

PREMIERE

AUGUST
2014

Outstanding TEACHER **GCT'S** April Willis

- BIG BANG BLOWOUT
- BACK TO SCHOOL
- NEW LOCAL AUTHOR
- CITY DRUG CELEBRATES

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- I serve on the Arkansas Municipal League Executive Committee as a Past President
- I serve on the Southern Municipal Conference (13 states), immediate Past President
- I serve as Vice Chair of the Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Board
- I have been involved in the Greene County Community Fund since 1979
- I have been involved with the Chamber of Commerce since 1993
- I am a member of Westview Baptist Church, where I serve on several committees. I have taught Sunday School there since 1991.



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On the cover: April Willis
Photo by Tim Rand Photography

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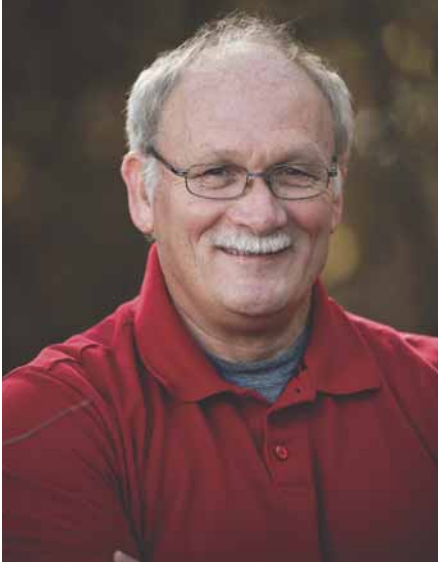
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From the Managing Editor...



Richard Brummett, Managing Editor

April Willis didn't set out to be a cover model or the subject of a magazine feature story.

Like most other school teachers in our distribution area, she just gets up every day

and goes about her job without seeking praise and/or publicity. Fortunately, for her, people have noticed the excellent work she does and accordingly voted her to the top of the list in the Premiere Outstanding Teacher of the Year balloting.

April was a very gracious winner and through our brief conversation it was easy to see she understands the role of teacher well, combining all the elements of instructor, nurse, disciplinarian and Mother Hen to help shape lives and establish learning practices at the same time.

While we congratulate her on her victory, we salute all the teachers in our area and thank them for the long hours spent devising and grading tests, for putting together lesson plans and taking the time to try and educate the young men and women who will someday fill the roles you and I currently hold in local society.

Dr. Ivan Fitzwater's piece titled *Only A Teacher* explains it best:

Only A Teacher

I am a teacher! What I do and say is being absorbed by

young minds who will echo these images across the ages. My lessons will be immortal, affecting people yet unborn, people I will never see or know. The future of the world is in my classroom today and this future has potential for both good or bad. The pliable minds of tomorrow's leaders will be molded either artistically or grotesquely by what I do. Several future presidents are learning from me today; so are the great writers of the next decades and so are all the so-called ordinary people who will make the decisions in a democracy. I must never forget these same young people could be the thieves and murderers of the future. Just a teacher? Thank God I have a calling to the greatest profession of all! I must be vigilant every day lest I lose one fragile opportunity to improve tomorrow.

Being a teacher in this day and age is certainly no simple task, dealing with advancements in technology, the ever-changing face of the classroom dynamic and the black cloud of mandated test scores looming overhead. We are proud to recognize outstanding teachers each month on these pages, and happy to assist with the educational process in any way we can.

"A child miseducated," said President John F. Kennedy, "is a child lost." ♦

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A photograph of a healthcare worker in blue scrubs holding the hand of an elderly patient. The worker's stethoscope is visible. The background is a soft-focus green.

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BIG BANG BLOWOUT



As always, the fireworks display was the highlight of the evening.

Large crowd takes in fireworks show at Big Bang Blowout

Free music, free kids' activities and a free fireworks display drew a large crowd to Paragould's Rotary Park for the annual Big Bang Blowout on July 4.

Sponsored by MOR Media along with the Jaycees from both Paragould and Jonesboro, First National Bank and others, the evening delighted the large crowd which enjoyed music by Drive South -- with special guests Brad Messer and Nick Rose -- and the fireworks show. ♦



The MOR Media tent was a popular stop, whether having your photo taken or getting autographs from Leisa Rae and Big O.





Lead singer Lori Dial and guitarist Mike Dickerson of featured band Drive South, left, entertained the crowd with their musical selections. The band was joined by Brad Messer and Nick Rose, above.



BIG BANG BLOWOUT

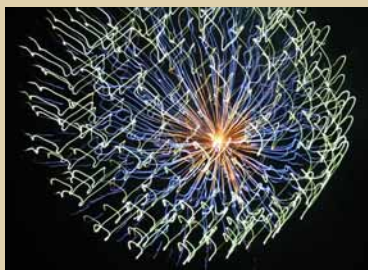


There was plenty of red, white and blue on display during the Big Bang Blowout on the 4th of July, ranging from dad and daughter hairdos, above, to mom and daughter outfits, top right. Youngsters found various ways of navigating around the park, hitching a ride in a wagon with a sibling or venturing out on foot. Chalk Bluff Smokehouse provided concessions as the visitors got ready for the evening-ending fireworks.



BIG BANG BLOWOUT

The fireworks show is always a crowd pleaser at Paragould's 4th of July celebration



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Meet Our New Doctor!

We are very excited to announce the addition of Dr. Chelsea Dowler, DVM to our staff! Dr. Dowler is a graduate of Delaplaine High School and attended Arkansas State University for her undergraduate studies. She is a 2012 graduate of the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Dowler was born and raised on a family farm in the Stanford / Beech Grove community where they grew rice, soybeans, and corn. She and her husband, Dustin, have been married for 7 years and they have a cat named "Friday". Outside of the office she enjoys cooking, gardening, Razorback football, and spending time with her family.

Welcome Dr. Dowler!



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Seniors take part in Wii bowling tournament at Turtle Creek Mall



Teams of area senior citizens gathered at the Turtle Creek Mall in Jonesboro to take part in a Wii Bowling Tournament. Above, Nell Nelson of Lepanto follows through after completing a turn as teammates and others look on. At right, Ora Burns of Helena takes her turn. At right below are Gladys Varner, Betty Burdin (Piggott), and Judy Grubb (Rector), while in the bottom photo Cheryl Hamm, Melissa Prater and Carltha Crockett are pictured.



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Unico Bank hosts Kidz 4 Kidz Fun Day

Unico Bank in Paragould hosted a “Fun Day” to kick start its summer long collection of backpack food items to be distributed to Greene County Tech, Paragould and Marmaduke school districts -- as well as to Labor Park -- to help with the ongoing needs of each location.

By bringing items to fill school backpacks, kids were able to enjoy free inflatables, hot dogs, T-shirts, facepainting and a petting zoo. ♦



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PREMIERE'S SCENE 'YA



Chad and Nicole Clark, above, and Cliff and Linda Lee, below, at the Paragould Farmer's Market.



Sandy Varner, Angela Smith, Jimmy Bushong and John Baldwin at Paragould High School to see Hairspray.



Premiere Magazine caught several folks making the scene in Northeast Arkansas



At left above, Phyllis Stallings with Barry and Angie Burkheart; at right, Louise and Joni Cagle; below from left, Jimmy and Jackie Williams, Shelle and Jay Morgan, and Emily Hamilton and Josh Mobley.



New medical oncologist, hematologist joins St. Bernards Clopton Clinic

Dr. Aamer Farooq has joined the physicians on the medical staff at St. Bernards Clopton Clinic as a hematologist and medical oncologist.

