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ON THE COVER



Trinity Christian Academy founder, Dr. Marsha Barber, is looking forward to retirement.

Photo by Vanessa Polozola.

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## Editor's Note

*Happy New Year WeatherfordNOW readers!*

It is truly an honor to be kicking off 2013 as your new community editor. I have had the pleasure of meeting many local community members over the past year-and-a-half while working as a freelance writer. So many of you have such wonderful and touching stories, and I look forward to continuing to share them with our readers. I have big shoes to fill, taking over for our very own Melissa Rawlins, who has done a wonderful job covering the greater Weatherford community and now with the launch of

our *GranburyNOW* magazine.

As 2013 gets underway, choose to make a change for the better. How about eating more vegetables, donating to a local food bank or taking time to genuinely enjoy the little things that life brings your way? The New Year is a perfect time for new beginnings, so take advantage of it!

# Amber

Amber D. Browne  
WeatherfordNOW Editor  
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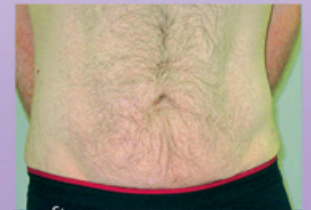
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# New Pace

## of Life

— By Amber D. Browne

*Retirement is defined as leaving an occupation. But, Dr. Marsha Barber's work at Trinity Christian Academy in Willow Park is more than just a job. She founded the school in 1993 and has helped it grow over the past 20 years into what it is today. She decided to make a life change about six years ago and has been easing into retirement ever since. "This will be my 40th year in education," she explained. "I wanted to go out this way, so I could make a gradual transition."*

Marsha is taking full advantage of only working a few days a week at the school. When it comes to that constant list of errands, she has learned she does not need to hurry to get things done. "Now I drive a little more slowly. It's nice to be able to slow down a little bit. I can casually come home and relax," she said.

She began kicking around the idea of starting the school 20 years ago after getting a call from her friend at Trinity Bible Church, Susie Hackleman. At the time, Marsha was teaching public school in the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD, had two children in college and had just adopted her daughter, Lauren. "I took





about a month to pray about it," she said. "I couldn't take a pay cut. They agreed to pay me what I was being paid in public school," she said. So, she jumped on the opportunity. "We did it to give families another option besides public school or homeschool. We wanted a Christian school option."

The first classrooms were set up at the church in 1993 with just 10 students. Marsha taught first and second grade, and another teacher was hired for third- and fourth-grade students. The school exploded as word spread throughout the community, and over the years, they added a portable building and eventually bought the neighboring land next to the church to expand. Trinity Christian Academy (TCA) now boasts about 500 students in pre-K through 12th grade.



When she first started the school, Marsha played a lot of roles, from administrator to secretary to janitor. "One year, the staff gave me a decorated toilet plunger, because I had gone in so many times to plunge the toilet. I never wanted to ask any of my staff to do something I wouldn't




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do," she said. "It was hard for me to transition totally out of the classroom."

But, over the years, her role changed. She began turning over her responsibilities to former secondary principal, Mike Skaggs, who has taken over as chief administrator. "We were the perfect complement. We thought so much on the same wave length. I tell him he was my gift from God," she said, referring to Mike.

Marsha now serves as founder and director of development, and when she retires in May, she wants to consult for new and young Christian schools. "I'm not going to work full time. I've done that since I got out of college," she chuckled. She met her husband, Fred, while attending Texas Christian University (TCU) in Fort Worth. The two had a similar past, both graduating from rival high schools in Houston. "But, we didn't know each other," she explained.

The happy couple got married after Marsha finished her freshman year at TCU, and she had both of her children while in college. "It was never an option to not finish," she said. Marsha believes you cannot dwell on how difficult something might be. "You've got to try. You'll never know if you did the right thing, if you don't try." For Marsha, that





extends throughout her life choices, from career to family life. "We just made it work."

Fred, who is also semiretired, has always been very supportive of Marsha and her choice to found the school. "It was hard, but he never did anything but encourage me. Now, I know he's proud, because sometimes he embarrasses me," she laughed. Often, at various events in the local community, Fred will gush about how Marsha started the school or how she earned her doctorate.

Even though she won the Outstanding Teacher Award in junior high, Marsha did not always know she wanted to be a teacher. She first decided to be an English major at TCU, because she got an A on her senior final in that subject. She eventually made her way over to the education department. "You're born a teacher or you're not," she stated. And Marsha feels she was destined to be an educator.

