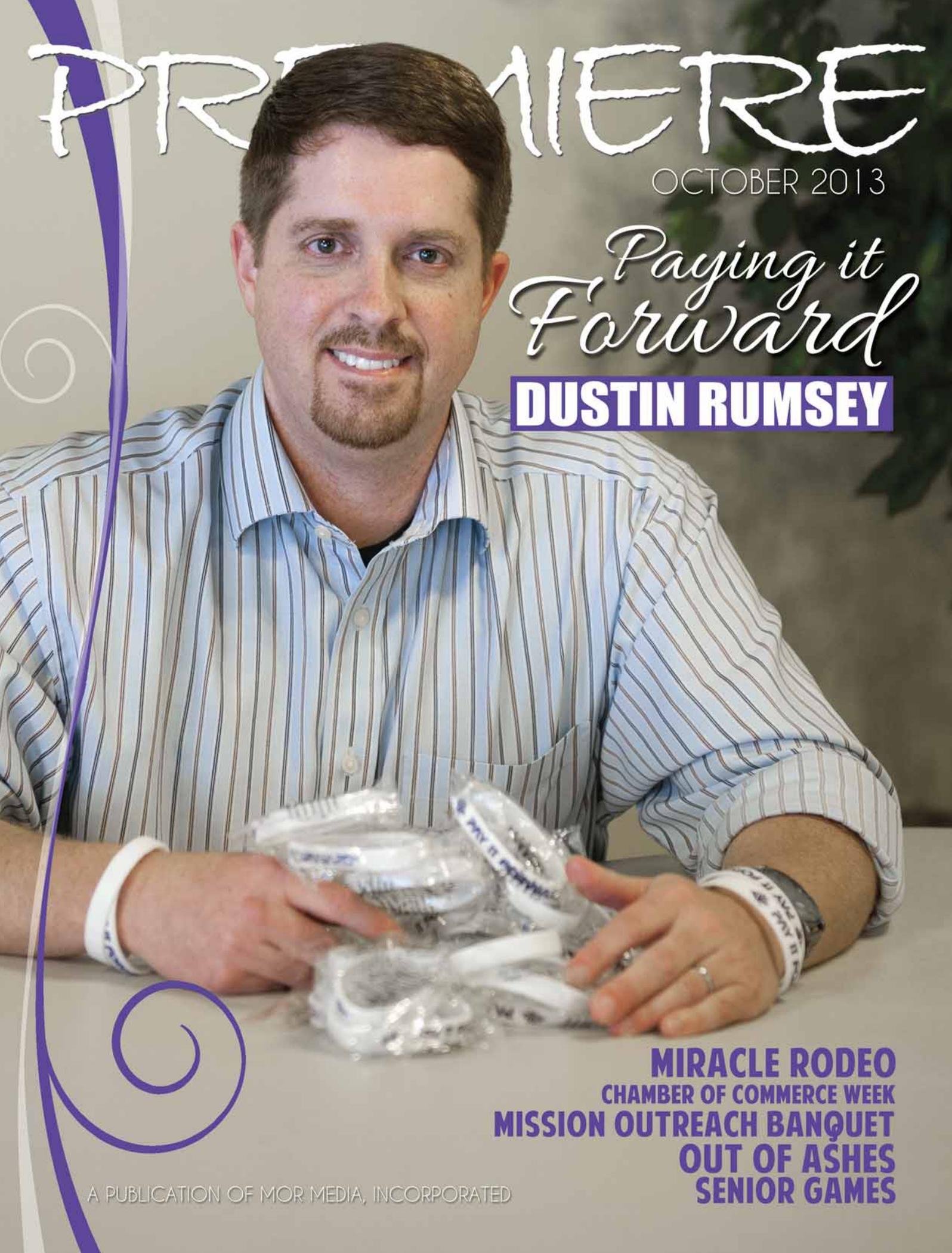


PREMIERE

OCTOBER 2013

Paying it Forward

DUSTIN RUMSEY



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MISSION OUTREACH BANQUET
OUT OF ASHES
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What is "Parvo"?

Unfortunately most pet owners don't know much about parvovirus until it's too late and they have a young dog that has it. It's one of the most common and highly contagious viral diseases that veterinarians diagnose. Fortunately with the appropriate understanding and planning the disease can be easily prevented!

The top three factors in preventing parvo are vaccinations, vaccinations, and last but not least... vaccinations. A fourth factor would be exposure to the virus, but the point I'm trying to drive home is that your pet IS eventually going to be exposed to the virus, the vast majority within the first year of their life. With appropriate vaccines it won't matter.

What does Parvo do? In a nutshell it's the absolute worst gastro-intestinal virus you could ever imagine. Most GI "bugs" that we're familiar with affect only the thin inner lining of the intestines. Parvo erodes deep into the intestinal lining which generally leads to severe bleeding and the inability to absorb any nutrients / fluids. Even the thought of food will make the dog nauseous. Without a lot of supportive care the disease is often fatal within a few days of the first symptoms, It can even be fatal with very aggressive hospitalized care in some cases.

Where do dogs pick up the virus? Parvo is shed in infected dog's feces and can live in the soil / environment for years. This stability is the reason for such a high exposure rate for dogs. The virus can be cleaned/killed with a bleach solution, but do not rely on that as the primary means of protection. Always assume it's everywhere and you'll be better off in long run.

The bottom line is that appropriate vaccinations are the key! Contact your veterinarian to receive advice on what vaccinations your particular pet will need to protect it against this and other harmful diseases, and at what age(s) they are recommended.

God Bless!
Brent Reddick, DVM



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On the Cover: Dustin Rumsey
Cover by Tim Rand Photography

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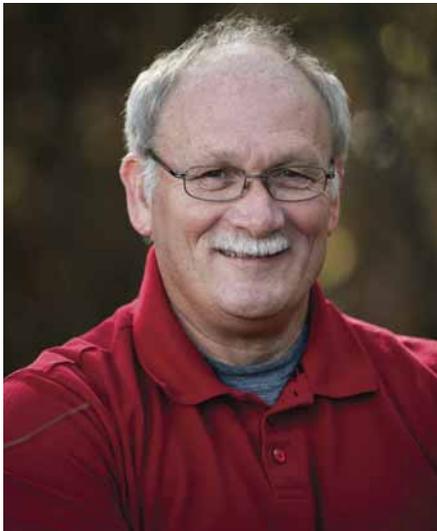
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From the Editor...



Richard Brummett, Managing Editor

When the calendar pages turn to November we naturally think of Thanksgiving, that time when the kids and teachers get a school holiday and family comes to town for a big feast.

Thanksgiving is a November moment when we pause, even if we haven't paused often

enough throughout the rest of the year, to say a special prayer of thanks for the many things we have. Sometimes pushed to the back burner is Veterans Day, another November moment set aside for honor and remembrance. Until I came across the artwork below, I'm afraid I was like many of us in this country in that I failed to correctly associate one special day with the other.

We have much to be grateful for in America, yet maybe we don't appreciate that those gifts -- gifts like freedom of choice and spirit -- are available to us because of the efforts put forth by

members of our armed forces. We are able to come and go as we please because the men and women who endured wartime excursions made certain we remained liberated.

Pilgrims and Puritans came to what is now our country for a variety of reasons ... to explore, to make money, to spread and practice religion freely, and to live on land of their own. Above all, the Pilgrims wanted to be

free and it is important for us as adults to remember and to inform our young that these freedoms we enjoy have come with a heavy price tag. Soldiers near and far have died or come home battle scarred in order that you and I might spend our holiday watching football games on TV, eating more than we need and laughing with family and friends.

When the Pilgrims finally stepped foot on land in November of 1620 it was not the best time to establish a colony. It was difficult to find food and shelter in the middle of winter. By the time spring arrived, half of the colonists had died but by the next fall the colony was able to celebrate the first Thanksgiving because Native Americans -- an army of sorts -- showed them how to plant crops that would thrive in the available soil.

It was a cooperative effort between settlers and the Native Americans that led to life and liberty; it is through the efforts of our veterans that those gifts remain, and we should add a special "thanks" to them. ♦



Have a John Deere Christmas!

David Vanhorn

Ron Bellomy

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Chamber of Commerce Week

The Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce celebrated Chamber of Commerce Week with a number of activities scheduled for member businesses, ranging from meals, to drop-in visits, to a luncheon seminar featuring speaker Ray Keller.

Sue McGowan, director of the Chamber, said the week is devoted to expressing appreciation toward members and educating the community on the Chamber's services and opportunities. ♦

Ray Keller, in the top photo, addressed Chamber members during a luncheon at the First United Methodist Church, encouraging them to "change ... if change is for the better." At right, members conversed during Business After Hours at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, hosted by Dr. Richard Gard, OB/GYN. Below left are Brock Wooldridge, Neely Camp and Rusty McMillon; at right Lorie Long and Melissa Blackburn, all at the FUMC luncheon.





Director Sue McGowan, above right, helped distribute box lunches while Chamber President Barry Davis, right, welcomed attendees to a scheduled luncheon seminar. Several Chamber members listened as Ray Keller made his presentation.



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Governor Mike Beebe, above, was the featured speaker at the Mission Outreach banquet where donations of \$45,000 were provided by State Sen. Robert Thompson and State Rep. Mary Broadaway, right.



Mission Outreach brings in much-needed funds at banquet

Ticket sales, corporate sponsorships and a silent auction raised more than \$16,000 for Paragould's Mission Outreach this year, but the organization got even more help from local politicians.

State Representative Mary Broadaway presented the group with a check for \$20,000 while State Senator Robert Thompson contributed another \$25,000 toward daily operating expenses for the Mission at its annual banquet. ♦



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Ryan Vaughan, Chief Meteorologist for TV station KAIT, served as emcee for this year's Mission Outreach banquet. The mission is a 60-bed homeless shelter in Paragould featuring a soup kitchen, food pantry and medical clinic. Part of the money raised through donations and sponsorships will be used for building repairs, according to Mission Development Director Jeremy Biggs.



Attending the Mission banquet and representing Southside Community Church were, above from left: Corey and Ashlee Abbott, JoAnn and Pat Graham and Christie and Jade Price; below is a group at the Families Inc. Counseling Services table, including Whitney Siebert, Sally LeBlanc, Elizabeth Forehand, Ali Bean, Kayla Mealer, Janet Siebert and Summer Bader.



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County Fair Board renames Miracle Rodeo

Recognizing an individual who has given more than 20 years of service to its annual Miracle Rodeo, the Greene County Fair Board this year renamed the event in his honor.

Before the night was over this time around, people learned they were attending the Travis Hedge Miracle Rodeo, paying tribute to a man who has spent countless hours over the years making the night a success.

Each year, volunteers gather at the Greene County Fairgrounds to stage "rodeo" events for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Participants enjoy events like bull riding, roping, face painting and wheelbarrow rides indoors, or they can ride on horses or in wagons outside. Several tables and exhibits are also set up for kids and their families to enjoy while food and drinks help them cap off a night of fun, and for those who want to belt out a tune, that opportunity is there as well.

The volunteers will tell you it's all about putting smiles on faces, and it succeeded again this year. ♦



GCFAC presents "The Hobbit"

The Greene County Fine Arts Council staged "The Hobbit," directed by Julie Phillians, at the Collins Theatre in October.

