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work in harmony.*

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Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$35 per year or \$3.50 per issue. Subscriptions should be sent to: NOW Magazines, P.O. Box 1071, Waxahachie, TX 75168. For advertising rates or editorial correspondence, call (972) 937-8447 or visit www.nowmagazines.com.



Editor's Note

We are never finished learning ...

Recently a former student of mine received a promotion at work and noted that he needed to learn some new vocabulary, so he could play the part. His statement struck me. It is so true that there is always something new to learn. Just because we graduate from high school or university doesn't mean we are finished.

Sometimes, we learn things that will enhance our personal lives and other times our professional lives. We choose to learn some things, while we are forced to learn others. Having an attitude of a lifelong learner sure makes things easier, though.

So, this month, as school is back in full force, what will you learn?

Jill

Jill Martinez
North Ellis Co. NOW Editor
jill.martinez@nowmagazines.com
(214) 980-2653

P.S. If you or someone you know has an interesting story to tell, a great recipe to share or a fun hobby, I'd love to learn about that, too! Who, knows? It might find its way into an upcoming issue of the magazine!

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In Breast Cancer Care, Communication Is Key

A breast cancer diagnosis can be overwhelming. Suddenly, there are appointments to schedule, terms to learn and unfamiliar treatments to consider, all added to a flurry of emotions.

This is why communication is critical to delivering quality care for breast cancer patients. It's also why Texas Oncology puts communication at the very center of its Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Clinics.



In this approach, personalized cancer care incorporates the patient — making sure she or he is comfortable with the treatment every step of the way. The treatment itself results from a plan that a full team of physicians customizes to meet the patient's specific needs.

“All of the physicians involved in the care of that patient will evaluate the patient up front,” breast surgeon Martin Koonsman says. “We present the patients with a well-thought-out multidisciplinary treatment plan.”

One of the Clinics' essential resources is a “one-stop shop” appointment. A nurse navigator guides the patient throughout the cancer journey for moral support, starting with meeting the full team of care providers. In a casual, face-to-face discussion, the patient can ask the medical oncologist, breast surgeon and radiation oncologist any questions and discuss next steps for treatment.

The new approach is tailored to give patients a better understanding of what to expect. “It's not like the doctor says, ‘I'm going to refer you to another doctor,’ and you call — and wait — and try to make another appointment,” explains Linda Gage, a Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Clinic patient. “They're talking, they're working together, and they coordinate things and get you through the process.”

Texas Oncology's Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Clinics give patients access to complete breast health services, including high-risk screenings, hormone therapy, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and surgery. Patients can also benefit from full-service pharmacies on location, genetic testing, survivor support groups and much more. Patients also have access to social workers, therapists, dieticians and other specialists to help them — and their families.

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A breast cancer diagnosis can bring trying times, so Texas Oncology's Multidisciplinary Breast Cancer Clinics approach it with expertise and attention to each patient's needs. Texas Oncology wants patients to feel comfortable talking about their needs and encourages them to get involved in their care.

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— By Derek Jones

HITTING ALL

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For the Vanderburgs, music truly is a family affair. “Music has been a big part of our lives since we were little,” Ryan Vanderburg shared. “When we were little, Caleb and I would sit with our dad and listen to our favorite records.” As their love of music grew, they naturally progressed from listening to music to playing instruments and singing.

Ryan pointed out their early exposure to instruments. “Our dad began teaching Caleb to play the drums at age 3.” Even in the early years, Ryan and Caleb demonstrated a strong connection to music, which would forever serve as an influential force in their lives.

After becoming proficient with various instruments, Ryan and Caleb began writing and playing their own music. “It has always been easy for us,” Caleb said. “We have been playing together since we were kids, so we can read each other perfectly.”

Ryan nodded his head in agreement as Caleb added, “It is perfectly natural to play together.”

