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February 2022 • Volume Fifteen • Issue Nine

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Fun, Friends and Fabulous Features at the Pilot Point Library

## Denton County Provides \$1.63 Million to Local Non-Profits

By Dawn Cobb



DENTON COUNTY, TX - Denton County is providing \$1.63 million to eight social service agencies in Denton County to assist residents in need. The Denton County Commissioners Court recently

approved funding for the following agencies:

- Children's Advocacy Center, in the amount of \$71,000
- CASA of Denton County, Inc., in the amount of \$58,000
- Christian Community Action, in the amount of \$4,404

Continued on back page

## So, How Does One Join 4-H?

Steven Baringer



with 4-H? First off, you need to see which age group your soon to be 4-H member falls within. If they are in kindergarten to 2nd grade, we do have some opportunities for them as a Clover Kid. Clover Kids can participate in almost everything a 4-H member can, they can even participate in mock-contests. Our Clover Kids who are active in our Food & Nutrition Project are experts by the time they compete in their first Food Challenge as a 4-H member! Our Clover Kid Program is a great way for families to get acquainted with 4-H before they are 4-H members.

There is no enrollment fee, and Denton County 4-H is working on planning a summer day camp for interested Clover Kids to attend. This day camp will showcase our most popular projects and give them something to take home at the end of it.

Youth in 3rd to 12th grade can enroll as a 4-H member. Before doing so, you need to pick your project. In 4-H, the activities are organized by topics and called "projects" and all 4-H members must be enrolled in at least one project. When you choose a project, you will learn and

Continued on A4

## HHSC Offers Hiring Bonuses at SSLCs, State Hospitals

Photo: Texas Health and Human Services Commission (Nexstar Photo/Maggie Glynn)



AUSTIN, TX – The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is offering up to \$5,000 in hiring bonuses for certain health care positions at state supported living centers and state hospitals across Texas.

"We want to recruit qualified, motivated health care professionals to help support residents in our state supported living centers and patients at our state hospitals," said Scott Schalchlin, deputy executive commissioner for Texas HHSC's Health and Specialty Care System. "Many

people right now are looking for a new career or taking that next step in their current career. We have some great opportunities for people who are interested in working in an environment where they can make a true difference in the lives of others every single day."

These hiring bonuses are for registered nurses (RN) and licensed vocational nurses (LVN) at SSLCs and state hospitals, as well as psychiatric nursing assistants (PNA) at state hospitals and direct support professionals (DSP) at SSLCs.

New RNs can qualify for \$5,000 bonuses.

Eligible LVN new hires could receive \$3,500.

DSPs and PNAs may qualify for \$2,500 hiring bonuses.

State supported living centers provide residential services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, while state hospitals provide inpatient psychiatric care for adults, children and adolescents.

These positions are available at the following locations across Texas: Abilene, Austin, Big Spring, Brenham, Corpus Christi, Denton, El Paso, Kerrville, Lubbock, Lufkin, Mexia, Richmond, Rusk, San Angelo, San Antonio, Terrell, Vernon, Waco and Wichita Falls.

HHSC offers paid health and dental insurance, vacation and sick leave, a retirement plan, paid training, and advancement opportunities.

Continued on A3

## Aubrey Middle School Counseling Department Receives CREST Award

Amy Ruggini



AUBREY ISD, TX- Aubrey Independent School District's Aubrey Middle School Counseling Department received a CREST award for excellence in school counseling for 2021-22, as announced by the Texas School Counselor Association.

The AMS counseling de-

partment consists of guidance counselors Teana Coffman and Tracie Kroenert. The two counselors provide individual and classroom guidance, college and career readiness, and help students build social and emotional skills necessary to be successful in and out of the classroom.

"The middle school counselors have worked tirelessly to meet the needs of our students during a very challenging time," Aubrey ISD's Student Support Counselor Carrie Jackson said. "We are all so proud of them for receiving this well-deserved recognition."

Continued on A4

## Highway 380 and 377 Updates

From the desk of Denton County Commissioner Precinct 1 Ryan Williams



DENTON COUNTY, TX-

Here is the monthly transportation update for Precinct 1. This report is designed to give you the latest information. **US 380/US 377- DESCRIPTION:** Widen existing roadway from 4/6-

lane to 6-lane divided with intersection improvements **CONSTRUCTION COST:** \$21,269,537 **LET DATE (Date bid received/opened):** June 4, 2020. **CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE:** December 2023.

Current activities include: Removing driveways and paving up to Elm Fork Bridge. Placing concrete paving between Elm Fork Bridge and

Continued on A3

## Winter Gardening Chores

Janet Laminack



Photo above: Michael Cook, Extension Viticulturist, demonstrates pruning fruit trees at the Denton County Community Grove in January of 2019

DENTON COUNTY, TX-

Now that the Christmas decorations are down, you may be wondering what to do in your yard on those warm winter days. Perennials can be pruned back now, but how low do you go? Perennials like turk's cap and lantana die back to the ground, so you can remove all of that growth. Some perennials will keep their leaves such as rosemary and lavender and don't

need to be pruned. Other perennials will indeed have some dieback, while some may just be ugly-dormant. For these plants, or when in doubt, start trimming at the tip, and stop when you find some green in the branch. Ornamental grasses can be pruned back, but I like to wait since they do still look good. Sometime before March I would suggest pruning back the ornamental grasses, leaving a height of six inches.

