said. "For now, though, there's no rush."

The master suite is downstairs along with Julian's and Gracie's rooms. "Julian is the oldest, and he loves sports and

"We moved in, and I immediately appreciated it," Aaron said. "The house is 2,900-square-feet of useable space. It's well-insulated and amazingly efficient. Its design actually allows a big family to live in an environment that stays calm and relatively quiet."

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The University of Texas, so it's easy to identify his room by the orange and white accents and sports theme," Aaron said. It's equally as easy to spot Gracie's room as the pink one decorated with horses and art. Designed to be private and restful, the master suite features custom wallpaper, a breath-taking coffered ceiling, magnificent walk-in closet with a stained-glass window and a huge master bath tiled with travertine.

Many of the Taylors' furnishings are solid wood and handmade in Turkey. "I loved being in Turkey and would like to go back," Jessica said. "When the kids are grown, I hope we can travel."

Jessica's favorite room is the kitchen, which is as efficient as it is extraordinary. Dark hand-scraped wood floors, shiny granite countertops and lovely wood cabinetry embellished with intricate carvings create a feeling of richness and warmth, while top-of-the-line appliances and a well-planned layout, including two ovens fashion a cook's dream kitchen. "We have a formal dining room, but we prefer to eat in the area next to the kitchen," Jessica explained. "We're thinking of using the formal dining room as a playroom for Hayden or possibly an office."

"We spend most of the time in the



kitchen, living room or on the back patio,” Aaron added. “We have dinner as a family every night.” The dining area is painted the color of soft mocha, and a quote scripted on the wall appropriately reads: “The fondest memories are made when gathered around the dinner table.”

The back patio is also a special place for family events, whether an evening of making s’mores on the patio fireplace or enjoying a meal cooked on the red metal Traeger Grill shaped like a big hog. “The smoke comes out of his nose,” Aaron grinned. “It’s actually an indirect grill that uses wood pellets.”

While the Taylors’ to-do list includes adding backyard landscaping and, specifically, a garden at some point, they are excited to have nine trees on their property. “Our lives revolve around the kids,” Aaron said. “In addition to the backyard, there’s a neighborhood playground and a pond, where everyone enjoys fishing and riding four wheelers. The schools are really close, and the new high school opened this fall.”

When the Taylors moved into their Mansfield home, they found another of life’s happy surprises. “If a place can make you want to be a kid in your own home,” Aaron smiled, “this is it.” **NOW**

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A Social Experiment

— By Jeremy Agor

Shane Whisler and his wife, Pat Felter, are in the midst of a social experiment while working to create a small Presbyterian church on the east side of Mansfield. While most new churches are built with an eye on worship first, their church is being built on the back of hands-on mission outreach in the





form of a small farmhouse near the city limits called East Broad Outreach Center.

“We were looking at starting a mission church, as a clergy couple in an urban setting, for a couple years. We thought we would address city issues and assumed Mansfield was too suburban. We found the issues exist, but they’re not as obvious. We’ve learned that no matter if a home looks nice or if it’s run down, the people inside could be struggling,” Pat explained.

Shane added, “What gave church leaders the idea to



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switch from the more traditional church approach to a service-first approach was the Girl Scouts. One troop called this farmhouse home and continued to meet even when there was no church activity. So, the church's steering committee reset the plans because they wanted us to be a service to the community, and the Girl Scouts showed them that the Outreach Center was already doing just that, and it could grow. The first time they asked us to be involved we said, 'No.' But then we did some research into the demographics in Mansfield and were pleasantly surprised by the mix of cultures. They asked us again and that time we said, 'Yes.'"

Shane and Pat worked with the steering committee to determine peoples' needs in Mansfield. After quite a bit of research, they started three outreach programs: A community garden, a food pantry and a back-to-work clothes closet.

Since the Outreach Center is built on six acres of former farmland, there is plenty of room for gardens. Shane and Pat grow their organic garden to supplement the food pantry, and families can rent their own plot for a suggested donation of \$34 per year, which pays for materials to construct the frame of the raised bed. The gardens are watered for free from a well on the property, so there is no further cost to those who rent a plot. Gardeners contribute some of their crops to the food pantry. The Mansfield Chamber of Commerce has considered promoting community gardens as part of its Vision 2020 plan, as well.