Soon, the two brothers began booking gigs, which allowed them to perform music they had written. “We played



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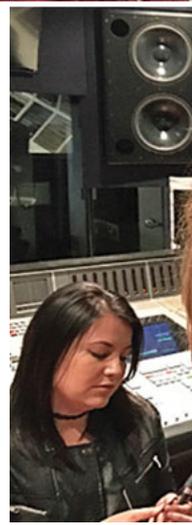
our first show years ago in Fort Worth," Ryan laughed. "We made like \$75, but we were pumped." That first gig in Fort Worth was only the beginning for the Vanderburg brothers. "From that day on, we began to perform regularly. Things just took off for us."

Things have evolved for Ryan and Caleb since those early days. Today, they are booked most every weekend and enjoy music as a full-time career. The name of their band, She Dances, consists of just Ryan and Caleb. Ryan described their music as being uplifting with positive lyrics. Their desire to impact people on a positive level is reflected in the band's name. As to the inspiration of the name, Ryan explained, "She Dances was the name of a nonprofit organization committed to helping girls escape slavery and human trafficking in Honduras. We asked permission to use the name because of the message of hope tied to it." The brothers can be found playing gigs any weekend all over Ellis County and throughout the Metroplex, delivering their positive message of hope to eager audiences.

Recently, She Dances has benefited from some national exposure. Several years ago, Caleb's wife, Briana, found an



advertisement for a Folger's Coffee jingle competition and suggested the brothers enter. With the deadline only three days away, the trio rushed into Ryan's home studio and created a jingle and video. Finishing with no time to spare, Ryan uploaded the video the night before the deadline. "The next morning, I discovered the file had failed to upload," Ryan lamented. "We missed the deadline." Folgers Coffee said there was nothing



they could do about missing the deadline, and they had to settle for a jingle and video with no purpose.

Fast forward to 2017 and Folgers Coffee, once again, decided to hold the competition. Ryan, Caleb and Briana took the jingle and video they previously made, re-recorded it with higher quality equipment and submitted it. Ryan laughed, "This time, I made sure the video uploaded successfully." After waiting a few weeks, they finally heard back from Folgers Coffee. The trio won first runner up in the competition. The prize was \$2,500 and a trip to Nashville for a mentoring session with county music star Chris Young.

About the trip, Ryan said, "It was amazing to visit some of the top recording studios and establish some really solid industry connections." The video for the Folgers Coffee jingle, as well as information about the band, can be found on the group's website, www.shedancesband.com.

In addition to playing gigs with She Dances, Caleb serves as the worship leader at Vertical Church in Ovilla, along with Briana and Ryan. Caleb is lead vocalist and plays the guitar. Briana plays keyboard and provides back-up vocals. Other musicians on stage play in perfect harmony. "I find fulfillment in knowing God can use me to lead others in worshipping Him," Caleb shared.

Between leading worship at Vertical Church and touring the Metroplex as She Dances, the three are never lacking things to do. The demands on their time are ever-increasing, so balancing career



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and family is of utmost importance. However, Ryan also sees possibilities for the future.

Over the years, Ryan has assembled a quality home recording studio, which has allowed the two brothers to record and produce their own unique brand of music. Ultimately, Ryan's goal serves a greater purpose. "I would like to offer a place where other musicians can get their sound out into the community," he said. The vision Ryan has is for something greater than himself. "There is a great musical community here in Ellis County," he continued. "I would like to be a part of establishing a place where musicians can collaborate and work together."

Currently, Ryan is in the process of establishing how his home studio can fit into this big picture and how to get the word out. Explaining his desire, he offered a biblical reference. "You know how iron sharpens iron? I want to be a part of something like that."

No matter the success or demands on their time, for the trio, one thing is clear — music always comes back to worship. Caleb recalled a music conference he attended some years before. "I remember being at that conference and hearing God's voice clearly telling me that His ultimate purpose for me is leading worship." He continued with a smile on his face, "There is nothing I would rather do."

Briana echoed her husband's sentiments. "Worship music touches people on such a deep level. I enjoy being a part of that."