Farooq completed a fellowship in hematology and oncology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, University of Buffalo, The State University of New York. Before that, he served a residency in internal medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis. He earned his medical degree from Nishtar Medical College

before coming to the United States for additional training.

Farooq has had a number of articles published in peer-reviewed medical journals and has been invited to make numerous abstract presentations at national and international confer-



Dr. Aamer Farooq

ences. Farooq is board certified in internal medicine, medical oncology and hematology.

He joins Drs. Marc Monte and Mazen Khalil in diagnosing and treating patients who have cancer and/or diseases of the blood. They specialize in the use of chemotherapy and other types of drug therapy. Dr. Farooq is a member of St. Bernards Healthcare Associated Regional Providers and St. Bernards Medical Group.

Patients may make appointments by calling St. Bernards Clopton Clinic at 870-932-1198. ♦

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The gift of a legacy -- the Tory Lee Stallcup Scholarship Fund

"If you want to change the world, first try to improve and bring about change within yourself. That will help change your family. From there it just gets bigger and bigger. Everything we do has some effect, some impact." -- The Dalai Lama

A favorite quote of my son, Tory Lee Stallcup – a quote I feel he tried to live by. Simply put, Tory Lee was a son, brother, grandson, nephew, uncle, friend, colleague and finally, physician, to a community he loved. He accepted his calling with humility and a brave heart. He believed in and honored his profession. He took an oath and strived to uphold it to the best of his ability. He loved taking care of people. This desire was not only a part of his life, it shaped his life.

We were by no means wealthy – but we learned through hard work and perseverance we could accomplish our dreams. I tell the story of Tory Lee coming home one weekend from attending his beloved Hendrix College. He was outside and our neighbor, John



Dr. Tory Stallcup

McKenzie called him over to his house. After a while he returned home – walked up to me – looked deep in my eyes and with raw conviction said, “Momma, I want to be able to do this some day.” He then opened his hand and nestled in his palm was a crumpled up \$100 dollar bill. A simple act

of kindness that I feel changed my son’s life, for it was not long after this incident that Tory Lee declared his desire to become a physician, thereby enabling him to pass on what he received.

I believe Tory Lee accomplished his desire. So many “acts of kindness” stories I’ve been told – so many “acts of kindness” events I witnessed. He touched lives in a positive and significant way. He gave of his time – his knowledge – his financial support. He gave of himself to a community he loved.

But on August 26, 2012, Tory Lee moved to Heaven. My family’s life as we knew it and the sadness we felt is beyond any word I know. After a while, I realized Tory Lee’s dream to reach out to others was gone. No longer would he be able to do what he wanted to do years ago. No longer would he be able to perform those wonderful little acts of kindness he so enjoyed doing. However, little did I know that God was already planting ideas in the hearts and minds of

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people at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center.

One day Melinda Reeves, RN, invited me to visit with Terry Austin, Director of The Foundation at AMMC. She informed me that Terry had an idea he wanted to discuss with me. This idea was "The Tory Lee Stallcup Scholarship Fund." A scholarship offered to the men and women in our community and surrounding communities who have a desire to enter the field of medicine and return home to practice. Men and women who want to return and work with and help those who watched them grow into adulthood. Men and women who understand the importance and gratification of giving back a little of what they received.

The Tory Lee Stallcup Scholarship Fund was founded in November of 2012. In less than two years we have raised over \$10,000. Hopefully, this fund will enable and encourage those who may feel their dreams are out of reach, to realize that dreams do come true. If we can give our young people a vision of themselves that goes beyond their circumstances and even their mental conditioning, maybe we can help them see themselves differently and get that larger vision of who they are and what they can accomplish. This scholarship is one small way we as a community can reach out to endorse, encourage, and commit to helping our young.

It is said if one will give God a chance, he will bring joy and comfort to any situation or event in one's life. I have found this to be true. My joy is in knowing that through this scholarship, Tory Lee will be remembered and his name will be spoken for years to come, and long after I am gone his spirit will continue to walk the halls of this great institution, quietly encouraging those who feel the call of helping others through medicine. My comfort is knowing that Tory Lee will be able to continue to participate in his "little acts of kindness" through the Tory Lee Stallcup Scholarship foundation.

On behalf of Tory Lee, myself and our family, I wish to thank all for this wonderful gift – this gift of a legacy.

"The best portion of a good man's life is his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love." -- William Wordsworth ♦

-- Story contributed by Mary Ann Stallcup

AMMC sets blood drive for October

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould will sponsor a blood drive in partnership with the American Red Cross on Friday, October 10, 2014, from 11:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

The blood drive will be in the auditorium in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center.

According to the Red Cross, one in 10 people entering a hospital needs blood. Blood transfusions are used for trauma victims due to accidents and burns; heart surgery; organ transplants; women with complications during childbirth; newborns and premature babies and patients receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer and other diseases such as sickle cell anemia.

At Arkansas Methodist Medical Center alone, approximately 100 units are transfused monthly. ♦

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Arkansas Methodist Medical Center advances emergency care services with T-System

Documentation, coding solutions offer significant reimbursement improvement opportunity for hospital

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in conjunction with T-System Inc. has announced a new agreement to deliver a complete end-to-end emergency department solution to improve patient safety and reimbursement in order to achieve its mission of being the region's first choice for healthcare.

The hospital is currently a Level IV trauma center as designated by the state and is working toward becoming a Level III trauma center, the highest trauma designation in Northeast Arkansas. After researching the top Emergency Department solutions vendors, Arkansas Methodist selected T-System based on the company's reputation, system capabilities and projected reimbursement improvement opportunity.

"We are always looking for ways to improve patient care. We feel the implementation of these electronic advancements will increase safety, care quality and staff efficiency. We are excited to continue moving forward in patient-centered care," said Lana Williams, RN, MSN, CPHQ, Chief Nursing Officer for AMMC.

After being selected as vendor of choice for Arkansas Methodist, T-System completed a 100-chart assessment of previously billed Emergency Department charts. The assessment



Dr. Darrell Bonner and Bill Wagner, RN, work at one of the many computers in the Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Emergency Department. The hospital and its staff are partnering with T-System, Inc., a technology and services vendor that will allow the medical center to continue to improve patient safety as well as coding and reimbursement opportunities.

identified documentation and coding inadequacies to estimate the five-year return on investment opportunity.

Williams said, "It's imperative that we're reimbursed for the services we provide in order to survive in today's healthcare environment. With T-System, we feel confident we are moving forward with the latest technology to solve these concerns."

Arkansas Methodist will implement T-System's complete documentation and coding solution in the fall, which will include physician and nurse charting, clinical decision support, CPOE, medical home connectivity and facility E&M and diagnosis coding.

About T-System

T-System Inc. advances the practice of emergency medicine with solutions proven to solve clinical, financial, operational and regulatory challenges for hospitals and urgent care clinics. About 40 percent of the nation's EDs use T-System solutions to provide an unmatched patient experience. Through gold-standard documentation, revenue cycle management and performance-enhancing solutions, T-System optimizes care delivery from the front door through discharge and beyond.

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Not even a band-aid can help fix a guy's wounded pride

It had been several years since I totally bungled a photo assignment, but when I decided to do it again I did it up right.

Sometime in the late 1970s I was photographing a high school state tournament basketball game between Marmaduke and Plumerville and it was one of those magical evenings photojournalists dream about. One incredible action shot after another presented itself directly in front of me -- players colliding, players diving for the ball, players leaping over one another -- and I could only smile at my good fortune as I continued to snap the camera's shutter release.

