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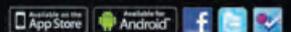
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Jay Dan and Jessamy Gumm couldn't delight more in their precious daughter, Jessa Lynn.

Photo by Opaque Visuals.

CONTENTS

June 2013 • Volume 7, Issue 6



8

8 An Honor to Serve

Dub Southers loves to talk about his time in the military.



18

18 Women With a Mission

Dynamic ladies gather together to help each other through the good times and the sad times.



28

28 Believe

At Home With Jay Dan and Jessamy Gumm.

34 BusinessNOW

36 Around TownNOW

38 FinanceNOW

40 HealthNOW

44 CookingNOW

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Editor's Note

Hello, Southwest Friends!

June includes Father's Day, Flag Day, Summer Solstice and International Picnic Day. I'll go with International Picnic Day. I like picnics ... especially in the mountains. Growing up in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains had some definite advantages. I remember my dad coming home from work at Coors on summer evenings, gathering up my mom's picnic supper and hopping in the car for an evening of fishing and picnicking in nearby alpine meadows.

In fact, just about all my fond memories of childhood include picnics, mountains and fishing. Of course, the best picnics were fish fresh from the stream into the frying pan — makes my mouth water just thinking about it.

Picnics on the boat with my husband's family and hot dogs, brownies and s'mores at Tyler State Park with our kids rank pretty high on my good times list, too. Find time for a picnic this month!

Beverly

Beverly Shay
SouthwestNOW Editor
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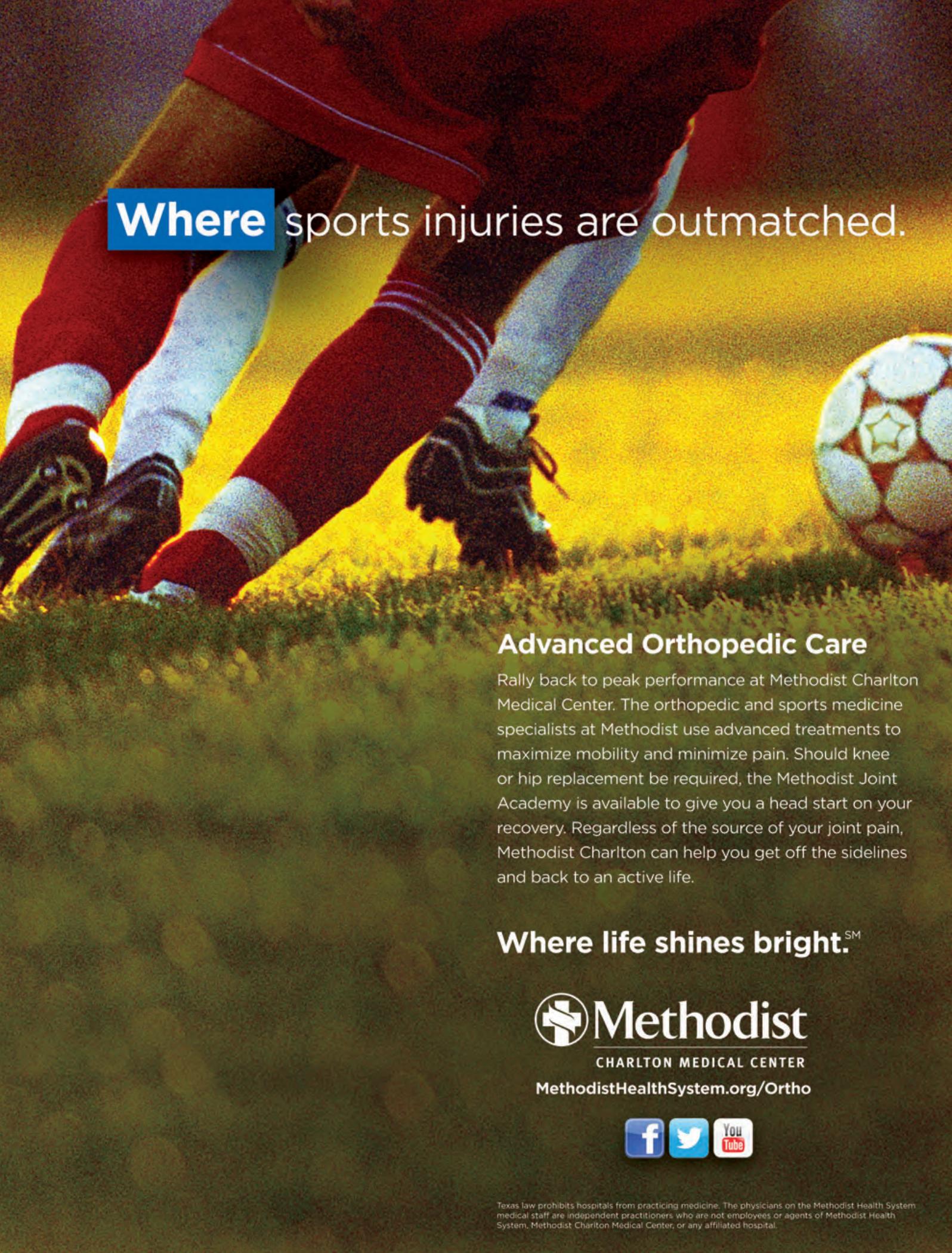
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New Hall of Honor inductees

On May 3, the district announced the DeSoto ISD Hall of Honor Class of 2013 – recognizing two DHS Alumni Hall of Fame inductees and two DeSoto ISD Distinguished Service inductees at the event. The DeSoto ISD Hall of Honor was established to recognize both alumni of DeSoto High School and those who have served the district in various capacities. The Alumni award criteria included special achievements and honors in the individual's career, and community service or contributions to society. The Service award weighed support and service specific to DeSoto ISD and to education in general, as well as fostering an education-valued community.

