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ON THE COVER



Al and Blake Mallory hold the front wing of the winged sprint car Blake drives in the World of Outlaws series.

Photo by SRC Photography.

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Editor's Note

Hello Burlson, Crowley and Joshua!

Whew ... the school year's wound down. It feels like the guests we call "Hustle" and "Bustle" are about to leave the house, so we can get our lives back in order. Not so much in the sense of a clean house, but more in the sense of a clear mind. With fewer commitments, there are more opportunities to focus upon our need for rejuvenation.

The sunshine promises to restore our bodies if we'll take time to get out of the air conditioning and into the backyard. There may or may not be a bit of grass-trimming to be done before it gets hot. But certainly, with or without a pool, lounging under the mid-morning sun provides a new perspective on time. As growing heat awakens you to go indoors and make some lunch, your second wake-up for the day refreshes your approach to what is really important — time to relax.

Enjoy the haziness of laziness, y'all!

Melissa

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On the

Fast



F Track

— By Rick Mauch

Life goes by pretty fast. And if you're a member of the Mallory family of Joshua, it's even faster. Al Mallory has been racing cars since he was in high school. At 67, he's still getting behind the wheel and going at blinding speeds. His son, 37-year-old Blake, can also be found many Saturdays on a dirt track. His favorite track is Devil's Bowl Speedway in Mesquite. "In high school, I was too small to play sports. Auto racing was just something to do," Al recalled. "Other guys in school were doing it, so I started. I enjoyed it, and I excelled at it pretty quickly."

As a driver, crew chief and owner, Al said he's won at least 10 championships in several disciplines. This includes winning the 2016 Southwest Heritage Racing Association's drag racing title as a crew chief with 61-year-old friend, Richard Brady, driving.

This month, Al will get behind the wheel again when he races at Daytona International Speedway in his pride and joy, a 2008 Corvette that he built. It will be an endurance race of 14 hours in which he and several other drivers will work shifts driving about two hours each. "We'll have five or six drivers, and whoever goes first or second may go again," he said. "Those races take a lot of planning."

The Corvette was driven to an 11th-place finish out of 80 cars in a prestigious Grand Prix I race at the Circuit of Americas track near Austin. "That is the fastest division at the track," he noted.



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Al said the Corvette has a top speed of around 145 miles per hour on straightaways. That, however, is not the fastest he's ever gone in a motor vehicle. In the 1970s, in a dragster, Al drove a car to a winning speed of 199 mph. It was in a vehicle that used methanol as fuel. “Now *that* was fast,” Al said, chuckling. “We outran the world champs in that race.”

He also recalled breaking a speed record at a track in College Station — twice. He set a mark, and then broke his own record the next day in dramatic fashion. “I started on the pole and led the whole race on Saturday, but on Sunday a car hit and spun me,” he said. “I went from dead last to win. That was probably one of the best runs I ever had.”

Al's career has taken him many places, including Wisconsin, Atlanta and St. Louis. However, because of his love of family and the business he took over from his father, he didn't want to be gone every week, so he focused on local and regional success — of which he has plenty. However, there are a few tracks every driver dreams of racing someday. Daytona is one of those tracks. “Anybody who races dreams about Indianapolis and Daytona,” Al said. “Man, I am so excited to have this happen.”

Al got out of the military in 1971. Shortly after, he joined his father in the family business, Mallory Screen Printing and Embroidery. “I saw the potential to make money and have time off if I needed to do my racing,” Al said. “It's worked out great.”

Al met his wife, Sherry, while racing. He laughed and said she knew what she was getting into. “Back then, a racer was



just a guy with a red rag in his pocket,” he said. “It was kind of like a pawn shop. People thought the only folks who went in one were poor people who needed to pawn or sell something for money. Then, *Pawn Stars* comes along, and now you see all kinds of folks going into pawn shops. Racing is kind of the same way. When NASCAR got big, all kinds of people suddenly got interested.”

Al is still loyal to his roots, the same roots that Blake remembers being around while growing up. It was one of those races that made