Trees don't really need to be pruned very often, but it seems to make some people very happy to prune. Pruning is recommended if trees are damaged or dangerous and removal of dead branches is always ok. Pruning a tree

Continued on A4



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# METRO

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### 380News

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#### Advertising and Editorial Submission Deadlines

The publication deadline for advertising, editorial submissions, guest editorials, and letters to the editor is the 15th day of the preceding month for each issue. Letters to the editor must be 300 words or less and include a name, address, and phone number (only name and city will be published). Content may be submitted via email to info@380news.com.

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## New Denton County Fire Marshal Sworn In



**DENTON COUNTY, TX-** Denton County Commissioners Court meeting, Brad Sebastian was officially sworn in as the new Denton County Fire Marshal.

"We are excited to have Brad in this position as we know he

will handle the responsibilities with the same dedication and commitment he has brought to his other roles as assistant and senior deputy fire marshal in Denton County," said Denton County Judge Eads, who issued the official oath of office.

Brad Sebastian began his career with Denton County Emergency Services in 2015. Previously, he worked for Boeing before entering into the firefighting field. He served as a volunteer firefighter in Krum before becoming one of their first fulltime firefighters.

## State's Financial Crimes Intelligence Center Opens In Tyler

**AUSTIN, TX –** The Financial Crimes Intelligence Center, which will coordinate law enforcement investigations into credit card skimmers, officially opened today in Tyler during a ceremony at the center.

House Bill 2106 (87th Texas Legislature, regular session) created the FCIC, which will operate as a partnership between the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and the Smith County District Attorney's Office.

The FCIC will coordinate and assist in skimmer investigations with law enforcement agencies in Texas and elsewhere. The center's law enforcement officers also will build and maintain relationships with financial institutions, credit card and debit card issuers, payment card networks and merchants. The Center will develop and provide training to law enforcement and industry partners on identifying and combating credit card fraud.

"The Financial Crimes Intelligence Center is a huge step forward in law enforcement for the protection of Texas Citizens. The Smith County District Attorney's Office is grateful to TDLR and the Texas Legislature for recognizing the need to stop organized crime and fraud at our gas pumps and payment terminals," said Smith County District Attorney Jacob Putman. "This new center will help keep our citizens safe in Smith County and across the State of Texas and enable law enforcement to work effectively statewide."

State Rep. Mary Ann Perez authored the legislation that created the FCIC.

"Card skimming at gas pumps is a rapidly growing problem in Texas. I authored bills to tackle this issue during both the 86th and

87th Legislative Sessions – I am humbled to see it all come together and make a positive impact in our state. Card skimming affects all Texans – chances are you or someone you know has been skimmed at least once. I appreciate all of the stakeholders working together on this issue, and am grateful for the overwhelming support this legislation received in both the Texas House of Representatives and Senate. The Financial Crimes Intelligence Center is the first of its kind, and I am proud to see Texas take the lead on this issue and become a model for other states," she said.

TDLR regulates motor fuel metering and quality and collects consumer complaints and merchant reports related to credit card skimmers. The Tyler Police Department and Smith County DA have aggressively investigated and prosecuted criminals engaging in credit card fraud related to skimmers placed on gasoline pumps.

"We appreciate the leadership that the Smith County District Attorney's Office and the Tyler Police Department have provided during the past few years in the fight against credit card skimmers. TDLR is proud to enter the fight and we look forward to working with the District Attorney and the FCIC in the years to come – and we thank the Texas Legislature for entrusting us with this task," said Brian F. Francis, TDLR executive director.

The Smith County DA will run day-to-day operations at the FCIC, while TDLR will reimburse Smith County for operating expenses related to the Center.

"The FCIC's sworn investigators are highly experienced, have statewide jurisdiction and can take the investigative

He studied to become a fire investigator, fire inspector and graduated from the police academy prior to joining the Denton County team as a deputy fire marshal. In the time since, he was promoted to senior deputy fire marshal and assistant fire marshal before taking on his new role, effective immediately.

A Gainesville native who grew up in Krum, he married his high school sweetheart and, together, they recently celebrated 30 years of marriage.

## Neighborhood Assist Grant Program Bigger in 2022

100 grant winners to mark the State Farm's 100th anniversary

**DENTON COUNTY, TX-** State Farm is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2022 by building the State Farm Neighborhood Assist grant program bigger. That means more submissions, more grants and spreading good to more communities!

This year, the program will award **100 \$25,000 grants** (vs. 40 grants in previous years) to nonprofit organizations to help fund neighborhood improvement projects. Additionally, the number of cause submissions is doubled to 4,000.

"State Farm Neighborhood Assist truly embodies the spirit of what our company has been about for 100 years-being a good neighbor," said Rasheed Merritt, assistant vice president at State Farm. "We are excited about expanding the program in 2022 to help even more neighborhoods."

In 2021, five Texas organizations each won a \$25,000 Neighborhood Assist grant – Addi's Faith Foundation, Building Their Village (Big Brothers Big Sisters), Harvest House, Ride2Health, and The Warren Center Autism Assessment Services.

#### Here's how the program works:

**Submission Phase: Starts February 16 and ends when 4,000 submissions are reached**

Individuals can submit a cause at [www.neighborhoodassist.com](http://www.neighborhoodassist.com) starting February 16 at 1pm ET. Submitters can prepare now by going to the website and downloading the submission guide. State Farm will accept the first 4,000 submissions, and an internal Review Committee will then narrow the field to the Top 200 finalists using a scoring rubric.