When the film counter reached 24 and kept going, I assumed I had put in a roll of 36 (this will seem foreign to those raised on digital photography; back in the day, we had to put rolls of film into our cameras) and kept shooting, but when it reached 36 and still kept going I thought, "Exactly when did I load the film?"

Problem was, I hadn't, so I had shot most of the first half with an empty camera and then had to scramble to make up for lost time. I came away with some useable photos, but nothing like the great action displayed while I was out of ammunition.

Get Rich

By Richard Brummett



Fast forward to last month, when I set up an appointment to photograph Lucy McDowell, this month's Calendar page subject and an adorable 3-year-old. I phoned her mother, Wendy, for directions to their house and that's when the whole day sort of went to pot.

For starters, even though Wendy gave me absolutely perfect directions, I drove past their house on the first try and had to circle the block, then almost missed it again and

was forced to back up in the middle of a busy city street in order to hit their driveway while their whole family sat on the front porch witnessing my ineptitude.

I was introduced to Lucy and we settled on a back yard shoot and chose a perfect spot, but when I opened my camera bag ... I had no camera. It was at my house with the battery on the charger. A photographer heading out for an assignment with no camera is akin to a fireman going to a fire with no fire hose, or a policeman taking part in a gun fight with no gun. It doesn't work so well.

As I made preparations to go after the

camera, Lucy's dad, Shannon, said I could exit through the gate at the side of the house and as I headed that way, I made a misstep on their sidewalk and turned my ankle. Having suffered breaks and sprains to that particular body area, I instinctively went into a barrel roll. I was holding my camera bag -- filled with expensive lenses and other photography necessities -- much the same way a mother would protect her baby if she tripped while walking across the room, and as a result I banged my knee on the sidewalk, tore a small hole in the knee of my pants and seriously bruised my ego. All before lunch time.

Even though Wendy described my stumble and tumble as "graceful," in my mind all I could see was one of the elephants in the old black-and-white Tarzan movies, falling awkwardly to the ground after having been shot by an ivory poacher, struggling mightily to lift its head and return to an upright position.

I can only imagine the shock a young family must have felt, watching a bald fat man roll around their back yard and I fear their small dog -- some type of Yorkie -- may have had its growth stunted by watching the horror show.

As for sweet little Lucy, the first thing out of her mouth was, "Do you need a band-aid?"

I had to tell her that, no, I didn't really need a band-aid because wounded pride is sort of like a broken rib: It's just something you have to live with. ♦

"I can only imagine the shock a young family must have felt, watching a bald fat man roll around their back yard ..."

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FUMC group helps with Vilonia tornado cleanup

A group of adults and youth from First United Methodist Church in Paragould headed to Vilonia, the site of a devastating tornado, to assist with clean up in June.

The group, headed by Cody Gray and Billy Fly, Minister to Youth at the church, spent two days working on several projects for a man whose mobile home was ripped apart.

The need for volunteers is still great in

Vilonia and Mayflower, according to Byron Mann, Coordinator with Volunteers in Mission with the United Methodist Church in Arkansas. Many projects are on-going and help is still needed. To help, contact Byron at 870-826-0268. ♦

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AUGUST 2014						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Lucy McDowell, 3, was up for some backyard fun in the sun one morning. Lucy is the daughter of Shannon and Wendy McDowell of Paragould.

Back ² School

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Greene County Tech kindergarten teacher April Willis was named Top Teacher by Premiere readers.

April Willis named Premiere's Outstanding Teacher

The telephone call informing April Willis that she has been named Premiere Magazine's Outstanding Teacher of the Year was not one she saw coming.

"Oh, wow," she said. "I did not expect that at all. It's really exciting."

The Greene County Tech kindergarten teacher was selected by Premiere readers as their favorite, besting 17 other monthly contest winners for the honor.

Preparing to start her 12th year at GCT, Willis said each year holds new challenges.

"It's exciting to get a new group of kids," she said. "Sometimes it's hard to start a new year because you've gotten so used to the previous class and it's always starting all over again with kindergarten."

"But it's neat to see over the course of a year how they mature, and they can do so much more at the end of the year. I love it. I could teach up to fourth grade, but I don't ever see myself moving up. I like the little ones."

She is married to Flynn Willis, and they have one daughter, Avery.

For winning the Top Teacher award, April will receive a gift certificate from Shear Elegance, good for \$125, movie passes to Paragould's Cinema 8 and a \$107 cash prize from MOR Media.

"Thank you, thank you, thank you," she said, directing her comments to all who voted for her. "It's really exciting and a real honor to be voted Teacher of the Year." ♦

BACK TO SCHOOL



A heavy backpack can lead to serious problems for younger school students.

Put plenty of thought into backpack purchases

The month of August means the end of summer vacation and the beginning of shopping for school supplies. Before handing over the cash for that adorable Frozen themed bag, however, parents may want to research the affects of an unconventional backpack.

Kidshealth.org suggests buying backpacks with padded back straps, multiple compartments and one made of light material that won't add extra weight. Matt Cooper, physical therapist at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould, also suggested placing the heaviest books closer to the back and checking that the bag doesn't hang more than four inches below the waist.

"Children are still growing," Cooper said. "Their muscles are still developing."

Either side of the body can develop quicker

than the other, so a child's muscles may not work evenly. Because of this, Cooper said a backpack weighing more than 15 percent of the person's weight can cause spinal compression and nerve compression in the shoulders. Children will then compensate by leaning too much to one side.

Sumer Hall's eight-year-old son is a third-grader and doesn't have to worry about being loaded down with books yet, but Hall said she is sure it will become an issue later on.

"My biggest concern would be neck and back problems," she said. "I always buy Keller a good, well-made backpack with thick straps and lots of compartments to help evenly distribute the weight." Hall added she always tells her son to use both straps instead of throwing the bag over one shoulder.

Jessica Flores said her 16-year-old son and

13-year-old daughter have had issues with heavy bags since the sixth grade. The students would come home with filled backpacks as well as other items that wouldn't fit inside.

"I have had to get referrals to see a chiropractor for my two older children due to increased back pain," Flores said. "I fear this will also be the case for my two younger children if something doesn't change."

Flores said she goes the extra mile to ensure she buys bags for her children that will benefit them instead of adding to their burden.

It's easy to choose a bag with a child's favorite cartoon character or design, yet taking the right precautions can ease the aches and pains of carrying around all those books and make that first day of school a little bit easier. ♦

-- Caitlin LaFarlette

Acne is the most common skin problem in the U.S.

Everyone wants to look their best when they head back to school, and a case of acne can be a real setback.

The folks at The Dermatology Office in Paragould deal with situations like that every day, and have some information for kids and parents fighting the battle.

Causes

The cause of acne is not fully understood but there are several factors that are known contributors:

- * Overproduction of oil in the skin (sebum)
- * A buildup of bacteria in the skin
- * Irregular shedding of dead skin cells can irritate hair follicles underneath your skin, leading to acne
- * Puberty and hormonal changes can cause changes in the skin that lead to acne

Who gets acne?

Acne is the most common skin problem in the United States. Most people who have acne are teenagers or young adults, but acne can occur at any age, to any gender.

Acne signs

- * Blackheads
- * Whiteheads
- * Papules
- * Pustules (what many call pimples)



* Cysts

* Nodules

Acne can appear on the back, chest, neck, shoulders, upper arms and buttocks.

Will home remedies or over-the-counter remedies help?

Home remedies will not work. In fact, some home remedies can actually irritate the surface of the skin, making acne more likely. Over-the-counter remedies can be helpful, depending on the situation.

Products like Pro-Active have been used to some success but can also cause dryness, rashes and irritation. In some cases, it can make acne worse because it irritates the skin's surface.