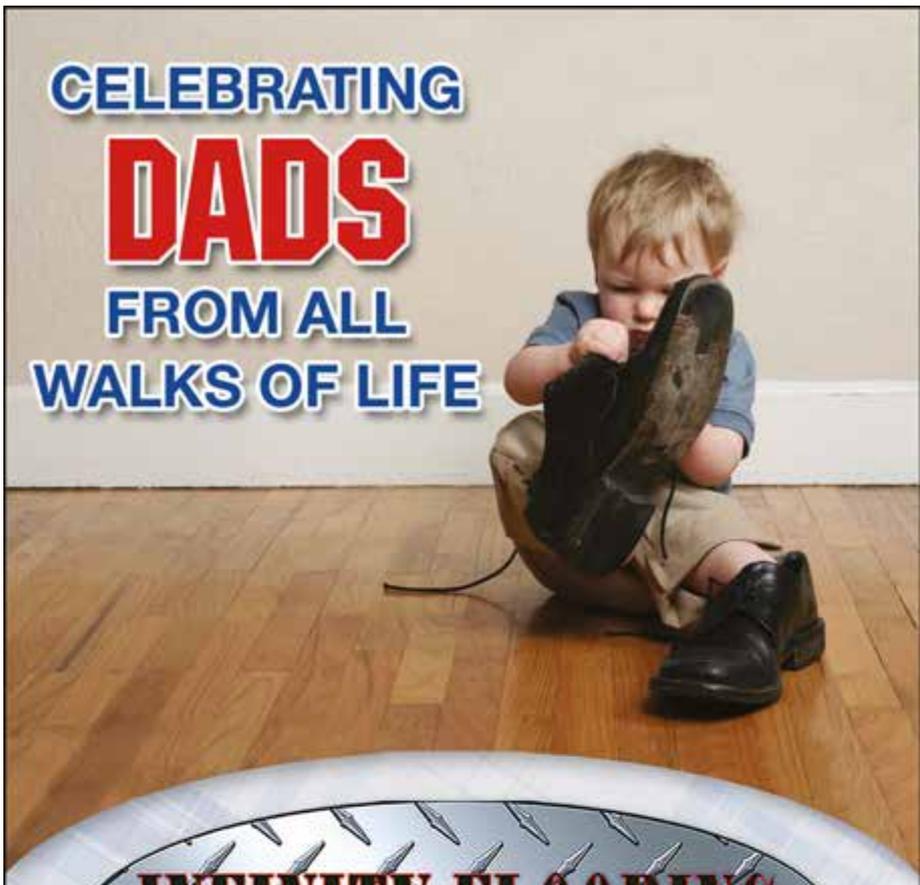


him realize he wanted to be like his dad. “I just remember being at the track, and they went to start the A-Main,” Blake recalled. “They had about 20 cars, and the ground shook. For a kid of 5 or 6, that was incredible. It blew my mind.”

Blake followed his father into racing and formerly competed on the NASCAR circuit, among other disciplines. He began racing go-carts at age 12. His first NASCAR race was at the legendary Indianapolis Raceway Park in 2001. He stayed on the circuit for about five years. He’s most proud of his performance in the World of Outlaws series and his winged sprint car. “When I drove in the World of Outlaws events, it weighed 1,390 pounds and had 800 horsepower. I’m thinking that’s the closest a kid from Joshua is going to get to the type of power and weight ratio a Formula I car has,” Blake said. “And it’s dangerous. Not everyone who drives a race car wants to step in one.

“I feel like my WOO stuff was way more important than any of the NASCAR stuff I did. I get a lot of pats on the back when I tell them I was able to qualify for some Outlaw A-Mains (feature races).”

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Like his dad, however, Blake puts family first. He and his brother, Ethan, who does not race but helps at times on the track, joined their father in the family business.

Al became involved in the SHRA Nostalgia series (involving no cars newer than 1982) a few years ago after he, Richard Brady and Mike Newman won the 2010 Southwest Junior Fuel Association series. His company became a major sponsor of the SHRA, and they remain so today. "Last year at our last race, we had 145 cars," Al said of the SHRA's growth from an original 24-car race. "It's been successful. They get a lot of media coverage now. It's been good."

Al decided to enter a car in the SHRA when someone made a comment that caught his attention. He had hesitated doing so, because he didn't want it to be seen as a conflict of interest. "Someone said, 'We just thought you didn't think you could do it,'" Al said, "so we raced every race and won the championship."

Al has not given much thought to how long he will continue to race. His passion for the sport is as strong as ever, and Blake's involvement continues to inspire him, as well. "The physical part is not too bad. I've had enough accidents to know what it's like to have that sheet time in a hospital," Al said. "But, when I get to where I'm not competitive, I'll quit. Hopefully, that won't be for a long time." **NOW**



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A Lot to Love

— By Erin McEndree



At Home With Ralph and Kathryn



While looking for a lot on which to build a house, eventually Ralph and Kathryn Auwenshine snatched up the best of both worlds — country living with a view of a pasture from their large front porch and in walking distance of the shops and restaurants in Old Town. The lot was under contract when they found it, but when it fell through, they quickly bought it and began the building process. It was the lot they loved, and they were so glad it became available.





Auvenshine

Kathryn had her own plans and worked with a contractor to make them a reality. They toured other homes the builder constructed to get ideas. The process took six long months, but Jake McWhirter and Dylan Bransom of Bransom Homes worked with them to make changes that met the requirements of the community and Kathryn. "In every step of the process, Jake helped flesh out our ideas and suggested options I didn't even know I wanted," Kathryn said. "My plans did not include a breezeway and a detached garage and had to be revised during the building process." Other ideas added more Craftsman-style details that Kathryn wanted, such as using signature materials and elements related to the Arts and Crafts movement.

Randomly shaped rocks with different tones form the foundation of the home, whose exterior is made of gray clapboard trimmed in white. The navy front door is on the side of the porch, a modification Kathryn insisted upon so a huge wall of windows and the porch would not be interrupted. The large porch has wicker chairs with navy and white striped pillows.

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“We can sit here, look out over the pasture, and see the prairie dog town and an occasional train,” Kathryn said. “It is very peaceful. Sometimes, I sit here in the middle of the night when I can’t sleep. We can also hear the music coming from Old Town when they have street festivals.”

“We lived on a half-acre east of Burleson with 101 oak trees,” Ralph laughed. “It was nice, but so much work raking leaves and tending the flower beds. We wanted something different.” Large stones in the flower beds are surrounded by dark gray rock and pink flowers. It is

less work and fewer weeds. “I enjoy yard work,” Ralph added. “I even like the push mower in this big backyard. I had to get used to mowing without the shade of so many trees.” Flowers and plants are like therapy for Kathryn, but Ralph takes care of the grass. They love to tinker in their yard.

When the windows are open, a breeze flows through the entire house. “Fresh air is so good for you,” Kathryn said. Light pours in the windows and illuminates the eating area near the kitchen. The cabinets are off-white, accented with a

dark stain. Roosters give the kitchen pops of color. More counter space was created on the island. A pocket door leading to the laundry room was a great Craftsman suggestion. By slipping the door into the wall, they saved space. “We were worried we would not have enough storage, but I looked online to find storage ideas,” Kathryn said. “I knew this was my last house, so I made a list of everything I wanted.” Many things on her list were incorporated into the design, such as a roll-top bread box on the counter and a bookshelf at the end of the island.

