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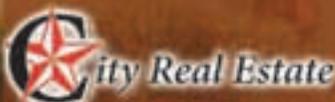


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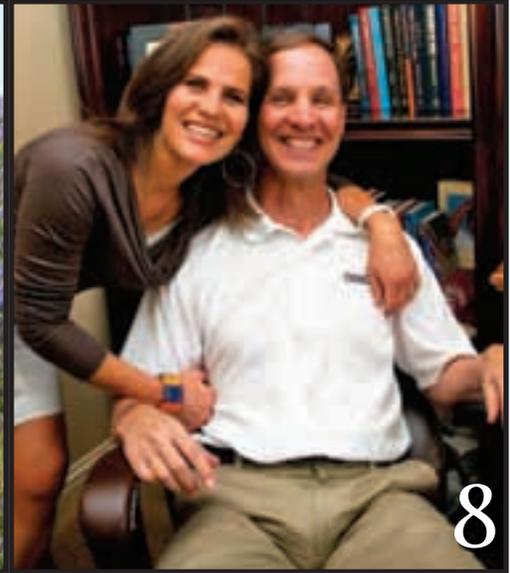


Finally reunited!

Photo by Amy Ramirez

Contents

June 2011 • Volume 8, Issue 6



8 **Living in the Moment**
Stem cell treatment, it really does a body good.

22 **On Target for Success**
Hitting the bull's eye in archery is Kyle Brietz's way of helping students do the same in life.

14 **Recreating a Memory**
At Home With Gerald and Nita Doherty.



28 BusinessNOW
30 Around TownNOW
32 HealthNOW
34 FinanceNOW
36 CookingNOW

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Editor's Note

Hello Ennis Friends,

Superman's birthday is on the 30th. I was pleased to learn that fact, since June is also the month we celebrate Father's Day. Anyone can be a father, but it takes someone special to be a dad. Dad, not only are you synonymous with Superman, you're very special to me!



I wish all the fathers out there a very happy and blessed day. It's your special day to do whatever you want. You can watch a ballgame. You can relax in your backyard hammock. Or you can choose to do nothing at all. I challenge you to leave the lawnmower and weed eater in the shed and enjoy some quality time with family and friends.

I hope you don't mind that I've taken the liberty to extend belated birthday wishes to my dad. I failed to honor him in April, so I'd like to say "Happy 79th birthday, Dad." You really are a super man!

Sandra

Sandra Strong
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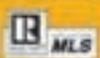
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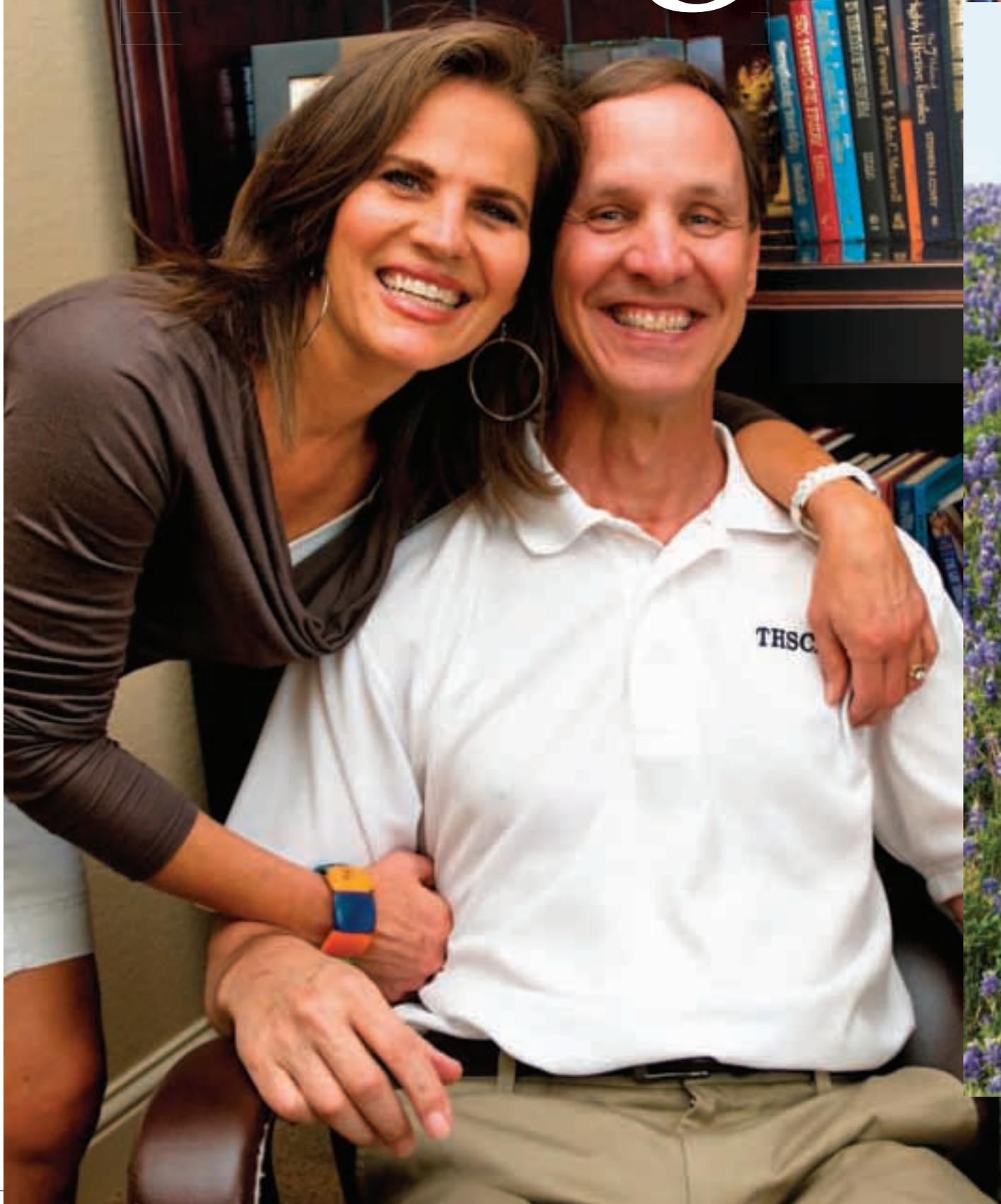
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Living in th



