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ON THE COVER:

Bree and Cory Kiefer in Denton, Texas Mutton Bustin' at the North Texas Fair & Rodeo Photograph courtesy of: Show Photo by Katina Cover artwork provided by the North Texas Fair & Rodeo Creative Arts Sponsor – 380Guide. "It's What Cowboys Do!" ... and Cowgirls! August 16th-24th, 2019



August/September 2019

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United Way of Denton County Loaned Executives Organize

Day of Caring"

The United Way of Denton County Loaned Executives invested some sweat equity as they shoveled, hauled, and spread a mountain of mulch on the playground area of Denton City County Day School as part of their "Day of Caring."

While most of the Loaned Executives labored on the playground area to make it safer for the children to play outside, a handful also worked directly with the children initiating fun activities with pompons, bubbles, beach balls, and sidewalk chalk.

"I cannot express our gratitude enough to United Way and the Loaned Executives," said Kim Vaughn, Executive Director at Denton City County Day School, a United Way of Denton County Partner Agency. "Today is a huge blessing to our kids and our staff."

Loaned Executives are dedicated volunteers from Denton County businesses practicing leadership and relationship management through valuable hands-on experience in the community. The following local corporations, small businesses, and organizations "loaned" their employees to United Way of Denton County for 2019: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Denton (2), First State Bank, Sally Beauty (2), City of Lewisville, Safran Electrical & Power (2), First United Bank, Ciera Bank, Glenn Davis Insurance, Peterbilt Motors Company, DATCU (2), American National Bank & Trust, and Applejacks Liquors. Top left: United Way Loaned Executives Janelle Bellam of Sally Beauty thrills the children of Denton City County Day School with bubbles while Lisa Kelsey of Ciera Bank plays DJ with music from her phone and Kimberly Jones of First United Bank hands out sidewalk chalk.

Bottom left: United Way Loaned Executives Nicolas Lamb of Glenn Davis Insurance and Austin Anderson of First State Bank work hard to repair a retaining wall as Denton City County Day School kids watch from the playground swings.

Top right: United Way Loaned Executives (from left) Dylan Taylor of Safran, Hector Juarez of Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Denton, Matthew Morgan of American National Bank & Trust, and Jarrett McPike of DATCU Credit Union pause from shoveling the mountain of mulch for a quick photo at Denton City County Day School.



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Planning the Remembrance You Lived For

ho knew planning your funeral could be entertaining and educational? Recently I attended a dinner hosted by Cindy and Terri Slay and their longtime colleague, Charlotte Chism Waldrum, at World Famous Mom's downtown Aubrey. I didn't go as an attendee, but as the photographer, but I was so happy I went. Unexpectedly, I walked away with a wealth of knowledge.

Before dinner they spoke gracefully and briefly about the benefits of planning your own funeral and shared information that I never would have known, unless otherwise confronted with the loss of a loved one. He spoke in such a calming way that you felt at peace looking at your own mortality. How he was able to combine lightheartedness and a bit of humor to such a serious subject bordered on an art form. When the dinner arrived he took a break and everyone ate their meal. The evening ended with a short discussion about cemeteries followed with an opportunity to ask questions. Several attendees had questions and Slay answered them impeccably.

When my grandfather passed away, he was conscious of his family that he was leaving behind. He made all of the arrangements needed to take the burden off of us. In the moment I did not realize By Jodie Linton-Prickett

what an amazing gift that was, due to overwhelming grief. After healing, I realized that it was his final altruistic act. I was thankful for his forward thinking, and I want to give the same gift to my family.

After leaving the dinner, I felt that I needed to start planning for my final adventure into the afterlife. In most cases going to your final destination is a spontaneous journey, so it is never too early to start making arrangements.

Since 1986, the Slay family has been assisting area families with their funeral needs. "We provide a special place where loved ones can be remembered. We understand that every person is special and unique, "says Slay, "Therefore, we feel that their life should be honored in the same way. The details and those "special touches" that are added to arrangements are important to you and your family, and we are here to help guide you through this professional attention to detail and quality service. We believe in caring for your family as our own to ensure your comfort and ease during this difficult time."

The Slay family has been blessed with the ability to walk you through planning for something none of us want to think about. They have the knowledge, the integrity and the compassion that is needed to guide you through end of life decisions.

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REASONS TO PRE-PLAN YOUR FUNERAL:

PEACE OF MIND

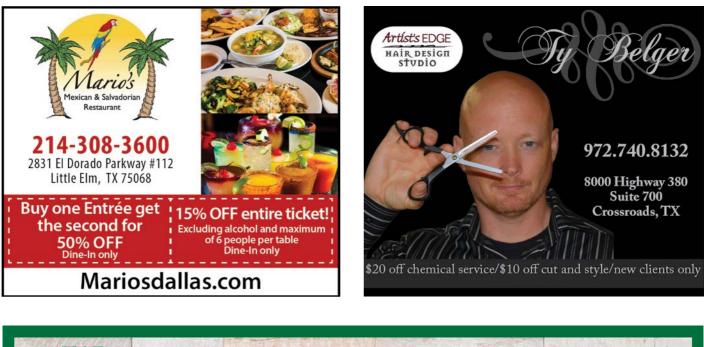
Many who have undergone the emotional strain of arranging a funeral within hours of losing a loved one have made the choice to pre-plan their own funeral. Doing so lifts the burden from their loved ones by relieving decision-making pressure at a time of grief and emotional stress.

PERSONAL CHOICE

Funeral arrangements are a deeply personal choice. Pre-planning provides you with the time needed to make practical, detailed decisions that reflect your standards, lifestyle, taste and budget. And we assure you and your family that the choices you make will be carried out as planned.

LOWER COSTS

When you finalize your plan, we can advise you of the total cost. You do not have to set aside funds for your plan, but doing so protects you against escalating funeral costs. By locking in today's funeral costs and ensuring that the necessary funds are set aside, you help relieve yourself of unnecessary future worry and your survivors of an unexpected expense.







AHS Student Attends Sea Cadet Corps' Senior Leadership Academy

By Amy Ruggini



Ian James has spent a week on an amphibious assault ship, worked on F18 attack fighter jets and trained on a submarine base. As a cadet in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps, the Aubrey High School junior has trained on Naval bases on both coasts and is comfortable traveling to a new place and walking into a room full of strangers.

Yet, he was a little nervous about his latest trip. Ian was one of 30 cadets selected to attend the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps' inaugural Senior Leadership Academy in April. He spent a week in the Washington, D.C. area, practicing and learning new leadership skills with other cadets and U.S. Navy officers.

"It's the best cadets from around the nation," Ian said. "You are going to be judged against the best so it was a little nerve-racking at first."