#### Voting Phase: April 27-May 6

Ultimately, voters will decide which community improvement projects win big. The public will have a chance to vote 10 times a day, every day for 10 days, from April 27-May 6, for their favorite causes from the list of finalists. Voting will take place at [www.neighborhoodassist.com](http://www.neighborhoodassist.com).

#### Winners Announced: June 7

The 100 causes that receive the most votes will each win a \$25,000 grant. Winners will be announced on Tuesday, June 7, at [www.neighborhoodassist.com](http://www.neighborhoodassist.com).

Last year, 125,000 people cast more than 3 million votes in support of their favorite causes, selecting winners from small towns and big cities.

Since the program began in 2012, more than 380 causes have received a total of \$10 million to enact change in their communities.

## City of Denton Launches New Construction Projects Map

**DENTON, TX-** New Tool Will Help Community Members Track Major Construction and Improvement Projects.

**DENTON, TX, Jan. 11, 2022 –** The City of Denton recently launched an interactive map for community members to stay informed

on City managed construction and improvement projects. This includes projects such as public art installations, playground updates, roadway reconstructions, and railroad quiet zones, among other projects. The new Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Map is now available at [www.discussdenton.com/cipmap](http://www.discussdenton.com/cipmap) and allows users to focus on a selected location, view planned, in progress, and completed projects, toggle between aerial and map views, and access project pages for select projects.

"The new CIP Map makes it easier for community members to find information on City managed construction and improve-

ment projects happening in their neighborhood or throughout Denton," said Stuart Birdseye, Deputy Director of Public Affairs. "We value transparency and want it to be easy for our community to get information about changes as they become available. This new tool will help us do just that."

The CIP Map data is sourced from various City departments and is updated daily. All projects displayed on the map are scheduled to initiate construction within the next year (Planned), currently in construction (In Progress), or have been completed within the last 60 days (Recently Completed). Routine and quick maintenance projects, such as pot hole repairs and minor sidewalk maintenance, will not be featured on the CIP Map. The weekly street closure report (SCR) will include these projects and is available at [www.improvingdenton.com](http://www.improvingdenton.com).

The tool was developed by the City's Capital Engineering and geographic information system (GIS) teams. To learn more and to discover additional construction resources visit Improving Denton or the CIP Map webpage.



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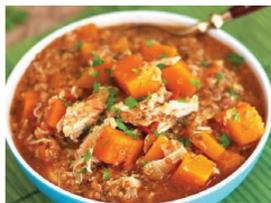


# HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

## Life is a Balance of Holding On and Letting Go

BLT Agent, Dusty Fife

Slow Cooked Butternut Chicken Stew, 5 Ingredient Dinners for Busy Folks, "Life Changing Recipes in 30 Minutes on a Budget", Stacey M. Harris, Certified Health Coach from the Institute of Integrative Nutrition and Master of Science in Exercise Physiology from UNT.



**DENTON COUNTY, TX**-Most approaches to nutrition and lifestyle changes just dwell on calories, carbs, fats, proteins, however Stacey Harris, Certified Health Coach, in the 380 Corridor, focuses on secondary foods as well; life balance and alignment, relationships, physical activity, your career, what inspires you, self care and goal setting. Instead of creating lists of restrictions and good and bad foods, she coaches her clients to create a happy, healthy life in a way that is flexible, fun and free of denial, guilt and embraces a balance of holding onto the good and letting go of the bad. One Day. At. A. Time.

While Stacey Harris might be considered a health nut, most people recognize her as a social butterfly with a big imagination and spot on follow through. Not only is she an athlete, who recently finished the Iron Man Triathlon in Tulsa, she is a loving mom with a generous heart.

Stacey realizes it's rare for anyone to get to work on their nutrition and goals with a trained professional. As a Health Coach, she creates a supportive environment that enables you to achieve all of your lifestyle goals. "I've not only studied all the major dietary theories but I incorporate practical lifestyle changes to coach and guide you in discovering which approach works best for you," said Stacey, "We explore what's important in your life and what you can let go of that no longer serves you for the better."

We hope you enjoy this recipe from her new book.

Stacey is a Certified Health Coach from the Institute of Integrative Nutrition and Master of Science in Exercise Physiology from UNT.

Stacey's new book, 5 Ingredient Dinners for Busy Folks, offers

"Life Changing Recipes

in 30 Minutes on a Budget" is now available at Live2b-Balanced.com to download for \$4.99.