Based on the book by JRR Tolkien, "The Hobbit" was adapted to bring to life the incredible story of Bilbo Baggins and his quest through Middle Earth. Filled with Hobbits, wizards, dwarfs and more, the journey to find an important treasure fills the imagination and hearts of kids and adults alike.

The adaptation of the Hobbit performed by the cast was fairly different from the book, but kept the spirit of the characters and the message behind the story. Every member of the cast created "a new character all on their own. Each one has a definite attitude, right down to our youngest cast members. Some people are covering several parts and they do a great job of making each part distinctly different from who they were in the scene before," said Phillians. ♦



Gandalf, played by Dan Marburger, converses with Thorin, played by John Baldwin.



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Outstanding Teachers

Cindy Wood, Children's Home

Cindy Wood has been teaching "for about 32 years in a variety of learning environments from preschool to special education to current alternative learning environment at Balcom Learning Center. I've worked with students from 3 years to 18 years of age."

She said she loved playing school with her sister when they were young, but that's not where her desire to be a teacher comes from.

"I really decided that I wanted to pursue teaching as a career when working with a local special education teacher at church," she recalled. "She was truly an inspiration."



Cindy is married to David Wood, business manager at Children's Homes. They have four sons: Kyle, the oldest, is an accountant in California; Jason recently moved to Phoenix and is the on-site manager for Wiremasters; Ryan is working on a degree in social work; Tyler is a junior at Crowley's Ridge Academy.

"I'm still trying to convince one of them to go into education," Cindy said. ♦

Tammy Schug, Paragould

Tammy Schug is a first grade teacher at Paragould's Primary School and has been in the profession for 23 years, 12 as a self-contained special education teacher and 11 as a 1st grade teacher.

"I have always enjoyed being around children," she said, explaining her interest in becoming an educator.

"I had been teaching a children's Sunday School class for several years and decided that I needed to pursue a degree in education," she said. "I have enjoyed working with kids ever since."

While admitting she doesn't necessarily have any specific "teaching memories" that readily come to mind, she did say she finds that her students provide plenty to remember.

"Every year is filled with great memories. Kids are so precious and I love to see the progress they make in a year," she said.

Tammy has been married to Ted Schug for 30 years.

"We live in downtown Schugtoun," she said. "We enjoy spending time with our nieces and nephews and our two dogs, Daisy and Max." ♦



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Zac Heath is home again

Filmmaker returns to Paragould for latest project



Zac Heath, at far right above, is shooting his second movie in his home town of Paragould.

Despite working with celebrities such as Magic Johnson, Dakota Fanning and Andy Samberg, Zac Heath has remained grounded to his home town, returning to film his second movie.

“The reason for shooting here is I really just love the idea of coming back home,” Zac said. “All my memories of growing up are tied in to this.”

Heath filmed “The River Within” in Paragould in 2009 and began working on his new movie, “Out of Ashes” in September, which follows the story of a man whose wife and child were killed by a drunk driver.

This project is a larger production than “The River Within,” but Heath made sure to include Paragould residents in his work again, calling for extras during certain scenes.

“Everybody seems really excited about the process,” he said. In addition to returning to his roots, Heath said this film is a way to draw attention to local businesses and other locations.

Heath got started in the world of film when he attended Arkansas State University as a theater major. He acted for more than a year

and then returned to graduate school. After graduating he got involved with the Dreamworks film “Dreamer,” which led to his getting other jobs. He moved to L.A. and worked on eight feature films in his first years there.

Now that he is producing his own work, Heath does a bit of everything. When working on his own movies he writes, directs, produces and hires the cast and crew, who he said are making his job on his latest project much easier.

“I’ve hired really, really good people on this,” he said, praising his cast and crew members.

The time Heath puts into the job shows how truly dedicated he is. He works anywhere from 90-100 hours a week, and sifted through over 5,000 applications when he began casting for roles. Despite the amount of time required to produce his own movies, Heath remains excited about his career choice.

“It’s always new and a lot of unknowns,” he said, explaining he never knows where he will be working even two months from now. “I don’t know what I’ll be doing and what challenges each day might have.”

The opportunities to travel have been endless

for Heath. He has lived in Pennsylvania, Montana, New Orleans, Nebraska and several places in California, which led to him working with well-known celebrities. He currently resides in California, where he does commercial work.

Heath said he enjoys being outdoors, and had he not gone into the film industry he would have loved to have been a park ranger or anything else that would get him outside. He also loves watching movies, reading, going to museums and people watching.

For those wanting to go into acting and film making, Heath encourages them to use whatever resources they have.

“I think the best thing to do is to start doing it,” he said.

Heath spent 18 years in Paragould before branching out to begin his career, and even though he has seen the big city lights in L.A. and traveled the country, his home town will always be a special place for him.

“I would love to come back here and shoot again,” he said. ♦

-- Caitlin LaFarlette



Princess Project turns nursery into something to behold



Baby Finley Kay Napier, right, will have a newly decorated nursery ... when she decides to use it. A mixture of mint, coral, black and white make an attractive presentation for her mother's recently completed "Princess Project."



I have a lot to be thankful for this season, as we welcomed a little girl to our family. After two boys, I'm not exactly sure what to do with her. Her clothes are twice the price, I prefer blue to pink and I'm not the only princess in the house anymore.

Exercising my expertise, usually intended for a more mature decor, was challenging in the nursery. I'm not a fan of traditional color, so I chose a mint and coral mix and threw in black and white inspired by some overpriced art I duplicated myself. My four-year-old and I picked out some paint color and got started.

Normally, I'd encourage focusing on fabrics first. Thus, the paint color ties in with textiles. However, my favorite paint was on sale, and I was indecisive on the bed covering. Unique design is all about rule breaking, so I took a risk. I covered all the walls in mint and chose a coral accent wall for the crib or "focal" wall.

I searched etsy, my favorite place for all things creative, for the perfect crib bedding. The art I mentioned before included a popular phrase, "To the moon and back." I used this for my theme.



By Tiffany Napier

I'm not into generic characters of overly juvenile accents, so I chose a contemporary print. I'm obsessed with arrows right now. I found a custom fabric from a shop called iviebaby and ran with it. I chose the arrows for the core pieces: the bumpers and blanket. I threw in the coral on the crib skirt with a two tone print and mixed it up by throwing in a daring black and white chevron to help incorporate my art, also black and white.

Don't be afraid to mix prints. As long as the colors are in the same scheme and you throw in what I call two tone prints, consisting of only two colors -- a bright and light -- they should blend nicely. The crib sheet, skirt, curtains and bassinet blanket are all two tones in these photos while the other fabrics are multi-color. The two tones help soften the multi-color and anchor the room.

Can I mix black with brown, you ask? Go for it. This is no longer a conflict in design. I added a black sideboard for storage, mirror accents to add depth to the small room and DIY art on wood squares from the hardware store.

To make this popular stenciled art, use a vinyl cutter, cricut or silhouette, in reverse. Cut out the letters, remove them and use the remaining vinyl as a stencil for your paint. Stick it on your wood canvas, fill in the blank space with your desired paint color and remove the vinyl just before the paint dries.

The black and white adds a little punch to colors that might generally look a little pastel. Remember, bold is beautiful.

Speaking of beautiful, our little princess has yet to spend one night in her room. I'm certain it will be just as timeless and fun living in six months. This is what design is all about ... lifestyle. Do what you love even if it means breaking a rule or two.

In terms of inspiration, mine was on target. As I suspected, I love her just as much as my theme, "To the moon and back." ♦

Business Is Good

NEA Baptist hosts meet and greet reception

Those attending the New Doctor Meet and Greet at NEA Baptist's Wellness Center included, at right, Dr. Mark Wendel, Dr. David Parish and Dr. John Allen; middle left, Dr. Ron Schechter, Glen Rounsaville and Jason Cochran; middle right, Kim Provost, Deandra Waddell and Brad Parsons; bottom left, Clare Dunham, Kim Day, Dr. Sandra Stubblefield and Shania Montgomery; and below right, June Morse, Scott Dorroh and Yulanda Harrison. The reception allowed members of the community to meet and visit with the newest physicians to join NEA Baptist.



Kevin Thielemier named Director of Human Resources for AMMC

Kevin Thielemier has been named the Director of Human Resources at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center.

He is responsible for planning, designing, implementing and evaluating human resource administration activities, operations and programs for the hospital and remains current on changing legal environments.



The Director of Human Resources also supervises employee benefits, wage and salary administration, human resource information systems and personnel records.

Prior to joining the team at AMMC, Kevin served as the Human Resources Director for Twin Rivers Medical Center in Kennett, Missouri.

Kevin holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Human Resources from Arkansas State University and a Masters in Business Administration from ASU.

He has been a member of the Northeast Arkansas and national Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) for 15 years.

Kevin and his wife, Kristen (King), have been married for 17 years and have one son, Tate. ♦

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Kieara Maxwell, 5, struck a pose before the start of the Children's Miracle Rodeo at the Greene County Fairgrounds. She is the daughter of Shelbe Dollars of Paragould.

PREMIERE'S SCENE YA



Chris Claude performs during Brickhouse Grill's Acoustic Night Oct. 15.



1



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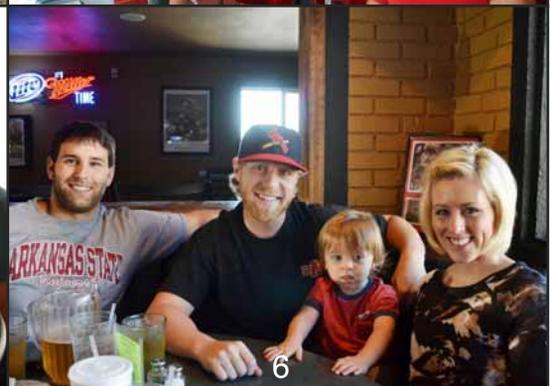
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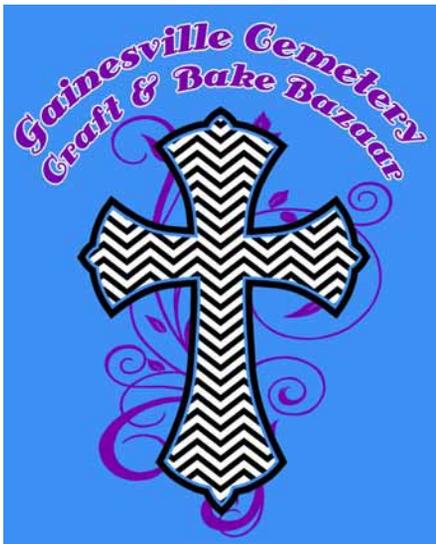


8



9

1. Devin Boyles and Zach Goldman 2. Sawyer Lumley and Sharon Camp 3. Giny Draper, Brian Walker, and Cheryl Draper
4. Ciera MacDonald and Alexis Sulit 5. Sara Darnell, Becky Darnell and Melanie Estes 6. Michael George, Lucas, Miles, and Rachel Clonts
7. Josh Wise and Doug Florczyk 8. Krista, Karter, and Tommy DeRoe; Marcus and Leslie Ballard 9. Jim and Lindsey Rowe



The Gainesville Cemetery Auxiliary is in the midst of a fundraising effort.

Cemetery group raising funds to repair damage

The Gainesville Cemetery Auxiliary is seeking funds to help fix a number of broken headstones due to recent acts of vandalism.

