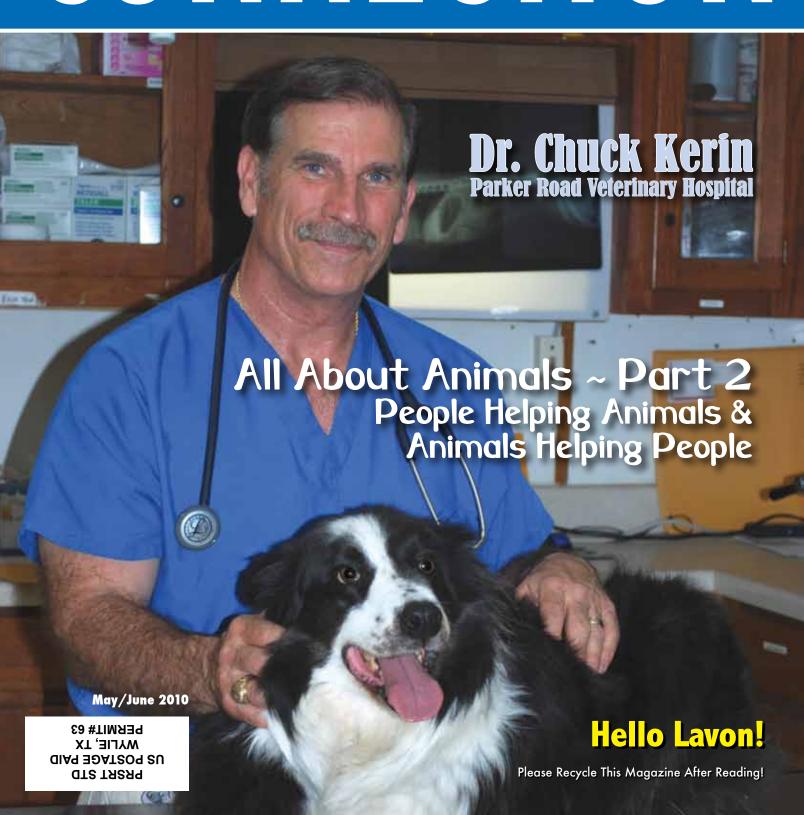
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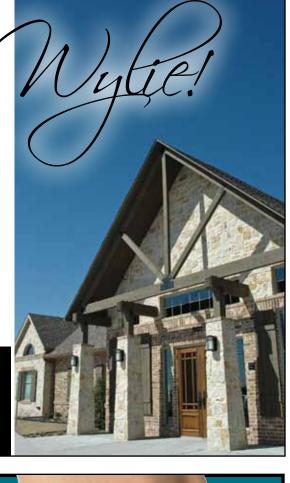


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Robert Jeffrey Doyle, DPM



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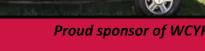
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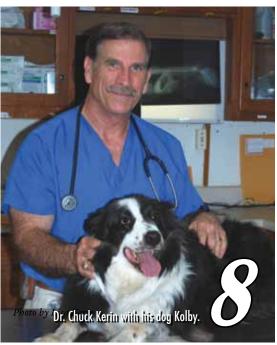


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# CONTENTS

### **PROFILE OF SUCCESS**

Dr. CHUCK KERIN Parker Road Veterinary Hospital

### **BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

PIRATE ROOFING & RADIANT BARRIER



### FEATURE ARTICLES

**EQUINE THERAPY** 

POOCHYPALOOZA

**IN-SYNC EXOTICS** 

**BLACKLAND PRAIRIE RAPTOR CENTER** 

PET PICS

**RACCOON RESCUE** 

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR** 



### **CONNECTION COLUMNS**

LADIES DO LUNCH Taste of Home in Wylie

**30** COLLEGE Dr. Mary Weis

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE Welcome New Members

**34** I PETS Summer Tips

**36** I **FINANCE** Move Cash into Equities?



4 • The Connection • May/June 2010 www.wyliechamber.ora • 5

## From us to you.....

Hello Wylie, Sachse, Murphy & now Lavon -

You wanted it....You got it!



Mike, Barrett & Smokey

coons, raptors, lions and tigers to animals that help in healing, we spotlight relationships that go beyond just pets and owners. Plus... we also included some cute new pet pics too...

The standard staples can still be found, including local community events as seen in our ever present calendar, informative financial advice, chamber information as well as all the advertisers who make this publication pos-



Anne & Rusty

Becky, Savanna & Izzie sible. Special thanks go out to Dr. Chuck Kerin of the Parker Road Veterinary Hospital who adorns our cover and the company whose handshake still means something, Pirate Roofing & Radiant Barrier our Business Spotlight. Wylie City Manager Mindy Manson joined the Lunch Ladies, a complete zoo in and of itself, for a guest appearance.

It's rare we receive a lot of

feedback in our office when a

new issue of "The Connection"

hits the stands, other than

"We Love It"! When the first

"Animal" issue was published

in May of 2008, the response

was overwhelming. Multiple

requests have since been

voiced for a sequel and the popularity has been noticed.

While the previous issue

focused on animals and their

roles in our community, the

theme within the theme

this time is "People helping

Animals & Animals helping

People". From rescuing rac-

All in all it is a veritable Noah's Ark of animal information. We hope as you flip from page to page you enjoy this issue as much as you did the last one, and as always we look forward to your feedback. However... "We Love It!"... always works just fine... •

Mike - Becky - Anne



Just for fun, find the butterfly! Last issue it was hidden in the photo of Rob Hunter on page 14.

# Your Wylie • Sachse • Murphy Community Magazine

A Wylie Chamber of Commerce Publication . 108-A W. Marble I Wylie, TX 75098 Telephone: 972-442-2804 Fax: 972-429-0139 www.wyliechamber.org • info@wyliechamber.org

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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!











he Parker Road Veterinary Hospital, a mixed animal practice, has been treating and caring for dogs, cats and horses in the Wylie area for twenty six years. Our mission is to provide the best veterinary medicine through diagnostics, surgery, and animal health care services.

In March of 1984 the Parker Road Veterinary Hospital opened when Dr. Charles Kerin rolled into town with a mobile home, a used truck, and five thousand dollars in cash. Wylie's population at the time was less than six thousand people. Dr. Kerin purchased a horse boarding/training stable and a house on five acres one mile north of town, put up a sign and waited for the phone to ring. After many remodels and additions the Parker Road Veterinary Hospital has grown into a large facility that now houses three veterinarians and nine support staff. "We have a great, well trained staff that enables us to see a large volume of patients while providing excellent quality diagnostics, surgery, medicine and care."

The staff at the Parker Road Veterinary Hospital is exceptional in their dedication to providing for our client's animal's needs. The veterinarians at the Parker Road Veterinary Hospital are, and have always been, dedicated to providing our clients and new customers emergency veterinary care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year for the past 26 years.

### About our doctors ~

#### **Dr. Charles Kerin**

Dr. Kerin received his Biomedical Science undergraduate degree in 1979 and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1982, both from Texas A&M University. After graduation, he practiced two years in Sulphur Springs before moving to Wylie. Dr. Kerin has served on the Wylie Chamber of Commerce and In-Sync Exotics board of directors and is currently on the Wylie Animal Shelter Advisory Board. He is a past Wylie Rotarian president, has worked with the Citizens Bond Advisory Board and has volunteered at the Annual Wylie Chamber of Commerce Rodeo since its inception.

### **Dr. Toby Wallis**

Dr. Wallis joined the practice in 2008. He was born in Little Rock, Arkansas and grew up in Batesville, Arkansas. Dr. Wallis received his undergraduate degree from Arkansas State University in 2001 and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Louisiana State University in 2006. He enjoys being a veterinarian because "we are always being presented with new infor-

mation and technologies that require us to constantly educate ourselves so that we are fully prepared to offer our best."

