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CONNECTION

Your Wylie • Sachse • Murphy Community Magazine

**BACK
TO
SCHOOL
ISSUE**

**DR. JUSTIN BARNETT, OD
SACHSE & MURPHY
EYE ASSOCIATES**

July/August 2010

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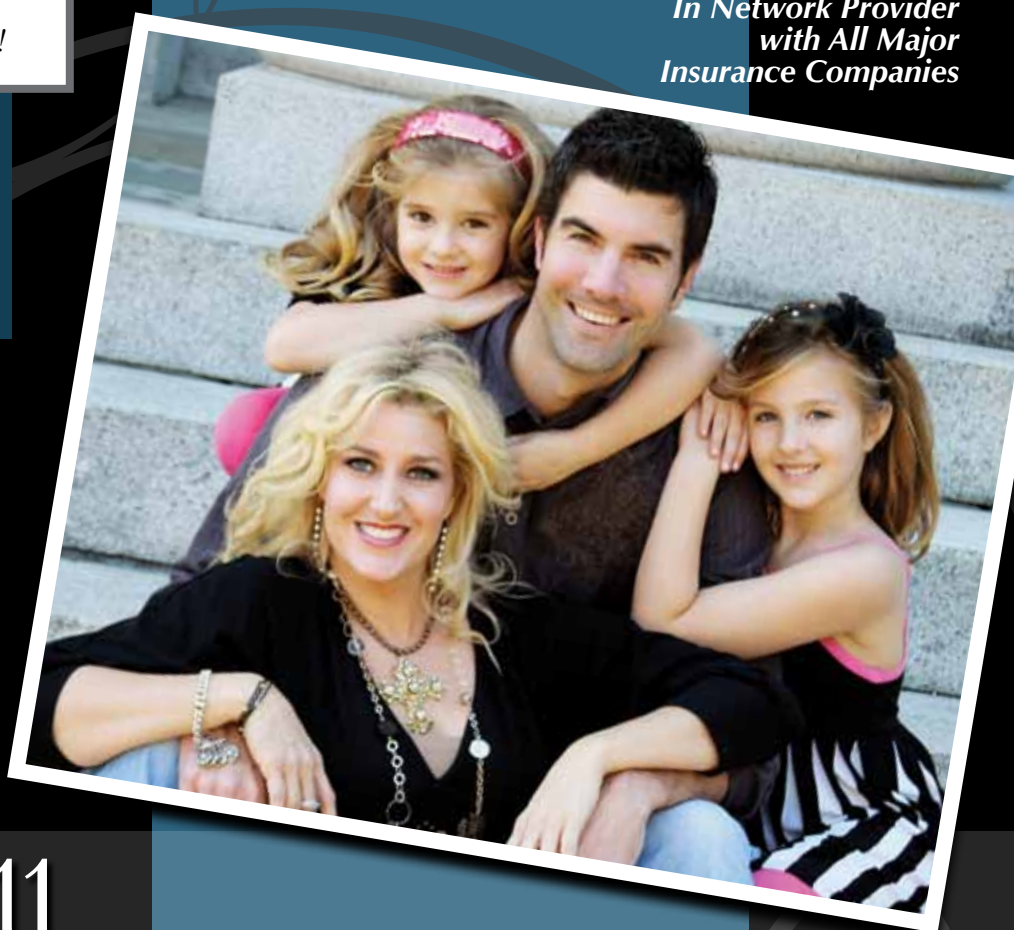
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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

The Montgomery HVAC Service Company, LLC, is a third generation, family owned and operated company that has been in business for over 45 years. The company was founded by Claude L. Montgomery who served in the Army during World War II. Upon his return home, he married and started his family and had two children, Alexis Tapp and Steve Montgomery. While he worked full time jobs during the day, he found that he could also work on A/C and heating units in the evenings. This provided him with additional income to support his family.



Claude Montgomery

Through word of mouth, Claude's customer base grew over the years. As his son grew older, Claude would have Steve accompany him on service calls. By working with his Dad, Steve learned the AC service and repair business by hand's on experience. As equipment changed throughout the years, Claude and Steve would adapt and learn the new cooling and heating technologies. When the state required that all AC tech's were to be tested and licensed, Steve went to class, studied and passed the state required test to be officially licensed as an AC/Heating Service Company.

Now Scott Dunlap, the third generation in the family, has decided that he is interested as well in the AC business and has the benefit of the past two generations to rely on to teach him the business. Scott has also had the pleasure of continuing the relationship with many customers that Claude serviced years ago and takes great pride in knowing that he is carrying on his "Papa's" company and work ethics.

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Scott and his wife Linda have taken over the day to day operations of the Montgomery HVAC Service Company and feel privileged to represent the values that Claude has demonstrated to his HVAC customers and family for the last 45 years. Those values are to always provide 100% customer satisfaction and to work with the principles of honesty and integrity, providing the best service possible by offering solutions and reasonable pricing for all customer's HVAC service and repair needs.

As Steve did before him, Scott continues to participate in yearly continuing education and training courses to stay up to date on the newest HVAC technology and equipment. While students prepare to go back to school in the fall, the Montgomery HVAC Service Company will also be preparing to participate in annual classes to learn about all of the new and upcoming technology that will be offered in the HVAC industry.

Montgomery HVAC is proud to commit to continuing education on all new HVAC technologies, and looks forward to providing cooling and heating services for the citizens of Wylie, Sachse, Murphy and surrounding areas for many years to come.



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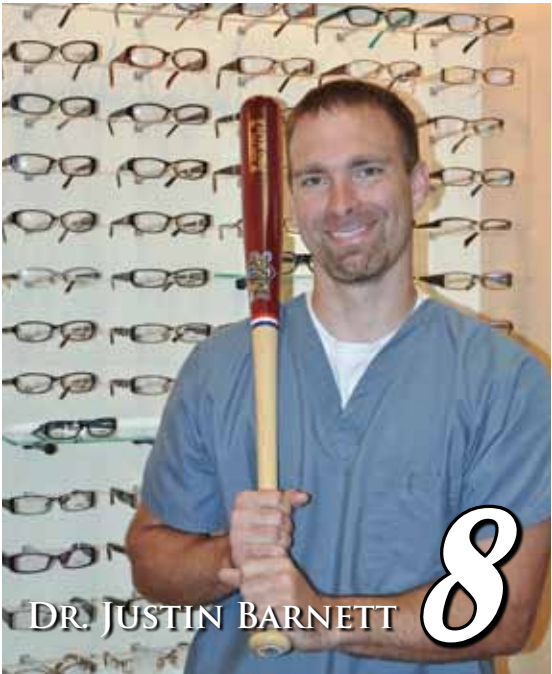


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DR. JUSTIN BARNETT

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*"Bill was the
All-American
boy everyone
admired."*

~ Gen. Don Payne

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Col. Armstrong



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From us to you.....

Hello Wylie, Sachse, Murphy & Lavon –

This month's theme, "Back to School," is one that evokes so many memories (very distant for some of us) from our childhood. Sad on one hand, as another summer of fun and freedom had come to a close; excited on the other, because heading back to school brought the thrill of seeing your friends! The new classes, teachers, lockers and clean slate had you looking forward to the experiences of the coming year.

We have a little of the new in this issue as we look at two new schools that will open this fall and a little of the old as we look back at where we've been. Although much has changed, one thing remains the same. Education is important. It's what elevates us to greater heights.

We wish all the students, teachers and administrators a wonderful 2010-2011 school year.

And congratulations to all the parents for surviving another summer break! Stay Cool!

Mike - Becky - Anne

On a different note - the Wylie, Sachse & Murphy Chambers are having a contest to see who can collect the most boxes of macaroni & cheese to donate to the Christian Care Center. The Christian Care Center helps families out in times of need with food and clothing.

Although we try to stay impartial in the magazine, we must share that the Wylie Chamber, with the help of the surrounding community, is the reigning champion of the previous two challenges. Although we plan to defend our title and win again we ask that no matter which community you live in you show your support because ultimately the Christian Care Center is the biggest winner.

Contact your local chamber office for details on how you can participate. See page 32 for phone numbers and websites.



The highly coveted Tuna Trophy is currently displayed at the Wylie Chamber.

Mike Agnew & Tina Stelnicki deliver tuna to Raymond Cooper at the Christian Care Center. 2008

The Wylie, Sachse & Murphy Chambers delivering peanut butter in 2009.

The CONNECTION

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Just for fun, find the butterfly! Last issue it was hidden in the photo of Mindy Manson with her dogs on page 21.

CORRECTION: Mike Agnew's dog Smokey was mistakenly identified as Bandit in our last issue. Sorry about that Smokey!! Occasionally we make a mistake. Let us know if you find one so we can correct it. We love your feedback - send comments to info@wyliechamber.org. Story ideas are always welcome and appreciated. Thanks for "Connecting" with us!