Ian said he calmed down once he got there and realized he was among cadets who were like him.

"Everyone was super motivated," Ian said. "It was fun to swap ideas and be around kids that were your speed. I was able to see how other units worked."

Ian is a chief petty officer in the Sea Cadet Corps, which is a "national youth leadership development organization that promotes interest and skill in naval disciplines while instilling strong moral character and life skills through leadership and technical programs modeled after the Navy's professional development system," according to the Sea Cadets website.

After Ian's commanding officer told him about the leadership academy, Ian was hopeful about getting accepted. His resume is impressive; he attained the rank of chief petty officer at age 16, the youngest age possible, and has close to a dozen trainings under his belt. Once a month, he leads a squadron of 50 cadets at the Fort Worth Naval Air Station.

Every summer, cadets have the opportunity to attend week-long trainings at different Naval bases across the country. Last summer, Ian led an airman training in Fort Worth. He changed the landing gear on an F18, replaced a wing on a jet and spent time in the air control tower.

All of those trainings helped prepare him for the intense week in D.C., crammed full of activities, guest speakers and instruction.

The chief petty officers toured the Air and Space Museum with a retired NASA astronaut, visited Capitol Hill and the White House, toured numerous monuments on the Mall and paid their respects



at Arlington National Cemetery. The group also spent a day at the U.S. Naval Academy, where they spent time with current midshipmen.

Ian was up early and went to bed late, and spent a lot of time ironing.

"I think I spent an hour a day ironing clothes, which I wasn't expecting," Ian said. "Everyone else looked perfect so you couldn't get away with a wrinkle."

One of the highlights of the trip for Ian was waking up and running to the Iwo Jima Memorial.

Back in Aubrey, Ian is excited about the new ideas he has brought back from his experience.

Ian started out in the Sea Cadets as a 12-year old wanting to compete against his friends. Now, as a 17-year old, his goals have changed.

"Now I want to get new experiences and teach other kids how to take the most away from the program," Ian said. "Passing on information to the next set of cadets is the biggest motivator for me right now."

About his future plans, Ian is interested in the Naval Academy, especially for football. The 6-5 offensive tackle was named honorable mention all-district this past season with the Chaparrals. He is also considering an MBA degree after college and working in the business sector.

Ian credits the Sea Cadets for developing his leadership skills and his confidence.

"Gaining confidence has been a huge part for me," Ian said. "Just knowing that you can get into tight situations and still perform well."

Ian is hoping to get one more training in this summer before leaving the program when he graduates high school. He is looking at paragliding school, training with an aircraft simulator or attending a boot camp in Washington State.

Just a typical summer. 🔀





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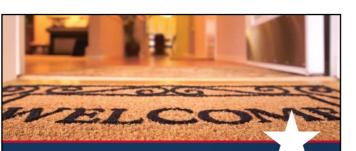


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The third annual Jewels for Justice, benefiting Denton County Friends of the Family, was a huge success. Everyone had a fun time browsing through gorgeous jewelry from Kendra Scott's latest collection, while sipping on mimosas and snacking on delicious brunch bites from Catering by Chef Mark, Hannah's of the Square, and The Chestnut Tree.

Over 100 women from across Denton County came out to support the cause and take a stand against domestic violence and sexual assault. Statistically, one in four women will be impacted by domestic violence in their lifetime, and two in five women in Texas will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime. That may sound alarmingly high,



but Denton County Friends of the Family see those numbers to be true every day.

The organization is so grateful for the support the community provided at this year's Jewels for Justice, especially from the Women's Auxiliary, a powerhouse of women invested in creating a community of awareness and compassion for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault through advocacy, awareness,



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Friends of the Family Mission: is dedicated to providing compassionate, comprehensive services to those impacted by rape, sexual abuse, and domestic violence while partnering with our community to promote safety, hope, healing, prevention, and justice.





For more information about Friends of the Family visit: www.dcfof.orgvv





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PROSPER ADDS CAMERAS AT RAILROAD INTERSECTIONS

Benefits First Responders, School Buses and Public

Cameras at railroad intersections to save time and fuel and the images help first responders, school buses and public.

The installation of 24-hour video cameras at three critical railroad intersections will give Prosper emergency personnel, school transportation officials, and the general public the opportunity to plan their east-west routes to avoid delays. The cameras, installed at the railroad intersections of Frontier Parkway, First Street and Prosper Trail, send a wide-angle video image of the area to monitors at the Town's emergency dispatch center for use by emergency personnel, allowing them to provide first responders with an unobstructed route to their destination.

The video image will also be sent to https://www.prospertx.gov/firedepartment/ where anyone with an internet connection can view the broadcast signal. Residents who plan to use these intersections may dial up the internet, check the appropriate image, and plan their route accordingly. The Prosper school district will also use the camera images to reroute buses where necessary and appropriate.

"We obviously do not have control over the train schedules," says Fire Chief Stuart Blasingame. "What we can do is keep watch on the trains as they pass and sometimes stop within the Town. Doing so allows our emergency personnel to avoid delays, keeps school buses from getting stuck, and gives residents the ability to plan their routes more effectively. "

Cutting drive time during emergency or medical responses can be life-saving, and minimizing idling time at railroad crossings can save not only fuel but also lessen the frustration related to slow or stopped trains.

Similar visual systems at railroad intersections are in place in various municipalities in and out of Texas and have proven their worth in time and resources saved.

"The cameras are not connected to a recording device and are not keeping a video archive. They are not intended for any other purpose than to provide a real-time visual image of the three intersections," said the Chief.

A separated grade project has been approved for Frontier Parkway, paving the way for the construction of an overpass that will eliminate the intersection. However, project financing, the first of several steps in the construction process, is just being finalized, putting the project several years from completion.

Braswell Zone Bash, Back-2-School EXTRAVAGANZA



Everyone is invited

Braswell Zone Bash is a back to school celebration where kids get to have a blast at a huge celebration before they go back to their school schedules. The PTA's of the surrounding schools in the 380 corridor get together to plan this event full of entertainment, games, refreshments, and local vendors. While attendees have a fun night, the evening ends up being a good cause as all proceeds go right back to the local Braswell Zone PTA's.

Date/Time: August 9, 2019 6:00P.M.-8:30P.M.

Where: Braswell High School

Cost: Wristbands and Tickets sold for games and inflatables, vendors and food trucks have separate cost.

Braswell Zone Bash is in its 11th year and continues to grow in attendance and fun for the 380 community. All proceeds from the evening go directly to the eastern Denton ISD Braswell Zone PTA's – Braswell High School, Navo and Rodriguez Middle School, and Bell, Cross Oaks, Providence, Paloma Creek, Savannah Elementary and the new Union Park Elementary Schools – to help them with their general activity funds and support their schools.