"We would love to have classes to teach people how to garden and supplement their economy — maybe



partner with the neighborhood schools to allow them to do science projects and learn gardening skills,” Pat said. “We would also love to have a garden with Vietnamese vegetables and maybe some African ones. Vietnamese is the third most-common family language in Mansfield, so it might provide those families with a more local way to get vegetables from their culture. The same is true of African families in the community.”

First Methodist Church’s Wesley

“When we get low, we put a sandwich board outside, and many of our neighbors bring us food.”

Mission Center is a major presence in Mansfield in terms of distributing food to those who need it, but there had been no food pantry on the far-east side of the city, so East Broad Outreach Center fills that need. In fact, the Wesley Mission Center and the Common Ground Network in the city refer people to the Outreach Center.

“We’re small, but we had a great food

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drive earlier this year. Dalton Elementary School donated 300 cans of food, and Danny Jones Middle School (which is across the street) gave us 1,700. We also got food from the letter carriers drive through Common Ground," Shane said. "When we get low, we put a sandwich board outside, and many of our neighbors bring us food. One time we were in our Sunday worship service at 7 Spices restaurant, and a woman stopped by the service to tell us that she'd left some eggs and other food at the Center and wanted to let us know so we could get it in the refrigerator. It was a wonderful example of the kindness of strangers!"

The clothing closet is geared toward people who need clothing for work. It looks like a retail store with five commercial racks full of clothing. Clients can take up to three outfits, free of charge, if they can find something that fits them. The clothes are business-casual, or better, and are intended to help anyone, man or woman, who has changed sizes or is out of a job and does not have appropriate clothing for a job interview.

Shane and Pat rely on volunteers to keep the East Broad Outreach Center functioning. There are plenty of jobs to do: weeding the gardens, sorting clothing, helping to distribute food and clearing brush on the large property. Some of their volunteers are members of the small congregation, as well as others who are not involved in organized religion. They have welcomed volunteers who needed community service hours, and a retired NFL player who had returned to college volunteered to earn credits. Another family brought their children by because they liked what Shane and Pat were doing

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and wanted their children to learn the value of volunteering.

The couple is confident their mission-first approach could be an example for other churches in the future, even if some people don't understand it. They say people with a mission mindset love the idea and tell us, "That's what the church should be!" while others are more concerned with them being self-sustaining and wonder how their church can work.

Shane and Pat see their experiment working. It is developing and becoming a vital part of the community. They are confident that if they are doing the right thing, it will work. They recently met the Spanish-speaking congregation in the neighborhood and shared food and conversation. Soon after, the pastor's wife approached them to ask if they had clothing for a young man whose family in Mexico had been murdered while he visited Mansfield. They were able to help, and connections were made.

"Mansfield is a connectional community, and we've made connections," Shane said. One of our core values is peacemaking between cultures, religions and languages. Everything we do, from growing sustainable food to helping others find a job, is based on that belief. We're focusing more on our congregation now, but not at the expense of service. Serving others always comes first." **NOW**



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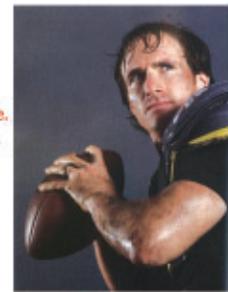
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Kyle's Story

— By Carolyn Wills

Jeremy Lewis graduated from Mansfield High School in 1995. "I was a Tiger in the Willie Pigg Auditorium," he smiled. "At the time, Mansfield was a small town with only one high school."

After graduating, he moved to Austin and ultimately married a young woman from San Marcos. "Ours was a chance meeting," he grinned. "Julie lived in San Marcos, and I was in Austin, and it happened that we were in San Antonio at the same time and same place." They dated for about two years, married in 1998



and, by 2003, were the parents of a daughter and son. "We didn't decide to move to Mansfield until 2006. Julie and I had been married for about eight years and wanted to do better for our family. My best friend still lived in Mansfield, so we knew we would have extended family, and Mansfield is a great community with good schools." They found a beautiful home. Jeremy continued his career in sales, and the family prospered.