Most over-the-counter acne medications use benzoyl peroxide, which is designed for mild acne and works by reducing bacteria on the surface of the skin, causing it to dry and peel.

Because acne occurs underneath the skin in the dermis, these products are not always effective.

Acne can lead to low self-esteem, depression, dark spots on the skin and scarring. Letting acne run its course is not always the best advice. Prolonging treatment can make permanent scarring worse.

How do we treat acne?

We begin with prescription strength topical medications -- medicine applied directly to the skin -- depending on the severity of the acne. For extreme cases we offer Acutane, which has been effective but may have serious side effects.

We educate every patient about potential side effects and necessary precautions prior to prescribing.

For patients whom topical or oral medication is not a good option, we offer Dusa Blu-light treatment, a new procedure proving to be effective.

The best thing to do if your acne is persistent is to call and make an appointment. A doctor or nurse practitioner will evaluate your individual case and help form a treatment plan made for you.

The Dermatology Office of Dr. Lance Yeoman in Paragould may be reached by calling 870-215-0622. ♦

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“Back to school” means different things to different people

For most students in junior high and high school, going back to school is either bittersweet or bitter. Rarely is it only sweet, though I imagine there must be some strange people out there who only see the summer as a pesky interrupter of class time. For the rest of us, there’s always something to miss about the summer, whether or not we’re also excited about going back to school.

“I try not to think about school too much until August 1,” said Todd Rouse, a 7th grade English teacher at Douglas MacArthur Junior



Todd Rouse

High in Jonesboro. “At that point, I will put myself back on campus, in my room. Going physically back to campus helps me to mentally shift to ‘back to school’ mode. I start reading or reviewing some favorite teaching books and blogs, and these authors and teachers inspire me and get me back in the

mood for school.”

Bennett Waddell, a junior at Jonesboro High School, said his favorite part about going back to school is being reunited with the friends he hasn’t seen since the start of summer. “You lose touch with some people because of different summer schedules,” Bennett said. “But then there’s also the



Bennett Waddell

struggle of trying to get back into the routine of getting up early every day, and constantly doing work.”

Jim Essman, who formerly taught math at Greene County Tech, will be teaching at Osceola High School this fall. As for the mental gear-shifting he’s been doing to prepare for the return, Essman said, “I suppose the biggest thing is preparing to meet your new students. We’re kind of thrust into this awkward situation of working together

when we don’t know anything about each other. No personality or aptitude test is used to match student to teacher, so not knowing what hand you’ll be dealt can be a little concerning.”

“My least favorite thing is having to do all of the work,” said Myles Copenhaver, a JHS senior. “And listening. It’s not a waste of time, but sometimes it can get boring.”

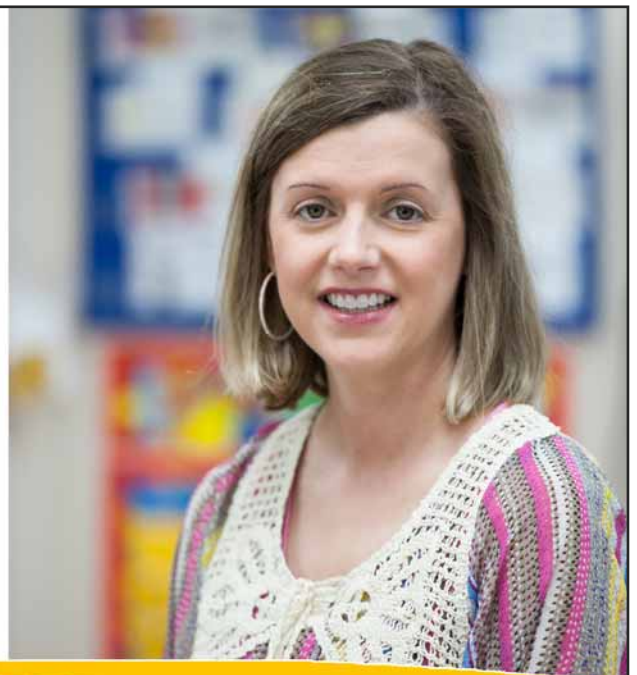


“The main thing,” said Rouse, “is just to try to love my students, and do my best to be positive, and let them know that they are safe and cared for at school. Honestly, the curriculum – for me – comes after that. I guess I go back to the old adage, ‘They don’t care how much you know, ‘til they know how much you care.’”

For most schools in Northeast Arkansas, the first day of fall classes will be August 18. ♦

-- Evan Barber

We salute all our teachers.



Special Congratulations to the
Premiere Teacher of the Year, April Willis

ASU-Newport class is cooking up some good ideas

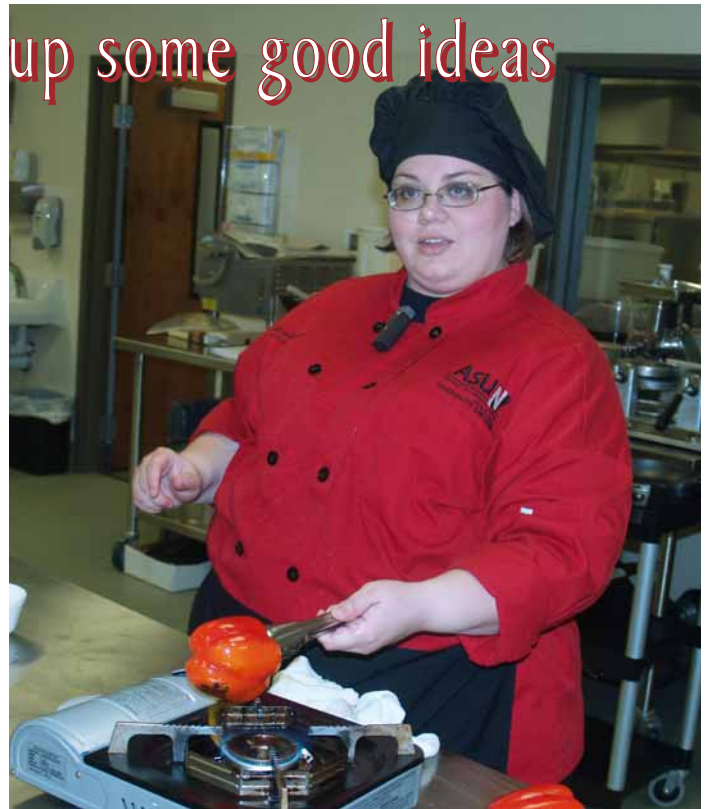
Jessica Wrenfrow says a few things are certain for those who take part in the Culinary Experience Classes offered by Arkansas State University-Newport at its Jonesboro campus.

"It's a great combination of hands-on cooking and entertainment," she explained. "You can see yourself doing great things, you can also enjoy your meal and enjoy the company and meeting new people. It's a really fun experience."

Wrenfrow is the Instructor of Culinary Arts for the college's Hospitality Services program, but the evening classes are open to anyone in the community. "We'll do one per month," she said. "They cost \$50 per night, and everything is provided except that you have to bring your own apron. We can handle up to 20 people per class, and they have been filling up two weeks to a month ahead."



Each month boasts a different menu, with the August session being "Pizza Palooza" where students will learn "how to make their own dough, and a pizza, and a dessert pizza. Each class is a new experience. For instance, depending on what the topic is, they may do a lot of chopping, or maybe not so much chopping. They might be at the gas



Instructor Jessica Wrenfrow leads a group of participants in preparing a Roasted Red Pepper Salad during an evening session of the ASUN Hospitality Services Program.

stove or at their station cooking. Sometimes I walk them through step

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Students get hands-on experience in the evening Culinary Experience Classes offered by ASU-Newport in Jonesboro.

by step and sometimes I demo things that have to be prepared ahead of time, the finished product. For August, I will already have pizza dough risen, for instance."