Braswell Zone Bash Fun for kids while the proceeds go back to the kids. To learn more visit https://www.braswellzonebash.com/. For more information on the Braswell Zone Bash, Back-2-School Extravaganza, please contact the district communications office at (940) 369-0050.



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The 26th Annual Dog Days of Denton



IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Jazz loves a good parade, in fact it is one of his favorite things about being Dog Days of Denton's current Spokesdog. He sits patiently in the car, waiting for the drive through downtown Denton dressed in his finest Uncle Sam garb – one of the many costumes he loves to wear.

Jazz is a ten year old Bichon Frise who lives with his Mom and he hasn't always lived the good life he does today. His first family returned him to a shelter because of his severe allergies. According to his Mom, Dari Partain, when she and Jazz found each other it changed both their lives for the better. She credits Jazz for rescuing her from a very dark place in her life.

Jazz will be on-hand at the 26th annual Dog Days of Denton to crown the next Spokesdog on Saturday, October 5, 2019. The Spokesdog Pageant is just a part of the magic that is Dog Days, an event created especially for pups and their owners featuring everything dog. Arts, crafts, canine entertainment and talent contests are the primary focus of the event and if you are looking for a forever friend there will be rescue groups in attendance with lots of potential adoptable animals.

Dog Days of Denton is a 501 (C) (3) organization whose mission is to provide a fun, family friendly event that is free and open to the public. "Dog Days was the original dog event in Texas, and is probably one of the most copied events in the state", says event organizer Kevin Lechler. "We have evolved over the years and have added educational aspects to the event – we like to present miniworkshops on proper pet care and need-to-know things like CPR for your pet. These are usually short, 15-30 minute presentations and are interspersed with fun games and contests like the Canine Couture parade, Dancing with your Dog and Dog Singing Contest. Last year we gave each Rescue Organization present the opportunity to give a short presentation on their group and we will continue that for 2019. Zoom Room will be back with their Agility Course and for a \$5 donation to the Heel the Heroes program, people will be able to see if their pooch has an aptitude for agility. Overall, it is such a fun day for pooches and humans alike", Lechler concluded.

Join the fun by attending Dog Days of Denton on Saturday, October 5, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the North Texas Fairgrounds. You won't regret it!



ACK 10 SCHOU Explore the 4-H program!

By Zach Davis



Where should a family begin when deciding to participate in the 4-H program? Below are some questions, which address a broad range of 4-H facts and information.

WHY 4-H?

Raising great kids is a challenge, but it's easier when you have a team of people behind you. 4-H clubs are groups of families that do just that. Through working together, families share knowledge and interests to help kids learn practical skills and important values.

WHAT IS 4-H?

• 4-H is a volunteer-led, informal educational program for youth ages 8-18 years old.

• 4-H is for everyone regardless of his or her race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

- 4-H is for all youth urban, suburban and rural.
- 4-H is youth having fun and learning with their friends as well as families.

WHAT DO 4-H CLUBS DO?

4-H clubs meet once a month and members consist of boys and girls ages 8-18. 4-H'ers run the meetings, using parliamentary procedure with some help from the adult club leaders. The youth president leads the meeting, but the whole club is involved in all decision-making. During the meetings, youth discuss a number of items including community service projects, fundraising and club activities. 4-H'ers have a chance to work on their public speaking by giving presentations to the club.

WHAT DO YOU DO IN 4-H?

4-H has something for all kids, from kindergarten to age 19. Young people in 4-H learn about citizenship, leadership, foods and nutrition, healthy lifestyles, veterinary science, mechanics and technology, horticulture, agriculture, and much more. The 4-H program uses "learn by doing" methods of instruction. Each project that the 4-H member selects according to their interest and ability is the program's cornerstone. Projects involve setting goals and evaluating progress. 4-H has things everyone can do, in the city or country or anywhere in between.

In 4-H, youth "learn by doing." Youth learn useful skills, how to get along with people and how to help our community and country. Some of the ways 4-H'ers achieve this are:

- Project Work members choose from over 30 different projects which spark their interests
- Demonstrations members learn to speak in front of others and present on their project work
- Recreation members play games and make new friends during club meetings
- Community Service members help improve their community through engaging in service projects
- · Contests members may choose to enter contests and compete throughout the year
- Camps members may participate in a day camp or overnight camp

WHO HELPS IN 4-H?

4-H is a family program. Parents and family are important in 4-H. They help the youth with project work and other activities. 4-H members are also helped by volunteer leaders. Every 4-H club needs one or more adult leaders. The leaders teach youth, organize the club, help officers and assist at meetings and orient new parents about 4-H.

There are various kinds of leaders in the 4-H Club:

- Community Club Leaders are responsible for the general organization of the club
- Project Leaders help members with project work, usually outside of club meetings
- Junior Leader 4-H teens work with an adult leader to give leadership to activities, events and projects

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Parents/Guardians are important in 4-H. They show interest and concern for their children by attending meetings, serving as leaders, helping in club activities and serving on committees.





VOLUNTEERS

The safety of our children is our #1 priority! All volunteers that work directly with our youth are required to go through a volunteer screening process to become a registered volunteer.

Volunteers must apply, complete orientation, and pass background checks. This insures the safety of our 4-H'ers and adult volunteers.

HOW TO BEGIN?

The first step will be to choose a club to visit with your family. It is best to visit two or three clubs, as each one is different. This will help you determine the best fit for your child. Our website has a list of clubs and we are happy to visit with you, which we feel may be the best fit! It is best practice to email the Club Leader first to connect with them to let them know your family is interested in 4-H and would like to visit the club.

If you and your family are interested in learning more about 4-H or for more information on details on how to begin your family's 4-H experience please visit our website at https://denton.agrilife.org/4h-and-youthdevelopment/

Enrollment for the 2018-2019 4-H year begins August 15th on tx.4honline.com. Contact the 4-H office for more information at 940-349-2884.

> Follow us: Twitter & Facebook: @DentonCounty4H

If you have questions call us at (940) 349-2884 or 401 W. Hickory Suite 125, Denton, TX 76201

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It's What Cowboys Do!

by North Texas Fair & Rodeo, Jacee Kiefer

When August hits in Denton, Texas, a certain aroma fills the air, that aroma is one of corn dogs, fresh squeezed lemonade, family fun, country music and cowboy traditions. The 91st annual North Texas Fair and Rodeo will take place August 16-24. The event will kick off with Parker McCollum appearing live on the Budweiser stage and the fun keeps going with headlining performances from greats such as Easton Corbin, La Zenda Nortena, Jake Hooker & the Outsiders, Kody West, Ned LeDoux, Flatland Cavalry & Josh Ward, Pat Green, and Tracy Lawrence.