In 2010, toward the end of August, Jeremy, Julie, 10-year-old Peyton and 7-year-old Kyle returned home from a week of swimming at the lake. The school year started Monday, and life was good at the Lewis house. By Thursday though, Kyle began to feel sick and, inconceivably, within the space of four days, everything for this young family was forever changed.

"Our son passed away on August 29, 2010," Julie said "from Primary Amoebic Meningoencephalitis (PAM)." He had become infected by a water-born amoeba called *Naegleria Fowleri*. "Until the moment of his illness, Kyle was a healthy, fun-loving, boy," she continued. "He was #5, pitcher and second baseman for the Mansfield Youth Baseball Association (MYBA) team called the Rangers and had completed three days of second grade."

"The shock and grief was overwhelming," Jeremy said. "We felt like our son had been stolen."

Two days later, Jeremy received a call from the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* after an anonymous caller had alerted them. "They had my cell phone number, so the caller was someone we knew," he said. "To this day, though, we don't know who it was."

They were still in shock, but agreed to a telephone interview. "This amoeba becomes life-threatening when fresh water temperatures reach 80 degrees or above. Labor Day weekend was just two days away, and we





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WITHIN TWO DAYS KYLE'S STORY HAD GONE NATIONAL

thought it was important for people to hear about this," Julie said.

"News channels also began to call and the Associated Press distributed the article," Jeremy added. "Within two days, Kyle's story had gone national."

Realizing the power of the story and the possibility of preventing another family from experiencing the same tragedy, Jeremy and Julie grasped the mission that had been given to them. They established the Kyle Lewis Amoeba Awareness Foundation — KyleCares, — a 501(c)(3) organization. "We want people to have the information we didn't have," Jeremy said.

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The energy he and Julie devote to KyleCares is nothing short of miraculous. Beyond their full-time jobs, they have built an extensive, growing information network and launched major events. "This is all new to us," Jeremy said. "It's a living, changing thing, and it's weird how it has worked out. I don't mind speaking in public or being interviewed. Julie doesn't like it, but is amazingly creative. She designs and administers everything, including the Web site, Facebook pages, merchandise and events."

"We raise funds to spread awareness," Julie explained. Last month, with the help of friends and businesses in Mansfield, she organized the Third Annual KyleCares Classic Amoeba Awareness Golf Tournament. "This year, we added a Golf Ball BBQ on Friday night, including a barbecue dinner; entertainment by country artist, Sonny Burgess; and a silent auction." As the event neared, items donated for Friday's silent auction and Saturday's raffle were lined up wall-to-wall in the Lewises' home. "Our house is KyleCares headquarters," she smiled. "We have a dedicated office but, before an event, it isn't unusual to have a house full of volunteers."

With the Golf Tournament over, Julie's attention shifted to the second annual MYBA Memorial KyleCares Baseball Tournament, which will take place in March. "Kyle loved baseball. It was something he and Jeremy shared," she said. "We're thankful to the Mansfield Youth Baseball Association and, especially, to MYBA president, Kevin Lewis, for creating this amazing tournament. Last year, 93 teams signed up, and Kevin expects that number to



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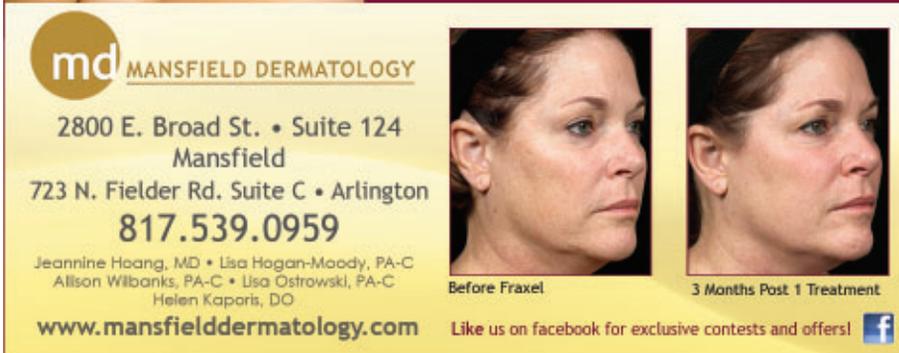
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"Everything we do is to educate and inform," Jeremy said. "The chance of becoming infected by *Naegleria Fowleri* is currently categorized as being extremely rare. We know too well that losing a child or any loved one to this parasite is one too many."