How does music have such power to tie these three together? Perhaps Caleb summed it up perfectly when he said, "When we play together, it's just magic." Some things are just not meant to be explained. **NOW**

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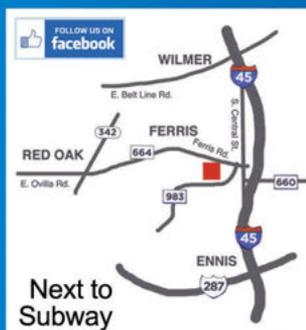
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— By Debbie Durling



Terry and Skye Miller live in a beautiful, two-story ranch home on the edge of downtown Ferris. This loving couple has built a home that is warm and beautiful. Down-home elegance characterizes the curb appeal of this clean and well-kept home. Black shutters create a crisp look as they accent four 6-foot paned windows, which about white, wooden siding. Two dormers, perched above the extended section of the roof that stretches out and around three sides of the house, add character. The extended roof covers the large, wraparound porch and is supported by nine Colonial columns, completing the stately, Southern warmth of the home.

The couple met at the home of a mutual friend in Bristol. "My brother-in-law told me Terry had mentioned that there was just something different about me," Skye recalled with a smile. They were married in 2009 and bought their house a year later. "Terry watched this house being built, and when they added the shop in the back, it immediately became his dream home," she said with a laugh. When they saw the *For Sale* sign go up in the front yard, they already knew they wanted to buy it. At 1,680 square feet, the home boasts of three bedrooms, two-and-a-half bathrooms and includes



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kitchen, dining, living and laundry areas. The layout of the home creates surprisingly spacious areas for family and friends to gather.

The front door opens to a small entry area that faces the staircase. White, traditional rails and a camel shade of carpet create the perfect path to the second floor. At the top of the stairs, a hallway divides, leading to the bedrooms on the left and right and a shared bath. A room fit for a princess is complete with a walk-in closet and entertainment center. Pinks and purples accent the room filled with toys and stuffed animals. Of course, this room belongs to Terry and Skye's

pride and joy, little Kaylynn, who was born three years after they moved into the house. Down the hall is a full bath. At barely 3 years old, Kaylynn, who is now 4, redesigned the bathroom herself. She picked everything out, and it matched perfectly.

To the left of the front door on the first floor is the master suite. A cherry sleigh bed is the focal point of the room. A matching dresser sits on the opposite wall supporting a large-screen TV for the couple's own private home theater. Around the corner is the master bath decorated in shades of brown and taupe, accented with teal accessories. A walk-in

closet, which is solely Skye's, is just off the side of the bedroom opposite the bathroom.

In the closet is an old, beat up pair of Crocs. "These shoes have a story," Skye explained. "Terry and I were out of town when we were dating. His little dog got into my things and tore up my favorite pair of sandals and the only ones I had brought on the trip." Terry took her to Wal-Mart where they looked for another pair of flip-flops, but she couldn't find anything close to what she needed. She settled on a pair of Crocs. She has worn those shoes until the thick soles have been worn thin. Not long ago, Terry



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noticed them and asked why she still had those old things. “I still have them because you bought them for me,” she said.

The living room is to the right of the front door. Two large windows allow ample light to fill the large space. With a dark finish and shelves on either side, an entertainment center stretches across the far wall providing a rich casing for the large-screen TV used for family viewing. Camel-colored carpet continues through this room until it meets the travertine tile of the kitchen.

Two very interesting cases hang on the walls of the living room. They house an extensive collection of various types of knives. These belong to Terry, and he has always enjoyed collecting them. About nine years ago, his daddy got the display cases for him and added a few more knives to the collection. “He has a cool hatchet in there, too, that my dad bought him because they love the movie, *The Patriot*,” Skye added.

Swirls of cream and taupe dance through the dining and kitchen areas. The square, highboy dining table sits in a bay window, which creates a comfortable nook for eating. Placemats with coffee cups are a reminder of Skye’s love of coffee. Directly in front is a bar extending from the wall that holds the kitchen sink. Cabinets line the other walls rounding to another nook, which contains the half bath.