The North Texas Fair and Rodeo (NTFR) continues bringing hot country music to the North Texas area every year in August, but that's not where all of the focus lies for this rapidly growing association. With a membership and group of volunteers that go back several generations, this event focuses on the importance of family fun and tradition.

"We continue to support youth, agriculture and community," said Glenn Carlton, Executive Director of the NTFR. "We strive every year to make this event better than the year before. We want to bring you fun and excitement for the whole family," Carlton said. To do this, the NTFR hosts musical talent, professional and youth rodeos, livestock exhibitions, a premier midway, and special exhibits.

Last year the NTFR saw the return of Swifty Swine after a 25 year hiatus from the fair. This year the diving and racing pigs are back to continue the excitement for new and veteran fairgoers alike. The NTFR is also hosting Jason D'Vaude, One Man Circus, Juggling and Fire Show to mystify, amaze and entertain attendees of all ages.

The NTFR is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of western heritage. All revenue is reinvested into programs, scholarships and facilities. The NTFR contributes around \$500,000 each year to youth in the area. According to the Center of Economic Development at the University of North Texas, the NTFR and its facilities have a \$7,000,000.00 economic impact in Denton County and an approximate \$4,000,000.00 impact in the City of Denton.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit ntfair.com

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Parents often ask car seat experts what is the safest seat for their child. Truth be told, it is not the brand of seat they purchase, but making sure it is being used correctly that is what will save their child's life. Car seats are very protective and effective in preventing injuries and death, but they must be used correctly in order to provide this protection. Unfortunately, most parents are not using their car seats correctly, with misuse reported from 70 to 99 percent depending on which study is used.

Children are at greater risk than adults in a vehicle crash. In fact, motor vehicle crashes are one of the leading causes of death for children 14 and under. Safety belts and car seats are the single most effective tool in reducing these deaths and injuries.

Here is a list of the most common mistakes we see with car seats and how they can be avoided. Checking the list and making sure your child's car seat is being used correctly can very likely prevent a needless tragedy.

1. Installation Errors:

Installing a car seat using the vehicle seat belt requires the user to know what part of the seat belt locks in the car seat. Unlike an adult in a seat belt, where the seat belt will lock up in a crash or a sudden stop, the car seat must be pre-crash locked from the moment the vehicle starts. Vehicles made in 1996 and newer are required to have a way to lock in a car seat in every position except the driver's seat. Most vehicles have a shoulder belt retractor that when gently pulled all the way out — will change from locking in an emergency to locking all the time for a car seat. Some car manufacturers put the locking mechanism in the latch plate instead of a shoulder belt.

WOULD YOUR CHILD'S CAR SEAT PASS THE TEST? The Five Most Common Car Seat Mistakes

The 2003 model vehicles have LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children) installed in at least two seating positions. The lower anchors and the tether take the place of the seat belt and should not be used together with the seat belt unless both the car seat and vehicle instructions allow this. Make sure to use the correct lower anchors for the installation. Many cars do not have lower anchors in the center rear position. Sometimes a center lower anchor position can be created if the vehicle and car seat manufacturer agree. Neither LATCH nor the seat belt are safer than the other. Choose the system that gives the best installation and is easy to use correctly. Whether using the seat belt or LATCH, it is important to connect the top tether strap for forward facing seats.

Check the car seat at the belt path to make sure it is secure. It should not move more than 1 inch side-to-side or front-to-back when tugged on at the belt path.

2. Selection Errors:

Most children leave the hospital in a rear-facing only infant seat, although some leave in a rearfacing convertible seat. The rearfacing convertible seat is usually the next step after the infant seat. Children should remain rear-facing until they reach the maximum height or weight limit for the rear-facing convertible seat. Most convertible seats go to at least 40 pounds rear-facing, while there are some that go to 45 and 50 pounds rear-facing. At 40 to 50 pounds, it could accommodate an average 3-to-4-year-old.

Children should ride in a forward-facing harnessed seat until they reach the height or weight limit for the seat. The average forward-facing seat goes to at least 40 pounds in the harness, with many available that go to 50, 65, 70 or even 85 pounds.

When the limit of the forwardfacing seat has been reached, caregivers can consider a booster seat if the child is at least 4 years old, 40 pounds, and mature enough to stay correctly seated and buckled for the entire trip.

Booster seats should be used until the child correctly fits the seat belt. This is usually sometime between 8 and 12 years old. Although the law in Texas states that children at age 8 can legally ride in a seat belt, for most children at this age the lap and shoulder belt does not fit correctly. The lap belt riding over the child's abdomen and soft tissue and organs can cause serious or fatal injuries in a crash. The shoulder belt needs to fit correctly across the middle of the shoulder and flat across the chest. It should not rub against the child's neck, causing them to put it behind their shoulder and leaving them with no upper body protection.

Seat belts can be used when the child can sit up straight, bend their knees at the edge of the vehicle bench, touch the floor, and have a good fit of the lap belt over the upper thighs and the shoulder belt across the middle of the shoulder and flat against the chest.

3. Direction Errors:

Most parents are turning their child forward-facing too soon. Parents are understandably anxious to see their child forwardfacing so that they can better interact with them. However, research shows that rear-facing is the safest way for a small child to travel. Rear-facing helps to align the child's head, neck and spine and spreads the crash forces over the child's body rather than concentrating them in any one area. When a child's legs are against the back of the vehicle seat it is often misinterpreted as a sign that the child is too big to be rear-facing. It is important to know that children's joints are still forming and remain very flexible and they are not uncomfortable with their legs against the back of the seat. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends keeping a child rear-facing until they reach the maximum weight or height limit for the rear-facing convertible.

4. Harnessing Errors:

Many children are riding with harness systems that are loose and not at the correct position in relation to the child's shoulders. Rear-facing seats should have the harness at or below the child's shoulders, while forward-facing seats need to have the harness at or above the shoulders. The plastic clip that comes on all harnessed seats needs to go across the chest armpit to armpit in order to make sure that the straps are properly positioned on the child's shoulders.

Make sure that the harness is snug by testing the webbing at the child's shoulders. If you can pinch up any of the webbing, it is too loose. Do not add anything to a harness system that did not come with the seat — as it is not crash tested and may interfere with the seat performance. Proper harnessing helps to prevent movement, which in turn helps to protect the child from injuries.

5. Skipping a Free Inspection:

It is important to read the manual that comes with your car seat as well as the owner's manual from your vehicle in order to make sure you are using the car seat correctly and installing it correctly in the vehicle. In addition, have your car seat inspected by a certified child passenger safety technician.