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DR. JUSTIN BARNETT

SACHSE & MURPHY EYE ASSOCIATES

Why on earth is Dr. Justin Barnett holding a bat in his cover photo? Well, his staff will tell you he always seems to be in a better mood when he's holding it or swinging it (not at anyone of course)! But why would he even have a bat in his office? He says it helps keep his staff "in line", but truthfully it's simply left over from his days of playing baseball in college.

Like many young boys, Dr. Barnett began playing sports at a very early age and continued playing baseball throughout college. He earned his Bachelor's degree in chemistry from Southwestern University where he received honors for his academic performance as well as being named to the 2001 All-America Baseball Team. Dr. Barnett was offered a minor league contract but made the very difficult decision to continue his education and pursue a career as an optometrist. He received his doctorate degree from the University of Houston College of Optometry, where he again graduated at the top of his class.

Though his baseball career has ended, Dr. Barnett still loves to watch and play sports whenever possible. When he finds time to get out of the office for a day or two, you might see him in the bleachers at Wrigley or Fenway Fields eating a hotdog on a weekend trip. Or you might find him on the softball field, where he plays once a week. He would be the first to tell you he is still a "work in progress" at the frustrating game of golf, but watch out for him on the tennis court (he was ranked in the top 50 in the state in high school).

There's no question that Dr. Barnett is a sports fan, but these days he's much more focused on his career.

As founder and resident doctor of Sachse Eye Associates and Murphy Eye Associates, Dr. Barnett now focuses the energy he once used to be a successful athlete, to provide the most thorough and advanced eye care possible. He is trained in the latest and most advanced diagnostic and treatment techniques.

Prior to starting his practice, Dr. Barnett spent two years conducting research for the National Institute of Health (NIH) testing various therapeutic devices designed to improve vision in patients with advanced eye disease. He has worked with leading researchers in the field of wavefront technology, used in LASIK, and has helped design algorithms to help diagnose conditions like keratoconus and other corneal diseases.

Dr. Barnett takes the utmost pride in caring for his patients, and doing anything he can for them in or out of the office. It isn't unusual to see his truck outside his office after hours, or on a Sunday afternoon, while he's there treating a patient that needed immediate care. He



truly enjoys his relationships with his patients and enjoys helping whenever he can.

If you've ever met Dr. Barnett, you know he's very "laid back" and has an inviting personality. He and his staff want you to feel like you are members of their family, not just patients. And if you ever see Dr. Barnett walking around the office with a wood bat in his hands, he's probably in a good mood.

When he isn't at the office (or playing sports), Dr. Barnett enjoys doing mission work with his church. With a passion for serving, he has been to Haiti, Honduras, and Guatemala over the last few years to provide care. He is also a member of the Wylie Rotary which is focused on serving the community in many different areas.

Sachse Eye Associates was founded in 2007 with the goal of providing a level of care not seen anywhere in the area. With the most advanced equipment available to date, the doctors are able to diagnose and treat conditions not possible at other facilities. Murphy Eye Associates was recently founded in 2010 with a much more modern/contemporary feel while holding fast to providing the best eye care possible. Both offices offer an impressive selection of frames from discount lines (complete pairs as low as \$49) to modern fashion forward designer frame lines.

In addition to great doctors, and advanced equipment, Sachse (and Murphy) Eye Associates has an exceptional staff that is caring and knowledgeable and willing to do everything they can to help. They are always willing to come early, stay late, or even come in on their days off if necessary to meet patients. The doctors and staff at Sachse Eye Associates and Murphy Eye Associates are there for you!

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A Note from Dr. Barnett



"I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped make Sachse Eye Associates such a great success. My staff and I have very much enjoyed getting to know the community and have made some great friendships that we will cherish. We are here for you if you ever need anything, or have questions. Just let my staff or I know how we can serve you. Thank you again, and we look forward to caring for you for many years to come."

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Good Old School Days

There are some things, when it comes to school at least, that rarely change. Through the years and generations, first day jitters never fail to arrive in the fall, and “summeritis” is felt in epidemic proportion before mid-May.

Principals, bells, blackboards (now white), homework, cafeteria food, multiplication tables, and the nice or not so nice teacher, remain perennials in the landscape of public education - regardless of the year you are in school.

Students of bygone eras armed with little more than hand held slates and a piece of chalk took instruction in all subjects from a single teacher. That teacher taught penmanship, arithmetic and manners to both young and much older students with little concern placed on the matter of ability or grade level.

Today’s students are gifted with the information age of telecommunication and highly technical electronics that can bring them the world with a simple click or keystroke.

Schools have come a long way since the one room schoolhouses of yesteryear to the multi-campus districts of today’s public school systems. Most area districts of today feature award-winning architecture, state-of-the-art technology, well-maintained grounds, sporting arenas and stadiums unlike the one room schoolhouses available to our forefathers.

The UIL Class 4A ranked Wylie Independent School District consists of 18 campuses. The district will open its 10th elementary campus this August. Wylie ISD became an independent school system in the 1901-1902 school years when it was formally approved by the Texas Legislature. A community-wide Centennial celebration was held in February 2002 to commemorate the first hundred years. The Wylie school system existed prior to 1901-1902 but was not sanctioned by the state. “It is definitely more than 100 years old,” said Susan Dacus, Director of Public Relations for the Wylie Independent School District.



1928 Wylie High School Seniors

(Photo courtesy of WISD)

The Garland Independent School District, UIL Class 5A, serves the city of Sachse with two elementary schools, a middle and a high school. Community Independent School District, a UIL Class 3A district, supports the city of Lavon’s student population with two elementary schools, a middle and a high school. Students living in Murphy are divided between Plano and Wylie schools with nearly one-third of the school age population within Wylie district boundaries.

Doyle Dean, Plano Senior High School’s longtime principal is the district’s longest-serving employee. With 45 years of service under his belt, he has served the last twenty-four as principal. Doyle, 67, who retired at the end of this school year had this to say when asked what he felt had changed the most about school in his 45 year run. “Teachers receive much more direction and training now. When I began teaching in 1965 I was given a textbook. I started at the beginning of the book and taught it as far as I could through the year. I made

my own tests and final exams and determined what the grading standard would be. Today there are formal written curriculums, standard exams and grading procedures that ensures consistency between teachers. Students are held to a much higher academic standard and pursue more rigorous courses of study. They have many more options such as career education programs and advanced placement classes available to them now.”

My own fifth grade teacher, Mrs. Sheets, a matronly woman with white hair and glasses, required students “graduate” from pencil to pen. To graduate, one must exhibit perfect pencil penmanship in neat cursive letters with no eraser marks. The reward...a new Bic pen.

Each of us was asked to draw a self-portrait, my own complete with well sketched cat eye glasses and ugly bangs. To my self-portrait and to the portraits of each of my classmates, Mrs. Sheets hung the much coveted blue capped Bic pens. I practiced daily with little success to earn that pen that hung menacingly from the corner of my manila paper canvas. I sat, head lowered, watching one classmate after another march

Kathy Anderson of Sachse graduated from Denton High School in 1969. She recalls hippies and Volkswagen vans painted with bright colored flowers and peace signs. Boys and girls alike had long hair and carried purses. TAKS testing of her generation happened once yearly and were called achievement tests. School lunches cost .35 cents, yearbooks were \$15, senior rings \$50 and drivers education an affordable \$25. Everyone dressed out in gym suits for P.E. Girls took homemaking and boys took shop.

Girls who smoked cigarettes were called cheap and boys doing so were called thugs. Dresses or skirts were the only acceptable attire for young women while young men sported trousers and a mandatory tucked in shirt. The report card that Kathy Anderson took home to her parents reflected letter grades of A, B, C, D or F. Unlike today’s children, who drive newer cars than most of their teachers; Kathy Anderson drove her family’s 1957 four-door Chevy back and forth to school. Her brother dropped out of high school to join the Army and later served in Vietnam

An unidentified local resident that was schooled in the 70s and 80s says kids were paddled, all except him of course! Children who were suspended from school for whatever reasons were sent home, period, he noted. There was no in-school suspension that is currently recognized in school systems today. There were no computer and no games. It was the student’s job to pay attention and not the teacher’s job to win kids over. Parents almost always supported the teacher.

Another unnamed area individual receiving early education in private Christian schools in the 70s and 80s remembers no talking during class or during lunches. Those lunches were available for .75. Students were required to walk down the halls in a straight single file lines going to and from classes. Discipline was enforced. Students were not disrespectful to teachers and the closest thing to computer instruction available to this generation was typing class. “We did not pay to park in the school parking lot and there was no group study except occasionally in biology or homemaking classes. We did research at the library,” she said.