According to Natalie Brewer, a general fundraising effort started in the early-to mid-1980s and has continued ever since, and is even more important now because of the vandalism. The oldest grave on record at the cemetery is dated in 1828.

Cemetery board members are staging a T-shirt drive (the design of the shirt is shown above). Also, on Saturday, November 23 (the Saturday before Thanksgiving), the board will have a craft and bake bazaar.

"We will have lots of great, yummy goodies to buy so people won't have to bake for the holidays," Brewer said. "We want to keep the fundraising going to continue to help keep the cemetery looking its best and to completely fix the graves that were broken. We will be doing many more fundraisers next year and are very excited about it."

Anyone needing more information may call Brewer at 870-450-7415.

Board Members for the Gainesville Cemetery Fund are: Ernest Sheppard, Tom Wray, John Miller, Phillip Gordon, Jane Miller, Dave Tierney and Lisa Dachs. ♦

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B.E.E.S. make trip to Niagara Falls, Toronto

The B.E.E.S. Senior Citizens traveled to Niagara Falls and Toronto in September. The 47 travelers saw several different views



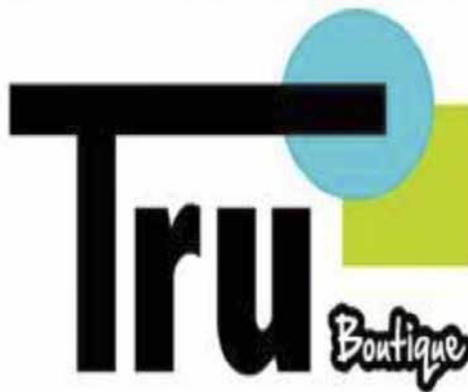
of the falls, including a very up close view from the Maid of the Mist. Their final breathtaking look at Niagara Falls occurred as they dined in the Rainbow Room atop the Crown Plaza Hotel.

The B.E.E.S. also toured the Casa Loma castle in Toronto, the most famous castle in Canada. Anyone interested in learning about future trips may call Carol Fleszar at 870-239-4093. The B.E.E.S. were to take a fall trip in October to the New England states. ♦



More than 40 members of the Greene County Senior B.E.E.S. visited Canada and Niagara Falls in September.

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Happy Thanksgiving





Tech and Paragould boosters gather for the annual tailgate party prior to the football game between the two schools.

MOR Media, sponsors set Citywide Tailgate party

Friday, Nov. 8, is the date for this year's Citywide Tailgate Party, presented by MOR Media and sponsored by its advertisers prior to the annual Tech-Paragould football game. This year's event will be hosted by GCT on the north end of the football field.

The PSD Booster Club and GCT Quarterback Club each have tickets for a \$3 donation, which includes hotdogs, chips, and a drink. The tailgate will begin at 5 p.m. and run until game time at 7. All funds raised from the tailgate will be split between the booster clubs at PHS and GCT. ♦

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Juli Page Morgan is rocking the book world

With her third book, *Song Without Words*, scheduled for a November 1 release, Paragould author Juli Page Morgan admits she has a hard time dealing with her good fortune.

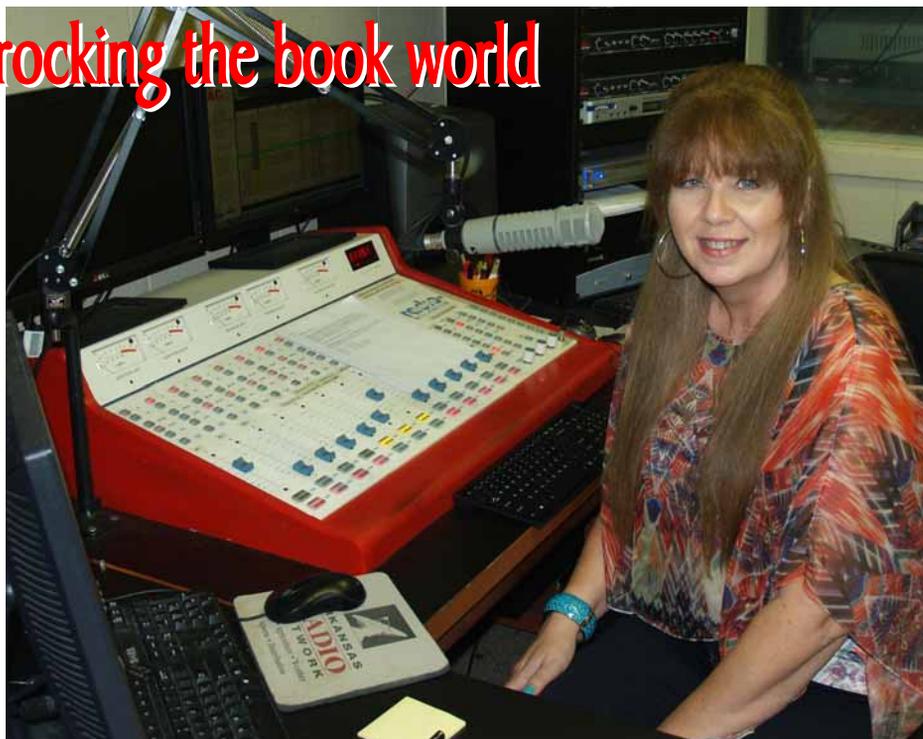
"It still seems unreal that I'm a published author," she said. "I look at these things and they have my name on them, so I know I am. I do really, really, really love it."

Morgan calls her most recent effort "romance that rocks ... a romance/suspense, murder mystery" and follows her first two efforts -- *Crimson And Clover* and *Athena's Daughter* in the Rock Star Romance genre.

A background in radio ("I left college to take a job as a DJ, and stayed in it until I left MOR Media after a long career," she said) helps her understand the music business better, and makes her writing solid, but she still says she "fell into this by accident ... I wondered if I should write down this story in my head. It took five years and several hundred-thousand revisions, but I finally got there."

Her first book, *Crimson And Clover*, came out in February of this year and is a finalist in the Book Junkie's Choice Awards in Best Category Romance.

"It's an honor just to be mentioned," Morgan said. "I think the voting goes through the end



A career as a radio personality helps Morgan write "romance that rocks."

of the year. I was floored when I found out."

It is also at the top of the charts on Goodreads for No. 1 Best Rock Star Romance.

"*Crimson* took a long time to whip into shape," she said, "but the second, mere months. I see it as a movie in my head, what my mind tells me to write. I rewind and rewrite sometimes before I get finished."

After using a publisher on the first book, Morgan chose self-publishing for the next two and realizes that requires a lot of "getting out

there and pushing it, but it's really hard for me to call people and say, 'Can I come talk about myself?' Like most writers, my introverted side is more dominate."

A fourth book is currently in the works. "Yes, I hope to have it sometime next year," she said. "It's coming pretty easy now."

Morgan can be contacted on her website: Julipagemorgan.com.

-- Richard Brummett

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The downtown area got spruced up, thanks to volunteer workers in "Clean Sweep Paragould."

Volunteers help with "Clean Sweep"

Several volunteers joined in the Paragould Regional Chamber of Commerce's "Clean Sweep Paragould" in October.

Civic groups, church groups, property owners and volunteers of all sorts tried to make Paragould a cleaner, more attractive place. Work started at 8 a.m., followed by a midday lunch provided by Focus Bank. ♦



Kelly Chronister, Owen Lusk and Dean Inman taking a break on highway 412 in front of the former 7up/RC plant.



Riley Chronister and Dustin Rumsey hard at work.

Photos by Kathryn Richey Photos

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Dustin Rumsey enjoys *Pay It Forward*

“At our core, no matter who we are, I think we want to help people.”

Dustin Rumsey is an active Pay It Forward participant, working to have a positive impact on daily life.

At the age of 37, Paragould’s Dustin Rumsey has picked up on an unflattering trend associated with daily life and is hoping to institute change.

“In an all-digital world -- Facebook, Twitter - - ... it has sucked some of the life out of humanity,” he said. “The beauty behind this is, it’s simple, pure, genuine. Whether you’re 7, 70 or 80, people support what this creates.”

“This” is his enthusiastic support of the Pay It Forward movement, an effort to get everyday people to perform random acts of kindness ... every day.

While the concept of Pay It Forward can be traced all the way back to a prizewinning play that was first written and performed in ancient Athens in 317 BC, its most recent popularity is derived from a 2000 movie of the same name.

“The beauty is, you’re not pushing anything,” Rumsey said. “You’re not selling anything, no

religion, no politics. You give someone a card that says ‘Just do something nice.’ To me, it’s not charity or giving because you also expect them to do something.”

Rumsey said his first unrehearsed act of kindness was when he saw a woman whose



car was stalled in the middle of Court Street. “I passed by at first, then came back, and got a couple of guys to help push,” he said. “It just made me feel good, because I was expecting nothing in return.”

He said that prompted him to make a more concentrated effort to pay it forward and the response has been overwhelming. “Nothing negative yet,” he said. “They always smile and say, ‘Thank you so much.’ Pay It Forward

... That’s three words people understand. I don’t want anything from anybody. Sometimes they look at you for a second, then you see the light go off, and make that connection. It’s important to look at them eye to eye. It’s personal.”

Rumsey said he will sometimes buy a \$5 gift card in a store and then seek out a worthy recipient, earning smiles -- and sometimes tears -- from salesclerk and beneficiary alike. After one such episode recently, Rumsey said, “I told the clerk what I was doing and randomly picked a woman in line with her kids; the clerk cried, and the woman was so thankful. I got two smiles. I don’t know if it changed their day or not, but it changed mine.

“I wish there was a great story to it,” Rumsey said of his involvement. “Charley Johnson, the head of the Pay It Forward Foundation, thought it was a great idea. Unlike the movie, where Trevor asks you to do three big things

for three people, this is asking for one small thing. That's the idea behind it.

"Their videos emphasize how to bring it to a community and I had help from Charley in creating a logo for Paragould. I started a Facebook page and it has just blown up. Within months it had more likes than pages from countries like Australia, Belgium and Hong Kong. It's listed on the Pay It Forward page right there with cities like Denver and L.A., hanging right there with them."

He said the foundation started the practice of handing out bracelets in 2006, beginning with 1,000 in Utah. "Now there are 2.3 million in 126 countries," he said. "Little, tiny silicone Pay It Forward bracelets. People can look at it and say, 'I did something good today.' The first bracelet I gave was to a 7-year-old girl for raising money for cancer research."

Something Rumsey would like to see is more involvement from businesses and others locally. "I hear more and more stories or see more on Facebook every day," he said. "Something as simple as the bracelets from the foundation, which PostNet donates locally, can make someone's day. You're just asking them to do something nice for someone because you did something nice for them."

"It's a great feeling. That is the real thing behind it, and it's the connector we need. That ripple effect, where it just rolls out. I honestly get up thinking, 'What can I do for some-

Many in Paragould participate in efforts

When working on feature stories related to the Pay It Forward theme, we solicited suggestions from Premiere readers as to individuals and businesses they felt worthy of notice.

Many people nominated the same businesses, and several people contributed the same names of individuals who have gone above and beyond to show acts of kindness to others, far too many to list them all.