Julie has created a private Facebook page for people who are suffering the same loss. "This is the closest we've come to a support group," she said. "Some families ultimately want to share their stories on the KyleCares Web site, but others can only bear to speak privately."

"Recently, we were contacted by the producers of a show called 'Monsters Inside of Me,'" Jeremy said. "The program airs on 'Animal Planet,' and they wanted to tell Kyle's story. They filmed with us for three days." The episode has shown in the United Kingdom and Brazil and is expected to air in the United States in December. "We think this program will be an important catalyst."

"She's so strong, and we're very proud of her,"

The brightest spot in Jeremy and Julie's days continues to be their daughter, Peyton. "She's so strong, and we're very proud of her," Julie said. "She's in the seventh grade now, loves playing softball

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and is a talented artist. She enjoys taking photos, especially anything to do with nature, and is thinking about becoming a professional photographer."

"Peyton goes everywhere with us," Jeremy added. "Well, except for her dad's speaking engagements, which, admittedly, are too painful and boring for a 12-year-old." Thankfully, the extended family he and Julie had hoped for when they moved to Mansfield materialized, and Peyton is surrounded by friends and family. "My best friend since seventh grade is Devin Parsons," Jeremy said. "Devin comes from a large Mansfield family, and he and his wife, Candice, have three daughters. His family continues to be there for us."

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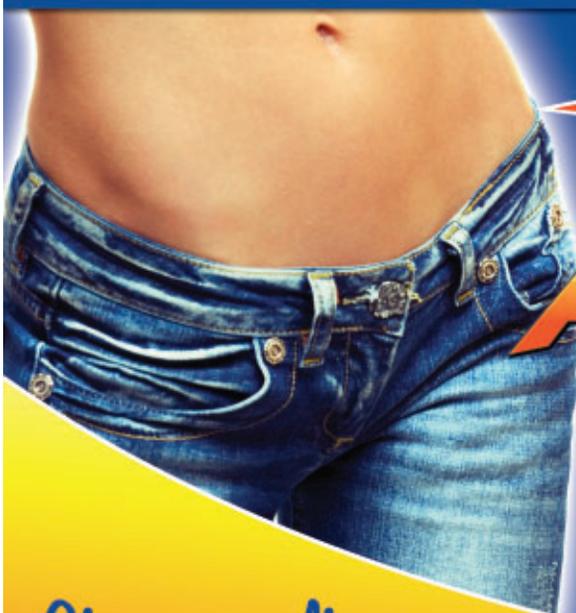
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Jeremy and Julie. "A loss like this can literally tear a family apart," Jeremy said. "Julie and I love each other and know we couldn't have survived this alone." Not being alone is perhaps their greatest comfort. "Faith is our strength," Jeremy said. "We're doing everything we can to ensure we'll see Kyle again and, by the grace of God, we will." **NOW**

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www.djnailsdayspa.com

Hours:

Monday-Saturday: 9:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.



Tina Tran welcomes new and returning customers to DJ Nails Day Spa with manicure/pedicure stations, a hair salon and more.



People Pleasers

DJ Nails Day Spa focuses on the customer.

— By *Jeremy Agor*

When Tina Tran moved to Mansfield, she was working a desk job for Nokia. She soon realized that her job was keeping her from doing what she really wanted to do: spend time with her children. That desire eventually led Tina and her husband to open DJ Nails Day Spa.

“I’m a people person. I love people. I’m a woman, and I know how I like to feel with my life and my family. When I was at Nokia, I found that I couldn’t have that balance. I wanted to have time to take my kids to school, and I wanted to see my family more than just on Saturdays,” Tina said.

She and her husband owned a women’s clothing store in Germany for 10 years before they moved to the United States. While she was working for Nokia, Tina went to beauty school

and obtained a license for skin care and manicure, which she soon put to use in her new business. The business Tina bought from the previous owner had been just a small nail salon. About four years later, she hired more employees, and a few years after that, she expanded the store and added space adding a wider variety of services, such as cutting hair, skin care, massage and tanning. She has now been in business for 11 years, and DJ Nails is spacious and comfortable.

