

Dock Line



Magazine

Lake Conroe

November 2019

ME Massage Envy

New Location in Montgomery
to Offer Award-Winning Total
Body Care!

See page 8



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Resiliency of The
Woodlands Division
See Page 56



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Is it me or did someone forget to open the blinds this morning because it sure is dark enough to make me feel as though I should still be in bed! Texas is a funny state - one day the sun is shining and the next I can't feel my paws because they are so cold, but I guess variety is what makes us love this place called home so much.

We have a very exciting issue this month and as usual, we are very happy to present it to you for your reading pleasure. I also want you to keep your faces glued to Docklinemagazine.com and our social media pages as we have some very big news coming up. We have spent quite a lot of time and energy to get to this point and there will be many things happening over the next few months that should excite you and give you even more reason to read our publication. Each month from this point on you will see quite a lot of changes. Some big, some small, but changes are coming. You will be seeing more articles and more ways of reading Dock Line articles and meeting and shopping with our advertisers. That's all I can say at the moment but we are sure you will be pleased.

Well, that's my big announcement for now! I will be seeing you next month, or who knows, maybe next week!!!

Have a wonderful turkey day and Happy Thanksgiving!

GT2 🐾🐾

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Dock Line Magazine

Lake Conroe

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James M. Bright - Attorney at Law



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New Location in Montgomery to Offer Award-Winning Total Body Care!

By: Margie Taylor



Mack and Michelle Miller have learned the recipe for therapeutic massage, facial, skin care, and total body stretches as they continue to grow their business from 2 franchise locations in Conroe and Tomball to the newest one in Montgomery. As one of the few Massage Envy franchisors to earn national awards, their success is based on a team effort and pursuing excellence with every customer.

"Every customer has different needs for a massage. Men and women alike utilize our services for physical ailments as well to relax and shed stresses of work-family-balance challenges", said Mack. "When you think about the word 'massage', you imagine relief from chronic back pain, daily stress, and self-care. Massages vary from gentle and relaxing to our new exclusive Rapid Tension Relief targeting up to 11 areas of discomfort to manipulate triggered muscles. We are the only national massage business using the Hypervolt devices in massage therapy."

Members and guests looking to further increase flexibility mobility can benefit from Massage Envy's Total Body Stretch service, which is a head-to-toe assisted stretch. The Total Body Stretch is available in 30 and 60-minute session lengths and can be added to the therapeutic massage appointment, even in conjunction with the Hypervolt device.

Massages vary in delivery to the body based on individual needs. Sports massages geared towards the athlete focusing on specific areas of the body can improve performance before an event and reduce recovery time after an event. Deep tissue massage reduces chronic muscle tension in the deepest layers of muscle tissue, tendons and fascia. A reflexology massage will focus on the feet and ankles to promote overall relaxation. Massage Envy now allows members and guests to further customize their massages and target specific skin concerns with the choice of its new CyMe Boost serums, six highly concentrated serums added directly to the massage lotion. The six serums are infused with active ingredients to help clarify and balance the skin to help promote a radiant, youthful looking appearance.

In addition to massages, Massage Envy offers premium skin care products and services personalized to target specific areas of concern and improve overall physical appearance. Massage Envy has added facial waxing and eyebrow design services to their growing line of total body care services. Customers may choose to add a facial waxing for eyebrows, ears, and other areas to remove unwanted hair, a lip scrub to exfoliate the lips and reduce fine lines, or a facial.

Continued on page 10 ➡



Licensed and certified skin care professionals are here to help you.

In addition to massages, Massage Envy offers premium skin care products and services personalized to target specific areas of concern and improve overall physical appearance.



Our skin care professionals will partner with you to ensure advanced skin care treatments.



Michelle said, "Both men and women alike enjoy facials to rejuvenate the skin and help them feel more youthful and rested. Not only do you feel better, but your skin glows with a more radiant appearance."

Advanced skin care services at Massage Envy are performed by licensed estheticians certified in skin care maintenance. The certified esthetician is a skin care expert who evaluates your needs to help create a customized treatment regimen to maintain the health of your skin and promote a more youthful appearance. There are both 60 minute and extended 90-minute facials with 80 minutes of hands on service and 10 minutes of individual consultation.

"Our new location in Montgomery offers Obagi & Jan Marini Healthy Skin Facials that work effectively for aging skin", said Michelle.

Jan Marini facial treatments use a "skin

conditioning" protocol that gradually exposing the skin with a higher concentration of dynamic ingredients over a series of visits to improve overall skin vitality. Obagi products help prevent and improve the most common and visible disorders in adult skin caused by sunburns, regular sun exposure, hormonal changes, stress, and environmental pollution that can contribute to the signs of premature aging.

"We are proud to offer products from the Obagi Medical line, carried in physician's offices for more than 30 years", Mack added.

Advanced skin treatments in addition to facials include the proprietary Chemical Peel from PCA Skin® to reduce skin inflammation, acne marks, and rejuvenate skin and Microderm Infusion™- a hydration technology treatment going beyond traditional microdermabrasion exfoliating and extracting.



Massage Envy's Microderm Infusion™ uses precision-timed hydration to deliver a 3-in-1 professional grade treatment. Our diamond-coated wand simultaneously exfoliates the face, vacuums away residential skin cells and instantly infuses a customizable serum chosen for your specific needs. Members and guests choose Microderm Infusion™ to remove scarring, oil congestion, and plugged pores, discoloration, sun damage marks, and stretch marks.

All services are available to guests at published rates, while first time guests are offered a discounted introductory rate. For even greater savings, frequent clients can join a unique Wellness Program. Members receive access to monthly services at lower membership rates and unlimited discounted additional sessions, product discounts, referral bonuses, rollover sessions, and the use of their membership at over 1,150 locations nationwide in 49 states.

Mack and Michelle urge members and guests to visit their newest convenient location at the new Buffalo Springs Kroger Marketplace in Montgomery. "Calling for an appointment will secure the time you need for a personalized experience. We want you to be stress free and visit us often! Life is short. Be calm and get a massage, healthy skin facial, facial wax, chemical peel, Microderm infusion, or total body stretch!"

Learn more about Massage Envy in Montgomery by visiting their website <https://locations.massageenvy.com/texas/montgomery/20212-eva-street.html>. Call (936) 207-2007 for an appointment. The address is 20212 Eva Street, Suite 250, Montgomery at the Buffalo Springs Kroger Marketplace on Hwy 105. ♦

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Back to Health

By: Dr. Todd R. Custer D.C., Athletic Trainer



"Sick" Scapula Syndrome

What is it?

The scapula is the medical term for the shoulder blade. The shoulder motions are a combination of scapula movements in conjunction with the ball and socket (glenohumeral movements). A "sick" scapula is when the shoulder blade is not po-



sitioning properly and over time, can lead to significant shoulder injuries of a torn rotator cuff or labrum tears. Note the picture below.

What causes it?

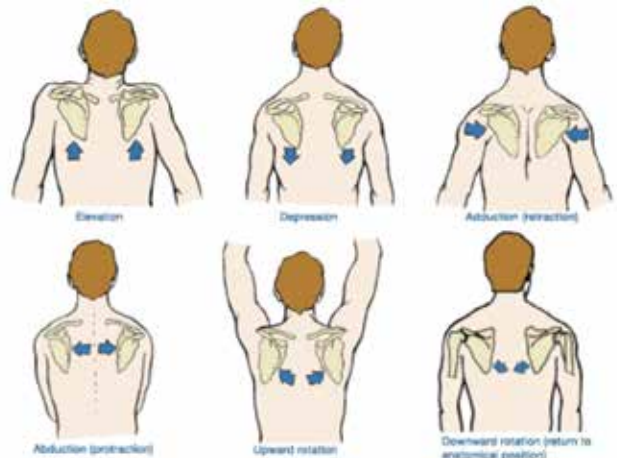
The cause is usually a muscular imbalance. This typically occurs slowly as poor posture allows the chest muscles to pull the shoulder blade forward and downward. That change of position will leave the shoulder blade muscles with a poor mechanical advantage and lead to reduced/altered movements. The poor shoulder blade movement will cause excessive compression between the shoulder blade and rotator cuff tendons and potentially result in tendon tear.

How do I know if I have it?

You will likely have some shoulder pain and reduced range of motion. The best way to check is to have someone observe you from behind for shoulder blade symmetry. The shoulder blades should be a mirror image of one another. While performing the below shoulder blade movements, the shoulder blades should be a mirror image of one another. If one appears to rotate or tilt, you may be developing a "sick" scapula.

How can I treat it?

Through a combination of stretching and strengthening specific muscles, you will be able to "activate" the proper muscle contractions to control the shoulder blade. However, every "sick" scapula is different, so you can help yourself by



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Dr. Todd Custer
Chiropractor/Athletic
Trainer

Dustin Cook, P.T.
Physical Therapist

identifying the problem, then consult with myself, or another sports injury professional to properly address the dysfunctional movement patterns.

Dr. Custer is the owner/operator of Better Care Chiropractic and Physical Therapy clinics. In addition to chiropractic and physical therapy, Better Care clinics also offer Massage Therap and Personal Training. Our goal is to promote a rapid and full recovery for each patient. Dr. Custer combines his 15 plus years of experience in injury rehabilitation (as an athletic trainer) with his chiropractic education to promote a fast and efficient recovery process. ♦



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A Different Niche!

Milstead Home Décor Expands 2020

By: Rita Kelly



The entire store smells of delightful oils and candles and has endless gifts and accessories!

In January 2012, Faye Milstead, realized a life-time dream when she expanded the family business to include Milstead Home Décor. During the last seven years, the boutique has become a popular venue for unique gifts and specialty items. The holiday seasons are especially exciting because it is a perfect time for home decorating and entertaining.

"Milstead Home Décor, has been the name on the door but we have always carried the moniker, A Different Niche!," explained Faye, "It describes my store perfectly."

"That's just one reason I'm so excited to announce our move to a new 4,000 square foot showroom," continued Faye. "The boutique will

double in size and be located at 2114 McCaleb Road. But first, I am selling everything at our current location at 50% off. This is a renewed beginning with twice the space, innovative product lines and displays as well as customer favorites. For me, it is a great opportunity to create more than just another boutique. I am just thrilled with the fresh ideas and approaches that I am developing for this endeavor. After all it's, A Different Niche!," exclaimed Faye.

The 50% off sale is an incredible discount on national brands. Dress your table or special event with fabulous pieces from G&G Collection® and nora fleming®. Give your step an extra lift with Yellow

The 50% off sale is an incredible discount on national brands.



*Excited to be moving to a new more spacious location
beginning of 2020!*

Box® shoes. For the hard to find baby gift, Bearington Bears® is a favorite of many of Faye's customers. Add the wonderful aroma of Trapp Candles® & Diffuser or New Orleans Home Fragrances®, and for something different, the Lampe Berger® fragrance oil lamps are wonderful. The stunning and distinctive patterns of Michel Design Works® are a steal at 50% off. One of Faye's Texas favorites is Simplified Lotions®, a simple, wholesome product especially for sensitive skin. And don't miss the beautiful Uttermost® lamps and clocks. There is a special find for everyone at this discount.

The additional space will allow Faye to focus on expanding the lines of Texas products customers have been requesting. An example is to offer beer and a larger wine selection from local favorites including Bernhardt Winery, Los Pinos and Messina Hof Winery. Faye will increase the depth of many of the lines she currently offers and add many novel and exciting product lines that are a little more difficult to find.

"The new space is open, airy and bright," Faye explained, "and will provide a very inviting shopping experience. Speaking of inviting, I will have stylish boutique clothing that is easy and comfortable available late Spring 2020. In the meantime, I will be shopping the specialty markets seeking unique gifts and home décor items not found everywhere, products I love and feel my customers will too!"

As A Different Niche! takes shape it will continue to offer customer favorites and add so many more new items for gift giving,

Continued on page 18 ➡

It's a Different *Niche!*

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You can never have enough unique Holiday decor!

home décor accessories and wonderful seasonal items. Faye is also expanding many of her current lines, mudpie®, Bella Tunno®, baby products, nora flémíng® to name a few.

Some customers shared their thoughts about the their shopping experiences and expectations.

"I love to come into the shop, Faye makes buying home accessories and gifts fun and exciting," exclaimed Angie, "I can't wait to see what she does next with A Different Niche!"

"I am constantly searching for something a little unique for a friend or for my own home," added Susan, "Home Décor has been one of my go to shops, so I am really excited about the opening of the new boutique, more space for more treasures."

"Now is the time for me to totally focus on my home décor business. This is a dream come true for me. I love to decorate and see the latest product offerings and trends. Everyone needs an occasional gift idea or last-minute item and my goal is to be the first destination that comes to mind. A great shopping experience for that special find. A Different Niche!" Faye happily emphasized.

