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DeSoto ISD is providing 'choices' for you - our parents and students - both academically and in the numerous opportunities to be involved! We encourage every family to attend Goals Nights, sign up for campus or district committees, be a homeroom mom or a booster parent and volunteer, join us for Coffee with the Superintendent and a Town Hall Meeting, come to games and cheer for the Eagles, log-in to Parent Portal and check your student's grades each week, and follow us on Twitter @DeSotoISDengage and Facebook @DeSotoISD.

Our 'choices' reflect our values. The 'choices' of where and with whom we spend our time reflects our values. We, as a district of educators, value your children, our students, and their education; and we value you our parents. *Join us and Choose to BE in DeSoto ISD.*

GOALS NIGHTS - 6:30-8:30 p.m.

All students and parents are invited to Goals Nights - outlining the expectations for the student, class, campus and district for the next year!

- Monday, September 8 - DeSoto HS and Freshman Campus
- Tuesday, September 9 - All Elementary Schools
- Monday, September 15 - All Middle Schools

1ST TUESDAY TOWN HALL MEETINGS - 6:30 p.m.

Join for an open conversation about DeSoto ISD.

- Tuesday, October 7 - Ruby Young Elementary, 707 Young Blvd.
- Tuesday, November 4 - East Middle School, 601 E. Belt Line Rd.
- Tuesday, December 2 - DeSoto High School, 600 Eagle Dr.

COFFEE WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT - 7:30 a.m. (fall schedule)

Join Superintendent David Harris for coffee at your school.

- Tuesday, September 16, 7:30 a.m. - Cockrell Hill ES
- Tuesday, September 30, 7:30 a.m. - McCowan MS
- Tuesday, October 21, 7:30 a.m. - Frank Moates ES
- Tuesday, November 18, 7:30 a.m. - Amber Terrace ES
- Tuesday, December 16, 7:30 a.m. - Woodridge ES

Are you interested in joining the DeSoto ISD Community Advisory Council or participating in the first DeSoto ISD Ambassador Training program to get a behind the scenes look at how DeSoto ISD works? Contact the DeSoto ISD Communications Office at 972-223-6666 or info@desotoisd.org.

Calendar

- Mon., Sept. 1 - Labor Day Holiday, No School
- Mon., Sept. 8, 6:30 p.m. - Board Meeting, Board Room
- Wed., Sept. 10, 6:30 p.m. - College Fair at DeSoto High School
- Fri., Sept. 19, 7 p.m. - DHS Choral Back to School Talent Show
- Mon., Sept. 22, 7:30 a.m. - Education Foundation Golf, Thorntree Country Club
- Mon., Sept. 22, 6:30 p.m. - Board Meeting, Board Room

NEWS TO KNOW

Are you ready for football?

Join the Eagles this season for another exciting year. Home games:

- Sept. 5 v. Eastern Christian
- Oct. 10 v. Mansfield
- Oct. 23 v. Cedar Hill
- Nov. 6 v. Duncanville

Volleyball Home District Games

- Sept. 19 v. Duncanville
- Sept. 23 v. South Grand Prairie
- Oct. 7 v. Midlothian
- Oct. 10 v. Mansfield
- Oct. 21 v. Grand Prairie
- Oct. 24 v. Cedar Hill

Check the web for away games as well as the remaining fall sports schedules.

College Fair at DHS Sept. 10

DeSoto High School will host their annual College Fair on Wednesday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. with over 100 colleges and universities on hand plus parent sessions about financial aid and scholarships.

Foundation Golf Sept. 22

The DeSoto ISD Education Foundation needs you to join us for a great day of golf at Thorntree Country Club. To play or sponsor, call 972-223-6666 or visit www.desotoisd.org.

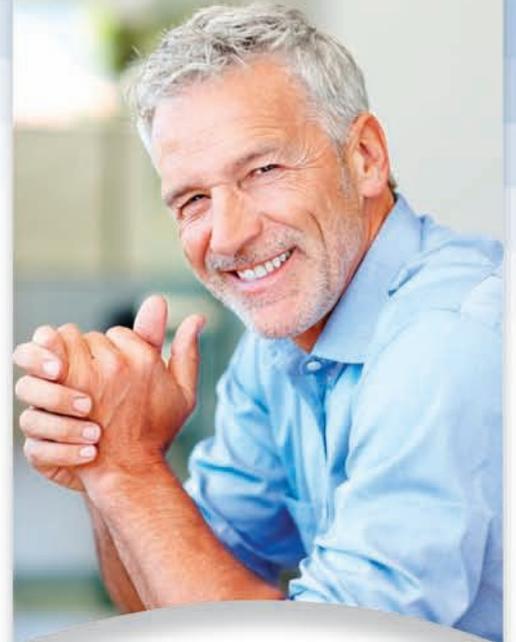
DeSoto ISD Senior Citizen's Spa and 'Happy Hour'

DeSoto ISD is hosting a special Senior Citizen's Spa and 'Happy Hour' at DeSoto High School on Thursday, October 2 from 4-6 p.m. The event, replacing the Seniors' Prom, is for DeSoto ISD residents age 60 and up and will include special spa rates by the Cosmetology students and hor d'oeuvres and mocktails by the Culinary Arts students. RSVPs for the event, limited to the first 150 guests, will start in mid-September. Check the web site for details at www.desotoisd.org



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ON THE COVER



The Detmores and their tortoises enjoy the pace of retirement.

Photo by Amy Ramirez.

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Editor's Note

Hello, Cedar Hill, DeSoto and Duncanville!

I recently noticed I basically wear fall colors. My all-time favorite color is green — the duller greens, like moss, avocado and Army green. I'm not a real fan of Kelly green except for grass. Grass, of course, makes me think of Ireland, where I have never been, but would love to go and Scotland, where I have been and would love to return. I love the contrast of green leaves against blue skies and green kiwis with red strawberries. My other fall colors include berry shades of deep red, browns from pale to chocolate and shades of purple.

Colors are said to be a means of nonverbal communication. Supposedly, they reveal something about your personality. So: green speaks of balance, harmony and growth; red reflects action and passion; purple represents imagination and spirituality; and brown depicts a serious, down-to-earth temperament. Hmmm.