**Ingredients**

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 3 garlic cloves minced
- 1.5 lbs chicken breasts, boneless, skinless
- 2 teaspoons oregano
- 2 teaspoons dried parsley or stir in 1/4 cup fresh parsley after cooking
- 1/2 teaspoon red chili flakes
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 medium-small butternut squash peeled and cubed (about 4 cups)
- 1 bag frozen cauliflower rice
- 14 ounces (1 3/4 cups) diced tomatoes (rotel for more kick)
- 4 cups chicken or vegetable broth
- 1 bay leaf

**Instructions**

**Slow Cooker Instructions:**

1. In a small pan heat the olive oil, then sauté garlic until lightly browned (can be done in slow cooker if it has a browning function).
  2. Place the chicken breasts in the bottom of the slow cooker. Add all other ingredients (minus the cauliflower rice) on top of chicken and cook on high for 3 hours or 6 hours on low.
  3. When finished cooking, discard bay leaf. Take out chicken breasts and shred with 2 forks etc. Return shredded chicken to slow cooker together with fresh parsley (if using) and stir to combine everything evenly.
  4. Cook cauliflower rice according to the instructions and add to the soup when it's finished
  5. Serve immediately with a squeeze of fresh lime juice.
- Alternative Options**  
 2/3 cup quinoa – add this with other ingredients from step 2  
 1 medium onion dices – add with garlic and saute with garlic



**DENTON COUNTY, TX**-We cannot see or smell bacteria that can make us sick. To help keep your family safe and reduce your risk of a foodborne illness use the four principles of Fight BAC!

**1. Clean**

Wash hands with warm water and soap for twenty seconds. All counter tops and equipment should be cleaned before and after food preparation. Keep your refrigerator clean with hot water and soap, and dry with paper towels. Before using, rinse all fruits and vegetables under cold running water even if the peel will be thrown away.

**2. Separate**

To prevent bacteria from spreading, separate any raw uncooked food (raw meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs) from

other foods. When shopping, prevent leaks or cross-contamination by keeping food items separate from other items in your shopping cart and by bagging items separately when checking out. When using a cutting board, keep fresh produce separate from raw meats, seafood, or eggs. If available, use two cutting boards.

**3. Cook**

Use a food thermometer while cooking your family's meal to ensure your food is cooked to the proper temperature. Cooking food to the proper temperature ensures that harmful bacteria is destroyed in the cooking process. Check food packaging for safe internal temperatures.

**4. Chill**

Limit growth of bacteria by keeping your refrigerator set at 40°F or below. All perishable food or leftovers should be either frozen or placed in the refrigerator within 2 hours of purchase or use. Do not overstuff the

refrigerator to avoid changes in the proper temperature. The safest way to thaw food is by placing the item in the refrigerator on a plate or dish to catch any juices that might leak out. Never thaw food by leaving on the counter for more than 2 hours.

By using the Fight BAC! principles of clean, separate, cook and chill you can help keep your family safe from a foodborne illness!

For more information visit: <https://www.fightbac.org/food-safety-basics/the-core-four-practices/>

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating*

'Highway 380 and 377...' continued from front page



Lake Lewisville Bridge Relief #1 and #2. Grading for compost and sod.

Narrative description of last month's activities: Removing driveways and paving up to Elm Fork Bridge. Removing concrete paving between Elm Fork Bridge and Lake Lewisville Bridge Relief #1 and #2. Grading for compost and sod.

Narrative description of activities planned for next month: Phase I (eastbound construction: drainage, driveways, turn lanes, etc.) construction. Forming bridge bents on Elm Fork Bridge and Lake Lewisville Bridge Relief #1 and #2.

Traffic issues: Various daily lane closures.

Plans for changes in traffic patterns: Traffic has been shifted to the north for the entire length of the project. No traffic pattern changes until contractor moves in Phase II.

Item(s) of work currently controlling project completion: Phase 1 construction at Elm Fork Trinity River Bridge, Lake Lewisville Bridge Relief #1 and Lake Lewisville Bridge Relief #2.

Other items of significance: None  
**US 380 East-** DESCRIPTION: Widen existing roadway from 4/6-lane to 6-lane divided with intersection improvements

**CONSTRUCTION**  
 COST: \$140,553,393  
 LET DATE (Date bid received/opened): August 4, 2021  
**CONSTRUCTION**  
 START: January 2022

continues on page A4

## Dave Says-How much dirt, and how much house?



**Dear Dave,**

My wife and I own a small catering business. We have a few big corporations as clients, and our company has been very successful over the last two or three years. Now, we are planning to build a house. I was wondering what you think about how much should be spent on the land itself versus the construction of the actual house. -Lee

**Dear Lee,**

When the whole thing is done, the payment you end up with shouldn't

be more than 25% of your take-home pay on a 15-year, fixed-rate loan. The ratio of land to house can vary, and that part's up to you. If you're buying a big piece of land, you're probably going to have a higher ratio of land cost to home cost than if you bought a simple lot and put a really nice home there.

Generally, a standard subdivision lot is going to be around 20% of the total price. If you spend \$100,000 on the lot, you'll end up with a total project cost of about a half-million. Now, keep in mind that's just a fairly stan-

dard ratio. It's not a rule.

The only rule here is my rule about mortgage payments. Again, no more than 25% of your take-home pay on a fixed-rate, 15-year note. Otherwise, you can end up house poor. And when you're house poor, it takes away your ability to save, build wealth, and give.

Having a big house and a lot of land is cool if you can afford it, Lee. But it's not worth it if it's financially stressful and prevents you from living your best life! -Dave

\* Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of *The Ramsey Show*, heard by more than 18 million listeners each week. He has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *CBS This Morning*, *Today Show*, *Fox News*, *CNN*, *Fox Business*, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.

'HHSC Offers Hiring...' continued from front page

To view all open positions and apply, candidates can visit the Health and Specialty Care System jobs page on the HHSC website. Job seekers who have questions and want more information can e-mail [healthcareers@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:healthcareers@hhsc.state.tx.us).

To view open positions by location, view the Health and Specialty Care System jobs map.