I was in third grade before I realized teachers had lives as ordinary as our own. It was that same year I learned they actually had first names. Mrs. Stallings, my own third grade



The 1909 Football Team was the fourth official varsity squad for GHS and the first to play on an advance schedule, instead of drawing opponents by the week. Its record was one win, two ties and three losses. Local teams of this area played without football helmets.

(Photo courtesy of The Garland Landmark Society)

to the front of the room to claim their right to ink. I was the last student to “graduate” that year but Mrs. Sheets taught me more of a lesson than legible handwriting; she taught me perseverance.

We all have stories to tell of our runs through the hallways of our alma maters. School colors, mascots, forever friendships and those select impossible to forget memories and individuals that made the twelve years of education bearable.

teacher at Northrich Elementary School in Richardson, had spent the morning explaining the concept of simple addition and the afternoon administering the dreaded Friday ten word spelling test. I conquered math and aced the spelling test that day and was rewarded by being allowed to choose a book from Mrs. Stallings private collection. I made my selection and returned to my desk near the center of the room. I carefully opened the book to its blank pages in the front and found written there in fluid fancy script, "This book belongs to Kathleen Stallings." I was mesmerized. I felt I'd stumbled across the most secret of information. I'd uncovered a mystery...my teacher's first name...and even more amazing her first name was the same as my own. I developed a kinship with Mrs. Stallings that day. We shared a name. I realized for the first time teachers were people and began to have a deeper understanding that teachers left their own families to help us.

A Wylie area mother of four, who graduated in 1993, remembers no off-campus lunches. "We had no uniforms or standardized dress, but the policy was far stricter than that of today," she reports. "There were no shorts allowed and everyone wore a belt with shirts tucked in. There were no facial piercing permitted and hair was pulled away from the face. Our football stadium was uncomfortable and crowded. That was considered a part of the experience of high school football. The grass was green, brown, or spotty, there was no artificial turf - it didn't matter. The team played hard and the band marched on, and we loved it," she said.



Lunches were \$1.10 and The only tension between cliques was the FFA crowd "ropers" and the skater crowd "dopers," everyone – else got along. When we graduated, our prank was to put stickers on the coach that helped us up the stairs and onto the stage to receive our diplomas. "One hundred and fifty one stickers later, he was nearly covered and still smiling while shaking our hands as we proceeded across the stage to claim our diplomas," she recalls. "He was a good man, with a great sense of humor. His only request was



Couples show off the latest dance moves at the 1948 graduation dance in the Cox Building Gymnasium.

(Photo courtesy of Peggy Mitchell)

keeping the stickers off his face and everyone obliged. We had respect for him, not only because he was good, but also because he expected us to be good and had the power to put us in our place when we weren't."

Judy, who requested only her first name be used, spoke fondly of her father who was a teacher following World War II. "Teaching in the 50s was considered a profession of high honor and respect," she stated. "Back then teachers dressed the part. My Dad always wore a suit and tie to school until he retired in the late 1990s," she added. "He often expressed disgust that it had become allowable for teachers to dress down. He felt this was just one of the contributing factors to the rise of blatant disrespect from some students towards faculty members," she pointed out.

Although it may seem that little changes year after year in the world of education the truth is everything does. Teachers grow wiser, students grow smarter and school districts pool a multitude of resources allowing increased learning capabilities, thereby offering our youth the very ultimate in education. •



It's a great summer at Wylie Eye Center TSO! Our newest optician, Mr. Nick Poston, grew up in Sachse. Nick served in the United States Air Force and we are very excited to have him join our team!

Today's options for vision correction are better than ever! We can offer premium lens options such as the ReSTOR, the Crystalens, or special astigmatism correcting lens implants. These options are good for patients both with and without cataracts. Lasik is another great option, and all of these options offer an alternative to wearing glasses every day.

For more information about ReSTOR, Crystalens, and astigmatism lens implants, or other refractive surgeries such as LASIK, give us a call! We provide all pre- and post-operative care for refractive surgeries and thoroughly explain all your options.

As we enter the summer months, Wylie Eye Center TSO reminds you to WEAR YOUR SUNGLASSES! Just like the intense Texas sun can damage your skin, it can also damage your eyes...Protect them!

Are your children interested in contact lenses for summer sports or the upcoming school year? Summer is a great time to learn how to safely wear contacts.

Come in to Wylie Eye Center TSO today and check out our summer specials: 30-50% off select eyewear, 50% off second complete pair!

Wylie Eye Center TSO is a full-service eye care center located in Historic Downtown Wylie. Call us at 972-429-9090 to schedule your appointment. Now offering Saturday exams by appointment.



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Patient Highlight

This month's featured patient is Mr. Rob Hunter from the Ballard School of Performing Arts. You can't help but be inspired by his love of music and passion for teaching it to others. One of Rob's most memorable performances was when he had the pleasure of performing with the Joan Hammel Band for our troops in Guantanamo Bay Cuba. Mr. Hunter was concerned about a change in his vision and wanted to learn about his refractive surgery options.



After a thorough examination, we decided his best option was an astigmatism correcting lens implant. Mr. Hunter first came to our office with 20/200 vision and days after his surgery he had 20/20 vision – and without glasses for the first time in his life. "I looked up into the sky and to my amazement I could see the Big Dipper; it was so clear! I could see the stars and I wasn't wearing glasses!"



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ARMSTRONG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NAMED FOR LOCAL MILITARY HERO

by Janet Doleh

On the night of November 9, 1967, in the dark skies over Laos, something went irretrievably wrong. Two of our finest USAF fighter pilots, flying a bombing mission in a Phantom F-4C aircraft, were suddenly engulfed in flames when one of their bombs detonated prematurely. One pilot, Lance Peter Sijan, managed to eject from the plane. The other, John William Armstrong, was never seen again. But the impact of his short life on the people who knew him and on his community is a gift beyond measure.

Today, Colonel Armstrong's name is preserved and honored by the Sachse school named for him, Armstrong Elementary School. "We are so proud to carry his name," said Becky Ayers, principal.

Born in 1926 and a native of Garland, Texas, Colonel Armstrong lived his life fully. At Garland High School, he lettered in every sport and was co-captain of the undefeated 1943 football team. He edited the Owl's Nest yearbook, served as class president, won the school's leadership award, and was voted "most popular." His best friend, Don Payne, lived a few blocks away.

"Bill was the All-American boy everyone admired," said Payne, now a retired Air Force general. "He led our football team to the regional championship our senior year and was also our valedictorian!"

After they graduated from Garland High School in 1944, Armstrong and Payne stayed close. "Bill went to SMU for a year and then earned his appointment to West Point," Payne said. "He was the first person from Garland to attend and graduate from the U. S. Military Academy. I followed the next year, and we spent three years together there." In 1949, Armstrong graduated 16th in a class of 574.

The friends both became fighter pilots and entered the Korean War. Armstrong flew 127 missions, volunteering for many more than the standard 100 in a normal tour of duty. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medals.

After the war, Armstrong's unit helped develop air-to-air jet refueling procedures. "It was a landmark operation for fighters, remarkable back then," Payne said.

Armstrong's flying career took another interesting direction when his tactical fighter unit went to Bitburg, Germany, and he was selected to lead the Skyblazers, a USAF-Europe aerial acrobatic demonstration team. The team featured only the best pilots and ground crewmen. "They put on formation acrobatics, loops and rolls," Payne said.

The pilots traveled for six to eight months a year giving performances. Their thrilling displays of 360-degree vertical turns, low passes over the crowds going at full speed, and individually rolling 'Fleur-de-lis' cross-over moves were great public relations events for Americans in European countries. Armstrong participated in the Skyblazers from 1956 until the end of the show in 1962.

His career also included returning to West Point to serve on the faculty for four years in the Military Psychology and Leadership Department.

Armstrong's last military assignment, as Commander of the 480th Tactical Fighter Squadron at DaNang Air Base in Vietnam, ended in the fiery explosion of his jet. His remains have never been recovered.

When asked how Colonel Armstrong would feel about having a school named for him, General

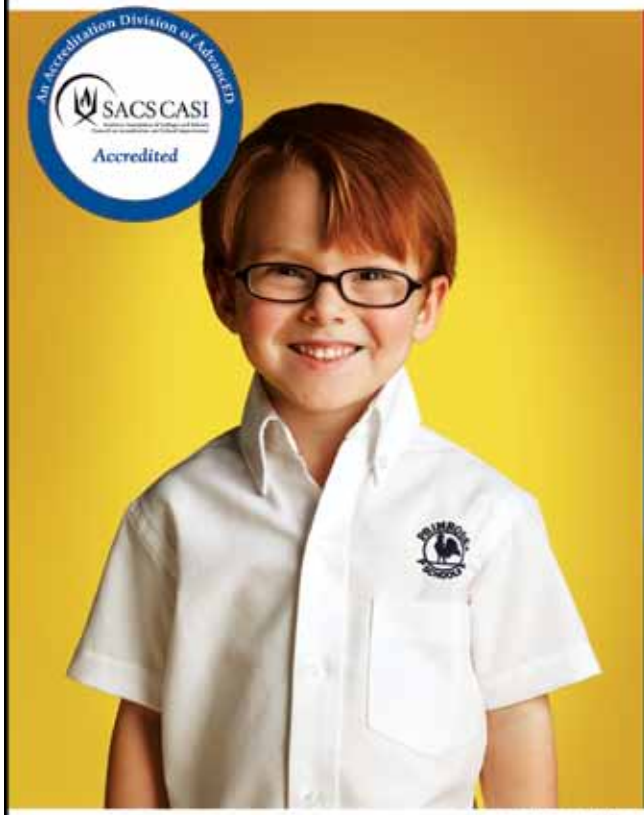
Payne responded, "He was a modest fellow and would be truly honored. He loved Garland and would be proud of Armstrong Elementary School's dedication."