In the corner of the dining area is an antique hutch. It belonged to Terry’s grandparents. Many years ago, Terry’s dad and grandpa owned a cabinet shop. “Terry’s grandma was in nursing school, so one night he went out and built her this desk/hutch because he knew she needed a place to study and keep her



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schoolwork,” Skye shared. It is evident that Terry’s grandparents not only handed down a piece of furniture but also a sense of commitment and the joy of being a family.

“Terry and Kaylynn make this a home for me,” Skye said. “I told Terry long ago that I would live wherever he lived, even if that turned out to be a cardboard box.” Terry works for his family’s business, and Skye works in the administrative area of the Dallas County Community College Police Department. When they are not at work, they do everything together.

Terry and Skye work around the house together, sharing most of the household responsibilities. Cooking is one of the things they love to share, since they both cook. They love preparing his late grandmother’s special dishes. Smothered steak and Italian Salad were two of her specialties, and Skye is proud that she and Terry have been able to keep those special dishes in their meal routines. Sometimes, they even get to teach other members of the family how to cook them.

Behind the house is a large, metal workshop. This was the icing on the cake for owning this home. But it is more than a workshop. It houses the items that keep the family entertained. “We are out of the house most weekends,” Terry said. Whether it’s fishing, riding ATVs, camping or just relaxing on the roomy front porch, the family makes good use of time spent together.

Recently, the three Millers were camping and swimming when little Kaylynn suddenly grabbed them out of the blue, squeezed Skye and Terry and said, “I love you guys so much. I love when you take me places like River-Run.” It is that kind of togetherness that makes this country ranch house a loving home. **NOW**

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Birthday Wish

— By Alexandra Allred

Imagine if props and costumes could develop a child's sense of worth and being. Imagine if stages and games could instill a greater sense of values, attitudes and social norms. When the Red Oak ISD Education Foundation awarded the Imagination Grant to the students of Eastridge Elementary School, its mission to offer greater opportunities for innovative learning came to fruition.

“It provided us with a more hands-on approach, a kinesthetic approach for whole body instruction,” said Tracy Pitts, Eastridge Elementary School’s music teacher. “It [the Imagination Grant] was, in my opinion, one of the most important grants we received.”

With the grant, they were able to secure two stages, a restaurant, a small kitchen and costumes. It was an educational wonderland for her students.



“First, they got onto the stage, and from there the kids began creating characters, then a place, and then began making up their own stories.” As self-esteem and confidence continued to build, they became more creative and expressive. “Even my shiest students came out of their bubbles.”

For Executive Director Karen Anderson, awarding grant money is just one aspect of the foundation’s many functions. “We are here to benefit the kids,” she said. The foundation’s mission is to provide additional educational programs and activities not funded by the ISD’s budget. “We provide the extras.” With ever-increasing demands diminishing resources for schools around the nation, education foundations are the perfect complement to public schools, providing fundraising efforts and having the ability to handle and distribute monies

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where needed. Since its inception in 2002, the Red Oak ISD Education Foundation partnered with Red Oak ISD to ensure the greatest educational experience possible. To date, the foundation has awarded over \$700,000 in grants, not to mention the additional funding for dual credit scholarships, school district employee-of-the-month and teacher-of-the-month funds. They received outside grants, which awarded an additional \$45,000 from the Dart Foundation for elementary STEM labs and \$35,000 to the high school's Project Lead the Way. The foundation also assists teachers in knowing how to find and appropriately apply for specific grants.

In honor of the foundation's 15th birthday, there is much to celebrate. Yet neither Karen, Administrative Coordinator Paige Davis nor the board of directors' 21 volunteers rest on their laurels. In addition to September's birthday bash, the foundation will also host its annual golf tournament in October and the Santa Shuffle 5K race in December. To the public, the foundation is best known for the golf tournament, but it is the behind-the-scenes work that is forever shaping lives.

"Karen does a great job with fundraising and promoting," Tracy Pitts said, "but she also provides us different ways to apply for a grant." Both Karen and Paige work to assist teachers from all seven schools in the district to write their own grants. Tracy is just one of many who has experienced great success.