Between two wooden Craftsman-style columns and a rock pony wall is the formal dining area, which has low



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Framed on the wall are two original newspapers. One is the front page from a 1963 paper announcing President Kennedy's assassination.

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lighting. The table with ornate scroll legs is anchored in the middle on a green and black rug. Color on the wall consists of decorative plates in green, yellow and orange. "I have always wanted two eating areas, even though people told me I would not use it," Kathryn said. "I love it."

The dining room opens into the den where Ralph and Kathryn spend most of their time. They like to read and, together, they enjoy watching politics on their big screen TV. Ralph attended many concerts growing up. He has framed all his concert tickets and CD jackets from groups like the Beach Boys, Styx, Lionel Richie and George Strait. Other memorabilia from sports teams like the Dallas Cowboys fill up a bookshelf. Their three dogs, Katie, Bell and Max, have comfortable dog beds on the floor. "We call them the Three Stooges," Ralph laughed. When they are not in the house, the dogs play in the large yard, where Ralph and Kathryn eventually hope to plant some trees.

The master bedroom has natural light from the large windows shining on the light green comforter on the king-size bed. Orange is an accent color around the room. A rug with orange squares rests at the end of the bed. A colorful painting of blue, green and orange birds hangs on the wall. Orange accents continue in the master bath where orange towels hang. There is a double sink, large closet and more birds framed on the wall. "I did not want a shower," Kathryn said. "I love my big bathtub for soaking."

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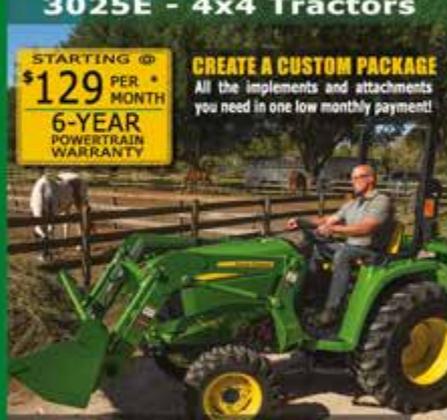
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Black and white photos of Kathryn's parents and her grandmother line the hallway. Across from the master is an extra bedroom. Framed on the wall are two original newspapers. One is the front page from a 1963 paper announcing President Kennedy's assassination. "I found these newspapers going through my mother's things, so I had them framed," Ralph explained.



The garage is Ralph's man cave. He has been known to put up a big screen TV and watch a Dallas Cowboys game with the guys. "This is one of the cleanest garages I've ever seen," Kathryn said. Tidy boxes line the shelves, and tools and yard equipment are neatly stowed and have their place.

"We would love to get a hot tub," Ralph said. "We had one, and I really do miss it." Ralph and Kathryn would also like to travel. They love history and want to visit historical sites in Virginia and the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

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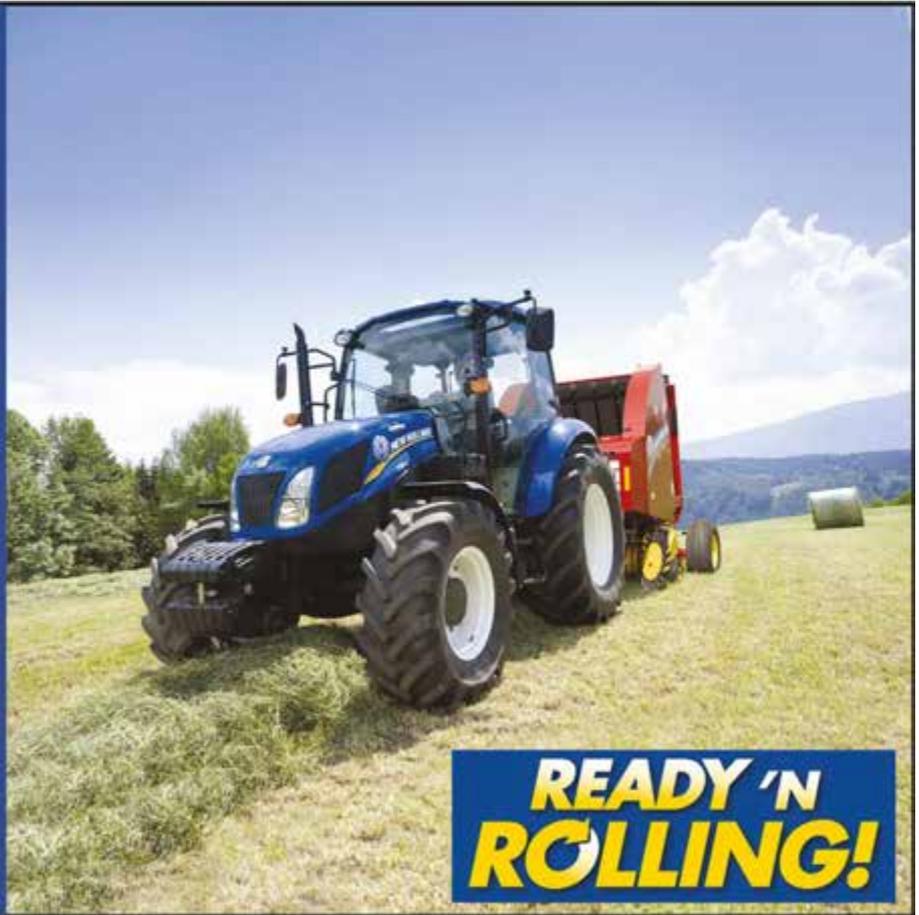