Inside the school, visitors can see an oil painting of Colonel Armstrong and a display case holding memorabilia from his life, including his Garland High School letter jacket, the yearbook from his senior year, and letters from Westpoint. Armstrong Elementary School is the only school in the Garland ISD named for a former student. •

Photo courtesy of Major General Don Payne.



We, the community of Armstrong Elementary, make it our mission to excel in academics, strength of character, and service to our society as exemplified by Colonel John W. Armstrong.



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Wylie Back to School Fair will be held Saturday, August 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.



The Back To School Fair is an annual event that gives away backpacks filled with school supplies to students that are facing economic hardships. Many families are still struggling to put food on the table much less the added burden of purchasing school supplies for the upcoming school year. With the help of local churches and organizations such as FBC, the Lions Club, Wylie Women's League, the Mason's, WUMC, and more, the goal is to fill 1,000 backpacks this year. The most pressing items needed are construction paper, high lighters, #2 pencils, and blue/black/red ink pens. If you find your family in need of assistance and would like more information on how you can register for supplies please contact Candy at carrington@instaff.com. For more information on how you can donate to our upcoming Back To School Fair please contact Candy Arrington at carrington@instaff.com. Find us on Facebook at Wylie is Back To School 2010-2011.

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The Raymonds

"Jeanie is not only my Realtor, she is my friend. Over the years, Jeanie has helped me sell a house, rent a house, and buy my home. She is always friendly, honest, and professional. She may not always tell you what you want to hear but, she tells you what you need to hear about your real estate situation. Her level of integrity is unmatched in the industry. I whole heartedly trust Jeanie with every real estate need I have; she is my one stop shop!"

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DR. DOUG OTTO

EDUCATING YOUTH WITH ENTHUSIASM AND EXCELLENCE

By LaDawn Fletcher

Most people will never know what it feels like to drive by a building and see their name on it. That is reason enough for Dr. Douglas Otto, Superintendent for Plano ISD, to pinch himself as the final touches are placed on the brand new middle school bearing his name to be opened this fall.

After 29 years as a school superintendent, the last 15 of which have been spent at Plano ISD, he has seen many changes in the educational landscape. He continues to lead Plano through them by adhering to his core beliefs that education should be student centered and incorporate as many opportunities for every child as possible. He knows this is best accomplished in a strong, comprehensive school system like Plano ISD.

"With 55 thousand students there are a lot of expectations, but when we provide strong, rigorous opportunities that challenge students, we have accomplished our mission," says Otto.

After earning undergraduate and graduate degrees from Illinois State University, and working as an educator in Minnesota, Iowa and Indiana, Dr. Otto brought his Midwestern sensibility to Plano and blended it seamlessly with the rapid-fire pace of the booming district.

Otto has honed school achievement in the face of unprecedented population growth, while deftly managing demographic shifts.

As Plano becomes more urban, Otto is at the helm, leading the district into previously unknown territory. Socioeconomic and ethnic diversity are challenges that Otto and the school board trustees stand poised to address.

Board President Lloyd Jenkins praised Dr. Otto for his "powerful vision" for what public education can be. "He has the unique ability to create and sustain a culture of excellence and continu-

ous academic improvement in our District. Plano ISD is very fortunate to have his passionate leadership," said Jenkins.

Words like passion, diligence and excellence have long described Otto, and the district itself.

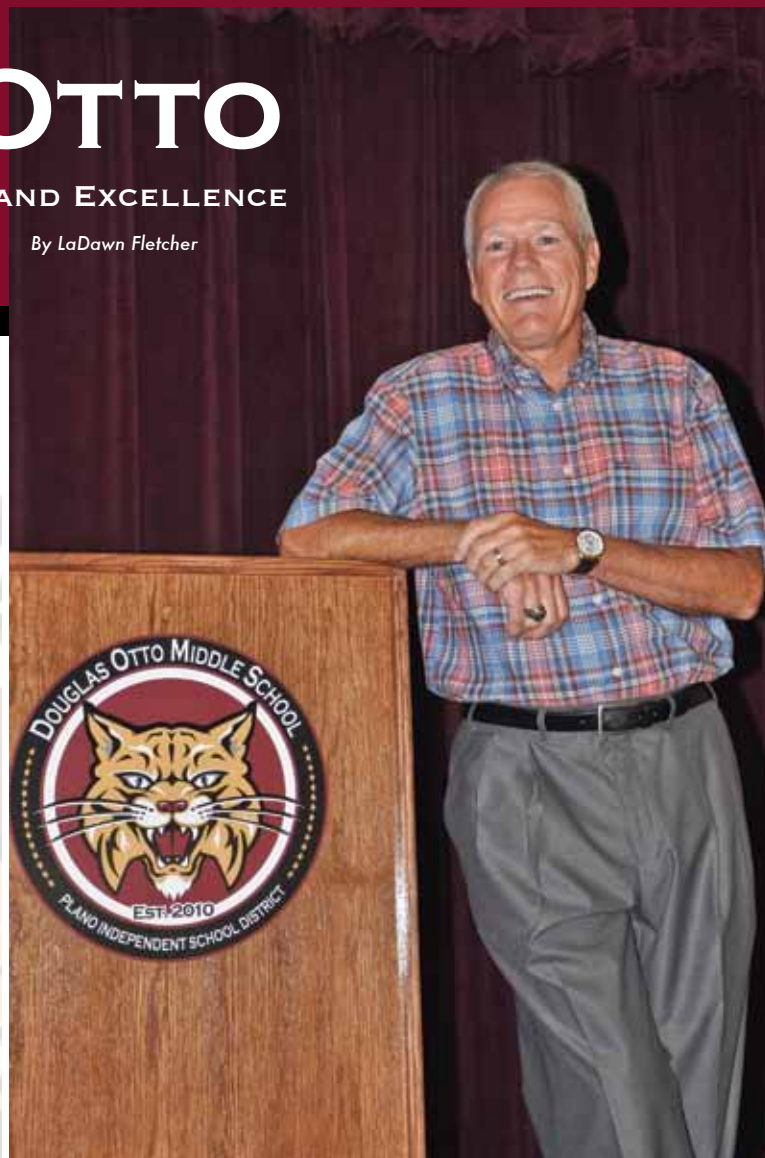
"We want to meet the needs of students but still keep the achievement high. We're working hard to make sure that happens," says Otto.

When the first school bell chimes next fall, Dr. Otto is looking forward to meeting the students, teachers and staff at the Douglas W. Otto Middle School, that he still finds difficult to call by name (he refers to it as "the new middle school").

He will share the honor with his wife Bobbi, their adult son and daughter, and extended family and friends who have supported and guided him through the years.

"I think it will be neat that the students will get to know the person behind the name on the school," he says. In addition to academic excellence, Dr. Otto hopes people think of him as a friendly professional who believed very deeply in the teachers and principals in the schools, and who worked hard on their behalf in the legislature, community and with the school board, making sure teachers had the resources to do their best work.

It is safe to say "mission is accomplished." •



Photos by Anne Hiney

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JULY EVENTS

July 15th - Sachse Community Public Safety Memorial Service honoring those public safety personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty in 2009. Starts at 7:00 p.m. on the steps of the new public safety building, 3815 Sachse Road.

July 17th - Boys and girls in grades 4-8 are invited to audition for the Children's Chorus of Collin County. To schedule an audition time, contact Janie Oliver, Artistic Director, at 972-618-4536 or office@ChildrensChorusOfCollinCounty.org.

July 17th & 24th - Auditions for WAG:Wylie Acting Group for Children's production of The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe. The cast for this play is flexible. Core characters will mostly be cast with intermediate, junior high and high school aged children. The remaining 20 or so characters will be cast with ages 5 - 18 yrs. based on the Casting Committee's discretion. Contact director Del Thatcher with questions at delthatcher@gmail.com. For more info. about auditions & Wylie Acting Group for Children or WAG, parents can visit www.wagforchildren.org.