Estimate dated for the opening of the new location is late Spring 2020. Watch local and social media for updates in the coming months.



Local wines are fun and to be enjoyed with friends! We also offer wine accessories such as bags and glasses.



The new space is open, airy and bright...



Milstead Home Décor, A Different Niche! currently located at 710 Honea Egypt Rd., Magnolia, Texas

Milstead Glass was sold in September, 2019 and will remain in its current location at 710 Honea Egypt Road, Magnolia. ♦

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**The Ladies Association of Walden Presents
"Walden Gift Expo 2019"**

When: November 1, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Where: The Yacht Club, 13101 Melville Dr.,
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Parking and Admission is free.

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Free "Law Line" Service

When: November 4, 2019

Time: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Have a legal question? A free call-in public Law
Line for residents of Montgomery County who
have general legal questions is offered on the first
Monday of every month at 281-645-6344 from 5
p.m. until 7 p.m. by volunteer attorneys from The
Woodlands Bar Association. (If the first Monday
is a Federal holiday, then the Law Line will be of-
fered on the second Monday of that month.) Top-
ics include bankruptcy, family law, criminal law,

consumer protection, and more. The volunteer at-
torneys do not provide specific counseling yet offer
general information and inform people about their
rights and options and what legal resources may
be available for callers to follow through with their
concern. Callers' identities, as well as the identi-
ties of the volunteer lawyers, will remain anony-
mous. This free public service is a project of The
Woodlands Bar Association in conjunction with
the United Way of Greater Houston, Montgomery
County Center. The Woodlands Bar Association is
comprised of private practice attorneys from both
large and small law firms, judges and corporate at-
torneys and seeks to promote high legal standards,
education and community service in the area. The
Law Line offers a local community service oppor-
tunity for members to share their unique legal
skills to provide service to others. www.WoodlandsBarAssociation.com

North Shore Republican Women's Meeting

When: November 6, 2019

Time: Sign-in begins 10:45 a.m., Meeting at 11:00 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m., Program Noon until 1:00 p.m.

Where: Bentwater Country Club, 800 Bentwater
Dr., Montgomery, TX 77356

The General Membership Meeting of North Shore
Republican Women will feature Donna Stedman,
Executive Director of Henry's Home Horse Sanc-
tuary. Lunch is optional, but reservations for a
seat much be made by Noon, Saturday, November
2nd. Complete the form online by clicking www.NSRepublicanWomen.org. You do not have to be

a member to attend.

Montgomery County Nutcracker Market

When: November 9, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Where: 9055 Airport Rd., Conroe, TX 77303

Admission: \$5.00; Buy One Bring A Friend For
Free! Military, First Responders, Teachers, Over
65 and Children Are Free!

The annual Montgomery County Nutcracker
Market is a holiday tradition! This shopping ex-
travaganza will feature 180+ merchants, artists,
and crafters selling a variety of hand-made crafts,
jewelry, women and children's clothing, original
artwork, gourmet goodies, home decor, holiday
decor, unique gift items, and much more.

**Montgomery County Welcoming Neighbor
Club Luncheon**

When: November 21, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Where: Panorama Golf Club, 73 Greenbriar Dr.,
Conroe, TX 77304

Montgomery County Welcoming Neighbor
Club (social club 501c7) monthly luncheon will
be held at the Panorama Golf Club on Novem-
ber 21, 2019. Social hour begins at 10:00 a.m.
followed by a short business meeting and lunch.
The club will be hosting our auction. All mon-
ies raised from our auctions are returned to the
Montgomery County Charities in June of each
year. Call Rebecca at 936-671-9629 for informa-
tion concerning our meeting. ♦



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Take in the very best views of Lake Conroe from almost every area of this RARE waterfront estate. Perfectly situated on one of the most desirable lots on the Lake w/230 ft. of waterfront w/fresh bulkhead, boardwalk, boat slip w/lift, jet ski lift, putting green, outdoor kitchen w/stacked FP, fire pit, pool/spa + decking covered/uncovered, miles of Southern Lake views that will make relaxing/entertaining an unforgettable experience. From the first step inside the quality & panoramic views will grab your attention. The house was designed for Lake Living from the living room w/a 2 story wall of windows that lead to a pool front lanai to the island kitchen w/generous counter space, bar w/ice, fridge, chiller, wine area then to the den w/large picture windows w/unobstructed views & all lead to covered/uncovered patios. Master suite boasts sitting area + FP, wall-2-wall views, spa-like bath w/2 walk-in closets. Upstairs: Game room w/wet bar + lounge, balcony/patio, media room + 3 beds/3.5 baths.

2807 Lakeside Drive, Walden in Montgomery. ML# 10291624. \$1,300,000



Move-in ready! This 4-bedroom home is loaded w/luxury options & is situated in a Lakeside community w/boat launch, pool, rec areas, sidewalks + close to shopping, dining + schools! The house immediately WOWs w/a private stone/brick courtyard w/iron gates & outdoor fireplace. The two-story entry greets w/8ft leaded glass double doors + wood floors & leads to a spacious living room w/soaring ceilings, wall of windows, cast stone fireplace & an island kitchen (plenty of room for seating options) w/granite counters, under cabinet lighting, double ovens, gas cook top, TWO pantries & so much storage! The kitchen is perfect for entertaining! Formal dining & office w/double doors has a stunning curved wall. Master is down w/extended sitting areas + 2 vanities, walk-in shower, tub + large closet. Upstairs offers 3 very generous bedrooms w/ 2.5 bathrooms, game room w/wine fridge + microwave & media room w/double doors! Backyard is fenced w/extended covered back patio that is plumbed for gas.

8322 Sands Bank Lane, Water Crest on Lake Conroe in Conroe. ML# 93621865. \$405,000



Stylish, Spacious + Spotless! This Like-New home is situated on a private one-acre lot with no immediate back neighbors! The exterior offers a very generous driveway, 3 car garage, covered back patio overlooking a large backyard. The interior is light and bright! Large living room with high ceilings, wall of windows and overlooks the kitchen that boasts a HUGE island! Stainless steel appliances, sleek white cabinets, under cabinet lighting, walk-in pantry & dining area overlooking backyard. Master bedroom is separate from the secondary rooms and offers privacy, tons of space, double sinks, vanity area, walk-in shower, soak tub + a HUGE walk-in closet. Three very roomy secondary rooms w/walk-in closets, two full secondary bathrooms w/great space and all located on its own wing of the house. Deer Trail Two subdivision offers a country feel with large home sites, wide streets + it's only minutes from I-45 making it an easy commute to work, shopping and Lake Conroe. Low Taxes!

9191 White Tail Drive, Deer Trail in Conroe. ML# 23977315. \$349,900



This inviting single story homes offers plenty of comfortable living space, with a spacious living room boasting eye-catching 18' tile, wall of windows and access to the large covered back patio. Island kitchen with granite counters, 36" designer cabinets, SS appliances, breakfast bar overlooking living area + separate dining area and breakfast nook. Split bedroom plan with the Master bedroom complete with a walk-in shower, soaking tub, double sinks and a HUGE walk-in closet. Three additional bedrooms with an over-sized full bathroom between. Additional features include: crown molding, 2" Blinds, covered patio w/gas stub, sprinkler system, Energy Efficient Radiant Barrier roof decking, 16 SEER HVAC System and much more! All conveniently located within minutes of schools, shopping, restaurants, community pool, walking trails, parks and major roads!

2219 Buck Hollow Court, Laurel Ridge at Graystone in Conroe. ML# 90921829. \$249,900



New Construction at an amazing price! Located in a quiet subdivision in Montgomery surrounded by National Forest and offers a fishing lake and community pool! The interior offers an open concept living with stylish polished concrete floors, great natural lighting and three spacious bedrooms. Builder has additional homes in the neighborhood; contact for more information. Ready for move in!
15777 Beechnut Drive, Hidden Forest Estate in Montgomery. ML# 38142289. \$142,900



Located on a quiet cul-de-sac street this home greets w/ large shade trees and a cozy front porch. The interior welcomes you with solid hardwood floor that lead to a spacious living room w/great natural light from the wall of windows that overlooks the private backyard. Island kitchen boasting granite counters, tile backsplash gas range, breakfast area + a formal dining room (dining room could easily be a second living room or office/study). Spacious Master bedroom w/double sinks, walk-in shower, soak tub + walk-in closet. Two additional bedrooms that offer great space and storage. Game room area

off the bedrooms provides a private retreat/play area! Laundry/utility room is conveniently located next to all the bedrooms! The fenced backyard is ready for entertaining with an over-sized covered and uncovered deck + a custom pergola! The neighborhood offers playgrounds, pool, tennis court, schools, walking trails plus much more!

31615 Regal Park Court, Imperial Oaks in Conroe. ML# 82192465. \$224,000



Located in a quiet subdivision in Montgomery that is minutes from Lake Conroe, restaurants, shopping, schools and golf courses! This 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom bungalow offers an eye-catching exterior with a generous front porch that will welcome relaxation! The floor plan offers a spacious living room that flows into the dining room and overlooks the kitchen that will boast rich wood cabinets, granite counter tops, breakfast bar that will be great for entertaining and a stunning back splash. The Master bedroom will provide a private door leading to backyard, an awesome shower and great storage. The two secondary rooms will be spacious w/great storage.

241 Ridgeside Court, Lake Conroe Village in Montgomery ML# 28576388. \$124,900



Located in a quiet subdivision in Montgomery that is minutes from Lake Conroe, restaurants, shopping, schools and golf courses! This 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom bungalow offers an eye-catching exterior with a generous front porch that will welcome relaxation! The floor plan offers a spacious living room that flows into the dining room and overlooks the kitchen that will boast rich wood cabinets, granite counter tops, breakfast bar that will be great for entertaining and a stunning back splash. The Master bedroom will provide a private door leading to backyard, an awesome shower and great storage. The two secondary rooms will be

spacious w/great storage. Ready for move-in in February!
245 Ridgeside Court, Lake Conroe Village in Montgomery ML# 50148568. \$114,900

Lots

- 0 Spruce Drive, Mosswood in Conroe - **\$19,500**
- 0 Willow Drive, Mosswood in Conroe - **\$18,500**
- 0 Sycamore Drive, Mosswood in Conroe - **\$16,000**
- 0 Maple Drive, Mosswood in Conroe - **\$7,000**
- 0 Maple Drive, Mosswood in Conroe - **\$6,500**
- 0 Maple Drive, Mosswood in Conroe - **\$6,500**

Rentals

1311 Antoine Drive #161 in Houston- Available now. Furnished and updated! Great location! Minutes from Downtown, The Galleria, Memorial Park and so much more. Well-kept area with pool. Parking right outside the front door! **\$1,000.00 ML# 23436870**

10761 S Lake Mist Lane in Willis-Available now! This 4 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home is conveniently located in the gated subdivision of Lake Breeze that boasts a subdivision pool, Lake Conroe access, close proximity to schools and I-45 access. Fenced backyard, detached 2 car garage. **\$1,900.00 ML# 95344036**

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CAMILLO'S FINE JEWELRY

LOCAL JEWELER MAKES ALL DREAMS COME TRUE!

By: Margie Taylor

Families have used Camillo's Jewelry for over 36 years in our community. Dan Camillo has an outstanding reputation for delivering the best price and value for high-quality jewelry and his customers know it.

"We have seen 3 generations come into the store from the same family-Grandpa, his son, and now the grandson coming in for engagement rings", said Dan Camillo. "They all want to put a ring on it!"

Some may remember the billboard on I-45 near FM 2854 with a girl asking to "put a ring on it". Subsequently the next billboard said, "he finally put a ring on it!". This got a little notoriety on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno for Camillo's Jewelry.

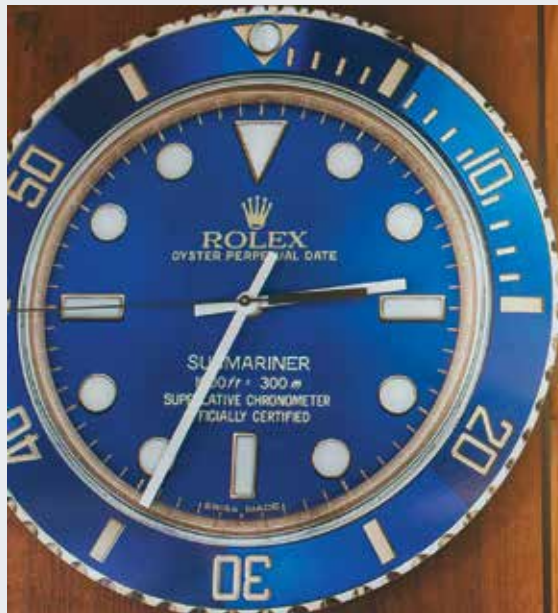
"I started out by working with my dad growing up in Conroe. He asked what I thought about the jewelry business, and I said let's give it a try. Well, that's all I've ever done since then. I used

to have a briefcase and visit car lots with all my watches. I was known as Dan, Dan, the Jewelry Man! I went to Weisner's and Lyn Hawthorne's place when she owned the Toyota dealership in Conroe," remembered Dan.