#### Dr. Brad Abraham

Dr. Abraham joined the practice in 2008. Born and raised in Groves, Texas, he received his undergraduate degree in Animal Science in 2001 and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 2007, both from Texas A&M University. He first felt the calling to become a veterinarian as a cadet while caring for the horses in the University's mounted calvary. Practicing veterinary medicine excites him because "In the course of a day I get to be a doctor, a surgeon, a radiologist, a pharmacist – I get to do it all. Being able to handle all aspects of a patient's needs is both challenging and rewarding. The human-animal bond is so special and unique; being entrusted with the care of our four legged family members is a great honor."

Dr. Kerin takes pride in the quality of veterinary service and diagnostics offered. The Parker Road Veterinary Hospital has color Doppler ultrasound, portable ultrasound, 300 mA x-ray, portable x-ray, in house blood analyzing equipment, in house federally accredited Coggins testing laboratory, fiber optic endoscopy, small animal dental cleaning and surgery equipment. Electrocardiography and blood pressure units for anesthetic monitoring and diagnostics, two small animal surgeries and an equine surgery, and two ambulatory vehicles for off site care are also available. Dr. Kerin and his associates have always been available for their clients' animal's needs by offering after hours emergency services. Extraordinary strides have been made to have the best diagnostic equipment available that enable us to accurately diagnose your pet's most challenging illnesses. Recognizing this dedication, the citizens of Wylie and have honored Parker Road Veterinary Hospital as "Wylie's Best Vet" for the past six years.

### About our services ~

### **Color Doppler Ultrasound**

Color Doppler ultrasound allows us to evaluate the heart valves, chambers, and health of the heart. This ultrasound allows us to evaluate the entire abdomen and enables us to retrieve needle biopsies of tissues often avoiding surgical biopsies. It also has a linear probe for tendon examinations and evaluations.

#### Fiberoptic Endoscopy

Fiberoptic endoscopy enables us to evaluate upper gastrointestinal and lower bowel conditions. This unit allows us to biopsy lesions and tissues without surgery. We are also able to evaluate and often retrieve objects your pet may have eaten yet were unable to pass again avoiding costly and extensive surgical procedures.

#### **Blood Analysis**

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#### Radiography

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### **Monitoring Units**

Our monitoring units allow us to monitor and evaluate blood pressure, EKG, oxygen saturation, pulse, and core body temperatures. These units are utilized during all procedures requiring anesthesia to maximize safety and monitoring depth of anesthesia to ensure comfort for your pet. We can also utilize these units to assist in diagnosing heart conditions, blood pressure and respiratory illnesses.

The Parker Road Veterinary Hospital has it all -- unparalleled dedication and availability, unsurpassed comprehensive diagnostic abilities, and a well trained and caring staff ready, able, and willing to help you maintain your loved pet's health, diagnose their illnesses, and treat their ailments. Parker Road Veterinary Hospital is located at 707 Parker Road in Wylie. Please stop by in person or visit our website at www.parkerroadvet.com for a pictorial view of the facilities, equipment, and directions to the hospital and see for yourself why we have been voted the best in Wylie time and time again.

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# The Healing Power

n Texas people love animals, both big and small. There are all sorts of reasons for the connection - loyalty, companionship, the need to be loved. Whatever the reason, the bond between animals and people is a strong one. Horses are no exception. Experts are honing in on this relationship and using it to assist adults and children with their disabilities,

learning differences and emotional challenges.

Horse facilities can assist individuals with a variety of beneficial services such as therapeutic riding, psychotherapy and hippotherapy (physical and occupational therapy for people with the help of a horse).

### **Throwaway Ponies of Rockwall**

When Karen Bander started Throwaway Ponies in 2005 her only goal was to rescue and rehabilitate horses. When she later learned that horses could help people who were physically or emotionally abused, she expanded her mission by bringing in horses to provide therapy to women and children. By caring for and riding horses, people have been able to find emotional peace with some of the problems in their lives.

"People were able to relate to the rescued horses because they have been through some of the same abuses," Bander said. Throwaway Ponies has 34 rescue horses and another six dedicated to therapy. The rescue horses are mainly used for presentation purposes, while domesticated horses are used for therapy.

When Ronna Cross started her daughter, London, at Throwaway Ponies a year ago, she never thought of it as therapy. Her daughter loved

horses and this seemed like the perfect opportunity for her to enjoy her passion. "I was going through a divorce at the time," said Cross. "A visitation supervisor mentioned Throwaway Ponies because she knew that my daughter loved horses. Looking back, it was therapeutic and healing."

riding lessons.

London Cross volunteers at Throwaway Ponies to earn her

Riding is an expensive hobby so Cross was concerned about how she would pay for the sessions. Bander worked with the Cross family by allowing London to earn her lessons through volunteer work.

"Throwaway Ponies is a great place to go if you're having a bad day and need some cheering up," London said. "It's also fun giving a horse a bath and riding them bareback or just with

"Most people think its luck, but I think it's God doing His work. Actually, I know that it's Him. I have lots of gifts, but

> Throwaway Ponies is one of the biggest ones," London said.

> Cathy Lemmon would agree on the value. Her 11-year-old daughter Natalie volunteers at Throwaway Ponies through her 4-H program. She works as a sidewalker, someone who walks alongside a horse to ensure a rider's stability. After her parents saw the joy she received from the horses, they encouraged their 13-year-old son Joshua, who is Autistic, to try the

"It's unmistakable - the kind of connection a child can make with a horse," Lemmon said. "Joshua loves going out there. It's been a really positive experience for him to be out there."

### **Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship** of Wylie

Brenda Rozinsky went to work as the marketing and public relations coordinator at Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship but she didn't look at it as an ordinary job. She had an unparalleled passion and respect for her work. She not only understood the importance of animal therapy, she'd glived it through her 8-year-old daughter who benefited from Equest. "My daughter has Down Syndrome. She was 2 years old when she started at Equest" Rozinsky said. "After just three sessions she started walking out to the horse and

at 4 she was able to graduate to the hippotherapy program."

Equest began in 1981 as the first therapeutic riding center in Texas. Unlike Throwaway Ponies, Equest focuses on individuals with physical disabilities. Equest has 35 therapy horses, 21 employees and more than 300 volunteers.

Carson Browning, age 5, is in his third year of hippotherapy at Equest. He has Left Hemiparesis, a weakness that causes the left side of his body to tighten.

# of Horse Therapy

"There is something about the horse and engaging with the horse that pushes him to do things that he wouldn't do in traditional physical therapy," said his mom, Robin. "For an hour he is working his core and not complaining about it. When he's on that horse he feels like he can do anything and he tries anything they ask him to try. As a mom, that's what you want – for them to feel confident in themselves."

Browning said that Carson cried the first time he was on the horse because it was something new, but after that he loved it.

"I've never been nervous about him with the horses," Browning said. "The horses are so patient and the workers are so careful. On each ride you have someone leading the horse, a therapist, a horse trainer and two sidewalkers."

Unlike Browning. Jenger McTee was terrified of the thought of putting her son on a horse. Her son Jarren, who's now 3, has physical delays in controlling his muscles because of complications during his birth.

"We were in limbo McTee said.

"When I was introduced to hippotherapy by a nurse my first thought was, 'I am not putting my 2-year-old on a horse.' I just couldn't imagine it so we decided to go out and see the facility. We watched the horses and a little girl who had physical limitation similar to my son. We were amazed and decided to sign Jarren up.