July 26th - 30th - Murphy Youth Police Academy. Experience classroom and hands-on orientation in the following law enforcement topics: criminal law, traffic stops, radar demonstration, DWI laws, and much, much more! Plus participate in a mock crime scene and mock criminal trial! Potential candidates for the Youth Citizen's Police Academy must meet the following criteria: Be between 12 & 17 years of age; be a resident of Murphy; have a clean criminal background; possess the desire to have fun and make new friends. The academy is free, so don't delay. Download the application packet on the Department's website, or stop by the Front Desk of the Murphy Police Department. Class size is limited to 24 participants, and applications must be in by July 16. Contact Officer Kris Riebschlager for more info. at 972-468-4259.



July 31st - Sachse Chamber of Commerce Cars Under the Stars Show in the Kroger parking lot, 5190 Highway 78. Registration from 6 to 7:30 p.m., judging from 7:45 to 8:30 pm, and winners announced at 11 p.m. There will be door prizes, 50/50 raffle, t-shirts, and more. Registration is \$20 per entry and there are NO pre-registrations. Call the Sachse Chamber at 972-496-1212 for more info.

AUGUST EVENTS

Aug. 6th - First Annual Battle of the Golfers benefiting the Wylie Youth Competitive Football League. Join us for a great afternoon of golf at Waterview Golf Course. Shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. \$100 per golfer or \$375 per foursome. Dinner will be served at the end of the day. Great prizes and every player receives a goodie bag. For questions please email: wcyfa_golf2010@verizon.net Or register online at www.leaguelinup.com/wyliepirates.

Aug. 11th - WISD New Teacher Luncheon sponsored by the Wylie Chamber of Commerce.

Aug. 13th - Murphy Moonlight Movies at dusk at the Murphy Municipal Complex 206 N. Murphy Road, Murphy. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars. For more information, call 972-468-4063 or email at kirkwood@murphytx.org.

Aug. 14th - the Murphy Police Department along with the Crime Watch Group would like to invite you to join us for the second annual Neighbor to Neighbor Citywide Block Party. This is a chance for neighbors to connect with one another and you're local Police Officers on a social level. If you are interested in hosting a party please contact Officer Brad Taylor at 972-468-4214 or Mrs. Roni Brackett at 972-468-4211. There is a block party form to complete if you would like assistance, materials or a scheduled visit from Police and Fire Personnel.



Aug. 17th - Wylie Police Department Bicycle Rodeo at the Wylie First Baptist Church, 100 North 1st St., from 9 a.m. to Noon. Plano Cycling and Fitness will conduct bicycle safety inspections. Wylie Officers will answer questions and educate riders on bicycle safety. An obstacle course will be set up for tips on navigation and safety. Helmets will be available as long as supplies last. Ice Cream will be donated by First Baptist Church.

Aug. 17th - Wylie Police Department Child Safety Seat Check at the Wylie First Baptist Church, 100 North 1st St., from 9 a.m. to Noon. To schedule your safety seat check please email Greg Wilson at Greg.Wilson@wylietetexas.gov.



Aug. 21st - Sachse Chamber of Commerce Men Who Cook Dinner from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Swingin' D Ranch in Parker. Local "Celebrity" chefs will prepare their favorite recipes, there will be music, drinks and dancing in addition to sampling the chef's fabulous dishes. Tickets are \$25.00 each and include all the sampling. For more info call 972-496-1212 or go to www.sachsechamber.com.

Aug. 28th - The City of Murphy is now offering disposal of used computers and electronic equipment. The City will provide a drop off location twice per calendar year at 206 N. Murphy Road on the last Saturday of February and the last Saturday in August. Residents will be able to drop acceptable items off between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. on these designated days. Please visit our website at www.murphytx.org for a list of acceptable items or contact our Customer Service Department at 972-468-4100 for info.

Aug 29th. - 31st. - Divine Consign Children's and Maternity Sale is the metroplex's favorite twice-yearly sale specializing in the highest quality gently worn children's and maternity clothing, toys, books, games, DVDs, baby equipment and furniture. Admission: \$2/person; including children on Sunday from Noon - 2 p.m. ALL other times are FREE. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. For more details contact Tina Teutsch at 214-513-2838 or visit www.divineconsign.net.

Aug. 30th - "55 Alive" Safe Driving Class 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. \$12 for AARP members \$14 for non-members. This certification will save on your auto insurance from 5% to 15% per year. Sachse's Laurie Schwenk Senior Center, 3815 Sachse Road, Suite B. 972-495-6282.

WYLIE'S RITA AND TRUETT SMITH PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

Located at 800 Thomas Street, Wylie 972-442-7566

Wednesday Morning Story Time:

Big Kids Story Time: Ages 3-5 are invited to listen to books, flannel stories and songs at 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Wee Read Story Time: Babies and Toddlers ages 0-2 are invited to listen to books, flannel stories and songs at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Story Time Dates & Themes:

July 7: Handy helpers, **July 14:** Yucky Stuff, **July 21:** The End, **July 28:** Special Program in the Children's Area – Sandy Shrout presents The Three Little Pigs Puppet Show.

Please note there is no story time in August. Story time resumes September 1, 2010.

Teen Summer Programs: 3 - 5 p.m.

July 1st - Japanese Kabuki with Kent Williams Learn about this traditional Japanese art form using movement, kimonos and make-up.

July 8th - Paper Crafts - Origami, kirigami and cubecrafts. All supplies will be provided

July 15th - Anime Day - vote on which movie you want to watch. Snacks provided.

July 22nd - 3-D Crafts - CD sun catchers, playing card wallets and felt plushies. All supplies will be provided.

July 29th - End of Summer Party with food, Rock Band 2 and prizes!

The 4th Monday Book Club (ages 18 & up): 6:00 p.m.

July 26th - Meet in the Bluebonnet Room at 6 p.m. to discuss *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. For additional info. contact Donna at 972-442-7566.

Murder Mystery Night (ages 18 & up): 7 p.m.

July 16th - This event is free and open to adults ages 18 and up. The plot: American Executive is the latest unscribed sensation to hit the small screen. Television executives have invaded a publishing business and for two months, every move the employees make is captured on film. Tonight is another results show. Nerves are raw as host of America's hottest reality TV show; Brian Freequest reads this week's results. Contact Adult Services Librarian, Nina Davis at 972-442-7566 for more details.

Wylie Friends of the Library: 6:00 p.m.

July 15th & Aug. 19th - The Friends of the Rita & Truett Smith Public Library are having their monthly meeting in the Bluebonnet Room. To celebrate the ground-breaking of the new 43,934 sq. ft. library, membership fees are currently half price and a free library bag comes with your membership!

Catch the Reading Express!

Summer Reading Club at the Smith Public Library began June 1, 2010.

Once you have read 10 hours or 10 titles, turn in your reading log between June 21st & July 31st and you are eligible to receive a Summer Reading Club prize. Prizes are available while supplies last.

Kids Summer Reading Club Programs:

Come experience magic shows, animal encounters and more! We have lots of fun events happening each week including some evening shows. All ages are welcome, most programs are appropriate for ages 5 and up. Program calendars with performance dates and times are currently available for pick-up at the Smith Public Library.

July 6: Brett Roberts: The Magic Reading Railroad at 12:30, 1:30 & 2:30 p.m.

July 8: George the Magician at 6:30 p.m.

July 13: Jungle Jim, 12:30, 1:30 & 2:30 p.m.

July 20: Storyteller: Dorayne Breedlove at 12:30 & 1:30 p.m.

July 22: Slick Jugglers at 6:30 p.m.

July 27: Critterman at 12:30 & 1:30 p.m.

SACHSE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Located at 3815 Sachse Rd., Building C, Sachse 972-530-8966

Summer Reading Club: Thursday at 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

All children ages 5 - 12 are invited to join us for the 2010 Summer Reading Club. Preschoolers can join the fun by having their parents read to them.

July 1st - Dan Gibson

July 8th - Engineer Maggie

July 15th - Bongo Rod

July 22nd - Jungle Jim

July 29th - Awards Party at 11:00 a.m.

Play Mahjong: Wednesday from 1 - 5 p.m.

July 7th & 21st

Aug. 4th & 18th

Story Time: Thursday at 11 a.m.

Aug. 19th & 20th

Book Club: Friday at 10 a.m.

July 16th & Aug. 20th

Paws & Read: 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

July 13th & Aug. 10th Kids read aloud to dogs from the Delta Society's Pet Partners

Sachse Friends of the Library: 4th Tuesday at 7 p.m.

July 27th & Aug. 24th

SACHSE SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Laurie Schwenk Senior Activity Center is located at 3815 Sachse Road, Suite B, on the corner of Sachse Rd. & Miles Rd. 972-495-6282.

Exercise: Most Mon., Wed. & Fri. mornings at 9 a.m. - Check Calendar!