Some of the most-often mentioned were:

* Kiss The Cook, for having a tip jar and soliciting donations

* Something Sweet -- auction on donated cake

* Alvin Taylor Flowers and Gifts --- floral arrangement

* Willow Salon --- gift basket of products

Also, a group of co-workers at First National Bank drew praise for supporting a fellow friend and "Dig For The Cure" at the same time by participating in Something Sweet's cake auction, then winning the cake and presenting it to their friend -- who has cancer -- as a sign of their support.

Glen Sain Ford also contributed to the "Dig For The Cure" with special offers at their place of business.

All participants are to be thanked and commended. ♦

body?" I want to get kids involved. I want to get them caring for each other; it's something that will follow them all their life."

Rumsey said he wants to speak to civic clubs, schools ... any organization that will listen to his ardent belief that helping each other is something we are meant to do.

"I grew up with people saying, 'Don't do this and don't do that.' This is pro-kindness," he offered. "You don't have to be rich or special.

There's nothing rich or special about me. At our core, no matter who we are, I think we want to help people. This is that tool."

One of Rumsey's goals is to have April 25th of 2014, National Pay it Forward Day, to be recognized in Paragould with scheduled events.

"This is something that helps everyone and makes our community stronger," he said. "We need to get behind it." ♦

No matter how hard you try, apparently you just can't be nice to some people

While I never tried to get exclusive rights to the title, I might have been the original "Designated Driver" in college.

As the only non-drinker on the basketball team, I was elected to drive and make certain everyone made it back to school safely on weekends. And school nights.

Today that might be considered a random act of kindness, much like the time I helped a couple of friends just out of the goodness of my heart. I ran around a lot with Tim Rand and Bobby Vaughn when we were teenagers and one day one of them -- I have to believe it was Tim -- came up with the idea of saving up old tin cans and then

Get Rich

By Richard Brummett



dumping them in the other's yard late at night.

I went along, just a random act of kindness on my part, and we spread the cans all over Bobby's lawn in the dark of night. The following day he came by and said he figured it had to be Tim who did it, and wondered if I would be willing to help pay him back.

Just out of kindness I said, "Sure," and we

gathered even more cans, waited until the right moment and then tossed them all over Tim's yard.

Tim came over to tell me what Bobby had done and wondered if I'd help him yet again, so there I was in the middle of Tim's very large yard, picking up the cans I had helped toss the night before.

We again made a late-night run to Bobby's, filled his yard with even more garbage, and escaped. One morning soon thereafter, my mom said she thought my friends might have paid me a visit ... pointing to a yard filled with hundreds of cans, and proving that even when try to do something from the heart, you just can't be nice to some people. ♦

Lowe's builds fence for Children's Homes, Inc.

Lowe's of Paragould, supported by Lowe's Home Improvement, Inc., is allotted \$1,200 per year to fund a project of their choosing. In the past, Lowe's 2847 (Paragould) has helped with projects like Habitat for Humanity, and cleanup efforts after the April flooding in Randolph County.

This year, Lowe's team members voted to fund and provide volunteer labor to put up a fence at the Children's Homes, Inc. of Paragould. One of the cottages on campus that houses younger children has a small play area sitting close to the street, and a fence was needed for the safety of the kids.

Lowe's sent volunteers who were joined by one of their contractor customers, Larry Russell, of Russell's Construction in Cardwell, Mo., and worked all day to put a fence up around the play area. To complete the project, Rick Nunn, owner of Swirlz of Paragould, held a fundraiser at his shop to raise money for the playground equipment to go inside the fence.

Lowe's is also providing supplies and volunteers for the Esther House in Cardwell, operated by Robert Looney. ♦



Lowe's helped Pay It Forward by building a fence at the Children's Homes of Paragould.

Local waitress is nation's top fundraiser for Chili's

Of the \$21,000 Chili's Bar & Grill raised for St. Jude's in September, \$13,323 was gathered by a single hard-working employee.

Memphis native Erica Hare puts her heart and soul into raising money for St. Jude's during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and that passion is evident when she speaks about the philanthropy. "We go on a trip (to St. Jude's) three times a year," Hare said. "It's not like any other place. It's amazing. It really is magical."

Hare has worked seven years for Chili's and has been with the Paragould location since it opened in 2007. This year, she was number one in the Chili's nation in earning donations, surpassing the second place winner by \$5,523.

The Chili's More Hope Campaign, which runs Aug. 25-Sept. 25, includes promotions such as making a donation by decorating a coloring sheet and buying a More Hope slap band or More Hope T-Shirt to color. Chili's agreed to donate \$50 million to St. Jude's over 10 years beginning in 2006, and by September of this year had already reached \$47 million.

Hare said her loyal guests at the restaurant are what help her with the fundraising because they know how important St. Jude's is to her.



Erica Hare raised more money than anyone in the country during Chili's drive for St. Jude's.

In fact, one night she earned \$400 in 10 minutes from her bar guests matching donations with each other. "(They) go above and beyond for me," she smiled.

"They have that same passion," Kevin Childs, Chili's manager, said. "We have guests that will come in with checks just for St. Jude's."

The local Rescue Squad also came to Chili's

one night and raised more than \$600 in two hours, and the 1039th National Guard raised \$600 another day. Hare also takes the initiative to find other creative ways of donating.

"Within the first year of us doing St. Jude's, I was thinking, 'What can we do to raise more money?'" Hare said. Her solution was to color her own More Hope shirts and sell them for \$20, which inspired other team members to step up and think of other ideas.

Hare doesn't just have the honor of being the number one fundraiser in the nation. For last year's motivational video, the company chose Hare out of every single Chili's team member in the world to be a spokesperson.

Coming from Memphis, Hare knew of Chili's work with St. Jude's but really got involved when she began working in Northeast Arkansas. It was when she helped open the Paragould establishment that she truly got into the philanthropy.

In addition to the More Hope Campaign, Chili's participates in blood drives, car washes, giveback nights, and the March of Dimes Jail and Bail. "Part of our mission is to give back," Childs said. "It's just really cool for our brand that we do these things." ♦

-- Caitlin LaFarlette

PAY IT FORWARD



Good friend Truman Exum makes the announcement that the Miracle Rodeo has been renamed in honor of Travis Hedge.

Travis Hedge has spent 23 years putting smiles on the faces of young people; this year, Greene County Fair Board members found a way to turn the tables on him.

At the 2013 Miracle Rodeo, a cause Hedge has spearheaded for more than two decades, board members renamed the event in his honor, keeping the ceremony a surprise from him and his wife, Sandra.

"I was floored," said Hedge, who has seen the rodeo through thick and thin. "You could have hit me between the eyes with a baseball bat and I wouldn't have been more surprised than I was up there on that stage. I've never been so honored in my life. The rodeo is just something I love to do."

For board members, the decision was a simple one. The annual rodeo gets done because of the efforts of many; the many come together through the tireless direction of Hedge, who has enjoyed paying it forward to area young people for all these



Hedge, surrounded by many of the young people he cares so much about, finds a way to keep a smile on his face.

years. "People ask me why I do it," he said, "and I tell them for the smiles on the little kids' faces ... there's more smiles there than some people will ever see in a lifetime. I tell people to come to the rodeo just one time, and

then tell me you won't come back the next year. It gets to your heart."

He and four other fair board members saw their first Miracle Rodeo in Oklahoma City years ago and brought the idea home. He said he "couldn't do this without the help of so many people," reeling off the names of businesses and individuals who donate products, time and money.

Hedge has had medical issues of his own, diagnosed months ago with cancer. But even while in Houston at the MD Anderson Cancer Center, Hedge had his Miracle Rodeo briefcase open and was making calls home, setting up volunteers for this year's event.

"I told the doctors, 'Do what you have to, but on October 23rd, I'll be in Greene County.' I was calling people, setting up wagons, horses and volunteers.

"If Sandra hadn't found that lump, we never would have known anything about it," he said of the cancer. "If she hadn't found it, I'd just be Travis." ♦

-- Richard Brummett

Planting seeds of kindness

Latently, when anyone in Greene County thinks of paying it forward, they may think of the local movement that has sprung up in recent months. However, there are some within the county who have been paying it forward far longer.

Marty Wynn, a Greene County resident and educator for the Riverside Public Schools system, and his family have been doing exactly that. Wynn has participated with Voice of Hope Ministries in mission trips to help create sustainable food sources for starving families in Nicaragua, where he will return this month in an effort to complete a major project.

Voice of Hope's website, www.centralamerica-hope.org, says, "Here at Voice of Hope, our vision is to meet every child's needs through food and the power of the Gospel. Everyday children are hungry not just for the word but for physical needs, through our feeding centers we try to meet that demand."

Wynn made his first trip to Nicaragua in 2011. "That time we went with a church group and we did, what they called, some fiestas, some Vacation Bible Schools and worked on some church construction." On his trip back on Nov. 16, Wynn will follow a different group who will first travel to the country to take supplies needed to construct a 200-gallon fish tank, eight lava rock tanks and to set up pumps to



Marty Wynn enjoys paying it forward with mission trips.

fertilize crops. Wynn said there are four such setups on each of the five feeding center properties the organization has within the country.

Wynn said his group will start the mission by growing lettuce because it is a very, "high-dollar commodity there and it's a very easy plant to start with." His group will stock the fish tanks with tilapia for the feeding centers to grow, breed, and later feed its community.

Wynn said some of the things that surprised him most during his first trip to the country were mostly culture issues and, "Seeing how they did things was the most surprising, I think. They had dirt floors for the most part. But, it varied so much. You have everything there from nice homes to cardboard shacks. As a people, though, they are very friendly and

most speak more than one or two languages."

"This trip," Wynn continued, "I am hoping to have more time to learn about the culture there and some of the history. It is important to know and learn those things when you travel, so that you aren't offending people while you are there. After spending three-and-a-half years in Germany with the military, that is one of the things I learned. When you go somewhere, you need to have a respect for their culture in order to better meet their needs."

While in Nicaragua, Wynn will spend one week helping create sustainable food sources for a malnourished community. There are approximately eight volunteers going. "(Doing these mission trips) meets the need of the people in that country," he said. "It is a poor country, and for me, it is very hard to see a hungry kid. I saw plenty of them on my first trip."

Wynn is not the only family member to take the trips. His wife, Melissa, also sometimes goes, as do his children: Kristin Summers, Brittany Lawrence, Katie Harter and Zachary Wynn. "My kids have been everywhere," Wynn continued, "New Zealand, Thailand, Mexico ... and we have gone all over the United States, too. Like, when Sandy hit, we went to Louisiana. Everyone goes." Wynn and his family attend Community Fellowship Church in Jonesboro.

For more information on Voice of Hope Ministries, visit their website. ♦

-- Jennifer Thompson



Tim Rand
PHOTOGRAPHY
www.trand.com | 870-236-2275 | pix@trand.com

Paragould community shows support for Weatherford family

Jason and Carla Weatherford have always been proud to call Greene County their home, but the outpouring of love shown them by members of the Paragould community has emphasized what a wonderful place it is to live.

"From the first day, the support from friends, family and the community has been overwhelming," said Jason, sitting at the time in Children's Healthcare of Atlanta with their 6-year-old daughter Kinlee. "Not a day goes by that we aren't amazed at what our community is willing to do for us. And we don't know the half of it."