Regardless of the difficulty, Marsha has always been one to follow her



dreams. She was the first person in her family to go off to college. "I don't think it was ever not an option to go to college," she admitted. Her father, Roy Hairston, moved from central Texas to Houston with \$2 in his pocket in 1939. He worked as a sheet metal worker until 1961, when silent partners set him up in a business to make accessories for sheet metal buildings. He became a successful businessman. "I probably learned some of my business just by osmosis from him," Marsha said. Her late father even helped start a Thanksgiving tradition at the school called Turkey in the Ground. Students and their families

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come together each November to share dozens of turkeys cooked under hot coals in the ground.

When it comes to the school, Marsha often questions how she was able to accomplish so much in her life. "I'm excited that I could do all these things. I look around, and it's almost surreal.

"You can't live your life doing something you don't love and enjoy. How miserable would you be?" she asked. "If you're happy at what you're doing, you will be a lot more successful at it and reach more people, help more people," Marsha said.

She learned a lot from her principals while working in public schools. "I think they all made me into the principal I became when I came out here and started this school. I hope my staff would say, 'She was always a teacher's principal.' I never forgot what it was like to be in the classroom."

Once her retirement is official, Marsha plans to spend some time visiting with her son, Erich, his wife and their four children in Colorado. She will also keep close tabs on what's going on at TCA through her daughter, Christi Gholson. Christi works at the school coordinating the Lunch Out program, and her two children also attend class there.

Although her retirement schedule appears to be packed with contract work and volunteer work with the Rotary Club and Parker County Connection, Marsha will take advantage of her downtime. She plans to catch up on some reading and just take things a little more slowly. "I'm ready to just relax a little bit." **NOW**

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# FULL OF LIGHT

— By Melissa Rawlins

*Living in an underground house provides great energy savings. It also attracts water, through mysteriously appearing cracks in the roof under the earth. Exploring solutions and focusing on family, Earl and Barbara King make the most of their stunning abode together.*

Earl grew up close to another Weatherford, in Oklahoma, near his hometown of Hydro. His spirit began

to be watered there, where hard times prompted Earl to seek out ways to live well for the sake of others. Eventually, he met Barbara through mutual friends in church in Fort Worth. They married in 1972 and moved west to Weatherford in 1980. After three years of hard work — rearranging a gravel pit and a top soil pit, putting in a sprinkler system and building a lake where two little dry creeks once ran together — Earl began construction on the house he and Barbara

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Their idea was to build a house for themselves and to invite their children to also build on the property, so they could all live near one another. All offers were accepted. Now, nestled in the center of 300 acres, their home is surrounded by four above-ground homes. Three of the Kings' children and their families live here. And a grandchild and her family live in the guesthouse, near the compound's swimming pool.



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The Kings' grandchildren grew up here, boating and fishing on the lake with "Papa Earl" and Barbara. "It's been fun having them right down the driveway," Earl said. The eldest are now 31 and 32, and the youngest is 15. They have outgrown the candy kisses Papa Earl keeps on hand, but his four great-grandchildren — Isaiah, Melody, Joshua and Caleb — have learned he keeps a stash of chocolate kisses in his office.

Wearing a hat identifying him as World's Greatest Dad, Earl enjoys the compound he has created where his great-grandchildren can play and be safe. He also appreciates looking out over the little lake that fluctuates in depth as the rain comes and goes. Sitting on the wraparound deck with their cats, Priscilla

and Aquilla, Earl and Barbara can observe the busy beavers building a dam and a herd of deer wandering the property.

Near the house, the Kings long ago planted crape myrtle, maple and cypress trees, which add to the park-like feeling of their refuge. Intent on keeping their home a sanctuary where each member of the family can be loved, Barbara guards her quietness. She designed the interior specifically to let natural light flood each room, bringing serenity across the pristine, wide window sills. To ensure flow of light and air between rooms, they installed an unusually long and wide skylight spanning the entryway and the dining room, added transoms above interior doors and built some interior

walls too short to reach the ceiling. The turquoise-and-peach, padded-fabric walls of the dining area are prime examples of the couple's ingenuity.

Interestingly, the Kings only use the dining room for church parties or celebratory dinners, when guests need extra places to sit. "The older we get the less entertaining we do, and we're getting quieter as we get older," Barbara said.

"And slower," Earl quipped.

"Our family tends to gather in the kitchen," Barbara said. She and Earl sit at the breakfast area for their liquid breakfasts, healthy shakes they both enjoy. Across the bar, is the mint condition Thermador cooktop, maintained beautifully by Barbara since it was installed in 1984. She is understandably



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proud of her grandmother's baking center, with its original glass, displayed near the breakfast table.

During the day, Earl takes care of business in his spacious, book-lined study, where he can gaze out the window or at the photos of his descendents and memorabilia of his former military



career. He was in both the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Navy before enrolling in law school. In 1994, he built his new law office so he and his son, State Representative Phil King, could office together. Then his son-in-law, newly elected Parker District Judge Craig Towson, joined the practice.