"With the horse he is able to hold his head up longer and more than I've ever seen him. I cannot describe the feeling of seeing him up there. My mom and I cried. He's gotten stronger and it carries over at home. He can sit straighter in his wheel chair and he's pushing up more," McTee said.

### Cost of Therapy is a Horse Pill to Swallow

Parents and patients seem to agree the equine therapy provides benefits above and beyond traditional therapy. The greatest barrier is cost for both parents and facilities. Most insurance companies do not provide coverage for equine therapy. Donations of time, money, labor and horses make the care and feeding of horses and equine therapy possible.

Throwaway Ponies does not charge for therapeutic riding and time with horses, but there is a suggested donation of \$25-50 per session. A fee of \$100 per session is required for equine assisted psychotherapy because it includes a licensed therapist. Bander said it cost her facility about \$100 per month per horse for expenses such as care, feed and veterinary costs.

At Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship patients pay approxi-

mately \$440 for a 10-week session of sports riding, vaulting or carriage driving. Hippotherapy, which includes a licensed therapist, runs about \$1,800 for a 10-week session. Session fees only pay for about a third of Equest's expenses. Despite the cost, Equest has a 95 percent return rate of riders year to year.

"Even though this was an extra expense, it is something that we feel is worth it," Browning said. "It's that important to us and important to our son."



Carson Browning plays catch with therapist Tina Wentz, PT while riding Peterbilt at Equest. Alan Diaz with traditional ther- & Amanda Berry were his volunteer sidewalkers.

#### For More Information

Contact these centers directly to schedule a tour, to find out more about their services, to volunteer or to donate. Therapy ranges from one to several sessions per week. No previous riding experience is required. •

### **Throwaway Ponies**

www.throwawayponies.org 214-202-1390 2368 E. FM 552 - Rockwall, TX 75087

#### **Equest Therapeutic Horsemanship**

www.equest.org 972-412-1099 3800 Troy Road - Wylie, TX 75098

12 • The Connection • May/June 2010 www.wyliechamber.org • 13

# Animal Lovers & Community Activists Invited! | April | April

ucked up neatly in the spacious city of

Parker is an award-winning vineyard with a

evening will include a parade of dogs that have been rescued. Animals will come from the local shelter, the

lot of pizzazz. Khatter Vineyard is planning its third annual fundraising festivities. After raising money for Operation Kindness over the last two years, the local residents decided to bring their fundraising impact closer to home. This year, Carolyn Khatter of Parker and Bev Mueller of Murphy are committing this party's profits to the Murphy/Parker Animal

Animal Control Services provide a safe environment for stray and abandoned pets. Carolyn

shares, "The vineyard is a great place an intimate event. We decided we could raise a small sum of money that could make a difference for a small project." Guests of the May event will pay \$20 per son and enjoy fine wine, a fruit and cheese plate, and

Control Services.



The GT Texas Band will entertain again

music by GT Texas Band. Carolyn Khatter promises, "Poochypalooza is a whimsical and fun event."

In addition to the feast and fun, prizes celebrating pet ownership will be available by a spin of a wheel. The silent auction boasts impressive gifts. Sibling Revelry, a local theater group that performs at the Art Center in downtown Plano, has donated season tickets. The Parker Volunteer Fire Department is giving a half-day excursion including a tour of the new station, a home safety review, and a ride on an engine. Lavon Water Sports is showing its support by providing a half-day rental of a boat or Jet Ski. Central Market is offering a cooking class and including an enviable Ginsu gourmet knife set.

Westie Rescue, and the Collin County Humane Society. The dogs will be available for adoption. Vendors catering to the care of animals will be in attendance to offer advice and share their petrelated toys.

> Bev Mueller shares. 'I would like to see Poochypalooza supported by not only the cities of Murphy and Parker but also by the community at large. We've accomplished much this year." In September 2009 the two friends presented

the fundraising event to the Murphy City Council who issued a proclamation encouraging businesses and residents to support raising funds for animal control services. In December 2009 Parker Mayor Joe Cordina did the same.

Bev Mueller & Carolyn Khatter

Poochypalooza Prizes!

Ultimately, the goal of Poochypalooza is to help lost or stray animals find a much needed home. Carolyn and Bev hope to raise \$2,000 to support the work of their community Animal Control Services. They need the support of their community to succeed.

Ticket are limited so call today to reserve yours!

Khatter Vineyard is located just east of Highway 75 off Parker Road at 4110 Brookwood. For tickets, directions and news on upcoming events call 972.516.1940 or go to khattervineyards.com. •



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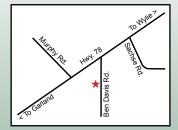
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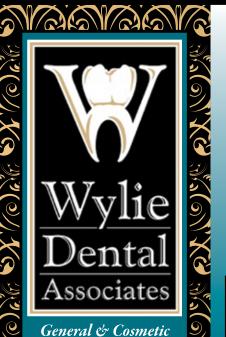


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# On-Sync Exotics Wildlife Rescue & Educational Center

## Blackland Prairie Raptor Center

ere in Wylie, yes here in Wylie, the lions sleep tonight. That's not to mention the tigers, cougars, leopards and other exotic cat residents at In-Sync Exotics, a non-profit organization dedicated to the care of rescued exotic felines. All of the cats housed at In-Sync come from inhumane breeding and entertainment facilities or from private owners unable to continue managing the animal's care. With the recent arrivals, there are 45 exotic cats and one coatimundi calling In-Sync home. This includes three exceptionally rare white lions, a golden tabby tiger, and a white tiger and now a tiger cub.

Vicky Keahey, a former veterinary technician, contracted a serious case of cat fever in 1991 when Tahoe, a then 18-month old female cougar was brought in for medical care then abandoned

at the clinic where she was once employed.

"In-Sync is not a zoo, but a sanctuary. We provide these cats with a safe, loving and nurturing home," said Keahey.

These magnificent animals cannot be returned to the wild. Most of these cats were born, raised in captivity, and then taken from their mothers at a

White lions - Jazz and Shazam.

very young age so they could be human imprinted. Imprinting is defined as a rapid learning process by which a newborn or very young animal establishes a behavioral pattern of recognition and attraction to another animal or human that is then identified as its parent.

The cost of providing care for these animals varies depending on the species. A tiger for example can cost on average of \$300 a month just for feeding. That amount does not include the additional expense of housing, medical care, water and electricity.

In-Sync Exotics is funded solely by the donations of supporters, our adoption programs, admission fees, fundraising events and occasional private grants.

The cats are carnivores and most consume a diet of raw red meat that is acquired from processing plants located in the U.S. "We do have some finicky eaters who prefer chicken. We must add supplements to their diets to ensure they get all their proper nutrients. We go through about 260 pounds of red meat per day, plus an occasional chicken "dessert," said Keahey. Food

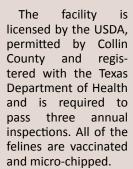


In-Sync's newest tiger cub - Smuggler.

intake is proportionate to the animal's size, metabolism and activity levels. Their portions are also varied throughout the year based on our local climate.

An enrichment team of volunteers spends hours creating ways to keep these captive cats mentally, physically and emotionally stimulated and entertained with a selection of toys and activities. For the safety of both the cats and the public the animal cages are double-

enclosed and roofed.



In-Sync Exotics offers scheduled group tours 7 days a week and is open to the public Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

You're invited to

Duchess is a Canadian Lynx.

join in the fun at the Big Cat Birthday Bash, June  $\,$  12, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Visit In-Sync Exotics in person at 3430 Skyview Drive, off Hwy. 78 by the Lavon Lake Dam in Wylie or online at www.insyncexotics.com. •



Hunter is a Great Horned Owl.

estled along the peaceful banks of Lavon Lake in Lucas is an aviary refuge for majestic birds of prey that have been injured either physically or mentally and lovingly nurtured back to health.