Jewelry isn't all they do. Most stores don't work on Rolex watches, but Camillo's does. They are also known for buying and selling gold, silver and old bills or coins. They recently received an older \$1000 bill that was valued at \$4800!



Largest jewelry selection in Montgomery County



"WE DO A LOT OF BUSINESS WITH ROLEX WATCHES. MURDOCK VINES, OUR MASTER WATCH CRAFTSMAN, HAS BEEN WITH THE SHOP FOR 5 YEARS AND HAS OVER 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN WATCH REPAIR, PRIMARILY ROLEX WATCHES."

-DAN CAMILLO

"We do a lot of business with Rolex watches. Murdock Vines, our master watch craftsman, has been with the shop for 5 years and has over 40 years-experience in watch repair, primarily Rolex watches. William Burgos is the master jew-

eler with 30 years as a crafter designing jewelry. All work is performed in our store and we never send out anything. That way we know how it works, where the item is, and that it is the very best quality.

Camillo's has a reputation as a high-end jewelry store often sought after through word of mouth by celebrities. Alice Cooper, classic rock artist, was in town for a concert recently and came in to get a special designed skull logo with diamonds for all his band members. A recent photo showed all the band members with knuckles out sporting the rings made by Camillo's. Lady Gaga sent a representative to Dan to get a uniquely designed pendant. Word of mouth and a good reputation is everything.

Dan is a gemologist, master jewelry crafter and learned a lot over the years. With experienced craftsmen in the store anyone can come in with an idea, a precious gem they want in the piece and Dan III (Dan's son) can convert the idea into a CAD design to customizing any jewelry piece. Designs are not limited to jewelry either.

"The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo selected Camillo's to design the pins and souvenirs over the years. We have customized guitar picks. Nothing is beyond our scope. Recently a longtime friend came in wanting something special for his wife. We designed a piece worth

Continued on page 24 ➞



Family owned and operated, serving Conroe for 35 years.



\$48,000 with an engraved box to keep it clean and safe from elements. That was a very memorable piece,” shared Dan.

Camillo’s is a family-run business. Mom, MaryAnne works the front greeting customers and maintaining the books, son, Dan is an experienced craftsman, and Dan II puts a smile on his face and does his best every day to give every customer their best day when they call or come in his shop.

“It’s all about community. I grew up in Conroe, graduated in 1982 from Conroe High School, and as a business we contribute to many local organizations including the Cattleman’s



We buy, clean, and repair watches with our very talented in-house watchmaker, Murdock Vines.



We are known for our impeccable watch collection including Rolex and specialty Harley Davidson.

Ball, The Crighton Theatre restoration project, and my biggest passion, the kids at St. Jude.”

“Trusted relationships in the community have kept us going strong for over 35 years. Camillo’s is a fine jewelry store vested in customer service above and beyond any expectations. Any issues are resolved on the spot so everyone can

have a good day!”

From creating a custom design to repair and upgrading heirlooms to a modern look, Camillo’s Jewelry is your one stop shop for the perfect gift of fine jewelry, watches, or gold exchange. Get to know the family and your neighbors in the community.

Learn more about Camillo’s Jewelry by visiting their website www.CamillosJewelry.com or call (936) 539-4367. The showroom is located at 3506 West Davis in Conroe. Open Tuesday through Friday 9:00am-6:00pm, Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm. Closed Sunday and Monday. ♦



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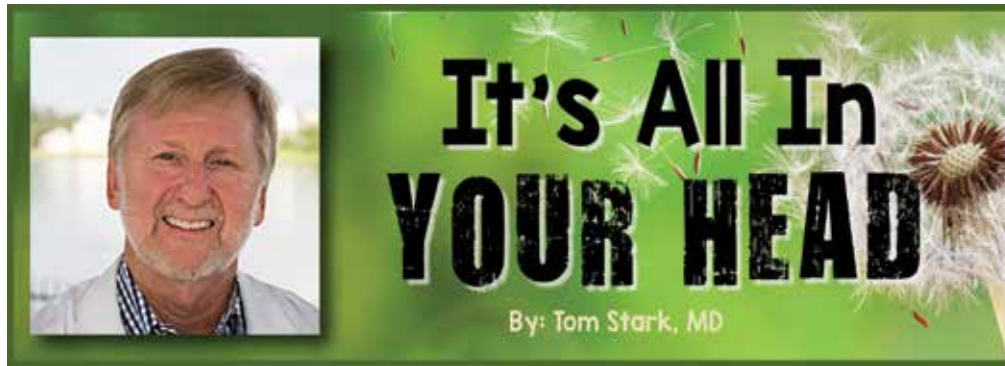
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The advertisement features a dark blue background with a glowing Christmas tree on the left. Three diamond-encrusted necklaces are displayed in the center, each with a different chain style (gold, silver, and rose gold). The text is elegantly styled, with the main headline in a cursive font and the business name in a bold, serif font.



What is Balance?

In my specialty of Ear, Nose and Throat I frequently have patients sent to me for evaluation of problems with his or her balance. A major reason is that disorders and problems with the inner ear are frequently associated with dizziness or vertigo. But not all disorders of the balance system are related to ear problems. And many of them are complex medical issues with no easy cure.

What is balance? The dictionary definition is “a condition of stability and equilibrium”. That is a fair starting point for discussion. Whether we are walking, standing,

turning around or dancing, balance is essential to keep us upright and provide our brain and other sense organs of a feeling of stability and calmness.



The balance center of our bodies is located towards the base of the brain. It is often described as a computer analyzing information that tells us if we are stable, moving or about to fall. The information gets to the balance center from our eyes, which tell us where we are located compared to our surroundings or the far horizon. Information also comes from sensory nerve

fibers in our inner ears. Additionally the balance

center gets input from our spinal cord position, especially in the neck, a process known as proprioception. Therefore any condition that limits vision (such as walking into a dark bathroom at night or down the hill of a dark movie theater) can throw a weakened balance system off. Multiple diseases of the balance portion of the inner ear occur and can be simple or very difficult to treat. Neck pain, stiffness and decreased mobility will also lead to balance disorders.

One thing I cannot stress enough is that the best treatment for almost every balance disorder is physical activity. I know many people do not want to hear this, but our balance system is like our muscles. Regular exercise and actually stressing the balance system is essential for its health. You cannot expect to go from the bed in the morning to the breakfast table to the couch to the easy chair to the bed at night without losing much of your balance system. Use it or lose it applies.


Unfortunately I see many patients who want the convenience of a pill to cure everything. And





while medicine has multiple “wonder drugs” very few exist to heal a weakened balance system.


Activities that help maintain a healthy balance include dancing, yoga, Pilates, swimming or water aerobics, bicycle riding and simple maneuvers such as standing on one foot (you can hold on to a wall or table top). If you sit or lay down on the floor and cannot get up without assistance, please get motivated to improve your balance and your overall health. ♦

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Dr. Linh Luu



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Dr. Linh Luu was born and raised in Midland, Texas completing a General Practice Residency in dentistry at St. Luke's Hospital and Health Network in Bethlehem, PA. where she received advanced training in general dentistry, working closely with dental specialists treating complex cases from start to finish. Her passion for working with children developed early in life.

She completed her pediatric dentistry residency at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, NY.

She is an expert in dental prevention, craniofacial growth and development, pediatric oral trauma, medically complex patients, pediatric oral pathology, pediatric genetics that effect the head and neck, childhood growth and development, childhood and adolescent trauma, dental development, restorative procedures and behavior management including extensive training in treating cleft babies and children.

Dr. Luu works closely with MD Anderson and Memorial Hermann Children's hospital providing full mouth rehabilitation for anxious and sick children in the operating room. Our young patients come from all over the world for Dr. Luu's expertise and individual care.

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By: Margie Taylor



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"We use multiple blast medias to achieve the desired finish on carbon steel, stainless steel, and aluminum



surfaces", said owner Michael Leggio. "You will be amazed at the results with our services. And we come to you!"

The Pinnacle Eco Blasting team is experienced at delivering a wholesome clean surface on paving stones, driveways, patios, boat docks, driveways, curbs, and walkways damaged through time with professional pressure washers. Any antique metal items, ATV's, guns, trailers, and gates look brand new when treated with sandblasting.

"We have sandblasted very expensive antique Rolls Royce body frames and parts to restore the vehicles. The vehicles are valued at over 4 million dollars and the owner at Old Iron Works was very pleased", shared Leggio.

Currently you can receive special pricing on refurbishing your car exterior, interior, hood, and trunk of your vehicle. They can remove paint, primer, body filler, rust, and undercoating in a fraction of the time. Call to schedule and confirm fees in advance at (936) 448-7120.

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Continued on page 30

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environmentally safe process, and advanced technology, Pinnacle Eco Blasting believes strongly in complete customer satisfaction. Be careful of those that over-promise and under deliver and are not professionally endorsed. A professional will ensure your property, paintwork, or paving is not damaged in the sandblasting or pressure washing process and carry insurance on their business. If they do not have insurance-do not use them! They are not a legitimate business and may not do work ethically.

Pinnacle Eco Blasting uses water, an abrasive, and a rust inhibitor in their mobile sandblasting to scrub the old surface completely and prepare it for the next process using dust-free, eco-friendly equipment. Nothing will remain to clean up. Other uses for dust-less sandblasting include boats, marine equipment, pools, graffiti removal, brick buildings, fountains, farm equipment, hard timber, and tar removal. Remove all algae and scathing from winter storage of your boat on the water!

Michael Leggio partners with Old Iron Works to assist with their restorative work on vintage cars. "When you are trusted to work on a 4 million-dollar Packard that takes a year to do restorative work, you know quality matters! We also resurfaced 11 vintage sail boats with Conroe Yacht Club. We pride ourselves on performing a professional service in a family owned local business."

Serving the Greater Houston and Montgomery County area, the Pinnacle Eco Blasting professionals can come to your business or home, pick up and deliver the work when finished. No job is unattainable to them!

Learn more about Pinnacle Eco Blasting by visiting their website www.PinnacleEcoBlasting.com or call (936) 448-7120. Email Michael Leggio at pinnacleecoblasting@gmail.com. ♦



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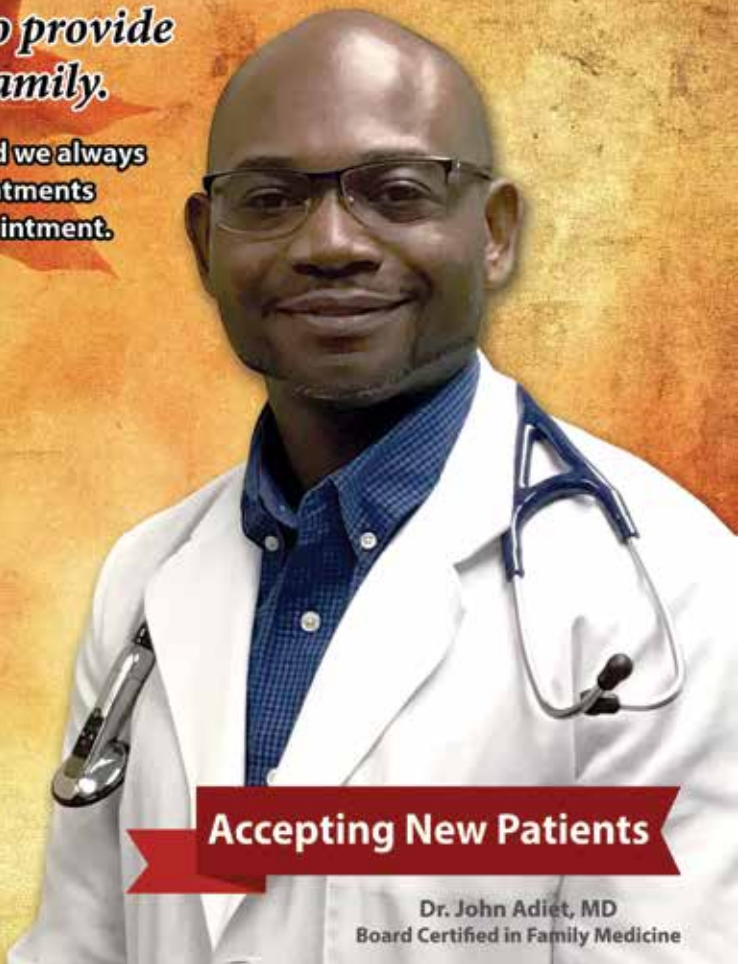


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STAGE RIGHT

Has the Answer to Your Holiday Dilemma!