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!**

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# EDUCATION

## Save the Date: Scarborough Renaissance Festival® 2022



**DALLAS/FORT WORTH, TX-** What better place for a part-time job than in the Renaissance! Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is now hiring! Apply now at [www.srfestival.com/about-us/employment](http://www.srfestival.com/about-us/employment) Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is looking for outgoing, energetic people 16 and older to fill the following part-time positions during the 2022 season. Food & beverage sales, wait staff, restaurant hosts, restaurant/food service managers,

alcoholic beverage sales, special event servers, souvenir sales, ticket sales, ticket takers/front entrance greeters, exit gate personnel, safety services, grounds crew, restroom attendants, kitchen help, cooks, dishwashers, exit surveyors, games personnel, and more. Many, but not all, positions require costuming and applicants must be available to work Saturdays, Sundays, and Memorial Day Monday April 9 – May 30, 2022.

Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is interactive fun for everyone, 16th Century style! Here you will discover our 35-acre recreation of an English village set in the days of King Henry VIII. Join in the fun as the “Village of Scarborough” celebrates the visit of his sister, Margaret, Queen of Scotland and the Isles, her royal court, and guests with a festival of entertainment, artisans, food, magic, and merriment!

Enjoy full combat jousting and birds of prey exhibitions, a Mermaid Lagoon, 20+ stages of non-stop Renaissance entertainment and the 125+ member performing company. Discover 200 shoppes of exquisite crafts and amazing artisan demonstrations. Experience Knighting Ceremonies, Combat Competitions, the Grande Parade, daily Wine & Beer Tasting events, Themed Weekends, and so much more.

Located in Waxahachie, Texas, Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is just 30 minutes south of the downtowns of Dallas and Fort Worth off I-35E and one hour North of Waco. Scarborough Renaissance Festival® is sponsored by Dr Pepper.

For more information visit [www.SRFestival.com](http://www.SRFestival.com) or follow us on Facebook & Twitter (SRFestival) or on Instagram (theSRFestival).

### ‘Winter Gardening Chores...’ continued from front page

because it’s too tall or too wide is not recommended. That will be an on-going battle and you would do better to replace with a more suitable tree. Sometimes people want to “limb up” a tree to allow mowing under the tree without losing their heads. This is a good idea. And, sometimes limbing up a tree to allow your house to be seen is also desirable. However, limbing up can be overdone and becomes referred to as “lion’s tail.” If you want to remove a few branches, limit yourself to only removing branches up to 5-6 feet. Crape myrtles are commonly topped or polled, which is not necessary.

They will rebloom without being pruned. Also, pruning them back severely can weaken the tree structure. But, again, if it makes you happy to prune back your crape myrtles, then I think you should stick with it. Life is short.

Why not try growing some of your own food this year? Peaches do well here and that’s actually a tree that does need annual pruning. A win-win for you pruning enthusiasts! Pecans make lovely shade trees and will make the squirrels in your neighborhood very happy. Blackberries are one of the best-suited crops for our area. They grow into medium-to-large shrubs but can have vicious thorns (thought there are thornless varieties).

If you are more interested in vegetables, it’s almost time to start planting. Many crops get planted in mid-February, such as lettuce, onion, broccoli, and parsley. The Denton County Master Gardeners have put together a beginner’s guide to vegetable gardening that you can find under the North Texas Gardening tab on the [dcmga.com](http://dcmga.com) website. Also, check there for upcoming classes on all sorts of gardening topics.

But remember, winter is also a time to rest. We all might do better if we followed the lead of nature a little more. So this season, give yourself the opportunity to take life a little slower.

### ‘Highway 380 and 377...’ continued page A3

**CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE:** To be determined, Current activities include:

Utilities: Utilities that are clear: AT&T, Atmos Energy, Charter/Spectrum, CoServ Gas, DME, DISD, Grande, MCI/Verizon, Mustang SUD, Nortex, Oncor, Verizon, and Zayo.

• Utilities in conflict:  
o CoServ Electric: Construction complete. Removing poles; anticipate clearance by mid-January 2022.

o Mustang SUD: Clear  
o Suddenlink: Construction complete. Poles re-

maining for wreck-out.  
o UTRWD: Outside right-of-way; not impacting project; awaiting resolution of easements.

• Construction: Project was awarded to Zachry Construction Corporation with a low bid of \$140,553,393.21, at 5.39% under the engineer’s estimate. There are 36 months of barricades and 936 working days. Pre-construction meeting held on November 16, 2021. Barricades set on January 10, with construction expected to begin on January 19, 2022.

**US 380 Feasibility Study-DESCRIPTION:** Evaluate initial alignments for east-west connection serving Denton

and Collin counties  
**CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE:** To be determined

Current activities include:  
• TxDOT held public meetings on November 30, 2021, in Prosper and on December 2, 2021, in Denton. Virtual meeting materials were posted on [www.keepitmovingdallas.com/US380DentonPM3](http://www.keepitmovingdallas.com/US380DentonPM3). The deadline for providing comments has been extended to January 19, 2022.

• After the public meetings, the public meeting summary report will be prepared, and the feasibility study report will be finalized, likely in the spring of 2022.

### ‘So, How Does...’ continued from front page

demonstrate concepts related to the topic. You will participate in various hands-on activities, learn new skills, do community service, and even make speeches about your project.