Day Trips: Call the center to confirm dates & times

July 14th - SMU - Meadows Museum Royal Collection of Charles IV of Spain

July 16th - Tour Mercer House & Lunch in Rowlett

July 22nd - Lunch & Music Theatre in Mesquite Cost \$12

July 28th - Grand Canyon Adventure - IMAX Theater - Cost \$5

July 30th - Winstar Casino

Aug. 3rd - Frisco Rough Riders Baseball - FREE!

Aug. 4th - Pearce Civil War Museum Corsicana \$4 plus lunch

Aug. 11th - Texas Ranger Museum \$5 Lunch at Buzzard Billy's

Aug. 19th - Granville Theatre, Garland - My Cousin Rachel

Aug. 24th - Frisco Rough Riders Baseball - FREE!

August 25th - Alaska Spirit of the Wild - IMAX Theater - Cost \$5

For more details on outings please contact Dixie Dickson at the Senior Center at 972-495-6282.

MURPHY RECREATION

Go to www.murphytx.org or call 972-468-4000 for more info on Recreation Programs.

KidzScience Preschool	KidzScience	
July 19th - 23rd 9:00 - 12:00 pm	July 19th - 23rd 1:00 - 4:00 pm	
Aug. 9th - 13th 9:00 - 12:00 pm	Aug. 9th - 13th 1:00 - 4:00 pm	
Miss Fit Bootcamp (Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays) \$153/6-week series		
July 6th - Aug. 12th (no class July 5th)	6:00 - 6:55 p.m.	
Aug. 23rd - Sept. 30th (no class Sept. 6)	6:00 - 6:55 p.m.	
Zumba (Thursdays) \$43/6-week series		
July 8th - Aug. 12th	7:45 - 8:30 p.m.	
Aug. 26th - Sept. 30th	7:45 - 8:30 p.m.	

Tell me about it.....

To submit your special event to the **September/October** community calendar send an e-mail to **theconnection.anne@mac.com** no later than **August 15th**. Please include contact name, date(s), time(s), location, a publishable phone number, e-mail and/or web site for information. Only events that are open to the public (no "members only" events) are eligible, as space permits. THANKS!

CHAMBER of COMMERCE EVENTS

WYLIE www.wyliechamber.org **972-442-2804**

Monthly Luncheons: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch cost is \$12 if paid in advance, \$15 with reservation paying at door, \$20 without reservation. Online payment is available at the Chamber website.

July 13th - We will be attending the Sachse Annual Mayoral Luncheon (see below).

Aug. 11th - WISD New Teacher Luncheon. Go to www.wyliechamber.org for more info.

Every Wednesday Business Card Exchange: Woodbridge Golf Course club house, 7400 Country Club Dr., Wylie. Network and promote your business from 8 - 9 a.m.

SACHSE www.sachsechamber.com **972-496-1212**

Monthly Luncheons: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Northplace Church, 2709 3rd Street, Sachse. \$15 for Members, \$20 for Non-members. Register & pay online.

July 13th - Annual Mayoral Luncheon

Mayors of Garland, Murphy, Rowlett, Sachse & Wylie have been invited to give legislative updates on their cities. Sponsor: Verizon Communications

Aug. 10th - Go to www.sachsechamber.com for more info.

Last Friday of Month: Sachse Chamber of Commerce Community Coffee

July 30th & Aug. 27th at Sachse Christian Church, 5005 Ben Davis Rd., Sachse. Meet for a cup 'o joe and promote your business from 8 - 9 a.m. Call 972- 496-1212 for more info or go to www.sachsechamber.com.

MURPHY murphychamber.org **972-805-3749**

Monthly Luncheons: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Community Room at the Murphy City Hall Complex, 206 N. Murphy Road, Murphy. R.S.V.P. by 11:59 a.m. CST on the Friday before the luncheon to receive discounted prepayment rate of \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members. After Noon and at the door on Tuesday, the charge is \$20 for everyone. Go to www.murphytx.org to prepay or call 972-805-3749.

July 20th - Community Relations Showcase. Getting involved in your community helps you connect with your customer base while supporting the community. Find out about the community service organizations in our area. Catered by Niki's Italian Bistro.

August 17th - Eric Langford, Murphy Marketplace Developer, gives us his insight.

Come & Go Luncheon: Enjoy great food and networking in Murphy!

July 28th from Noon to 1 p.m. at Country Burger. Chamber members receive a free drink with their lunch purchase.

August 25th location TBD.

Second Tuesday Business Card Exchange: July 13th & Aug. 10th at 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. at Saxby's Coffee (FM 544 in Murphy Marketplace). Join us for good coffee and good pastries! Bring plenty of business cards and brochures. Mix, mingle, make contacts and enter the raffle for a chance to win prizes!

SAVE THE DATES!

Sept. 17th & 18th - Wylie Championship Rodeo featuring Bull Riding, Barrel Racing, Bronc Busting, Calf Roping, Team Penning, Mutton Busting, Craft & Vendor Booths, Concessions, & Kiddie Corral full of Inflatable Fun! Rain date: Oct. 1 & 2. Go to www.wyliechamber.org for more info.



Sept. 25th - Murphy Maize Days! Begin the day with the first Annual A-Maize-ing 5K and Fun Run in the morning (starting and ending at PISD stadium) and then Maize Days takes place from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. just down the road at the City's Municipal Complex! Food, Games and Contests, KidZone, Vendor/Craft Fair, Live Music, Fireworks. Go to www.murphymaizedays.com for more info.

Oct. 9th - Sachse's 25th Annual Fall Fest is a free area event that draws in several thousand people annually hosting a wide range of food, arts & crafts, and commercial vendors. Most of all it features musical talent from all over Texas that is sure to satisfy everyone's musical preferences. There is fun for the entire family with children's games, Pet Photo and Men's Best Legs contests, and our popular children's pageant! Go to www.sachsechamber.com for more info.



Sept. - Therapeutic riding starts back at Throwaway Ponies. Lessons are once a week September, October and November. We offer lessons free of charge (though donations are appreciated) to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, youth at risk, and mild developmental disorders. Anyone interested should fill out the forms found on our website, www.throwawayponies.org.

Wally Watkins Elementary School

by Lori Villarreal

As the kids are enjoying their last days of summer, Wylie ISD is working through their final punch list on the newly constructed Wally Watkins Elementary School. Located in Southeast Wylie, at 1301 Elm Rd. off FM 544, Watkins Elementary will serve the growing population in the district bordering Hartman, Cox and Akin attendance zones.

Wally Watkins Elementary School is the first in the district to be named for a WISD graduate. Mr. Watkins graduated from Wylie High School as a Pearl Birmingham scholarship recipient in 1955. He returned to WISD in 1975 as the Hartman Elementary School principal then served as the first Assistant Superintendent until he retired in 1992.

Before returning to WISD Watkins had been the principle of a high school, having coached many of the students in prior years. Watkins had earned the students’ respect through his interaction with them on the court and fields. He recalls his first few weeks as Principle of an elementary school, “I ate lunch with the young students’ everyday. We talked about their favorite hobbies. I got to know each one of them.” After about two weeks the kids were running up to hug his legs. Startled by this he asked a veteran teacher, “What does this mean?” Well, he’d earned their respect. Years later he was told by a co-worker that he had been her son’s favorite principle. He reflected back on all the improvements that had been made to the curriculum and the introduction of Field Day and asked, “How was I his favorite?” She set him straight when she said, “At lunch you talked to him about his favorite hobby”.

Superintendent H. John Fuller states, “Having a school named for an individual is a true honor for that person and is incred-



ibly important to the Wylie ISD. The school and its name represent that campus and the district to the world; consequently, thought, time and study go into the decision. The process honors the past... celebrates the present... and plans for the future, a theme that the district staff uses every day.”

Mr. Watkins says simply that he is “humbled and honored by this recognition.” When asked what it feels like to have a school named after you he recounted his baseball playing days were he dreamed of playing professional ball. “It would take a lot to override the pride I have in this. Even an induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame would be too soon forgotten. Having a school in my namesake will last for generations.”

As the kids file into their new school this fall, Principle Jennifer Speicher will have the responsibility of creating a culture that will represent the district and the school’s namesake.

The personal relationships Watkins established with each of his students left a positive impression. Now, Wally Watkins Elementary School will be able to leave such an impression on the lives of the students educated in that school for generations to come. Go Wranglers! •

Photos by Lori Villarreal





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Ladies Do Lunch

At the new Tokyo Hayaci Restaurant in Murphy

by Lori Whitten

I love food – almost every kind! So, it was ironic that Becky wanted to have lunch at a Sushi Restaurant. Really, Sushi? Okay, the prospect of dining with Aimee Nemer (City Secretary for Murphy), Colleen Halbert (Council Woman for Murphy) – as well as our regular ladies, Stacie, Anne and Becky [we missed you Judy] did make it more appealing. I do not do Sushi, I will not even try it and she had to pick it. Call me closed minded – it is okay by me. I am a southern girl and raw fish is bait. Do you see where I am going with this?