Find your colors this fall,

Beverly

Beverly Shay
SouthwestNOW Editor
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Tortoise and Whale Tales

— By Beverly Shay

Not many people have a natural habitat in their backyard, but John and Barbara Detmore do, complete with several tortoises that have made their home there for several decades. Their backyard, however, is a natural habitat for humans, as well—landscaped with some of Barbara's favorite flowering plants, including some tropical Plumeria she brought back from yearly treks to Hawaii. A beautiful pool and a swing under a canopy create a restful oasis. The tortoises prefer the monkey grass parkland John and Barbara have planted for them.

Little did John know when he first met Barbara at the First Christian Church in Duncanville that he would be living among tortoises. Both John and Barbara began attending the church in 1977. John hails from Houston, where he lived for 30 years. He attended the University of Houston and then joined the Navy in 1954, spending two years on active duty and six years in the reserves. He served on a submarine and loved it. He got a job with Swift in '56 and went back to college in '57 on the GI bill. He also married. Following seven years of night school, he completed his BBA in business administration. After he first moved to Fort Worth and later to Abilene, he left Swift and then worked with a poultry company until they were bought out.

"I came to Dallas and worked for Pilgrim as their general manager for six years and then as their national sales manager," John recalled. "In 1985, I left Pilgrim and started our own business selling chickens."

Meanwhile, Barbara, who had been born in the family community of Queens, New York, and later lived in Manhattan, came to Dallas via Chicago with three children. "When my



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oldest child was in kindergarten, I decided I was done with living in the cold, so I moved to Duncanville,” Barbara stated. While living in New York, Barbara worked at what she terms her life-changing job with Pan Am as an executive secretary to the assistant controller. “I was able to travel all over the world for 10-percent fares!”



Although they had both been attending the same church for two years, John didn't notice Barbara until he became an usher. “What I noticed was a very attractive woman, who was married. We later discovered we had actually joined the church on the same Sunday,” John remarked. After her divorce, on the very first day she was no longer wearing a ring, John asked if he could get to know her. They dated for two-and-a-half years before marrying in December 1983. “Initially, she wasn't interested in marriage,” John smiled, “but I fell in love right away.” Thirty years later, they are both most definitely in love.

The same year they married, moving into the home Barbara had purchased in Duncanville (where they still live), was

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also the year John opened their business. “Barbara was my associate until I retired in 1997. Then I became her associate,” John said with a chuckle. They retired in 2000.

“One of the great things about that business was the wonderful friends we have made,” Barbara said. “We are still friends with many of them.”

Although John’s three children were already grown, Barbara’s three were still living at home. And that’s where the tortoises came in. When Barbara first moved in, a relative from Oklahoma gave each of the three kids their own tortoise. “We’ve had those three, which were rescued



from an Oklahoma highway, for 37 years now. Those tortoises sure made my kids popular at school,” Barbara said.

While lots of people call them turtles, they are actually box tortoises. Turtles live in water, while tortoises are land-dwelling. They have powerful limbs with sharp front claws for digging. Their front limbs are covered with protective scales. Tortoises, whose humped shells are a dark tan when young and brown as adults, can grow to a height of 4- to

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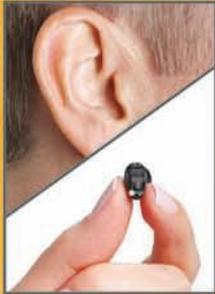
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6-inches, weigh 8 to 15 pounds, with their shells having a length of 9- to 15-inches. These Chelonians can live anywhere from desert climes to backyards and have a lifespan of 50 to 80 years.

“Our original three are the same size as when we got them, so they must have been adults,” Barbara remarked. “Gamera is our male. Our females are Tinkerbelle and The Lady. We have named most of them. Sometimes, we have had as many as 14 at a time. Although we have never seen where they lay their nests of eggs, we have found some new hatchlings. They often need to be rescued, because their leathery eggs are filled with a liquid that attracts ants when they start to hatch.”

The tortoises begin hibernating in November and come out around March. “They somehow know when there won’t be another freeze,” Barbara remarked with a smile of wonderment. “Once we see them, we let our friends and neighbors know they can now plant.”

John indicated the tortoises like to eat lettuce, cantaloupe, watermelon, tomatoes, potato skins, grapes and even cat food. “They sure don’t like celery, zucchini or asparagus, but they do eat a lot of bugs, especially June bugs,” said John, who has become a bit of a tortoise specialist.

“We built the fence, when we first got the house,” Barbara said. “But John and I put in the monkey grass to create a sanctuary for them in the hopes of keeping them out of the pool, as they have the run of the backyard.”