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Dancing Into the *Future*

— By Erin McEndree

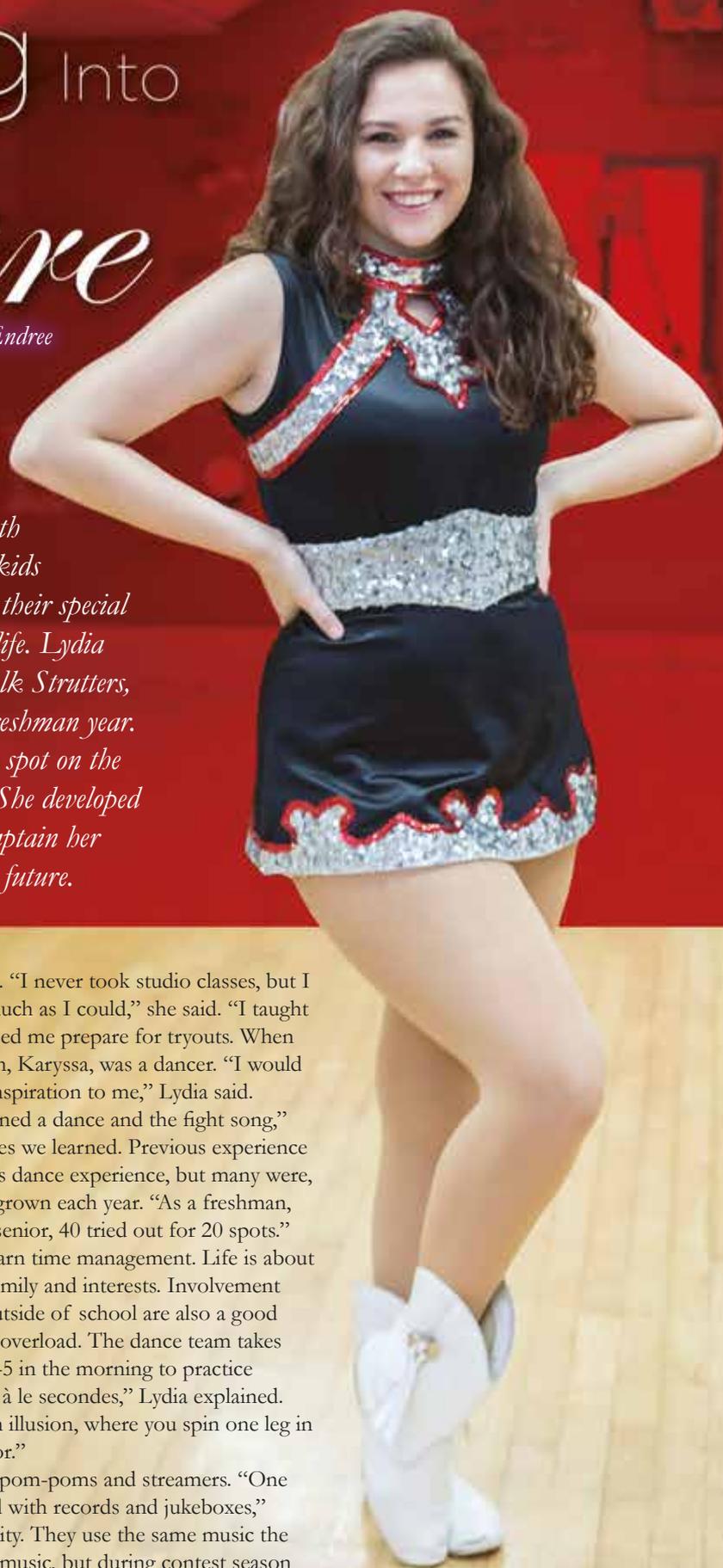
Extracurricular activities are beneficial to students in many ways they may not even realize. Social ties are made. Emotional bonds are formed. Physical and mental strength increase. Extracurricular activities also help kids find and use their unique talents and express their special creativity that can help them lead a fulfilling life. Lydia Lott mustered up the courage to try out for Elk Strutters, a dance team at Burleson High School, her freshman year. Without formal dance training, she secured a spot on the team and has benefited immensely ever since. She developed leadership skills that helped her become the captain her senior year and will continue to aid her in the future.

Lydia grew up in Burleson and always loved dance. “I never took studio classes, but I watched dance shows, ice skating and gymnastics as much as I could,” she said. “I taught myself watching YouTube instructional videos. It helped me prepare for tryouts. When I became a Strutter, I gained technique.” Lydia’s cousin, Karyssa, was a dancer. “I would watch her performances and videos. She was a great inspiration to me,” Lydia said.

The audition process took a whole week. “We learned a dance and the fight song,” Lydia explained. “On Friday, we preformed the routines we learned. Previous experience is not mandatory. Some of the other girls had previous dance experience, but many were, like me, with none.” Participation in the Strutters has grown each year. “As a freshman, 16 tried out for 10 spots,” Lydia said. “This year, as a senior, 40 tried out for 20 spots.”

Being in extracurricular activities helps students learn time management. Life is about setting priorities and juggling duties, such as school, family and interests. Involvement helps foster responsibility with your time. Activities outside of school are also a good distraction from social media, electronics and sensory overload. The dance team takes commitment and dedication seriously. “We meet at 6:45 in the morning to practice routines that include turns like pirouettes, chaînés and à le secondes,” Lydia explained. “We learn jumps and leaps, but my favorite is called an illusion, where you spin one leg in a complete circle above your head and back to the floor.”

Many different props are used including balloons, pom-poms and streamers. “One theme was the ’50s, and we wore big skirts and danced with records and jukeboxes,” Lydia said. The dance team is a good outlet for creativity. They use the same music the band plays at pep rallies. They create routines for that music, but during contest season from December through February, they choose different music.



“This is where we can come to *relax*, be comfortable, get *support* and get away, if we have trouble at home or school.”