— By Sandra Strong

the Moment



Last year around this same time, Sam and Kathy Harrell and Steve and Suzie Betik had just returned from their first trip to Hospital Punta Pacifica, a John Hopkins' affiliate, in Panama City, Panama. While there, Sam and Steve underwent their first round of stem cell treatments to help slow down and hopefully reverse the adverse effects of multiple sclerosis (MS), a debilitating muscle and nerve disease both men have suffered with for years. Just a few weeks after returning home, they began to see and feel improvement in specific areas; the most important for both men being balance.

Understanding what new stem cells do in relation to damaged areas in the brain and spine was knowledge both families needed prior to returning home so they would be able to recognize improvements, however large or small, during this year following treatment. The body's nervous system is made up of nerves, which act as a messenger system for the body. Each nerve is covered by a fatty substance called myelin. "Myelin insulates the nerves and helps in the transmission of nerve impulses between the brain and all other parts of the body," Sam explained in the simplest way possible. "These nerve impulses control the muscle movements that allow the body to walk and talk."

Although the nerves can regain myelin, the body's natural rejuvenation process is not fast enough to outrun the deterioration that occurs with MS. "MS attacks the protective covering with a vengeance," Sam added, as the other three nodded their heads in agreement. "MS causes small, hairline cracks in the myelin. We were told the stem cell treatment was supposed to repair these damaged areas."

Doctors in Panama were up front with Sam and Steve, realistically preparing them for the 12 months following their initial treatment. As the Stem Cell Institute's pamphlet states, each treatment is unique because each patient is unique. There is no guarantee of what results will be seen or how quickly they may be observed. Some patients see results during treatment, while others notice positive changes after they return home. "They [the doctors] told us not to look for immediate changes," Kathy remembered. Thankfully, positive changes were felt almost immediately. As aforementioned, balance was the first thing both families noticed, with improvement in stamina, strength and cognitive thinking following closely behind.

No one ever said life after stem cell treatment would be easy,



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quite the contrary. Sam and Steve have had a year of ups and downs and lots of life changes, but they've never once lost hope. It's that hope, their strong faith and the giving hearts of the community that have kept them moving forward, literally one step at a time.

There are many different kinds of MS. Sam has been diagnosed with secondary progressive MS, while Steve has been suffering with the roller coaster ride relapsing remitting MS (RRMS) causes. In fact, shortly after his return, Steve was hospitalized for what he called an episode. "I don't really know what I do to bring these episodes on," Steve admitted. "But, I credit the stem cell treatment with my faster-than-normal recovery from that relapse."

The months following the relapse recovery have been eventful for Steve. He was able to enjoy the birth of his newest granddaughter in October. His speech is easier to understand. Thankfully, balance has improved because Steve hates using a cane or walker. "His kidney and bladder control is much improved," Suzie noted. "I think that's the most significant positive from Panama." Just a few weeks prior to spring break, Steve was chosen to be part of a study with Acorda Therapeutics, which provides medications to help MS patients with balance and the ability to walk. "It was a six-week trial," Suzie said, "and Steve has



always wanted to be on the cutting edge of anything that will improve the quality of life for those suffering with MS.”

Steve has also become much more self-sufficient. He still drives to and from his appointments with Dr. William Davis where he undergoes chiropractic adjustments and acupuncture, which help tremendously with his day-to-day pain. He is once again able to ride a stationary bicycle. He shakes his head as he thinks of his granddaughter. “I sit on the couch and I get to hold her for a minute or two,” he smiled.

Sam’s year has been filled with changes, too. He admits that he was a bit naïve after that first treatment. “I was expecting the ‘one-trip miracle,’” he stated. “I was thinking that in three to four months, I’d be back to where I was before the MS diagnosis.” Sadly, that hasn’t been the case, so in the fall Sam decided it was time to stop coaching football – a job that for years has been synonymous with the Harrell name. To make a long and painfully emotional story a bit shorter, the same day Sam went to say goodbye turned into a day when a heavy burden was lifted. “I went in to retire from coaching,” Sam remembered, “but they gave me an option to take a six-month leave of absence from coaching, and the district also offered me an advisory position, which had been vacated earlier.”