Blackland Prairie Raptor Center (BPRC) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have partnered in the lease of the 66 acres known to area locals as Brockdale Park, which is located on the western shore of Lavon Lake. The park, when complete, will provide public use space, native prairie, ponds and shoreline that will enhance the environmental education being developed by BPRC. Except for individual pavilion rentals, the Brockdale Park property has been closed to the public for more than 30 years.

Willie is a Common Barn Owl.

BPRC is a non-profit rehabilitation and conservation education organization, reliant on public donations and volunteer efforts, working to promote public understanding of the relationship between birds of prey and healthy ecosystems.

"The primary focus of the Raptor Center is to make available a place where the people of North Texas can learn, experience and appreciate birds of prey and understand their importance to the environment as a whole," said BPRC Executive Director Erich Neupert.

The BPRC offers educational presentations to schools, festivals, camps and environmental groups, as well as those just interested in learning about raptors. Neupert stresses that the birds of BPRC are, and will remain, wild birds of prey, not pets.

According to Neupert all the Raptor Center residents have their own personal rescue stories.

Sweet Pea, an Eastern Screech Owl, was found by a family, taken home, kept in a rabbit cage and fed hamburger meat. The family realized it was illegal to have Sweet Pea and contacted the appropriate authorities. Sweet Pea was in good condition, but as an 'imprint' she was non-releasable and was transferred to BPRC as an education bird.

Willie, a Common Barn Owl, was found lying on the ground in Dallas. Her rescuer took her home and fed her cat food. The cat food caused a lack of calcium in Willie's diet. Her bones became brittle causing fractures to her right wing. She, like Sweet Pea, became 'imprinted' on humans and now relies on them for her care.

Phase I of the BPRC project, which is well underway, consists

of a housing and care facility for the organization's eleven permanent, non-releasable education birds which includes several species of owl, hawk and falcon.

Phase II will focus on the education facility and the restoration and preservation of the Blackland Prairie that occupies the middle of the property. Blackland Prairie is considered the most endangered large ecosystem in North America according to The Nature Conservancy. BPRC will revitalize this prairie and create interpretive trails for the enjoyment and education of the public.

The following phases will include the creation of demonstration gardens and the construction of a raptor rehabilitation center including flight cages necessary for exercise. The plan for Brockdale Park is expected to take approximately three years to

www.wyliechamber.org • 17

fully execute. As the work progresses in the various areas, public access times and uses will increase for the full benefit of the community.

Currently Brockdale Park is open only on the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at a cost of \$3 per adult, \$1.50 for children between 3 and 12 years and free to children under 3. Visitors are encouraged to bring picnic lunches and enjoy the raptor programs showcasing hawks, owls and falcons, and to walk the Native Plant Demonstration Trail.

Visit on May 15th for Raptor Photo Day from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. To get to BPRC go North on FM 1378 (Country Club Rd.), turn right on FM 3286, go 3/4 mile and look for the park entrance on your right. Go to www.bpraptorcenter.org or call 469-964-9696 for more details on BPRC events at Brockdale Park and in other locations around the Metroplex. •

16 • The Connection • May/June 2010

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The photography is as important as the content. Light, contrast, angle and exposure are up to the photographer but the staging is up to you and your Realtor. Define the space. Think about what the focal point should be. Look at the room from a buyer's perspective then think about how that tiny picture is going to look on the internet. Clutter becomes a major problem when in reality it may only be a couple of misplaced pieces. On average, staged homes sell faster. Ultimately, time is money! Talk to your Realtor about staging your home.

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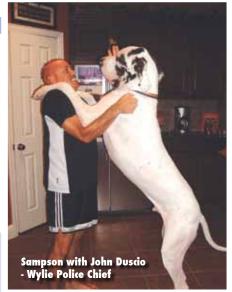


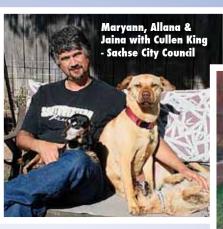
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# THE PET PAR



























### **A Few Fotos of Furry Friends!**

We put the call out for new pics and the prize for most participation goes to the City of Murphy this year! Many thanks to everyone pictured for sending us a photo to include. Plus a special thank you to Aimee Nemer, Marcia Coker and Denise Vise for your help. We know everyone is busy, but we always have time to share a little pet love.

Amorie with JaNeice Rainey

- Groves Elementary Asst. Princi

Linda Gerstner with just a few of the raccoons she has helped.

nave seven babies on a heating pad and need to feed them while we talk," Linda Gerstner said when she answered the phone recently.

She wasn't talking about her own children, although the Wylie entrepreneur and her husband Mark do have six grandchildren. Linda was doing one of her favorite activities - taking care of baby raccoons that had been rescued from someone's property. It's something she has done many times over the last three years.

As a licensed volunteer with Wildcare Wildlife Rehabilitation, Linda has helped rescue and care for almost thirty raccoons. "I am passionate about saving wild animals, especially raccoons," she said. "These animals have a purpose, and we can find ways to coexist with them."

Sometimes the animals are babies that have been separated from their mothers. They might be dehydrated, sick, or even near death. When homeowners discover them in a wall or chimney, in the attic or under the house, they often consider the animals a nuisance and want them removed.

"People don't know who to call when they find wild animals on their property," Linda said. "They need to know about us." Wildcare Wildlife Rehabilitation is a nonprofit group that seeks to reintroduce orphaned or injured animals back into the wild. Volunteers will rescue the creatures, help to "critter-proof" the house, and attempt to rehabilitate the animals so they can be successfully returned to their natural environment. They rescue skunks, armadillos, squirrels, rabbits, raccoons, and many other kinds of animals.

Linda became interested in rescuing wild animals when she attended a Plano Live Green Expo a few years ago and met Bonnie Bradshaw, currently the vice president of Wildcare Wildlife Rehabilitation. "She had a booth

called 911 Wildcare," Linda said. "Her business removes animals from homes and secures the building so they won't return. She needed a place for the baby animals, so she started a rescue side to the business. I'm now licensed under Bonnie." Her license is as a Texas Parks and Wildlife permitted rehabilitator.

After learning the process of wildlife rehabilitation, Linda had a 14-foot x 14-foot cage built in her back yard to hold rescued animals at what she calls "Mrs. G's Raccoon R & R." The raccoons are nursed back to health or taught skills so they can survive when released. "I provide a tank of water and take them road kill," she said. "I buy minnows to put in the tank so we can teach them how to eat and fish." The raccoons also receive their shots. When they are healthy, Linda and other volunteers take them to approved areas for release. "We never release animals without permission from the state or the property owner," she said.

Linda and her husband have lived in Wylie for more than twenty years and are the owners of Mr. G's Tees.

For more information about Wildcare Wildlife Rehabilitation go to wildcaretx.org. If you find a baby bird or mammal and need assistance call the DFW Wildlife Coalition Hotline at 972-234-WILD. For help with having a wild animal removed from your home visit 911wildlife.org. •

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Photos provided by Linda Gerstner. www.wyliechamber.org • 23 22 • The Connection • May/June 2010

### **MAY EVENTS**

May 2nd - The Wylie Downtown Merchants Annual 500 Pedal Car Race. Kids 2-5 years old will race in Pedal Cars. \$10 Entry Fee (includes T-shirt with registration) Registration starts at 1 p.m. Winners will receive trophies in 2 age brackets (2-3 & 4-5). Pedal Cars provided by Wylie Businesses! You don't want to miss the EXCITEMENT.... bring the whole family. Proceeds to benefit Wylie Are Special Olympics and Downtown Wylie Beautification projects. Contact Janice Martz at jmartz@wylienews.com for info.