In early September, Kinlee apparently suffered a seizure while in the bathtub and nearly drowned. What has followed is basically "starting over with all of her motor functions," Jason said. Five weeks of treatment at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis preceded their trip to Atlanta, where day by day Kinlee continues to show amazing progress but still must relearn the basics of things like walking, talking and eating through therapy sessions seven days a week.

"Her personality is one of recovering, if anyone can do it," Jason said. "She is strong willed and stubborn. She's not one to give up. She's going to keep on trucking; so are we."

Once word circulated about Kinlee's misfortune,

Paragould people went to work. Prayer requests were sent to numerous churches and various groups and individuals put into motion everything from fundraisers for the family to simple activities like walks

and prayer sessions designed to draw attention to the Weatherfords' need for support. Businesses donated portions of their proceeds from designated meals, there were suddenly Kinlee bracelets and T-shirts and scheduled "walks" ... "We're continually just stunned," Jason said. "I have, literally, been in Paragould for two hours in the last seven weeks. We don't even know who to thank."

That's the point as far as Paragould and Greene County are concerned: No thanks necessary. This has been a community-wide outpouring of love for not only a child, but for her family.

"We are amazed," Jason said. "People want to keep up with us every day and we can post something on Facebook and 300 people will respond in a matter of minutes, saying they are praying for us and for us to keep our



Kinlee Weatherford

spirits up. We honestly don't know what to say."

He said the stay in Memphis was somewhat easier on him and Carla and Kinlee's sister, Carlee, because its closeness to home allowed multiple visitors to make the trip over. Atlanta has proven a bit tougher on all concerned.

"We're making it," Jason said, "and part of that is because of what everyone at home is doing for us. They send videos ... Kinlee loves getting videos from people. That really brightens her day. There is nothing wrong with Memphis or Atlanta, but if this has done anything, it's shown us how great you have it when you live in a small community."

As Kinlee continues to make progress, doctors predict a mid-November release from the hospital, most likely followed by outpatient therapy and/or day treatment services.

"She's basically trapped in her body," Jason said. "She knows what she wants to do or to say ... you can tell it in her eyes ... but she can't do it. For someone used to going 100 miles an hour, it's tough not to have mobility.

"But the way we keep looking at it, she's already touched more people through this than we could in a lifetime. That may be the reason this happened. We've learned an awful lot more about love than we already knew." ♦

-- Richard Brummett

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Food pantries help feed the needy in Greene County



Lynda Stuart fills food bags at the Griffin Memorial United Methodist food pantry.

When one considers all of the problems the typical Arkansan faces, hunger probably isn't tops on the list. It should be.

"At 19.7 percent, Arkansas is tied with Mississippi as having the highest rate of food insecure households in the nation. That means Arkansans – more than most any other Americans – are often unsure of where they will get their next meal," according to www.arhungeralliance.org. Greene County residents in need of food don't have to look too far to find help.

Located within the county are 11 food pantries, two with kitchens that help cook and serve meals to local residents who wouldn't receive warm meals otherwise. Eleven may seem like a lot for such a rural area, but each one struggles to keep enough food to hand out.

In 2011 alone, the Mission Outreach in Paragould, located at 901 E. Lake St., distributed more than 5,000 boxes of food to needy families. The Good Samaritan Outreach program in Marmaduke serves boxes of food to its Greene

and Griffin Memorial United Methodist Church hand out an unimaginable amount of food for such small organizations. Audrey Walls, who runs the food pantry at Stonewall Community Church, said, "In one day in October we had 48 families come through."

Lynda Stuart, at Griffin Memorial United Methodist Church, said she feels residents would be most interested to know, "The biggest percentage of people we give food to is the 18-64 age group. And we can see our 65-and-over age group going up as well ... especially since they have now had their food stamps cut."

Stuart said when the Griffin pantry first opened it was handing out roughly 35 boxes a month; that number is now hitting 400 boxes a month.

Norman and Shirley Russell have been running the Every Nation Food Pantry, 7101 Greene 721 Road in Paragould, for 12 years now. The Russells, who have obtained their 501(c)3 status, help feed more than 325 Greene County residents each month, providing enough food for two weeks at a time.

To contact one of the local food pantries:

- 7th & Mueller Outreach, 1000 S. 7th St., 239-9442
- Crowley's Ridge Development Council (CRDC), 144 Linwood Dr., 239-3531
- LifeHouse Ministries, 4100 Linwood Dr., 236-5807
- Grace United General Baptist Church, 1401 Highway 135 N., 239-8184
- Griffin Memorial United Methodist Church, 524 E. Court St., 236-2060
- Good Samaritan Outreach, 210 E. Main St., Marmaduke, 236-0404
- Mission Outreach, 901 E. Lake St., 236-8080
- Stonewall Community Church, 13683 Highway 135 N., 586-0869
- West View Baptist Church, 701 W. Morgan St., 236-7195
- Witt House, 3165 4th St., 239-8541
- Every Nation Food Ministry, 7101 Greene 721 Road, 239-0670

Each pantry is open on different days and at different times so it is best to call ahead to get the pantry's schedule. Most also require photo identification to receive food, though some are also required to see proof of residence and proof of income. Additionally, Griffin Memorial will host a Thanksgiving Dinner for anyone who doesn't have a way to have one otherwise. It will be Nov. 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the annex beside the church. ♦

-- Jennifer Thompson



Hunting for the Right Body Shop?









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Rain shortens Oktoberfest

Just as things were ready to get going, weather made everyone get going and shortened Main Street Paragould's Oktoberfest plans.

Scheduled events like the Running of the Wieners and the Downtown Dog Parade were rained out, and musicians couldn't set up sound equipment so organizers and visitors were forced to head home. ♦



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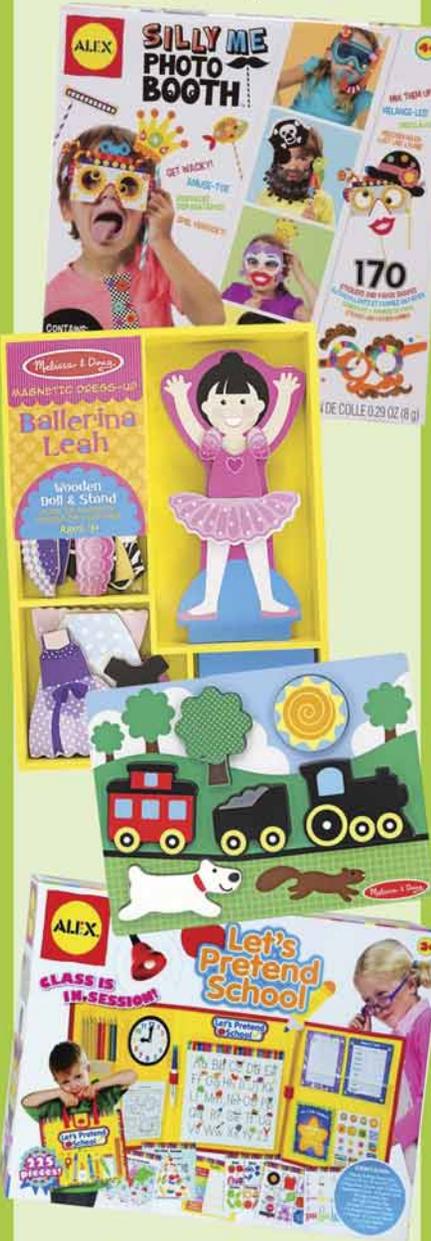
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GCT will again host Veterans Day program

Greene County Tech High School in Paragould will continue its tradition of presenting a community-wide Veterans Day Program on Thursday, Nov. 7.

The program, which features musical entertainment and skits by GCT students and administrators, a guest speaker and the announcement of this year's inductees into the school's Veterans' Hall of Fame, will be held in the GCT auditorium from 9-11 a.m., followed by a meal for all veterans and their families.

The program honors veterans from all branches of the military.

On Sunday, Nov. 10, Paragould Mayor Mike Gaskill will speak in honor of veterans in a ceremony in front of the Paragould War Memorial on the old courthouse lawn.



The public is invited to attend the 2 p.m. event and hear the mayor's annual tribute to members of the military and their families.

First National Bank in Paragould will again present its Wall of Honor in the lobby of the main branch, located at 200 West Court Street.

Photographs submitted by area residents are scanned, matted and displayed for all to enjoy. The display will be ready for the public to view beginning on Friday, Nov. 1. ♦

BECOME A REAL ESTATE AGENT or get required continuing ed hours



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Hundreds participate in area Senior Games

More than 450 senior center participants gathered in Jonesboro in October to stage the Senior Games, sponsored by the East Arkansas Area Agency on Aging.

Seniors took part in both inside and outside activities including pitching washers, horseshoes, shooting a basketball and hula-hooping, punctuated by a catfish dinner and musical entertainment. ♦



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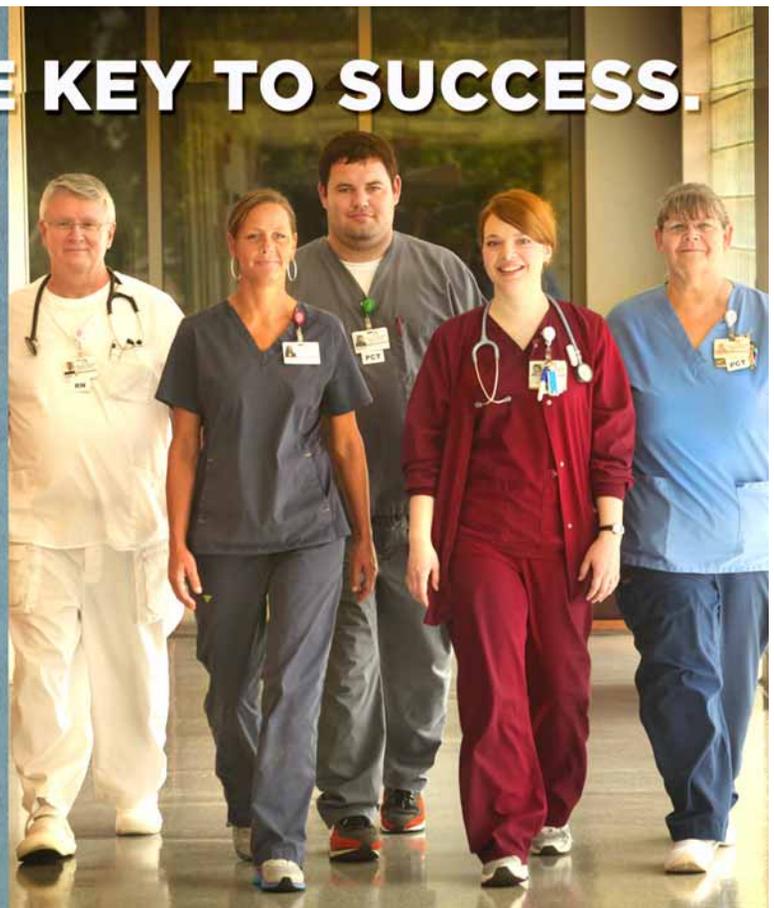
The Arkansas Methodist Hospital Corporation is recognized by The Joint Commission as a **Top Performer on Key Quality Measures®** for achieving excellence in performance on its accountability measures during 2012 for heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia and surgical care. Arkansas Methodist was also recognized as a **Top Performer** in 2011 for the same measure sets. Out of 3,343 eligible hospitals submitting accountability measure data to The Joint Commission, AMMC is one of 1,099 to meet or exceed the target rates of performance for 2012.