This, combined with living amongst his progeny, was a dream come true for Earl. "My father contracted a severe illness at a very young age and became mentally retarded. Eventually, he had a family of 11 children. We were the poorest kids in town. I remember going behind the grocery store in town and digging food out of the garbage," said Earl, who studied and worked hard to achieve a higher standard of living. "It is really great to be able to give my family what I wasn't able to have when I grew up. And I am so pleased to have married Barbara. The Lord has blessed us immensely."

He recently retired from law practice, and focuses all his attention on family and community. Barbara shares his mission. These days, her light and airy living room functions as a classroom for the Precept Bible study she has taught since 1984. Sometimes she teaches at their church, Northside Baptist, but she always prepares at home in her study.



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Time spent there is both productive and comfortable. "That's another reason I don't work in the yard," said Barbara, who avoids bugs and other allergens.

At the end of each day, Barbara and Earl retreat to his study for several rounds of cards. "We've been playing gin at least 40 years," Earl said. "We used to play tennis, and we used to boat. Now, at age 81, I am too old to play tennis." After their games of strategy, Barbara and Earl adjourn to their sitting room, just one step down from their bedroom.

Surrounded by green- and peach-colored walls and a lake-view window, Earl reads in his La-Z-Boy while Barbara works on Bible or health studies. Earl calls her Dr. Barb, because during a personal health scare she started learning and studying about what causes diseases. Around the corner in Dr. Barb's office, she organizes her studies neatly against subtle, peachy fabric-lined walls.

More peach accents appear on the beautiful wallpaper in the master bath. Striking for its 8-foot ceilings that slope up to meet walls 12 feet high, the bathroom is also a bit of a battle ground for Earl. Water often leaks through the



walls in one spot near the lavatory, even though there are French drains hidden in the 3 feet of dirt on top of the house to keep water running forward and around the house.

Earl gets a workout dealing with these water issues. Keeping his mind, body and spirit bright with a mile-a-day walk plus calisthenics, he and his family are still storm-proof. Barbara just puts little buckets out and looks up, giving thanks she and Earl figured out a way for their home to be full of light. **NOW**

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# ROLLING TOWARD *Victory*

— By Amber D. Browne

*Vietnam-era veteran Jerry Kershman does not consider himself disabled. “I’m just physically challenged.” Jerry was diagnosed with cancer on the inside of his knee in 2004 and had surgery to remove it. “Everything went fine for six months, but then it swelled up again,” he explained. His doctors ran some tests and found the cancer had come back, so they amputated his leg right above the knee.*

Despite the loss of most of his leg, Jerry did not let it stop him. He meets with other veterans about six times each month at the Veterans Affairs Fort Worth Outpatient Clinic. The veterans participate in arts and crafts, etchings and ceramics during the



sessions. That is where Jerry met Donna Gerron, who first asked him to represent Parker County in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG). Jerry made his first appearance in the games in 2011. "I like to go to the games mostly for the camaraderie," he said.

He traveled to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, for the 2011 games. "It's like a rush," he said. About 500 people greeted him and other veterans at the airport to cheer them on. Once at the games, Jerry was overwhelmed. "It looks like a herd of wheelchairs," he recalled. "Some are paralyzed from the neck down. Some are



**"I LIKE TO GO TO THE GAMES MOSTLY FOR THE CAMARADERIE."**

paralyzed from the waist down. Some of us are amputees. We just get out there and battle it out." Jerry competes in softball, bowling and nine-ball billiards, but the air rifles category is his favorite. "I'm good at it," he said proudly.

Jerry has been shooting guns since he was a youngster, growing up in a family of nine other brothers and sisters on a

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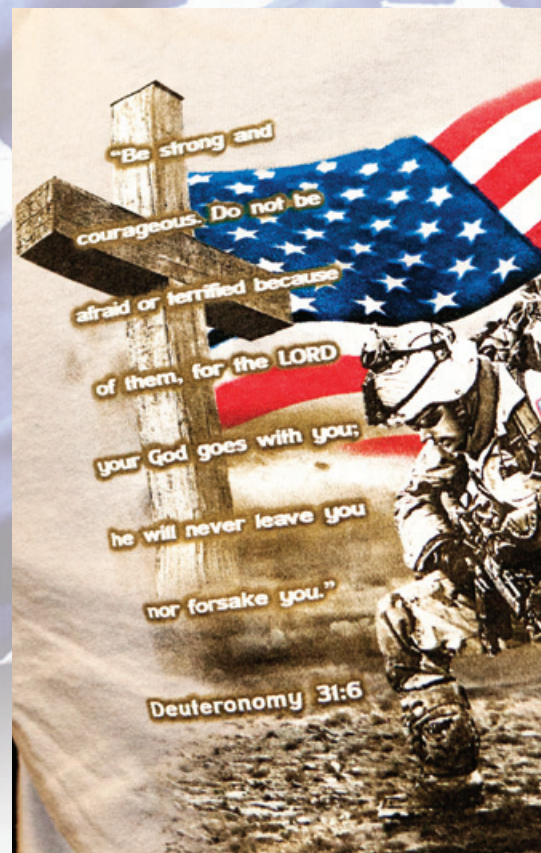