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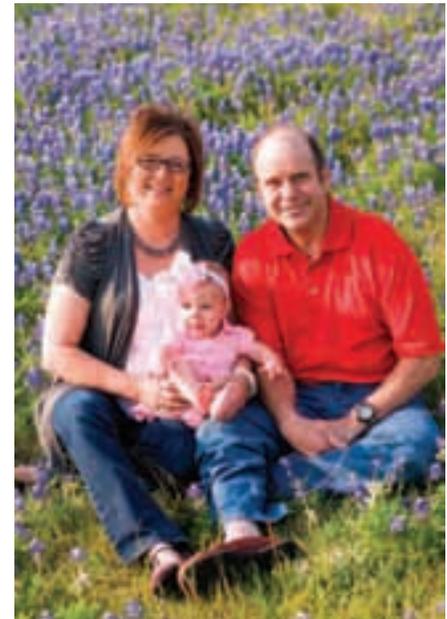
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district proved much easier than leaving altogether. In December, Sam revisited the idea of returning as the Ennis High School head football coach, but decided it was in the best interest of all parties involved to step down permanently. As this school year came to an end, Sam made another decision. "I decided to



Suzie, Steve and their 5-month-old granddaughter, Aniston

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retire altogether. I'm now planning on doing things that aren't so physically demanding and that keep me out of the heat. It's the heat that zaps all my energy."

Steve and Sam both agree that multiple trips to Panama for stem cell treatments are the ticket to the lifestyle they were both accustomed to prior to their MS diagnoses. Sam was able to return for his second round of treatments during spring break, and he's already seeing some improvement in the cognitive issues that still somewhat troubled him following his first trip. Steve plans to return once the medical trials are complete.

Both men still "live in the moment" of each day they are given. They're still thankful for the giving hearts of a loving community. "We want to be a picture of hope for those who may be feeling hopeless," Sam said. "We want our story to influence and affect others in a good way." Bottom line, they want everyone who has been so supportive to see what stem cell treatment can do for the overall quality of life. Stem cell treatment – it really does a body good. **NOW**

Shannon Childs

ACNP-BC, FNP-BC

Family Nurse Practitioner

Shannon Childs is an Ellis County native who has practiced in Ennis since 2001. She received her master's degree in nursing administration with a minor in education from The University of Texas at Arlington. Shannon received her Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate in 2000 and her Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate in 2009. She is board-certified in both acute care and family nurse practitioner. Shannon is the proud mother of three daughters and has two beautiful grandsons. Shannon is accepting NEW patients of all ages.



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At Home With
Gerald and Nita Doherty



Recreating a Memory

— By Sydni Thomas

For Gerald Doherty, it was love at first sight when he walked into the Ford showroom and saw the turquoise Ford Falcon in 1965. He purchased the car that day and surprised his soon-to-be wife, Nita, who also fell head-over-heels for the car. A year later they sold it without realizing the lasting impact it would have on their lives. After 46 years of building a marriage, rearing children and spoiling grandchildren, the Doherty's home was not complete until they had a 1965 tropical turquoise Ford Falcon in the driveway.

Back in 1966, selling the Falcon was hard for Nita because it was more than a car to her. It had been there at their wedding and was a symbol of their first year of marriage. They kept





up with the car and always knew who owned it. Later, selling the car became one of their biggest regrets. To make up for it, Gerald purchased several Falcons and fixed them up over the years. None compared to his original, so he sold them. When he found out their beloved Falcon had been wrecked beyond repair, he purchased it and used it for parts. It took him 10 years to find the perfect Falcon and repair it to mint condition. He added new features that made it easier to drive, like air conditioning and a faster motor, and completely refurbished the interior with new leather. "I cried for a while over that car," Nita said. "I loved it and it brings back great memories."



To keep it in pristine condition, the Doherty's do not drive it very often. Once a year they visit Biloxi, Mississippi, for the annual Cruising the Coast car show. People from all over drive their cars down the 30-mile beachfront highway and make stops in Bay St. Louis, Biloxi, D'Iberville, Gulfport and Ocean Springs to show off their antique cars. Each stop has a festival with live music and events.



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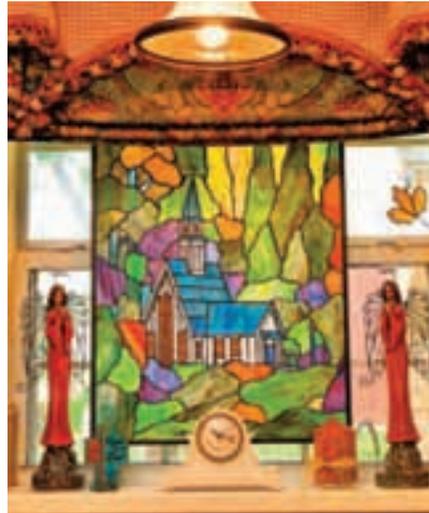
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Nita's cousin, who has a Falcon truck, makes the trip with them every year. "During one trip to Biloxi, I looked in the rear view mirror to see a cop with his lights on," Gerald said. "I looked to see if I was speeding and I wasn't. When I pulled over this Barney Fife-looking character walks up to my window and says he pulled me over for having too much fun in a small town. Then he hands us a stack of coupons and tells us to have a great trip."