By: Carolyn Corsano Wong



Can you believe it is already November?! Wow, did this year fly by. Are you trying to figure out what to give a loved one for the holidays? Well, worry no more! STAGE RIGHT has the answer: tickets to a great show at the historic Crighton Theatre would be terrific gifts. We have some fantastic shows coming up that are sure to put a smile on the face of any ticket holder. Just look below and choose a show, call the box office and purchase tickets. If all the shows look good, you can still purchase a season ticket for a prorated amount (since we've already got 2 shows in the books). Pick the performance date you like and if that doesn't work, your gift recipient can always call the box office and change to a different performance (same seats subject to availability). All productions have 10 performances: Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sundays at 2 pm and an added Saturday matinee on the final weekend at 2 pm. Here's what's coming up:



The Best Christmas Pageant Ever – The Musical
Book and lyrics Jahnna Beecham
Music and lyrics by Malcolm Hillgartner
Based on the play by Barbara Robinson
Directed by Tina Cafeo
Performance Dates: Dec. 6 – 22, 2019

The Herdmans are the worst kids in the history of the world—so when they crash Sunday school and demand parts in the Christmas pageant, the whole town panics. There's not supposed to be biting or

cigar-smoking in Bethlehem, and while these kids have never even heard the Christmas story, they definitely have rewrites! Soon everyone is calling for reluctant director Grace Bradley to cancel the whole thing. It's up to Bradley and the Reverend to help their community see the Christmas story and the Herdman kids through new eyes in this buoyant musical adaptation of the funny and touching holiday classic. This delightful comedy with a touching heart-warming finale will be the area premiere of the musical adaptation.



Thoroughly Modern Millie

New Lyrics by Dick Scanlan

New Music by Jeanine Tesori

Book by Richard Henry Morris and Dick Scanlan

Original Story and Screenplay by Richard Morris for the Universal Pictures Film

Directed by Manny Cafeo

Performances: Feb 14-Mar 1, 2020

The winner of six Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Thoroughly Modern Millie was the 2002 season's most awarded new show on Broadway! Based on the 1967 Academy Award-winning film, Thoroughly Modern Millie takes you back to the height of the Jazz Age in New York City, when "moderns," including a flapper named Millie Dillmount, were bobbing their hair, raising their hemlines, entering the workforce and rewriting the rules of love. This high-spirited musical romp is a delightful valentine to the long-standing spirit of New York City and the people who seek to discover themselves there.

Set in New York City in 1922, Thoroughly Modern Millie tells the story of young Millie Dillmount from Kansas, who comes to New York in search of a new life for herself. Her grand plan is to find a job as a secretary for a wealthy man and then marry him. However, her plan goes completely awry. The owner of her dingy hotel kidnaps young girls to sell to the Far East, her wealthy boss is slow in proposing marriage and the man she actually falls in love with doesn't have a dime to his name... or so he tells her. A happy ending will prevail, of course.



M*A*S*H

Adapted by Tim Kelly

From the book by Richard Hooker

Directed by Meredith Ann Gaines

Performance Dates: April 10 - 26, 2020

Audition Dates: Feb. 23 & 24, 2020

Continued on page 34



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Funded in part by The City of Conroe visitconroe.com

M*A*S*H stands for Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, and joining it are two unpredictable madcaps, Hawkeye and Duke. They can't be dealt with casually, however, because they are also two of the best chest surgeons in South Korea. They decide to wage a campaign to get a young Korean to the United States and entered in a good school. Along the way, Hawkeye has a scene with a woman psychiatrist who believes he's been trying to lobster-trap mermaids in a rice paddy! There's a jolly encounter with the baby-talking Bonwit sisters, the worst tap-dancing act the U.S.O. ever sent overseas. A sergeant is selling dumb GIs fishing rights in the Bay of Phum. Radar O'Reilly, a soldier with incredible hearing, anticipates things before they happen. The proprietor of a painless dental clinic is cured of dark moods by the recreation of an old monster movie—and a monster! It's all here, including a little romance mixed in with dramatic moments and a genuine love of life. Oh, yes—the Korean boy does get his education in the United States.



Peter Pan
Lyrics by Carolyn Leigh
Music by Morris "Moose" Charlap

Additional Lyrics by Betty Comden Adolph Green
Additional Music by Jule Styne
Based on the play by Sir J. M. Barrie
Directed by Sara Preisler
Performances: July 10-26, 2020
Auditions: Apr 19-20, 2020 (tentative)

Based on J.M. Barrie's classic tale and featuring an unforgettable score by Morris "Moose" Charlap and Jule Styne with lyrics by Carolyn Leigh and Betty Comden and Adolph Green, Peter Pan is one of the most beloved and frequently performed family favorites of all time. This high-flying Tony Award-winning musical has been performed around the world and delighted audiences for 60 years.

Peter and his mischievous fairy sidekick, Tinkerbell, visit the nursery of the Darling children late one night and, with a sprinkle of pixie dust, begin a magical journey across the stars that none of them will ever forget. In the adventure of a lifetime, the travelers come face to face with a ticking crocodile, a fierce Indian tribe, a band of bumbling pirates and, of course, the villainous Captain Hook. Featuring the iconic songs, "I'm Flying," "I've Gotta Crow," "I Won't Grow Up" and "Never Never Land," and a rousing book full of magic, warmth and adventure, Peter Pan is the perfect show for the child in all of us... who dreamed of soaring high and never growing up.

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By Allison Engel & Margaret Engel

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Performances at the historic Crighton Theatre in Conroe, TX
June 12-21, 2020

ticket to a special event - *Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End* by Margaret & Allison Engel. A loving comic tribute to one of our country's most beloved voices, who captured the frustrations of her generation by asking, "If life is a bowl of cherries, what am I doing in the pits?" From her troubled childhood, where she found comfort in the words of Dorothy Parker and Robert Benchley, through her rise to fame as a journalist and public figure, discover the story behind America's treasured humorist who championed women's lives with wit that sprang from the most unexpected place of all - the truth. This one-woman show stars award winning actress and Crighton favorite Carolyn Corsano Wong.

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Carolyn, Artistic Director and Executive Producer for STAGE RIGHT of Texas, has appeared in many productions at the Crichton Theatre including *Hello Dolly* (Dolly Levi), *The Savannah Sipping Society* (Randa Covington), *The Wild Women of Winedale* (Willa Wild), *The Wizard of Oz* (Wicked Witch) and *Always, Patsy Cline* (Louise Seger).

Show dates are June 12 – 21, 2020 with Friday & Saturday performances at 8 pm and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. There will also be a Saturday matinee on June 20 at 2 pm. Performances will be held at the historic Crichton Theatre at 234 N. Main in downtown Conroe. Tickets for *Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End* are \$26 for adults, \$24 for seniors 62 yr and older and \$17 for youth 16 yr and under. Group discounts are available for groups of 10 or more by calling the box office. Carolyn is offering a \$20 ticket to any STAGE RIGHT season ticket holder. This show is sure to please anyone who has ever had a mother.

For season ticket information/and or to create a gift certificate please call the box office at 936-441-7469. Tickets to any one show can be purchased by calling or online at www.stage-right.org. Give your special someone a truly magical theatre experience instead of the same old fruit cake this year! ♦

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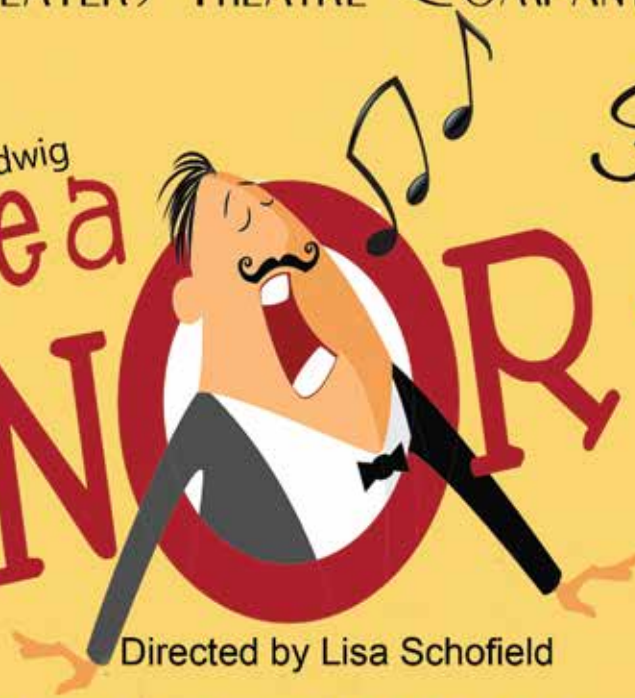
Lend Me a Tenor opens at The Owen Theatre Friday, October 25th and runs through November 9th. For tickets call our box office at 936-539-4090 or on our website www.owentheatre.com. ♦



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| DATE | EVENT/OCCUPANT | CONTACT INFO | FACILITY | GENERAL INFORMATION |
|----------------------|--|--|-------------------|--|
| NOVEMBER 2019 | | | | |
| 11/2-3/2019 | Nancy Cahill Horsemanship Clinic Tx Agrilife Ext Svc | 936/539-7822 | Expo | Sat: & Sun: 9am - 5 pm Pre-Registration Required |
| 11/3/2019 | Texas Cheerleader Regional Championship Texas Cheerleader Magazine, Inc. | www.texascheerleadermagazine.com | Convention Center | 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm Doors Open 11:30 am |
| 11/5/2019 | Box 44 - General Election | www.montgomeryvotes.org | Convention Center | 7 am - 7 pm |
| 11/8-9/2019 | Cooking 4 Courage Texans United for Freedom | www.tufffoundation.org | Fairgrounds | Fri: 5 pm - 12 pm Sat: 9 am - 12 pm |
| 11/8-9/2019 | SHSU College Rodeo Sam Houston State University | Facebook: Sam Houston State University Rodeo Team | Expo | Fri & Sat: 10 am & 7 pm |
| 11/9/2019 | Montgomery County Nutcracker Market | Facebook: Montgomery County Holiday Extravaganza | Convention Center | 10 am - 5 pm |
| 11/14/2019 | Sheriff Rand Henderson Dinner & Auction | randhenderson.org | Fairgrounds | 5:30 pm - 8 pm |
| 11/16/2019 | Terrenos Houston Fight Night El Tigre Promotions | eltigrepromotions.com | Convention Center | 7pm - 11:30 pm |
| 11/29-12/1/2019 | AKC Dog Show Conroe Kennel Club | www.conroekennelclub.org | Fairgrounds | Fri: 9 am - 4 pm Sat: 8 am - 4 pm Sun: 8 am - 3 pm |
| DECEMBER 2019 | | | | |
| 12/7/2019 | Montgomery County Mistletoe Market | Facebook: Montgomery County Holiday Extravaganza | Convention Center | 10 am - 5 pm |
| 12/13-14/2019 | SHSU Sigma Alpha Winter Blowout | Facebook: SHSU Sigma Alpha Winter Blowout | Equest. Ctr. | Fri & Sat: 9 am - 5 pm |
| 12/14/2019 | Camp Quality CPRA Rodeo | 214/801-9697 | Expo | 5 pm - 10 pm |
| 12/14-15/2019 | High Caliber Gun & Knife Show | www.texasgunshows.com | Convention Center | Sat 9 am - 5 pm Sun: 10 am - 4 pm |
| 12/15/2019 | FFA/4-H Prospect Show Friends of Splendara FFA | 936/520-8295 | Expo | 9 am - 4 pm |
| 12/17/2019 | Rally for Life and Liberty with LCT (Ret) Allen West Montgomery County Republican Party | www.mcrp.org | Convention Center | 6 pm - 8 pm |
| 12/28-29/2019 | Prospect Show Proud Parents Buyers Group | 281/381-1043 | Expo | Sat & Sun: 9 am - 5 pm |

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Veterans Legacy Memorial

The Department of Veterans Affairs launched the Veterans Legacy Memorial project, aimed at memorializing online forever the more than 3.7 million veterans interred at the 136 national cemeteries run by the VA's National Cemetery Administration.

The project will begin with the basics on each veteran's memorial page -- name, dates of birth and death, dates of service and other information usually included on a headstone.