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farm in the Texas Panhandle. He was reared in a very strict and structured household. "I think that's what gave me my values in life; seeing good years and bad years. One year we would have the greatest wheat crop in the world, and the next year, the hail would get it and we would have nothing," he explained.

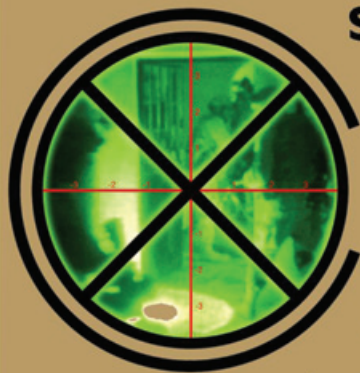
After working the farm and raising pigs, Jerry decided to join the Army to see the world. He volunteered for the Army as the Vietnam War was nearing its end. While in basic training, Jerry was told he would go to Vietnam. However, the circumstances changed, and he was stationed in Germany in 1974. During his time abroad, Jerry traveled and learned a lot about his German heritage. He tried to keep his competitive edge by training and exceeding goals he set for himself. "I've always had such a sense of competition. Even when I was in the service, I thought I had to be gung ho to get promoted," Jerry explained.

That sense of competition has stayed with Jerry over the years. Because of the fun he had in his first NVWG appearance, Jerry decided to try again and compete in the 2012 games. Unfortunately, after eight years of being

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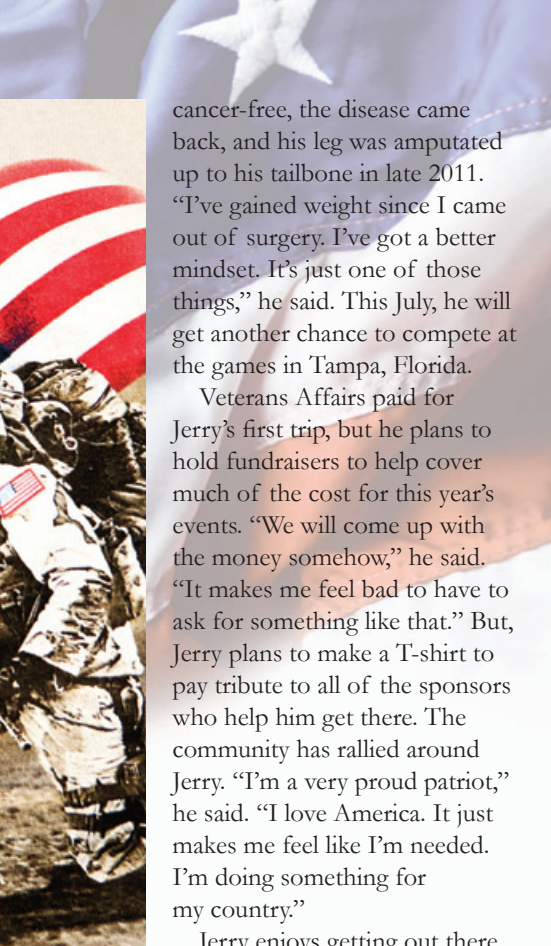
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cancer-free, the disease came back, and his leg was amputated up to his tailbone in late 2011. "I've gained weight since I came out of surgery. I've got a better mindset. It's just one of those things," he said. This July, he will get another chance to compete at the games in Tampa, Florida.

Veterans Affairs paid for Jerry's first trip, but he plans to hold fundraisers to help cover much of the cost for this year's events. "We will come up with the money somehow," he said. "It makes me feel bad to have to ask for something like that." But, Jerry plans to make a T-shirt to pay tribute to all of the sponsors who help him get there. The community has rallied around Jerry. "I'm a very proud patriot," he said. "I love America. It just makes me feel like I'm needed. I'm doing something for my country."

Jerry enjoys getting out there with other veterans to compete, talk and laugh about life and what it has thrown at them. A 92-year-old veteran from Hawaii participates in the games. "He gets out there and does it with the



best of us. And, there's a little lady from California. She's 88. And, don't get in her way," he joked. The competition also drives him. "I was so pumped with adrenaline!"