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Thanksgiving today ...

Just how did the turkey
become such a big part of
our holiday celebration?



Benjamin Franklin felt the turkey should be considered our country's national bird instead of the eagle.

Photo by Rodney White

No one knows for certain how the turkey became our food of choice

Whether or not the turkey was an important part of the first Thanksgiving feast we don't really know; we do know, however, that today the holiday meal is not complete without our feathered friend.

For that first Thanksgiving in 1621, records show that Governor William Bradford sent "four men fowling" to provide for the feast for which a few dozen Pilgrims and some hundred Native Americans would gather. What exactly they came back with is anyone's guess — ducks, geese, possibly a wild turkey or two.

Since lobster, goose, duck, seal, eel, and cod were plentiful in the area during that time, those foods were most likely the main courses

for that first feast. Deer meat and wild fowl are the only two items that historians know for sure were on the menu of the autumn celebration.

Still, wild turkey was a major food source for both Native Americans and Pilgrims and was well regarded in those early days. Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to take the place of the bald eagle as the country's national bird.

The eagle, he wrote in a letter to his daughter in 1784, "... is a bird of bad moral character. He does not get his living honestly... The turkey is in comparison a much more respectable bird, and withal a true original native of America... He is besides, though a little vain and silly, a bird of courage, and would not hesitate to attack a grenadier of the

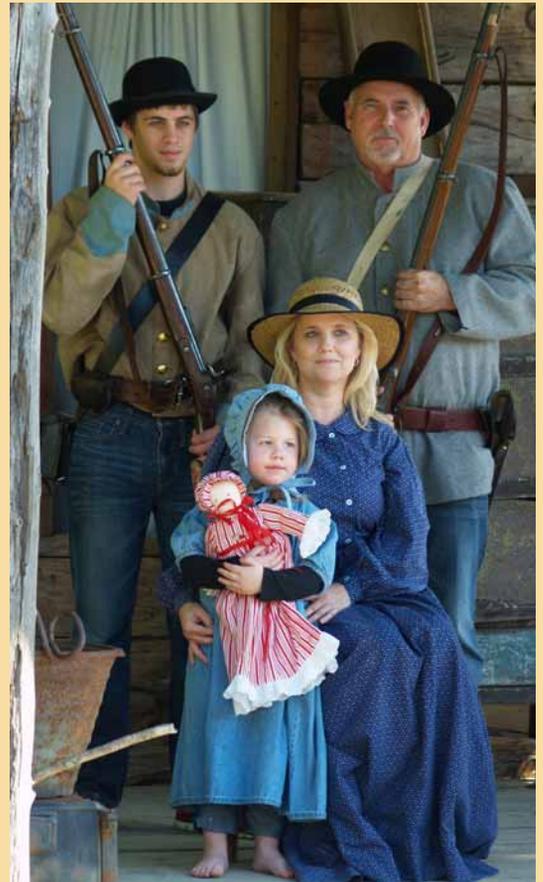
British guards who should presume to invade his farm yard with a red coat on."

It's not known exactly when turkey became the customary centerpiece of the Thanksgiving table. Franklin Roosevelt was already the third of three presidents to issue a proclamation recognizing the holiday, following George Washington in 1789 and Abraham Lincoln in 1863.

The eating of turkey on Thanksgiving Day, according to Wikipedia, preceded President Lincoln, with Alexander Hamilton having once declared that no "Citizen of the United States should refrain from turkey on Thanksgiving Day." By the late 19th century, the phrase "Turkey Day" had become synonymous with Thanksgiving. ♦

Thanksgiving yesterday ...

getting the holiday feast to the table was a bit more involved for pioneers, but those days are brought back to life each year at the Parker Homestead Festival near Harrisburg



Happy Thanksgiving

Not what we say about our blessings,
but how we use them, is the
true measure of our Thanksgiving.

~ W. T. Purkiser

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Rotarians Kelly Roswell, Marty Buchman, Rick Wyatt, Sue Kibiloski and Beth Spaunhorst manned the phones.

Paragould Rotary Club stages annual auction

Paragould's annual Rotary Club Auction was once again a huge success, with the club selling more than 272 items donated by business and community members.

With the assistance of the Greene County Tech High School TV and Interact students, Rotarians raised over \$18,000 to go toward community projects. ♦



Students from Tech TV manned the cameras to help with the broadcast of the Rotary Auction.



Marty Algee takes a bid from a caller.





CR DOC
Roger Cagle, M.D.
Cathy Young A.P.N.

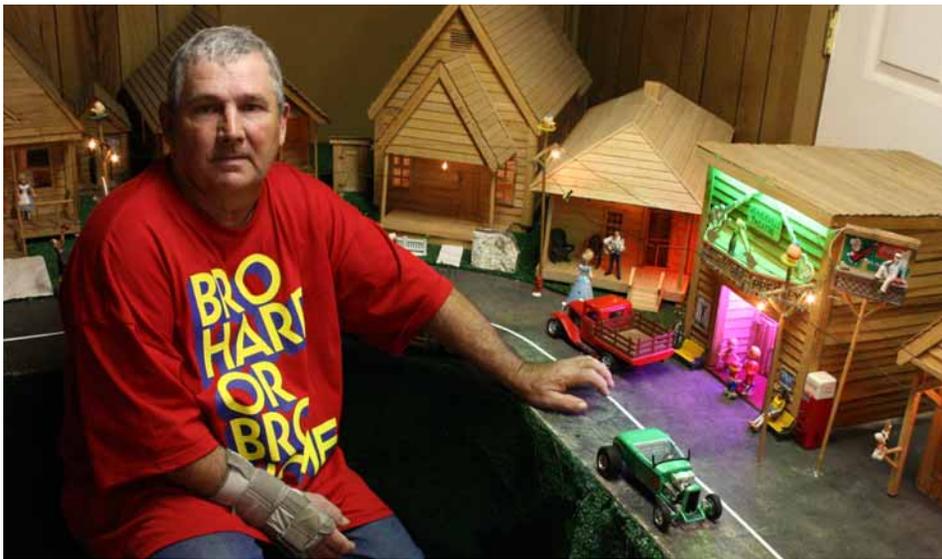
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Jackie Weaver has derived big pleasure from his tiny buildings.

“Welcome to Weaverville”

“It’s just what I like to do,” said Paragould native Jackie Weaver, one of the few people you might meet who can say he owns his own town.

“Weaverville,” more than 19 years in the making, is a town on a miniature scale that has a huge meaning. “People think it’s a hobby, but to me, it’s art,” Weaver stated.

Some of the buildings Weaver has created have sentimental value, such as the replica of his childhood home. Others are simply historical landmarks, such as Elvis’ childhood home and the Johnny Cash Theater in Dyess, Arkansas.

“I hand-carved the floor plan of a church and when I showed it to my mother, she said, ‘Son, we can’t have a church without a roof and walls,’” he said. “It started out as a little joke, but after I finished that, I began on a gas station I liked from Mammoth Spring.”

Weaver has worked as a self-employed carpenter for more than 30 years, which helps with his skill in making each tiny piece. Each “board” is ripped to 1/16 of an inch from real oak. “I like the way it looks,” he said. “Over

time, the color fades and it gives the appearance of a white wash.”

All references either come from photographs Weaver takes, old photographs, or simply his memory. Each building is built to scale and as close to the actual building as possible, to every final detail. “I just drive around. If I see a building I like, I take pictures of it and build it,” he said.

Others he’s built include Dog-n-Suds, the Benjamin Crowley home, and the Paragould Railroad Depot, donated to the Greene County Museum. All of his buildings are built to represent the 1950s. Currently, Weaver is working on a model of Paragould’s first lumber company, Dickerson Lumber company, from 1902, was once located on Poplar Street.

“I would love to see it take off and go somewhere,” Weaver said. “But if it doesn’t, I’ll just keep doing it.”

Weaver said his favorite thing about the buildings is seeing the end result. “I enjoy when the last thing is done, turning the lights on and stepping back and looking at the finished product,” he said. ♦

-- Joy Robinson



HEATH *Funeral Home*

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Mark Morrow
Paragould Community President

Making Northeast Arkansas a better place.

Simmons First is pleased to announce the promotion of Mark Morrow to Paragould Community President. Mark has more than 18 years of banking experience and has been part of the Simmons First family since 2001. Born and raised in Paragould, Mark currently serves as Assistant Governor of Rotary District 6150 and is a member of the Rotary Club of Jonesboro where he is also a past president. He is Board Chairman of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Arkansas and serves on numerous committees of the Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce. His dedication to the community is only matched by his dedication to his customers. Congratulations, Mark.

You exemplify everything that makes Simmons First Arkansas' bank.



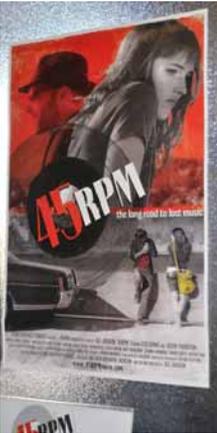
We Want To Be Your Bank!

simmonsfirst.com

Jonesboro hosts screening of Juli Jackson's "45RPM"

Juli Jackson's feature film "45RPM" was screened at Jonesboro's The Arts@311 in October.

The film was shot and produced in Northeast Arkansas, utilizing many talented local artists, musicians and filmmakers. ♦



Director Juli Jackson discusses her film with musician Justin Vinson.



Several area residents made their way to The Arts@311 in Jonesboro to view the film and to see the work of local artist Mandy Maxwell.



Opening Nov. 9th. Swirlz Coffee Lounge

Opening each morning at 6:00 a.m. with fresh baked cinnamon rolls and other baked goods from Ms. Nancy Hoke.

We love coffee too. That's why we proudly brew

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Life is short. Stay awake for it.

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Signs - Awnings - Digital Prints - Trophies



Fashion forward

COUTURE BOUTIQUE

Newly opened in Brookland, Couture Boutique is quickly making a name for itself among fellow boutiques. Along with the season's most desirable styles for women, Couture also offers up trendy little girl fashions. So girls of every age can feel like a million bucks without breaking the bank.