DeSoto High School Alumni Hall of Fame

- Mark Brady - Class of 1976 - 28 year teacher and track coach at DHS *(accepted by his children since he was unable to attend)*
- James P. Monkres, Jr. - Class of 1977 - Bank of DeSoto President

DeSoto ISD Distinguished Service Award

- Shirley Cooper - DHS educator for 35 years
- Frank Moates - DeSoto ISD Superintendent for 16 years

District Teachers of the Year selected

On May 7, DeSoto ISD recognized the 2012-13 district retirees and then the campus teachers and employees of the year before announcing the DeSoto ISD Elementary and Secondary Teachers of the Year! The district teachers of the year will now compete in the regional teacher of the year competition to advance to the state event.

- Elementary Teacher of the Year
Melanie Killian, Woodridge ES
- Secondary Teacher of the Year
Danyaih Bates, McCowan MS *(mom Marilyn Bates accepted)*
- Employee of the Year
Don Lester, Plant Services



Calendar

- Th., June 6 - Last Day of School, Early Release
- Fri., June 7, 7:30 p.m. - DHS Graduation, Dallas County Conv. Center
- June 10-July 26 - ISD Summer Hours, Closed on Fridays
- Mon., June 10, 6:30 p.m. - DeSoto ISD Board Meeting, Board Room
- Mon., July 22, 6:30 p.m. - DeSoto ISD Board Meeting, Board Room
- Sat., August 10, 9 a.m. 2 p.m. - DeSoto ISD Back to School Fair
- Mon., Aug. 12, 6:30 p.m. - DeSoto ISD Board Meeting, Board Room
- Mon., August 26 - First Day of School
- Mon., Aug. 26, 6:30 p.m. - DeSoto ISD Board Meeting, Board Room

Girls Three-peat Track State Champs!

The Lady Eagles have performed a rare three-peat and won the Girls 5A State Track Championship title again in 2013! The team accumulated 71 points with every participant earning team points on the way to the title.

GIRLS RESULTS

- 2nd Long Jump - Anna Robinson
- 2nd Triple Jump - Paeytn Revell
- 2nd 4x100m Relay - Telishia Johnson, Ja'Nice Griffin, Makayla Earnhart, Kira White
- 2nd 4x400m Relay - Camry Grigsby, Adria Parker, Makayla Earnhart, Shaporria Montgomery
- 3rd High Jump - Latyria Jefferson
- 3rd 4x200m Relay - Ja'Nice, Alexis Logan, Makayla Earnhart, Kira White
- 4th Shot Put - Adrienne Lewis
- 6th 100m - Kira White
- 7th 800m - Camry Grigsby

Congratulations to Head Coach June Villers, the track and field athletes and coaches.



DeSoto ISD Board Election Results

On May 11, DeSoto ISD held School Board Elections for Place 1 and Place 2. Those elected this year will hold their board position for three years until 2016. New members were sworn in May 28.

RESULTS

PLACE 1	Votes	Percent
Sandra Wheeler	546	39.48%
Carl Sherman, Jr.	664	48.01%
Joey Hayward	93	6.72%
Inga Henderson	80	5.78%

PLACE 2

Van Stripling unopposed



AN HONOR TO SERVE

— By Rick Hope

The event took place many years ago, long before many in today's generation were even alive. Yet, the Berlin Airlift was a pivotal part of American history. And Dub Southers is one man who is proud to have served there.

At the end of World War II, a defeated Germany was divided among the victorious nations. The Soviet Union took control of the eastern half of Germany and the western half was divided between the United States, Great Britain and France. Like the rest of the country, the capital city of Berlin, sitting dead in the middle of the Soviet-controlled eastern half, was also divided into four sectors. Half was Soviet controlled, and the rest was divided between the U.S., England and France. A four-power provisional government, called the Allied Control Council, was installed in Berlin. This union of governments was to control and rebuild the city of Berlin.

By 1948, it was obvious the plan of the Western Powers — Great Britain, France and the United States — to rebuild Germany was much different from the Soviet Union's plan.

Currency, German unification, Soviet war reparations and political ideology were among the many differences the two sides held without compromise. As a result, Stalin wanted the Western Powers out of Berlin. In early 1948, tensions between the former Allies climaxed. Stalin began to halt supplies coming into Berlin. No more food, communication equipment or any other helpful items would be coming into the western section of Berlin. The overall situation was grave indeed.

Soon an idea was formed to transport supplies to that area by air. Planes would run 24 hours a day carrying 1,534 tons of food each day. Soon coal would be transported as well. Good servicemen were needed for such a large endeavor. That's where Dub added his footprints to history. "My involvement with the Berlin Airlift began in early November 1948," Dub explained. "I was informed I had been transferred and would leave McCord Air Force Base the next morning for the East Coast to transfer

to Germany and the Berlin Airlift. Others were transferred at the same time, and we were put on a C-47 and transported to Camp Kilmer, New Jersey." After three or four days of processing, Dub and the others were on their way to Germany. From there, the memories began.

Dub reminisced about 12 to 16 hour workdays with no days off. The Army was in charge of overseeing the loading and unloading of the planes. They had to guard against laborers who would sometimes steal off the planes. "Food and shoes were the items most frequently stolen," Dub said. "To thwart shoe thieves, airmen shipped right shoes one day,

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Flight Engineer and Cre



left ones the next.”

“Sometimes, people do the stupidest things,” Dub continued. One night while performing maintenance on his plane, Dub noticed the men in the airplane in front of him had completed their maintenance routine and decided to power check their engines. “There were two men in the cockpit,” he recalled. “Each one proceeded to run a power check at the same time. Instead of running up one engine, and then the other, the men decided to test both



Base, West Germany
Carrier Squadron
 (Dub) Southern
 Chief on this aircraft

engines at the same time.” According to Dub, both men reached full power at the same time. The airplane jumped the chocks and started toward the planes in front of them. The man in the pilot’s seat quickly turned the nose wheel to the left. The wing of their plane struck the tail of the plane in front of them. Both aircraft sustained heavy damage. “The official ruling was air in the brake lines,” Dub shared. “I don’t think the brakes were set. As soon as this happened, they started messing with the brakes.”

Dub also shared one time that will remain in his memory forever. The date was March 15, 1949. “The British planes were landing as our plane was being unloaded. This was one time I was glad we were not flying liquid fuels,” he admitted. As a British bomber was landing, one of the landing gears collapsed. The airplane exploded in a huge ball of fire. “I will never forget that instant,” Dub said. “This was the only



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time I was in Berlin for more than 30 minutes during the entire airlift.”