While these classes are designed to be fun and enlighten the community, the Hospitality Services Program's goal is to prepare students to work in the hospitality industry. "Our community needs food service managers and workers who are trained," Wrenfrow said. "Our main goal is to put into the workforce good quality workers who know how to work efficiently and effectively in the hospitality industry."

Anyone interested in attending one of the cooking classes may contact Wrenfrow at 870-680-8733, or reach her at jessica_wrenfrow@asun.edu to get on the email list.

"We are always ready to help someone enjoy our hospitality," she said. "We are happy to share our facility with the community and let them know what we do in our program." ♦



Class participants were treated to an Antipasti Platter as part of July's "Tour Of Italy" cooking experience.

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Greene County Health Unit offers community a variety of services

The Greene County Health Unit in Paragould offers a variety of services, well beyond the opportunity for parents to have their children vaccinated before the start of the school year.

Following is a list of local services provided:

Community Services

Communicable Disease Investigation and Intervention; Hometown Health Improvement; Voter Registration

Environmental Health

Food Protection; General Sanitation; Private Well Water Sampling; Rabies; Septic Tanks; Swimming Pools; West-Nile Virus Surveillance

Family Planning

How to get in touch with the GC Health Unit

The Greene County Health Unit in Paragould is located at 801 Goldsmith Road.

Linda Hutchison is the Administrator and the office phone number is 870-236-7782; the office FAX number is 870-239-6329.

Regular offices hours are weekdays from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. ♦

Pregnancy Testing; Sterilization (referral)

HIV/Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Counseling, testing and treatment

Immunizations

Adolescent 7-18 years; Adult Vaccines age 19

and up; Children: 0-6

Maternity

Breastfeeding; Maternity Medicaid enrollment assistance; Prenatal Care

Public Health Preparedness

Public Health Preparedness

TB Program

Preventative Treatment; Treatment

Vital Records

Birth Certificates; Death Certificates

WIC

Breastfeeding Peer Counseling/ Breast Pumps; Nutrition Counseling

Women's Health

BreastCare ♦

Back To School: Be certain your child has been fully vaccinated

Make sure your children are up-to-date on vaccines before sending them back to school. School-age children, from preschoolers to college students, need vaccines. Use CDC's online resources and tools to check the recommended vaccines for your children. Get your children to the doctor if you discover they need vaccines to protect them against serious diseases.

What All Parents Need To Know

Making sure that children of all ages receive all their vaccinations on time is one of the most important things you can do as a parent to ensure your children's long-term health -- as well as the health of friends, classmates, and others in your community.

To keep children in schools healthy, your state may require children going to school to be vaccinated against certain diseases, such as whooping cough. If you're unsure of your state's school requirements, now is the time to check with your child's doctor, your child's school, or your health department. That way, you can get your child any vaccines needed before the back-to-school rush.

Vaccines for Your Young Children (Newborns through 6 years old)

During the early years of life, your children need vaccines to protect them from 14

diseases that can be serious, even life-threatening. Parents who choose not to vaccinate their own children increase the risk of disease not only for their children, but also for other children and adults throughout the entire community. For example, vulnerable newborns too young to have received the maximum protection from the recommended doses of vaccines or people with weakened immune systems, such as some people with cancer and transplant recipients, are at higher risk.

Flu vaccines are recommended for kids in preschool and elementary school to help keep them healthy. In fact, all children 6 months and older should get flu vaccines. Getting all of your children vaccinated can help protect infants younger than 6 months old. Ask your family's doctor or nurse about getting flu shots or the nasal spray to protect against flu.

Vaccines for Your Preteens and Teens (7-18 years old)

Older children need vaccines, too! Of course, everyone older than 6 months of age is recommended to receive a yearly flu vaccination, and older children are no exception. It's important to know that flu can be serious, even for healthy young people. So older kids should get at least one flu vaccine (the shot

or nasal spray for healthy kids) every year. As kids get older, they are more at risk for catching certain diseases, like meningococcal meningitis, so they need the protection that vaccines provide. The recommended immunization schedule is regularly updated to include new vaccines and reflect current research. It may have changed since your child was first immunized. Specific vaccines, like HPV, which helps protect against certain cancers, are recommended to be given during the preteen (11-12) years. If your preteens or teens haven't already gotten their vaccines, they should get caught up as soon as possible.

For other diseases, like whooping cough, the protection from vaccine doses received in childhood wears off over time. That's why 11- and 12-year-olds are also recommended to get the booster shot called Tdap. Teens and adults who have not gotten Tdap should get this booster as soon as possible. Tdap is a version of the DTaP vaccine given to infants and young children.

CDC provides an immunization schedule for people ages 7 through 18 years for parents and doctors to protect children and teens from vaccine-preventable disease. To learn more, call the Greene County Health Unit at 870-236-7782. ♦



Mike Dickerson and Leisa Rae of MOR Media share the plaque they were presented at the 2014 Arkansas Broadcasters Association Convention with Mike Weatherford of Express Pawn in Jonesboro. Their ad campaign for Express Pawn was deemed the best in its class.

MOR Media stations bring home awards from annual ABA convention

Listeners and advertisers of MOR Media's radio stations are associated with award-winning performances.

Both KCJF-FM (103.9, Jill Radio) and KDRS-FM (107.1, Jack FM) earned recognition at the 2014



MOR Media's Dina Mason accepts an award from ABA President Van Comer. Broadcasters Association Convention in Little Rock.

Owner Dina Mason accepted the Community Service Award for Medium Market Radio stations for KDRS' involvement with the annual Downtown Zombie Walk. JACK FM teamed up with Main Street Paragould to promote and direct the event, which featured 600 zombie participants and many more spectators -- truly a community endeavor.

Leisa Rae did the honors for KCJF, winning thanks to the advertisement she and Mike Dickerson put together for Express Pawn of Jonesboro. Rae said they were challenged to devise "a fun and entertaining campaign that showcased the services Express Pawn offers," and they obviously did. ♦

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With one book now published and a second one written, author P.L. Jones is busy at work on more.

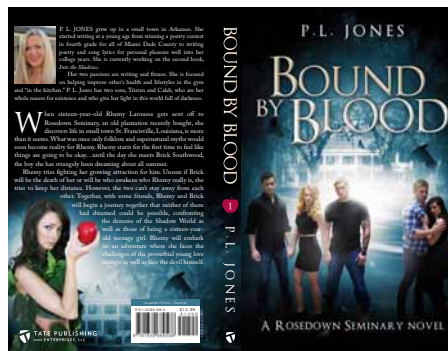
Author targets young adults with new series

Author P.L. Jones always felt she knew how to craft a good story and she's taken that talent a step further, working on a series of books designed to entice young adult readers.

Jones, a 1998 Marmaduke High School graduate, will be available to sign copies of her first published book, *Bound By Blood*, when she visits the Greene County Public Library in Paragould on August 21.

The ebullient new writer doubles as a personal trainer, and said it was actually a bit of bad timing that led to her new career.

"I was a personal trainer at NEA before I moved to Fayetteville," she explained. "I took a marketing job, because the money was too good to turn down and I could work from home. But I was homesick, bad."



When she came back to the area she was too late to enroll in college classes and found herself putting ideas for her book together.

"I moved back and wanted to go to school for dietetics but it was too late to get in," she said. "I don't know what made me get started writing a book but I would train some nights and then be up 'til early in the morning

writing. Once the story started, the characters just kept coming."