Tina’s spa stands out because of its manicure/pedicure services and solar nails, which are services it has offered the longest. She built a private room for manicures and pedicures with a separate air conditioning unit to minimize the chemical odors, so her customers feel more relaxed. She also offers

microdermabrasion, regular and deluxe facials and chemical peels to make customers' skin more radiant. And she has added talented hair stylists as well.

"I wanted to have someplace where a woman can stop in for anything they need. Of course, men are welcome to come in for a haircut too," Tina said. "We have a lot of regular customers. Some come in every two to three weeks. Walk-ins are always welcome, but we have more regular customers. They tell me they like to come here because my nail techs and hairstylists do a good job and provide good service. I love my employees. They're very sweet, and they do all they can to help me out and treat our customers well. Our customers are very important to them too."

"I'm a people person. I love people. I'm a woman, and I know how I like to feel with my life and my family."

Because of the success of DJ Nails Day Spa, Tina has achieved her goal of creating a balanced family and work life. She attributes time spent with her children to their success in school and also relishes the relationships she has built with her customers.

"Because of our business, I have been able to spend time with my children. My daughter earned a scholarship to Brown University, and my son is involved in many activities at school. I didn't have the chance to go to college, and my children will. I want to thank the school board, principal, teachers and counselors at Mansfield High School for helping them, and I especially want to thank my customers for supporting my business for 11 years," said Tina. **NOW**

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Mel and Chuck Swain, owners of CrossFit Fervor, take part in the Mansfield Chamber of Commerce's ceremonial ribbon cutting welcoming them to the community.



Members of the Day and Counter families enjoy a McDonald's picnic at the park.



The Sims Family have a blast sharing a ride on the tire swing at Rose Park.



Navy SEAL Chris Kyle is introduced by Constable Clint Burgess at his 7th Annual Golf Classic.



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Many from the community attend the ribbon cutting for Passini's Hair Salon.

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Thank you for taking time to read this letter and please feel free to submit any comments and suggestions directly to myself or one of the staff at Waxahachie Autoplex.



Sincerely,

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General Manager
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Diversify Your Investment Risk

All investments carry risk. But, as an investor, one of the biggest risks you face is that of not achieving your long-term goals, such as enjoying a comfortable retirement and remaining financially independent throughout your life. To help reach your objectives, you need to own a variety of investment vehicles — and each carries its own type of risk.

If you spread your investment dollars among vehicles that carry different types of risk, you may increase your chances of owning some investments that do well, even if, at the same time, you own others that aren't. As a result, you may be able to reduce the overall level of volatility in your portfolio. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification can't guarantee a profit or protect against all losses.)

To diversify your risk factors, you first need to recognize them. Here are some of the most common types of investment risk:

- **Market risk** — This is the type of risk that everyone thinks about — the risk that you could lose principal if the value of your investment drops and does not recover before you sell it. All investments are subject to market risk. You can help lessen this risk by owning a wide variety of investments from different industries and even different countries.

- **Inflation (purchasing power) risk** — If you own a fixed-rate investment, such as a Certificate of Deposit (CD), that pays an interest rate below the current rate of inflation, you are incurring purchasing power risk. Fixed-income investments can help provide reliable income streams, but you also need to consider investments with growth potential to help work toward your long-term goals.

- **Interest-rate risk** — Bonds and other fixed-income investments are subject to

interest-rate risk. If you own a bond that pays four-percent interest, and newly issued bonds pay five percent, it would be difficult to sell your bond for full price. So if you wanted to sell it prior to maturity, you might have to offer it at a discount to the original price. However, if you hold your bonds to maturity, you can expect to receive return of your principal provided the bond does not default.

- **Default risk** — Bonds, along with some more complex investments, such as options, are subject to default risk. If a company issues a bond that you've bought and that company runs into severe financial difficulties, or even goes bankrupt, it may default on its bonds, leaving you holding the bag. You can help protect against this risk by sticking with "investment-grade" bonds — those that receive high ratings from independent rating agencies such as Standard & Poor's or Moody's.