By the time Dub returned to the states, he had flown 196 missions to Berlin. He still considers it one of his greatest honors and travels around the country for reunions with those who participated in the operation so many years ago. The organization meets once a year somewhere in the United States and is known as the Berlin Airlift Veterans Association. “I try to never miss an opportunity to go to those gatherings,” he confessed. And so far, he hasn’t missed a single one.

In addition, Dub is also proudly a





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part of the Berlin Airlift Historical Association. One thing this group has done is to refurbish an old C-54 cargo plane (used in the Berlin Airlift) and turn it into a flying museum.

In September 2012, Dub was flown to Washington, D.C., to participate in a panel discussion about the Berlin Airlift. This discussion was in conjunction with the 65th anniversary of the United States Air Force. One member of the panel was Colonel Gail Halvorsen, who gained fame as the “candy bomber.” He would drop off candy attached to little parachutes during the Airlift. Dub and a group of Airlift veterans met with Vice President Joe Biden to request a presidential citation for all units involved in the Airlift. Unfortunately, they did not get the citation. But last July, Dub was named Citizen of the Day by the Duncanville City Council.

Life continued for Dub after his three years in the Air Force and his participation in the Berlin Airlift. He graduated from the University of Houston and became an electrical engineer. He retired three years ago. He now enjoys spending time with his wife of 53 years, Nancy, and keeping up with his adult children, Renee and Warren, while also having fun with his six grandchildren.

Of course, he takes any chance he gets to talk about his service in the Berlin Airlift. He has spoken to Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs and both public and private schools. He loves those opportunities, and although many years have passed since that time, he will always be proud of those three years serving his country. “If the Berlin Airlift had not occurred, I believe that Germany would still be under communist control,” he said, sharing his own personal opinion. “It truly was an honor to serve.” **NOW**

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Red & Blue – Is It In You?



Sonny Kemble is a man who has dedicated his life to serving his country, community, and Texas children. He grew up in Dallas, graduating from Sunset High School in 1942. Sonny enlisted in the US Army Air Corps in December of that year, serving in Europe until September 1945. From there, he enrolled at the University of North Texas, and in 1949 earned his bachelor's degree in physical education with a minor in history. Sonny returned to UNT to earn a master's degree in health and physical education in 1953. For 21 years, Sonny taught and coached in Dallas ISD, and served as an assistant principal and principal for another 12 years before retiring.

Since 1992, Sonny has been an important member of the Duncanville ISD family. His faithful work in the Athletic Department as an event coordinator was recognized with his induction into the Athletic Hall of Honor in 2010, but it was his service to his country during World War II as a B17 tail gunner in the United

States Army Air Corps that was most recently honored in Washington, DC by the Honor Flight Network. Because of his commitment to the service of others, Duncanville ISD is proud to recognize Horace R. "Sonny" Kemble as the April 2013 "Red and Blue – Is It In You?" honoree.

Class of 2013

Commencement ceremonies for the Duncanville High School



Class of 2013 will be held June 5 at the Dallas Convention Center, beginning at 7:30 pm. Can't make the ceremony? Watch it live over Internet TV - the broadcast is free. To watch, go to www.icblivetv.com/show/duncanvillehigh, or scan the QR code to the left.

Teacher's Book Gets Published

Hyman Elementary Library Specialist Jenny Martin will soon be a published author. Penguin Group Publishing will release Martin's book *Tracked* in 2014. Her juvenile fiction tale about a daring street-racing girl from the planet Castra was recognized locally by the Betty Warmack Branch Library in Grand Prairie in April.



Photo Courtesy:
ReadJennyMartin.com

It's Not Too Early to Get Ready for Back to School

Online registration for returning students and online enrollment for new-to-district students begins



in July for the 2013-2014 school year. Parents of returning Duncanville ISD students will go online, using their Home Access Center (HAC) accounts, to complete the registration process for students in all grades.

Staff members will be available this summer to help parents complete online registration. The HAC Parent Help Center will be open from July 8 through August 2 on the Duncanville High School west campus, from Monday – Thursday, 12:30 to 7:30 pm. A HAC Parent Help Hotline will also be available, and parents in need of phone assistance can call the hotline at 972-708-2067 beginning July 8. Parents can also visit the district website (www.duncanvilleisd.org) for more information.

Women with a M

— By Beverly Shay

Women like to celebrate other women, especially those who have overcome. The women at Point of Light Church in Cedar Hill are having a wonderful time doing just that. And to make it even more fun, they wear hats — after all, they are the H.A.T. Sisters, and they celebrate in style with a huge party disguised as a luncheon. “This year will be our fourth annual luncheon. Every year we have a different theme. Once it was the Kentucky Derby. Another time it was Caribbean. One was like a TV show called Living Life Forward,” remarked Danita Harris, known as the First Lady of the church, where her husband, Julius, pastors. This year’s event will be held on June 22. The theme incorporates I Corinthians 9:19-23 and will be called I’m Every Woman, based on the song by the same name, written by Nikolas Ashford and Valerie Simpson and recorded by Chaka Kahn in 1978. Whitney





MISSION

Houston recorded it in '92, bringing it to life for another generation. The luncheon will feature Angela Clay, Christian motivational speaker and author of the book Loving The Me I See.

H.A.T. stands for helping, healing, holy hands acquiring truth. "That is our goal," Danita shared. "My dad and mom, Glenn and Carolyn Young, were pastors of Cedar Valley Christian Center in Lancaster for 33 years. My mom had a child care center and hosted luncheons for their church women and local businesswomen, until she got stomach cancer in December '93 and died in March '94. I was attending Oral Roberts University (ORU) at the time, where I earned my MBA a few months after my mother passed away. I took her place with the child care center," Danita recalled.

In 2008, when Julius started Point of Light, Danita wanted to continue the luncheon theme her mother had begun in Lancaster. The first luncheon was in 2009. "I wanted to bring the women of the community together to share God's love and honor those who were gone too soon, as well as those who have survived the devastation of cancer," Danita shared. "We put the names and photos of those no longer with us on the monitor and give roses



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to the survivors, picking one survivor to highlight each year. She shares her story of what happened and how she was able to beat it. Each year the luncheon has grown — from about 100 at the first one to about 200 last year.”