There are many different categories in the dance competitions including: poms, novelty, jazz, contemporary, kick routines, lyrical and more. This year, they competed in contemporary, kick and pom. “We get to express our ideas about costumes and then vote,” Lydia said. “We hold fundraisers to help cover costs for costumes and trips. We have car washes, candy sales and a craft fair in December, where we perform.” The team has performed at a Spurs game in San Antonio, Universal Studios in Los Angeles and traveled to New York to see performances.

Being in the Strutters has helped Lydia with self-esteem, as she must push herself to talk to people during fundraisers. One fun fundraiser is the Mr. Burleson Pageant. In March, boys with good grades and good discipline are selected to try out for the pageant in April. The Strutters teach the boys a dance routine after school that is judged



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Lydia made many friends that shared her passion for dance. Extracurricular activities are a great way for teens to meet others who have the same interests, yet are different and unique. Being in activities with other students helps teens break down barriers and preconceived judgments, while reaching common goals. “I have learned to work well with the other girls. I’ve learned to compromise because you cannot please everyone,” Lydia said. “I have learned to deal with conflict and talk about ideas.” These skills will help her in the future in college and in a job setting.

“We have great role models. Megan Owens and Jules Juniker, our coach and assistant coach [respectively], show leadership skills that help us know what to do and what not to do,” Lydia explained. “This is where we can come to relax, be comfortable, get support and get away, if we have trouble at home or school. I like to say we can ‘dance it out’ here, and Mrs. Owens is like a second mom.

“I have gained more confidence since I became a Strutter,” Lydia continued. “I used to be shy, but I have become more open.” As a senior, she became the captain of the Elk Strutters. “My duties are to help run practice, when needed, help make decisions on the fly and

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lead the girls out onto the field during football season.”

The Strutters have been very successful winning many awards including Grand State Champion, precision awards, costume awards and congeniality awards, to name a few. “My mom is always at every performance, and my dad comes when he can,” Lydia said. “My grandmothers, sister and brother also support me and come to an occasional performance.”

Lydia plans to choose a college that has a dance program. She would like to continue dance and expand her knowledge and skill by taking dance



Lydia Lott looks up to Coach Megan Owens (left) and Assistant Coach Jules Juniker (right).

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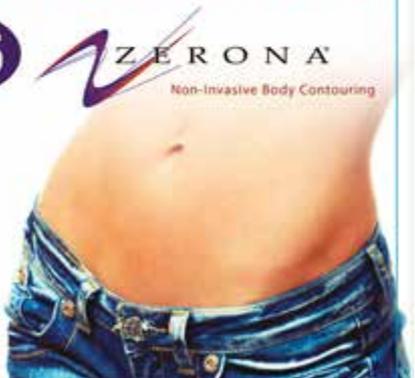
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classes. “I will see what opportunities come along. I also want to study social studies and minor in Spanish,” she said. “I would love to travel. I love to learn about different cultures and see how things have changed.”

If Lydia could choose any era, she would choose the '50s because she likes the style during that time period. “I am also half Spanish and want to learn Spanish to be able to better communicate with some of my bilingual family members. It’s a great skill to have when looking for a job.”

As a junior, Lydia participated in powerlifting. She admits her friends were doing it, and she joined them for fun. “It helped build my strength and was a good experience,” she said. “I did well personally, but not in competition.”

Extracurricular activity instills character traits that help students socially, physically and emotionally. The Elk Strutters has given Lydia more than dance experience. Qualities and skills have been instilled in her that will help her in the real world. She has gained confidence to speak up and state her opinion, and the teamwork has taught her to work well with peers and to be dedicated. She knows these skills will benefit her as she continues to pursue her love of dance in the years to come. **NOW**

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Road Trip

— By Zachary R. Urquhart



Here in Texas, summertime usually means road trips! With miles as expansive as these, it will not be long before you are traveling like a true highwayman. Whether a seasoned pro or a first timer, here are some tips to make sure your trip does not sputter from the start.

MAKE SURE YOUR CAR IS READY

- *Have the tires rotated and inspected.* Tires should be rotated every 6,000-8,000 miles. While this is a simple enough job for you to do on your own, it might be worth giving the tire shop a turn, so they can thoroughly check for depth and even wear patterns before you trust your car's shoes for hundreds of miles. It is relatively inexpensive, and some shops will rotate and balance free, after installation. Be sure also to inflate the tires to the car's recommended pressure, which keeps you safe and improves gas mileage.

- *Oil changes are important.* While the old model of changing your oil every 3,000 miles or three months is often outdated, you do need to make sure to maintain your vehicle's standards. But before you run to an oil shop just before a trip, know that gaskets on oil pans and filters can be faulty, so you want to make the change at least a few days before your trip. That way, you will avoid getting stranded on the highway with a blown engine.

- *A clean car is a happy car.* Washing your car helps with more than just aesthetics. Regularly washing and waxing will protect your car's paint. And if your trip takes you to the sandy beaches

of the Gulf or the red dirt near Oklahoma, you will want to make sure to give the car a thorough cleaning after your trip, as sand and grit can hurt both your car's exterior and its inner workings, if left over time.

PLAN FOR THE WORST

- *A little preparation goes a long way.* While no one wants to break down or be in a wreck, ending up stuck on the highway is sometimes an inevitability. While you cannot prepare for every situation, having an emergency kit is a simple step to take. You want to include things like foam tire sealant, jumper cables and duct tape that may allow you to fix minor problems until you can get into a proper shop. You should also have road flares or reflective triangles, as well as a fire extinguisher and flashlight to keep yourself safe and protected.