May 3rd - Throwaway Ponies 1st Annual Golf Tournament at Buffalo Creek. \$75/golfer. Sign-in and practice starts at 12:30. Shot gun start at 1 p.m.. Barbecue and silent auction follows. \$20 for adults, \$10 children. Golfers free. Details at www.throwawayponies.org or call Karen at 214-202-1390.

May 3rd - Registration begins for the Wylie Wave Summer Camp program. Register in person at the Bart Peddicord Community Center, 100 W. Oak Street or online at WylieTexas.gov: WylieTexas.gov > Departments > Parks & Rec. Questions? Visit WylieTexas.gov; Email recreation@wylietexas.gov; Call 972-442-8119.

May 8th - 1st Annual Race Against Crime benefiting the Wylie Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association in support of the Wylie Police Department. 1 Mile Family Fun Walk starts at 8 a.m. 5K/10K Starts at 8:30 a.m. Course is certified by RunOn, and timed using electronic tag timing. Register at http://getmeregistered.com/RaceAgainstCrime. Race begins and ends at First Baptist Church Wylie and there will be awards and a family festival after the race. Contact Janet Draeger at 214-284-7277 or visit our website for more information: www.wyliecpaaa.org

May 10th - Wylie Flyers Summer Track Program registration begins. \$100 Early Bird Special thru May 21st, after the 21st fee is \$125 per participant. Register online at www.wylietexas.gov/departments/parks\_/track.php or in person at the Bart Peddicord Community Center. Contact recreation@wylietexas.gov or 972-442-8119 with questions.

**May 15th** - Birds of Prey Photo Day at the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center, 1625 Brockdale Park Road. 7:30 - 11 a.m. Pre-registration required on line. Open to the first 200 registrants. \$20 fee. Come photograph all our education birds of prey in natural settings. For more information go to www.bpraptorcenter.org or call (469)964-9696.

May 15th - WildRide! Against Cancer & 5K Trail Walk in Richardson. Join more than 2,000 cyclists and hundreds of walkers and runners from across North Texas for the 7th annual WildRide! Bike Rally benefiting Methodist Richardson Cancer Center, home of the Lance Armstrong Shaped Beam Surgery™ Program. Choose between 16, 40, or 65 scenic miles. For those who enjoy walking or running, the 5K Trail Walk is a non-timed, non-competitive fun run/walk – so bring the whole family! This event is held in conjunction with the Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival. Visit www.WildRideBikeRally.com for more info.

May 22nd - In-Sync Exotics hosts New Beginnings Cat Rescue for a "Big Cats Helping Little Cats" adoption day! The cat rescue will bring out some of their adoptable domestic cats, and we'll have them in the visitor center, hoping to find homes for some little cats! 3430 Skyview Dr., Wylie, TX (next to Lavon Lake Dam). For more info call 972-442-6888 or go to www.insyncexotics.com.

May 22nd - Trailride at the Brockdale Trailhead of Trinity Trail sponsored by The Lone Star Equine Council of Collin County at Lake Lavon in Lucas, TX. Ride out at 10 a.m. or ride on your own. Lunch will be available at Noon for a \$5 donation. The Lone Star Equine Council is a committee of the AgriLife Extension Service dedicated to promoting the interests and intercommunication of all horse-related groups and businesses within the area. Check out their website at www.lsec.homestead.com. Please RSVP to Donna Carmickle at 214-882-0833 or via email at babycarm@aol.com. Donna is also ready to answer any questions you may have. A negative Coggins will be required. Dogs must remain at your trailer and the Council does not provide horses. A map of Trinity Trail and the area can be found at www.swf-wc.usace.army.mil/lavon or at www.trinitytrailriders.org.

May 27th - Wylie Woodworkers Club New club now meeting the last Thursday of each month at 2814 W. FM 544, Wylie. All skill levels welcome to attend. Contact Scott Goldenberg at 972-442-4878 for more info.

**May 31st** - Wylie Memorial Day Celebration in Olde City Park, Downtown Wylie. Join veterans, their family, and friends in the unveiling and dedication of Wylie's first Veterans Memorial Monument. The day's military ceremonies begin with a 7:30 a.m. Flag Raising over the Monument, followed by the Unveiling and Dedication Ceremony at 11:30 a.m. There will be an Hour of Honor and Remembrance from 6 - 7 p.m, concluding with a Sunset Service at 8:15. In between there will be family-friendly events designed to honor the day and bring the community together. Visit www.wyliechamber.org for more info.

### Tell me about it......

To submit your special event to the July/August community calendar send an e-mail to theconnection.anne@mac.com no later than June 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!

### **JUNE EVENTS**

City of Murphy Picnics by the Pond - A free concert series held on Thursday nights from 7:30-9:30 p.m. for the month of June. Bring a blanket, a picnic and enjoy the entertainment by the pond. For more info., call 972-468-4000 or email to kkirkwood@murphytx.org. All ages welcome, Murphy Municipal Complex (206 N. Murphy Rd.)

June 10th - Professor D
June 17th - Jolie Holliday
June 24th - Tone Jones

http://www.professord.com/
http://www.jolieholliday.com/
www.myspace.com/tonejonesdfw

June 3rd - Vocal Trash http://www.vocaltrashmusic.com/

June 4th - School's Out For Summer!

June 4th - SHS Graduation at the Garland Special Event Center at 5 p.m.

June 5th - WHS Graduation at the Allen Event Center at 7 p.m.

June 5th thru Oct. 10th - Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary presents Ice Age Mammals. Have fun this summer as ten species of stomping, roaring, life-like robotic Ice Age mammals come alive indoors at the Heard. The group includes a hippopotamus-like Baluchitherium, a saber-toothed cat family of four and a woolly mammoth. Educational programming encourages aspiring paleontologists to learn prehistoric facts. Jun. 6th - Enjoy the Grand Opening Celebration. See the new Ice Age Mammals indoor exhibit and watch the animated movie, Ice Age, under the stars in the outdoor amphitheater. 7:30-10:30 p.m. Tickets: \$7/adult and \$5/ages 3-12. Museum members get a \$1 discount per ticket. For more info go to www.heardmuseum.org.

**June 5th - Oct. 1st** Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary presents Native Texas Butterfly House & New Butterfly Garden. Be immersed among beautiful fluttering native Texas butterflies in the Heard butterfly house and new butterfly garden. Rest on garden benches and watch as butterflies hover among hundreds of plants that attract them for their daily diet. For more info go to www.heardmuseum.org.

June 8th - PESH Graduation at Dallas Convention Center Arena at 2:30 p.m.

**June 12th** - In-Sync Exotics Big Cat Birthday Bash 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Come celebrate a year's worth of birthdays with the exotic cats of In-Sync! Share their special day with games, activities, and of course cake and ice cream. Along with the day's other events, make sure to stop by and welcome the six cats that arrived since last year's party. 3430 Skyview Dr, Wylie, TX (next to Lavon Lake Dam). For more info call 972-442-6888 or go to www.insyncexotics.com.

**June 12th** - Sachse Police Department Bicycle Rodeo at Armstrong Elementary School, 4750 Ben Davis Road, from 10 am to Noon. Officers will conduct bicycle inspections and registrations, answer questions and educate riders on bicycle and scooter safety. An obstacle course will be set up for tips on navigation and safety. Helmets will be available as long as supplies last. Call Officer Holland at 972.495.2271, ext. 231 for more info

### **SACHSE LIBRARY EVENTS**

Sachse Public Library is located at the corner of Sachse Rd. & Miles Rd. 972-530-8966.