"These grants and the Foundation allow us to personalize lessons. Yes, we have the textbooks and classroom materials needed, but when you get a

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grant that puts lesson plans outside the box, our students grow more and excel faster,” Tracy said.

“The Foundation is always rallying around us to think outside the box and is willing to do anything to help the kids learn in different ways,” said Diane Magier, the art and music teacher at Donald T. Shields Elementary.

In 2005, Diane received a grant for steel drums and started the Shields Steel Drum program. “It’s hugely popular with the kids. We are one of a few elementary schools in Texas to have steel drums,” Diane said. Twelve years later, she is still excited about all the benefits the drums offer. It’s a world instrument from Trinidad, which allows her students to learn all aspects of music, from listening to each other to working together as a band. “We got drum tables and partnered with the PE teacher,” Diane said, speaking of yet another grant. Together, the educators created Drum Fit, a very physical task that combines rhythm, music and fitness. “Putting all the kids together in one big setting and having them work together is magical. They are learning so many things without even realizing it.”



Incorporating all the academic disciplines in a unique, exciting way spells success for the school district and its young charges. “The Foundation has worked so hard to find the funds, go for the grants, and support what we do. I’m really, truly thankful for what they’ve done for Red Oak,” Diane said.

“I have the best job in the district,” Karen said, “because everything we do is good. All that we do is for our kids.” While she jokes that many in the business community might say, “Oh, boy, here comes Karen again,” Karen is very proud of how the business end of the foundation is handled. “Everything we



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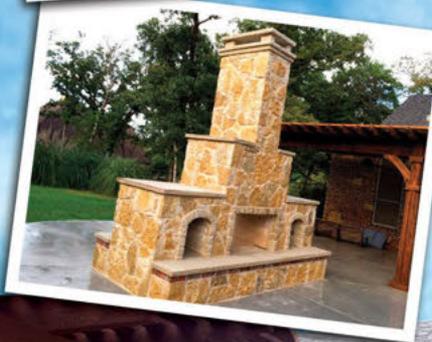
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do is transparent. Those who donate can see exactly where their money goes and how it is used.” While she works very hard for the children of Red Oak, Karen is adamant that the praise belongs to the Red Oak ISD, the community and the volunteers. “We couldn’t do what we do without them all,” Karen added. “We are so grateful for what has been bestowed upon us.”

Who could have imagined a grant for easing tensions at testing times, teaching students how to relax and better concentrate, thus improving grades, would come in the form of yoga mats and exercise balls? But when Tracy wrote for the Yoga-Nah-Love-It grant, she got just that.

When it comes time to blow out the candles for the Red Oak ISD Education Foundation’s birthday cake, Karen already knows what she will be wishing for. “I would love for donations to come year-round, not just during our events,” she said. Coordinating and paying for events are costly investments in both time and money. For Karen and the Foundation, the dream is to have an abundance of money for the children of Red Oak. “I wish to increase community parent awareness, to have more people understand what we do and how they can help. We do have a goal of raising \$150,000 for the year,” she said. “There are just so many great ideas out there, but not enough time.” With a laugh she asked, “Can I also wish for more hours in the day?”

As of yet, there are no available grants for more hours in a day, but for more information about how to help the students of Red Oak ISD and the Red Oak ISD Education Foundation, log on to www.redoakisd.foundation.org and click on “how to donate.” Yoga-nah-love-it! **NOW**

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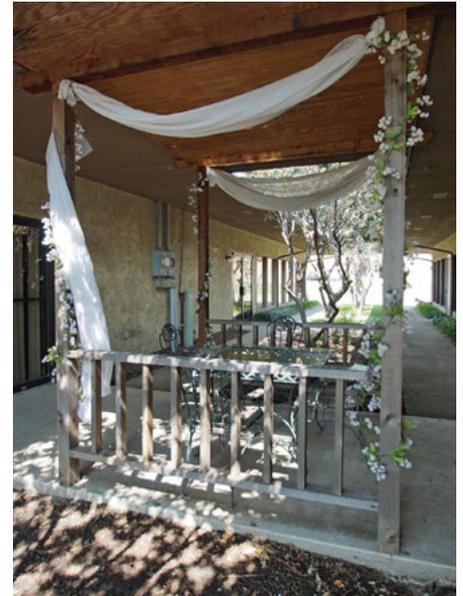


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renew. Guests can spill out into the beautiful patio area with its garden table and chairs.