“I still check the pool every day, though,” John said, “to see if one of

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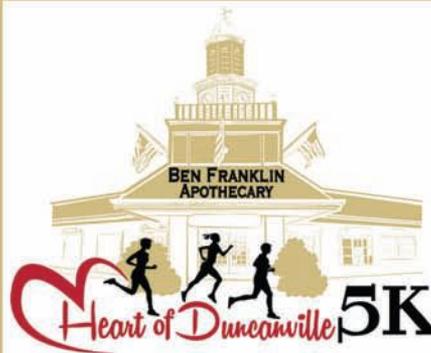
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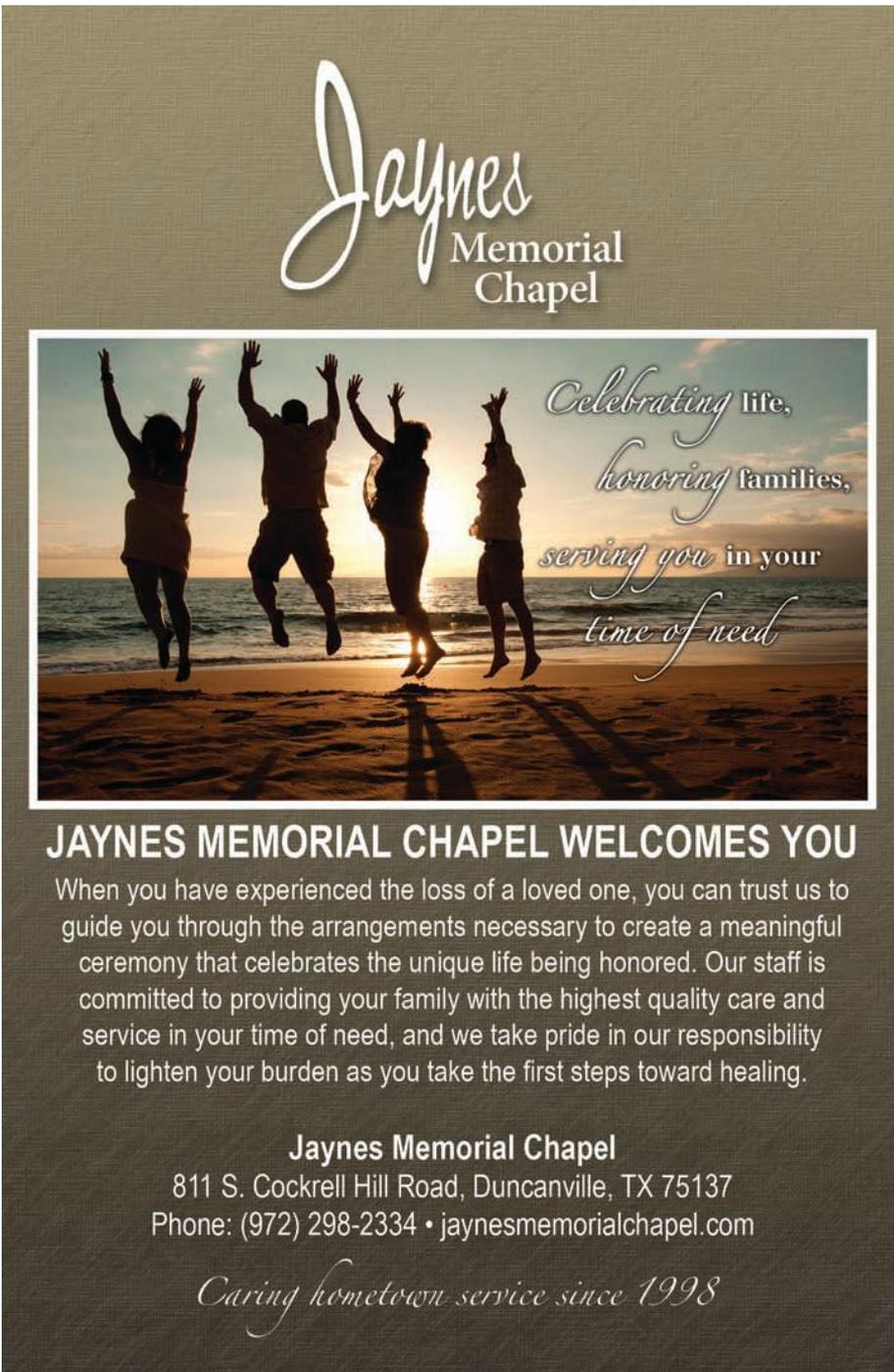
them has fallen in. They mated in late March/April and in October. It takes 30-60 days for them to hatch — heat factors into that length of time.

“In 1993, we took our first major trip together to Scotland,” John recalled. “Barbara’s parents were born in Scotland of the Moffatt Clan from Glasgow. She heard about a clan meeting scheduled for May. I said, ‘Let’s go. We’ll spend a week with your relatives and then a week in St. Andrews so I can golf.’ Barbara was like the queen, and I was her Prince Philip at the clan gathering!” John chuckled.

Thanks to their world travels, tortoises are not the only thing John and Barbara watch. On their second trip to Hawaii,



they found another animal to observe, this one slightly bigger than a tortoise. “We have fallen in love with whale watching!” Barbara admitted. “We love it so much that many of our trips are built around whale watching. When we were in San Ignacio Lagoon in 2000, we even got to touch the whales!” she enthused. Whether they are traveling the world or enjoying their backyard, the Detmores truly find the creatures at hand well worth watching. **NOW**



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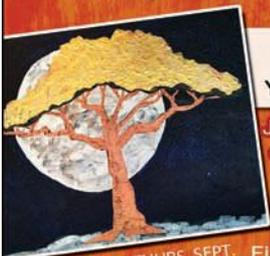
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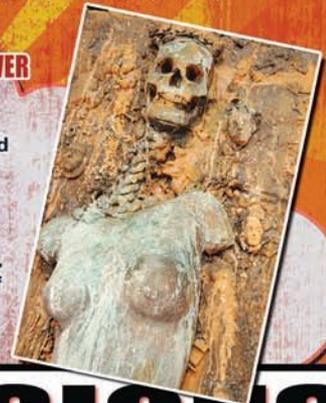
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A COACH FOR LIFE

— By Sara Edgell



Football has always been part of Coach Joey McGuire's life. He played in high school and during his freshman year at college, which is when he realized playing wouldn't take him any further. Like many young men who head off to college, he faced the reality — his days of being the football star were over. Yet that's when Coach McGuire's football career really began. He decided leading the team from the sidelines was his calling and set out to make his dream his reality.

For the past 20 years, Coach McGuire has been living his dream. He spent his first three years coaching at his alma mater, Crowley High School. The Friday night lights shone brightly during those years until Coach McGuire was persuaded to interview with Cedar Hill High School. "Holly Teague and Mike Hogan were so excited about this place that they made me want to be a part of



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it," he remembered. "Joining this district was definitely the best career decision I could have ever made." Fast forward 17 years, 11 of which Coach McGuire acted as head coach. He still proudly approaches each new school year and new team with the same enthusiasm as he had on day one.

Coach McGuire will tell you football is really about life. Anybody can be good when things are going right, but when things get tough, how do you, as an individual, react? On the field, players fight through it and give it their all, and that's exactly what life is all about: learning



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to navigate through the challenges successfully. Everything from plays and injuries to victories and defeats, *everything* it takes to prepare for a game is applicable to life. That's what he strives to instill in his players through consistency, support and positive reinforcement.