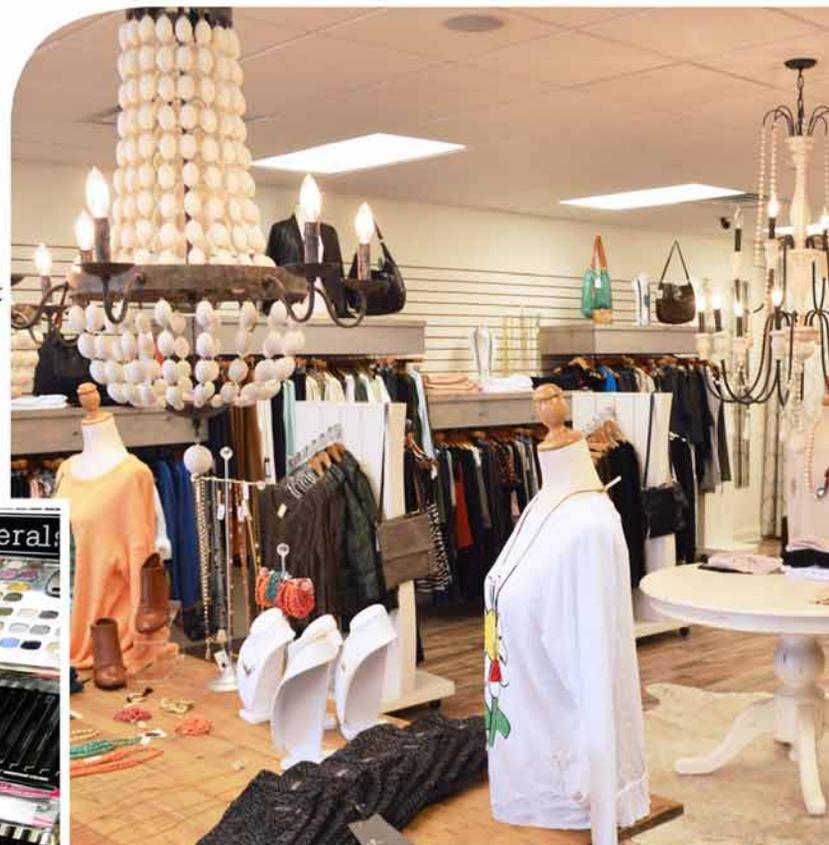
Couture Boutique is located at 11180 HWY 49 in Brookland. (870) 680-3063



GLO BOUTIQUE

Clothes. Shoes. Make-up. Jewelry. Need we say more? Glo Boutique offers all of the above and more in a fresh, edgy, open space that connects to its counterpart, Glo Salon. Offering hot brands like HOBLO and Bare Minerals, a girl just can't go wrong at Glo.

Glo Salon & Boutique can be found at 1911 Lintwood Drive, Suite 1 in Paragould; (870) 236-4456



22 LOU BOUTIQUE

Offering new styles with a vintage-inspired feel, 22 Lou is everything every girl dreams of. From vegan, handmade soaps to trendy items, many from local designers, it's an eclectic inventory that begs you to try something outside of the norm. The best part? Everything in the store is priced under \$50, keeping with the store's idea that "cute doesn't have to cost".

22 Lou Boutique is located at 2405 Linwood Drive, Suite 1, Paragould; (870) 476-1102



TRU BOUTIQUE

Style and quality join together at Tru Boutique. From bold statement jewelry to colorful scarves and trendy tops, the style of offerings inside the store boasts femininity... with an edge. They even have furniture and gifts!

Tru Boutique, 3501 Stonegate Dr. Suite A, Paragould. (870) 240-0979



LIFE *style*



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95+Sunny Survivor Wine Glass
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Coton Colors Cornucopia Attachment, \$23
Helen Marie's Perfect Touch
*Attach to Coton Colors Cookie Jars, Platters, and Frames.
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Pearl Necklace, \$20
22 Lou Boutique
Handmade locally in Jonesboro.
Supports Suicide Prevention.



EmiJay Hair Ties, \$3.99 Tru Boutique
Hand-dyed and handmade in the USA
20% of profits from sales are donated to a different charity every month.



Knot Heads Headband, \$13.50
22 Lou Boutique
Handmade locally in Jonesboro from recycled T-shirts.
Supports going green and recycling.



Nutt ~ Davis Wedding

Tyler and Jessica met in high school while attending Greene County Tech. Tyler played baseball and basketball while Jessica was a cheerleader.

During the aftermath of the January 2009 ice storm, when most of the electric service in the city had been restored, Tyler asked Jessica to see a movie. That was their first date. Tyler's younger sister Mackensie had tried to get him to notice Jessica a year earlier – so she counts her matchmaking skills as a success. Jessica's older brother Justin wasn't too pleased to have a man seriously interested in his little sister, but with time he came around. Since both Tyler and Jessica came from farm backgrounds, they had much in common.

In March of 2011, during spring break at ASU, Tyler and Jessica traveled with their parents to Orange Beach, Alabama. After dating for two years Tyler shocked and surprised Jessica by proposing on a moonlit Orange Beach. She said, "Yes" and the wedding planning began.

On June 1, 2013, the couple was united in marriage by Packy Magel at Eastside Baptist Church. A heavy downpour started early that morning and stopped exactly one hour before the wedding. Family and friends were able to attend the services with the sun shining – thankfully. As the couple departed the church, rice was thrown – rice that was grown and harvested by Tyler and retrieved straight from the grain bins!

A reception followed at the Red Goose Banquet Hall. During the couples dance an elimination was done by the years of marriage. Jessica's grandparents were the last couple standing, with 55 years of marriage. They were able to give the newly married couple some advice for a life-long marriage.

After the reception Tyler and Jessica departed for a honeymoon in Mexico. Tyler is farming while working on his MBA. Jessica is a senior BSN nursing student at ASU and works part-time as a nurse.



Engagement Announcements

Benson-Gossett



Chelsea Benson and Michael Gossett

Chelsea Benson and Michael Gossett, both of Paragould, will exchange wedding vows in December.

Chelsea is the daughter of Bruce and LaVonda Benson. Michael's parents are Richard and Debbie Gossett.

The wedding will take place Saturday, December 14, 2013, at the Hillcrest Church of Christ. ♦



Ryan Blankenship and Anna Rogers

Rogers-Blankenship

Anna Rogers and Ryan Blankenship announce their plans to be married in November.

Anna is the daughter of Terry and Vicki Rogers of Paragould. Ryan's parents are Ron and Gail Blankenship, also of Paragould.

The wedding will take place Saturday, November 16, 2013, at Swindle's Farm in Paragould. ♦



Photo by Ben Nehring

Connor Gatewood and Whitney Ryan

Ryan-Gatewood

Whitney Ryan and Connor Gatewood have announced their plans for a December wedding.

Whitney is the daughter of Craig and Nancy Ryan of Paragould.

Connor is the son of Angela Gatewood of Jonesboro.

The date of the wedding has been set for Saturday, December 7, 2013, and will take place at the Camp Ground United Methodist Church in Paragould. ♦

To have your announcements included in Premiere Magazine, email a photo and the information to:

editor@paragouldpremiere.com

no later than the 15th of the preceding month.

Helen Marie's
PERFECT TOUCH
Our Bridal...

Natalie Sigsby & Joseph Rogers
November 2

Juli Summitt & Cody Waits
November 2

Cassie Morrison & Matthew Deramus
November 9

Carrie Vargas & Brent Johnston
November 9

Anna Rogers & Ryan Blankenship
November 16

Tanya Sisco & Jeramiah Curry
November 30

Allison Vanaman & Josh Dixson
November 30

Whitney Ryan & Conner Gatewood
December 7

Laura Pollard & Kyle Thompson
December 14

Sarah Gillmore & Mark Hawkins
December 14

Whitney & Kevin Robinson

Emily & Beau Sisco

Our Baby...

Tina & Bob Watson
Stefenie & Jeremy Newberry
Lindsey & Andy Locke

.....

314 West Garland in Paragould
M-F 9:30-5:00, Sat 9:30-3:00
Find us on Facebook!

Birth Announcements



Photo by Natalie Gray

Zalie Claire Murray

Jake and Brittany Murray of Paragould announce the birth of their daughter, Zalie Claire Murray.

The baby, born July 23, 2013 at St. Bernards Medical Center, weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Grandparents are Terry and Angela James, and Kerry and Amber Murray. Great-grandparents are Bernice Adams, Charlie and Linda Murray, Bobby and Anna Lee Drope and Carolyn Pillow. ♦



Sadie Emalyn Reeves

Shannon and Mandy Reeves announce the birth of their daughter, Sadie Emalyn Reeves, on August 12, 2013.

Sadie Emalyn, born at 7:43 a.m. at St. Bernards Medical Center in Jonesboro, weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 19 1/4 inches long.

She has one older sister, Olivia Preslee Reeves, 2. ♦

Color your Christmas with the most unique holiday decor at

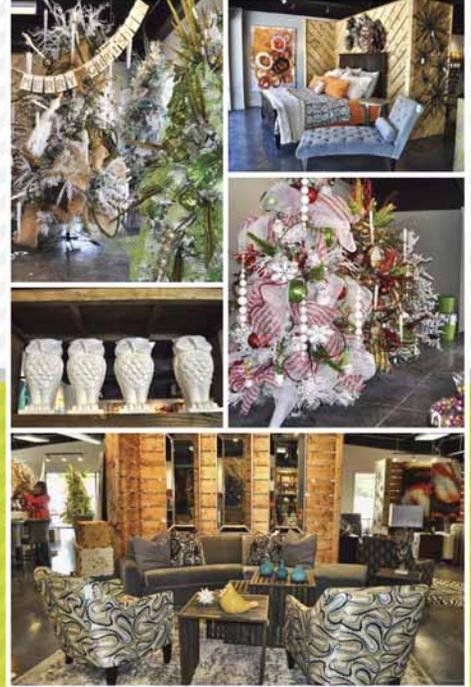


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November

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2

38th ANNUAL HARVEST CRAFT SHOW, held at the Paragould Community Center from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Admission is free. For more information call (870) 239-7530.

AMMC HOSTS CHILDBIRTH EDUCATION CLASSES

Session one of two. Held in the auditorium in the Professional Office Building at AMMC. Free to those delivering at AMMC, otherwise it is \$50. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Participants will have a break for lunch. For more information or to register, call AMMC Lactation Services at (870) 239-7467.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5

AMMC HOSTS HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS COOKING SHOW, an evening of cooking and entertainment to benefit AMMC's Community Diabetes Programs. Held at the Paragould Community Center gymnasium. Doors open at 5:30 pm, cooking show begins at 6:30 pm. Cooking segments will be presented by local restaurateurs featuring holiday dishes. Light refreshments will be served. Audience members will receive a recipe booklet and will also have opportunities to win door prizes including pre-prepared portions of the dishes presented in the show. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door and may be purchased by calling (870) 239-7077.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7

MEET THE MASTERS. Join Greene County Master Gardeners at the Paragould Community Center, 6:00 pm, to learn more about the Master Gardener Program.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9

AMMC HOSTS CHILDBIRTH EDUCATION CLASSES. Session two of two and is a feeding class. Held in the auditorium in the Professional Office Building at AMMC. Free to those delivering at AMMC, otherwise it is \$50. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. For more information or to register, call AMMC Lactation Services at (870) 239-7467.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10

IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH FALL FESTIVAL

featuring music by Gary Sloan. Begins at 10:00 am at Immanuel Baptist Church in Paragould.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16

BLUE JEANS AND BBQ

Paragould Junior Auxiliary's annual fundraiser held from 6:30 pm - 11:30 pm at the Red Goose. All proceeds help the children of Greene County. Live entertainment provided by Everyday Life. Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased from any JA member.