Jerry will start training about two months before the July games. His recreational therapist, Donna, is also one of his coaches. "I'm lucky enough to go to the Naval Air Station for a lot of our training activities. From the rifle range to the bowling allies," Donna said.



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Most of the 500-800 competitors at the games are amputees or have spinal cord injuries. “I really hate that connotation ‘disabled,’ because these guys come back and can do so much, especially with the new prosthetics that are out and the advances we are making with the spinal cord injuries,” Donna explained. “I’ve seen it time after time, taking these guys. Having them out there practicing, so they know they can do something,” she said. “It’s a little bit of a morale booster.”

Donna knows Jerry enjoys the competition. “I don’t think he realized he could do this stuff, and he enjoys it,” Donna said. “They don’t have to sit at home and be depressed. They can get out and enjoy sports.” Some of the veterans who participate come from as far away as Hawaii and Great Britain. “It’s just unbelievable what these guys can do,” Donna added.

Over the years, Jerry has met many veterans who would go back to war, even if they are injured or disabled. “We all volunteered to make sure that flag flies,” he said. Jerry appreciates the time spent with other veterans during recreational therapy in Fort Worth and at the Wheelchair Games. “It makes me feel like I’m useful. Like, I can still do something,” he said. “There are so many veterans who get injured like I did and lay on the couch. I don’t do that. I just do what I have to do every day.”

Besides competing at the games, Jerry also stays busy fishing and reading westerns and history books at the Weatherford Public Library. He has also picked up a hobby collecting hat pins. His collection includes about 250 pins. He has a number of patriotic and veterans pins, Christian pins and even a few from the Wheelchair Games. “I like them. It shows my patriotism.”

With support from his coaches, community and family, Jerry is ready for this summer’s National Veterans Wheelchair Games. His wife of 18 years, Rena, is always by his side, and he hears words of encouragement from his children and grandchildren; especially from grandson, 5-year-old Talon, who wants to be just like his Papa. **NOW**

*Editor’s Note: Call (817) 599-4817 to learn more about Jerry’s upcoming fundraisers.*





*Donnie and Alena Wilkinson of Poolville wait for lunch at Taco Cabana in Weatherford.*



*Emmy Esquivel, Izzie Cerbone, Edyn Esquivel and Cheryl Cerbone catch the parade before the girls perform at Weatherford's Christmas on the Square.*



*Tom Hadley, Ryan Hadley and Colton Hansen get ready to play at the Lake Weatherford Disc Golf Course while little Bryson Hadley keeps busy riding in his truck.*



*The Weatherford Optimist Club recognizes the boys and girls of the month at Hall Middle School. (From left) Lane Gilley, Faith Coleman, Sophie Pasternak and Preston Spivey.*



*Emily Morrow helps her family recycle at the Parker County Precinct 4 location while visiting from San Antonio.*



*Mary Martin Elementary students provide toys for Parker County children during the school's annual Stuff the Bus campaign.*



*State Representative Phil King honors retired Church of God Bishop Gale Barnett for his Christian service as the church's former legal counsel as Earl King looks on.*



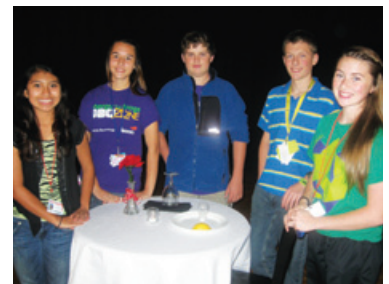
*The cast gets ready to perform Hello, Dolly! at Weatherford College.*



*David and Garrett Powell raise funds for Boy Scout Troop 1228 outside Brookshire's in Willow Park.*



*The winning team of Dr. Trev Dixon, Andrew Hopson, Tommy Hernandez and Jeff Lightfoot (not pictured) is honored at the 2012 Weatherford College Foundation Golf Tournament.*



*Tison Middle School students present the military tradition of setting a white table in honor of veterans, especially those who were Prisoners of War or Missing in Action.*



*The Bearcats brave the cold before their soccer game.*





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# Putting the Patient First

*Customer Service is a top priority for surgeons and staff at USMD Hospital at Fort Worth. — By Amber D. Browne*

With award winning service and top notch surgeons and staff, USMD Hospital at Fort Worth offers patients the obvious choice for care. After opening its doors in March 2008, USMD has focused on patient care, putting them first. The hospital has maintained high patient satisfaction scores for three consecutive years, landing them the distinguished Summit Award, given by Press Ganey, which is the largest independent healthcare rating agency. The award recognizes the healthcare industry's top three percent for patient satisfaction. "It's a huge honor," said Stephanie Atkins-Guidry, BSN, RN, MBA, who serves as the chief executive officer and the chief nursing officer for the hospital. She attributes the hospital's success to the USMD staff. "Everyone across the board: we all understand customer service. The patient comes first, no matter what," she said.