Preschool Story Time: Every Thursday in May at 11 a.m.

Paws & Read: May 11th & June 8th - Practice with a service dog at 6:30 p.m.

Summer Reading Programs Every Thursday

Two performances, one at 11 a.m. and again at 12:30 p.m:

June 10 - Snake Encounters

June 17 - Boopsie the Clown

June 24 – Zooniversity

July 1 - Dan Gibson

Book Club: May 21st at 10 a.m.

Special Events: Play Mahjong on the 1st & 3rd Wed. of each month at 1 p.m. Sachse Friends of the Library: Meet the 4th Tuesday at 7 p.m.

### **SACHSE SENIOR ACTIVITIES**

Laurie Schwenk Senior Activity Center is located at the corner of Sachse Rd. & Miles Rd. 972-495-6282.

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

Day Trips: May 5th - Aviation Museum & Russell Stover's in Corsicana, May 12th - Pontoon Ride, May 14th - Grapevine Train to Ft. Worth Stockyards \$13, May 20th - Casino in Durant, OK, May 26th - Lunch at Hot Rodz Cafe & Dimebox Theatre, June 2nd - PARR PATCH in Clarksville \$5, June 9th - Mayborn Museum in Waco \$6, June 11th - Senior Night at the Mesquite Rodeo \$6, June 23rd - Bass Pro Shop & Lunch, June 30th - Garden Ridge & Lunch. For more details on outings please contact the Senior Center at 972-495-6282

# WYLIE'S RITA AND TRUETT SMITH PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

Wylie's Smith Public Library is located at 800 Thomas Street, Wylie 972-442-7566.

### Wagging Tales: 6:30 p.m.

May 6th & 20th - New readers are invited to practice their reading skills with Abby the Collie in a non-judgmental setting. Abby is a Delta Society trained pet partner. For additional info contact Ofilia at 972-442-7566.

### Teen Library Council Meeting: 5:00 p.m.

May 13th - Decide on teen programs, give feedback on the teen collection and discuss their favorite reads. All teens (6th - 12th grade) are welcome!

### BeTween Book & Movie Club: 6:30 p.m.

May 27th - 4th & 5th graders are invited to discuss Freaky Friday by Mary Rodgers watch scenes from the movie and enjoy snacks. The first 15 tweens to sign up will get a free copy of the book.

### Tween Writer's Workshop:

May 15th - Elizabeth Coker, Associate Professor of English at Collin College, will be teaching a free writing workshop just for Tweens (4th – 5th grade or between the ages of 9 – 11). Lunch and supplies will be provided free of charge. Registration is required and must be submitted by Friday May 7, 2010.

### Wednesday Morning Story Time:

Big Kids Story Time: Ages 3-5 are invited to listen to books, flannel stories and sonos 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:

May 5 - Quack, quack, quack, May 12 - Let's Play Outside, No story time May 19 or May 26. June 9 - All About Me, June 16 - Mind Your Manners, June 23 - Verano is Summer, June 30 - Perfect Pets

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

**May 24th** - Meet in the Bluebonnet Room at 6 p.m. to discuss *Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen*. For additional info. contact Donna at 972-442-7566.

**June 28th** - Meet in the Bluebonnet Room at 6 p.m. to discuss *Little Bee* by Chris Cleave. For additional info. contact Donna at 972- 442-7566.

### Library Knits: 1:00 p.m.

May 7th & 14th - All ages and skill levels are invited to join the knitting revolution at the Smith Public Library.

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

May 20th & June 17th - 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 begins, Tuesday June 1, 2010.

June 1st is the first day to pick up your free reading log at the Smith Public Library. Once you have read 10 hours or 10 titles, turn in your reading log between June 21 – July 31 and you are eligible to receive a Summer Reading Club prize. Prizes are available while supplies last.

### **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.

June 1: First Day To Pick Up Your Reading Log!

June 8: Magician Todd McKinney at 12:30 PM , 1:30 PM and 2:30 PM  $\,$ 

June 10: Snake Encounters at 6:30 PM

June 15: Creature Teacher at 12:30 PM, 1:30 PM and 2:30 PM

June 21: First Day To Turn In Your Reading Log!

June 22: Engineer Maggie at 12:30 PM and 1:30 PM

June 24: The Magic Genie, Storyteller at 6:30 PM

June29: Super Dave & Big Ern at 12:30 PM and 1:30 PM!

### **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.

May 25th - Luncheon Celebrating Leadership Wylie Graduation at The First Baptist Church Event Center. Address: 200 Ballard Ave., Wylie. Phone: 972-442-2261.

June 22nd - Check the chamber website

**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.

May 11th - Speaker: Ms. Lou Johnson, Lou is a vice president and trust officer with American National Bank of Texas', Wealth Management Group - "Strengthen Your Business: Find a Buver and Move on!"

June 8th - Speaker: Rich Allen - "Know What Business You Are Really In"

**Last Friday of the Month** - Sachse Chamber of Commerce Community Coffee, May 28th & June 25th 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.

May 18th - Guest Speaker: Jeff Crilley, "Marketing without Money." Caterer: La Flor Mexican Cantina.

**June 15th** - Thinking Outside the Box: Marketing and Growing Your Business plus Murphy Chamber of Commerce scholarships will be presented to Wylie High School and Plano East Senior High School seniors and a WISD teacher.

Come & Go Luncheon: May 26th from Noon to 1 p.m. at Jack in the Box, 106 W. FM 544, Murphy. June 30th at Chick-fil-A. Enjoy great food and networking in Murphy!

**Second Tuesday Business Card Exchange:** May 11th & June 8th 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!

**July 3rd** - Sachse's 4th of July Parade. Line up begins in the Sachse Library parking lot at 5 p.m. The parade starts at 6 p.m. and ends at Heritage Park, where prizes will be awarded and the Fire Department will provide the "Splash Down". The fun continues with the city's annual fireworks show, Red, White and Blue Blast. Back by popular demand will be the designated tailgating areas for those who want to picnic. These spaces are on a first-come, first-reserved basis. You will need to call 469-429-4771 to reserve your space. The Annagrey Band will begin playing at 7:30 p.m. and lead us right up to the spectacular fireworks show at 9:30 p.m. There is plenty of room for families to bring their lawn chairs or blankets, sit out on the grass and enjoy the band and fireworks. Shuttle buses will run from the public parking areas at Sachse High School to Heritage Park and back once the fireworks show is over. Watch the city's website for more info.

July 3 - Wylie Independence Day Fireworks Spectacular at 9:30 p.m. in Founders Park behind Wylie High School. Check www.wylietexas.gov for more info.

July 9 - July Jubilee Street Dance from 7 - 10:30 p.m. in Historic Downtown Wylie on Ballard Avenue. Featuring Charlie Robison with special guests Chris Allen & Kevin Dean.

July 26th - 30th - Murphy Youth Citizens Police Academy (YCPA). The class is a hands on course for the youth citizens of Murphy ages 12-17. It allows the youth to view the police department duties and be hands on with the job. Youth will use radar guns, investigate traffic accidents, survey a crime scene, and make simulated traffic stops. At the end of the course participants will be able to defend a case they have built during the week in open court in front of the judge and a jury of their peers. The class is free, but space is limited. Applications will be accepted June 1st thru July 16th. Applications can be picked up at the police station or printed off our online site at www. Murphytx.org. Any questions about the course or application process contact Officer Kris Riebschlager at 972-468-4259 or kriebschlager@murphytx.org

### **Ladies Do Lunch**

The Ladies Are Joined by Ms. Mindy Manson at Taste of Home - A Quaint Country Eatery

by Lori Whitten of Poetry & Wylie

e ladies spent our time in Historic Downtown Wylie for lunch with a great friend and long time leader of Wylie, Ms. Mindy Manson - our beau-



tiful, smart and always engaging City Manger. I was sad to learn that Stacie and Judy would not be joining us; previous commitments kept them away – but they were with us in spirit. Anne and I arrived to find Becky and Mindy (she is one of the ladies now, I can call her that) seated at the windowed table towards the back of Taste of Home in what was once the kitchen's sunny seating area.