- *Have more than just tools.* In addition to roadside safety items, you should always travel with food and certain clothing items. It is smart to throw bottles of water and nonperishable snacks in the car for a long trip, in case you are stranded for a long period. Gloves will come in handy when changing a tire or lifting the hood to check for leaking fluids. And even though it is summer, you want to be sure you have blankets and a poncho, as changing a tire in the rain is no fun at all.

- *Information is key.* You should always have an up-to-date insurance card with you, but especially before embarking on a long trip. Additionally, know where your various roadside assistance numbers are located. All Texas driver's licenses have a number on the back, as do toll tags and insurance cards, if that

is part of your coverage. And if you are a member of a group like AAA, you have ample options for getting help when your car is stranded.

DRIVE SAFELY

• *Don't be distracted.* Drivers sometimes think that long stretches of highways are less dangerous, but trying to text or otherwise letting yourself be distracted is dangerous. Playing road trip games or singing along is great, as long as the driver stays focused on the road.

• *Speed kills.* "Young drivers, especially, often think the open road is an open invitation to see how fast they can go, but that is a huge mistake. Other than being distracted, the biggest problem is driving too fast and following too close," an officer with the DeSoto Police Department said. "Make sure you keep at least three car lengths between you and the next driver in town — more on the highway."

WORST CASE SCENARIOS

• *Don't make it worse.* If you end up having an accident, the first thing you need to do is get yourself in a safe place. "If the car can drive, slowly move it off the road," the officer continued. "If the car cannot drive, just leave it where it is and stand in safety away from the road." Before worrying about insurance, fault or repairs, you need to be in a safe place.

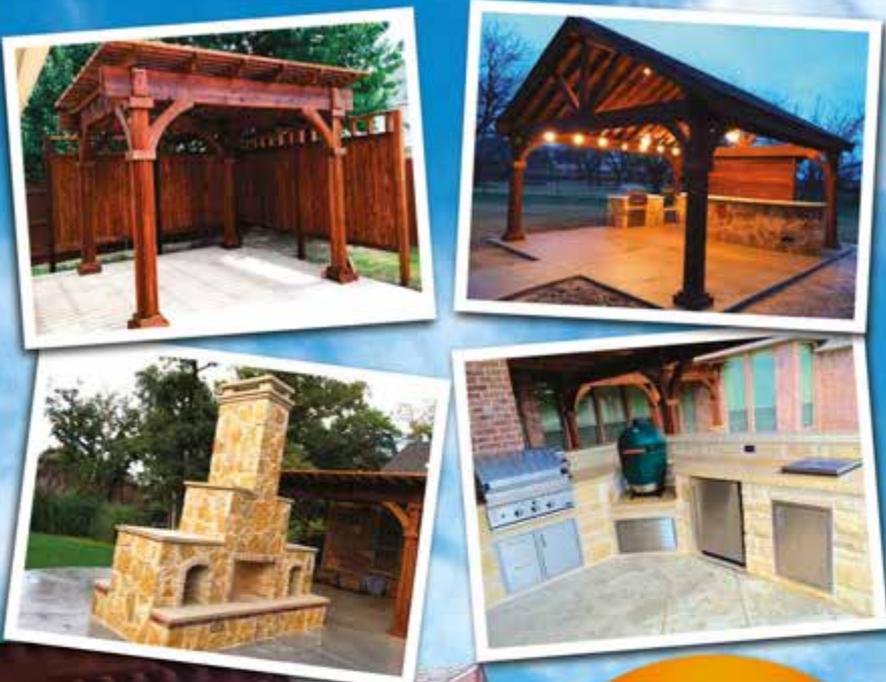
• *Make the call.* When you are in a wreck, the first call you make needs to be to the police. "If it's a teen driver, they should call the police first, then call their parents," the officer detailed. "Then, call your insurance company." If a tow truck is needed, you or your insurance should call it in. State troopers calling a wrecker often leads to higher costs.

• *You should see the other guy.* Only when both drivers are safe, exchange insurance and contact information. If you are hit and the other car flees the scene, do not try to track them down. "The best advice is to get the color, the plate and any description of the driver you can," the officer stated.

No one wants to break down or be in a car wreck. But, by being prepared and knowing how to handle the worst situations, your summer can be full of open roads and new destinations. **NOW**

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CTS enhances children's independence through speech, language and feeding therapy. — By Melissa Rawlins

For 21 years, Speech-Language Pathologist Leianne Carr has helped children overcome issues associated with speech and feeding, so they can eat and communicate effectively. Her Burleson-based Children's Therapy Solutions involves each client's family. By giving them home practice, the rate of progress increases.

Leianne's belief in doing your homework starts with her own approach. She is trained in multiple areas, in addition to holding the Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. She refreshes her knowledge base yearly with continuing education workshops and polishes her knowledge of the current science about the body's connection to the brain.

Her entrance into this fascinating field began in high school, when babysitting jobs primed Leianne to care deeply about children. She investigated speech therapy upon the encouragement of a cousin she admired. At first, Leianne simply thought she would teach children how to say their R's and S's. Through completing her master's degree, she learned the complexities, from helping children say their first word, to helping those being bullied for saying "wabbit" instead of "rabbit," to helping children who have a sensory issue causing an aversion to certain things related to food.

"Being able to help with that seems so basic," Leianne said. But it's not so basic for most people. "Our goal is to educate families and give them activities to do at home."

To aid people considering how to help a child with their speech or feeding, Leianne embedded into the Children's Therapy Solutions website a myriad of resources. The list of developmental milestones is a helpful troubleshooting guide, while the research-based parent resources can help families deal with their child's issues peacefully.

Those needing help from a private practitioner need not drive into Fort Worth for services. Children's Therapy Solutions helps families in Burleson, Crowley and Joshua deal with the increasing variety of diagnoses, and Leianne looks forward to expanding her practice. She will always specialize in speech and feeding. "The same muscles that help with eating also help with speaking," she explained.