3rd ANNUAL JOY OF GIVING MARKET

held in the Welcome Center and Fellowship Hall at First United Methodist Church, located at 404 West Main Street. Join us as we sell cookies, crafts, scarves, jewelry and more to raise money for local, national, and international missions. Participating organizations include: the Agape House, Greene County Fine Arts Council, GCT FFA, and the Witt House Food Pantry. For more information: www.fumcparagould.org.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 18

AMMC HOST'S MOMMY AND ME BREASTFEEDING-

SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

for new and expectant mothers. Offers a chance to meet other moms and share experiences. Held in the Second Floor conference room in the Professional Office Building at AMMC. 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. For more information, call AMMC Lactation Services at (870) 239-7467 or the Greene County Health Unit at (870) 236-7782.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22

"THE ODD COUPLE" DINNER THEATER

presented by the Greene County Fine Arts Council and directed by Jamse Paskel. The play will be performed as a dinner theater at the Red Goose Grand Hall.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 25

KASU'S BLUEGRASS MONDAY

with Cedar Hill. The music starts at 7:00 pm at The Collins Theatre, 120 West Emerson Street in Downtown Paragould. No admission fee.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 26

PARAGOULD ROTARY CLUB PRESENTS THE ROAST OF

MAYOR MIKE GASKILL AND JOE WESSELL

a night of food and fun while raising funds for the Rotary Foundation. Tickets are \$25 per person or \$250 for a corporate table. They can be purchased at Bancorp South, Simmons First, Southern Bank, First National Bank, and Unico Bank. Visit Paragould Rotary Club on Facebook or call Kelly Roswell at (870) 335-0737 for more information.

RECURRING EVENTS

First Monday of every month: Paragould Young Professionals First Monday Lunch, noon.

Every Wednesday: Perking on Pruetz, 8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. at Something Sweet. Find out what is happening in the One and Only downtown Paragould. Your input is welcome.

Second Tuesday of every month: The Greene County Wildlife Club meets at the Paragould Community Center beginning at 6:00 pm.

Second Thursday of every month: The Compassionate Friends, 7:00 p.m. Southside Community Church Conference Room, 2211 Jones Road. For parents grieving the loss of a child. tcfofnortheastarkansas@yahoo.com.

Second Wednesday of every month: St. Mary's Spaghetti Dinner, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 for all you can eat spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drink. At St. Mary's Catholic Church in Paragould.

T.O.P.S. (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)
Wednesday mornings at the Paragould Community Center in Room E. Private weigh in at 8:00 a.m.; support meeting at 8:30 a.m. May attend one meeting as a guest.

COMING UP IN —december—

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7

- Holiday Traditions in Downtown Paragould.
- Downtown Christmas Parade "Christmas Dreams on Parade" at 3:00 pm.

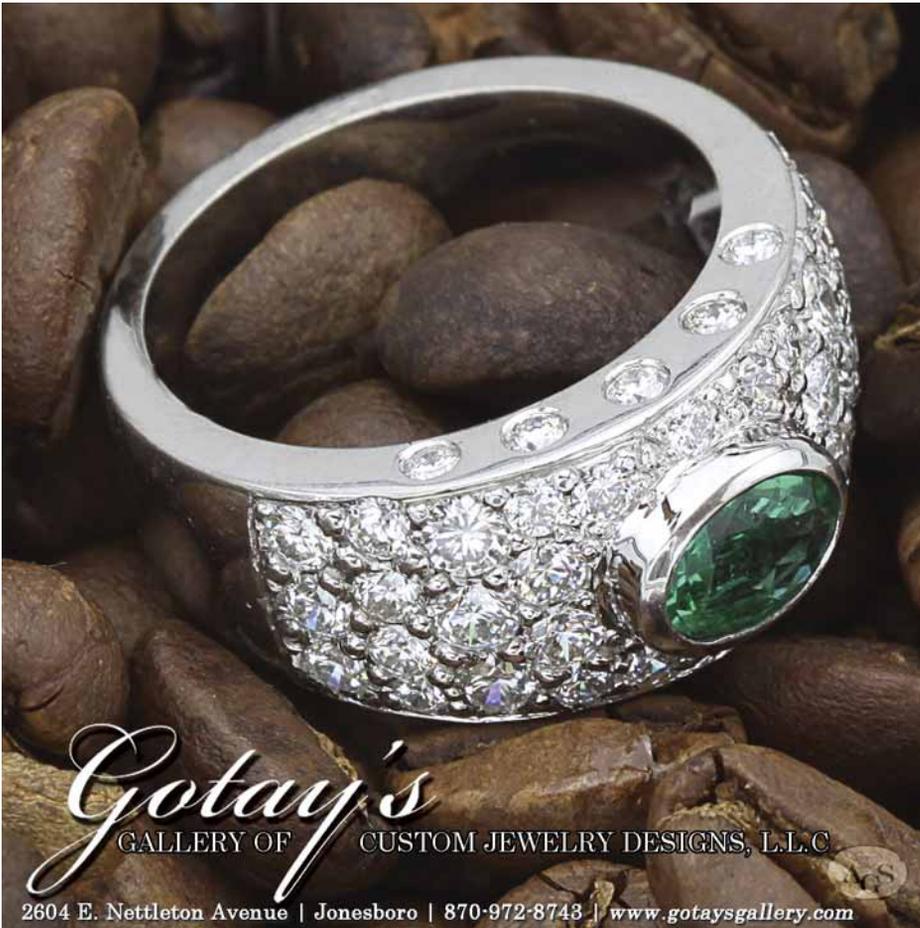
FRIDAY DECEMBER 13

The Collins Theatre presents "Santa Claus Conquers the Martians, the Musical."

SATURDAY DECEMBER 21

Christmas With Friends, at the Collins Theater at 7:00 pm.

Please send all information for upcoming events to editor@paragouldpremiere.com



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2604 E. Nettleton Avenue | Jonesboro | 870-972-8748 | www.gotaysgallery.com

Baby, it's cold outside.



A feverish child comes to the ER in the dead of winter, wearing only a diaper and a thin t-shirt. A nurse visits a homebound patient and discovers there's no food in the pantry.

As we're meeting the health needs of our community, we often see other needs as well. This holiday season, your local medical center asks you to help meet those needs by donating to our **#givingtuesday** fund. These donations will be used to provide warm clothes, non-perishable food, and other essential items to our patients when we discover a need.

To learn more about the need and how you or your church or group can help, call or email:

 **THE FOUNDATION**
Arkansas Methodist Medical Center

(870) 239-7077

foundation@arkansasmethodist.org

Tuesday, December 3 is
#GIVINGTUESDAY
learn more at givingtuesday.org



Tanya Giraldo

Occupation: Student at A-State, senior

Family: I'm half Mexican and half Peruvian. I'm very family oriented. I have a family of magnificent cooks.

How did you learn to cook? I learned a little bit by my mom. Once I got a dorm with a kitchen I just kind of threw myself in it because I was sick of cafeteria food. It's all trial and error.

Favorite thing to cook: Hamburger Helper because it's really easy. I also get crescent rolls, cook ground beef, and put it in the crescent rolls with fiesta cheese and bake it. Then I put it in a circle, and in the middle put shredded lettuce, tomatoes and sour cream.

One cooking disaster you've had: The first time I tried to make breakfast, I had no idea how to make an egg. I made the bacon, put it aside and then put the egg in the same pan. It was the most rubbery, destroyed egg you've ever seen. I've never cooked an egg since then.

What Thanksgiving dishes do you and your family make? Being of Mexican heritage, everyone expects us to make tamales but we don't. We have turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, and green beans with bacon bits.

Favorite Thanksgiving dish: My aunt makes Neapolitan flan. Flan is like a creamy jello, and is *dulce de leche* flavored.

What is your cooking style? I'm pretty well-rounded. I would distinguish my style



Chicken and Dumpling Casserole

Ingredients

2 chicken breasts, cooked and shredded

2 cups Bisquick

2 cups of chicken broth

½ stick of butter

2 cups whole milk

Can of cream of chicken soup

3 tsp. of chicken granules

1 tsp each of black pepper and salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Melt butter and pour in a 9x13 casserole dish. Cover with shredded chicken and black pepper. Mix milk and Bisquick in a separate bowl and then pour over chicken. Mix chicken broth, chicken granules and soup in a bowl and then pour over the Bisquick. Bake for 30-40 minutes. ♦



Bacon and Pea Macaroni and Cheese

Ingredients

4 thick slices of bacon

8 oz. of penne pasta or macaroni and cheese

Frozen peas

½ cup of plain yogurt

Dash of hot sauce

4 oz. of shredded cheddar

4 oz. of shredded mozzarella cheese

Salt and pepper

Cook bacon and set aside, then cook the pasta according to directions. During the last minute of cooking, add the peas to the pasta. Before draining the water out of the pasta, set aside one cup of the water. Drain, add back in ¼ of the pasta water, yogurt, hot sauce, and 1/3 of cheese until cheese is melted. Slowly add in the remaining cheese and pasta water to melt the cheese sauce. Add in bacon and season with salt and pepper. ♦

Pineapple and Strawberry Limeade

Ingredients

1 12 oz. can frozen pineapple juice concentrate, thawed

1 6 oz. can frozen limeade concentrate

1L of club soda, chilled

4 cups of water

Ice cubes

Fresh strawberries

Assorted fruit



Combine pineapple juice, limeade and water in a large pitcher and chill for 30 minutes. Add club soda, ice cubes and strawberries and other assorted fruits. ♦

as anything I can make in 30-40 minutes. As a college student I'm very busy.

Who do you enjoy cooking for? I enjoy cooking for my boyfriend because he eats every-

thing. I know that whatever I cook he will like.

Cooking tip: Plan ahead. As a college student I think I will have time, and then I don't. Also, choose your ingredients wisely. ♦

STAY TUNED

What's in Store For Next Month

Cover



In December, we'll naturally be looking at a number of Christmas holiday-related stories, including crafts you can produce yourself. You can nominate someone who has the knack for creating unique and fun decorations and gifts by emailing:

editor@paragouldpremiere.com

Events



Premiere staffers will be out and about in the community covering a variety of events, like Greene County Tech's Veterans Day Program and the annual Tailgate Party featuring GCT and Paragould boosters prior to the high school football game. Look for recaps of those and much more in the December issue of Premiere. You can let us know about other events by emailing:

editor@paragouldpremiere.com ♦

Diabetes supply needs? We're right here for you.

While there have been some changes lately surrounding the purchase of diabetes supplies for Medicare patients, our stores in Paragould and Jonesboro still carry a wide range of those supplies for you. That hasn't changed, nor has our commitment to providing friendly and helpful service. Just like always. Give us a call today, and we'll explain your options.




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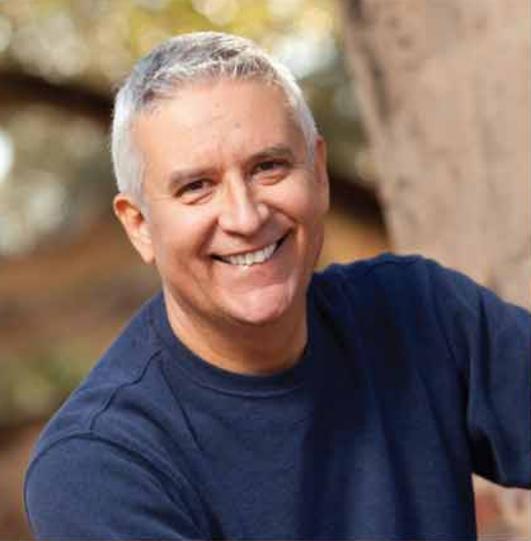
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Building



health
care



around



you.

NEA Baptist will soon open one of the most advanced health care facilities in our region — a fully integrated medical campus combining NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital and the specialists of the NEA Baptist Clinic. And along with this new facility comes a new way of practicing medicine that continues to focus on an outstanding patient experience. From adding new doctors and specialties to acquiring the latest technology, NEA Baptist is busy building healthcare around you.

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of Health Care is Here