Mia McMurray caters, providing simply delicious food for the event which is held at the Cedar Hill Recreation Center. “We give away many fun donated items, like Coach purses,” Danita remarked. The luncheon features the Judah Dancers from the church and guest speakers, who

have covered topics, such as: theology, women's health issues and relationships. One of the signature events is releasing balloons. "We ask each woman to think of something she wants to release — a pain, a hurt or some issue with which she



is struggling," Danita remarked, indicating the visual release truly helps. Vendors also showcase services and products geared for women: candles, jewelry, sheets, Mary Kay, Avon, Juice Plus, massages, beauticians, clothing, flip-flops, wellness and fitness, as well as businesses just starting up. A portion of the monies raised go to support cancer research. And of course, they have a fashion show featuring volunteers. "We get volunteers by giving them a gift!" laughed Danita. "Oh, and we even have commercials!" Danita simply could not coordinate such a grand event without the other core members of the H.A.T. Sisters. Charlene Johnson grew up in Wichita, Kansas, but graduated from Skyline High School. She's been married 17 years, has three sons and was recently blessed with a grandson. She's worked in accounts

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payable for 15 years and has been a member of the church for three years. "I love being involved in this church. I love how Pastor Harris delivers the Word of God — he's so intelligent, but he presents truth in a clear, simple-to-understand manner," Charlene remarked. "This is the first church my husband has attended regularly."

Nicole Howard is originally from East Texas, but her family moved here when she was a sophomore. She graduated from Lancaster High School, earned a bachelor's in accounting at The University of Texas at Dallas and has worked as assistant controller at Lincoln Property Company. She and her husband have been married for 14 years and have

"I wanted to bring the women of the community together to share God's love and honor those who were gone too soon."

two girls. "We were looking for a new church and had some pretty definite ideas about what we wanted. We heard Pastor Harris on the radio, decided to visit the church and have been attending for four years now," Nicole remarked.

Two of Danita's other supporters are her cousins, Theresa and Shaun. Theresa grew up in Tyler, graduating from John Tyler High School, and moved in with her sister in Dallas when she was 19 to finish college. She married and had two sons, Nathan (23) and Nathaniel (21), and then Theresa went back to college. She earned her bachelor's in finance at Dallas Baptist University and worked for 15 years at Cummins Southern Plains as a senior inventory analyst. She is currently single and a member of the Cedar Hill Rotary Club. Shaun, born and reared in Dallas, is single and has worked for Child Protective Services for 21 years. She writes and produces plays at the church. "I followed Pastor Harris here because of his great insight into the Word," Shaun shared. She also leads praise and worship at the church.

Another influential woman in Danita's life is her stepmother, Sheila, who has

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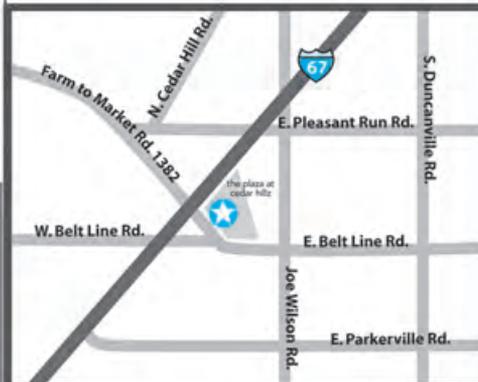
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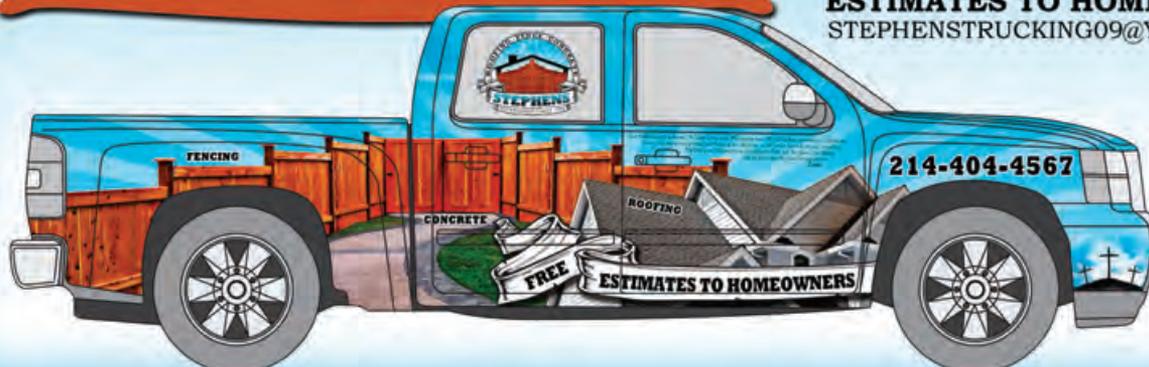
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been married to her dad for 10 years now. "Julius and I introduced them," Danita said. "Sheila is Julius' sister, so she's also my sister-in-law."



The church first held services at the Duncanville library and then at the Oak Cliff YMCA before moving to their current sanctuary in Cedar Hill. Danita works alongside her husband as an ordained teacher of the Gospel but is also a licensed child care administrator. Because of Danita's commitment to the development and growth of the ladies in her church, community and even the world, she has branched out beyond her own local church as a speaker at numerous women's conferences. She has become known for her unwavering compassion and desire to draw others to the love of Christ. She and her husband have two daughters, Bethany and Julia.