- **Liquidity risk** — Some investments, like real estate, are harder to sell than others. Thus, real estate is considered more "illiquid" than many common investments.

Make sure you understand what type of risk is associated with every investment you own. And try to avoid overloading your portfolio with too many investments with the same type of risks. Doing so will not result in a totally smooth journey through the investment world, but it may help eliminate some of the bumps along the way. **NOW**

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Todd Simmons is an Edward Jones representative based in Mansfield.

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When Hearing Hurts

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

Babies cannot speak our language yet, but their actions speak volumes. Grabbing or tugging at the ear with accompanying symptoms of general fussiness and a fever may indicate an ear infection. Ear infections are common in children. According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, three out of four children will have an ear infection during their first three years of life. It is the most common reason mothers take their children to the doctor.

Most ear infections (*acute otitis media*) will heal on their own without medical intervention, but some will require antibiotics. Frequent infections in the ear can interfere with hearing. Persistent fluid in the ear (*otitis media with effusion*) can also cause hearing loss. Not being able to hear correctly can cause speech problems. The ear needs a way to drain the persistent and excess fluid and also to allow ventilation of the middle ear. If medication does not solve the problem, tiny, cylindrical ear tubes surgically inserted through the ear drum can accomplish this process.

Ear tubes become necessary when the Eustachian tube loses the ability to drain properly. The Eustachian tube is nature's natural drainage canal that connects the middle ear to the nasal passageway. When it is blocked or swollen from an ear infection, whatever fluid or mucus has accumulated in the middle ear has no way to escape.

Fluid in the ear interferes with hearing because the eardrum cannot function as it was designed. The buildup of pressure in the ear causes pain. Once ear tubes are inserted, the middle ear can drain and be ventilated once again.

Hundreds of thousands of ear tube surgeries are done every year with the goal of decreasing ear infections, restoring or improving hearing and decreasing painful pressure in the middle ear. It is rated as the second most common surgery for children. Since the insertion of ear tubes is a surgical procedure, the decision to do so is not made lightly. Your practitioner will examine your child to determine the need for tubes and the child's general health. They will look at the frequency of ear infections and the length of time fluid remains in the middle ear among other conditions.

Insertion of ear tubes is day surgery, and the actual procedure takes minutes. Children usually recover quickly from the anesthesia and are able to leave the hospital within a few hours, able to look forward to less pain, fewer complications with ear infections and better hearing. **NOW**

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

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Fall Smartscape Classes: 7:00-9:00 p.m., Mansfield Activities Center. **Oct. 4:** Native Trees, **Oct. 11:** Rain Barrel Building, **Oct. 18:** Drip Irrigation, **Oct. 25:** Container Gardening. All classes are open to any resident of Mansfield. A MAC card or day pass is required to register for each class. There will be door prizes to go along with the great information.

October 6

Seventh Annual Creekside Cleanup and Cookout: 9:00 a.m.-noon, James McKnight Park East, 757 US Hwy. 287 North. Volunteers are invited to help clean up the park and Walnut Creek Linear Trail. There will be a hot dog cookout after the cleanup for all volunteers.

October 7

MBC Fest: 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Mansfield Bible Church, 2351 Country Club Dr. After the worship service, enjoy a barbeque sandwich and join the activities. Free of charge. For more information, visit www.MBCchurch.com.

October 8 through 14

Mansfield Music & Arts Festival: historic downtown Mansfield. **Oct. 8-11:** Music only.

One solo or duo will perform in a different intimate venue each night, after-hours networking and concert. **Oct. 12:** Wurst Fest on Main Street will include sausage and brats, sauerkraut, polkas, Biergarten and more. **Oct. 13:** Music and arts and a whole lot more. **Oct. 14:** Music and arts and a whole lot more. For a detailed schedule with times and more information, please visit our Web site at <http://www.historicmansfield.net>.

October 12

Senior Health & Wellness Expo: 9:00-11:00 a.m., Mansfield Activities Center, 106 S. Wisteria St. Open to the public. Call (817) 453-5420 for more information.

October 13

Fall Carnival: 3:00-7:00 p.m., Roberta Tipps Elementary School, 3001 N. Walnut Creek Dr. Games, prizes, food, silent auction and more. Visit <http://tippspta.txpta.org> for more information.