The hospital only has one level, with all the departments close in proximity. Patients are able to navigate the smaller hospital a little easier that way. "We're easy to get to. We don't have paid parking," Stephanie explained. USMD offers eight inpatient beds and six operating rooms. "Patients come here to have surgery. They can either go home from here, or we have an inpatient unit where they can stay as long as medically necessary," she explained.

The hospital has 40 surgeons on staff to serve both children and adults. They specialize in procedures from podiatry and pain to orthopedic and urology. USMD also has a lower patient-nurse ratio, which helps improve patient care. "For every four patients, we have one nurse," Stephanie explained. "The nurses have time to take care of their patients and meet the needs of their patients."



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USMD also offers an all physician anesthesiologist staff. "Because Stephanie has staffed so appropriately, as well as, having anesthesiologists who are physicians, it's very unusual for the surgeries not to be done at the time promised to the patients," said Bren Ori, vice president of marketing and communications. "They rarely run behind schedule," she said. "I think the patients truly appreciate that."

Keeping the lines of communication open with patients and their families is also important for the surgical hospital. "They have an expectation, and we are able to meet it the majority of the time," Stephanie said.

**"Everyone across the board: we all understand customer service. The patient comes first, no matter what."**

All of the nurses at USMD are well-trained and work hand-in-hand with the physicians. They work as a team for the best patient outcome. USMD is a physician-owned hospital, so its doctors are willing to invest in improving patient care and have great influence over the way things are run at the facility. "When they sit around the table and discuss finances, they look at how to further enhance the satisfaction or the service we are giving our patients, or what to do to deliver the most advanced, technologically sound medical treatment," Bren explained.

"When I have conversations with patients, what they appreciate about this facility is they truly are treated as an individual," Bren said. "Our staff knows them by name." And, the patients do not forget that. The nurses often get thank you gifts from former patients, including candy and flowers. Many times, patients who have had surgery at USMD choose to return for other necessary procedures. Since opening its doors four years ago, USMD has proven to exceed expectations in both quality of care and patient experience. **NOW**

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# Invest in Businesses — Not Wall Street

If you're an investor, you might be shaking your head in dismay after looking at your recent brokerage statements. In fact, you might even be thinking about giving up on Wall Street altogether. But before you do, consider the following story.

Two typical American children, Mary and Michael, begin their day with a hearty breakfast of oatmeal produced by Quaker Oats, a subsidiary of PepsiCo, based in Purchase, New York. At school, they work on a computer, using a Windows operating system produced by Microsoft, based in Redmond, Washington. Upon returning home, they do their homework under a lamp containing light bulbs produced by General Electric, headquartered in Fairfield, Connecticut. That night, their parents, pressed for time, take them to McDonald's, whose corporate office is in Oak Brook, Illinois, and the children eat Big Macs and drink Cokes, produced by Coca-Cola, based in Atlanta, Georgia. Before going to bed, Michael and Mary wash up with Ivory Soap, produced by Procter & Gamble, based in Cincinnati, and are thrilled to learn their parents are going to take them to Walt Disney World, owned by The Walt Disney Company, which operates out of Burbank, California.

You get the picture. None of these businesses are on Wall Street, and when you invest in them, you're not investing in "Wall Street," which is really just a shorthand term for our system of trading stocks. Unfortunately, many people seem to think they are actually investing in the system itself, rather than in individual businesses, so when they repeatedly hear that "it's been a wild day on Wall Street," they start believing that the very act of investing has become too risky for them.

But that's not the case. As you can tell by their products, the companies

mentioned above are likely to be around for a long time — or at least until people stop using computers, washing their hands and eating hamburgers.

Does that mean that the stock prices of these types of companies will just keep climbing? Of course not. These businesses, like all businesses, will go through good and bad periods, and their stock prices will reflect these ups and downs. But here's the key point: Barring an unforeseen calamity of epic proportions, there will always be businesses in which you can invest. And if you buy quality companies, and hold them for the long term, you're going to increase your chances for success.

So when you're considering your investment strategy, don't worry about today's turbulence on "Wall Street." Instead, look at tomorrow's prospects for the companies in which you're interested. Are their products competitive? Do they belong to an industry that is on the ascent or the decline? Do they have good management teams? Have they been consistently profitable over the years? By answering these and other key questions, you should be able to get a good sense of whether a stock is a good investment candidate.