While the Falcon triggers many great memories for the couple, their home triggers even more. Gerald, former owner of Doherty Brothers Construction, built the home 20 years ago. Ennis is the only

town they have lived in together as a married couple. Gerald has lived in Ennis his entire life, and Nita, a Frost native, moved there once they married. They met in a psychology class at Navarro College during their freshman year. They



started dating in their sophomore year and then married in June of that same year. Reminders of the two children they raised, Pam and Brad, who are now parents themselves, can be found

throughout the home. Photographs of them as children and college graduates can be found in just about every room. Childhood dolls and toys stay in their former bedrooms so that their own children can play with them when they visit. Even in the kitchen Nita found a way to be reminded of her children. When she found out she was going to be a grandmother, she had Pam and Brad's highchair refinished, and it is placed in the corner of the kitchen waiting on grandkids to visit.





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Pam married Lance Bailey and lives in Waco, Texas. They have a son, Mason, and daughter, Meredith. Brad still lives in Ennis with his wife, Jennifer (Ludwig), and they also have a son and daughter, Austin and Addison. "We are blessed in every way," Nita said. "Nothing makes us more proud than seeing our kids and their spouses become great parents. I prayed for 10 years God would send them the perfect spouse. We love them as if they were our own."



At least once a month Pam and her family come to visit. Ennis is their place to get away, and they always stay with Gerald and Nita. When they are in town, everyone comes over to catch up. The den becomes a playroom and is covered in toys shortly after everyone arrives. The kitchen is another prime location for gathering, designed with plenty of room so those who are not cooking could also be part of the action. With something homemade always on the stove, and Nita's sugar cookies in the oven, it is no surprise the kitchen is a popular choice. When Pam's family comes to town, the first thing her kids want to do is see their

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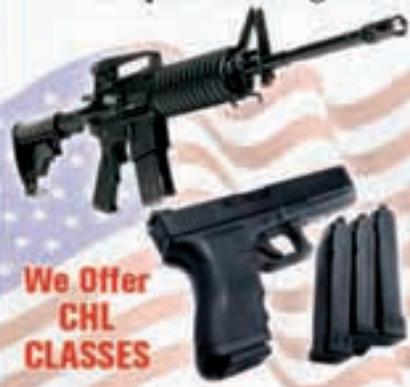


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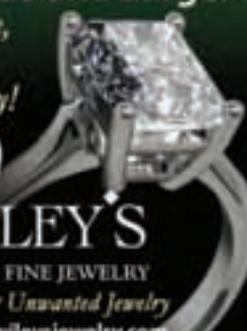
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Ennis cousins. The next thing they want is for Papa and Nana/Nina to take them to the family farm in Oak Grove. Gerald and Nita use the farm to raise cattle and have their workshop for rebuilding cars there. When the grandchildren are with them, they never run out of things to do. They have go-carts, fishing and free reign of the land to keep them occupied. Even on rainy days the farm is a fun place to be. The game room is always stocked with fun things to do. It's the go-to place for family birthday parties. "I have a sign at the farm that says it best, "Some of my greatest blessings call me Papa," Gerald said.

Gerald and Nita live for their grandkids. If they had it their way, they would see them every day. Luckily, they have plenty of hobbies to keep them busy until the next visit. Gerald can usually be found tinkering with a car, and when spring arrives, family and friends know Nita will most likely be found outside in her flower gardens. Each flower has meaning. She has irises from Gerald's mother, a fern given to her by a friend, an unknown pink flower she dug up at her church in Frost after she was married and lilies from her mother. Each has survived several different moves across Ennis before making permanent residence in the home built by Gerald. "My mother serves as my inspiration for the yard," Nita said. "She's 90 years old,



sharp as a tack, does her own yard work and still washes her own car."

With each visit from the grandkids, the Doherty's make new memories. As for the old ones, the grandchildren are still too young to take interest in the Falcon. Gerald and Nita promise the car will be around when they finally reach an age when it will interest them. They have spent 45 years rebuilding a meaningful piece of their past. This time they have no intension of selling. No offer is worth the memories. **NOW**



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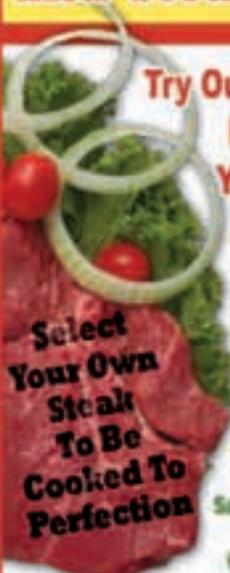
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ON TARGET FOR SUCCESS

— By Adam Walker



Many people know no more about archery than that Robin Hood carried a bow, but Kyle Brietz is turning the students of Ennis Independent School District into champion archers. But Kyle is not only focused on competition. Having fun is just as important to him. "Archery is fun," Kyle explained, "because of the sense of satisfaction, the sense of accomplishment. A big part of the fun is being with other people who enjoy the same thing. If you get involved in archery, whether competition or bow hunting or whatever, you'll naturally seek out others who enjoy the sport. It makes it very easy to form friendships."

A few years back Kyle started teaching an elective for junior high students, called outdoor education, which focused on skills relating to hunting, boating, parks and recreation. Since one small section on archery was included in the class, Kyle had to educate himself about the sport before he could teach it. He discovered a real love for archery, and soon his students were discovering the same. "A lot of the kids were really interested in the archery section, so I offered to stay late a couple of days a week to let them practice more, as long as they stayed to put everything away," Kyle remembered.

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"The group showing up for the after-school practices just kept getting bigger and bigger." You might wonder if Kyle had any inkling what he was getting into when he first introduced his students to archery. He has an answer for that. "No. I had no idea. It was a happy surprise to have a group of students willing to give up video games to come out for this."