I really should have paid more attention to the name – it's Tokyo Hayaci Japanese Hibachi and Sushi Bar. DUH! I love hibachi. We were greeted at the door by a very lovely lady who asked if we would like a table or a place at the hibachi. Hibachi please! Who doesn't like to watch the chef prepare the meal, after all – watching someone else work increases my appetite. Becky is a connoisseur of sushi and she ordered all kinds of it. I cannot comment on what the others thought of the Sushi, as I really did not pay attention (I am that closed minded). I will tell you watching Becky prepare the Soy Sauce and Wasabi to dip the Sushi in was a production that rivaled that of our Hibachi Chef. Stacie, Aimee and Colleen seemed to really appreciate her effort. I am not sure about Anne; she did not really comment that much during the Sushi portion of our meal. Becky did pro-

claim, "This is officially my favorite place, I could eat here every day". I always knew there was something off with that chick.

Now, on to the actual "people food" part of the meal; on this I can comment. We sampled traditional Japanese Tempura which was lightly battered and deliciously crunchy. From the grill, we watched as an onion volcano erupted (and were appropriately appreciative) and completely enjoyed the Shrimp, Scallops, Steak, Chicken, Vegetables and Fried Rice. The meal was delicious and the company invigorating; does that mean I like sushi? No! But it does mean that bait-eaters and non bait-eaters alike may dine side by side and equally enjoy their meal. Those of you that do not like sushi, you may enter Tokyo Hayaci without fear or prejudice – no one will judge you for not eating sushi and there are plenty of other dishes that you can enjoy.

Green Tea, Red Bean, Ginger and Fried – no those are not side dishes, they are Ice Creams and deliciously satisfying at that. Stacie was not terribly sure of the Red Bean version of it, to her mind you eat red beans with rice, jambalaya and ham hocks - not really the dessert thing. But, she tried it and loved it. See how open minded she is.

Tokyo Hayaci is located at 227 E. FM 544, between McCreary and Murphy Rd., is open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner and features a full Sushi Bar, Cocktail



Bar and Hibachi Tables – for dinner and a show! You can find them online at www.tokyohayaci.com. The staff and food at Tokyo Hayaci where scrumptious; I can't comment on the cocktails because I had a few things to wrap up at the office – but the drink menu was broad and I know I will be going back to sample a Chi Chi. City of Murphy, thank you for allowing us to dine with two of your finest ladies – Colleen and Aimee - and thanks for the secrets ladies; see we told you we never tell. It's been a busy summer and finding a moment to spend with my friends is always a treasure, they remind me that life is not all about work – even if I am not always appreciative of your lessons ladies – I so love you for them. Make some time in your day to visit Tokyo Hayaci – for sushi, tempura or hibachi - you will be glad you did; and be sure to tell them the Wylie Lunch Ladies sent you! ~LW

Photos by Anne Hiney

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The ABZ's of Back-to-School Health

by Stephen Kim, MD

Saying goodbye to summer and hello to the school year means adjusting to a whole new routine. Besides making sure your kids get their immunizations and back-to-school physicals, you also can take other important steps to help them stay healthy. Here are the basics – from A to Z.

A is for Active

Hopefully your kids spent time this summer swimming, playing, and riding their bikes. Once the first day of school starts, their busy schedules will make it harder for them to find time to stay active. You can do your part by limiting the time your kids spend watching TV or playing video games. Thirty minutes to one hour of media time per day should be plenty.

Team sports are a great way for children to get exercise, but if your child is not interested or not very athletic, think about alternatives like a youth fitness program at the YMCA. Taking a family walk around the neighborhood or playing Frisbee or tag in the backyard are also easy ways to get them up and moving. And of course, planning a fun family activity on the weekend such as hiking is a good way to bond and get active.

B is for Balanced Meals

As you probably know, breakfast is the most important meal of the day. It's extremely important for children because it provides a source of energy for kids after a long night's rest. Skipping breakfast – or any meal – may lead to hunger and then overeating. It also may lead to impaired learning in school due to hunger or lack of energy and nutrients.

A healthy meal should include a mix of the food groups like meat or protein foods, fruits and veggies, grains, and some dairy foods. Try to avoid foods high in fat and sugars. It's alright to have sweets and desserts every once in a while, but try to limit the portion and size. Parents should be wary of packaged snacks and meals. Always take a peek at the nutrition label and look out for contents high in fat, sugars, and sodium.

A healthy diet also includes what your child drinks. Sodas are not recommended because they are high in calories and provide no nutritional value. Good old plain water should be the drink of choice.

Z is for Zzzzzzz's

Sleep is an essential function for daily living. It provides rest for our body and mind. Children can be greatly affected by a lack of quality sleep. Fatigue can cause impaired learning in school, decreased performance playing in sports, and a bad change in their mood and behavior. Extreme lack of sleep can affect growth and the immune system. Experts say children between the ages of five to 12 need 10-11 hours of sleep. Since sleep also is based on the individual, some kids may need a little more than the average.



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For a better night's sleep, kids should get in a routine and sleep at the same time every night and avoid exercise or rigorous activities right before bedtime. They need a quiet environment, so having a TV in the bedroom or watching TV while trying to sleep can work against them. Actually, they should only use the bed for sleeping – no phone use, homework, reading, or playing games.

Hopefully these tips will come in handy so that you can teach your children how to be well rested, energetic, and healthy. •

Stephen Kim, MD, is an independently practicing physician at Methodist First Aid Family Care in Wylie, which offers both routine care and prompt medical treatment for minor emergencies. Dr. Kim attended medical school at St. George's University School of Medicine. He completed the Methodist Dallas Family Practice Residency Program and is board certified in family medicine. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Kim, call 972-941-8700. Visit www.FirstAidFamilyCare.com for more information.



Texas law prohibits hospitals from practicing medicine. Dr. Kim is an independently practicing physician employed by the Richardson Physician Alliance and is not an employee or agent of Methodist Health System or Methodist Richardson Medical Center.

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Undergraduate Research Gives Students New Perspectives, Insight On Targeted Professions

by Justin Jones

Erica Maresh can think of several reasons why she enjoys her undergraduate research project, "The Genetic Immunization of Horse and Goat against Various Florescent Proteins," at Collin College.

None, however, are more important, Maresh says, than knowing that this unique opportunity involving extracting DNA that codes for a fluorescent protein and painlessly injecting it into horses and goats to create antibodies opens her mind to many learning experiences.

"I have a strong passion for autoimmune diseases, which is where antibodies attack our bodies. This project helped me to understand how antibodies work and how to create them without causing harm or pain," Maresh, a Wylie resident, explained. "This undergraduate research has helped me learn that working in biotechnology or a related field is what I want to do. I enjoy the hands-on approach ... you are like a mystery crime solver because you have to find ways to solve the problem."

Fortunately, at a time when research has become a top priority at colleges and universities across the nation, Collin College is taking a leading role in ensuring that its students are exposed to problem-solving research opportunities.

At Collin College, students in select courses in biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics and geology can work on in-depth research projects through the Center for Advanced Studies in Mathematics and Natural Sciences (CASMNS) and participate in Cultivating Scholars, an annual event that showcases research projects from students studying any discipline. Collin College students can also participate in the college's Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Student Research Conference.

"Collin College is a top-notch college that provides excellent opportunities for learning and growth," Renee Palmer, a Collin College student whose research project tied the Treaty of Versailles to the Great Depression, Hitler and Stalin, said. "What's fascinating [about undergraduate research] is realizing that a subject such as globalization can be related to not only history, but government and sociology as well."

In addition to Maresh's and Palmer's research projects, Collin College students have participated in a variety of projects ranging from Visual Demonstrations for Calculus Using Mathematica to Understanding the Regulation of Thyroid Hormone Synthesis.

"Our undergraduate research affords college freshmen and sophomores an opportunity to be involved in scholarly activities that are rarely available at two-year institutions and are typically reserved for upper classmen or graduate students at most colleges and universities," Dr. Nelson Rich, professor of biology and CASMNS director, said. "It provides a source of recognition for the quality of academic resources available at Collin College."

Undergraduate research, Rich continues, also promotes student engagement in course work, provides an opportunity to explore a topic area of interest in depth, cultivates analytical and technical skills and develops communication skills.

Undergraduate research, Rich says, also enhances professional and academic

credentials, clarifies a career path and provides mentoring and networking with professionals who may help with career decisions and serve as references for future endeavors.

"Our undergraduate research at Collin College is unique in that it is designed to encourage students who have never been interested in research before to do scholarly work," Brett Adams, professor of history, said. "The hope is that participation will spark an intellectual interest that will continue throughout their college careers."