By thinking more about the individual businesses in which you might invest, and less about "Wall Street," you can become a more focused investor. And, over the long term, that focus can pay off for you. **NOW**

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Gregg Davis is an Edward Jones representative based in Willow Park.*



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# Crawling With Life

— By Betty Tryon, BSN

Once again, the two sisters found themselves on a familiar path to the nurse's office at school. They were sent there by their teachers who noticed the troubling symptoms of another round of head lice infestation. Head lice are wingless parasitic insects that live on your scalp, feed on your blood and lay their eggs in your hair. They are very tiny, about the size of a sesame seed, and when they move around on the scalp, it can feel like a tickling or crawling sensation. Lice infestation is not a sign of uncleanliness or poverty. Anyone can get lice. They are nondiscriminatory about whom they choose to crawl on. They spread by crawling from person-to-person and by the sharing of personal items, such as combs, brushes, hats or headphones.

The earliest and most predominant sign of lice infestation is itching with resultant scratching. The itching is because of an allergic reaction to the saliva excreted from the louse (singular form for lice). Intense scratching can cause open wounds which can then become infected. Another visual to determine if lice are present is the actual bug itself and its eggs, which are called nits. Nits are deposited on the hair shaft next to the scalp. One can find the bugs most often on the back of the neck and behind the ears.

Getting rid of lice is involved but worth it. There are products and medications available over the counter (OTC) and by

prescription to kill lice and their eggs. Follow directions carefully. Use a fine toothed comb on wet hair to remove nits. Check the hair of all persons in the household. Remember to wash all brushes and combs in hot sudsy water. Afterwards, either soak them for an hour in isopropyl alcohol or replace them. Sheets, pillow cases and clothing that have come in contact with the infected person need to be laundered using hot water. Items such as large comforters or stuffed animals that cannot be laundered should be placed in a plastic or airtight bag tightly sealed for at least two weeks. The environment, floors and furniture, should be vacuumed thoroughly. For children under the age of 2, check with their health care provider before using any chemicals or OTC medications. For them, it is usually sufficient to remove live bugs and nits by hand.

Having lice may be embarrassing, and it is definitely annoying. However, the good news is that with effort they can be eliminated from your home and your head. **NOW**

*This article is for general information only and does not constitute medical advice. Consult with your physician if you have questions regarding this topic.*



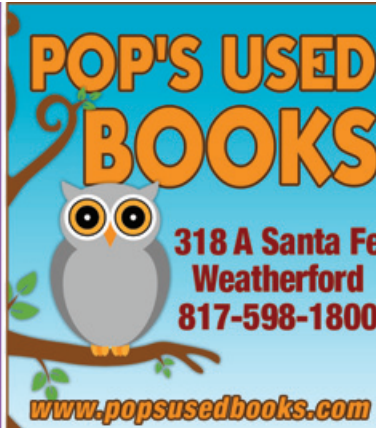
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### January 4

Women's Business Alliance Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Wild Mushroom Steakhouse, 1917 Martin Dr. The luncheon's topic is "New Year, New You," and will feature guest speaker Dr. Sara Saginaw, who will share information about nutrition, weight loss and how to reduce stress. The luncheon is free for Healthy Woman members. It is free to join Healthy Woman. Find out more at [www.WeatherfordRegional.com/HealthyWoman](http://www.WeatherfordRegional.com/HealthyWoman).

### January 11

Parker County Newcomers Club Meeting: 10:00 a.m., Alkek Fine Arts Building of Weatherford College, 225 College Park Ave. A social half hour begins at 10:00 a.m., followed by a short business meeting. A speaker will then address the group or entertainment will be provided. A buffet lunch will begin at noon. Please call Jackie Anderson at (817) 594-5127 to make a luncheon reservation by the Monday before the second Friday. The cost is \$10 per person.

### January 18 Through February 9

Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo: 8:00

a.m.-10:00 p.m., 3400 Burnett-Tandy Dr., Fort Worth. Visitors can take in all the sights and sounds of the rodeo. From livestock and horse exhibits to rodeo performances, there are plenty of fun events to keep you entertained. You can find more information at [www.fwssr.com](http://www.fwssr.com).

### January 21

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration: 5:30 p.m., 9th Grade Center, 1007 S. Main St. The event will celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and will include guest speakers and entertainment. Winners of the MLK essay contest in Parker County will also be announced. The event is free and open to the public. Please contact Yolanda Chavers with the local NAACP chapter at (817) 629-1168 for more information.