The amazing thing is these students really show up and practice simply because they want to. They get no credit for their time. They have to carve the time out of their schedules of study and other sports to do this. "This isn't a UIL (University Interscholastic League) sport, so there are no mandatory practices," Kyle revealed. "Most of these kids are

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involved in other sports, but come here whenever they can — just for fun.”

The Ennis archery program is part of the National Archery in the Schools Program, but since archery is not an official sport, the Ennis archery students do not receive any funding, and their budget consists of whatever money they raise. “In the beginning we were just hanging by our fingernails,” Kyle said. “We raised money through raffling cookers and hog hunts and fishing trips. Now we have an archery booster club.”

Having a booster club for an after-school activity, even one that has spread throughout the district and embraces students from elementary to high school, may sound strange, but that sort of thing happens when you have produced three consecutive state championships at the junior high level. “I’ve lost count of all the individual medals Ennis students have won, but in years past, we’ve had the high school girls’ state champion and kids who have placed in the top five every year,” Kyle reported. The Ennis archery team even goes to the national championships in Kentucky without funding beyond what they raise. And Kyle himself has taken second and third place at the TFAA (Texas Field Archery Association) State Indoor Championships the last two years. “It’s expensive and difficult to get the students there, but they love it.”

With all that success, competition might be seen as the goal Kyle sets for his students or that he pushes them to compete. Not so. “Calling archery a sport isn’t really accurate,” Kyle explained. “It is more of a discipline than a sport. If you have mental discipline, you can improve your skills quite quickly. It’s



better to shoot 30 good, best-you-can-do shots, than to come in and sling 100 arrows. It's how you practice, not how much you practice." Kyle sees that kind of discipline as an important life skill he gets to impart to his students. "I am very interested in how we can benefit the kid. I emphasize a positive attitude, proper etiquette, self-discipline and responsibility. This is about building values into the kids. Of course, it doesn't hurt to have fun while doing it. If they weren't they wouldn't show up!" Kyle sees archery as being like golf in some ways. "There's a certain decorum to the sport. The emphasis is on sportsmanship and fair play."

Discipline and responsibility start on day one. "We start with safety and learn all the rules of the range — the whistle signals, no 'dry firing' the bow without an arrow, how a bow works." Then they learn the 11-step process of firing an arrow from the moment they step to the line until their follow-through after they release the arrow at the target. "The hardest part is getting them to focus on shooting *correctly*. If you shoot correctly your score goes up. That's why I try to keep them away from the targets as long as possible, but you can't make them wait forever. They are always asking, 'When do we get to shoot the targets?'"

Once they do start shooting, Kyle works especially hard to help the students master step seven in the process — the anchor. "It's the hardest to teach and the most important. Basically, it is consistent placement of the draw hand at the same exact place alongside the face every time you draw," Kyle explained. "Change your placement by a fraction of an inch and

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According to Kyle you are never competing against anyone but yourself in archery. “We have kids at all different levels, but it is a profound moment when a kid who has been struggling to shoot 240 shoots 250. He or she may place last in the tournament, but it is still an accomplishment.” Kyle knows this from experience. “You can’t do anything about how others shoot. You can only control your own shooting. I have won tournaments before, but my best score ever came in a tournament where I finished fourth! If you shoot the best you can on that day, you feel good when you leave. If you shoot poorly and win, you don’t feel the same sense of accomplishment.” It looks like quite a few students in Ennis schools will be feeling that sense of accomplishment again and again, if Coach Kyle and the other certified faculty members and parent volunteers have anything to say about it. **NOW**

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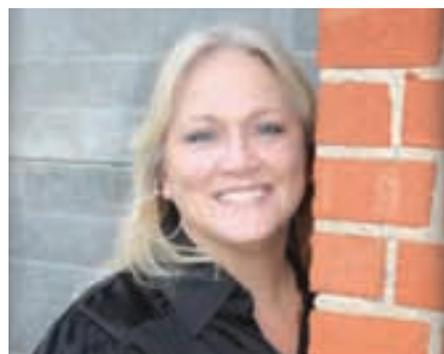


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Skin Deep specializes in all your aesthetic needs.

— By Sandra Strong

You are never too old or too young to turn back the hands of time. Skin Deep offers a variety of aesthetic procedures that not only cleanse and prepare the skin, but also supply nourishment deep within the skin tissues. “Time is going to happen. We will never stop time,” owner and RN-certified aesthetic nurse specialist, Brandy Ray, said. “There’s no magic capsule to stop the aging process.”

Brandy and certified Beautiful Image specialist, Rhonda Blackmon, both agree that daily preventative maintenance is the most important thing clients need to understand if they have a desire to slow down the aging process. The clientele at Skin Deep includes both men and women, ranging in age

from teenagers to those in their 70s. By doing “extensive homework,” Brandy is able to share what she learns in her research with clients. “Our goal is for the clients to look as natural as possible, while still having a healthy body and healthy skin,” Brandy explained. “I don’t believe in plastic [surgery]. I want clients to look like themselves, natural but only softer and healthier.”

To gain a softer, more natural look, Brandy believes you must use natural products. “Brandy has done extensive research on the products we use here,” Rhonda reiterated. Brandy encourages clients to ask questions because she wants them to be educated on all procedures offered at Skin Deep.