No final decisions have been made, but the future capabilities of the memorial project may include the opportunity for families, survivors and other veterans to add photos and share memories of the deceased veteran on the memorial page.

In the future, veterans buried in private cemeteries with headstones provided by the VA may also be added to the online memorial, DVA officials said.

Veterans Legacy Memorial ensures 'no Veteran ever dies' by honoring the legacy of our nation's Veterans, not just in our cemeteries, but in a new and innovative digital setting. "It enhances the on-site national cemetery experience and extends the experience to those who otherwise are unable to physically visit the cemetery."

The National Cemetery Administration, working with the VA's Office of Information and Technology, built the architecture for the site, starting with the information contained on every veteran's headstone.

The initial phase of the memorial project will allow the public to search the site for veterans, find out where they are buried and read the basic details of their lives and service, the VA said.

The Veterans Legacy Memorial will cover only the 136 cemeteries administered by the National Cemetery Administration and does not include national cemeteries run by the military, such as Arlington National Cemetery, which is administered by the Army, or overseas cemeteries managed by the American Battle Monuments Commission.

To access the program visit www.vlm.cem.va.gov. For more information on VA and State benefits contact Montgomery County Veterans Service at 936-539-7842 or via email at vetsvc@mctx.org, and follow us on Facebook. ♦



By: Kay L. Lee, Veterans Service Officer

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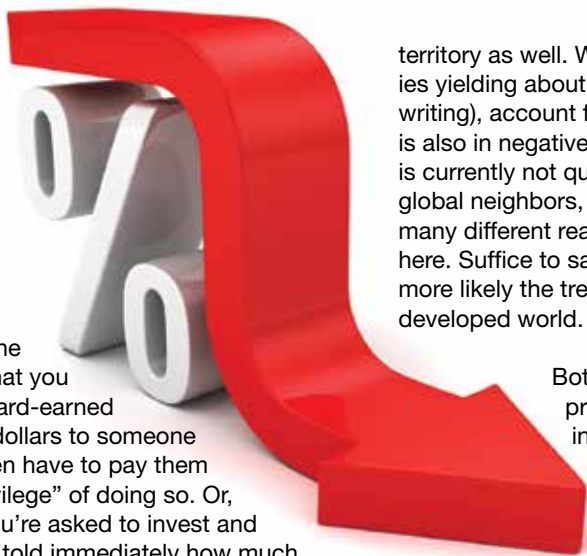
The Dawn of Negative Rates

I want to start this month's article by letting you know how happy I am that you, our dear reader, join us every month. I hope even further that the information we provide to you is both relevant and helpful and we encourage you to share it with those you know. If you like the content, you may also want to register for our informational monthly e-newsletter. So, head over to www.WoottonFinancial.com and get registered. We also want to wish you a happy Thanksgiving with your family and friends. Despite the unfortunate division of our current political climate and the uncertainty of the financial realm in the times ahead, we still have much to be thankful for. Now, on to this month's focus.

Perhaps you've heard recently within the financial media circles about the specter of negative interest rates. You may be saying, "What's a negative interest rate, who would ever invest like that?" Well, let's focus on government bonds for sake of example. A government issues debt (like a U.S. Treasury bond) to fund operations and in return pays you (the investor) a rate of interest to compensate you for investing in said debt. Simply said, you have just become a lender to the government.

Now, imagine if you will that you lend your hard-earned retirement dollars to someone and you then have to pay them for the "privilege" of doing so. Or, suppose you're asked to invest and then you're told immediately how much money you'll lose for doing so. That's negative interest rates. Investing that implicitly has a negative return the moment you enter the transaction. Think of it like paying someone a storage fee to park your cash and receiving nothing from it in return. Simply said, negative rates are a real concern in the global bond space right now.

Balderdash, you may say! No one would ever do that! Well, do it they have and ignoring it or worse yet denying its reality could be detrimental to your retirement investment plan. In August of this year, the German government sold 30-year bonds at negative rates paying no coupon interest at all. In fact, in August, \$700 billion of global debt went into negative rate territory. Most of the negative-yielding debt is in the government bond space due to its "safety" factor but there is also about \$60 billion in U.S. Corporate debt in that



territory as well. With 10 year U.S. Treasuries yielding about 1.7% (at the time of this writing), account for inflation and the 10 year is also in negative territory. Although the U.S. is currently not quite as bad as some of its global neighbors, the risk is still there for many different reasons too lengthy to address here. Suffice to say it is becoming more and more likely the trend will continue within the developed world.

Bottom line, given that bond prices and yields move inversely, if investors foresee low growth and low inflation ahead they are typically more likely to buy bonds that offer lower returns.

They believe that the possible price increase of the bond offers return even though yields may be negative. Interestingly, what is seen as the biggest bond market plunge risk to those in these high price, low yield bonds is the possible recovery of global economies in regaining economic momentum and reversing course on monetary easing.

This is really important in terms of staying on top of your retirement income plan and overall investment plan and philosophy, two of the five primary retirement plan areas of focus I speak about frequently. Global economics can turn on a dime and what's good today may not be good tomorrow, you must be flexible in this regard. If you'd like to get a fresh look at your retirement plan or simply get started with one we'd love to help you discover clear direction for your retirement. Have a happy Thanksgiving and eat some turkey and dressing for me.

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It's All in The Family

The Holiday season brings together family and friends. We share good food and fond memories. We may also think about using this time to share and update your family health history.

A family medical history can identify people with a higher-than-usual chance of having common disorders, such as heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, certain cancers, Diabetes and Glaucoma. A complete record includes information from three generations of relatives, including children, brothers and sisters, parents, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, grandparents, and cousins. So, while sitting around enjoying Aunt Sarah's pecan pie inquire what health issues seem to run in the family. Take note about age of onset and severity of the condition. It is important to know if any family members passed away at an

early age and to know what the suspected causes were. Blindness is also an important healthy history concern. Aunt Sarah maybe able to make the best pecan pie but can't see who's is standing next to her. Ask how and why this came to be. You may find Aunt Sarah's fondness of pecan pie caused her to develop Diabetes which in turn caused her to lose her vision. Every family member you have with the same medical conditions increases your risk of developing the same condition.

While a family medical history provides information about the risk of specific health concerns, having relatives with a medical condition does not mean that an individual will develop that condition. These complex disorders are influenced by a combination of genetic factors, environmental conditions, and lifestyle choices. Knowing that

history can allow the individual to take action and make lifestyle changes. For example, Aunt Sarah, Grandma Rose and Uncle Bob all have Macular Degeneration a smart lifestyle change would be to quit smoking and get yearly eye examinations.

Knowing your family health history is not enough, make sure to act on it. It is important to keep all your health care professionals updated with your family medical history. Your health-care professionals may recommend more frequent screening starting at an earlier age. Early detection is key to managing and treating chronic conditions. Important ocular conditions to take note of include: Glaucoma, Macular Degeneration, and Amblyopia. All of these ocular conditions have strong genetic factors and high risk for uncorrectable vision loss.

Glaucoma can affect individuals of all ages. Although it is most frequently diagnosed in the 40's age group. Screenings should begin at the first eye exam. Macular Degeneration is often diagnosed in the 60's age group however new studies show screening should begin as early as age 40. Amblyopia screening should begin at age 6 months, especially if there is a strong family history.

If you need help compiling a family health history the American Medical Association has online tools and resources to assist you. You can download forms or even create an online portal your entire family can use to stay updated. Visit our website www.cameronoptical.com for links to AMA website. ♦

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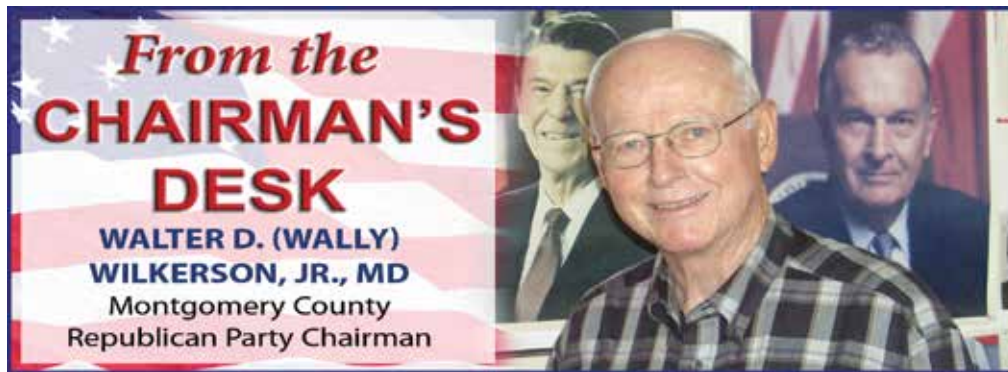
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Elections & the Media

"The 2020 election is a continuation of a conflict about the nature of America which began in the 1960s. The first clear and vivid political collision of that conflict was in 1972."- Newt Gingrich, September 2019. The 1960 presidential election featured the young, charismatic Democrat John F. Kennedy and the stoic, seasoned Republican Vice-President Richard M. Nixon. Nixon lost the popular vote by a margin of 0.17 percent and the Electoral College 303 to 219. In 1972 Nixon won the presidency with over 61% of the popular vote while defeating Democrat George McGovern

Author Theodore White's book titled "Making of the President 1972" describes the emerging hostility of the elite news media and its evolution into the adversarial anti-president propaganda

system for left-wing values, according to Gingrich. Gingrich continued: "Everything we are used to seeing in what President Trump calls "Fake News" existed by 1972. The parallels are amazing- and are part of why I decided to spend so much time analyzing 1972 and 2020 as similar patterns of conflict. The 1960s brought the Free Speech Movement, the Civil Rights movement, the Women's Rights movement, the breakdown of sexual inhibition, the anti-war movement and the collapse of law and order- leading to a dramatic rise in crime and violence.

The power of the liberal Left-wing grew from the media. Since Nixon, the media has attacked presidents who they deem unworthy. Theodore White explained: "These were adversary press. Its

luminaries not only questioned his exercises of power, as all great American journalists have done when examining a president. They questioned his own understanding of America; they questioned not only his actions but the quality of his mind, and his honor as a man. It was a question of who was closest in contact with the mood of the American people- the President or his adversary press."

Gingrich noted: "Much like Trump a generation later, Nixon was not intimidated and did not flinch from the fight. Nixon understood that his primary adversary was the press- not his Democratic opponent.....The elite media had its final victory over President Nixon in the Watergate scandal, which drove him from office. The elite tried this with President Trump in the 'Russian collusion lie and failed.'" ♦



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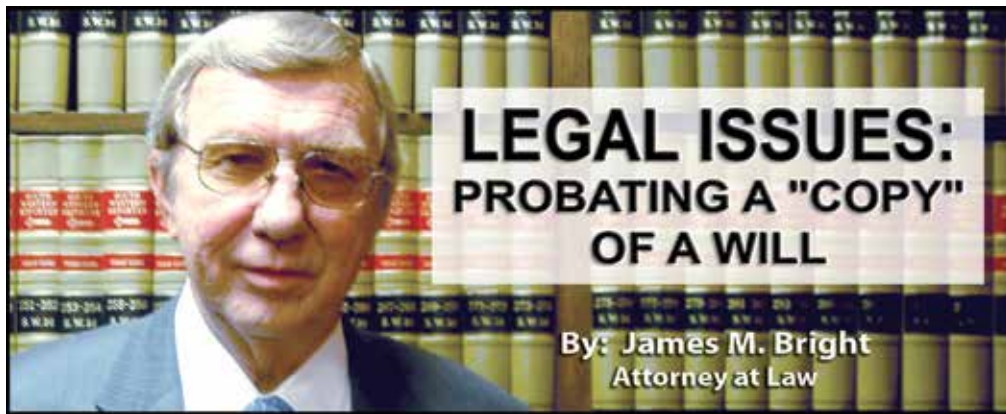
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The following is provided for informational purposes only and is not, nor should it be construed as legal advice.

Many times this firm is faced with a request for probate of a Will when the original has been lost and only a photocopy is in existence. The question presented is, "Can a copy of the Will be probated when the original cannot be found?" The answer is "yes," under certain circumstances a copy can be probated, but only after an offering of evidence regarding the original that is sufficient to overcome the rebuttal presumption that the original was destroyed by the testator in an effort to revoke it.

The proof required to prove up a copy of a Will is in addition to the proof required to prove the original of the Will. Pursuant to Est. Code §256.156, the extra steps involved are:

1. The cause of nonproduction of the Will not produced in court must be proven, and that

proof must be sufficient to show the court that the Will cannot by any reasonable diligence be produced; and

2. The contents of the Will must be substantially proved by the testimony of a credible witness who has read either the original or a copy of the Will, has heard the Will read or can identify a copy of the Will.