### January 27

Parker County Bridal Fair: 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Doss Heritage and Culture Center, 1400 Texas Dr. The annual bridal fair will feature about 40 wedding vendors showcasing their products and services. Thousands of dollars in door prizes will also be given away. Admission and

parking are free. Find out more at [www.videocapades.com/bridalfair.htm](http://www.videocapades.com/bridalfair.htm).

### January 29

Friend to Friend Party: 6:00-8:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 301 South Main St. The public is invited to learn more about breast and cervical cancer at the education event. For more information, please call Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Parker County at (817) 598-6168.

### February 1

Compassion with Fashion Style Show: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Doss Heritage and Culture Center, 1400 Texas Dr. Come out and join the United Way of Parker County for the style show. Call (817) 596-5986 for ticket information.

*Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your event details to [amber.brown@nowmagazines.com](mailto:amber.brown@nowmagazines.com).*

# Happy New Year!



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## In The Kitchen With Debbie Wilson

— By Amber D. Browne

Debbie Wilson started cooking when she was little. Her talent in the kitchen comes from her mother, who enjoyed cooking southern, comfort foods. “She was the original Martha Stewart,” Debbie said. “By the time I was a teen, I noticed I could cook,” Debbie explained. And, she enjoyed it.

“I’ve carried on the tradition of cooking Thanksgiving and large meals for family get-togethers.” Many of her hearty recipes come from family members or a recipe book to which she contributed, published by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. She and her husband, David, recently participated in a Civil War reenactment in Mississippi where she cooked her chicken and dumpling recipe in a Dutch oven. Dessert is “icing on the cake” for Debbie. “It just finishes off a fine meal.” **NOW**

### Confederate Chicken and Dumplings

**1 whole chicken**  
**1/2 cup shortening**  
**3 cups flour**  
**1 tsp. salt**  
**3/4 cup water**  
**1 cup milk**  
**Salt and black pepper, to taste**

1. Boil the chicken in salted water; reserve broth. Bone and cube chicken; set aside.
2. Cut shortening into flour and salt until crumbly. Add water. Mix until it forms a ball. Roll the dough out on wax paper. Add enough flour to keep it from sticking. Divide dough into half. Roll out about 1/4-inch thick; cut into long strips.
3. Drop dough strips into simmering broth. Add milk and cook until dumplings are tender. Add chicken to broth; season to taste.

### Transparent Pie

**3 eggs**  
**2 Tbsp. flour**  
**2 cup sugar**  
**3 tsp. vanilla**  
**1 cup evaporated milk**  
**1/4 cup butter**  
**Unbaked pie crust**

1. Beat first 6 ingredients together.
2. Pour into pie shell; bake at 350 F for about 45 minutes.

### Wilted Greens With Bacon Dressing

**4-6 slices bacon, cut into pieces**  
**2 Tbsp. cider vinegar**  
**1 Tbsp. lemon juice**  
**1 tsp. sugar**  
**Salt, to taste**

**1 lb. fresh mustard greens, torn into pieces**  
**1 boiled egg, chopped**  
**Radishes, sliced**

1. In a large cast iron skillet, cook bacon until crisp. Reserve bacon drippings.
2. Add next 5 ingredients to skillet. Stir until coated and greens are slightly wilted.
3. Put into serving bowl; add egg and garnish with sliced radishes.

### Confederate Corn Bread

**2 cups cornmeal**  
**2 tsp. baking powder**  
**3/4 tsp. salt**  
**2 eggs**  
**1 cup milk**  
**1/4 cup oil**

1. Combine dry ingredients in a bowl. In a separate bowl, whip eggs with milk and oil. Mix together.
2. Spoon the mixture out onto a heated, large skillet or griddle to the size of a pancake. Watch for bubbles on the top and light browning around the edges. Flip onto the other side until golden brown; spread with butter and serve.

### Jefferson Davis Pie

**1 1/2 cups packed brown sugar**  
**1/2 cup butter**  
**1 tsp. vanilla**  
**4 eggs, separated**  
**2 Tbsp. flour, sifted**  
**3 tsp. fresh nutmeg, grated**  
**1 cup cream**  
**1 pie shell**  
**Whipped cream (optional)**  
**4 Tbsp. superfine sugar (optional)**  
**2 tsp. vanilla (optional)**

1. Cream brown sugar with butter; add vanilla. Beat in 4 egg yolks. Add flour, nutmeg and cream.
2. Pour the mixture into a pie shell. Bake at 300 F until filling sets and top is a caramel brown color.
3. Top pie with whipped cream or meringue made with the remaining egg whites. To make meringue: whip egg whites until frothy; stabilize with sugar; add vanilla. Spread meringue on pie; bake at 300 F for 15 to 20 minutes or until delicate brown.

**To view recipes, visit**  
**[www.nowmagazines.com](http://www.nowmagazines.com)**





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