One of Danita's latest ventures in sharing her love for God and people was to write her first of what she hopes will be many books. The book is entitled *Ladies Living Forward*, which addresses such issues as: forgiveness, renewing your mind through prayer and Scripture, becoming self-sufficient and deciding to have a positive self-image. Her book, like her public speaking and luncheons, reveals her heart for women to be all they can be. **NOW**

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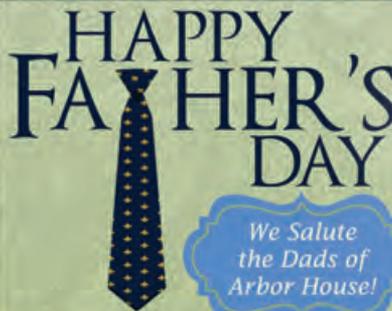
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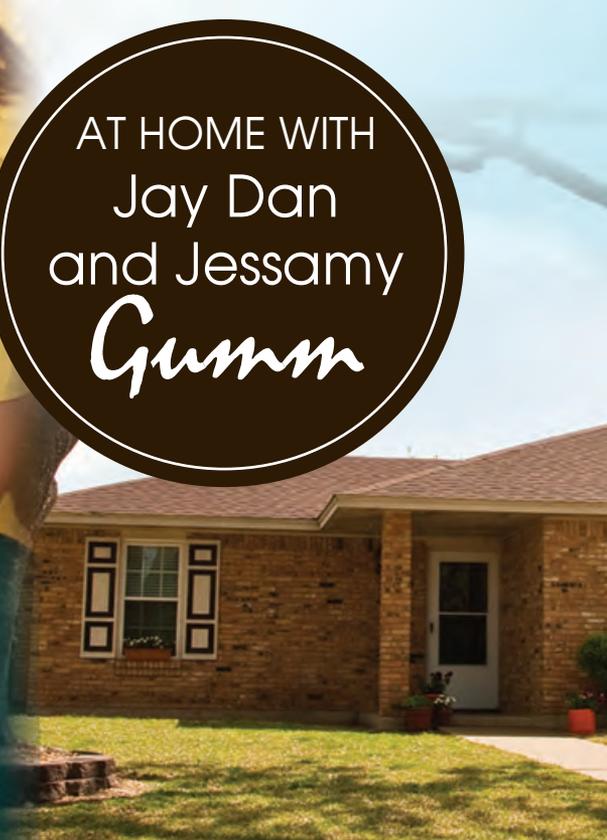
I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
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Believe

— By Beverly Shay

The proposal was like no other. Jay Dan Gumm was playing the part of the biblical character, Boaz, in a drama called Broken Beauty at a Girlfriends event at the church. Jessamy Johnson was playing the part of Ruth. After the curtain call, Jay Dan shared his testimony, and then proposed to Jessamy in front of 1,100 women. Fortunately, she said yes that October evening in 2007. Their wedding in April 2008 was also a bit of a production “staged” in the presence of 800 friends, family and church members. Jessamy had wanted to elope. Jay Dan and her parents wanted them to have a big wedding. So big it was.

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Everything about the Gumms is ordinary and extraordinary at the same time, including their home. Their 1,213-square-foot home (excluding the converted garage) is an ordinary three-bedroom, two-bath in a neighborhood of similar homes. What's "extra ordinary" are the personal touches they've added — some are Jessamy's, like the beautiful Asian dishes she brought home from Thailand or the orange sherbet paint in the living room done in alternating stripes of gloss and flat paint. Jay Dan's flair is evident in the Steelers man cave found in the converted garage at the back of the house. Other rooms reflect



the blended unity of their similar, yet diverse backgrounds: like the huge wedding portrait taken outdoors at a creek hanging on the silver sage walls in the master bedroom. The headboard is unique as well — the word *believe* is painted in aqua on a weathered piece of fencing from their backyard. The dresser and old-fashioned vanity from Jay Dan's mother are dry-brush painted cream on black, blended yet distinct, like their lives.



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Both Jay Dan and Jessamy grew up in the Dallas area. They both attended the same church, their families joining the church just a year apart. Although Jay Dan is eight years older than Jessamy, they knew of each other. Jessamy is one

of six children, and Jay Dan one of four. But the choices they made in life were as different as they could be — for a while. Jay Dan was a rebel, bucking at the faith of his family. He chose to party and walk away from the Lord. Jessamy was part of the Master's Commission for three years at the church, and then

went to Thailand as a missionary for three years. When she got back, she worked as an assistant for one of the executive pastors.

Jay Dan's choices included a lot of heavy drinking, which eventually landed

him in prison on several DWI charges. Christmas in prison was a bit of a wake up. But when he saw his brand new niece for the first time through Plexiglass during a visit, he finally realized his choices were impacting others as well. "Going to prison saved my life," Jay Dan admitted. "God got through to me, telling me He had so much more for me. He really changed me, and I returned to the truth of my childhood." Jay Dan began teaching a Bible study in the prison. "As I saw men returning to prison after having been released, I asked God not to let me get out until He knew I would never come back. It birthed in me a desire to minister to men coming out of prison, to help them change so they wouldn't need to come back. I became so committed to planning and, later, executing that ministry that I resolved to remain single," Jay Dan said simply. "I knew if I ever had a wife, it would have to be someone really special. God, rather than affirming I would have to remain single, told me He had someone special for me, so I began to pray for my future wife."

The day after Jay Dan was released, he

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shared his story at an evening Bible study at the church. A few minutes after the class was dismissed, Jessamy walked into the room. “At 9:03, I saw this angel float in, and heard God say, ‘There she is.’ All I could think was, *No way. I couldn’t possibly*



deserve her,” Jay Dan recalled. A month later, he told her everything about his life, fully expecting her to reject him, while still clinging to what God had told him. “She replied, ‘It won’t be easy, but if you win my heart, you’ll have it forever.’ So I began to believe.”

One room in Jay Dan and Jessamy’s house just might be more special than any other. This room reeks of celebration. This particular room was decorated with love and is filled with love, simply because it is little Jessa Lynn’s room, as denoted on a plaque seen as you walk in: “God watches over His pretty one.” Jessamy smiles unapologetically, “She’s our highlight. When we first got married, I didn’t want to have children right away, having grown up in such a large family. Jay Dan wanted to have kids the day after our wedding. I warmed up to the idea about one year in. I just never dreamed it would be so hard.”

They lost their first baby at eight weeks, in October 2009, another in 2010 and another in 2011, this one at 20 weeks along. “We had nicknamed her Bubblegum. We felt robbed,” Jessamy said, eyes downcast as she kissed little Jessa Lynn on the head. “But in December 2011, we felt God gave us a word for 2012: *Believe*. That’s why it’s on the headboard. We believed God would supply a solid job for Jay Dan. We

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believed God would give an opportunity for Jay Dan to begin a ministry to felons. We believed God would give us a family.”