Business **NOW**

“Their questions prompt me to learn more,” Brandy admitted. The question-and-answer portion of the office visit also allows Brandy to “get on the same page” as her clients. “I must know a little about a lot. Knowing their background helps me ask all the right questions,” Brandy said. “They come in for Botox and by the end of the consultation we’ve added a new member to the family by talking about all their concerns. [Having] them feel comfortable in the office is very important to us.”

Skin Deep offers a variety of procedures so they can try to accommodate everyone. Offerings include everything from Botox and Dermal Fillers to Mesotherapy and Sclerotherapy, as well as non-invasive facials and body sculpting with Beautiful Image. “And of course, skin health with the hydrafacial,” Brandy added. “We really do have a wide range of products.”

Clayton Shagal is one of the all-natural product lines used at Skin Deep. This product line from Vienna meets Brandy’s high standards, with its premise that the true essence of skin is based on respecting the skin’s natural major components — collagen, elastin and water. “I’m clinical,” Brandy admitted with a smile. “I want to know how the product is going to work from a cellular level, not just sitting on top of the skin doing nothing, in relation to what we offer at Skin Deep.”

Her years as a trauma nurse prompted her need to help others. Burns, car accidents and the devastation which goes along with working in an emergency room fueled her desire to open Skin Deep, along with Jared, her husband and business manager. “The tragedies, with traumatic facial and bodily injuries, I have seen compel me to help people,” Brandy said. “Patients would have that defeated look, the one that says, ‘I’ll never be normal again.’”

These same clients continue to be Brandy’s inspiration. Clients may have prompted the need to expand, but they also serve as a daily reminder of why Brandy keeps doing what she’s doing. “Smiles are priceless,” she confessed. “Lives are changed here, from the inside out. This is why I do what I do.” **NOW**



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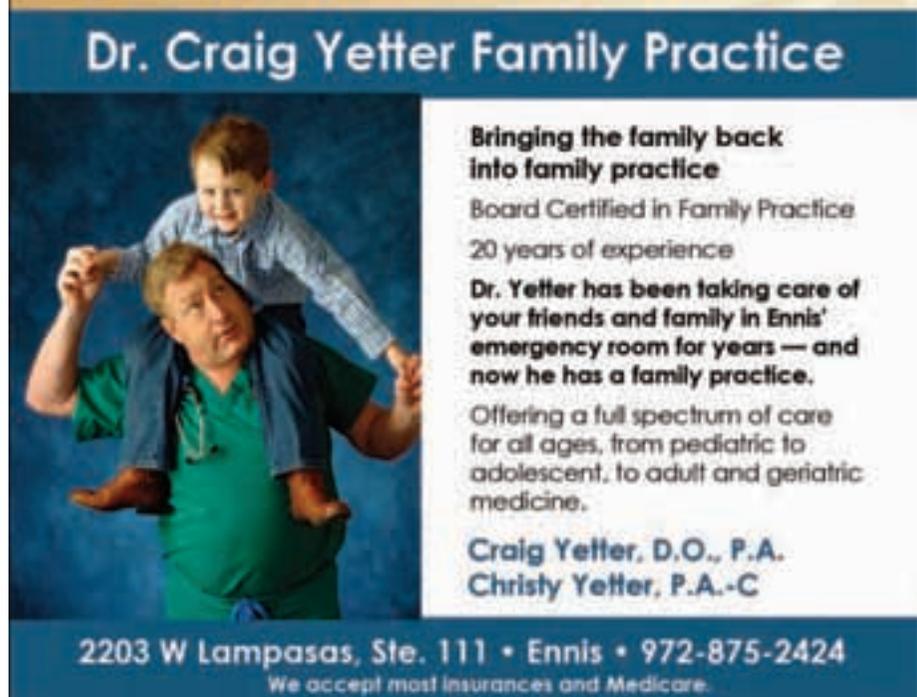
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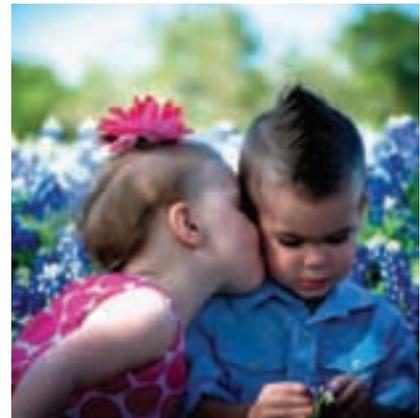
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Breanna and Bryson Carter enjoy the bluebonnets.



Meagan Cate smiles on the way to Ennis' school board meeting. She is being inducted as the president of Student Council for the 2011 school year.



Lindsey Simon gives brother, Jayden, a kiss in the bluebonnets.



Melissa and Rusty Smith spend an afternoon at a Rangers Game.

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Mommy, my ear hurts!

Ear infections (otitis media) are an all-too-common pediatric malady, particularly for kids less than 3 years old. The anatomy of the middle ear space, which fills with pus during an ear infection, and the eustachian tube that aerates and drains it makes this structure particularly prone to bacterial growth and subsequent infection in infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Changes in this anatomy, secondary to growth, cause a marked decrease in the frequency of otitis media after the third year, in most kids.