Taste of Home is located in a beautiful turn of the century home at the corner of Ballard Ave. and Jefferson St. I should let you all know that I have always loved this building — its frame is classic and inviting; the front porch is perfect for leisurely watching the morning roll by and sipping coffee. I believe strongly in celebrating the uniqueness of these historic buildings and was excited that the "bones" had been left intact in this old Wylie home.



Taste Of Home has an expansive menu which I cannot do justice in this small space. Suffice it to say on this day there was something for everyone – from salads to soups and healthy sandwiches to hardy and satisfying St. Louis Style Ribs. We didn't try those, but thought they were worth mentioning. The most health conscious and hardy appetited (I know it's not a word) can now dine side by side and both feel blissful and content.

We enjoyed fresh delicious garden salads that were topped with homemade dressings, Dill Ranch and Southwestern Ranch – they were both delectable. The California Club - I cannot help myself; I loved it! The sandwich has sliced turkey breast (not deli meat!) with Swiss cheese (the most holey of cheeses), incredibly fresh avocado, mayo, sprouts and did I mention - on my all time favorite bread - dark rye! We also happily munched on the Quiche of the Day, spinach and bacon (mostly spinach), and fresh, crunchy broccoli salad (Anne's favorite!). The King Ranch Chicken Casserole was creamy and cheesy. Finally, the sweet potato fries,

with a uniquely glorious dipping sauce, were a must – and Becky reviewed those for us, "mmm good".

Even though there really was not sufficient room for dessert, we had to have it. We asked what was homemade, then ordered them all! Snicker Pie (from the look on Mindy's face, this was by far her favorite), Bread Pudding and Pecan Cobbler with ice cream. I have never had Pecan Cobbler before and I have no clue why. This was like liquid praline and tasted like heaven – all I can say is – it made me oh so happy!



We enjoyed our time with a lovely lady at a special ladies lunch. Many thanks to Kathy Goodwin, Taste of Home's owner, for sharing your "Quaint Country Eatery" with us; I know the work that goes into it and you make it look effortless. And thank you Mindy Manson for joining us for lunch, but mostly for the work you do for our city. Wylie is a unique and special place and both Mindy and Kathy are helping keep it that way.

I am proud to announce that Ms. Manson is now an honorary lunch lady and we hope she will join us again soon. In the meantime, we hope you will stop by Taste of Home for breakfast, lunch or one of their Dinners by Candlelight soon – check out their website for menus and hours at www.tasteofhomewylie.com. You will want the Pecan Cobbler so save room and be sure to tell them the "Lunch Ladies" sent you.

Photos by Anne Hiney



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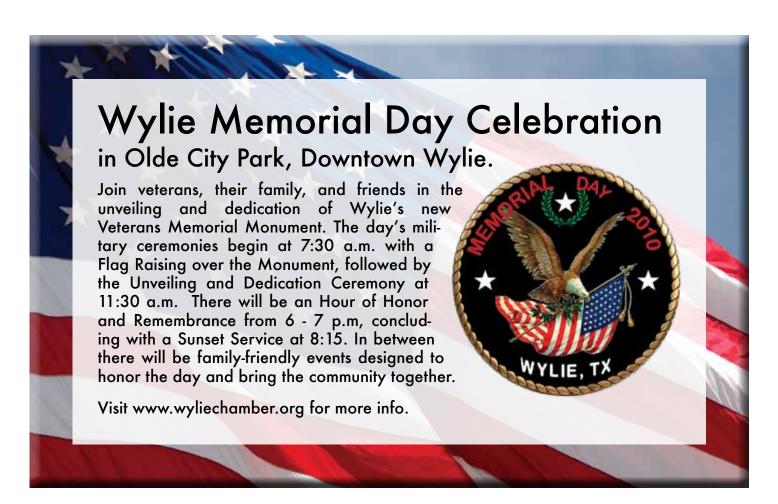
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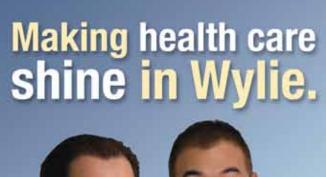
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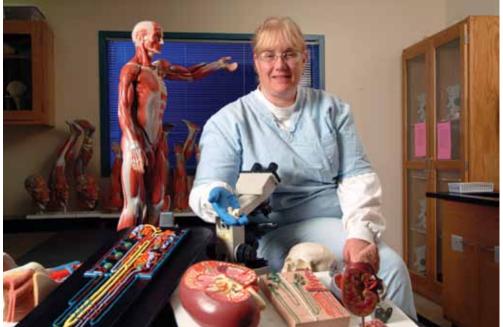
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# Professor Brings Animal Instinct to Classroom

Dr. Mary Weis: Science Animal

by Mark Robinson of Collin College



Dr. Mary Weis of Collin College

here are not many classrooms where you can inflate a pig's lungs.

Dr. Mary Weis is a science animal. And, if nothing else, she wants to fuel the fire and make her students science animals, too. Dr. Weis, therefore, brings in a pig's lungs and allows students to blow air into the organs to observe their size and color.

Somewhere, there is a jar with a urinary bladder stone from a silky terrier that she brings into class. There is a collection of pigs' hearts, tracheas, esophagi and larynxes, uterine tubes and various other parts that make her anatomy and physiology, microbiology and pathophysiology classes at the Collin College Spring Creek and Central Park campuses unappetizing, but extremely tantalizing.

Dr. Weis has been a professor at Collin College for 15 years. A vast majority of her students are future nurses, dental hygienists, doctors and even some veterinarians.

During holidays, weekends and summer break, Dr. Weis plies her original craft before she started teaching full time: veterinarian medicine.

She received her bachelor of science and doctorate of veterinary medicine from Texas A&M University. For three years after graduation, she was a veterinarian in Allen.

With a passion for teaching that she inherited from her mother, also a teacher, she knew she wanted to take her fire "The best doctor in the world is a veterinarian. He can't ask his patients what is the matter -- he's got to just know."

~ Will Rogers

for science and medicine to the classroom. So she began teaching part time while still working in the veterinary field. Since she has begun teaching full time, she has taken her love for animals to a temporary or part-time gig with the Spring Hill Veterinary Clinic in Garland and fills in for vacationing veterinarians in Plano.

"I'd always loved science and medicine. And my grandmother had a farm so during Christmas and summer break, I'd go up there and work on the farm, taking care of the animals," Dr. Weis said. "I try to get my students interested in science, the application of medicine, and how we're not so different from animals."

Dr. Weis calls the animal anatomical and physiological similarities with humans the "web of nature," meaning that as much as we are different, there is a lot we can learn from the dog or cat.

She refers to corresponding ailments like arthritis. A medication like glucosamine was developed by using it for dogs and it translated for human use. Understanding arthritis in cats and humans has helped develop a joint therapy for both.

Through veterinary case studies, Dr. Weis challenges students to find out what is wrong, what is right and how to fix it. This, she feels, can translate to bedside manner and diagnosing human patients once the students become healthcare professionals.

"I tell the students that patients aren't walking in with multiple-choice tests pinned to them. Although they are taking multiple choice exams (in college), they need to figure out how to ask the right questions," Dr. Weis said.