"We strive for complete customer satisfaction, and we'll do whatever it takes no matter what the wedding or event's theme is," Betty said. "Jacqueline Kelly is our event consultant." Additionally, Betty employs a maintenance and layout person and part-time help, as needed.

"Everyone's event is a priority from the planning all the way through to the event itself," Jacqueline said. With 10 years of experience in decorating for and coordinating events, Jacqueline has lined up vendors for every aspect of an occasion — photographers, caterers, videographers, bands, etc. — so the event is carefree for the hosts, hostesses and guests. "We

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offer a lot of different options for every budget,” Jacqueline explained. “We do like, however, to have a budget and ample timeline provided.”

“We try to make even a small-budget wedding or event be just as awesome as one would be with a large budget,” Betty explained.

Upon booking a wedding or event, a nonrefundable deposit is required. “The deposit goes toward the full payment,” Betty explained. Major credit cards or cash payments must be made in full 30 days prior to the wedding or event date.

“Everyone’s event is a priority from the planning all the way through to the event itself.”

Betty, who until recently was in the world of finance, had opened the event space first as a salon, but it soon transitioned into an event center in September 2016. Her three daughters named it Virunde’. The wedding and event center is a member of the Red Oak Area Chamber of Commerce. An Ellis County native, she had seen the need for a full-service venue in Red Oak. A chance meeting with Jacqueline at another venue sealed the deal. “I love meeting interesting people and seeing things come together from a blank room to an awesomeness,” she said. “It’s such a joy to see the bride beaming after the wedding.”

Jacqueline, the creative person, enjoys being able to offer a one-stop shop with no worries to their clients. “Every weekend, we’re hosting something and decorating the day before. Our good reputation indicates that people know we can do the job, and we’re getting a lot of referrals and re-bookings. We’ve grown so much in the last eight months!” she stated. She also stays busy raising four nearly grown children with her husband.

Together Betty and Jacqueline make the magic happen. Jacqueline exclaimed, “This is literally my passion. God appointed me to do this work.” **NOW**



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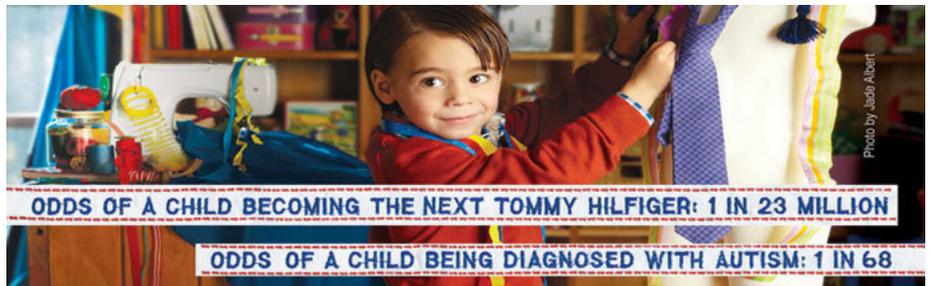
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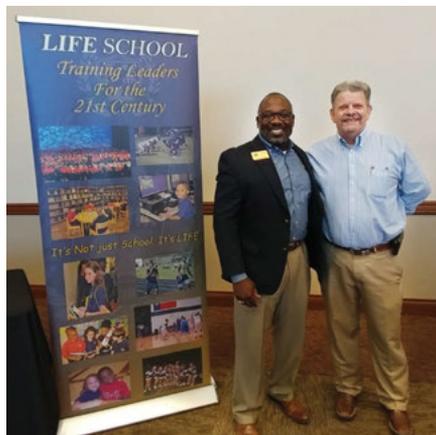
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ROACC Board Member Jerry Watson thanks Charles Pulliam from Life Schools for his informative speech at the RO Chamber Luncheon.