Jones found herself captivated by both the idea of writing and by her tale of supernatural fiction, one she hopes readers will also find hard to put down. *Bound By Blood* is scheduled to be part of a series, but she's hesitant to give too much of the storyline away.

"*Bound By Blood* ... once you read the book, you'll understand why," she said. "Basically, you don't get to choose your destiny, it's who your bloodline comes from. When you read it, you'll get it."

The first in the series of *Rosedown Seminary* novels, Jones' Facebook page dedicated to them welcomes *Bound By Blood* readers to "the teen paranormal world of *Rosedown*

Seminary. Full of magic, passion and danger this series is sure to keep you on the edge of your seat."

Engaging the services of a literary coach/agent, Jones said while ideas continue to pop into her head, she still has to work from an outline ... just as she did in high school.

"God love those Marmaduke teachers," she said with a smile. "We always had to have an outline; now I can't work without one.

"I was always an avid reader," she said. "At age 12, I wrote a 1,000-page romance novel, even though I think I threw it away. When I was very little I read *20,000 Leagues Under The Sea*. I've just always been a reader."

Jones said the second part of the series, *Into Shadows*, is already completed and she's hard at work on the third book.

"This series is my baby," she said. "When I started writing and couldn't put it down ... I just knew. I was 32 at the time and suddenly I knew it was what I wanted to do with my life. I want to help people get lost from reality."

She said she researched a number of places to get a good mental picture of an appropriate setting, places like "New Orleans, with the bayou or Vampire Academy, stuff like Harry Potter, but I didn't want that. Finally I found Rosedown Plantation ... I researched it so much I could tell you what the wallpaper looked like. When we went there for a cover shoot I was saying, 'That happened here' and 'that happened here.' It was like it was meant to be."

Rosedown Plantation is a historic site in Louisiana, situated close to Baton Rouge. Its mansion and elaborate gardens represent the image of the antebellum South and provide the background for Jones' series.

The local book signing at the library will begin at 3:30 on Thursday, August 21.

Copies of *Bound By Blood*, distributed by Tate Publishing and Enterprises, may be purchased at that time.

While Jones continues her dual careers, there is no doubt in her mind where her future lies. "I am an author and personal trainer," she said. "But now that I am published, I know what I want to do with my career." ♦

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PANDORA

M.F. Block Stages Centennial Celebration



M.F. Block Insurance in Paragould continued to celebrate 100 years in business, hosting a cookout for anyone interested in dropping by. Wellwishers enjoyed food, drink and lots of smiles during the gathering.



Jeff Block and Charitti Sullinger enjoyed the company of one of the many children attending the M.F. Block cookout, above, while at right others gathered under the tent to eat and visit.



Owner Phillip Greer, left, is part of the new regime at M.F. Block, which saw Bill Block, right, sit in the leader's chair for many years. Below, some of the grownups took advantage of the shade provided by a tent while others, right, stopped to sign up for a chance to win free gifts.



Back to School

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FELICIA HEDGE & JUSTIN BROKAW ••• SEPTEMBER 20, 2014
LAUREN HYDE & JOSH BAILEY ••• SEPTEMBER 27, 2014
SARA WOOD & SKYLAR ROWE ••• SEPTEMBER 27, 2014
JORDAN JOHNSON & JOHNATHAN SINGLETON ••• OCTOBER 4, 2014
KORTNEY CLAYTON & BRAD REEVES ••• OCTOBER 18, 2014
KIMBERLY WOOLDRIDGE & JEREMY M'CLELLAND ••• OCTOBER 24, 2014
KELSEY GRAMLING & DEREK MATHENEY ••• OCTOBER 25, 2014

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Business Is Good



Service to customers
and community remains
the focus of City Drug



From its original building on North Pruett Street, left, to the impressive new one on Linwood Drive, City Drug has been a vital part of the Paragould community since 1904.

For more than a century, City Drug has filled Paragould's prescription for a locally owned, family-operated pharmacy. And now, with its new location on Linwood Drive, the business is primed and positioned to continue to meet its customers' needs for years to come.

Jimmy C. Dodd, Jr., who co-owns City Drug with his brother, Dr. Lawrence Dodd of Hot Springs, was notified a few years ago that the Paragould business his late father (Jimmy C. Dodd, Sr.) bought in 1960 is actually the third-oldest pharmacy in Arkansas. Based on records in the Secretary of State's office, City Drug has been in operation since 1904.

"It was incorporated January 5, 1904," Dodd said, reading the date from a framed certificate he keeps in his office. "Y.A. Yantis, A.G. Dickson -- we think that's Dickson Hospital, but we're still looking into that -- and R.J. Haley are the three names listed."

Dodd said the pharmacy was originally

located on North Pruett Street, but relocated a handful of times over the years -- to West Kingshighway, across from Arkansas Methodist Medical Center; to One Medical Drive, north of Paragould High School; and, about a month ago, to the new store at 1512 Linwood Drive, just north of TaMolly's.

The Dodd brothers inherited the business after their father's death in 1994. Jimmy is an executive vaccine representative for Merck & Co., and his brother is an orthopedic surgeon, so operating a pharmacy wasn't an option for either. Pharmacist Joy Miller has run the business since 2001, and last October, pharmacist Mallory Williams joined the staff as well. Other employees include Becky Forehand, Ellen Spears, Pam Collins, Ryan Maxwell and Hailey Rogers.

"We wanted to continue our tradition of taking care of people in our community," Dodd said. "Joy and Mallory really excel at that. They really care for people and have their best interests in mind and at heart, and I've got a

great staff here. It's a family-type place and that's our approach: to offer in a small, family-owned business some of the stuff that the larger corporate stores just can't do."

The pharmacy's impressive new facility is the result of two solid years of research and planning, Dodd said. The move was strategically tied to the opening of Paragould Medical Park on the south side of Paragould, as well as the steady growth in that sector of the city.

"We had a situation where the landscape in Paragould changed," Dodd said. "With your physician base moving, we did a lot of evaluation and bought this piece of land from a family friend, Tom Kirk. Tommy's been sort of a mentor to me since Dad passed away."

Dodd also credited the work of Dewaine Beisner, an architect with Stuck & Associates in Jonesboro; Jim McDaniel with Big M Construction in Jonesboro; and Jeff Cupples with Cupples Sign Company in Paragould.

"Lawrence and I wanted to do this to honor

Business Is Good



A ribbon cutting ceremony officially opened City Drug at its new location. At right, Pam Collins displays the certificate listing the date of incorporation, also pictured below.

our parents who basically busted their tails for a long time to put us through school," he said. "Neither one of them got to see this, but I think they're looking down in amazement."

The new location also features several improvements that will enhance the store's service. Dodd cited new software and improved digital communication channels with physician offices. And most notably, the pharmacy now has drive-through



lanes for prescription pick-up. Dodd said City Drug will continue to offer free delivery within the city limits.

The new location also affords the pharmacy an opportunity to provide increased services. Miller and Williams are licensed to provide immunizations to adolescents and adults, Dodd said, adding that he anticipates healthy growth in demand for those services in the near future.

The store will also offer gift items that are

unique to Arkansas. Currently, there are items in the store that were made in Warren and Batesville, he said, and there are plans to add more.

"We're not the only good pharmacy in town," Dodd said, "but we know there's a place for a business like this that focuses on personal relationships and quality of service. Part of the mission is to build relationships with people and have those relationships grow over a long period of time.