The ideal witness to present this evidence through testimony is a person who has seen the original Will since the death of the testator and can testify that the copy submitted is a true and correct copy of the original that was seen. That being said, it is highly unusual those exact facts can be shown.

In a recent case handled by this firm, the decedent and witness (husband-and-wife) executed Wills at the same time in the late 1980s that were exact mirror Wills of each other. The Wills were signed in the offices of an attorney who was

near the age of retirement at the time of execution and was located in a distant city. Mr. and Mrs. X received only a copy of the Will and had the attorney retain the original in his office. Unfortunately, when Mrs. X died, Mr. X had only a photocopy of the Will, and, in spite of a diligent search, was not able to recover the original. It is probable, based upon the attorney's age, that he predeceased Mrs. X in death.

Fortunately, Mr. X was able to convince the court, through his testimony and by a preponderance of the evidence, that the original of the Will had not been destroyed by Mrs. X, and that the photocopy filed with the court was a true and correct copy of the Will that Mrs. X signed.

The case of Mr. and Mrs. X was further simplified by the fact that all children of the decedent were also the children of her husband, and all children were willing and able to make an appearance in the probate court to assure that there were no heirs for whom there was not an accounting.

When lines of heirship are clearly defined and easily provable as in the above example, probating a copy of the Will is only slightly more difficult and requires only slightly more proof. This matter is, however, greatly complicated when provisions of the Estates Code Article 258.002 are applied. These conditions place an additional burden on the person offering a copy of the Will to probate by requiring that citation be issued to "all parties interested in the estate" of the decedent.

The broad term, "all parties interested in the estate," of the decedent encompasses all possible

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heirs, which includes any person who would have been a beneficiary of the estate under the laws of intestate succession, as if no Will had existed. At first blush, this doesn't seem to create much of a problem, but when you apply it to the real world, the problems become very difficult and much more expensive to overcome.

An example can be shown from my own practice. Decedent in that case was an elderly gentleman who had four children, three of whom had predeceased him. This was not a close-knit family, and he had an unknown number of grandchildren whom he had never met. In fact, he had not seen three of his four children in more than 40 years. He prepared a Last Will and Testament, leaving everything that he owned including his home, to a granddaughter whom he did know and who also was his primary caretaker for the last 15 years of his life.

The above described estate should have been simple to settle, and would have been, but for the fact that the original Will was not available and we had to rely on a photocopy. The procedural nightmare that ensued was the necessity for serving citation on persons that nobody had spoken to or seen for the last 40 years. We were not even certain as to the number of the children or grandchildren who were alive or deceased, leaving lineal descendants of their own.

The bottom line is that the original of your Will is a valuable document and should be protected from accidental destruction. It is also a good idea to let your executor know the location of the original. You do not need to provide a copy or the original to the executor, unless you wish to do so, but you do need to advise the executor regarding the location of the original.

Probating of a loved one's Will should not be excessively time-consuming or difficult, but the court needs to be certain that the Will admitted to probate is truly the Last Will and Testament of the decedent.

As always, when you are dealing with an attorney, you should be certain that he/she has demonstrated expertise in that particular area of the law.

James Bright has been admitted to practice before the Federal Courts for the Southern District of Texas and Eastern District of Texas as well as all of the Justice Courts, Probate Courts, County Courts at Law, District Courts, Courts of Appeal and Supreme Court for the State of Texas. He maintains an office in Houston and by appointment another at 208 McCown Street in the heart of historic Montgomery. Contact may be made by telephone (936) 449-4455 or (281) 586-8277. For more information about wills or probate in Texas, please see- www.houstontxprobate.com. ♦

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Sweet Potatoes + Marshmallows

- 2 tablespoons butter, plus more for baking dish
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 2 1/2 pounds sweet potatoes
- 1 lemon, sliced and seeded
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 3 cups marshmallows

Heat oven to 350 degrees F.

In a large pot melt 2 tablespoons butter. Stir in brown sugar and water. Bring to a boil, then lower and simmer while stirring until reduced and thickened, about 10 minutes.

Peel potatoes and cut lengthwise, then again making long quarters. Cut these into 1-inch pieces ending up with pie slice-shaped wedges. Place in a separate large pot of boiling water and cook for about 5 minutes. Potatoes should give a bit when poked with a fork.

Drain the potatoes and arrange in a single layer in a buttered 13 by 9-inch baking dish. Pour the syrup over the potatoes; making sure it covers the potatoes. Place lemon slices on top and bake for 35 minutes, spooning syrup over potatoes twice during that time. Potatoes are done when they are tender to the fork.

Remove from the oven, remove the lemon slices, and stir in pecans. Arrange the marshmallows evenly on top. Place back in the oven turning it up to 400 degrees F and cook until marshmallows puff up and turn brown, approximately 10 more minutes.

Three Bread Stuffing

- 1/2 loaf sourdough bread
- 1/2 loaf rye bread
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter plus more for greasing
- 1 cup frozen chopped onions
- 3 stalks celery, chopped
- 2 medium carrots, chopped
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 (14-ounce) bag cornbread stuffing
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1-cup turkey gravy
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 1-tablespoon poultry seasoning
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan

Cut the breads into 1-inch cubes and spread them out onto baking sheets. Leave out overnight to get stale. (Alternately, bake them in a 300 degree F oven for 30 minutes to dry them out).

In a large skillet over medium heat, add the butter. When it is melted add the onions, celery, and carrots and season with salt and pepper. Cook until the vegetables are soft, about 10 minutes. Turn off the heat and let cool a bit.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Butter a 9 by 13-inch baking dish.

Put the bread cubes into a large bowl with the cornbread stuffing and add the cooled vegetables. In a medium bowl, whisk together the broth, gravy, eggs, and poultry seasoning. Pour over the bread and mix; the mixture should be fairly moist but not wet. If it seems to dry, add some more broth. Fill the baking dish with the stuffing and top with the Parmesan. Bake until the top is browned and the stuffing is cooked through, 35 to 40 minutes. ♦

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Snooze, Unfollow, or Unfriend?

Hands up if you feel you never have enough hours in the day to get everything done?

By: Dock Line Social Media Team

Hands up if you feel you never have enough hours in the day to get everything done? We're too busy in our daily lives to be distracted with constant interruptions. But this is what social media can do if we aren't careful. All those pings and pop-ups are continually demanding attention, dragging you away from what you should be doing. So how can you cut it all back?

Facebook

Facebook can be a complete time suck – One of your friends posts about what she just had for dinner, and you feel the urge to click the like button. Then you decide to comment because she's recently commented on one of your posts. Suddenly, you begin to get a stream of notifications as everyone else does the same.

But you don't have to! For starters, you can opt-out of notifications right after you left your comment. There are three small dots – click them and find all of the options Facebook offers. Choose "Turn off Notifications". You will also find an "Unfollow" option. Only choose it if you don't care to see anything that particular friend posts. You can still visit her personal Facebook page and see how she is doing, but her updates won't appear on your feed.

When you unfollow someone – this isn't as severe as unfriending them but helps to cut back on the notification noise. They won't know they have been unfollowed by you. If you have friends who rant about politics or things you disagree with too often for example, use the unfollow option, so you don't see them in your News Feed but are still friends with them.

Twitter

Twitter is a high-speed content platform, and that means notifications can sound like you have a slot machine in your pocket with all the pings. But you can filter notifications on the platform in

three ways:

- Quality filter – this turns off lower-quality content such as duplicate or automated tweets but not from people you have interacted with

- Mute notifications – you can turn this on for words or phrases you want to avoid seeing (like those political rants if that's not your thing)

- Advanced filters – these give you even greater control about what types of content appear and lets you fine-tune your notifications

You can also turn off notifications on your mobile in the 'Settings and Privacy' section.

Instagram

One of the biggest attention-grabbers on Instagram are push notifications when someone likes or comments on your post. But you don't have to have these turned on. You can decide to check these comments when the timing suits you. Go to your profile and tap the three-line hamburger menu then the Settings icon. Go to notifications and adjust the settings.

You can also turn notifications on or off for someone you follow by going to their profile then Following > Notifications. Turn it off, and you won't get notified when they post something new. But you will still follow them and can check their profile any time you like!

Update- Instagram recently began rolling out a test to hide likes on posts in 7 countries. It's unclear at this time whether it will also eliminate the "like" notification but it probably will. The owner

of the account will be able to see likes but the followers will not.

If you have any questions about this article or would like additional tips and tricks or information. Don't hesitate to contact us at social@docklinemagazine.com! ♦



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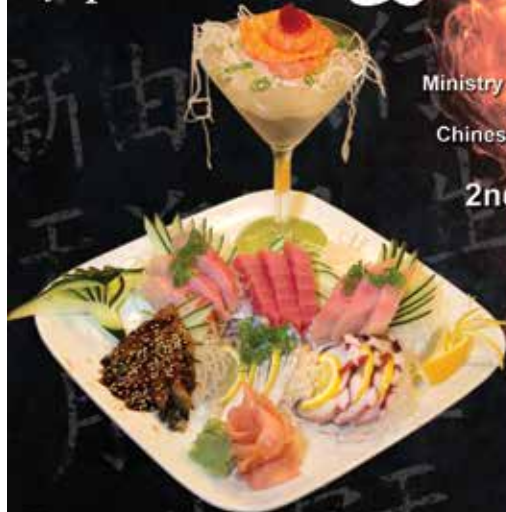
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Garden Thyme

By: Growers Outlet

Gardening Weather is Back

The torrid days of summer are behind us and fall is finally here. With the arrival of colder nights and milder days comes the urge for us to get back outside and work in our yards and beds. As I stated in last month's article, now is the time to get your fall bedding plants in before the holidays. Most bedding plants sold here in the fall will tolerate our normally mild winters without any significant damage from the cold.

Besides fall bedding plants and cool season vegetables, November through February is by far the best time to plant most shrubs and trees. The exception would be tropical or so called semi tropical plants like tropical hibiscus, ixora and even most citrus. Even though some of these plants have shown to withstand mild winter temperatures, this will only occur only after they have "hardened off". Newly purchased tropical or semi-tropical plants from the nursery, even if they are more than a year old have been protected in a greenhouse during the previous winter.



People that come from northern areas are trained to wait until spring when the soil thaws before planting. This is because newly planted shrubs and trees can have their roots damaged by freezing temperatures in the root zone before the plants get rooted out. Obviously down here we don't have that concern. In our area the biggest concern is heat and drought stress rather than frozen roots. Simply speaking, plant roots grow above 40 degrees. During the winter, trees and shrubs will stop putting on new top growth and focus their energy on repairing damaged roots and expanding the existing root system. In other words, the earlier you plant in the fall the better prepared your new plants will be for the full surge of new growth in the spring and the stresses of the following summer.

This time of year, you will see plants on sale at some of the bigger garden centers with discounts up to 70% off all plants. Beware of 2 things, the first being that the prices may have been jacked up to make room for the large discount meaning you got only a small or no discount at all. The second is that you may be buying heavily stressed plants that have gone

through the summer with improper care.

If you are replacing a dead shrub or tree make sure you are not perpetuating a problem. The previous plants died for a reason. The past few years we have seen many plants that have died from root rot. This has been primarily caused by our heavy clay soils that have very poor drainage combined with back to back years of excessive rainfall. Make sure you understand the reason the old plants died before putting new ones right back in the same hole. Besides improper drainage and too much rain the problem could have simply been poor plant selection.

When planting multiple trees or shrubs start with a plan. Make sure you have good knowledge of the growth habits for the plants you have selected. It is much easier to use an eraser than a shovel to move a plant if you put it in the wrong place. You don't want to place a tree or shrub in an area where it will quickly outgrow the space it is installed in. At the Growers Outlet we see that problem way too often.

Plant properly for success. Here are a few guidelines to help you get off on the right foot:

- For trees and shrubs in 15-gallon pots and larger, dig a hole large enough in diameter so that the root system has at least six inches of clearance on all sides. For 3- and 5-gallon shrubs, 3 inches would be fine. The root ball should rest on a solid soil foundation, so don't dig the hole much deeper than the ball.
- Plant the tree or shrub slightly above the level of the surrounding soil, to allow for settling and increased soil drainage.
- Carefully place the tree or shrub in the hole. Handle the plant by the root ball, not by the trunk. A broken ball of earth can mean a dead plant. It should go without saying that you should always remove any container before you plant.
- Backfill the hole, using mostly the soil that came out of the hole. Adding an amendment such as compost at a ratio of not more than 5 to 1 soil to compost would be ok. Fill the hole, and firm the soil around the plant. Water thoroughly to settle the soil around the roots and to eliminate any air pockets.
- Do not fertilize your tree or shrub after planting. Wait until early in the spring to do this, and even then, go lightly. Heavy applications of fertilizer may burn and injure the root system, and could possibly kill the plant. The use of Microlife 6-2-4 organic fertilizer in the planting hole has been shown to work fine as well as the use of root stimulators.
- A thorough watering every 7 to 10 days dramatically increases the success ratio. More frequent watering may encourage root rot. Remember more trees and shrubs fail from over watering than from under watering.
- Before calling it a day, add 4 to 6 inches of mulch around the base of newly planted trees and

shrubs. This helps to keep down weeds and conserve soil moisture. Use bark mulch, compost, grass clippings, or leaves.