Rick Cantu, Mark Spubler and Jeremy Lampier of First Baptist Church Red Oak cook breakfast for a church-wide event.



Traci Hamm, a new hairdresser in town at Country Corner Treasures, smiles for the camera with her daughter, Hayden Skach.



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See Website for Full Menu

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Saturday-Sunday 7:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



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OCTOBER 6-8, 2017

FRIDAY 10-5	SATURDAY 10-5	SUNDAY 10-4
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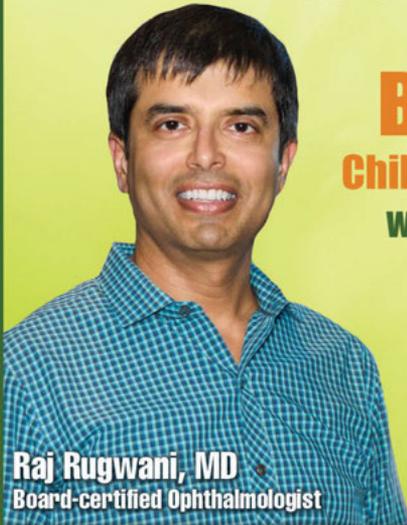
EARLY BUYING EVENT FRIDAY \$10
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Patients are encouraged to arrive early, dress appropriately for the weather and to bring blankets, water, snacks, etc., as they may be outside waiting to be seen.

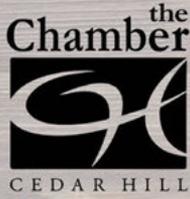
For more information, please contact:
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September 9

Red Oak's 39th Annual Founder's Day: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Watkins Park, Red Oak. Free Admission. Events will include a parade beginning at 9:00 a.m., food, and entertainment. For more information, contact the Red Oak Area Chamber of Commerce at (972) 617-0906 or visit www.redoakareachamber.org.

September 14

Meals-on-Wheels Golf Benefit: 1:30 p.m., Cleburne Golf Links, 2501 Country Club Rd., Cleburne. Still accepting sponsorships through the Double Eagle level, which will pay for 500 meals for residents in Johnson and Ellis counties who need help. To sponsor or register to play, contact Lisa Deese at (817) 558-2840, (972) 351-9943 or visit www.mowjec.org.

September 16

St. Joseph Catholic School's Oktoberfest: 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Waxahachie Civic Center. Free Admission. Enjoy children's games, a silent and live auction, raffle drawings, a biergarten, German food and barbecue, live music and shopping. For more information, visit www.stjosephoktoberfest.com/.

September 30

2017 Southern Region Walk to End Alzheimer's: 8:00 a.m., registration; 9:00 a.m., opening ceremony; 9:30 a.m., walk begins, downtown Ennis. The route is 2 miles. For more information, contact Kathy Shockley at (214) 540-2434 or at kshockley@alz.org.

October 7

5th Annual Round-Up (Adults only): 6:30 p.m., Paws for Reflection Ranch, 5431 Montgomery Rd., Midlothian. Enjoy dinner, drinks, dancing to live music, and a silent auction. **Tickets purchased before Sept. 15 are \$35.** If purchased after, they are \$45. Call (972) 775-8966 or email pawsforreflection@att.net for more information.

Ongoing:

Second Mondays

Ellis County Veterans Networking Group meeting: 6:00 p.m., Ryan's Steak House Waxahachie. Join the group for dinner and listen to the guest speaker. To RSVP or for more information, call (214) 763-0378 or email vetsnetgrp@att.net.

Tuesdays and Thursdays

North Ellis Co. Outreach assistance: 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 205 S. Main St., Ferris. Assistance is for Red Oak and Ferris residents. For more information, call Denise Butler at (972) 617-7261.

Thursdays

The Red Oak Senior Citizens Group: 8:30 a.m.-noon, Lions Club Building, 207 W. Red Oak Rd., Red Oak. Call (214) 502-9747 to RSVP by **Wednesday** for \$2 lunch on **Thursday**.