That's why I am joining the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Passenger Safety Project in urging all parents and caregivers to be sure that their child is riding in the right seat, going in the right direction, harnessed properly and installed correctly by getting a free car seat inspection. Car seat inspections are performed by nationally certified child passenger safety technicians. Visit: http://buckleup.tamu.edu, to find a technician in your area by searching city, county or zip code.

For more information, contact Courtney Davis, Denton County Extension Agent for Family and Community Health at 940-349-2882 or cmdavis@ag.tamu.edu



LONE*STAR Storytelling Festival

Listen. Stop what you're doing for ten seconds and notice your surroundings. Did you hear anything interesting? Did you relax a bit and notice a slower heartbeat? Did a smile find its way to your face? The benefits of disconnecting are widely known, an online search for these benefits yielded nearly 4 million results, but what do you do once you've disconnected? The Frisco Public Library Foundation invites you to disconnect from tech and reconnect with your funny bone at the Lone Star Storytelling Festival on Thursday and Friday, October 17 – 18, in Council Chambers at the George A. Purefoy Municipal Center.

> Now in its 16th year, the Storytelling Festival combines local student talent, nationally renowned professionals, and the Frisco flair for fun and culture. Its mission is to unite the community in laughter. To help guests laugh off the stress of every day life and spend an evening or two giggling about the silliness that surrounds us.

Grammy winner Bill Harley and acclaimed Afrilachian storyteller (and Laughter Yoga instructor) Lyn Ford will team up with the locally selected Lone Star Storytellers for this year's event.

"We are so fortunate to have Bill and Lyn back in Frisco," says Mayra Diaz, Assistant Director. "They are both so different, and our audience will love the line up! They will make you laugh and enjoy the evening with your family and friends. I hope we get a tremendous crowd this year!"

Bill Harley has a pair of Grammys, is a commentator for NPR, and has been called, "the Mark Twain of contemporary children's music," by Entertainment Weekly. Bill's messages are honest, joyous, and told or sung from his quirky point of view. Focused on spreading joy and wisdom in ways that delight audiences of all ages, Bill is as likely to deliver happiness in the form of a picture book, a concert, or on DVDs.

Lyn's "Home-Fried" Afrilachian tales celebrate her multicultural roots and let her connect with the diversity found in every audience. You'll feel right at home when Lyn's stories draw you in with call-and-response, musical moments, and relatability. When Lyn talks about her father's great storytelling and awful cooking, the audience breaks into knowing smiles and nodding heads every time. After all, whether we're brought together by differences or similarities, everyone enjoys sharing a laugh.

The Lone Star Storytellers are a laugh-filled look at the future. Selected from a vast pool of candidates, they pass through auditions, training, and extensive rehearsal before earning their place on stage. These kids are short on years but long on talent!

"This troupe of young storytellers amazes audiences each year," says Jennifer Cummings, Youth Services Manager. "Those of us lucky enough to watch their



AND RECONNECT WITH YOUR FUNNY BONE

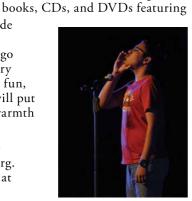
stories and confidence grow during this program can't wait for you to see them take the stage!" Gather your friends, family, or self and head to comical storytelling concerts on Thursday, October 17 and Friday, October 18. Concert tickets go on sale at lonestarstories.org on September

17, 2019. The Festival Store will feature an assortment of take-home treats, including



Bill and Lyn, sure to provide plenty of mobile laughter. Proceeds from ticket sales go to The Frisco Public Library Foundation. The laughter, fun, and sense of community will put a smile on your face and warmth in your heart.

Get more info and your tickets at lonestarstories.org. Find out more about FPL at friscolibrary.com.



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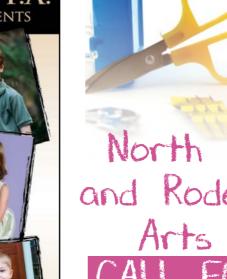
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By Jacee Kiefer

Are you a master canner, budding or professional artist, crafter, or enjoy needlework and clothing? If so, we are looking for you! It's time for the 91st Annual North Texas Fair and Rodeo Creative Arts contest. The Creative Arts contest is sponsored by 380Guide Magazine and 380News. The contest offers seven divisions to showcase your unique talents including needlework, clothing, arts and crafts, home canned food, antiques, junior entries, and 4-H, FHA, HERO, and FCCLA, with an age range from youth to adult divisions. Online entries are due online by August 14th or you may enter in person on August 16th at The North Texas Fair and Rodeo: 2217 N. Carroll Blvd., Denton, TX 76201. For more information and to enter online please visit: www.ntfair.com and click on "Contests". Make sure to follow us on all of North Texas Fair and Rodeo's social media platforms for more information and updates. Come do what cowboys do at the 91st Annual North Texas Fair and Rodeo, we'll see vou there!



Optimally Cool Conveniently Local



SUPER DUTY FANS

he brand new Super Duty Fan is the hottest new product for cooling hot buildings! And better yet, it is a local family-owned company based in Pilot Point, Texas.

The owners Phillip and Kelly Eggers have been active in the equine industry, as well as aviation and livestock, they have seen many different farm and industrial operations in numerous states like Florida, Kentucky, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, California, and of course Texas. They saw many applications for fan uses in these structures, and the common need for something that works better and safer. The first product designed and sold by Euclid Design was The Original Windmill Ceiling Fan in 2014, (www.windmillceilingfans.com) which has proven to be very popular across the United States and Canada.

While working with customers for the Windmill Fan, they received numerous inquiries from people looking for a better industrial ceiling fan for their industrial and agricultural building needs. It was this frequent request that spurred the design of the Super Duty Fans. The demanding requirements of agricultural conditions, and the scale of large buildings for manufacturing and warehousing purposes necessitated a fan that could consistently perform the job of moving massive amounts of air safely and efficiently. In addition, it had to offer value to make it affordable for the masses, unlike the expensive HVLS fans costing thousands of dollars. Lastly, why not fix the common problems with fans like sagging wooden blades, short lifespan motors, and intimidating installations, not to mention deafening noise levels and dangerous large metal blades spinning exposed above workers and livestock. These concerns and shortcomings were addressed with the design of the Super Duty Fans, and many utility patents and trademarks are pending to protect the design.

The result of this meticulous design work is now available with the Super Duty Fans (www.superdutyfans.com).

There are three sizes available in the lineup, each with the common features that make them so popular. They each needed to move big air, so the motors are powerful and the blades are shrouded for maximum airflow. They needed to be guiet, so they are all belt-driven and loaded with fine details so the only noise you hear is the actual air movement and not vibrations. They needed to last a long time, so everything is either powder-coated, stainless steel, or zinc-plated for corrosion resistance. The motors are made in the USA and enclosed to keep out contaminants that will slow them and lead to failure. To avoid the common problem of fan blade failure due to stress cracks, the blades are made with Krupp stainless steel from Germany, the best available. To easily install the fans, they come with four nylon straps with a loop on each end, which attaches to the ceiling and the four fan eyebolts. Each fan is safe with an OSHA safety screen on both sides of the blades, and a shroud to protect against objects hitting the blades, while the mounting straps allow the fan to give if hit, instead of breaking like stationary fans.