Symptoms of an ear infection are only too familiar to many parents. Older, communicative kids will complain of ear pain, sore throat or headache. Most children will have some fever, but not always. Elevated temperature is less commonly found in older kids. Vomiting occasionally accompanies otitis. Non-verbal wee ones will be unusually fussy and wake up at night more often than normal, since ear pain associated with otitis is more severe when they are lying down. Little guys may bat or pull at the painful ear. They also may not eat as well as previously, since taking a bottle or nursing worsens the ear discomfort. Rarely, parents may notice that their child cannot hear well. Most kids who develop ear infections will have a few days of preceding cold symptoms (runny nose, cough and/or nasal congestion).

Treatment for ear infections in kids under 2 involves taking an oral antibiotic for 10 days. Several studies suggest that a five-

day course of an antibiotic may work as well as 10 days, for older children. In the past few years, as a result of the routine treatment of otitis in many European countries, pediatricians in the U.S. may choose not to give an antibiotic to older kids with otitis, since they stand about an 80-percent chance of clearing the problem without specific drug therapy. These kids are given strategies and medication to relieve the pain, with instructions for parents to call if their child is not improved in two-three days. Finally, regardless of what sort of treatment the child receives, it is important for him to return to his doctor in one-two weeks to be re-examined, to determine if there is any lingering infection or fluid in the middle ear space.

Children with recurrent ear infections should be screened for risk factors that are known to make them more likely to have one bout of otitis after another. Risk factors include: Attending day care centers, due to high exposure to cold viruses; environmental smoke from tobacco or another source; the feeding practice of bottle propping your infants; esophageal reflux; and nasal allergies. Elimination of these risk factors will often cause a marked improvement in a kid's ear status. **NOV**

*Barry Davison, M.D.
Pediatrician
Ennis Regional Medical Center*

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401(k) Review and Rollover Can Be Rewarding

— By *Jeff Irish*

Your 401(k) offers tax-deductible contributions, tax-deferred growth of earnings potential and a variety of investment options — so it’s a great tool for building retirement savings. Yet like all tools, your 401(k) must be used properly to get the best results. That’s why you should review your 401(k) at least annually and make whatever adjustments are needed.

Depending on where you work, you may get some 401(k) review help from your plan provider. But if that assistance isn’t available, you might want to consult with a financial professional to make sure you’re getting the maximum benefit from your plan.

As you begin to review your 401(k), your first question should probably be this: “How much should I contribute?” At the very least, try to put in enough to receive your employer’s matching contribution, if one is offered. If you don’t earn this match, you are essentially walking away from “free money.” Beyond this, though, the amount you put into your 401(k) might depend on what other retirement savings vehicles you have available. For instance, if you’re eligible, you may also want to contribute to a Roth IRA, which offers tax-free growth potential, provided you’ve had your account for five years and don’t start taking withdrawals until you’re 59 1/2.

Of course, it’s not only how much you put into your 401(k) that determines its success — it’s also how you choose to allocate your investment dollars. (Keep in mind that asset allocation does not guarantee a profit or protect against loss.) Your 401(k) may have a dozen or more investment choices, such as stock funds, bond funds and money market funds. To choose the right investment mix, you’ll need to consider a variety of factors, including these:

- Your age. Generally speaking, the younger you are, the more aggressive you can afford to be with your 401(k) investments,

because you’ll have decades in which to potentially overcome the inevitable down periods of the market. As you get older, you may wish to invest somewhat more conservatively, but you’ll still need some growth potential in your 401(k) portfolio.

- Your goals. Everyone has different goals for retirement. You might want to retire early and travel the world, while your co-worker desires to work as long as possible and then, upon retirement, stay close to home and pursue hobbies. Because you each have different goals, with different income needs, you also may need to follow different investment strategies within your 401(k).

- Your other retirement income sources. If you have a variety of retirement income sources — a pension from another job, an IRA, a spouse with generous retirement benefits — you may need to invest differently, perhaps less aggressively, than if you had fewer options for retirement income.

Apart from putting away as much as you can into your 401(k) and choosing the right investment mix, what else can you do to get the most out of your plan? Here’s a suggestion: If you have worked at various jobs and acquired multiple 401(k)s, consider rolling them over into one account. You might save money on fees and reduce paperwork, but more importantly, you’ll be able to concentrate your resources and pursue a unified investment approach, with your investment dollars working together toward your ultimate retirement goals.

As you can see, a 401(k) review and rollover can reward you in many ways — so do whatever it takes to maximize your 401(k)’s performance. **NOW**

Jeff Irish is an Edward Jones representative based in Ennis.

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Calendar

JUNE 2011

Month of June

City-sponsored Summer Camps: EJHS Gym, Afternoon Camp: June 6-10, 1:00-3:30 p.m.; All Day Camp: June 13-17, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (break) 1:15-3:45 p.m.; Basketball Camp: June 20-22, 9:00 a.m.-noon. Call (972) 875-1234 for more information.

Weekends in June

A Streetcar Named Desire presented by Ennis Public Theatre, 2705 N. Kaufman Street, Friday and Saturday shows all month. Call (972) 878-7529 for ticket prices and curtain times. Season tickets are also available.

June Summer Moonlight Movies: 9:00-11:00 p.m., historic downtown Waxahachie on Franklin Street between Jackson and College. June 10, *Mega Mind*; June 24, *The Blind Side*. For more information, call (972) 937-7330, ext. 198.