Maresh could not have agreed more.

"In the long run, Collin College's undergraduate research opportunities are worthwhile," she said. "It's not as hard as you think, you learn so much, the professors are awesome and helpful, and it confirms what you were meant to do professionally."

To learn more about all of Collin College's undergraduate research opportunities, visit www.collin.edu.



Renee Palmer is one of many Collin College students who are taking advantage of the college's unique undergraduate research opportunities.

Photo by Nick Young



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THE GREAT MAC & CHEESE CONTEST!

It began with tuna... then it was peanut butter...
now it's macaroni & cheese!

The Wylie, Sachse & Murphy Chambers of Commerce are having a contest to see who can collect the most macaroni & cheese to donate to the Christian Care Center. Any and all brands are welcome. Please contact your local chamber (see numbers above) for information on how you can make a donation.



Murphy School circa 1980.

The City of Murphy began planning the renovation of the old Murphy School Building to become a state of the art Murphy Community Center. The citizens have a remarkable opportunity to create a Community Center that represents not only Murphy's historic past but also a place where family and friends can all gather in the future. In order to make this a place that truly represents the Murphy Community, the City leadership has held Town Hall Meetings, met with Middle School class, and had numerous committee meetings. In June WHR Architects of Dallas presented their report on the state of the physical building, the desires of the citizens, and a conceptual plan to move forward on final design and renovation/construction.

The Community Center is a \$2.5 million project that was widely supported by the citizens of Murphy in the 2008 bond election and ranked first in the state for a Texas Parks and Wildlife Indoor matching grant of \$750,000. The Texas Historical Commission (THC) has determined that the building known as Murphy School was constructed in 1938 by the WPA (the federal back to work program during the depression) and is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under the criteria for social history and for architecture.

In 1950 Murphy schools consolidated with Plano ISD. During the 1950s thru 1970s it remained a school and at one time was the High School for Plano ISD. In the 1980s Murphy leased to purchased the building for use as a community center, city hall, and fire station. The City completed the purchase in 1995 from Plano ISD. In 2005 Murphy built a new city hall and relocated, leaving the building vacant for the past 5 years.

The building has a 10,000 square foot original footprint and is located on five acres of land. It is across the street from the

1938 Murphy School To Become Murphy Community Center



1930 Murphy School - Ed Boyd Class.

Municipal Complex and a block south of the PISD Murphy Middle School and the McMillen High School opening Fall 2011.

THC will assist the city with design options to maintain the historical integrity of the building due to it being one of only two remaining historical buildings in Murphy. (The other is the First Baptist Church which recently relocated from FM 544 to Murphy Rd.)

Community Centers typically serve over 80% of the local residents, therefore citizen's wants and desires

have been very important to the city leadership. Renovations of the existing gymnasium, stage, lobby, meeting rooms, and offices will be done to include a catering/teaching kitchen, restrooms, multipurpose rooms, a courtyard, landscaping, and additional parking.

The city of Murphy is seeking historical pictures of the building and/or students/teachers that attended the old elementary and high school. The city will make copies of any pictures the citizens bring to City Hall. For more information about the community center contact Kim Lenoir, Community Services Manager, at (972) 468-4068 or klenoir@murphytx.org. Additional 2008 Bond progress and information is available on the city website at www.murphytx.org. •



Original Murphy School.

Photos courtesy of the City of Murphy.

Wylie ISD New Teacher Luncheon

The Wylie Chamber of Commerce welcomes new teachers

by Susan Dacus of WISD

If past evaluations stay the same, the Wylie Chamber of Commerce New Teacher Luncheon will be the beginning highlight of the 2010 - 2011 school season. Educators new to teaching, and those who are new to Wylie ISD, will attend the popular event.

Slated for Wednesday, August 11 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Wylie East High School, the luncheon also will be attended by business leaders, Chamber members, WISD principals, trustees, and administration. Each year tickets for the new staff members are generously paid for by area business people and chamber members.

"The New Teacher Luncheon is a very impressive event to our new employees," said WISD Superintendent H. John Fuller. "They don't expect such a welcoming gesture from members of the community. Getting to meet local business people, having a cost free lunch, receiving the 'goodie bags' to help them begin their year and winning great door prizes



Photo courtesy of WISD.

are special and make a wonderful impression," Dr. Fuller said.

At press time for this article, the district is welcoming approximately 150 new professional staff members for 2010-2011. These include teachers, nurses,

counselors and administrators. Members of the business community who wish to attend the luncheon or sponsor a meal should contact Becky Lindstrom at blindstrom@wyliechamber.org or at 214-228-5844. •

Test-Taking Tips for Students

1. Have a Positive Attitude

Approach the big test as you'd approach a giant jigsaw puzzle. It might be tough, but you can do it! A positive attitude goes a long way toward success.

2. Make a Plan

The week before the test, ask your teacher what the test is going to cover. Is it from the textbook only? Class notes? Can you use your calculator? If you've been absent, talk to friends about material you may have missed. Make a list of the most important topics to be covered and use that as a guide when you study. Circle items that you know will require extra time. Be sure to plan extra time to study the most challenging topics.

3. The Night Before

Cramming doesn't work. If you've followed a study plan, the night before the test you should do a quick review and get to bed early. Remember, your brain and body need sleep to function well, so don't stay up late!

4. The Morning of the Test

Did you know that you think better when you have a full stomach? So don't skip breakfast the morning of the test. Get to school early and do a ten-minute power study right before the test, so your brain is turned on and tuned up.

5. Test Time

Before the test begins, make sure you have everything you'll need - scratch paper, extra pencils, your calculator (if you're allowed to use it). Understand how the test is scored: Do you lose points for incorrect answers? Or is it better to make guesses when you're not sure of the answer? Read the instructions! You want to make sure you are marking answers correctly.

6. Manage Your Time

Scan through the test quickly before starting. Answering the easy questions first can be a time saver and a confidence builder. Plus, it saves more time in the end for you to focus on the hard stuff.

7. I'm Stuck!

Those tricky problems can knock you off balance. Don't get worried or frustrated. Reread the question to make sure you understand it, and then try to solve it the best way you know how. If you're still stuck, circle it and move on. You can come back to it later. What if you have no idea about the answer? Review your options and make the best guess you can, but only if you don't lose points for wrong answers.

8. Multiple-Choice Questions

The process of elimination can help you choose the correct answer in a multiple-choice question. Start by crossing off the answers that couldn't be right. Then spend your time focusing on the possible correct choices before selecting your answer.

9. Neatness Counts

If your 4s look like 9s, it could be a problem. Be sure that your writing is legible and that you erase your mistakes. For machine-scored tests, fill in the spaces carefully.

10. I'm Done!

Not so fast - when you complete the last item on the test, remember that you're not done yet. First, check the clock and go back to review your answers, making sure that you didn't make any careless mistakes (such as putting the right answer in the wrong place or skipping a question). Spend the last remaining minutes going over the hardest problems before you turn in your test.

Follow these test tips, and you'll know you did your best!

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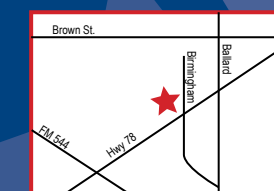
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Family Planning From the Piggybank's Point of View!

Are you financially ready to raise a child?

provided by Jal Dennis Group

Family planning often means planning ... and quite likely, a change in the way you see your finances. Whether you are starting a family or welcoming a new addition, there are financial realities you can't ignore. Planning and saving for those realities can help to reduce anxieties, and help to make the financial side of the experience easier.

If you're expecting a new child, one of the first things you'll want to consider is any loss of income that will occur during and after pregnancy. (Maternity leave policies can vary, so be sure to review your company's policy in advance.) Parenting and Lamaze classes carry expenses. Review your health insurance to verify coverage for childbirth, especially if you are planning an out-of-hospital birth, such as at a birth center. Some hospitals and fertility clinics now have financial coordinators who can help maximize the insurance benefits available to you through your insurance plan.

A new baby means some new day-to-day expenses. Your baby's food, clothing, and especially diaper costs will increase your household expenditures. Another

consideration is the cost of childcare. Study your daycare options early, and plan beforehand. It's wise to plan for "unforeseen expenses" ... and while there's no way to know exactly what those will be, I can tell you from experience ... you'll have them.

Finally, you'll want to consider your baby's future. Education planning can never start "too early" – in fact, you can actually start planning for college even before a child is born. If your parents have an

estate plan or an IRA, they may want to direct wealth toward their new grandchild someday, so estate plans and beneficiary designations may need to be revised.

Ask many financial analysts, and they'll tell you a home is a family's biggest investment ... but can any material investment compare to the investment we make in our children?

Is there ever an investment more valuable?

If you're starting a family, think about setting a plan in motion, so you can welcome the new baby with less financial stress and more capability to meet the expenses that come with the most rewarding investment of all. •

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