Industrial ceiling fans are the best way to cool a large area, but they also have a special obligation for safety since they are operating above valuable objects like people, livestock, and equipment. Super Duty Fans are the safe way to circulate air from above. In addition, the design of the airflow pattern provides a funnel-shaped airflow to cover a large area, instead of simply blasting the area directly below the fan. The shroud is the secret to many of the special qualities of the Super Duty Fans, and if you think about it you will realize that any serious fan application uses a shroud design, like vehicle radiator fans, nuclear reactors, and HVAC applications. Serious fans have shrouds.

Phil and Kelly are excited to see all the placements for this new fan, and they feel they are on a mission to minimize the devastating effects of working in the heat. Dehydration, heat exhaustion, and exposure can be minimized or prevented with the use of effective fans. In addition, good air circulation can improve productivity, employee retention, and wellness. For air conditioned buildings, Super Duty Fans provide a cooling effect at a higher temperature, so you can turn up the thermostat by about seven degrees for the same feels-like temperature, and save thousands on the electric bill. A good industrial ceiling fan is a win-win tool for everyone.

For more information, please visit our website at www.superdutyfans.com or call us at 972-834-5555. We promise a great product, great service, and great value.



The Show Must



The conductors of Millennial Choirs and Orchestras (MCO) in New York's Carnegie Hall. Left to right: Brent Wells, Brandon Stewart, Joni Jensen of Denton, Brett Stewart of Aubrey, and Cory Mendenhall. Photo courtesy of Steve Porter.

Choir conductor Brett Stewart of Aubrey took his Carnegie Hall concert to the street during the July 13th mass power outage in Manhattan, New York. Bystander videos of the massive choir's street singing quickly went viral online.

Stewart is a director and co-founder of Millennial Choirs and Orchestras (MCO), a 5500-participant organization that specializes in sacred music, with locations in Texas, Arizona, California, Utah, and Idaho.

About 3000 of MCO's participants performed in sold-out concerts at

ants performed d-out concerts at orchestra continued until

Conducted by Joni Jensen, the grand chorus, symphony orchestra, and young singer's chorus perform in historic Carnegie Hall. Photo courtesy of Steve Porter.

.

Carnegie Hall July 12 and 13. However, in a dramatic turn of events, the final Saturday show ended up taking place on the street when the historic building was evacuated after losing power.

"In the middle of rehearsing a song that combined the choirs and orchestra, the power suddenly went out," said Stewart, who has personally composed and arranged several works for MCO. "I continued conducting in the dark and, without skipping a beat, the choirs and orchestra continued until



Onlookers record the moment as Stewart conducts the choir on the street outside Carnegie Hall during Saturday's blackout in NYC. Photo courtesy of Steve Porter.

the song was over," said Stewart.

"The only light left was the battery-powered music stand lights of the orchestra," said Grand Chorus singer and Providence Village resident Patrick Summerhays, "We all supposed the problem to be temporary, so everyone kept a 'show biz' attitude and kept plowing ahead in the dark as the conductor beat time with his baton against his stand."

"We continued rehearsing in the dark until the emergency lighting came on," said Stewart, "But we started to get news of how extensive the power outage was and slowly came to the realization that this was not going to be remedied any time soon . .. we were evacuated into the streets surrounding Carnegie - over 1100 participants [for that performance], including over 700 youth."

With unexpected time to spare while waiting outside, choir and orchestra members put their skills to use. Groups of participants began to sing songs from the concert," said Stewart. Next, "The directors began to lead the kids along the street in their songs," said Summerhays, "Around the corner there were orchestra members playing hymns, the children and youth were being led by conductors on a chair in the street.

and the Grand chorus was singing further down the street, all at the same time."

"Passersby stopped and began videoing what became an impromptu performance," said Summerhays. "There were thousands of phones in the air and people up in buildings above, filming



Patrick Summerhays of Providence Village performed in Friday night's concert along with his wife, Tawna, and five of their seven children. Left to right: Christian, Skyler, Tawna, Channing, Anna, Patrick, and Oliver. "Performing in Carnegie Hall as a family was a thrilling experience," said Summerhays. Photo courtesy of Tawna Summerhays. us from their windows," said Stewart.

Briallen Hopper, whose viral video on Twitter caught the zenith of the hymn, "I Believe in Christ," tweeted, "I guess this is what they call a New York moment. After being trapped on the F for an hour because of the power outage, I emerged to see dark restaurants and traffic lights, civilians directing traffic, and an evacuated Carnegie Hall concert happening in the street." Hopper's video captured the choir singing author Bruce R. McConkie's encouraging lyrics: "... And while I strive through grief and pain, His voice is heard: 'Ye shall obtain.'"

In response to the unexpected global audience of the hymn's street performance, Stewart remarked, "Who knew it would also be heard by millions. It perfectly represents MCO and our profound love for the Lord."

May the hymn's faithchampioning message reach far and wide: "I believe in Christ; so, come what may."

Go On!

NYC Blackout: Aubrey Conductor Took Carnegie Concert Outside

By Kate Craig



Brandon Stewart (white shirt) conducts for the evacuated singers while Brett Stewart (bottom right) stands by leading up to the moment that made national news after Twitter videos of the street singing went viral. Photo courtesy of Steve Porter.

Directed by co-founders (and brothers) Brett Stewart and Brandon Stewart, Millennial™ Choirs & Orchestras (MCO™) is an independent nonprofit organization that teaches and encourages excellence in quality sacred, choral, and classical music. The MCO[™] mission is to provide a unique and unsurpassed level of music education to members of all faiths throughout the community. MCO offers an invaluable learning environment whereby children, youth, and adults can associate with and share talents with those who maintain upstanding values.



MCO violinists put their skills to use serenading passersby during New York's blackout. Singer Patrick Summerhays said, "I viewed it as sort of a spiritual music festival on the street." Photo courtesy of Steve Porter.

Choir and orchestra patrons attend concert tours at their own expense. This year's Spring Concert Series was titled, "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

For more information, see Millennial.org and MCO's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/millennialchoirsorch/?e pa=SEARCH_BOX



Stewart (in blue) rehearses with the choir and orchestra on Saturday just prior to the outage. Photo courtesy of Barbara Massengale.



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Unique Beautique is a women's upscale-resale store, specializing in making women feel and look their best with great fashion tips and suggestions, and through dressing women in unique and fashionable ensembles that complement their physique.