How to choose your 4-H project:

- Select a project you like.
- Consider the money and time it will take. Can parents/guardians help?
- Consider the space and equipment that you have at home.

- A 4-H project should be fun, serve a purpose, and be worth the effort.
- Select only the number of projects you can complete.

When you are researching 4-H projects, you may come across something that Denton County does not currently offer. We are always looking to grow our program, so you can speak with a club leader or myself, the county 4-H agent, about starting a new project.

4-H enrollment is done totally online now through a platform called 4-HOnline. You can start this process at [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com). Here you will create a family account and profile before creating one for each 4-H member in your family. Texas 4-H has created some guides to help you with the enrollment process but our office is also here to help.

While enrolling, you will select not only your 4-H project but the club you would like to join as well. We have a variety of 4-H clubs in Denton County that are grouped together by a specific interest or by a local community club. 4-H members are allowed to participate in more than one club at a time.

More About 4-H  
4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. 4-H is about having fun, learning,

exploring and discovering. In 4-H, young people make new friends, develop new skills, become leaders, and help shape their communities. More than 65,000 Texas youth are enrolled members of 4-H community clubs in Texas. Another 850,000 Texas youth get involved in 4-H through special educational opportunities at school, in after school programs, or at neighborhood or youth centers. These youth live in cities, suburbs, small towns, and rural communities.

4-H gives them a chance to pursue their own interests – from photography to computers, from building rockets, to raising sheep. To learn more about getting involved in Denton County 4-H, contact Steven Baringer, Denton County 4-H & Youth Development Agent, at 940-349-2884 or at [steven.baringer@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:steven.baringer@ag.tamu.edu).

### ‘Aubrey Middle School...’ continued from front page

The TSCA began the CREST program in 2005 to recognize schools with outstanding counseling programs. CREST stands for Counselors Reinforcing Ex-

cellence for Students in Texas. The program helps counselors to evaluate their counseling programs, promote their programs to the stakeholders in their districts, demonstrate the

effectiveness of their guidance and counseling programs through empirical means, and to implement the Texas and National models for school counseling programs.

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# SPIRITUAL

## Area Church Directory

Sponsored by PointBank-Free Listing includes: Church Name, Address, Phone Number and Website. To include your church, please contact 380News at admin@380News.com.

**Assembly of God Hilltop Church**  
Aubrey First Assembly of God  
819 W. Sherman Dr. in Aubrey  
**Trilogy Community Church**  
Cross Oaks Elementary School,  
600 Liberty Blvd, Cross Roads, TX 76227  
469.708.7654  
www.trilogychurch.org  
**Cowboy Country Chapel**  
603 Morrison  
Pilot Point, TX 76258  
**Baha'i Faith**  
**Baha'i Faith in Aubrey**  
800-22-UNITE or 972-632-6904  
www.bahai.org and www.bahai.us  
**Baptist**  
**Antioch Baptist Church**  
Hwy 428 & Hwy 2931  
Aubrey, Texas 76227  
**Bethel Baptist Church**  
210 E. Main Street  
Pilot Point, Texas 76258  
903-429-3661  
**Calvary Baptist Church**  
Corner of 125 N. Jefferson & Walcott St., Pilot Point  
www.calvarypilotpoint.com  
**Cowboy Church of Cooper Creek**  
3000 Rock Hill Rd.  
Aubrey, TX 76227  
972-841-3331  
http://www.cowboychurchofcoopercreek.org/  
**Cross Fellowship Church**  
Meets at Savannah Elementary  
1101 Cotton Exchange Dr  
Aubrey, TX 76227  
www.crossfellowship380.com  
**CrossRidge Church**  
1701 Walker Lane  
(Across From Little Elm High School)  
www.crossridgeonline.org  
972-292-1953  
**First Rock Fellowship**  
201 N. Cherry Street, Aubrey  
www.firstrockfellowship.org

**First Baptist of Krugerville**  
Hwy. 377 South, Krugerville  
www.fbckrugerville.com  
**Green Valley Baptist Church**  
9901 FM 428 in Aubrey  
**Living Word Baptist Church**  
2315 FM 720 West  
Little Elm, TX 75068  
(469) 362-9010  
www.livingwordbaptist.net  
**Midway Baptist Church**  
Hwy. 377 North of Aubrey  
940-365-9312  
www.midwaychurch.org  
**Mustang Baptist Church**  
Corner of I-385 & Mustang Rd. in Aubrey  
**New Hope Baptist Church**  
Highway 377, South, Aubrey  
www.newhopeaubrey.com  
**Prestonwood Baptist Church**  
1001 West Prosper Trail, Prosper, TX  
972-798-6700  
**Providence Village Church**  
Providence Elementary  
1000 FM 2931  
Aubrey TX 76227  
www.providencevillagechurch.com  
**Rhea's Mill Baptist Church**  
5733 North Custer Rd., McKinney  
972-562-2947  
www.rheasmill.org  
**Catholic**  
**St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church**  
4000 West University Dr.  
Prosper, TX 75078  
469-287-7624  
www.saintmartindp.org  
**St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church**  
925 N. Charcut St., Pilot Point, TX 76258  
940-686-2088  
www.stthomaspilotpoint.org  
**St. Sophia Ukrainian Catholic Church**  
5600 North Colony Boulevard  
The Colony, Texas 75056  
(972) 370-4700  
www.stsophiakrainian.cc