Some of her clients are able to eat, but have a limited food repertoire. "We also work with the babies who are having difficulty feeding and not getting enough nutrition once they come home from the hospital," Leianne said. "I have a huge passion for helping children and their families."

Leianne offers services in her office, as well as at local preschools. As she works one-on-one with each child, Leianne tries to involve the parent and/or siblings accompanying the child to CTS. "I provide strategies they can use at home to help with the skills we've worked on in therapy," she said.

"We are offering summer therapy for children who currently receive services in the school and want to continue with therapy during the summer," she said, explaining that no evaluation will be necessary if the child's admission, review and dismissal paperwork are current. "That saves the family time and money, and we're able to implement services almost immediately." CTS bills insurance for services, and their rates are comparable to other private practices in the Fort Worth area.

Modeling positive behavior and patiently shaping each client's behavior into the desired outcome, Leianne loves what she does. Give her a call, and let Children's Therapy Solutions encourage your child's confidence to try new things. **NOW**

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Brothers, Joel and Jacob Rodgers and Rylan McCoy celebrate their sister, Jordan's, bridal shower.



Burleson's Holly Moore joins Waxahachie's Dan Coy at the fundraising table for the Children's Advocacy Center.



Michelle Jacal serves free, hot coffee to Joe Juarez at Joshua's Dairy Queen.



Raylene West and her grandson, Joseph Pruitt, work a deal with Kelly Burgess as Rawhide Rustic prepares to move its furniture store to the old skating rink in Cleburne.



Paul Freeman and Ellen Larimore are all smiles during their vacation at Monkey Business Cabo.



Burleson Area Midday Rotary and Burleson Rotary Club hosts the Fifth Annual C.A. Roy & Floyd Walker Memorial Golf Tournament where the morning flight was won by FW Freight: Rick Walker, Reese Walker, Jeff Boan and Scott Smith.



Stacy Rotenberry, Staci Bailey and Missy Barker enjoy some zip line girl time.



Andrea McDonald and her daughter, Landry, enjoy a breezy day at Warren Park during a Nola Dunn field trip.



Kaleb and Darena Lynes celebrate their son, Brody, and his Panther City baseball team getting 1st place.



Tri-Cities VFW Post 6872 members pose with the crew from Stars and Stripes Tree Service, which donated mesquite trimming last month.

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Financial Gifts — and Tips — for New Graduates

It's graduation season again. If your child is graduating from high school or college, you have reason to celebrate. But what should you give to your newly minted diploma holder? You might want to consider offering a combination of financial gifts and tips, which, taken together, could set your graduate on a path toward a successful, independent life.

What sort of gifts and tips should you consider? Here are a few ideas:

- **Give a few shares of stock.** Everyone should understand the financial markets and how they work. One great way to encourage this interest is to give your child a few shares of stock. Young people enjoy owning a piece of a company that makes the products and services they like — and the very act of ownership can inspire them to learn more about investing and to ask questions: *What causes the stock price to go up or down? How long should I hold this stock? Should I own several stocks like this one, or is it better to branch out to find new opportunities?* Over time, in learning the answers to these and other questions, your child can become familiar with investing and how to make the best choices.

Three graduates in black caps and gowns are smiling and taking a selfie with a smartphone. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

Congratulations, Graduates

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• **Encourage your graduate to open an IRA.** Your child can open an IRA as long as he or she has some earned income. You might want to suggest that your child consider a Roth IRA, which, at the child's age and income level, may be a good choice. With a Roth IRA, children can access their contributions at any time, tax- and penalty-free. They can't touch the earnings without incurring both taxes and penalties, however, until they reach 59 1/2. But you will want to encourage them to keep the money in their IRA intact, giving it the chance to grow.

• **Provide some financial education.** Unfortunately, most young people don't really receive any kind of formal financial education. Of course, you can try to provide some of this knowledge to your own children, but, as you know, advice from Mom and Dad sometimes gets ignored. However, you might get better results if you arrange for your recent graduate to meet with a financial professional. As mentioned above, owning stocks, and following their progress, can teach your children a great deal about investing, but a financial professional can paint the "big picture" and explain how all aspects of money management — such as borrowing, budgeting, saving and investing — fit together to help individuals stay in control of their finances and make progress toward their important financial goals, such as buying a house and retiring in comfort. Recent graduates, whether leaving high school or college, are at turning points in their lives and can benefit greatly from understanding the importance of developing good, lifelong financial habits.

Most of us can think of several money-related mistakes we've made over the course of many years. And your children will make some errors, too. But by providing them with some appropriate financial gifts and valuable advice upon their graduation, they may well be better prepared to keep those mistakes to a minimum — while maximizing their ability to make good decisions. **NOW**

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Lynn H. Bates is an Edward Jones representative based in Burleson.

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Movies in the Park: 8:30-11:00 p.m., Bicentennial Park, 900 E. Glendale St., Crowley. Visit www.ci.crowley.tx.us for movie listings. (817) 297-2201, x4300.

June 3

Pancake Breakfast/Carwash Fundraiser: 8:00-11:00 a.m., Boulevard Baptist Church, 315 N. Burleson Blvd. Help the youth group. (817) 295-4342.

June 10

SalsaRita Fest and 5K: 2:00-5:00 p.m., 136 Bufford St. Margaritas, salsa, boutique vendors and musicians make for family fun. www.eventbrite.com.

June 13

Multi-City Mixer: 5:30-7:30 p.m., Walnut Creek Country Club, 1151 Country Club Dr., Mansfield. info@mansfieldchamber.org.

After-Hours networking: 5:30-7:00 p.m.,

American National Bank of Texas, 308 E. Renfro St. Burleson Chamber of Commerce, (817) 295-6121.