Things to do in November

*Plant cool season annuals such as pansies, violas, alyssum, snapdragons, dianthus and ornamental cabbages.

*If you did not fertilize your lawn in October DO IT NOW! with Nitro Phos Fall Special or if you want to go organic, use Microlife 6-2-4. DO NOT USE FERTILIZERS WITH A HIGH NITROGEN CONTENT! That is the 1st number in the analysis.

*Think about changing the schedule on your irrigation system. Water demands on grass and plants will go down with shorter cooler days and nights. Less water will save money and lessen disease problems.

*Keep abreast of changing weather. We can have very cold weather as soon as the second week of November. Be prepared with freeze cloth to protect tender plants.

*Remember, if you have been putting off any major landscape projects, now is the time to start them. Trees, shrubs and perennials do much better the following summer when planted in the fall.

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Resiliency of The Woodlands Division

By: Chris Meeks, Woodlands Division Manager

Resilience...Webster's Dictionary defines resilience as an ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change. As a Utility Manager for a water and wastewater system, adjustment and change are daily occurrences. Utility Managers take many things into consideration when planning for changing operations including natural disasters, financial impacts of fluctuating usage, and balancing the desire for stable rates with increased maintenance needs. From weather patterns to fluctuating usage to community growth, the daily

operations of a water and wastewater system have to be adaptive at all levels. Why? It's our job at the San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA) to ensure the end-users—all water and wastewater users—never have to think about it.

The area we live in is prone to natural disasters such as hurricanes and flooding. Unfortunately, there is no sure fire way to protect utility assets against these disasters, but there are ways to mitigate negative effects. For example, SJRA Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) No. 1 is

located next to Panther Branch on Sawdust Road. Parts of the facility are in the floodplain and without mitigation measures would flood when the creek rises. Many years ago, to mitigate this issue, an earthen levee was installed around the western side of the facility to keep the creek from flooding the plant. Since the levee was installed, the facility has not flooded. Other mitigation measures such as portable generators, spare parts, motors and pumps, in-house repair capabilities, and redundant equipment have assisted the division in maintaining water and wastewater services during these events. These mitigation measures are put in place so when the need arises, staff can quickly restore or recover from natural disasters while avoiding a service disruption.



Kevin Jones



Jacob Everett

Weather patterns also have a great effect on water usage. Isolated storms that last a couple of days followed by warm, sunny days is the norm. Long periods of rain as seen between 2015 or more recently, September 2018 – February 2019, reduce water usage and in turn reduce the revenue into a water utility. Being a governmental entity, we have limited reserves to stabilize rates through multiple years of reduced demand caused by higher-than-normal rainfall. We utilize industry best practices and follow industry guidelines to maintain adequate reserves so rates do not fluctuate like a rollercoaster from year to year, but these reserves are typically designed to maintain rates for a couple of years of wet weather. For SJRA Woodlands Division, this means we have a three-month operating reserve and an emergency reserve. The three-month operating reserve assists in maintaining cash flow during periods of wet weather and low water usage. This helps us maintain a steady maintenance and production cycle even when the demand is down. The emergency reserve acts in the opposite manner. This reserve is used only in major emergencies.

Fluctuating usage and community growth also affect service and resilience. When a community becomes built out and growth slows down,

demands for water and wastewater services begin to level off and reach a point of more static demand. Over the last 40+ years, The Woodlands, Texas has been growing and expanding. This trend of growing is coming to a close as the available land in the Montgomery County portion of The Woodlands, Texas is developed. A static demand assists in planning efforts for long-term water supply and wastewater services, but it is not always good for financial reasons. The Woodlands area is, in utility terms, a "new" community. Generally, this means that the util-



Bill Gibson

ity is less than 50 years old. This has pros and cons. The community has a healthy utility system, however the need to replace its assets is increasing. In order to stay on top or slightly ahead of the replacement curve, the renewal of infrastructure such as water and wastewater lines, pumps, motors, concrete tanks, and basins needs to be a priority in order to keep the utility functional with no service disruptions. The renewal of assets takes time and money. Residents in a growing community oftentimes don't realize the costs of renewing assets as rates can sometimes hold steady since demand increases, however with a community that is not rapidly growing and demands have steadied, rate increases are needed to maintain the desired level of service and keep up with inflation rates. The balance between maintenance needs and rate increases is a delicate one that involves understanding priorities and the associated risk that sometimes comes with delaying projects.

What does this mean to you? This means that every day the employees of the SJRA Woodlands Division conduct tasks to ensure drinking water is clean and within regulations and that wastewater flows away without you having to think about it. This also means that during long-term planning efforts and budget cycles we evaluate needs, priorities, and community impacts balancing these items for the benefit of the entire community. Our goal is to keep rates as low as possible while maintaining the quality and consistency that our customers desire.

One of the major river authorities in Texas, SJRA's mission is to develop, conserve, and protect the water resources of the San Jacinto River basin. Covering all or part of seven counties, the organization's jurisdiction includes the entire San Jacinto River watershed, excluding Harris County. If you would like to know more about SJRA, what we do, and how we work for the community, check out our website at www.sjra.net, like SJRA on Facebook @SanJacintoRiverAuthority, or follow us on Twitter @SJRA_1937. ♦

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Fishing ADVENTURES

with Derek Pietsch



9-14-19 Practicing for FLW BFL Super Tournament

Sam Rayburn – Prop Ear Shears Off

Trey and I went to Sam Rayburn to practice first for my FLW BFL Super Tournament coming up next week and second for the College Tournament to requalify for the Bassmaster National Championship again for next summer. We caught a few fish and were just getting started when we were running across the lake to find some more sports to fish when the boat sounded weird. It was making a funny noise and it did not sound good at all. We didn't know what it could be because we did not hit a thing. All we were doing was driving. I stopped the boat and pulled up the motor and we noticed the problem, a wing from the prop had sheared off. We'll guess what that means. No more fishing for us. I guess God sends us to where we are supposed to be and since I was practicing for the tournaments I was not going to get to go to my Papa's 90th Birthday lunch. I think he had other plans. Trey and I called to see if any of our friends were on the lake so we could be towed but we were far from the truck so instead I hitched a ride with another man that took me to my truck instead of towing the boat that distance. I drove the truck to the nearest ramp and Trey met me with the boat. We got home at midnight and borrowed a spare prop from Mr. Hooker because I was determined I needed to get the boat fixed and drive all the way back to Sam Rayburn to practice. It was another 2 ½ hours of driving one way. My dad and I could not get it to work on our boat. Like I said someone else thought I should be at Papa's NINETIETH BIRTHDAY.



I went to the party and was glad I was able to make it. My Papa was happy also. Both Grant and I were both there with him.

So, my new plan was to get my homework done and leave for the tournament Thursday night to go try to practice again after the prop comes in. The hurricane came up and they closed the school on Wednesday and Thursday so now I can get my work done before I go and have a head start and

can leave earlier and make up for the lost practice. Things always seem to work out how they are supposed to.

9-21-19 FLW BFL Cowboy Super Tournament Sam Rayburn

Today I fished the FLW BFL Cowboy Super Tournament at Sam Rayburn. This tournament you receive double points for the fish you catch to qualify for the Regionals. Doug is my co-angler that is fishing with me from Huntsville, Texas. We fished the lily pads with frogs. I lost a lot of big ones in the pads. Between 10-11 am I was flipping



bushes with a Texas Rig Rage Crawl and caught my limit of 5. I ended up in 54th place with 9 pounds. My partner zeroed. Was not a good day. I kept up my limit so I am standing in 24th in points out of 258 Pro Anglers. I will be going to the Regional Championship at Grand Lake in Oklahoma.

9-28-19 Outlaw Outdoors Qualifying Tournament for

Bassmaster College National Championship

Today is a great day, partly sunny with clouds. The temperature is 75 degrees this morning but will warm up to a blazing 88 degrees.

This is the second year they are doing the



Qualifying Tournament for the Bassmaster National Championship. Last year Trey and I won it. They are doing two of these tournaments this year but only one winner from each tournament is qualified. Today there are 66 teams fishing. We are fishing on Sam Rayburn.

It was a nice calm morning and we were parked in the grass on the shoreline waiting for takeoff. The country music is playing and it's getting brighter as first light is approaching. Getting in my bag to get a little snack for breakfast. We really do not like to stop to eat when we are fishing. Yesterday we were on the fish. When we pre-fished we found a lot of fish up north deep and shallow. We sure hope all that works out for us today. Aaron and Drew are also representing Texas A&M Galveston in this tournament. My other friends Joe and Dillon are also here from their schools.

The tournament director says a prayer for all of the angler's safety fishing on the lake and then they play the national anthem. The tournament



director calls out number 41 as we drive by Mr. Holloway is standing on the dock. He is the fishing coach from Schreiner University and said, "You boys need to come fish at Schreiner". I just smiled as we drove off to catch our fish.

Our first stop was at Five Fingers. We were fishing with a hollow body frog. I caught a 2 pounder in the first 10-15 minutes of fishing. Ten minutes later Trey has a 2-3 pounder blow up on a frog.

We left Five Fingers and went to our next spot, Veach. It was covered with thick lily pads. We frogged and nothing. NO BITES AT ALL.

No need in sticking around there so we headed to the Canyons. We saw about 40 teal and wood ducks. I am sure Trey was thinking about duck hunting since the fishing was not going so well at this point. We fished 2 brush piles in the first hour with NO LUCK, NO BITES AT ALL. We could not give up. We found fish at practice and they were big fish. We'll all of a sudden it picked up. Trey caught a 3 pounder on a Texas Rig ½ oz. with a Mister Twister 10" worm. Then I caught one. We caught our limit by 11 or 12. During that time we culled 3 times.

By 12 noon it got windy. The waves got huge, like 3 feet, by the time we got to the weigh in we were soaked. It took us 40 minutes to get in crawling over the waves.

Aaron and Drew came in before us and weighed in 5 fish weighing 16.32 pounds taking 6th place. Joe and Donzae came in 10th place with 14.64 pounds. We ended up coming in 17th place with 5 fish weighing 13.92 pounds. Not near as good as we had hoped. Still it is always great to be on the water fishing and enjoying the great outdoors with my great friend Trey. Thanks to our sponsors, Shipley Do-Nuts, Big D Marine, Strike King and Cast-A-Way that support us throughout the fishing season and make all this possible. **Throw It Out, Pop It In, Fish On! ♦**



A Time to Give Thanks For a Thanksgiving Pet



By: Ruby Cross, Animal Shelter Volunteers of Texas, 501c3 (ASVT)

Thanksgiving is a special holiday that brings family and friends together to give thanks and enjoy the tradition of our ancestors. Not sure if any dogs and cats came over on the Mayflower, but assured they are abundant in most households. Animal Shelter Volunteers of Texas placed many of these pets in their forever homes. We can be there for you!

Sometimes we have to ask, who is really getting rescued, the animals or us? Animals' love is unconditional and they are so eager to constantly demonstrate how much they adore us. As with any love that we are fortunate enough to receive, we must not take it for granted.

ASVT has been dedicated to helping abandoned animals of our community for 9 years. Every year we make new goals, every year we help more animals in need and every year we save hundreds of lives. The animals need us and we need you to help us help them.

Puppies and kittens arrive by the box fulls – innocent and hungry. Because they are small and cute, if they stay healthy, they usually have a good chance of being adopted quickly. Others unfortunately don't survive and there are always one or two that are left behind and spend the first 3 or 4 months of their life in a cubicle at a shelter waiting for that special person.

Foster!

Fostering is an emotional rollercoaster helping these helpless animals but we are committed to them. ASVT animals are housed in foster homes where they can be socialized and learn to trust humans again. Fostering gives an animal a second chance and can be a wonderful life experience for the entire family. Fosters are the unsung heroes of rescue.

Adopt!

Other ways we help our community animals is by educating youth, transport to other states with high adoption needs and pay for surgeries so they can have the opportunity to be cured and find a home. These are just a few of our adoptable pets. Can you make one or two of them your Thanksgiving Pet?