**Christian First Christian Church in Aubrey**  
410 N. Main St.  
mtccsw.org/pages/minisite\_fccaubrey\_home  
**Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
**First Christian Church**  
410 N. Main St. in Aubrey  
**First Christian Church of Denton**  
1203 Fulton Street  
Denton, Texas 76210  
www.fcddenton.org  
**Grace Christian Church**  
Baker Elementary School  
Prosper ISD (Heatherwood Subdivision)  
www.graceprosper.org  
**Church of Christ**  
**Aubrey Church of Christ**  
910 S. Hwy. 377  
**Lake Dallas Church of Christ**  
504 Carlisle Dr.  
Lake Dallas, TX 75065  
940-497-5510  
**Rock Hill Church of Christ**  
9426 Rock Hill Road  
Frisco, Texas  
972-347-1919  
**Episcopal**  
**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
420 South Coit Road  
Prosper, TX 75078  
972-347-9700  
www.stpaulsprosper.org  
**Lutheran**  
**Rejoice Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
12000 Independence Pkwy, Frisco, Texas 75035  
972-569-8185  
www.RejoiceLutheran.com  
**Methodist**  
**Aubrey First United Methodist**  
113 West Plum, Aubrey  
www.aubreyfumc.com  
**Bethel Methodist Church of Denton County**  
3126 FM 2931, Aubrey Texas  
409-543-8444  
www.betheldenton.com

**Button Memorial United Methodist Church**  
101 W. Eldorado Pkwy., Little Elm, TX. 75068  
www.bmunmc.org, 972-292-1465  
**Cross Way United Methodist**  
14632 Fishtrap Road, Aubrey, Texas 76227  
www.crosswayumc.org  
**First United Methodist Church**  
217 S. Church St.  
Pilot Point, TX 76258  
(940) 686-2338  
**Harvest Bible Fellowship, CMC**  
3121 FM 2931  
church.netministries.org/ch30630  
**New Leaf Church at Children's Lighthouse**  
3100 Woodlake Pkwy, Little Elm, Texas  
972-325-8939, www.newleafnow.org  
**Oak Grove United Methodist**  
4725 FM 720 W.  
(940) 365-3027  
www.oakgroveunitedmethodist.org  
**Prosper United Methodist Church**  
205 S. Church St., Prosper  
www.prosperumc.org, 972-347-2372  
**Mormon**  
**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**  
8801 Martop Road, Aubrey Texas 76227  
www.ComeUntoChrist.org  
**Non-Denominational**  
**The Alabaster Box Ministries**  
1728 Flamingo Dr., Little Elm, TX 75068  
www.thealabasterboxministries.com  
817-262-9640  
**Bold Cross Cowboy Church**  
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3612 FM 1385, Aubrey, TX 76227  
**The Bridge Church**  
4582 Fishtrap Road, Denton, TX, 76208.  
findthebridge.com,(940)735-2080  
**Grace Point Nazarene Church**  
611 East Liberty  
Pilot Point, Texas  
760-518-6132  
**Circle of Love Fellowship Church**  
16611 FM 428 W., Celina, TX 75009  
972-816-6445

**City of Transformation Church**  
Lakeside Manor Theater  
902 W. Eldorado Pkwy, Little Elm, TX 75068  
469-247-1863  
www.cityoftransformation.org  
**Covenant Church**  
**Cross Roads Campus**  
8690 Liberty Road  
Cross Roads, TX 76227  
940-365-1395  
www.covenantcrossroads.org  
**Covenant Word Ministries Church**  
1501 Bluebird Dr.  
(Paloma Creek South Clubhouse)  
Little Elm, TX 75068  
www.covenantwordministrieschurch.org  
**Frisco Bible Church**  
8000 Sanctuary Dr., Frisco, TX 75033  
972-335-8150  
https://www.friscobible.com/  
**Faith Assembly Church**  
700 N. Harmon Road, Aubrey, TX 76227  
(940) 365-9360  
aubreyfaithassembly.weebly.com  
**Gateway Church**  
7125 Legacy Drive  
Frisco, TX 75034  
Frs.GatewayPeople.com  
469.238.1000  
**Grace Village Community Church**  
5325-B Highway 377  
Krugerville, TX 76227  
gracevillagechurch.org  
**Lighthouse Christian Fellowship**  
4331 E. Prosper Tr.  
Prosper, TX 75078  
972-562-2500  
www.lighthouse.tx.com  
**New Leaf Church**  
meets at Children's Lighthouse  
3100 Woodlake Pkwy, Little Elm  
www.newleafnow.org  
972-325-8939  
**North Texas Trinity Cowboy Church**  
9901 FM 2164  
Sanger, TX, 76266  
www.northtexascowboy.org  
**The Summit Church**  
910 S Hwy 377, Aubrey, TX 76227  
www.oursummitchurch.com  
940-453-4152