"That's the fun part about this, and also to begin new relationships and cultivate them as we move forward. We take very seriously what we do here and try to take care of folks." ♦

-- Terry Austin



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Made in the Shade

Mia Greer, Harleigh Hitt and Blakely Greer improvised while attending the M.F. Block Centennial Celebration in Paragould. While their parents were engaged in conversation, the girls made their own shade with the help of their umbrellas. Mia and Blakely are the daughters of Phillip and Gretchen Greer. Harleigh's parents are Ron and Allison Hitt.



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AMMC will host 17th annual Women's Health Fair

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center will sponsor its 17th Annual Women's Health Fair in August.

Focusing on the "ABCs and 123s of Health and Wellness," this year's health fair will include:

- Blood glucose and cholesterol screenings
- Blood pressure checks

- Weight and nutrition information and screenings

The Health Fair is scheduled for Thursday, August 7, 2014, from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Sessions will be held in the Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Professional Office Building Auditorium, located at 1000 West Kingshighway in Paragould. All services are free to the public.

The annual Women's and Men's Health Fairs are held as a community service in continuing with Arkansas Methodist Medical Center's mission of being a beacon of health, hope and

WHAT: AMMC is sponsoring its 17th Annual Women's Health Fair

WHEN: Thursday, August 7, 2014, from 7:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

WHERE: Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Professional Office Building Auditorium, 1000 West Kingshighway, Paragould

healing. Plus, staying healthy is as easy as ABC, 123. Join AMMC and learn more on the latest tips, trends and information about women's health.

A recognized leader, Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould provides progressive, compassionate healthcare to residents throughout Northeast Arkansas and Southeast Missouri. Additional information about AMMC is available at: www.myammc.org.

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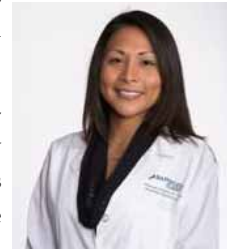
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NEA Baptist has new Women's Health Specialist

Dr. Dominique Butawan-Ali recently joined NEA Baptist Clinic Women's Health as an obstetrics and gynecology specialist and is now accepting new patients.

Dr. Butawan-Ali treats patients of all ages for a variety of women's health needs including prenatal care, contraception, incontinence, annual wellness exams, infertility, and more.



Dr. Butawan-Ali specializes in minimally invasive procedures for women. With the use of the DaVinci Surgical System, she

Dr. Dominique Butawan-Ali is able to perform surgeries such as hysterectomies with a single incision or multiple-site incision. This type of procedure allows her to operate leaving little to no evidence of the procedure, resulting in less pain for the patient and faster recovery times.

"DaVinci surgical system is a tool that is used to perform surgeries with incisions no bigger than the tip of your finger," said Dr. Butawan-Ali.

NEA Baptist is the only hospital in the area with the latest DaVinci technology, which allows physicians there to perform single site or multisite surgeries.

Dr. Butawan-Ali graduated with a medical degree from University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center in Memphis. She went on to complete her residency in the obstetrics and gynecology department, also at University of Tennessee.

"I decided to go into OBGYN because I love taking care of women of all ages," said Butawan-Ali. "I think pregnancy and childbirth are amazing. I also like being able to take care of women from early adolescence and all the way through menopause."

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Butawan-Ali, call 870-936-8000. ♦

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Habitat for Humanity taking applications

Anyone interested in qualifying for a Habitat for Humanity home is invited to attend either of two sessions at the Paragould Community Center.

The first meeting will be held Monday, August 11, from 1-4 p.m. while the second will take place Tuesday, August 12, from 4-7 p.m.

The Community Center is located at 3404 Linwood Drive.

Habitat for Humanity International helps people achieve their dreams of owning a home by building simple homes and selling them interest free to selected qualified applicants.

Prospective home owners should bring to the meeting a photo ID (driver's license, etc.), Social Security number, proof of income (recent check stub), most recent W2 Form and most recent bank statement.

For more information call 870-215-1300. ♦

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Our Wedding Story...

When Fallyn was only 10 years old she visited the Thorn Crown Chapel in Eureka Springs with her family and dreamed of being married there one day. Little did she know that 12 years later that dream would come true. On Saturday, June 7, 2014, at 6 o'clock in the evening approximately 110 guests gathered in a private ceremony where the little elegant, glass chapel with its beautiful woodland setting became the scene for the marriage of Fallyn Taylor Davenport and William Terrell (Trey) Outlaw III.

Fallyn and Trey met on September 23, 2011, by way of mutual friends. The next morning Trey sent Fallyn a message on Facebook which resulted in the two of them hanging out after an ASU football game. Their first date would come sometime later at Skinny J's where Trey arranged to have a lit candle and flowers waiting for her at their table. She was impressed!!

They became engaged on June 15, 2013. That day Trey organized a scavenger hunt which led Fallyn from one special place of memory in their relationship to another. It ended at the Liberty Bank Stadium on the ASU campus. There at mid-field, a very emotional Trey shared his heart with her as to what he saw in her and what he believed God had in store for their lives together. He then proposed to her on one knee as their families and close friends anxiously awaited her answer. She joyfully said YES!!

The couple spent their honeymoon in Riveria Maya where they swam with the dolphins, visited Chichen Itza, and took a pirate cruise before coming home to Jonesboro, where they reside.

Fallyn is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Davenport of Paragould and Trey is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Terrell Outlaw II of Monticello. The couple and their families wish to thank everyone who came and shared this very special event in their lives. ♦



Birth Announcements



Photo by Angela Baker

Cannon James Brandon

Brandon

Craig and Brittany Brandon of Paragould announce the birth of their son, Cannon James Brandon.

Born at NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital, the baby weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces and was 21 inches long.

He has a big brother, Bentley.

Grandparents are James and Janet Brandon and Karen Caddell. ♦



Grace Elisabeth Alexandroni

Alexandroni

Stefan and Cristina Alexandroni of Paragould announce the birth of their first child, Grace Elisabeth Alexandroni.

The baby weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20.25 inches long.

She was born May 22, 2014, at the home of her parents.

Grandparents are Dan and Emanuela Alexandroni, and Gonzalo and Mary Peña of Orange County, California. ♦



Jonah Andrew Cooper

Cooper

Jonathan and Sarah Cooper of Paragould announce the birth of a son, Jonah Andrew Cooper.

Born June 12, 2014, at St. Bernards Regional Medical Center, he weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 21.5 inches long.

Older sisters are Gracen Cooper, 8, and Millie Kate Cooper, 6.

Grandparents are Dewayne and Angela Cooper and Donnie and Pam Slatton, all of Paragould.

Great-grandparents are Marcella Cooper, Bernice Benton, J.P. and Odell Weaver, all of Paragould, and Wanda Slatton of Bono. ♦

To have your birth announcements and engagements included in Premiere Magazine, email information to:

editor@premiere-magazine.com

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Birth Announcements

Smith

Josh and Tricia Smith of Paragould announce the birth of their son, Ryne Keith Smith.

The baby weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long.

He was born at St. Bernards in Jonesboro.

Ryne Keith has a big sister, Rylee Smith.