October 20

Night at the Movies: 6:00 p.m., Town Park, 500 N. Main St. Free of charge. Call (817) 453-5420 for more information.

October 23

Mansfield ISD School Board meeting: 7:00 p.m., 605 E. Broad St. See agendas at <http://mansfieldpublic.novusagenda.com>. Call Julie Moye at (817) 299-6382 for more information.

October 27

Fall Festival: 5:00-9:00 p.m., Vernon Newsom Stadium, 3700 E. Broad St. Bounce houses, games, hay ride and lots of candy. Contact Officer Brandi Howard at (817) 276-4757 or brandi.howard@mansfield-tx.org for more information.

October 31

Trunk or Treats: 6:00-8:00 p.m., Mansfield Bible Church, 2531 Country Club Dr. Free of charge. Visit www.MBCchurch.com for more information.

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

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In The Kitchen With Nouma Thaickal

— By Jeremy Agor

Nouma Thaickal grew up in New York City and was exposed to many different kinds of foods. Her upbringing led her to a love of cooking and experimenting with flavors to create something new.

“I consider New York to be the food capital of the world. It is truly a place where all cultures intersect and sometimes even collide. I’ve feasted on authentic, original meals cooked by the natives in that cuisine,” she said.

Nouma credits a “gift” for her success in the kitchen: “I can read a recipe and know how it will taste before trying it. I can combine parts of different recipes to create my own. I can also dissect the flavors of dishes I eat to replicate them and even make them healthier.” **NOW**

Samosas

Dough:

1/2 cup all-purpose or whole wheat flour
1 1/2 tsp. oil
1 tsp. salt
1/4 cup lukewarm water

Filling:

2 Tbsp. oil
1/2 tsp. cumin seeds
1 tsp. coriander powder
1/2 cup green peas (frozen)
3 large boiled potatoes, peeled and chopped into small cubes

1/4 tsp. garam masala
1 Tbsp. salt

1. For dough: Mix the flour, oil and salt together to make soft dough; add water as needed.
2. Knead dough for 1 to 2 minutes, until smooth and pliable; cover dough with damp cloth. Let rest for at least 15 minutes.
3. For filling: Heat oil in a frying pan on medium high heat; add cumin seeds and coriander powder; stir. Add green peas, turn heat to medium and stir until tender. Add potatoes; fry for 4 minutes. Stir in garam masala; add salt if needed. Cool to room temperature.

4. To make samosas: Knead dough for one minute; divide into 4 equal balls. Roll each ball into 6-inch diameter circles and cut each circle in half. Moisten along the edge of one semicircle and fold it into a cone shape. Pinch the side of the cone so that it is completely sealed.

5. Fill the cone with 3 Tbsp. of filling. Press the filling down with your fingers, then close the top into a triangle shape, pinching the edge so it is completely sealed.

6. Heat about 1 1/2 inches of oil in a frying pan on medium heat. Place samosas in the frying pan, a few at a time. After samosas are floating on top, turn them slowly. Fry until golden-brown. Drain.

Naan

1 tsp. active dry yeast
3/4 cup lukewarm water
1 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. salt
Pinch of baking soda
2 cups all-purpose flour
2 Tbsp. oil
2 1/2 Tbsp. yogurt
1/4 cup all-purpose flour for rolling
1 tsp. butter

1. Dissolve yeast in lukewarm water. Let sit for 10 minutes or until frothy.

2. Add sugar, salt and baking soda to the flour; mix well. Add oil and yogurt and mix to create crumbly dough. Add water/yeast mixture to make soft dough.

3. Knead until smooth. Cover and keep in a warm place for 3 to 4 hours. Dough should almost double in volume.

4. Preheat pizza stone in oven at 500 F for at least 30 minutes, so stone is tempered; turn oven to high broil.

5. Knead dough for 2 to 3 minutes; divide into six equal parts. Roll each piece of dough into 8-inch oval shape. Dust lightly with dry flour to help with rolling.

6. Before putting naan in oven, lightly wet your hands; take the rolled naan, and flip it between your palms; place onto pizza stone in the oven. Cook 2 to 3 minutes, until golden brown, then remove from oven and brush lightly with butter.

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

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