As a player, Coach McGuire always looked up to his position coach, Harris Brownlee, at Crowley High School. "He was just bigger than life," Coach McGuire recalled, "and he was always there, always had something to teach. I've really tried to model myself after him, because I really respect him like I respect my own father." He also looked up to the late Coach David Milson, Cedar Hill High School's famous and dynamic basketball coach. "I asked him how I could win trophies like him," Coach McGuire said. "He told me to build trophy cases and the trophies would follow, so that's exactly what I did."



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In 2005, Coach McGuire guided the team to their first district championship in 25 years and their very first playoff appearance in 5A ranks in the school's history. "Walking onto the old Texas Stadium field was incredible! There is just nothing like the feeling of being able to walk into that stadium — on that field — after all of our hard work that season," he admitted.

In 2006, the team was awarded the Division II 5A State Champs, defeating Cypress Falls 51-17 and maintaining an undefeated record for the season. During these history-making years, Coach McGuire was especially focused on making sure everything went perfectly. "I didn't really get to sit back and enjoy it. Don't get me wrong, it was great, but I was so focused on doing it right that I couldn't enjoy it," he shared. However, with years of experience under his belt, or rather his helmet, he was able to approach the high stakes playoff games in 2013 with a more relaxed demeanor. The team went on to claim their second state title against Katy High School with a final score of 34-24.

In addition to his accomplishments with the team, Coach McGuire has been recognized as the Dallas Cowboys High School Coach of the Week in 2006, 2007, 2010, 2012 and 2013. He has received multiple awards including MaxPreps 2013 Texas High School Coach of the



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Year, Dave Campbell's 5A Coach of the Year and *The Dallas Morning News* Area Coach of the Year, among numerous others. The most significant of all of his recognitions, however, is that of the Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA), because he and his entire staff had to be nominated by other coaches in the state. Coach McGuire and his staff also had to go through a round of voting



to actually receive the award to coach the THSCA All-Star Game. He regards this as his biggest accomplishment due to the fact it's not about just him, but rather the entire coaching staff. "Coaching high school football is like being in a small, close-knit fraternity, so being selected for this was a great honor," he added.



The unique thing about Coach McGuire is not only has he led the Cedar Hill Longhorns to numerous victories, but more importantly, he has also helped countless young boys become responsible, confident and respectful men. He teaches plays and techniques for on the field, but he also teaches accountability and character through the very basics of life lessons. "Every Friday during the off season, we have character day where we teach everything from how to tie a necktie to how to flush the toilet. We have a lot of fun with it, and the players really do learn some valuable things."



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While these life lessons are critical, what is even more impressive about this high school football coach is his philosophy for the team. The team motto is Protect the Family, and when Coach McGuire says “family,” he means it. Everyone from the staff to the players to the players’ parents and siblings are a part of their organization. In his eyes, it really does take a village to raise a child, but more importantly it takes love and positivity. “We are a family. We argue, hug and love each other,” he said. “No matter where you’re at in life, more than likely, you could be the one constant in a person’s life, and that’s what we try to be — the one constant for our players. We want our kids to come every day and be excited to see us.”



In the end, football is his way of paying it forward in life. More than winning championships and awards, it’s about making a positive impact in the lives of the players he coaches. For Coach McGuire, showing kids football is more than a sport, and teaching them about life through kindness and unconditional love is what it’s all about. With his daughter, Raegan, off at Texas Tech University and his son, Garret, graduating in 2017, he has also thought about college. Coaching is definitely where he wants to be, but he has considered following his kids and players to the Saturday sunlight of college games. “But I don’t know,” he mused. “I don’t wear any colors except red and black.” **NOW**

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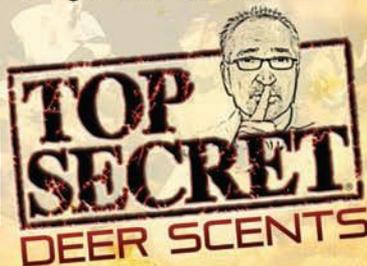
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AT HOME WITH Willie and Marion Johnson

When Marion Johnson's husband, Willie, told her the Lord was calling him to Texas, the Chicago native let him know he would have to go without her. Visiting family in Dallas was one thing, but residing in the Lone Star State was quite another. "Texas was a great place to visit, but being a Northerner and having visited during the hottest of months in Texas, I was adamant there was no way I was moving here," Marion said. God had other plans, however, and what started as Willie's vision quickly became Marion's as well.

"In the winter of 2004, I was pastoring in Illinois when God gave me a vision that I would oversee a ministry in Texas. I had been born in Corsicana, and God said my ministry needed to go back to where I

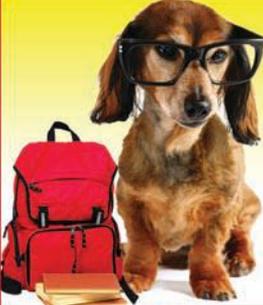




came from. I didn't have a clear idea of how it was going to happen, and then Marion got a call out of the blue about interviewing for a job in Dallas herself?" Willie explained.

Employed in hospital administration, Marion was invited by three different Dallas/Fort Worth hospitals to interview for director of surgical services. Two hospitals offered Marion the job, and she ultimately accepted work with Methodist Dallas Medical Center, because it was centrally located near family and featured a huge cross atop its facilities.

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Dallas builders, and found themselves in a new Cedar Hill subdivision with three houses and a lot of mud. “When we walked in the model, it hadn’t even been staged. Furniture was just stacked here and there, but we still knew it was right for us,” Willie recalled.

While they had owned other homes, this was the first they would build from the ground up. The end result is a 3,200-square-foot, four-bedroom home on a large corner lot. “We tried to incorporate things that we loved from our other homes. For instance, we knew we loved corner lots, so that’s what we chose. We even got as close to our old address as possible,” Marion said.



most beautiful angels from co-workers throughout the years, and this one, called *The Guardian*, is my all-time favorite,” Marion said.

African-American art is also collected and displayed in the Johnsons’ home. The dining room, located just off the entryway, showcases their favorite image of

an elderly couple standing in prayer at the head of a table, surrounded by family holding hands.

“We were invited to a fundraiser and really had no intention on bidding in the auction until this art came up, called *Blessings*, which symbolizes the importance of family,” Willie said. “Since it was Marion’s 40th birthday, I just had to have it for her. With some strategy on my part, I was able to win it at the last second.”