Reba, Mylie, Foxy and Roo

These four tiny Chihuahuas were part of a

seizure case and brought to Montgomery County Animal Shelter. Sadly they had to spend 30 days in quarantine while court decisions were made.



ASVT took these four girls in and other rescues took in the remaining from the group. They are now in loving foster homes learning to trust humans again. They are needing and receiving lots of socialization. They will be ready for their forever families soon.

Sniffer and Blackie

Sniffer and Blackie are two beautiful cats whose senior mom went to heaven and were left alone. They came to live with ASVT and need a quiet home. Then, they will become your favorite



lap cats. They would like to be kept together. Oh, and if you happen to buy stock in catnip, they will be forever grateful.

Through the years that Animal Shelter Volunteers of Texas (ASVT) has been helping community animals in need it is evident that heartfelt thanks are felt from both the animals rescued and the rescuers.

The RESCUE RIDERS event held on September 28 was a perfect example of our community supporting ASVT. Bettyann and Reuben Harp organized the 4th Annual Rescue Riders Fundraiser to benefit ASVT. The parade start-



ed at Froggy's Bar and Grill with a ride throughout the beautiful country of Cold-springs. The parade, escorted by Constable Sam Houston included Bikes and Jeeps. It was an amazing sight to see them ride for homeless animals with flags flying high.

It was a gift of thanks and giving all day long. Special thanks to Bettyann and Reuben Harp and friends for the months of tireless work in preparation for this event.

Rescue Riders will see a 5th Annual event to support the organizers passion to continue ASVT's spay/neuters program.

Many pet parents want to share their Thanksgiving with the family pet. The best way to ensure that your pet will stay safe while enjoying Thanksgiving festivities is to make them their own Thanksgiving treats.

Turkey breast (shredded) – Every balanced meal includes some protein. Select turkey from the middle of the breast because it is least likely to have absorbed the fatty, salty brine and leave the





skin off.

Sweet potatoes – Sweet potatoes are high in beta-carotene and fiber. Mash up some of the boiled sweet potatoes before any butter or spices are added.

Carrots – Carrots are low calorie and high in fiber and vitamin A. They are also high in sugar though so you may want to skip them if your dog is diabetic.

Green Beans – Green beans are filling and low calorie.

Cranberries – Cranberries are a great source of antioxidants.

Apple slices – Apples are a sweet treat for your pup. Just make sure you have removed the seeds and skin.

Pumpkin – Pumpkin can help regulate your dog's digestive tract. Whether the pumpkin is steamed, baked, or canned make sure that nothing has been added to it.

Remember to keep the portion sizes small if you are using several different foods so you don't stuff your pet with foods their tummy is not used to.

HOW CAN YOU HELP US HELP THEM?

ADOPT, SPONSOR, VOLUNTEER, FOSTER, DONATE!

You can visit our website to sign up to volunteer and/or foster and donate using our DONATE button. Donations help us pay for medical expenses, food, supplies and transporting animals to areas with high adoption needs.

ASVT also sponsors a Spay/Neuter Program for community animals whose owners cannot afford to have their pets altered. This helps decrease the rise of community puppies and kittens that will end up in the shelters.

The accomplishments of ASVT would not be possible without partners like Wiesner Automotive, Empire Electric, Dock Line Magazine and so many more. ♦



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Winter Flocks - The Boys are Back In Town!

This is the time of year when outdoor activities slow down for us people. Planting is over until spring, lawns quit growing and mowing stops. Nights are longer, days are shorter, and the cold winds hustle us humans inside. And a large number of our land birds head further south for winter. Yet this is the season when thousands of water birds from the north fly down to our region, join up in large flocks, and settle into the lakes and rivers of East Texas.

Although some of these same birds are here in small numbers during the summer, in winter cormorants, white pelicans, gulls, and terns all come to the local waterways in enormous numbers. Each flock is like a giant bird party with non-stop gabbing, socializing, squabbling, and feeding.

Cormorants come in by the thousands! Some people cringe because these big goofy duck-like

The Boys Are Back In Town! Double-Crested and Neotropic Cormorants



American White Pelicans gather by the hundreds below the Lake Livingston Dam.



Pert little scissor-tailed Forster's Terns prefer the open water. During the winter months they display black feather patches that run from their eyes to ears.



Ring-bills, Laughing Gulls, and terns all flock together in the shallows around Wolf Creek Park.



In winter pelicans and cormorants often swim and hunt together in great numbers.

birds foul their docks and coves, and turn the trees white with droppings! But they are amazing underwater acrobats, chasing and catching fish while diving and swimming 30' below the surface. Although silent during the summer, in large winter flocks they grunt like pigs! It is an amazing sound!

Majestic American White Pelicans arrive by the hundreds, each devouring several pounds of fish per day. They paddle and fish on the lakes and rivers during the winter days, and during the evenings they usually roost in coves or down behind the reservoir dams, protected from the harsh north winds.

Forster's Terns are pert little scissor-tailed birds that love the open water. Sitting far out in the lake they hunt for small fish. Terns hunt by plunge-diving into the water, stunning and eating small surface fish. They smack into the water so hard it seems as if their bones would break!

Gulls of all kinds swarm into the area for winter. Laughing Gulls, Bonaparte's Gulls and Ring-Billed Gulls are the most common. They mass together on sand bars or along protected shorelines. Terns often roost with them. During daytime the gulls flit about over the open water, swooping down on surface fish using a grab-and-go technique, or stealing other birds' catches.

When spring comes around and the cold weather breaks, these water loving flocks pick

up and migrate to their various northern breeding grounds, leaving us behind until the next winter. Be aware that these birds are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act which makes it illegal to harass, possess or harm them, or their nests and eggs.

Learn more about the incredible nature in our area by joining a chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist organization. To find a chapter close to you, or to read about the state program, go online to www.txmn.org. Volunteer and get involved! ♦

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Black & White & Different All Over

By: Lisa Wolling, Executive Director

Over the years Friends of Texas Wildlife has been assisting animals, we have been very privileged to see some unusual coloration in our wild friends. This month's article will discuss some of color mutations that can show up in animals of many species.

Albinism is an inherited genetic condition that reduces the amount of melanin pigment formed in the skin, hair and/or eyes. Albinism can be found in mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates. True albinism is quite rare in nature, but there are reports and sightings of many different types of albino animals. Not all white animals are albinos, however; true albino animals lack any pigment in all body parts, and they have pink or very light blue eyes. Albino animals face some definitive survival challenges. Albinism affects eyesight as the absence of melanin results in abnormal eye development, which often means that those with albinism struggle with depth perception or other vision issues. These vision issues may make it more difficult for albino animals to find food or avoid danger. Lacking protective coloration, albino animals may also be more likely to be seen by both predators and prey. However, in some cases coloration may not matter much. Predators such as hawks may rely more



Two examples of albinism: at left, an albino raccoon. At right, an albino fawn next to its mother, who displays normal coloration. Note the total lack of pigment throughout the animal's fur and the pink eyes.

or pigment in particular, or patchy coloration occurring in skin, hair, feathers, or scales. However, the coloration of eyes and nails are not affected. For instance, a robin may have normal black coloration but lack the red coloration, which would result in a black bird with a white breast. Or an opossum might appear totally white with just black ears; this animal lacks black pigment to most of its fur, but the ears maintain their normal coloration. A white tiger is another example of a leucistic animal (it lacks the normal orange pigment but retains the black stripes). Animals which are referred to as "piebald" or spotted are leucistic; the patches are where there is lack of pigment in the skin, fur, or feathers. Leucism is much more common than albinism.

Melanism is when an animal develops more melanin than is normal for the species, leading to all black coloration of feathers, fur, or scales. Melanistic animals are somewhat common in nature, with some species even passing on the trait as a genetic adaptation. Black leopards and jaguars are two of the more commonly-recognized melanistic animals. In some species, it appears that melanistic coloration may be an adaptation to the environment. In other instances, it could be the result of the cross-breeding of similar species (examples could be the offspring of fox squirrel/gray squirrels breeding, or the hybrid mix of domestic dogs and wolves). Some research seems to indicate that melanistic wolves and large cats are more common in heavily-forested areas, where light levels are lower. Each year at our wildlife center, we get one or two melanistic baby squirrels. We have even gotten siblings where one or two are normal color, and one is melanistic. Other than their unique and beautiful coloration, they are alike in all other aspects.

Seeing an animal of any species with unique coloration is truly

a special experience. Many animals with abnormal coloration seem to do just fine in the wild, so it doesn't necessarily mean they need assistance or rescuing. As with anything else, if the animal appears to be acting normal and doesn't seem sick or injured, it is best to enjoy its unique beauty and leave it alone.

To learn more about what we do and view pictures of many of the animals we assist, please visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SavingTexasWildlife. Our educational visitor's center is open the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., located at 29816 Dobbin Hufsmith Road, Magnolia, Texas, so the next open house date will be Saturday, November 9. Come on out and visit us, learn a little more about local wildlife, do some fun activities and a craft, and meet some of our non-releasable wildlife educational animals. We also host birthday parties, camps, and educational presentations. For more information about events, birthday parties, camps, or educational presentations for scouts, schools, or other groups, please visit our website or email ftlw.education@gmail.com. There are many other ways you can help support our efforts, too (such as Kroger Community Rewards, Amazon Smile, etc.). Details can be found at www.ftlw.org, and then click on "How to Help". ♦



Examples of leucistic animals. They lack some pigment, either overall, or in patches. Top left: fox squirrel, lacking gray pigment. Top right: raccoon, lacking black pigment. Bottom left: opossum lacking most black pigment. Bottom right: robin lacking patches of black pigment.

on shape and movement to identify prey, so the color of the prey may make little difference. Melanin normally protects the skin from UV damage, so animals with albinism are more sensitive to sun exposure. Animals that are normally nocturnal may be less negatively impacted by albinism than diurnal animals. Some animals, such as squirrels, have retinas that are different, so they are not as negatively impacted by albinism. Albino animals may also have more difficulty finding mates as they are often considered outcasts by their peers.

Leucism is a condition in which there is partial loss of pigmentation in an animal. This can result in a mostly white animal, or an animal which lacks one col-



Examples of melanistic animals. Their coloration is predominantly black. Left: melanistic raccoon. Center: melanistic cardinal. Right: melanistic fox squirrel.



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Lake Conroe FISHING REPORT



BY: BUTCH TERPE
AT STOW-A-WAY MARINA & R/V
PARK

Black Bass: The season is changing each and every week and the water temp is cooling down a great deal which seems to make Bass much more active. Crank baits, spinner baits and plastic worms fished around any rock structure and boat dock pilings are great places to find and catch good numbers of Bass this time of year.

Crappie: Crappie at this time of year start heading for deeper types of cover. The 1097 Bridge and 1375 Bridge are two of my favorite areas to fish. Minnows and small jigs fished along these bridge pilings is your best bet in locating and catching some nice slabs. Some Crappie can also be found along boat docks if they have any depth beneath them and lots of brush.

White Bass & Hybrid Striped Bass: These fish at this time will get much more active and can be caught by trolling pet spoons behind deep diving crank baits around main lake humps and points in 20' - 30' depths. When located, try bouncing slab spoons near the bottom.

Catfish: Catfish action in the fall of the year is usually great, depending on the wind and weather. Just ahead of a cold front when the weather is mild is your best chance of catching a good number and size of these fish. Places to catch these fish are under the 1097 Bridge and near any creek and river channel. By baiting these areas with milo or range cubes and using dip baits, shrimp or chicken liver you should see some good action in a matter of minutes. ♦

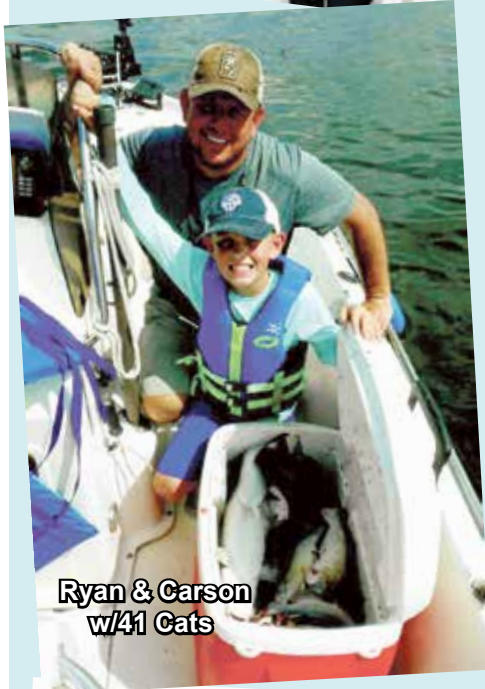
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