This upscale resale shop is located at 8300 U.S. Highway 380 in Cross Roads, Texas. It may be a little tricky to find because it is on the backside of the Snyder Building. However, once you locate the shop and meet the owner Rinie Peace, don't be surprised if you become a regular customer.

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With products always changing you will find amazing new items each visit!

At Unique Beautique you will find fashion apparel and accessories ranging from formal dresses and attire to gorgeous jewelry and stylish shoes! They cater to the stay at home mom, and to the business woman working 9-5. They also cater to your pocket book, because they house upscale fashion apparel at very reasonable prices!

"I was inspired to open Unique

Beautique because of my heart and passion for women and fashion. I attended Miss Wade's Fashion Merchandising College in the 90's. Am I telling my age? I graduated and worked at several retail stores and even had a store in my small apartment while being pregnant with my now 24-year-old son," said Rinie, "I love fashion, but more than anything, I love people and I am encouraged and uplifted when I can put a smile on someone's face and make their heart feel better through looking exceptionally well and feeling great about themselves and their overall appearance."

Make sure you drop in to check out their quality and affordable back to school items. It is a great place to stretch the budget allowing for several fashionable outfits.

"Oh! Did I mention, that Unique Beautique also offer complimentary facials," said Rinie, "So, stop in and shop with me and I can guarantee you that you will leave feeling and looking beautiful as you are!"



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Measured By Character





One school shooting, one child taking their own life is one too many.

There is a crisis and an epidemic that is sweeping the nation among our youth.

They are being faced with issues such as social bullying, feelings of worthlessness, broken homes, self-harm, lack of character, values, and morals, no sense of identity, suicide, and looking for validation and direction in all the wrong places and things.

Measured by Character is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that is dedicated to empowering our youth by encouraging them to recognize that their lives have purpose and meaning.

To share the knowledge that no matter their age, their lives are affecting the environment around them in either a positive or negative way. Then connect them to the help they need to work through any issues they are facing.

What type of legacy they are creating: A positive one or a negative one?

What type of person will they choose to be?

How will their legacy impact others, not only today, but for eternity?

Over the past 7 years our mission has been to improve our local communities by partnering with schools, families, other non-profits & community leaders to give students the tools to take charge of their lives. By Jill Ward

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?

Dr. White begins sharing about losing his 18-yearold son Ryan, a senior in high school. He died tragically in an automobile accident. He walks through the pain of losing Ryan, reminding the students no one is promised tomorrow. News footage and videos from Ryan's friends are shown, sharing about the impact he made on their lives. The students connect because Ryan was around their age & most have lost someone they love.

• Legacy is being written every moment of every day. They have an impact on everyone who they come in contact with, and even those they don't due to a 'ripple effect'. The 'Two Wolves' parable is provided as an example. Legacy, YOU Write It.

• Each person is extraordinarily Unique, proven by their individual fingertips and irises. and that there will never be another person like them. Real life examples are given of why each of their lives have immeasurable meaning. Harm to self and harm to others is discussed.

• Bullying, social bullying, and the ripple effect of those behaviors are given by participation and discussion in Accountability and Responsibility. Every choice made and every action taken results in consequences, either positive or negative.

• Change of Direction is the pivotal moment in the program. An example of how we are each writing our own obituary with every decision we make is given. Dr. White then asks the students to make amends with anyone they may have harmed in some way, directly or indirectly. Also, encouraging the students to make a new friend. A phenomenal movement happens as the students emotionally engage with each other. There is a palpable shift.... a heart change that happens in every single school.

• Character is discussed in depth, and how change begins within us, accompanied by the song 'Man In The Mirror' closes the program.

• The students then sign the MBC Banner pledging to make a stand for good character. The banner hangs in each school with the school & sponsor logos.

• Many students line up to talk with Dr. White and available counselors attending the event. We have students contact us for help after the program via social media and give testimonies on how their lives have been changed because of this program.

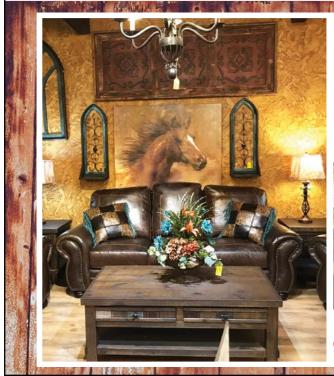
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ORIGINS: FOSSILS FROM THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND

PEROT MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE ANNOUNCES ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE STORY OF OUR ANCIENT ANCESTORS WITH WORLD EXCLUSIVE EXHIBITION – ORIGINS: FOSSILS FROM THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND. The Public can experience "one of the greatest fossil discoveries of the past half century*" when the specimens depart South Africa for a five-month engagement this fall in Dallas, Texas

Australopithecus sediba skull, photo: Brett Eloff, courtesy of University of the Witwatersrand

The Perot Museum of Nature and Science, in partnership with the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits University) and the National Geographic Society, proudly announces fossils of two recently discovered ancient human relatives (Australopithecus sediba and Homo naledi) will come to the U.S. from South Africa this fall for the first, and likely only, time to be featured in the limited-run exhibition – ORICINS, FOSCI SERON THE COLOR ADDREEDE



ORIGINS: FOSSILS FROM THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND.

This exhibition will mark the first time that ancient hominin fossils have traveled for public display since "Lucy" (Australopithecus afarensis) between 2007 and 2013.

Discovered in 2008 by then nine-year-old Matthew Berger, Australopithecus sediba were some of the most complete hominin skeletons known in the fossil record at the time. Just five years later, the first fossils of another new ancient relative, Homo naledi (formally described in 2015), were dramatically unearthed in South Africa by a Wits University team including the Perot Museum's Dr. Becca Peixotto, director and research scientist of the Center for the Exploration of the Human Journey. Together, these two remarkable discoveries provide further evidence for the complex and nuanced processes of human evolution.

"As humans, we are innately compelled to explore and understand our origins, and this exhibition provides an extraordinary and historic opportunity to come face-to-face with two newly discovered species of our ancient human relatives," said Dr. Linda Silver, Eugene McDermott Chief Executive Officer of the Perot Museum. "The fossils featured in ORIGINS have never been displayed outside South Africa – and probably never will be again. The Perot Museum is honored to host the exclusive exhibition of these significant specimens and thrilled to have our scientists involved in their actual discovery."

ORIGINS: FOSSILS FROM THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND will bring to life years of scientific research tied to the Perot Museum's recently launched Center for the Exploration of the Human Journey, a global hub for education, communication and research in the study of human origins. The exhibition will also showcase the collaboration and dedication demonstrated by a diverse, multinational scientific team of women and men, led by world-renowned paleoanthropologist and National Geographic Explorer-at-Large, Professor Lee Berger of Wits University. Berger also serves as the distinguished science advisor for the Perot Museum's Center for the Exploration of the Human Journey.