June 4

Annual Pancake Breakfast Fly-in: 8:00-11:00 a.m., Mid-Way Regional Airport, 131 Airport Drive, Midlothian. Breakfast tickets are \$6 for age 8 and above, \$3 for ages 3 to 7, free for all under the age of 2. Event and parking are free. For more information, contact Tammy Bowen at (972) 923-0080.

June 4, 5

Super Chevy Show: Texas Motorplex. Event offers a car show, swap meet, car corral, activities for children, autocross and drag racing. Call (972) 878-2641 or visit www.texasmotorplex.com for details.

June 10-12

Old Fashioned Singing with dinner on the grounds: historic Chautauqua Auditorium. For information or to order tickets, visit www.WaxaOFS.com or call (972) 923-2709.

June 18

Bristol Volunteer Fire Department annual fundraiser: 6:00 p.m. at the fire station. Event includes a BBQ dinner, live music, auction and much more. For more information, contact Jim Simson at (214) 868-4429.

June 27-30

EHS Lion Basketball Camp: 9:00 a.m.-noon, EHS Gym.

Ongoing:

Thursdays

Celebrate Recovery: 7:00 p.m. at 408 Water Street, Waxahachie. The purpose is to help people live free from addiction, compulsive or

dysfunctional behavior. For more information, contact Brandon Jones at (214) 949-5725 or Brandon@thefrontiercommunity.org.

Chess for Kids: 6:00-7:30 p.m., Ennis Public Library, 501 W. Ennis Avenue, Ennis — for children elementary age and above. No sign up required.

First and Third Thursdays

Mom's Connected: 9:30-11:30 a.m., Tabernacle Baptist Church, 1200 Country Club Rd. Free fellowship for moms of all ages. For more information, contact ennismoms@sbcglobal.net.

Third Saturdays

Covenant Treasures Institute College Level Classes: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Refiner's Fire Ministries International, 1611 W. Ennis Avenue, Ennis. Call (972) 765-3530.

Fourth Saturdays

Bristol Opry: 7:00 p.m., featuring local singers and musicians. Sponsored by Bristol Cemetery Association and Caring Hands of Bristol. Contact Jim Gatlin at (972) 846-2211.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your event details to sskoda.nowmag@sbcglobal.net.

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In The Kitchen With Jay Jackson

— By Sandra Strong

For Jay Jackson cooking has always been a great hobby. Because she loves sharing with others, cooking gives her a feeling of great accomplishment. She gets most of her recipes from friends. “Ennis has many wonderful cooks,” Jay said. “I enjoy reading cookbooks.” Jay also has her mother’s cookbook to refer back to. “When I was growing up, very few mothers worked outside the home,” she added. “They stayed at home and cooked three meals a day.”

Retiring and moving to Ennis 12 years ago allowed Jay to enjoy her cooking, as well as those she cooks for. Jay believes you are never too old or too young to learn the art of cooking. “Helping someone learn to cook,” she said, “is precious time spent with that person.” **NOW**

Easy Red Velvet Cake

Cake:

- 1 box white cake mix**
- 1 box instant chocolate pudding mix**
- 2 cups milk**
- 2 eggs**
- 1 small bottle red food coloring**
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil**
- 1 tsp. baking soda**
- 1 Tbsp. vinegar**

Cream Cheese Icing:

- 1 stick butter, softened**
- 1 8-oz. package of cream cheese, softened**
- 1 box powdered sugar**
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract**

1. For cake: combine first 6 ingredients in a

bowl in the order listed. Mix well.

2. Dissolve soda in vinegar; add to the batter. Mix well.

3. Pour batter into 3 prepared round cake pans. Bake at 350 F for 18-20 minutes until toothpick inserted into cake comes out clean.

4. For icing: cream butter and cream cheese in a bowl until fluffy. Add powdered sugar gradually, beating until smooth and creamy. Stir in vanilla.

5. Spread between layers and over the top and side of the cooled cake.

Note: Cake can be cooked in a 9x16 pan or you can make cupcakes.

Oatmeal Cookies

- 1/2 cup Crisco**
- 1 cup sugar**

- 2 eggs**
- 2 cups flour**
- 1 tsp. baking soda**
- 1 tsp. nutmeg**
- 1 tsp. cloves**
- 1 tsp. cinnamon**
- 5 Tbsp. buttermilk**
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract**
- 2 cups oats**
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts**
- 1/2 cup raisins**

1. Cream Crisco and sugar. Add eggs; beat well.

2. Mix dry ingredients. Gradually mix in buttermilk. Add vanilla extract. Add oats. The dough will be very stiff. Add nuts and raisins.

3. Place on slightly greased cookie sheet in 1 Tbsp. mounds. Bake at 350 F for approximately 10 minutes.

Recipe makes about 3 dozen cookies.

Vanilla Wafer Bars

Bars:

- 1 stick butter**
- 1 cup sugar**
- 3 eggs**
- 1/2 cup milk**
- 2 cups vanilla wafers, finely crushed**
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract**
- 1 cup coconut**
- 1 cup pecans**

Icing:

- 1 cup brown sugar**
- 1/4 cup milk**
- 1 stick butter**
- 1 tsp vanilla**
- Powdered sugar**

1. For bars: mix butter and sugar. Add eggs, milk and crushed wafers. Add vanilla, coconut and pecans.

2. Bake at 325 F in a 9x13 pan for 45 minutes.

3. For icing: boil the first three ingredients for 2 minutes. Add vanilla.

4. Cool slightly; add enough powdered sugar to spread on bars.

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