In January, Jay Dan started his own business. “He can do just about any type of building/construction/remodel work,” Jessamy remarked. “I mean look at how he tiled the bathroom and all the remodels he did here!” In May, Jay Dan’s ministry, Forgiven Felons, opened a halfway home for parolees. “And on October 25, 2012, Jessa Lynn was born here at home,” she said triumphantly. Jessa Lynn’s room has a turquoise wall with a white tree painted on it, pink and white chevron curtains, a white crib and a hot pink dresser. On one wall is a gold filigreed hanging adorned with baby booties spray painted pink, olive, turquoise and gold, as well as miniature frames with photos of everyone in Jessamy and Jay Dan’s families. Jay Dan turned an old, gold upholstered chair into a swivel rocker for Jessamy to nurse in.

Just like God reclaimed and turned Jay Dan’s life around, filling it with purpose and hope, the Gumm’s have redone their



home and filled it with life. Their home, their lives and their ministry are all works of art, much like the paintings Jay Dan’s mother, Jane, has painted for them. As Jessamy said, “It’s amazing what can happen when you believe!” **NOW**

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— *By Beverly Shay*

“I always liked doing hair,” admitted LaTarah Edmond, owner of Good Hair Day Salon, who started doing hair for her mom and sister. “By high school, I was doing all of my friends’ hair, too. But no one I knew made a living doing hair. It wasn’t considered lucrative.” So, LaTarah earned her degree in journalism, with an emphasis in marketing and advertising from Texas A&M University. Her career began at the *Cleburne Times-Review* as a marketing manager. She held the same position, initially, at the *Greenville Herald Banner* and then became advertising director.

“Working with the newspapers was rewarding. I learned a lot

because I was exposed to a lot, but at times it was overwhelming. I was so young — only 24 at the time,” LaTarah recalled. “But I use it all now, including the professionalism I gleaned from my many mentors. I learned the value of networking from groups like the Rotary Club and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.” LaTarah also worked for *The Dallas Morning News* for six years as an ad rep serving smaller businesses. Dallas was a much larger market, but it provided further good training with more resources. She had the opportunity to travel to conferences through the Newspaper Association of America.

LaTarah initiated a Web site (www.goodhairday.net) in 2008.

Business **NOW**

After walking into a high-end salon as an ad rep in March 2010, she went home and told her husband she wanted to open a hair salon. "I was so impressed with the salon and the business manager. I realized a hair salon could be a good career, and the manager encouraged me to research it," LaTarah stated. Research she did. Her next step was to attend Metroplex Beauty School in Mesquite for two years.

"I decided to leave the newspaper and become a hairstylist full time," LaTarah said. "I knew salons that succeed need to promote themselves. Really, my Web site helped me grow. Online booking is key." Even before she worked in a salon, she was booking clients. LaTarah decided to rent a suite in a small salon in Arlington so she could set her own hours, working in the evenings. "My husband was very supportive," she mentioned. With time and experience under her belt, she moved into a larger salon for two years.

As her clientele grew, she needed more room and decided it was time to open her own salon. "Once again, I researched areas. I wanted a spot that had already been a salon. My Realtor found this location in Duncanville, and I really liked the area. I surveyed my clients to see if they would follow me here. I cater primarily to career women between the ages of 30-45, who are commuters, and they all come from the surrounding area. Many have heard about me from the Internet or this magazine. Those who come generally keep coming.

LaTarah not only colors, cuts and styles hair, she also offers classes for clients. The classes include topics such as: makeup application, retail product selection, hair upkeep and current trends, one of which is going back to natural hair without using chemicals. This forward-thinking businesswoman also partners with Duncanville High School's cosmetology program, offering internships to students to show the career options available in this field. Four stylists, Erica Weaver, Tira Bronner, Melissa Pierce and Tekala Green, along with Chalynn Sells, a shampoo apprentice, join LaTarah with the goal of making sure each client has a good hair day. **NOW**

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Jazmyn Mitchell, of DeSoto, kicks off track season.



DeSoto mayor and city council joined Dallas County, the DeSoto Economic Development Corp., Texas Department of Transportation and Sky Helicopters at the new heliport groundbreaking in the Eagle Industrial Park, DeSoto.



Cedar Hill's Benjamin Wright and a castmate in Theater Arlington's production of 'Oz'.



Best Southwest Partnership officers met with Governor Rick Perry during the Day at the Capitol event.



Duncanville ISD students worked all year long to develop and put green initiatives, like recycling, into action on their campuses.



Recreation attendant, Kenia Aguilera, is hard at work for the Desoto Recreation Center.



Bobby and Patsy Sims, along with Don and Georgia Jackson, view the museum display in old Phillips Lumber Company.



The Cedar Hill Longhorns, coached by Joey McGuire, were crowned King of CANstruction in the Speed to Feed event benefiting North Texas Food Bank.



Duncanville Chamber of Commerce welcomes RaceTrac and general manager, David Reed, with a ribbon cutting.



Young patrons of the Duncanville Public Library have fun playing games in the children's learning center.

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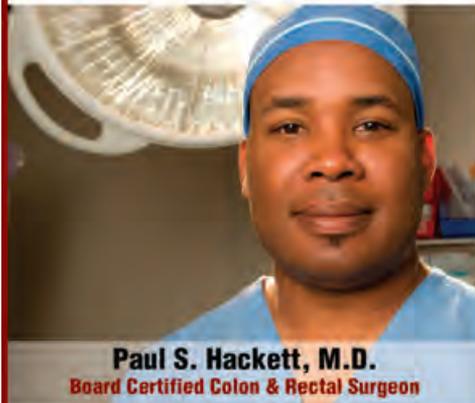
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TOD Agreement Can Reduce Hassles for Heir

Among the reasons you work hard all your life may be so you can leave something to your children, grandchildren or other family members. So, naturally, you'd like to make it as easy as possible for your heirs to take possession of those assets you want them to have. And that's why you may want to consider establishing a Transfer on Death (TOD) agreement on certain accounts.