Trail Life Troop TX-0110 meeting: 7:00-8:00 p.m., Burleson Church of Christ Community Room, 1150 N.W. John Jones Dr. (817) 995-8466.

June 15

Crowley Second Quarterly Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Crowley Recreation Center, 405 S. Oak St. \$20 per person for members of Crowley Area Chamber of Commerce. \$25 non-members. RSVP to (817) 297-4211.

BACC Summer Quarterly meeting: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Nazarene Christian Academy, 2001 E. Main St., Crowley. With registration before **June 13**: \$20 each member; \$25 non-members. Call Burleson Chamber of Commerce, (817) 295-6121, with questions about membership or to register.

June 16

JACC Golf Tournament: 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Hidden Creek Golf Course, 555 E. Hidden Creek Pkwy., Burleson. \$100 per golfer. (817) 556-2480. Casino Night and Auction: 6:00-11:00 p.m.,

Crowley Recreation Center, 405 S. Oak St. \$40 reserves your spot. Contact (817) 297-4211.

June 17

PoNoMo Money Club: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Burleson Public Library, 248 S.W. Johnson Ave. Free workshop on cutting expenses. (817) 426-9210.

June 24

Cops-n-Cruisers: Noon-4:00 p.m., W. Ellison St., in front of City Hall, Old Town Burleson. Full car, truck and bike show with over 60 awards is free to attend, but bring cash for raffles and the live charity auction to benefit Burleson Police Foundation. For details, call (817) 900-0650.

June 30

Business Talk Friday: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Burleson Public Library, 248 S.W. Johnson Ave. Call Burleson Chamber of Commerce, (817) 295-6121.

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In the Kitchen With Leona Rapp

— By *Melissa Rawlins*

Accomplished cooks practice and have fun while they do it. Leona Rapp's been practicing since childhood. When her parents had to work late, Leona helped prepare dinners. Before that, she remembers helping her grandmother make pastries. Even now, her cookies get gobbled up when she brings them to church events, and her pie and cobbler are big favorites with her family.

She and her husband moved from Sonora, Texas, when he took a band-directing job with Crowley ISD in 1982. Leona worked in Everman ISD for four years, and then she had the opportunity to work at Crowley High School until she retired in 2008. Now Leona serves as clinic coordinator for the Crowley House of Hope Medical Clinic, pouring love into the community and, often, sharing desserts like those below. **NOW**

Apple-pecan Pie Cobbler

Pecan Pie Batter:

- 1 cup light brown sugar**
- 1 cup pecans, chopped**
- 1/2 cup flour**
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder**
- 1/4 tsp. salt**
- 1/2 cup melted butter**
- 2 large eggs, beaten**
- 1 tsp. vanilla**

Apple Cobbler:

- 6-8 large Granny Smith apples, peeled and sliced**
- 1/2 cup firmly packed light brown sugar**
- 2 Tbsp. flour**
- 1/4 cup butter**
- 1/4 cup dark Karo Corn Syrup**
- 1 Tbsp. ground cinnamon**

- 1. For Pecan Pie Batter:** Before you start the cobbler, stir together dry batter ingredients. Add the wet batter ingredients when the apples are done, stirring until just moistened.
- 2. For Apple Cobbler:** Toss first 3 ingredients in a bowl. Over medium-high heat, melt butter in a large skillet that you can put into the oven. Add apple mix and corn syrup to the skillet. Bring to a boil. Cook, stirring often until apples can be easily pierced with a fork. Sprinkle liberally with cinnamon.
- 3.** Spoon Pecan Pie Batter over top of Apple Cobbler. Bake at 425 F for 15-20 minutes. Serve with ice cream or Cool Whip.

Best Ever Sugar Cookies

Makes 5-7 dozen.

- 1 cup powdered sugar**
- 1 cup sugar**

- 1 cup butter**
- 3/4 cup oil**
- 2 eggs**
- 2 tsp. vanilla**
- 1/4 tsp. salt**
- 1 tsp. baking soda**
- 1 tsp. cream of tartar**
- 5 cups flour**
- Cinnamon and sugar, to taste**

- 1.** Cream together first 4 ingredients.
- 2.** Add the remaining ingredients, except cinnamon sugar mixture, one at a time, mixing well.
- 3.** Roll into walnut-size balls. Press each with the bottom of a glass coated in cinnamon sugar mixture or your favorite topping.
- 4.** Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 350 F for 10-12 minutes.

Cherry Cream Pie

- 1 pkg. cream cheese**
- 1 cup whipping cream**
- 1 tsp. vanilla**
- 1/2 tsp. Amaretto liqueur (optional)**
- 1/2 to 3/4 cup sugar**
- 1 9-inch graham cracker pie crust**
- 1 21-oz. can cherry pie filling or fresh fruit**

- 1.** Put first 5 ingredients in a blender; mix until just smooth. Do not over beat. (Mixture should be thick.)
- 2.** Spoon into pie crust, and top with filling or fruit.
- 3.** Chill and serve.

Angel Food Pineapple Cake

Weight Watchers recipe.

- 1 box Angel Food Cake mix**
- 1 20-oz. can crushed pineapple**
- 1 cup fresh fruit (optional)**
- 1 tub Cool Whip (optional)**

- 1.** Mix together dry cake mix and crushed pineapple, undrained. Pour into tube pan. Do not add water. Bake as directed on the cake mix box.
- 2.** Can serve with fresh fruit and/or Cool Whip, if desired.

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

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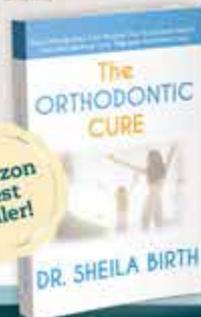
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