**Relate Church**  
1400 FM 424  
Cross Roads, TX, 76227  
www.relatechurch.com  
**Restoration Cowboy Church**  
910 South Hwy 377  
Aubrey, Texas 76227  
Restorationcowboychurch.org  
940-343-5377  
**Ridin' for the Brand Cowboy Church**  
5926 FM 455  
Sanger, Texas 76266  
www.ridinforthbrand.org  
940-458-3076  
**Rock Creek Church**  
rockcreekkx.church  
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I moved to the Pilot Point area in 2014 after retiring but desired to keep my mind and body active and to make new friends. I discovered that our Pilot Point Library had many classes and activities for all ages. So, I signed up for a library card and some of their classes. Wow, did I hit the jackpot! I found



the staff to be friendly and so, so helpful. Erica taught me how to navigate many of the apps on my new phone. I took CPR and Stop the Bleed classes taught by our Pilot Point Firefighters, to name a few classes pre-covid. In 2021, I attended *Art with Justine* (an absolute hoot); Denton County History and



Culture Traveling Museum Series and learned about Hispanic Heritage and the Transcontinental Railroad; the Denton County Master Gardener series covered Vegetable Gardening, Growing Fruits and Berries, and North Texas Native Plants --a bountiful treasure



of knowledge that has helped me and my garden. I learned a basic crochet stitch at *Yarn Buddies*. I even attended a children's class on *Skin and Skulls* given by *Science with Attitude*. I would encourage you to attend this season's events, which include *Yarn Buddies*, every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m.; *A Fresh Start to a Healthier You!* every Thursday at 2:00 p.m.

in February and March 3rd, given by Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service and *Art with Justine* on Friday, March 4th and April 1st at 10:00 a.m., Registration is required, please call 940-686-5004. Children's classes include *It's Story Time* every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m., through April 26th; Game Day Saturdays and Family Movie time (call library for dates and times - 940-686-5004). If you would really like to get involved, then consider joining the Friends of the Library, a non-profit organization that strives to support our library and community. I really hope to see you at the library because I am always looking to meet new friends.  
- Cindy Faris



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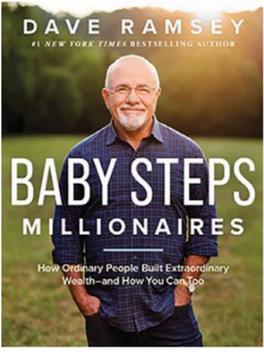
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# Dave Ramsey's New Book, Baby Steps Millionaires, Releases Jan. 11th

In His Latest Book



Ramsey Show” tells real stories about ordinary people who spent years busting through barriers and digging out of debt so they could build wealth. Now, they're millionaires.

“This is a book 30 years in the making,” Ramsey said. “I’ve coached millions of people on ‘The Ramsey Show’ over that last 30 years, and people come up to me all the time saying they’re millionaires because they followed the Ramsey Baby Steps. The stories of real Baby Steps Millionaires will show you this is really possible — because these millionaires are just like you!”

**NASHVILLE, TN.** - Becoming a millionaire can seem like a distant dream, but tens of thousands of people have accomplished it by following the Ramsey Baby Steps. Their inspirational stories are out today in Dave Ramsey’s latest book, “Baby Steps Millionaires,” published by Ramsey Press (ISBN: 9781942121596).

In his first trade book in eight years, Ramsey proves that anyone can become a millionaire — no matter their starting point. The No. 1 national best-selling author and host of “The

National Study of Millionaires,” the largest study of millionaires ever done in North America.

“Baby Steps Millionaires” retails for \$26.99 and is available here.

## About Dave Ramsey

Dave Ramsey is a seven-time No. 1 national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of “The Ramsey Show,” heard by more than 18 million listeners each week. He has appeared on “Good Morning America,” “CBS Mornings,” the “Today” show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business and many more. Since 1992, Ramsey has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth, and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO of the company Ramsey Solutions.

## About Ramsey Press

Headquartered in Franklin, Tennessee, Ramsey Press, a part of Ramsey Solutions, publishes America’s trusted voice on money, Dave Ramsey, as well as No. 1 national bestselling authors Ken Coleman, Rachel Cruze and Dr. John DeLony. Ramsey Press produces practical and inspirational material on a wide range of topics, including personal development, leadership, careers, business, relationships and personal finance. For more information, visit [ramseysolutions.com/company/ramsey-press](http://ramseysolutions.com/company/ramsey-press).

## ‘Denton County Provides...’ continued from front page

- Denton County Friend of the Family, in the amount of \$25,000

- Health Services of North Texas, in the amount of \$29,000

- Denton County MHMR Center, in the amount of \$1.31 million

- PediPlace, in the amount of \$41,000

- Services Provided for Aging Needs (SPAN), in the amount of \$94,828

The agreement term for the one-time only grants totaling \$1,633,232 is for one year from Oct. 1, 2021, through Sept. 30, 2022, using funds Denton County receives through a tobacco master settlement. A com-

mittee selects recipients of the settlement funds each year. Commissioners approved the funding on Sept. 21, 2021.

These county funds provide significant assistance to agencies at a time when the county is experiencing fast growth. Several agencies expanded mental health and substance abuse services this year.

“These grants were expanded this year as we know the needs across Denton County have grown as our population tops 933,000 with an estimated 82 individuals moving into our area daily,” said Denton County Judge Andy Eads.

“By providing funds to these non-profit organizations, Denton County can help ensure people receive assistance such as mental health services, food, case management, advocate training for children’s needs and transportation for the elderly, disabled and veterans among other needs,” he said.

Judge Eads also asked individuals to consider volunteering their time to non-profit agencies across Denton County.

“I want to thank each of you (service agencies) for using the money to help make people’s lives better,” said Precinct 3 Commissioner Bobbie J. Mitchell.

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