Mimicking the painting, the Johnsons’ dining room is designed for entertaining with a large table and a hutch full of crystal received through the years as gifts. “We like to entertain family,



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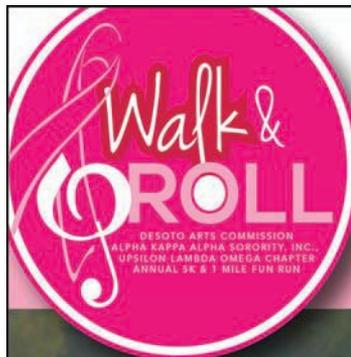
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**ANNUAL 5K &
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2014

DeSoto
Town Center
Amphitheater

REGISTRATION ONLINE

at www.artsdesoto.com or by calling 972-230-9648

SCHEDULE

On-site registration begins at 7:30 am
Aerobic Warm-up – 8:30 am
5K and 1 Mile Fun Run begin simultaneously at 9 am
Cost: \$15 per person includes a walk t-shirt (proceeds
benefit the Susan G. Koman Foundation, Dallas County)

WALK ROUTE

Walkers gather at the DeSoto Town Center Outdoor
Amphitheater. The 5k Walk & Roll will take place
westbound on the Roy Orr Trail looping around at the
western most end of the trail near Mirkes Parkway. It will
begin and end at the Outdoor Amphitheater. The 1 Mile
Fun Run will head east on the Roy Orr Trail to Ernie
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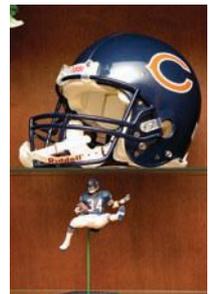
church friends and neighbors, and that is probably my favorite thing about our home. It allows us to accommodate overnight guests and dinner guests," Marion said.

Vibrant colors selected by Marion include brick red for dining areas and warm yellow for the downstairs living room. Neutral earth tones round out the rest of the home.

"The builder would only do shades of white, so when I happened upon some painters working in the neighborhood, I left a note on their truck that I needed them," Marion said. "I picked the paint, the crew came over and within about four hours I had the vivid colors I love!" Marion said.

Two years ago, the couple decided to replace carpets with hardwoods, and Willie chose a Brazilian cherry to complement Marion's paint choices. "I like that the planks are not one solid color. Each piece has its own tone, which gives the floor a lot more character," Willie said.

Willie's character is showcased upstairs in the game and media rooms, where his favorite Chicago teams are depicted in framed photos on the wall, along with two treasured football helmets. "One is autographed by Brian Urlacher, my favorite Chicago Bear, and the other was my nephew's helmet from Wilmer Hutchins High School," Willie noted.



Willie's downstairs office is also home to special mementos. A corner curio houses some of the angels he has found for Marion in various cities, as well as items from the childhood of

their now-grown son and daughter. The flag presented for military service at his father's funeral sits atop the curio. Inside the curio is a dove figurine that adorned his mother's casket. "There's also an angel doll that was a gift to Marion from someone who didn't even know my mother, yet it resembles her so much — from the bun on her head to the polyester pants," Willie said.

"I named it Mama Lucille, since it looks so much like Willie's mom!" Marion added.

Such divine gifts are not surprising to the Johnsons anymore, after God's message to Willie a decade ago. "When we moved to Texas, I eventually worked with Community Missionary Baptist Church of DeSoto, where Pastor Oscar



Epps knew about my vision. He gave me the opportunity to open a seed church in Waxahachie, where we ministered for two years," Willie said. "Then in 2011, the Lord moved us to minister to another community, and Journey of Faith Baptist Church in Red Oak was born."

The Johnsons are glad they listened to the message calling Willie back to his home state. They feel blessed to make their own home in Cedar Hill and have their careers continue in Dallas and Red Oak.

"At the end of the day, we like to sit on the back patio in our quiet neighborhood and decompress with our dogs. We are very attached to them," Marion said. "Even though I at first thought I could fight Willie on the move to Texas, I'm glad I didn't fight the Lord!" **NOW**

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12:15 pm: Elizabeth Engleheart, SOUTHERN FOOD MATTERS: Stories From The Dinner Plate

1:00pm: Steven Bailey, URBAN ACRES: Building Community Through Real Food

2:00pm: Daniel Vaughn, THE PROPHETS OF SMOKED MEATS: A Journey Through Texas Barbecue

3:00pm: Sherrie McLeRoy, GRAPE MAN OF TEXAS: How T.V. Munson Saved The World's Vineyards

4:00pm: Hank Fincken, NOT "JOHNNY" IF YOU PLEASE: A Conversation with Johnny Appleseed

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DESTINATION:

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— By Shannon Pfaff

Planning a wedding can be a hectic experience. The preparation can take months, yet the actual wedding day passes so quickly. With all the details that go into planning the wedding, it seems like the honeymoon is the time to recover. Why not get the vacation started early with a destination wedding? A destination wedding can be a unique and exciting way to get married and have a honeymoon all in one shot!

When considering a destination wedding, it may seem like it would be more expensive than having a traditional wedding at home. Depending on the type of wedding and the location, having a destination wedding may actually save money. Many resorts will include the ceremony for free when you stay and have the reception at their location. This will save you from having to find two locations for the ceremony and the reception. Several resorts also offer credits toward the ceremony package to include: flowers, linens, chairs and the officiant, as well as room upgrades for the bride and groom. Some packages even include table settings and the wedding cake. The cost to the couple is the food, drinks and any additional guests not covered by the package.



The expense of the event will also vary depending on the number of guests and any additional activities paid for by the bride and groom. Since you are requesting for people to travel for your wedding, it makes sense to plan some fun for you and your guests. Destination weddings tend to be more intimate affairs with a smaller guest list, which helps keep costs down. While the couple is responsible for the ceremony and reception expenses, wedding guests should expect to cover their own travel expenses. To help their traveling guests, the bride and groom can arrange a flight and room block to help guests with making arrangements. Some hotels offer group discounts when booking several rooms, which will help your guests save money. This is a great incentive to start the planning process early.