Third Thursdays

Ferris Lions Club meeting: 6:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 101 Redbud Rd., Ferris.

Third Saturdays

Self Defense Class: 9:00-11:00 a.m., 301 Locust Dr., Oak Leaf. Must call (972) 617-2660 to RSVP. Wear loose fitting clothing.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to jill.martinez@nonmagazines.com.



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In the Kitchen With Kay Huff

— By Virginia Riddle

Mud pies baked in an Easy-Bake oven were Kay Huff's first culinary creations. But growing up as "number eight" out of nine kids in her family, Kay graduated early to the kitchen and learned from her mother the joy of cooking for a crowd. "My mom and I saved Imperial Sugar labels, so I could get a free copy of *My First Cookbook*," Kay remembered.

Since then, this graphic artist and web designer at Polyguard Products has added to her cookbook collection. "I collect vintage cookbooks," Kay said. With her sister, Sally Drobinski, Kay compiled the *Saunders Family Cookbook* that's filled with family favorites. Most of my cooking these days is for family holiday gatherings. Recipes should be shared generation to generation. Cooking brings families together." **NOW**

Sausage Balls

- 1 1-lb. pkg. breakfast sausage
- 1 cup Bisquick Baking Mix
- 1 lb. cheddar cheese, freshly grated
(Don't use packaged grated cheese.)

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a large mixing bowl, combine all ingredients together; mix by hand until the mixture sticks together.
2. Using 1 heaping Tbsp. of the mix, roll into balls; place each on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 10-15 minutes or until lightly browned.

Cheese Ball

- 1 1-lb. pkg. cheddar cheese, grated
- 1 8-oz. pkg. Kraft Philadelphia Original Cream Cheese, softened
- 1/4 tsp. garlic powder

- 1/4 tsp. onion powder
- 1/8 tsp. turmeric (optional)
- 1 pkg. fresh green onions, finely sliced
- 1 pkg. Keebler Townhouse Crackers

1. In a medium-size bowl, mix the first 5 ingredients by hand; form into a large ball.
2. Roll the ball in the green onions until the ball is covered; serve with crackers at room temperature.

Cherry Delight Cheesecake

- Crust:*
- 2 cups flour
 - 2 Tbsp. sugar
 - 2 sticks margarine, softened
 - 1 cup pecans, chopped

- Filling:*
- 1 8-oz. pkg. Kraft Philadelphia Original Cream Cheese, softened

- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 16-oz. tub Cool Whip, thawed and softened

Topping:

- 1-2 21-oz. cans Lucky Leaf Cherry Pie Filling
- 1 cup pecans, chopped

1. *For crust:* Preheat the oven to 350 F. Mix all crust ingredients together by hand until crumbly. Press into the bottom only of an 11x13-inch glass cake pan.
2. Bake 15-20 minutes until very lightly browned; cool completely for 1 hour before preparing filling.
3. *For filling:* Whip cream cheese with a hand mixer until smooth; gradually add powdered sugar, and continue mixing until smooth.
4. By hand, gently fold in Cool Whip until thoroughly mixed; spread filling over cooled crust.
5. *For topping:* Gently spread cherry pie filling over the whipped cheese filling, so as not to disturb the lower layer. Top evenly with pecans; keep refrigerated until ready to serve.

Banana Pudding

- 1 3.4-oz. box French Vanilla Jell-O Instant Pudding Mix
- 2 3.4-oz. boxes Banana Cream Jell-O Instant Pudding Mix
- 2 cups milk
- 1 1/2 cups sour cream
- 1 16-oz. tub Cool Whip (divided use)
- 1 box vanilla wafers
- 3-4 bananas, peeled and sliced crosswise

1. In a large bowl, mix together all 3 pkgs. of pudding mix with milk. Mixture will be very thick.
2. Blend in sour cream; fold in 1/2 of the Cool Whip. In a deep-dish, glass serving bowl, layer vanilla wafers, bananas and pudding; repeat layering until all ingredients are used.
3. Top with remaining Cool Whip; keep refrigerated. For best results, chill in freezer for 30 minutes prior to serving.

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

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