Knowing she is inspiring a new generation of doctors, nurses and teachers drives her. Dr. Weis tells the story of a dental hygiene student who did not know why she needed to learn about the respiratory, cardiovascular or digestive systems while working in a dentist's office.

After the course, Dr. Weis ran into this student the next semester. The student had a chemistry book. Realizing chemistry was not needed for dental hygiene, she inquired. The student had changed her area of study to pre-med.

"It is nice to know there are students that are like me that love science and medicine. They are going to work hard on their feet for 12-15 hours a day and they will really need to love what they are doing" Dr. Weis said.

Visit www.collin.edu for more information about Collin College. ullet

Photo by Nick Young/Collin College.









30 • The Connection • May/June 2010

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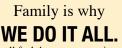
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### Summer Pet Tips for Cats and Dogs

Protect them from the heat and pests

by Sharon Jones of Guardian Pet Sitters

#### Young, old, or sick, all pets are vulnerable to the heat.

It is harder for pets to get rid of body heat than it is for humans. Humans can sweat but our furry critters get rid of body heat through breathing and panting. The summer heat can cause the circulatory and respiratory systems to work harder resulting in heat stress. A pet overheating can cause heatstroke, irreparable brain damage or even death.

Some signs of heatstroke are:

- Pet seems listless
- Eyes are glazy
- · Labored panting or breathing
- Pet's body is hot to the touch

Normal body temperature for dogs and cats is 101.5 to 102.2 Fahrenheit. A pet will

become very sick if his temperature rises above 103 and death can occur at 106 and higher.

If you suspect your pet has heatstroke, make every effort to

cool the pet down quickly. Immerse your pet in cold water or wrap your pet in wet cold towels. Apply ice packs to head and neck. CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN IMMEDIATELY!

- Do not leave pets in a car! Even with windows down, the temperature inside will rise to a dangerous level.
- Outside pets should have adequate shade and water.
- · Have a child's shallow swimming pool so your dog can cool off.
- · Keep your pet brushed. By brushing your pet, you will keep hair free from tangles and mats which will help maintain a lower body temperature.

 Avoid hot places such as garages or other unventilated enclosures.







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- Walking or exercising your pet outdoors should be done early morning or late evening.
- Most pets are more comfortable in temperature controlled

CAUTION! At this time of year you see dogs in heat distress as their owners are jogging them in the hot part of the day and sun is out in full strength. It is harder for them to cool off, leave them home if you have to jog at this time of day.

### **Getting Rid of Spring & Summer Pests**

As the Spring rains come to an end and the weather heats up, we can be sure of two things: fire ants and fleas! Now is the time to treat your yards for ants and your pets for fleas.

Be Proactive. In both cases, don't wait until you have to get rid of them. Use preventative treatments to keep pests away before they become problematic. Get help from the experts. Your yard maintenance professional, neighborhood exterminator or local hardware store can help you with a good fire ant solution. Get more than one opinion and follow up with your own research on the internet. Resources today are unlimited.

Heartworms are parasites transmitted by mosquitoes that can potentially be fatal to your dog or cat. Most people know that dogs can have heartworms, but are not aware that cats can too, and that heartworms in cats often have more severe clinical signs than dogs and a poorer prognosis. The American Heartworm Society reports that 38 states have reported heartworm disease. Even when your cat is an indoor cat they can still get heartworms. Remember mosquitoes are everywhere and can make their way into your home. Before you ever start your pet on a treatment, you must have them tested for the presence of heartworms by your veterinarian. Treatment for the disease can be expensive and risky for your pet----the prevention is easy and inexpensive.

Treat your pets against pesky pests. Your vet or local pet store can help with a monthly heartworm preventative treatment (such as Heartguard®) and a good flea and tick guard (such as Frontline®). Typically, the flea and tick guards are good for 3 months, whereas heartworm treatment needs to be given once a month. In our experience, we have seen better results from separate treatments - one for heartworm preventative, one for fleas & ticks - as opposed to the all-in-one treatments. Use caution as to when you give or apply treatments. If you give your pet a heartworm preventative at the beginning of the month, consider waiting a couple of weeks to apply a flea & tick topical treatment.

As always, talk to your personal vet before giving your pets any medications. Pets are as individual as humans when it comes to medication interactions and tolerance. What might be good for one dog or cat may not be good for another.

BE CAREFUL NOT TO USE PRODUCTS FOR ONE SPECIES ON **ANOTHER SPECIES!** •

Sharon Jones is owner of Guardian Pet Sitters\*, a professional in-home pet sitting company serving Dallas and surrounding communities since 1992. Sharon has a passion to help people keep their pets healthy and happy.

Connect and get more pet tips: www.guardianpetsitters.com (sign up for the newsletter "Pet Tracks"). www.facebook.com/guardianpetsitters http://twitter.com/GuardianPetSit or call 972-625-5272.



34 • The Connection • May/June 2010

### Is It Time To Move Cash Into Equities?

The market has rebounded ... is it poised to keep rising?

provided by Jal Dennis Group

emember when people were getting out of stocks? In the last quarter of 2008 and the first quarter of 2009, some people made the decision to

move money into forms of investment with low or no stock market correlation. The recession was going full blast; the Dow was falling. But recessions are temporary, and markets have the potential to improve.

The recent recovery wowed even the most jaded market analysts. From the March 9, 2009 market lows to the end of the year, the S&P 500 shot up 64.83%, the DJIA gained 59.28%, the NASDAQ 78.87% and the Russell 2000 82.19%. The CBOE VIX, the so-called fear index, dropped 56.14% in that stretch.

Was March 9, 2009 the point of capitulation? Have you heard of that term? It references a point of "surrender" or maximum exodus from stocks to CDs and Treasuries in a bear market. The theory goes that when that point of capitulation is reached, a measured, rational market



recovery will begin leading to either a cyclical bull market or (fingers crossed) a new long-term bull market.

The rebound off the March 9th lows

Will stocks keep advancing in 2010? There's an old phrase people like to cite: past performance is no indication of future success. That disclaimer aside,

many analysts think that the stock market will realize at least moderate gains in 2010. The mood is certainly more optimistic and the economy seems to be improving.

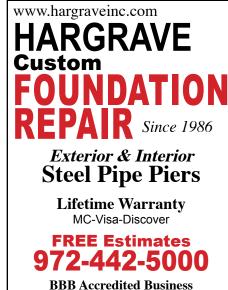
Will investors be patient? Good question. In late 2008, you had people swearing off stocks. In 2009, some of those same people changed their mind and ran back to stocks. If 2010 brings a correction, will these investors ditch stocks again? History suggests that these short-term shifts may be damaging.

DALBAR, that goldmine of investment research, looked at the behavior of the average mutual fund investor over a 20-year period ending December 31, 2007. The 20-year survey found that while the broad stock market (S&P 500) returned an average of 11.82% over those 20 years, the average equity investor bailed out at times, missed out on great market days, and only realized an average return of 4.48%. This is a really compelling argument for patience and sustained investment. In late 2008, both Warren Buffett and John Bogle made the case that investors should stay in the market, as some major values were available as a result of the downturn.

How are you invested these days? We've seen a lot of change in the last three years, and many people have really changed up their portfolios. How about yours? Is your asset allocation still appropriate for your long-term objectives? You might want to talk to a qualified financial advisor today to review where you are at and how you might position yourself for the years ahead. •



wasn't measured, it was phenomenal, On CNBC, Abby Joseph Cohen shared her belief that the S&P 500 would finish 2009 in the 1,050-1,100 range, up from a March 9 trough of 666.79. It exceeded her expectations, ending the year at 1,115.10.



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