Because the party generally pays for their own accommodations, the bride and groom should choose their attendants as soon as possible. Once the attendants are chosen, the couple should inform them of their plans to have a destination



wedding. This gives each person in the wedding party time to set aside funds for their trip. Encourage your guests to book early as well, which will help them save money. Be prepared to make necessary changes if someone you ask cannot afford the trip. If you can afford it, you can always help someone who is in financial need, but this is not a requirement. Consider having a reception

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later on to include those who could not attend your wedding.

If you are planning to travel out of the country, make sure your passport is up-to-date and that you meet all the necessary requirements to get married in that location. Some countries have residency restrictions, so it's important to plan ample travel time to meet the required number of days, if necessary. A wedding planner at your destination is a great tool to help you understand the country's requirements, communicate with vendors, set up travel arrangements and make your dream a reality. A wedding planner close to home is also a great source to help you coordinate your wedding. Whether they help you plan the entire event or just assist you in some of



the details, they can help save time and money in the planning process.

Another wedding professional you should consider hiring is a travel agent. A travel agent can help simplify your travel arrangements. They can research destinations, compare prices, negotiate with hotels, as well as help plan excursions. It's best to select a local travel agent that you can meet personally. When selecting a travel agent, make sure you check their certifications. This will ensure they are certified with credible agencies. You will also want to interview the agent before selecting one. Ask them about their experience and their fees.

Selecting a destination is important in determining the wedding type, travel time and budget for the event. Some popular

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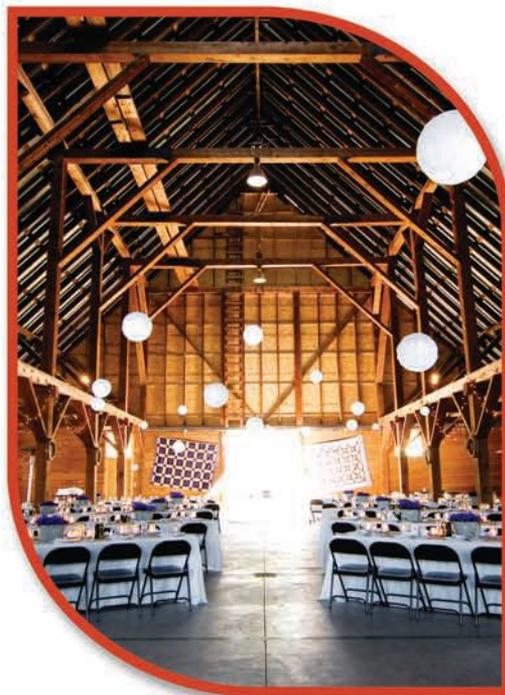


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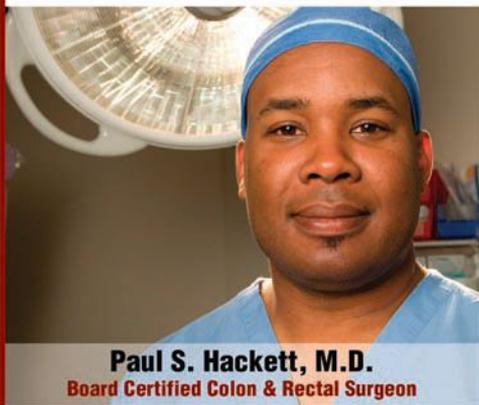
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choices are Hawaii, Canada and Europe. If your budget is limited, consider traveling a little closer to home. There are several beautiful locations that are just a drive away.

Whichever location you choose, make sure you research the weather patterns when setting a date. Keep in mind that optimal weather conditions usually coincide with high tourist season, which will mean higher prices. Shoulder season is the best time to travel for good prices and great weather. This is the time that falls between high season and low season when tourists are few and the weather is on the edge of ideal. During this time, resorts are lowering their rates due to receding tourism. The Internet is a great source for understanding the best times to travel to various locations.

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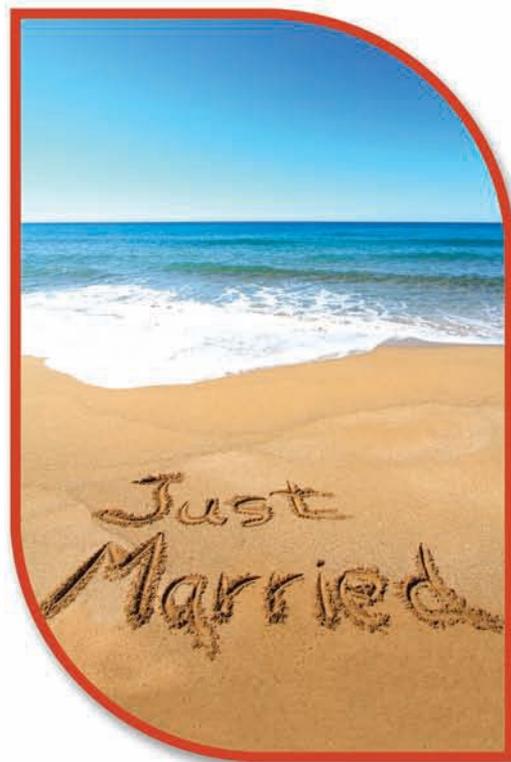


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Once you have chosen your destination, selected a date, advised your attendants and family, the fun truly begins in the planning process. With all of the major and more difficult decisions out of the way, you are free to think about planning your trip. There will be other wedding details to consider, but you should also think about some fun with your friends and family. Consider planning a welcome dinner when everyone arrives. A destination wedding is a great way for you to celebrate a significant moment in your life. You will be able to spend time with close friends and family and make memories that will be part of the foundation of your future together. **NOW**

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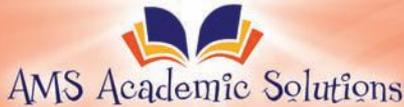
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Barbara grew up in the area, graduated from Hillcrest High School and earned her associate degree in arts and science at Mountain View College. She is also certified in conflict resolution and family and marriage law, as well as maintaining a nondenominational ordination for marketplace ministry. She attends Mountain Creek Church.