Once you've established a TOD agreement for your account, ownership of the assets held in that account pass directly to the designated beneficiaries, bypassing probate. Why is this important? Because probate has three major drawbacks:

- *It's time-consuming.* If your estate has to go through the probate process, it could easily take a year or more for your assets to be distributed to your heirs.
- *It's expensive.* Attorney and court fees could devour up to 5 percent of your estate's value — which means fewer assets going to your loved ones.
- *It's public.* The probate process is open to everyone. This means anyone can obtain a copy of your will, the names and contact information for your heirs, the inventory of assets and other documents filed as part of the probate proceeding.

As you can see, you've got some good reasons to avoid probate — and a TOD agreement can help. Of course, a TOD agreement can't meet all your estate-planning needs. While it may be particularly useful in helping you bequeath specific financial assets, such as stocks, bonds and other assets held in your brokerage accounts, it can't help you deal with estate taxes or address other complex estate-planning issues.

And that's why you may also want to consider creating other estate-planning tools, such as a revocable living trust. Similar to a TOD agreement, a revocable living trust

allows you to leave assets to your heirs without going through probate. Furthermore, when you set up a revocable living trust, you can control your assets during your lifetime and determine how they will eventually be distributed to your heirs. You could, for example, have money distributed to your children or grandchildren in installments, over a period of years. Many people like having this ability, especially if they are unsure of the money management skills or maturity level of their heirs. Plus, a properly established revocable living trust will carry out your wishes if you become incapacitated. Be sure to consult with your legal advisor to see if a revocable living trust is appropriate for you.

While a TOD agreement can't take the place of all estate-planning tools, it can complement them. And a TOD agreement offers another feature that can prove valuable: flexibility. Specifically, you can revoke or modify your TOD agreement at any time in response to changes in your life or family circumstances.

To determine if a TOD agreement is appropriate for your needs, contact your tax advisor or legal professional. It's taken you many years to accumulate your assets, so take some time to help ensure they end up where you want them to go. **NOW**

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors do not provide tax or legal advice. Please consult with your qualified professional regarding your situation.

Darryl Fenton is an Edward Jones representative based in Cedar Hill.



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West Nile in Texas

By Betty Tryon, BSN

Some of the peskiest pests during the summer are mosquitoes. Anyone who spends any time outdoors in a mosquito-inhabited area must deal with their presence. Today, we are aware that a mosquito bite has the potential to represent more than an itchy and irritating bump on the skin. The West Nile Virus (WNV) is now a part of the language of summer — thanks to the mosquito. WNV has been proven to be a deadly virus, causing havoc during the summer of 2012. In a four-county area of North Texas, there were 36 deaths and more than 1,000 reported cases of the virus. A health emergency was declared and aerial spraying was enacted due to the devastation. The last time there was a call for such drastic action was in 1966.

One should not count on luck to avoid this virus. WNV is a mosquito-borne illness, which is transmitted after the mosquitoes feed on infected birds and then bite humans. To avoid being bitten by a mosquito:

- Use a bug repellent on your skin and clothing, particularly at sundown and at dawn when mosquitoes are more active.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention “recommends that a solution of 30-50 percent DEET be reapplied every three hours for maximum safety.”
- Cover your skin as much as possible by wearing long sleeves and pants.

- Get rid of any stagnant water. That is where mosquitoes breed. After a rain, do a check around your property for standing water in trash cans, flower pots, children’s toys, bird baths, the seat of outdoor chairs, etc.

The incubation period for WNV in humans is two to 15 days. That is the time from when you become infected to the onset of symptoms of the disease. Infection with WNV can be asymptomatic, mild or severe. The mild type is called West Nile Fever. Symptoms resemble the flu and may persist for weeks. You may have muscle aches, fever, headache, gastrointestinal disturbances, sore throat or sometimes even a rash.

The more severe form of WNV is called a neuroinvasive disease. Those symptoms may manifest as convulsions, disorientation, stiffness, tremors, muscle weakness and possible paralysis and coma. The majority of people with WNV probably will not even know they have been infected. A very small percentage will develop the severe form, and their life will change drastically — perhaps forever. Some will die. This summer as you go about your day-to-day business and send your children out to play, take precautions to protect yourself and your loved ones. **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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June 3 — 7, 10 — 14

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June 6

“Stomp the Yard” Teen Kickoff: Noon, Virginia Weaver Park: sign up for CH library summer reading challenge, win prizes and watch stepping dances performed by local groups.

African drumming/stories: 2:00 p.m., CH library.

June 7

Adult summer reading program kickoff: 6:00 p.m., CH library. Travel the world with books!

June 7, 14, 21, 28

Cedar Hill Music in the Park Concert Series: 8:00 p.m., Valley Ridge Park Amphitheater.

June 7: Joyce Spencer & Expressions; **14:** Memphis Soul; **21:** Party Crashers; **28:** Jukebox Live.

June 8

Fit Zone Fundraiser partially benefitting West, TX: 9:00 a.m.-Noon, Methodist Charlton Medical Center auditorium. Admission: \$10: Zumba, kickboxing, yoga, boot camp and step aerobics.

June 18

Ringling Brother’s Circus Clown show: 10:30 a.m., CH Rec Center.

Teen *Hunger Games* book chat: 2:00 p.m., CH library.

June 20

Spanish Fun Day: 2:00 p.m.: Spanish stories, songs and a pickup soccer game, CH library.

June 21

“Appy” Hour app sharing: 5:30 p.m., CH library. Share favorite apps and explore new ones.

Duncanville Senior Dance: 7:00-9:30 p.m., Hopkins Sr. Ctr., 206 James Collins. Pete & Patti.

June 22

2nd Day of Summer: free women’s health event: 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Methodist Charlton: fitness for swimsuit readiness, asthma help, skin care. RSVP: (214) 947-0000.

June 24 — 26

ABC’s of keyboarding for kids: 5:30 p.m., CH library. Registration required: (972) 291-7323.

June 25

Teen video class: 2:00-4:00 p.m., CH library. Learn about creating and editing videos.