Grandparents are Keith and Gina Smith and Ernie and Carol Pruett. ♦



Ryne Keith Smith



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August

— CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

GREENE CO. COMMUNITY FUND 2015 CAMPAIGN LUNCHEON, held at the Paragould Community Center from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The event will help raise funds for the 2015 Campaign Fund Drive, themed “Reaching for the Stars,” which will provide assistance to multiple agencies in Greene County. The ticket price is \$15 per plate and includes pork steak, beans, scalloped potatoes, roll, and drink. Catered by Van’s at Fox Hills. Dine-in or carry-out, delivery available to any location ordering 5+ meals. To purchase tickets or for more information, call Kera Crafton at (870) 239-8435 or email gccf@grnco.net

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

AMMC HOSTS BREAST-FEEDING CLASS, held in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

AMMC HOSTS INFANT SAFETY CLASS, held in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

AMMC HOSTS CHILD BIRTH PREPARATION CLASS, held in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register. **Other class dates:** August 12th, 19th and 26th

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

AMMC HOSTS 17th ANNUAL WOMEN'S HEALTH FAIR, held in the Auditorium in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. This year’s health fair will include blood glucose and cholesterol screenings, blood pressure checks, and weight and nutrition information and screenings. All services are free to the public.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

FINANCIAL ADVISOR OPPORTUNITY OPEN HOUSE, at the office of Matt Kraus, Edward Jones Financial Advisor, at 225 South Main Street, Suite 103, in Jonesboro. If you are ready to take control of your career and rise to new challenges in exchange for greater independence and more personal satisfaction, then you are ready to explore a career as an Edward Jones Financial Advisor. For more information, visit www.careers.edwardjones.com

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

AMMC HOSTS BLOOD DRIVE WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, held in the Auditorium in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 11:00 am to 5:30 pm. Each person who successfully donates blood at the February blood drive at AMMC will receive three \$5 coupons to be used at the Auxiliary Gift Shop, Beacon’s Deli, Cafeteria or The Foundation Station

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

CHAD GARRETT AND FRIENDS, at the Collins Theatre, featuring Ken Wadley, Kevin King, Brad Owen, Randy Aden, and special guest Dana Johnson. Showtime is at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$3 for children 10 and under. Advance tickets on sale at The Treasure House starting August 2nd.

MONDAY, AUGUST 18

MOMMY AND ME BREAST-FEEDING SUPPORT GROUP MEETING, brought to you by Arkansas Methodist Medical Center and the Greene County Health Unit. This is an opportunity for new and expectant mothers to 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 the Greene County Health Unit at (870) 236-7782.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

AMMC HOSTS HEALTHY PREGNANCY CLASS,

held in the Second Floor Conference Room in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

STROKE SUPPORT GROUP MEETING,

held in the Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Rehab Dining Room on the fourth floor from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. This meeting is open to stroke survivors, their friends, families and/or caregivers. For more information, please call (870) 239-7289.

RECURRING EVENTS

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

Every Wednesday: Perking on Pruett, 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.

Every Saturday: Paragould's Farmer's Market, 7:00 am to 1:00 pm or until vendors sell out, located in the front parking lot at the Greene County Courthouse.

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

• Greene County Master Gardeners present a Brown Bag Lunch Program at the Greene County Library, 2nd Tuesday of the month, from 12-1. Bring a lunch and enjoy a free gardening presentation.

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. tcfofnortheast-arkansas@yahoo.com.

• The Memory Cafe, support group for those having memory, dementia or Alzheimer's at 1:00 pm at Swirlz Yogurt and Coffee.

Second Wednesday of every month: St. Mary's Spaghetti Dinner, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 for all you can eat spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drink. At St. Mary's Catholic Church in Paragould.

Every Third Tuesday: Alzheimer's Support Group with the Alzheimer's Arkansas Association and Absolute Care Management, 1:00 pm at the Paragould Library.

Fourth Tuesday of every month: Greene County Master Gardener Meeting, Greene County Library, 6 pm, guests welcome.

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.



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Jill Evans

What's a few stromboli among friends? Perhaps the best part of Jill Evans' delicious Italian dish is that she never makes just one. It's a necessity created by the bread she uses -- it's packaged to make three loaves -- but also by popular demand of those who've been lucky enough to taste her cooking. She's been known to make up to 11 simply to satisfy the hue and cry for them.

"It is my go-to recipe when I make a meal for a new mom, when there's a potluck, or a casual dinner party," Evans said. "I've even made it to be auctioned off at a silent auction which created a bidding war!"

Lucky for you, there's no risk of being outbid for Evans' recipe. She's happily sharing it this month with *Premiere* readers. But you've been warned: You can't make just one.

Where are you from? I was raised in Light and graduated from Greene County Tech and Arkansas State University with a degree in Journalism/Public Relations. I spent 13 years in Northern Virginia and have been back in Northeast Arkansas for nearly 12 years.

Family: My husband, Tony, (we've been married 9 years), a son Stephen (26), a daughter Allison (25), and a daughter Elisabeth (6).

Who taught you to cook? My mom, Esther Cupp, taught me the basics. She was a wonderful Southern cook who taught me how to properly season and how to make food pretty (because you eat with your eyes first). I would watch her prepare food and she would tell me what she was doing and why. It was my first version of "Food Network." She and my dad, Pete, were my guinea pigs!

NEA COOKS



Stromboli

Ingredients:

1 package frozen bread dough (loaves), thawed but not risen

1/2 pound thinly sliced honey ham (or Black Forest ham)

Thinly sliced pepperoni (10 small slices or 5-6 sandwich slices)

1/2 cup cheddar cheese, shredded

1/2 cup mozzarella cheese, shredded

1 egg, beaten

Italian seasoning

Granulated Garlic

1 jar good quality pizza or marinara sauce

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Flour a work surface. Place one thawed loaf of bread dough on it and cover both sides with flour. Flour a rolling pin and roll out the dough to a 12-15 inch oblong. Brush off excess flour.

When did you begin cooking? As a teenager, I tried my hand at cookies and other simple dishes. I enjoyed the process and the feedback when people liked what I made. I really began cooking and blending my style with Southern style cooking when I was in my twenties.

What is your absolute favorite thing to cook? Soup. You can be creative with fresh garden veggies, pasta, meats. I have a basic soup recipe that I use and then add what's in season and the freshest.

What's the one ingredient you can't do without? Salt. It makes such a difference in

2. Layer slices of ham, pepperoni, and the cheeses.
3. Using a knife or kitchen shears, cut 8-9 slits on top and bottom halves of dough.
4. Starting at the left end, bring up the end piece of dough and, using your left hand to hold it in place, bring the bottom strip up and over the filling, then the top strip, alternating bottom and top, working your way down the dough. Before tucking in the last strips, pull up the end piece, then tuck in the bottom and top strips. You should have a braided effect. Brush off excess flour. Gently transfer Stromboli to a large baking sheet.
5. Brush the entire surface of the dough with the beaten egg. Sprinkle on Italian seasoning and granulated garlic. Bake 30 minutes until golden brown. Slice and serve with warm pizza sauce and a fresh garden salad.

Stromboli can be made, baked and frozen. When needed, thaw, slice and heat in microwave. Variations: You can make this using any pizza ingredients you like. You can also top with a sprinkling of freshly grated parmesan cheese. ♦

savory foods and sweets. It's an essential in my cooking. If the only seasoning you have is salt, you can make a dish taste good.

What was your worst cooking disaster? I wanted to make chocolate chip bar cookies one time when visiting my parents from Virginia. I used my mom's ingredients but noticed they just weren't looking right as they baked. When I took them out of the oven and had my mom look at them, she asked me which flour container I had used. When I showed her, she laughed and said, "That's confectioner's sugar!" They went in the trash--pan and all! ♦

Stay Tuned

What's in store next month



And the winners are ... Premiere Magazine readers voted for their favorites in a number of categories and in our September issue you can find out who came out on top. See if your favorite is one of the "Premiere Awards" winners.

Features

Child Safety



Premiere writers will take a look at various aspects of child safety ... at home, at school, at play. Area experts will provide tips and suggestions for helping keep our No. 1 resource -- our children -- safe and secure. Read about it in the September Premiere.





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