“I really didn’t see this business coming,” Barbara remarked. “I was at a transitional place in my life, wondering what was next for me. We have owned this property since 2001 and were leasing it. When our tenants moved out, we decided to temporarily store a relative’s furniture here. When I walked in the warehouse and saw the furniture sprawled around, I just knew that’s what I should do — open a furniture store!”

Starting with nothing, Newhouse Furniture is now self-sufficient. “Our consignment pieces come from the community and new pieces from wholesale vendors,” Barbara explained. “We will keep consignment items for 30 days. Most of our inventory moves pretty quickly. Whenever the showroom empties, someone contacts us with a whole houseful of furniture from an estate sale, a storage unit or someone

moving. New items arrive daily. I believe God is keeping us supplied.”

Whether you are looking for that one right addition to finish off your new look, simple basics or a whole new decor style for one or more rooms, Newhouse Furniture is happy to help. “I love, love, love what I do,” Barbara said. “I have always been interested in interior decorating. My mom and aunts are great with design and accessorizing, and our entire family exudes lots of creativity. We are spiritual movers and entrepreneurs.”

Just walking in the door, you are met with pleasing decor and plenty of choices and ideas. “I move pieces frequently, often displaying seasonal items,” Barbara admitted. “I like things that display energy. With low-end to high-end items, we can provide for those who are building new homes or starting over and aid those who are downsizing by taking pieces off their hands. I love having so much different merchandise that changes constantly,” she added.

Beyond providing furniture and assisting with interior decorating, Barbara encourages people, especially women, to pursue God’s leading. “My mission is to bring discount blessings to our community and surrounding cities. We offer mattresses at wholesale prices, sofas starting at \$50, king beds starting at \$199. We recognize God’s blessing our business, which is why we thrive. We want to pass that blessing on,” Barbara stated, “and thank all our customers.”

Whether you stop by their warehouse or visit their website, Newhouse Furniture Duncanville, you will find a unique selection of new and slightly-used pieces in good condition, accent items and the opportunity to order from multiple catalogs with a two-business-day turnaround. “Our consignment pieces definitely dominate both our inventory and sales, but we also have some best-selling pieces we can reorder,” Barbara said. Come visit The Girls in the Furniture World, who are indeed related to the late Robert Newhouse of the Dallas Cowboys and are doing all they can to offer discount furniture and accessories for any taste. **NOW**

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First Methodist School Summer Fun students enjoy a visit from officers Edwards and Luna from the Duncanville Police Department.



State Representative Helen Giddings with Al Morton at DeSoto Chamber Luncheon.



These Summertime on Beltline camp leaders really enjoy their time with DeSoto children.



Ten-year-old Jayten Tewes rides with his grandmother, Charla Amos, an inpatient diabetes educator at Methodist Charlton Medical Center, in the Tour de Cure cycling fundraiser for diabetes research, education and advocacy.



Kathleen Shields, Alicia Hills-Oyedede and Akilah Jackson of the City of DeSoto Human Resources Department take part in a recent team-building session.



Camryn Smith of DeSoto is enjoying some special time with her dad, Camiron.



Toni Simmons; Dan Watkins; Glenn Majors and Teri Nelson, Zula B. Wylie Library Children's Services Coordinator; pose with children eager to experience the Little Free Library at High Pointe Apartments.



Elaine Moseley (right), Texas Library Association Award Chair, presents the Wayne Williams Award to Cedar Hill's library director, Toni Simmons.



LaTarah Edmond, owner of Good Hair Day Salon, happily cuts the ribbon as she joins the Duncanville Chamber.



City of DeSoto's Baracudas Swim Team is in their second year.



Charla, of DeSoto, celebrates her birthday with Ariel and Phyllis at Sissy's.

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How Can We Possibly Save for Retirement and Our Child's College Education at the Same Time?

It's seldom easy to achieve a balance between saving for your retirement and saving for the ever-increasing costs of a college education within your present income. Yet it's imperative that you save for both at the same time. To postpone saving for your retirement means missing out on years of tax-deferred growth and playing a near-impossible game of catch-up. To accomplish both goals, you may need to compromise.

The first step is to thoroughly examine your funding needs for both college and retirement. On the retirement side, remember to include the estimated value of any employer pension plans, as well as your Social Security benefits. This evaluation will likely prompt you to examine some deeply held beliefs about your financial goals. For example, is it important that you travel regularly in retirement, or is it more important that your child attend a prestigious Ivy League College?

If you discover that you can't afford to save for both goals, the second step is to consider some compromises:

- Defer your retirement and work longer.
- Reduce your standard of living now or in retirement.
- Increase the family income by seeking a better paying position in your present career, getting a second job or having a previously stay-at-home spouse join the work force. Beware, though, of potential drawbacks like day-care costs, commuting costs and tax disadvantages on the increased income.

- Seek out more aggressive investments (but beware of the risks).
- Expect your child to contribute more money to college. Some parents may find it difficult to accept, but the majority of college students finance a portion of their education with student loans.
- Investigate less-expensive colleges. You may find that some less-expensive state universities have more to offer in certain programs than their pricey private counterparts.

The third step is to re-evaluate your plan from time to time as your circumstances and wishes change. Remember, the important thing is to earmark a portion of your present income for both goals and do the best you can. **NOW**

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Todd Simmons is a Raymond James Financial Advisor in Duncanville.

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September 3

“Clearing Your Criminal Record” (free) program: 6:00-7:30 p.m., DS library. Dallas attorney explains filing for expungement/non-disclosure process, eligibility, what records are subject to expungement/non-disclosure. (972) 230-9661.

September 8

Science Fun Night: 6:30 p.m., CH library. Interactive ideas for the science fair.

September 14

11th Annual Bridal Extravaganza: Waxahachie Civic Center. For time and further details, call (469) 309-4040 or visit www.waxahachieciviccenter.org.

September 15

DeSoto City Manager's Corporate Golf Challenge: 7:30 a.m., Thorntree. \$95/individual; \$350/foursome. www.desototexas.gov/golf. (972) 230-9651.

September 16

Cedar Hill Quilters Guild: ethnic quilts: 6:30 - 9:00 p.m., CH Rec. Ctr.

September 18 — 20, 25 — 27

Night Watch: 8:00 p.m., Duncanville Community Theatre. (972) 780-5707.