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



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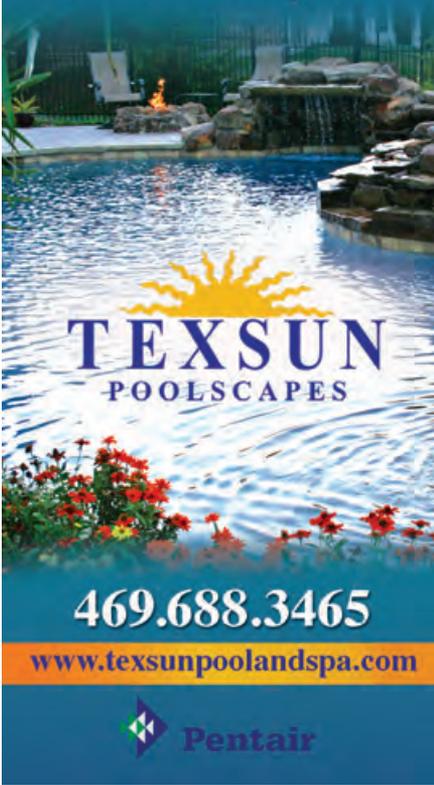


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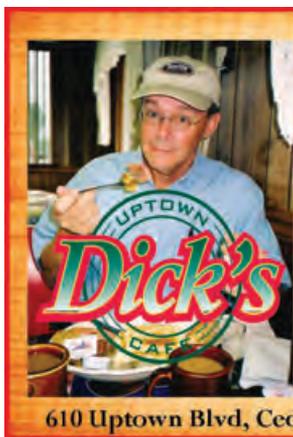
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In The Kitchen With Loretta Calhoun

— By Beverly Shay

While growing up in Ohio, Loretta Calhoun watched her grandmother and aunts cook all the time, but her Aunt Rita was the one she followed around the kitchen. “She was a fabulous cook, known for her peach cobbler,” Loretta recalled. “I made sure to get all her family recipes, especially the holiday ones.” Today, Loretta’s the teacher. “I’m glad to show anyone what I know,” she said, “if they have the passion.”

Loretta enjoys cooking, because it brings so much joy to her husband, family, friends and co-workers, especially when their favorite dish is prepared just for them. “I get a lot of recipes from the Internet and cooking magazines, then add my own touches,” she revealed. “Also, I watch cooking shows with my daughter, Morgan. It’s fun.” **NOW**

Aunt Rita’s Peach Cobbler

- 1 stick butter**
- 1 29-oz. can Del Monte sliced peaches**
- 1 cup sugar**
- 1 tsp. flour**
- 1 tsp. ground nutmeg**
- 1 Tbsp. vanilla**
- Pinch of salt**
- 1 11-oz. box Betty Crocker pie crust mix**
- 1/3 cup cold water**

- 1.** Preheat oven to 400 F. Spray 7x11-inch (2 qt.) glass baking dish with cooking spray; dust with flour.
- 2.** For filling: Microwave butter in a large mixing bowl for 1 minute; add peaches, sugar, flour, nutmeg, vanilla and salt. Mix well with rubber spatula; set aside.
- 3.** Make pie crust according to two-crust directions on box, using the cold water. Form dough into two balls. On floured surface, flatten one ball; roll to 12-inch diameter. Place

in baking dish. Trim pastry even with edge of dish. Place filling in dish.

- 4.** Roll out other ball of dough to 12-inch diameter. Cut into 1/2-inch strips. Lay half the strips on the filling at 1-inch intervals. Weave remaining strips to form lattice. Trim strips even with bottom crust. Fold extra pastry over strips to form an edge. Seal together; flute.
- 5.** Bake about 50 minutes or until peaches are bubbly and crust is golden brown. Cool.

Sausage Quiche

- 1 lb. Owen’s pork sausage**
- 1/2 cup onion, chopped**
- 1/4 cup each green and red pepper, chopped**
- 3 oz. cream cheese, softened**
- 4 eggs**
- 1/2 cup half-and-half**
- 4 oz. each Monterey Jack and cheddar cheese, shredded**
- 1/4 tsp. each salt and pepper**

1 9-inch pastry shell, baked

- 1.** In skillet, cook sausage over medium-high heat for 3 minutes, breaking it into small pieces; add onion and peppers. Cook and stir 5 minutes longer or until sausage is no longer pink. Drain well; set aside.
- 2.** In mixing bowl, beat cream cheese until smooth. Gradually add in eggs and half-and-half. Stir in cheeses, salt, pepper and sausage mixture. Pour into pie shell.
- 3.** Bake uncovered at 350 F for 40-45 minutes or until knife inserted comes out clean. If necessary, cover edges of crust with foil to prevent over-browning. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Cherry Cheesecake

- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened**
- 1 14-oz. can Eagle brand milk**
- 1/3 cup lemon juice**
- 1 tsp. vanilla**
- 1 graham cracker ready-made pie crust**
- 1 21-oz. can cherry pie filling, chilled**

- 1.** Beat cream cheese until light and fluffy. Add can milk; blend thoroughly. Stir in lemon juice and vanilla.
- 2.** Pour into crust. Chill 3 hours. Top with amount of filling desired before serving.

Layered Fruit Salad

Makes 10-12 servings.

Citrus sauce:

- 2/3 cup fresh orange juice**
- 1/3 cup fresh lemon juice**
- 1/3 cup brown sugar, packed**
- 1 cinnamon stick**
- 1/2 tsp. orange peel, grated**
- 1/2 tsp. lemon peel, grated**

Fruit Salad:

- 2 cups fresh pineapple, cubed**
- 1 pint fresh strawberries, hulled and sliced**
- 2 kiwi fruit, peeled and sliced**
- 3 medium bananas, sliced**
- 2 oranges, peeled and sectioned**
- 1 red grapefruit, peeled and sectioned**
- 1 cup seedless red grapes**

- 1.** For sauce: Bring all sauce ingredients to a boil; simmer 5 minutes. Cool.
- 2.** For salad: In large, clear bowl, arrange fruit in order listed. Remove cinnamon stick from sauce; pour over fruit. Cover and refrigerate several hours.

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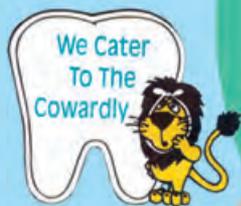
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