"Today's announcement represents years of work by so many dedicated scientists and demonstrates a remarkable collaboration between the Perot Museum, Wits University, National Geographic Society, and numerous government and cultural entities within South Africa," said Berger. "We are eager to have a chance to share these findings – which shape our understanding of our early origins – with the people of Texas and the world."

The Perot Museum's partnership with Wits University, the official custodian of the fossils, will increase research, cultivate scientific communication and maximize accessibility around the world through projects that strengthen international scientific and academic cooperation.

The National Geographic Society partnership will help tell the story by providing photographs, maps, illustrations, graphics and videos of the historic discoveries.

The Perot Museum will present ORIGINS from Oct. 19, 2019 - March 22, 2020. Further details on the fossils' journey from South Africa to Dallas, the exhibition experience and how to purchase tickets will be shared in the coming months. For more information, and to keep up to date on future developments, visit perotmuseum.org/press. The Perot Museum is located at 2201 N. Field Street in Dallas, Texas. For details, visit perotmuseum.org or call 214-428-5555.

*Reference courtesy of the National Geographic Society

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DENTON ISD WINS REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD AWARD



The Denton ISD Board of School Trustees has been selected as the 2019 Region 11 Outstanding School Board by a panel of school superintendents on Thursday, July 11.

"Our Board members bring different strengths and insight as they work together to continually improve the district and provide what is best for all students," said Dr. Jamie Wilson, superintendent, in his nomination of the Board. "They hold themselves and me accountable for reaching goals as we constantly strive to improve."

The 2018-2019 Denton ISD Board of Trustees included Mia Price, president; Charles Stafford, vice president; Dr. Jeanetta Smith, secretary; Dr. Jim Alexander, trustee; Barbara Burns, trustee; Doug Chadwick, trustee and Dorothy Martinez, trustee.

The superintendent's nomination centered on the accomplishment of the Board's Goals and Legislative Agenda that included: expansion to a full-day pre-kindergarten program across the district, improved compensation for all employees and the strengthening of the support for students' social and emotional welfare.

"The Board works to keep all constituents informed, even when there are tough decisions," said Dr. Wilson. "Their engagement with the community is so strong the most recent Capitol Improvement Election earned a passing rate of 74.4 percent and the Tax Ratification Election passed with an approved of more than 80 percent, within in the same, one-year period.'

The school board award, sponsored by the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA), was created in 1971 to recognize those school boards that have demonstrated outstanding dedication and have rendered ethical service to the children of Texas.

Denton ISD's application has been forwarded to TASA in Austin to be considered for the state award. The TASA selection committee will review all 20 regional entries and announce five finalists on Aug. 9. These finalists, designated as "Honor Boards,' will then be interviewed by the state selection committee and the state winner will be named the "Texas Outstanding School Board" for 2019. All five boards will be recognized at the TASA/TASB Convention on Sept. 20.

"The Denton ISD Board of Trustees, with a collective 90 years of service to the children and educators of our community, continues to provide me and this district with unwavering support and guidance," said Dr. Wilson. "Each of them, individually and collectively, are clearly outstanding advocates for public education."

The criteria emphasize evidence of support for the improvement of educational performance. The application process involves creating a booklet of information and documentation that address the following topics related to board activities:

Functions as a policy-making body

Adherence to adopted board policies

Support for educational performance in accordance with state-established standards

Support for educational improvement projects and school transformation initiatives

Commitment to a code of ethics

Provision of financial support for the school system

Participation in workshops and other performance improvement programs

Placement of the welfare of children served by the school system above personal or political motives

Public relations efforts, including community awareness

Maintenance of harmonious and supportive relationships among board members

To participate in this awards program, school superintendents must nominate their school board and submit the application to their regional education service center. The selection panel, which was comprised of area school district superintendents, evaluated the applications received and rated how well each applicant addressed the 10 areas of focus.

For more information, contact Lori Burton at (817) 740-3690 or lburton@esc11.net.



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Morgan R. Kohl took her 380Guide with her to the Scarborough Renascence Fair.



Royce Brooks and Efren Olvera took 380Guide with them to the Wildridge Community Summer Gala.



Karen Svien-Johnson, Anita Jean and Jodie Linton-Prickett enjoyed the afternoon on the patio at Wildridge Community with their 380Guide.





Ray David from PointBank with Elizabeth Jones from Lizzy Gator Custom Creations and Lisa Singleton from Singleton Farms took their 380Guide to the monthly Point Bank Networking Breakfast in Pilot Point.

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Linda Bullwinkle, Financial Fitness wore her 380Guide T-shirt to Guatemala.



Bob and Joyce took their 380Guide to Cancun, Mexico.



Mariah Acevedo took her 380Guide to the Fan Expo in Dallas, Texas.







Love Nature? BECOME A TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST

By Patricia Crain



If you like being out in nature or playing in the dirt, you might be interested in joining the Bluestem Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist (TMN). Our organization was formed in 2012 with just ten members but has grown into a flourishing circle of almost 50 people. We are a corps of well-informed volunteers who provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within Grayson County.

We are engaged in all kinds of volunteer work for Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, Texas Agri-Life and Eisenhower State Park. At Hagerman, we are tram tour drivers, Butterfly Garden docents, trail maintainers, blue bird nest monitors, bird census counters and school group leaders. At Eisenhower, we are restoring a pocket prairie and helping with kids' activities, such as Fishing at Night or Astronomy. For Texas Agri-Life, we present seminars which are free and open to the public. Past topics have been All About Bees, Native Texas Landscaping and Golden Algae.

To become a Texas Master Naturalist, you will attend our Initial Training Sessions, where you will learn about Entomology, Herpetology, Geology, Mammalogy, Ecological Systems, Ornithology, Rangeland and Forest Ecology, Archaeology, Ichthyology, Weather, Wetland Ecology and the Nature of Naming. You will go on several field trips to learn about the Denison Dam or the restoration of a sand pit. We will even go on a fossil hunt. All of our classes are taught by outstanding teachers from TMN, Austin College, Southeastern Oklahoma State College, or Grayson College.

Our classes begin in mid-August and run through the first week in December. They are held at either Hagerman, Eisenhower or Grayson County Courthouse. The classes are held on various Tuesday and Thursday evenings and some Saturdays. The cost is \$100, which include the TMN book, all classes and dues for 2019.

For further information, check out our web site at http:// txmn.org/bluestem, or our Facebook page at Bluestem Chapter of Texas Master Naturalist. You can also e-mail me directly at cathyvanbebber@gmail.com.

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