September 20

His & Her Health Event hosted by Tim and Sherice Brown: 8:00 a.m.-noon, Methodist Charlton: *Newlywed*-style game and much more. (214) 947-0000.

Fall Festival: car show, garage sale and children's activities: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Duncanville FUMC, 403 S. Main St. No cost; proceeds will be used for missions.

Kids on the Hill Creative Arts Festival: 4:00-7:00 p.m., Valley Ridge Park Amphitheater: Kid-cool rock-n-roll band; storyteller and magician.

Lake Cliff Park Centennial Celebration: 5:00-9:00 p.m., 300 E. Colorado Blvd., Dallas. Visit restored rose garden. Texas Theater will show *Meet Me in St. Louis*: 7:30 p.m. babs@2540@gmail.com.

September 21

Charity Motorcycle and Car Show: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: 206 N. Main St., DV. \$10: cars/trucks/motorcycles benefits Duncanville Outreach. (972) 365-8663.

September 29

Southwest Dallas Co. Parkinson's Group:

6:30-8:00 p.m., 1302 S. Clark Rd., DV. Speaker: Janet Boyanton, probate/estate planning attorney. (972) 298-4556.

September 30

Job Search Support for 2014: 7:00 p.m., CH library. Create professional online presence: applications, resumes/cover letters, job search sites and effective email.

October 31

Southwest Regional Communication Center Emergency 911 Youth Open House for CH, DS, DV elementary school children/teachers: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., 200 S. Parks Dr. **RSVP by Oct. 7:** Tamara Bell: (972) 230-5662.

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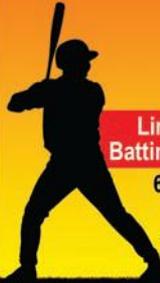


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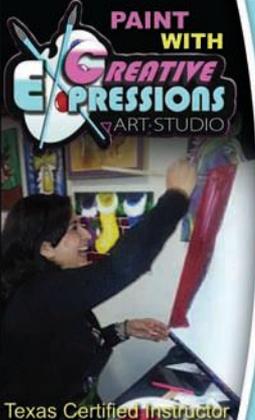
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In the Kitchen With Carla Hollie

— *By Beverly Shay*

Inspired by her mother, Jan Stevenson, and her grandmother, Lois Mason, Carla Hollie, who loves to cook, finds recipes on cooking shows and duplicates dishes she has enjoyed at restaurants. “It’s fun to try to figure out what ingredients they have used, but I always add or substitute something to make recipes mine,” Carla stated.

“Good seasoning will make or break your dish,” she admitted. “Be sure you have just enough to capture the full flavor of your dish, while not overpowering the essence. To this day, my dad tells my husband and daughter that my cooking reminds him of my grandmother’s. That makes me giddy inside!” Carla, a caterer, is the co-owner of Purple Chair Event Planning & Design as the executive culinary designer. **NOW**

Chocolate Mousse Trifle

This is a recipe Carla invented!

- 1 5-oz. box Jell-O chocolate pudding**
- 2 cups milk**
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract**
- 1 14-oz. can sweetened condensed milk**
- 1 12-oz. Cool Whip, thawed**
- 1 round layered chocolate cake (store-bought)**
- 1 pint strawberries**
- Powdered sugar, to taste**
- Chocolate syrup, to taste**

- 1.** Pour pudding mix and milk in a bowl; mix for 2 minutes. Add vanilla and condensed milk; mix until well-blended. Fold in Cool Whip.
- 2.** Cut cake into chunks. Remove tops from all but 2 strawberries. Slice topless berries.
- 3.** In a glass serving bowl, make several layers of cake, strawberries and mousse

mixture. Repeat until bowl is filled. Top with remaining berries. Chill for 2 hours or more (best when prepared a day in advance.)

- 4.** Before serving, sprinkle with powdered sugar and drizzle with chocolate sauce.

Broccoli, Rice, Cheese Casserole

- 1 16-oz. bag frozen chopped broccoli, thawed completely**
- 1 8-oz. jar processed cheese sauce**
- 1 cup instant rice, partially cooked for 7 minutes, drained**
- 1 stick butter or margarine**
- 1 10.75-oz. can cream of chicken soup**
- 1 cup mushrooms**

- 1.** Combine all ingredients in a bowl; mix thoroughly. Pour into a buttered 11x7x1.5-inch casserole dish. (Can be made in

- advance and refrigerated until ready to bake.)
- 2.** Bake for 45 minutes at 350 F

Summer Grilled Chicken Salad

- 2 split chicken breasts**
- 2 Tbsp. McCormick Montreal Chicken Seasoning**
- 2 tsp. cracked black pepper**
- 1 Tbsp. olive oil**
- 3-4 cups spring salad mix (or your choice of greens)**
- 1 cup fresh strawberries (divided use)**
- 1 cup blueberries**
- 1/2 cup walnuts, chopped**

- 1.** Place chicken in a plastic bag and tenderize using a mallet to thin chicken. Season chicken with seasoning and pepper. Heat up grill or skillet; drizzle grill or pan with olive oil. Cook chicken approximately 5-7 minutes per side, or until done. Remove from grill or pan and let rest for 5 minutes before cutting into angled slices.
- 2.** Wash salad greens and berries. Toss greens with 1/2 cup strawberries and chicken slices. Sprinkle lightly with additional seasoning and pepper, if desired; top with remaining strawberries, blueberries and walnuts. Serve with favorite dressing.

Breakfast Casserole Bake

- 8 oz. breakfast sausage**
- 6 eggs**
- 2 tsp. salt**
- 2 tsp. pepper**
- 1 can croissants**
- 1 cup cheese of choice**

- 1.** Brown sausage on stove just until no longer pink; remove from pan.
- 2.** Mix eggs, salt and pepper in a bowl; set aside.
- 3.** Place croissants in a buttered 13x9x2-inch casserole dish, making sure bottom and sides of dish are covered with dough. Pour sausage on top of dough; add egg mixture. Top with cheese.
- 4.** Bake at 400 F for 45-60 minutes or until eggs are cooked thoroughly.
- 5.** You can personalize this by adding potatoes, tomatoes, mushroom, bacon or anything else you like for breakfast!

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

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